

**The Minutes of the 491st Meeting
of the ROCK TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 26, 2018**

PUBLIC HEARING:

A Public Hearing was held on Wednesday, September 26, 2018. Chairman Paul called the hearing to order at 6:00 p.m. at Rock Township Ambulance District's House #4.

ROLL CALL:

Directors and Administrative Personnel – Chairman Mark Paul conducted a roll call of those in attendance. In addition to himself, Vice-Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka, Director Christy Gay, Director Alicia Ott, Director Paul Horn, Chief Jerry Appleton, Deputy Chief Sheila Buchheit, Deputy Chief Andrew West, Office Manager Jennifer Ello, Mr. Mark Bishop and Ms. Megan Tongue, Legal Counsel for the District, were present. Mr. Rick Rognan, Treasurer for the District, attended the meeting by telephone. Secretary Cathy Wooldridge was absent.

Discussion – Mr. Rognan explained Senate Bill 870 and how it addresses future tax abatements and TIF projects in the District ensuring that the District will be entitled to collect 100% of its tax on real and personal property. He then explained the process of setting the 2018 property tax rate. Beginning with the current tax rate ceiling of \$.2023 and then applying the sales tax rollback of \$.0716, results in a tax rate of \$.1307 per one-hundred (\$100.00) dollars assessed valuation. Based on the total Assessed Valuation of \$1,262,596,068.00, the anticipated tax revenue for the 2019 Budget Year is \$1,650,213.00.

Chairman Paul requested comments from those present. There were none.

Mr. Bishop advised that the District's Bylaws allow for the Chief or Legal Officer of the District to sign as Secretary in the absence of the Secretary of the Board.

Director Horn expressed his opposition to the sales tax rollback and the bond issue being placed on the ballot. Discussion ensued.

Resolution Number 2018-03 – Director Gay motioned to adopt Resolution Number 2018-03 (setting the tax rate at \$.1307 and all future collections at 100% reimbursement) modified to allow Chief Appleton to sign as Secretary. Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka seconded.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Ott, "Yes."; and Director Horn, "No." The motion passed by majority.

Chairman Paul closed the Public Hearing at 6:20 p.m.

OPEN MEETING:

The 491st regular monthly meeting of the Rock Township Ambulance District Board of Directors was called to order by Chairperson Paul at 6:20 p.m. on Wednesday, September 26, 2018.

ROLL CALL:

Directors and Administrative Personnel – Chairman Mark Paul conducted a roll call of those in attendance. In addition to himself, Vice-Chairperson Lynne Ruzicka, Director Christy Gay, Director Alicia Ott, Director Paul Horn, Chief Jerry Appleton, Deputy Chief Sheila Buchheit, Deputy Chief Andrew West, Office Manager Jennifer Ello, Mr. Mark Bishop and Ms. Megan Tongue, Legal Counsel for the District, were present. Mr. Rick Rognan, Treasurer for the District, attended the meeting by telephone.

Secretary Cathy Wooldridge was excused from the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

VISITORS AND GUESTS:

Acknowledgement – Chairman Paul thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Public Comments – There were none.

MINUTES:

Approval of the 490th Meeting Minutes from August 22, 2018 – Director Gay made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Director Ott seconded.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, “Yes.”; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, “Yes.”; Director Gay, “Yes.”; Director Ott, “Yes.”; and Director Horn, “Yes.” The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIALS:

August 2018 Treasurer’s Report – Mr. Rick Rognan, Treasurer for the District, presented the Financial Statements for August 2018 and gave a brief overview of income and expenses.

Director Ott made a motion to approve the August 2018 Treasurer’s Report, to pay all bills, and to approve all payroll expenditures. Director Gay seconded.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, “Yes.”; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, “Yes.”; Director Gay, “Yes.”; Director Ott, “Yes.”; and Director Horn, “No.” The motion passed by majority.

Cancellation Report Summary – The Directors reviewed the report which represented August assignments. There were 178 accounts, from 2016, 2017, and 2018, totaling \$101,806.78, that were assigned to the collection agency. The Directors reviewed the detailed report and discussed the fluctuating amounts being sent and general practices of turning accounts over to the collection agency.

Director Gay motioned to approve the Cancellation Report Summary. Director Ott seconded.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, “Yes.”; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, “Yes.”; Director Gay, “Yes.”; Director Ott, “Yes.”; and Director Horn, “No.” The motion passed by majority.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Chief's Comments – Chief Appleton reported the following:

The District will begin participating in the federal GEMT (Ground Emergency Medical Transport) program. This involves cost reporting to gain additional reimbursement from the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

MRSWCT (Missouri Rural Services Workers' Compensation Trust) will be holding a seminar on October 18th.

The District is working on getting costs reduced for our WorkSteps program with Athletico by utilizing their facility in Arnold, in addition to establishing a work strengthening program.

The District has begun using the federal AT&T Mobility program First Net. The service is up and running. This gives first responders first priority for service, upgraded technology and billing, and free Wi-Fi hotspots. In addition, the District will save about eight-dollars (\$8.00) a month.

St. Anthony's Medical Center became Mercy-South as of October 1st. He hopes the updated pre-hospital guidelines will be ready for review at the October meeting.

Unit 7057, which was involved in the MVA on September 7th, is being repaired by Sentinel. Lifeline will not be making the repairs. Discussion ensued.

Chief Appleton and Lieutenant Machisen traveled to Demers in Canada to review the new ambulance. They were very pleased with the ambulance and it should be delivered this Friday. It should take about three (3) weeks to put it in service.

ADAM (Ambulance Districts Association of Missouri) holds regular monthly meetings and will be holding its annual meeting in October which will concentrate on developing language to add to SB870 that was left out.

The Crew Chiefs and Lieutenants attended a leadership course last month.

The first union negotiations meeting occurred. There is nothing to report to the Board at this time.

Director Horn questioned who paid for the trip to Canada to which Chief Appleton replied that Pinnacle paid for the trip. Discussion occurred.

Director Horn would like the Assistant Chief to report at each meeting. Chief Appleton explained that the two (2) Deputy Chiefs work with the Chief and that the Chief's Comments section is a collaborative report. Chairman Paul stated that the Chief reports to the Board, the Deputy Chiefs report to the Chief.

Review Completed Patient Surveys – There were none.

Union Business-Shop Steward, Ron Lipp – Mr. Lipp was unavailable to attend the meeting and Mr. Nick Salzman addressed the Board in his stead. \$2,920.55 was

collected for MDA, they are focusing on social media for the bond issue at this time, and have many other events scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS:

Capital Improvements Planning – Chief Appleton reported that the bond issue has been filed and certified for the November Ballot. The planning committee is working and he will keep the Board informed.

Healthcare Options Update – Custom Insurance – David McKinney – Mr. McKinney offered to attend the meeting; however, Chief Appleton offered to make the following report in his place. The census was completed and forwarded. Employees will begin the Easy Apps process the first week of October and will have a week to complete it. First results should be available by the October meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Tattoo Policy – Chief Appleton explained that several employees have approached him inquiring about displaying their tattoos while on-duty and he wanted to bring the topic to the Board for consideration. Chief Appleton has no objections. A lengthy discussion ensued. Chief Appleton was asked to obtain other District's policies on tattoos for further discussions in the future.

Tax Abatements – Chief Appleton reported that he attended a meeting in Arnold regarding a proposed tax abatement project. The District's newly adopted resolution overrides and prevents their tax abatement now.

Public Information for Bond – District Images/Budget – Chief Appleton reported on the progress that Ms. Jen Stallman, the bond committee's campaign manager via the union, has made in addition to suggestions for the committee. Chief Appleton would like the Board's permission to allow the committee to use the District's logo and images in their Vote "Yes" campaign literature. Discussion followed. The Board agreed to allow the Chief to give approval to the union to use the District's logo and employee photos.

Chief Appleton explained that there are costs for explaining the bond issue. He would like to turn his PowerPoint presentation into a video to use at town hall meetings and a website dedicated to education about the District and the bond issue. Discussion followed. Chairman Paul does not want any type of scare tactics used and Chief Appleton agreed. Director Gay wants to advertise the town hall meetings so that the residents can see the houses. Further discussion ensued.

Director Gay made a motion authorizing Chief Appleton to spend up to \$5,000.00 for public education on Proposition Ambulance. Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka seconded.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Ott, "Yes."; and Director Horn, "No." The motion passed by majority.

Resolution – Benefits Plans Plus/Formal Record of Action: 457 Governmental Plan – Chief Appleton explained that this resolution, and the next, are records of action

to formally designate the TPA (Third Party Administrator) for the recently transitioned pension and deferred compensation plans from Nationwide Retirement Solutions to Mass Mutual.

Vice-Chairperson motioned to adopt the Resolution. Director Ott seconded.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Ott, "Yes."; and Director Horn, "Yes." The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution – Benefits Plans Plus/Formal Record of Action: Money Purchase Plan – Chief Appleton reiterated this was the same as the last resolution. Director Horn asked for further explanation of the TPA to which Chief Appleton explained.

Director Ott motioned to adopt the Resolution. Director Gay seconded.

There being no further discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Ott, "Yes."; and Director Horn, "Yes." The motion passed unanimously.

GOOD AND WELFARE:

Acknowledgement of employee promotion and service – Chief Appleton announced the following employees' full-time service anniversaries:

For September: Mr. Chris Bullock, twenty-nine (29) years.

Chief Appleton announced that Lieutenant Nick Salzman is leaving the District at the end of October to pursue work in the STARS program at Cardinal Glennon Hospital. The group thanked Mr. Salzman for his service to the District. Director Gay extended personal thanks to Mr. Salzman for getting her involved with the District.

An additional comment section will be added to the next meeting agenda.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors will be on Wednesday, October 24, 2018. The meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. and will be held at House #4.

Chief Appleton made mention that a work session may be needed to review healthcare options.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Chairman Paul motioned to enter into a closed session with closed vote and closed record for the purpose of approval of the Executive Session Minutes from 8/22/2018 and consultation with counsel to discuss personnel and litigation pursuant to Section 610.021 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri. Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka seconded.

There being no discussion, a roll call vote was taken as follows: Chairman Paul, "Yes."; Vice-Chairperson Ruzicka, "Yes."; Director Gay, "Yes."; Director Ott, "Yes."; and Director Horn, "Yes." The motion passed unanimously.

The Board left open session at 7:38 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 8:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

There being no discussion, a vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously at 8:13 p.m.


Cathy Wooldridge - Secretary of the Board

Board approved, signed, and sealed on: _____

