



WASHOE COUNTY
TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



JOINT STAFF REPORT
Board Meeting Date: February 27, 2018

CM/ACM
Fire Chief
Finance
Legal
Risk Mgt
HR

DATE: February 7, 2018
TO: Board of County Commissioners
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners
FROM: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief
THROUGH: John, Slaughter, Washoe County Manager
SUBJECT: Presentation, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding regional dispatch using Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL) and fire service delivery considerations. (All Commission Districts) FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Presentation, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding regional dispatch using AVL and fire service delivery considerations.

Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities

PREVIOUS ACTION

The Board of Fire Commissioners heard a presentation on February 20, 2018 regarding dispatching based on AVL protocol and enhanced automatic aid with the City of Sparks.

BACKGROUND

Fire District staff has researched means and methods to decrease response time to emergency incidents, particularly when emergencies occur near jurisdictional boundaries. Several recent incidents have focused attention on the dispatch system that relies on an emergency response that does not provide closest unit response.

The region relies on four separate dispatch centers that process emergency response to fire and EMS emergencies. The configuration does not lend to efficient processing of 911 calls nor to efficient response.

Staff has studied dispatch processes in Southern Nevada which relies on technology and processes to send the closet emergency response resources regardless of jurisdiction. The technology currently exists to do this, but the physical separation of public safety answering points (PSAPS – or dispatch centers) gets in the way of efficient dispatching. In Southern Nevada, each agency maintains its own autonomy but a consolidation dispatch point provides a means to dispatch the closest resource when emergencies occur along boundaries.

Regional cooperation in this effort will be essential to reducing response time. This problem is not unique to our community – and a system that sends emergency resources is common within the country.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Costs to implement AVL are not known, but much of the technology needed to implement this solution is already in place.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends Board give direction regarding regional dispatch using AVL and fire service delivery considerations.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Should the Board agree with Staff's recommendation, a possible motion could be:

*"I move to give direction to staff to implement AVL dispatching."*