

# **CARBONDALE & RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

## **MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **CARBONDALE FIRE HEADQUARTERS**

**AUGUST 26, 2015**

The Board of Directors of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District met for a special meeting on August 26, 2015 at the Carbondale Fire Headquarters/Training Building.

President Gene Schilling called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m. Directors present were Mike Kennedy and Carl Smith. Director Bob Emerson attended via telephone. Also present were Ron Leach, Jenny Cutright, Bill Gavette, Eric Gross and Mark Chain. Secretary/Treasurer Louis Eller was absent.

### **DISCUSSION TO CONSIDER THE CERTIFICATION OF A BALLOT QUESTION FOR A TEMPORARY MILL LEVY INCREASE**

Ron Leach reviewed the 2016 preliminary assessed valuations from the county assessors. He said that the assessed valuations increased 23.29%, not 25.5% as predicted. Ron Leach said that a 1.74 mill levy increase would generate \$591,803. Ron Leach said that at the previous Board of Directors meeting, the discussion was to spend the increase on personnel, equipment and reserve replacement. Ron Leach added that the personnel category would replace the three positions lost, issue raises for the current staff and have \$33,000 for casual employees. Ron Leach said that the equipment proposed is fire hose, cardiac monitor grant match, personal protective equipment, communications equipment, a roof for Station 3. He said the additional funds would be used to replenish the reserves.

Gene Schilling noted that he would like to see the seasonal employee budget increased to \$50,000. Discussion regarding funding for seasonal employees followed. Further discussion regarding if the ballot question should be a dollar amount or a mill levy followed. Eric Gross noted that the worksheet staff prepared is an exercise to review income and expenses. He said that the worksheet proves the rationale for the mill levy being requested.

Bob Emerson noted that the \$200,000 for reserves is not being added to the reserve balance, but it is replacing what the District would have used out of the reserves to balance the budget. Discussion regarding the reserve balance if the mill levy does not pass followed. Bob Emerson said that the worksheet is very useful for talking points. Further discussion regarding the amount to request for the mill levy increase followed. It was noted that 1.75 mills would yield \$595,204.

**MOTION:** made to approve resolution 2015-004, A Resolution of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District to Place A Mill Levy Override Question on the November 3, 2015 Election Ballot, with the change of 1.75 mills instead of \$600,000 for the mill levy override question. Carl Smith said that he will vote against this proposal. He added that he was going to request a plan for the mill levy proposal, but Ron Leach has already done this. He noted that the

will not fight the proposal, though he believes the Board of Directors needs to go in a different direction. It carried and passed 3-1, with Carl Smith voting against.

Carl Smith said that he would like to review the budget for the mill levy override in more detail at the September meeting. Bob Emerson noted that staff will develop two budgets, one with and one without the mill levy override. Carl Smith said that the Board of Directors needs to have input and responsibility for the budget. Bob Emerson noted that the Board has input and is responsible for the budget when they adopt it.

#### **RESOLUTION 2015-005**

Gene Schilling said the resolution is to apply for a grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District. He said it is a no match grant.

**MOTION:** made to approve resolution 2015-005, A Resolution of the Carbondale & Rural Fire Protection District Supporting the Grant Application for a Grant from the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District for the Purchase of Firefighting Equipment. Bill Gavette said the grant is for a new hose tester, porta tank liners and various sizes of hose. It carried and passed unanimously.

Carl Smith said that the consolidated cardiac monitor grant may need to be purchased in 2015.

Eric Gross said at the previous board meeting, there was discussion regarding a resolution to support the ballot question. Discussion regarding what to include in the resolution followed. It was decided to present a resolution to support the ballot issue at the September meeting.

Eric Gross distributed and reviewed information from the Special District Association regarding campaign finance activities.

**MOTION:** made to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 6:26 p.m. It carried and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jenny Cutright, Recording Secretary

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Gene Schilling, President