

rather unusual. ... Can we afford to pay for 100 percent of everything?" He noted that "if the court threw out 'Obamacare,' and if we had to continue paying the premiums, we are going to have to do something." Pocock responded, "Exactly!"

Pocock then indicated that something had to be done to alleviate what he anticipated would be a shortfall in funds. To this point, there had been no public discussion indicating where costs could be reduced or efficiencies accomplished prior to a tax increase.

It should be noted that at the May 23 meeting, no alternative was given to spending \$12,000 for the current investigation even though, according to Pocock, money was tight.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Hildebrandt reported that April represents 33.33 percent of the budget year and that year-to-date:

- The district had received \$1.3 million in property tax revenues (45.38 percent of the budgeted property tax revenue).
- Specific ownership taxes received were \$90,581 (36.33 percent), with the budgeted revenue at \$249,360, down \$24,766 from 2011.
- Ambulance revenues were \$169,324 (30.79 percent).
- Administrative expenses were up with payment of liability insurance and maintenance contracts. Salaries were up due to three paydays in January but have equalized. Many payments over the year-to-date

budget are due to insurance policy payments and one-time contract payments. Gas for Station 2 and electricity for Station 1 continue to run high, along with water and sewer for Stations 1 and 2.

- Overall expenses were 32.84 percent of the annual budgeted amount, or 0.49 percent under budget year-to-date; earlier this year, expenses were over by 3.12 percent in January, 1.92 percent in February, and 0.63 percent in March.

Hildebrandt stated, "There are very few [expenses] that are over budget here today" and concluded by noting that "we are a half percent under budget this year."

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 27, in the Administration Center at 166 Second St. in Monument. For further information regarding this meeting, contact Jennifer Martin at 719-484-0911.

Bernard Minetti can be contacted at bernardminetti@ocn.me.

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