

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE O'FALLON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
April 9, 2020**

A Regular Session of the O'Fallon Fire Protection District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, April 9, 2020, via Zoom video conference to follow social distancing guidelines of COVID-19. Director Laughlin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Notice of said meeting had been provided at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by posting the meeting time in the case on the outside wall of the Administrative Offices. The following Directors were present: Director Bill Laughlin, Director Matt Gober, and Director Matt Simmons. The following staff members were present: Chief Tom Vineyard, Assistant Chief Ken Vomund, Assistant Chief Brian Moore, Fire Marshal Mark Morrison, Battalion Chief Andy Parrish, Captain Matt Braile, Captain Eric Johnston, Captain Darren Daly, Captain Mary Emge, and Board Administrative Assistant Karen Lucido.

The following guests were present: Attorney Neil Bruntrager, and Rick Rognan, CPA

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chief Vineyard, followed by the reading of the Firefighter Prayer.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Rick Rognan, CPA, reviewed his monthly financial report that included: Revenue collection is at 96.98%; there will be a substantial reduction in interest rates this year that will cause interest income projections to not be met. Purchases of additional PPE are increased due to COVID-19. District Reserves should be at \$8 million by the end of 2020, up from \$5.5 million at the end of 2019. The District is in good financial shape due to conservative management by the Board. Discussion held regarding 2021 tax revenue; Mr. Rognan stated that 2021 is a re-assessment year and revenues will probably be reduced, but the District should remain in good financial shape. Mr. Rognan will check to see if the State's Audit requirements will be extended from its annual May deadline.

Chief Vineyard stated that the new ladder truck is finished and ready to be shipped; he reviewed the timeline for it to be placed in service once it is delivered to

the District. It is unknown when the truck will be delivered from Florida due to COVID-19 restrictions. The truck will be a 2019 Model, and the 3-year extended warranty should begin when we take possession; Chief Vineyard will double-check that the extended warranty and timeline is in writing. The final invoice for the truck was reviewed showing credits for interest income and one trip that was cancelled; the last payment due for the invoice is payable once the District takes possession and verifies the truck is complete.

LABOR MANAGEMENT

Chief Vineyard stated labor management did not meet this month due to COVID-19, and there is nothing pressing on hold.

OPERATIONS

Chief Vineyard stated procedures are in place regarding COVID-19; employee screening has been implemented at all stations and Administration, and all buildings are closed to the public. Employees have been very cooperative and understanding. Assistant Chief Moore has been working hard to obtain the needed PPE supplies and doing a good job. We responded to a high risk call today and the crew responded correctly with all safety measures in place. Assistant Chief Moore stated that the District received a very generous donation from a local company of pallets of Lysol wipes, sprays, and sanitizing detergent. The District is okay on masks and gloves for now. Crews are working out with their trainers via video; and District meetings are being conducted via video conference. District members are trying to support our local businesses and restaurants as best we can.

Chief Vineyard stated how impressed he was with our firefighters, officers, and staff's handling of this situation; and much of this is due to the leadership of company officers and the Shop.

Director Laughlin thanked District first responders for taking care of our community.

Chief Vineyard recommended that the District suspend random drug testing until this situation resolves; unanimous consensus from the Director to suspend random drug testing until further notice.

Fire Marshal Morrison stated his staff is working on hydrant and occupancy mapping in ERS.

OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

Attorney Bruntrager reviewed the status of MACFPD; stating current leadership have all agreed to voluntarily step down; and he explained the process for voting in new leadership and by-laws with the current COVID-19 restrictions. Central County Fire & Rescue resigned from the organization and refunded their money, however, that is best for MACFPD. The amount MACFPD was paying to its lobbyist was discussed, and this matter will be reviewed further. Mr. Rognan, CPA, stated there has been no unusual activity occurring in the MACFPD account.

Attorney Moore stated that Outreach has received 3 scholarship applications, all from Ft. Zumwalt West High School; he is making a push through social media; ideally Outreach would like to see applications from all District high schools. Low response could be due to COVID-19. Outreach members will discuss at their next meeting.

Directors Laughlin, Simmons, and Gober wished all a safe and Happy Easter.

Director Laughlin announced the next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 23, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.


A motion was made by Director Laughlin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Gober. Unanimous consent to Adjourn:

Ayes:	(3)	Directors Laughlin, Gober, and Simmons
Nays:	(0)	None
Absent:	(0)	None

Motion declared and carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.


William Laughlin, Chairman

ATTEST:

Karen Lucido, Recording Secretary
Board Administrative Assistant