

MINUTES OF AN OPEN MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS OF THE MONARCH FIRE PROTECTION  
DISTRICT OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MISSOURI, HELD ON  
MONDAY, JULY 24, 2017

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BE IT REMEMBERED, that the Board of Directors of the Monarch Fire Protection District of Saint Louis County, Chesterfield, Missouri, met at the Administration Building, of said District, 13725 Olive Boulevard, in the City of Chesterfield, County of Saint Louis, on Monday, July 24, 2017 at 5:30 P.M. in an Open Board Meeting. At the above time and place the following Officers and Directors were in attendance.

Rick Gans - President/Chairman and Director  
Jane Cunningham - Secretary and Director  
Robin Harris - Treasurer and Director

Also present:                   Acting Chief Cary Spiegel  
                                  Deputy Chief Nick Harper  
                                  Atty. Matt Hoffman

A quorum being present, Director Gans called the meeting to order and announced the Board of Directors meeting to be in session for the transaction of any and all business to be brought before it at this time.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 5:30 P.M.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: I will call to order  
4 the Open Meeting of the Monarch Fire Protection  
5 District Board of Directors.

6 Would you please rise and join me in  
7 the Pledge of Allegiance?

8 (Whereupon, all persons joined in reciting  
9 the Pledge of Allegiance, after which time, the  
10 following proceedings were had.)

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Approval of Agenda.

12 Do we have any additions or changes  
13 to the agenda?

14 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: I have none.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have no changes.

16 DIRECTOR GANS: And, I don't,  
17 either.

18 Hold on. We -- we lost -- Cary, I'm  
19 going to give this to you. Make sure you've got  
20 it working.

21 It went away for just a second.

22 (Referring to the phone connection with  
23 Director Cunningham.)

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I didn't want to  
25 put it on the record. I just noticed the new

1 uniform shirt.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Well, we saw that  
3 last night.

4 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Did see them?

5 DIRECTOR GANS: Yeah, we did.

6 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Last night?

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Yeah, we did.

8 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Maybe I missed it.

9 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Now that  
10 we've finished commenting on his wardrobe, --

11 (General chuckles.)

12 DIRECTOR GANS: So we have no  
13 changes to the agenda.

14 Is she back on, yet?

15 (Referring to Director Cunningham's phone  
16 attendance.)

17 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: No.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. We'll  
19 give her a chance, when she comes back on.

20 Meanwhile, we have Citizen Comments.

21 I don't see any comment cards for  
22 this evening.

23 Moving on to the President's Report.

24 Tonight, the Board is going to  
25 consider a Resolution. Number 7-17, which I will

1 read.

2 (At this point, Director Cunningham  
3 phoned.)

4 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: There you go.  
5 Sorry. My fault.

6 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: You got  
7 video, Jane?

8 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Yep.

9 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

10 Which I will read, as follows:

11 "WHEREAS, Jane Cunningham recently  
12 resigned as a member of the Board of Directors of  
13 the Monarch Fire Protection District prior to the  
14 expiration of her term in April of 2019 and

15 "WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of  
16 the Monarch Fire Protection District is  
17 authorized to fill the vacancy pursuant to  
18 Missouri" I'm sorry. "Pursuant to Section  
19 321.200 of the Missouri Revised Statutes,

20 "WHEREAS, it is the intent of the  
21 Board of Directors to operate the Monarch Fire  
22 Protection District in an efficient manner and  
23 conform to Missouri State Law,

24 NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the  
25 Board of Directors of the Monarch Fire Protection

1 District of St. Louis County, Missouri as  
2 follows:

3 "That Jean Millner is hereby  
4 appointed to fill the vacancy on the Monarch Fire  
5 Protection District's Board of Directors created  
6 by the resignation of Jane Cunningham pursuant to  
7 Section 321.200 of the Missouri Revised Statutes.

8 "Two. That the provisions of  
9 Resolution 7-17," this Resolution, "shall take  
10 effect on August 1st, 2017."

11 I make a motion to pass Resolution  
12 7-17 as I've just read.

13 Do I hear a second?

14 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Second.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: Any discussion?

16 (No response.)

17 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

18 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: I just want to  
19 note that I'll recuse myself, because I think  
20 it's appropriate for you two to make this  
21 decision and not me, if that's alright.

22 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay. That's fine.  
23 Then you'll want to abstain in the vote.

24 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Okay.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: And, so, we -- we've

1 got a motion, a second, and we will now vote on  
2 the question.

3 We will vote one-by-one.

4 Jane?

5 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Abstain.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: Robin?

7 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

8 DIRECTOR GANS: And I vote Aye.

9 Motion passes two, two in favor,  
10 zero opposed, one abstained.

11 Jean is with us right now and I  
12 recognize her in the back of the room.

13 We will welcome you when you are  
14 officially sworn in St. Louis County and we will  
15 welcome you to the August meetings.

16 Congratulations.

17 (Applause.)

18 DIRECTOR GANS: The next item on the  
19 agenda is -- on my report, is the 2018 Budget.

20 This is just a brief comment about  
21 the budget process.

22 I have met with Michelle briefly  
23 about how we see this going. We E-mailed today,  
24 as well.

25 She told me that the numbers from



1 the departments are due this week. Ha-ha-ha.

2 And she's expecting them, maybe, by  
3 Friday, but maybe next week, which is fine. It's  
4 early.

5 MS. DEPEW: Hm-hm.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: And we're interested  
7 in each department's information, so that their  
8 requests and needs are met, if at all possible,  
9 and that they have an opportunity to consider  
10 ones that might be excessive.

11 So, if everyone cuts 50 percent out  
12 of their budget, they'll be fine.

13 (General chuckles.)

14 DIRECTOR GANS: No, I'm just  
15 kidding.

16 We're looking for -- looking forward  
17 to the process. It, as a Director, is always one  
18 that is interesting, one that is informative to  
19 the Directors; it's a chance to touch every  
20 department and to have discussions about services  
21 we provide, equipment we use and the things that  
22 we spend taxpayer dollars on.

23 Also, that's just the expense part.

24 Michelle is expecting to have tax  
25 rates by when, Michelle?

1 MS. DEPEW: They have preliminary  
2 numbers out.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

4 MS. DEPEW: They've not been very  
5 "date-able" in the past. Sometimes it's been as  
6 late as the last week of September, before the  
7 Board of Equalization gets the (one word not  
8 understood.)

9 DIRECTOR GANS: And, sometimes, they  
10 come out once after we pass the budget.

11 MS. DEPEW: Sometimes they do.

12 DIRECTOR GANS: And, which made it  
13 really challenging.

14 MS. DEPEW: Yes.

15 DIRECTOR GANS: That only happened  
16 once, I think, where it was that late.

17 But made it really challenging.

18 But, the important thing to note  
19 here is that the Board will hold one, probably  
20 two work sessions, which will be public and they  
21 will be on the web -- the information will be on  
22 the website.

23 They are Open. They -- anyone's  
24 welcome to attend and during the Boards  
25 discussion we've even entertained comments from

1       those who attend.

2                       We're not inviting them, but we --  
3       we are not unwilling to consider them during this  
4       work session.

5                       The work session is informal. We  
6       sit at tables across from each other. It's more  
7       of a free-forum discussion, as opposed to a  
8       formal Board Meeting.

9                       And we will go through questions  
10      that the Board has, Board Members have and also  
11      hear information from the staff about some of the  
12      key expenditures and changes from previous years.

13                      Those will -- those dates will be  
14      announced. They will start, at the earliest, at  
15      the end of Aug -- the end of August and maybe go  
16      into September, if we have a second one.

17                      So, you'll want to check the website  
18      if you're interested in attending the work  
19      sessions.

20                      We have to have a budget passed and  
21      tax rates set by Monday, October 2nd. So that's  
22      our deadline.

23                      And, Jean, you'll have your first  
24      opportunity to participate in the process, which  
25      you'll learn a lot.

1                   That concludes the President's  
2     Report.

3                   And the secretary is present at the  
4     meeting, but I'll ask Robin to handle her duties  
5     for the Meeting Minutes.

6                   DIRECTOR HARRIS: I have several  
7     sets of Meeting Minutes. Let me start with -- I  
8     move to approve the Minutes of the Open Meeting  
9     dated Thursday, July 6, 2017.

10                  DIRECTOR GANS: Second.

11                  Any discussion?

12                  (No response.)

13                  DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

14                  DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Just a minute.  
15     Do we need -- did you say Open Meeting, or Closed  
16     Meeting?

17                  DIRECTOR HARRIS: Open.

18                  DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: I -- I didn't  
19     -- okay. Just wanted to make sure he said it  
20     right.

21                  Aye.

22                  DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

23                  DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

24                  Motion passes three to nothing.

25                  DIRECTOR HARRIS: I, also, have --

1 I -- I move to approve the Open Meeting Minutes  
2 from June 15th, June 29th, July 13th and July  
3 20th, from 2017.

4 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the  
5 motion.

6 Any discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

9 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Aye.

10 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

12 Motion passes three to nothing.

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I also have Closed  
14 Meeting Minutes and move for the approval of the  
15 Closed Meeting Minutes from June 15th, June 29th,  
16 July 13th and July 20th, 2017.

17 DIRECTOR GANS: I second the motion.

18 Any discussion?

19 (No response.)

20 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

21 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Aye.

22 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

24 Motion passes three to nothing.

25 Does that conclude --

1                   DIRECTOR HARRIS:     That concludes  
2     the Secretary's Report.

3                   DIRECTOR GANS:    Thank you.

4                   Now, it's time for the Treasurer's  
5     Report.   Robin?

6                   DIRECTOR HARRIS:   Moving along to  
7     the Treasurer's Report, we have disbursements in  
8     the amount of \$515,996.80 for the period.

9                   We have five checks over \$5,000.00.

10                  Check number 39880 to UNUM in the  
11     amount of \$5,938.29.

12                  That is a variety of insurance  
13     coverage.   Some short-term, long-term disability,  
14     additional death and dismemberment.

15                  We also have check number 39870 to  
16     Skeleton Key and Brightsource IT, in the amount  
17     of \$17,500.00.

18                  And that's for the Fire Protection  
19     Bureau, 100 hours data consulting.

20                  I might have a question more  
21     specifically on that.

22                  Check   number    39821   to   Ameren  
23     Missouri in the amount of \$6,400.79.

24                  And that's utilities.

25                  DIRECTOR GANS:   It's summer and the

1     utilities are --

2                     DIRECTOR HARRIS:     Well, I just was  
3     taking a quick peek here.

4                     And then we have check number 39879  
5     to   United   Health   Care   in   the   amount   of  
6     \$175,603.32 for, as noted, health care.

7                     And --

8                     DIRECTOR GANS:    That's --

9                     DIRECTOR HARRIS:    And we have --

10                    MS. DEPEW:   You should have another  
11     --

12                    DIRECTOR HARRIS:       -- one --

13                    MS. DEPEW:   See -- it's American --

14                    ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: Rick, American  
15     Response Vehicles.

16                    DIRECTOR HARRIS:    Yeah, let me --

17                    DIRECTOR GANS:    Yeah.   It's a big  
18     check.

19                    MS. DEPEW:   I put it personally in  
20     there, so it's there.   In your packet, I put a --

21                    DIRECTOR HARRIS:    Yeah, here it is.

22                    DIRECTOR GANS:    No, it's --

23                    DIRECTOR HARRIS:    Here's what --  
24     two   got   stuck.     That's   why   I   was   looking  
25     sometimes with the explanation and it -- it is a

1       rather significant one.

2                       So, that is check number 39824 to  
3       American Response Vehicles, in the amount of  
4       \$249,975.00 and no cents.

5                       And that looks like it's for a brand  
6       new ambulance.

7                       DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER:       That is  
8       correct.

9                       DIRECTOR HARRIS:     And can I assume,  
10       I'm sure I'm correct, that this is paid in full?

11                      DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER:   Yes, sir.

12                      DIRECTOR HARRIS:     And when will we  
13       receive this?

14                      DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER:     The best  
15       estimate is the middle of August.   There's some  
16       final touches that they're doing on -- on the  
17       ambulance.

18                      DIRECTOR HARRIS:     Sorry.   I just  
19       like to hear good things and so enjoyed asking  
20       those questions, knowing mostly the answers.

21                      I knew it was coming soon.

22                      Are there any questions?

23                      DIRECTOR GANS:     I actually want to  
24       follow-up on that ambulance.

25                      Is this the same ambulance purchase



1 as 2247? Will it -- will it look like 2247?

2 DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER: All except for  
3 the size of the chassis. And we looked at the  
4 smaller Ford 550, as opposed to the  
5 International.

6 DIRECTOR GANS: I'm guessing it's  
7 too late for the next question, but, this is just  
8 an aesthetics comment that 2247 looks so  
9 different than other ambulances.

10 DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER: We chose the  
11 color scheme and the striping to double-match the  
12 new 2224 and from this point, from 2247 forward,  
13 all of the ambulances will appear identical.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And I think we'll  
16 be replacing them all, probably, in the next two  
17 years? Three?

18 DEPUTY CHIEF HARPER: Three years.  
19 Yes, sir, that's the -- that's the meeting-minds  
20 plan.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. So,  
22 beyond that, I will comment that consistent with  
23 the new process, that I discussed at the last  
24 meeting, I will not be asking questions about  
25 checks during meetings.

1 I have asked the staff, checks --  
2 questions about checks via E-mail, which are  
3 available to the public to see, if they'd like.  
4 It's in the District's public file.

5 And that's in the response to the  
6 last audit that suggested that we doc -- we  
7 double document check questions and check  
8 approvals.

9 So, it's very strange for me not to  
10 be asking questions about checks, but, -- and --  
11 and I'm here, -- I'm taking as long to comment  
12 about it.

13 But, I'll, each week, each meeting,  
14 be commenting that I did have, this -- this time,  
15 six questions and they're all documented.

16 And I got a quick response and I  
17 don't have any questions about the responses.

18 So, thank you.

19 So those are my questions.

20 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And I'm asking  
21 the fire marshal just to comment a bit more on  
22 the --

23 FIRE MARSHAL HERIN: The invoice  
24 from Skeletonkey?

25 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Correct.

1 FIRE MARSHAL HERIN: Yes. Roger  
2 Herin, fire marshal.

3 We are re-doing our data base for,  
4 not only inspections but property management.

5 We -- we record all of the  
6 properties in our District, the types of  
7 buildings and -- and all of that.

8 We're combining it into one original  
9 database and we're getting some good news in, on  
10 that and gettin' -- finally getting some traction  
11 on that.

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And that's just  
13 part of that overall --

14 FIRE MARSHAL HERIN: Absolutely.

15 DIRECTOR HARRIS: -- update.

16 FIRE MARSHAL HERIN: Right.

17 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Thank you.

18 DIRECTOR GANS: Jane, could you hear  
19 what he said?

20 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Yes.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

22 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you.

23 DIRECTOR GANS: All right.

24 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And those are all  
25 of my questions, after having read your

1 questions.

2 DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

3 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Jane, any  
4 questions?

5 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: I have none.

6 DIRECTOR HARRIS: In that case, in  
7 reviewing these disbursements, they appear to be  
8 reasonable and necessary in the conduct of the  
9 District's business.

10 Chief Spiegel, were these checks  
11 prepared per your recommendation?

12 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, they  
13 were.

14 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Do they violate  
15 any state bidding statutes or constitute  
16 installment payments?

17 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: None that I'm  
18 aware of.

19 DIRECTOR HARRIS: I make a motion  
20 that we accept the disbursements as prepared.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: I will second the  
22 motion.

23 Any further discussion?

24 (No response.)

25 DIRECTOR GANS: All in favor?

1 DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM: Aye.

2 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Aye.

3 DIRECTOR GANS: Aye.

4 Motion passes.

5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And that  
6 concludes the Treasurer's Report.

7 DIRECTOR GANS: Do we have that  
8 check for the ambulance?

9 DIRECTOR HARRIS: We do.

10 DIRECTOR GANS: We need to sign  
11 that.

12 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Sorry. Thank  
13 you.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: All right. Moving  
15 on to the Chief's Report.

16 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: Yes, sir. In  
17 your packet, Michelle has provided the June  
18 financial's and the investment sheet and she's  
19 here prepared to answer any questions.

20 MS. DEPEW: On page 17, you'll find  
21 the statement for June and on page 18 you'll find  
22 our current cash and investments.

23 Any questions?

24 DIRECTOR GANS: I just want to  
25 comment, we're way more balanced this month than

1 we were last month.

2 As far as where we are in the year,  
3 this is where we are in receipts and expenses.

4 There are, of course, some that are  
5 really out of balance that are paid all at once  
6 at the beginning of the year and then there's the  
7 whole collection of tax revenue and is enough to  
8 make anyone scratch their head.

9 But, especially, I -- I comment that  
10 the building permit fee number is now in better  
11 shape, so Roger can stay, and --

12 (General chuckles.)

13 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And get paid.

14 DIRECTOR GANS: -- to get the  
15 people's jobs.

16 And -- and everything else looks in  
17 line.

18 And the best part is, look at the  
19 bottom line, we're exactly 50 percent, 50 percent  
20 through the year.

21 So I know we'll be doing some  
22 amendments to adjust at the end of the year for  
23 a few things, but this is pretty good.

24 So, I -- I hope that next year,  
25 we're in the same position when we do this

1 budget.

2 So, I don't -- I don't have any  
3 questions.

4 MS. DEPEW: Okay.

5 DIRECTOR HARRIS: And, having taken  
6 a quick look through it, I liked it, when I found  
7 that 50 percent mark, 50 percent of the way,  
8 which tells me things are progressing the way we  
9 like.

10 I have no other questions.

11 DIRECTOR GANS: Chief, anything else  
12 in your report?

13 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: Just the  
14 investment page, if there's any questions you  
15 had.

16 DIRECTOR HARRIS: Why aren't we  
17 getting ten percent on our investments?

18 (General laughter.)

19 ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL: I don't have  
20 an answer to that question.

21 DIRECTOR GANS: But we're getting  
22 over a half a percent. So it looks like we --  
23 we'll next deal with it at the end of next month.

24 MS. DEPEW: Correct.

25 DIRECTOR GANS: And, so, we'll have

1     some money to reinvest, so we'll wait to hear  
2     from you on that.

3                     Other than -- other than that,  
4     there's nothing too exciting to look at here.

5                     MS. DEPEW:  Nope.

6                     DIRECTOR GANS:  All right.

7                     ACTING CHIEF SPIEGEL:  That's all I  
8     have.

9                     DIRECTOR GANS:  All right.  Then, on  
10    to the Attorney's Report.

11                    MISTER HOFFMAN:  Sir, I do not have  
12    a report this evening.

13                    DIRECTOR GANS:  All right.

14                    We'll then move to New Business.

15                    We have the August Meeting Dates  
16    that the Board has agreed to and they are as  
17    follows:

18                    There will be a Closed Meeting on  
19    August 10th at 5:30 P.M.

20                    There will be an Open Meeting at six  
21    p.m., on August 17th.

22                    There'll be a Closed Meeting at 5:30  
23    P.M., on August 22nd.

24                    And an Open Meeting on August 29th  
25    at seven p.m.



1                   And I'm gonna guess that we may have  
2     a budget workshop to coincide with the Closed  
3     Meeting on August 22nd.

4                   We'll make that kind of a tentative.

5                   Also, Michelle, we have talked about  
6     a Pension Committee Meeting, so we'll want to try  
7     to get that scheduled in, if not August, by  
8     September.

9                   MS. DEPEW: We should.

10                  DIRECTOR GANS: Okay.

11                  MS. DEPEW: Hm-hm.

12                  DIRECTOR GANS: So help me with  
13     that.

14                  MS. DEPEW: I will.

15                  DIRECTOR GANS: I appreciate it.

16                  All right. So those are our August  
17     Meeting dates. They'll also be posted on the  
18     District's website after the meeting tonight.

19                  Anyone -- anyone have any other New  
20     Business?

21                  (No response.)

22                  DIRECTOR GANS: Hearing none, is  
23     there any Unfinished Business?

24                  (No response.)

25                  DIRECTOR GANS: Hearing none, I will

1       make a motion to adjourn.

2                       DIRECTOR HARRIS:     Second.

3                       DIRECTOR GANS:    Any discussion?

4                       (No response.)

5                       DIRECTOR GANS:    All in favor?

6                       DIRECTOR CUNNINGHAM:   Aye.

7                       DIRECTOR HARRIS:     Aye.

8                       DIRECTOR GANS:    Aye.

9                       We are adjourned.

10                      (Whereupon, at 5:50 P.M., the Meeting was  
11       adjourned as described above.)

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STATE OF MISSOURI                    )  
  )  SS  
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS                )

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Julie M. Senoj, Notary Public and professional court reporter, within and for the State of Missouri, County of St. Louis, do hereby certify that there came before me at that time and in that place first aforesaid, those persons and matters herein described and has been transcribed into typewritten form by Virginia L. Long and is now herewith returned.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 24th day of July, 2017.

My commission expires March 20, 2021.

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Notary Public within and  
for the State of Missouri