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**Marion County Fire District No. 1
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes May 16, 2024**

The Marion County Fire District No. 1 Budget Committee met for a properly noticed Budget Committee meeting on May 16, 2024; at 5:30 pm. Board President Mike Welter called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm.

Budget Committee Members Present: Mike Welter, Mike Bauer, Jeff Hart, Julio Quevedo, Cynthia Lara, Tom Marks, Sue Curths, Steve Howton, David Lindley, Janice Wheeler.

Staff present: Chief McMann, Deputy Chief Lee, Renee Gilbert, Emma Bjorklund, Lacy Meade, BC Mike Berger.

Public: William Chapman, MCFD1 Station 2.

Official sign-in: none.

Chief McMann welcomed the Committee and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Elections: Mike Bauer nominated Sue Curths for Chair. Jeff Hart seconded. Motion carried. Mike Bauer nominated Tom Marks for Secretary. None opposed. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Tom Marks made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Mike Welter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Review of Budget Committee Roles and Responsibilities: Chief McMann reviewed Roles and Responsibilities with the PowerPoint presentation (see attached). Chief McMann announced that we have successfully posted this meeting in the paper and online per state budget law. Chief McMann introduced Renee Gilbert who is our Financial Analyst. She has headed this years budget and will be giving the presentation.

Budget Message and proposed & recommended budget documents:

Renee began presenting the presentation. The GFOA award has been awarded to us for five years and we are anticipating receiving it again. A goal for the document is to translate into spanish and have that available for our spanish speaking citizens. There is a budget and brief which was recommended by GFOA. This is presented onto the website and access to the public. There is a new video that we are going to be presenting about our budget as well. Chief McMann recently has been asked to speak at the national GFOA conference and the District will be recognized at a national level.

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Our focus this year is EMS equipment due to that being our primary calls. We also are focusing on the our facilities this year. Renee explained the budget document and gave a general overview of what the departments and division uphold.

Renee played the new video to the committee (see online documentation). A brief overview of our top 10 tax payers, and our agency compasions was discussed. We currently have the highest call volume of any comparable.

Chief McMann discussed the strategic plan document that was recently board approved. This document provides of strategies and objectives. This gives us our accomplishments and allows us to have a goal for our future years. This is presented throughout the whole budget.

The budget message was presented to the public online before the meeting incongruence with law. Chief McMann asked if the committee would like it read to them.

General Fund 10. Property taxes increase dramatically due to getting a new local option levy this year. We still plan conservatively with the increases to the proposed tax value. We are currently on track to collect all of our property taxes for fiscal year 2024. Renee explain the local option levy importance to the District. Beginning Fund Balance was slightly higher in fiscal year 2024 due to excess ambulance revenue, grants, and for benefits. fiscal year 2025 beginning funds will be slightly less. Our ambulance revenue is slightly lower through March due to bank changes and service delays. However this will increase in the next few months. Call volumes were discussed. Resources of other revenue were discussed.

Our largest department is fire operations followed by EMS. Appropriations are made at the highest level to allow for flexibility and unknown expenses. There are nine department and divisions with the addition of one new department. We function after zero based budgeting. Increase include personal services, capital outlay, and contingency. Six new personnel were added to staff. Our wages also increased in order to maintain our comparables. Overtime has also been a large portion, this is hopefully going to be decreasing due to placing a new medic and full staffing. Material and service are 21% of budget by divison/department. There is about a 30% increase due to EMS call being increased. Contingency has 5% to maintain policy for personal and services. Our ending fund balance hold 4 months of personal services.

General Fund Divisions and Departments. There is a cost of living adjustment of 3% that will be happening July 1st via CBA contract. Priority for Fire Operations is safety equipment and dual role medic units. EMS Operations is single role personal only. Our full time employees increased by six this year. This has a significant increase due to investment in the program. Volunteer program has an increase in station specific expenses. Tuition reimbursements and incentives increased due a large amount of volunteers coming into our program. Administration does not have any significant changes. Administration is fully staffed and comparables will be made to

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ensure wages are held. Benefits and Wellness is a sub department of the administration division. This position will be doing human resources and adopting our wellness program. Renee went into detail into want this position and subdivison will be focusing on. Training division in person training and professional development are large investment. Community Risk Reduction does not have any major changes. We are continuing to work on growing Emanuel as a Deputy Fire Marshal. Logistics has a large increase of budget due to aging facilities and apparatus. Captial Outlay increase is tied with the EMS increases.

Fund 30 Debt Service. This budget continues to decrease as we have decreasing debt.

Fund 70 Capital Projects. There is a proposal to get two tender remounts and one medic refurbishment.

Fund 80 Capital Outlay Reserve. The District will be purchasing three pierce pumpers to begin replacing our aging apparatus. There is a schedule for improvement that was provided.

Financial Policies. These are brought to the board annual. There is some changes of bi annual budget that may help our administrative team extensively. Investment is also being discussed as a possibility.

Finanical Forecast. This was presented on how we can financial stay effective.

Individual and Public Comment: None.

Committee Deliberations: None.

Action Items:

1. Sue Curths, committee chair, moved that the Marion County Fire District No. 1 Budget Committee approve and reco,mmend to the Board of Directors, the 202 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$29,580,450 and the property taxes it contains at the rate of \$1.9045/\$1000 of assessed value for operating expenses, at the rate of \$0.99/\$1000 for local option tax. Janice Wheeler, budget committee, seconded. Motion passed unanimously as presented.

Adjournment: President Welter called for adjournment at 7:21 pm.

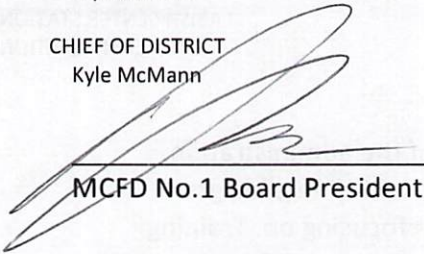
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MCFD No.1 Board President

Attest 