

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

TUESDAY 9:00 A.M. NOVEMBER 16, 1999

PRESENT:

- Jim Galloway, Chairman
- Ted Short, Vice Chairman
- Joanne Bond, Commissioner
- Pete Sferrazza, Commissioner
- Jim Shaw, Commissioner
- Marty Scheuerman, Acting Fire Chief
- Amy Harvey, County Clerk
- Katy Singlaub, County Manager
- Madelyn Shipman, Legal Counsel

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business:

**AGENDA**

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, Chairman Galloway ordered that the agenda for the November 16, 1999, meeting be approved.

**MINUTES**

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Bond, which motion duly carried, Chairman Galloway ordered that the minutes of the special meeting of September 21, 1999, and the regular meeting of September 28, 1999, be approved.

**99-47F RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION - MICHAEL BAKER**

Acting Fire Chief Marty Scheuerman and Chairman Galloway presented a plaque of the following resolution to Michael Baker, age 15, who was credited with saving a neighbor's home from total destruction by fire. The Acting Chief and the Chairman both thanked and congratulated Mr. Baker for his heroic actions.

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Shaw, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the following resolution be adopted and Chairman Galloway be authorized to execute:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

WHEREAS, On October 22, 1999, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District responded to a report of structure fire at 5555 Shepard Circle; and

WHEREAS, upon investigation the engine company discovered a kitchen fire which was started; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Michael Baker, who lives in the area and was home alone that day, heard the smoke detector going off, investigated as to where the problem might be, then called 911 to alert the authorities of this potential catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Michael Baker certainly saved the homeowner and the home's occupants from the grief of losing their

possession. Additionally, his actions benefited the surrounding community and contributed to the on-going health and safety of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District firefighters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Fire Commissioners and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District commends Mr. Michael Baker for his civic minded action and presents this resolution commemorating his service to the citizens of Washoe County.

#### **99-48F SALARY AND BENEFIT CHANGES - NON-REPRESENTED EMPLOYEES**

Upon recommendation of Joanne Ray, Washoe County Human Resources Director, on motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Short, which motion duly carried, Chairman Galloway ordered that the following salary and benefit changes for the Administrative Assistant and the Fiscal Compliance Officer, consistent with the Collective Bargaining Agreement of the Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3, be approved:

Salaries:

July 1, 1999 - 2% general salary increase.

January 1, 2000 - 2% general salary increase.

Classification and Compensation Review:

Based upon Board of County Commission approval of a county-wide compensation and classification review to be conducted by the HayGroup, the following rules shall apply for implementing the results of the review:

- 1) salary range adjustments adopted out of the process shall be effective July 1, 1999,
- 2) salary range adjustments are to the salary ranges, not the incumbents in the adjusted classifications,
- 3) incumbents whose classifications are downgraded who are paid more than their new range shall have their pay frozen until the range encompasses their salary,
- 4) reclassifications will be effective upon Board of County Commissioner approval of the results, anticipated to be in approximately May of 2000.

Overtime:

Overtime payment shall be consistent with what is set by the arbitrator of the issue for the Washoe County Employees Association.

#### **99-49F RATIFICATION - SUPPORT SERVICES COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT - OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3**

Upon recommendation of Howard Reynolds, Assistant Manager, Washoe County, on motion by Commissioner Short, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the initial Collective Bargaining Agreement with Operating Engineers, Local Union No. 3, for the Support Services Employees' Contract, which was placed on file with the County Clerk, be ratified.

It was noted that the term of the agreement is July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000, and the amendments include a 2 percent general salary increase effective July 1, 1999, a 2 percent general salary increase effective January 1, 2000, a Memorandum of Agreement concerning implementation of the HayGroup county-wide compensation and classification review, etc., and is patterned after the County's WCEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.

It was further noted that the parties reached tentative agreement on all issues with the exception of whether paid time off should be counted in the calculation of overtime, which issue was scheduled for interest arbitration with WCEA pursuant to NRS 288 on November 12, 1999; that the Operating Engineers and the District have agreed to abide by the terms of the Arbiter's award for

**99-50F COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT - FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES NORTH OF T22N - WASHOE COUNTY**

Upon recommendation of Marty Scheuerman, Acting Fire Chief, on motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Short, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the updated cooperative agreement between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County concerning the provision of fire protection, prevention, and first response emergency medical services to the area north of T22N be approved and Chairman Galloway be authorized to execute.

**99-51F FINANCIAL REPORT**

Marty Scheuerman, Acting Chief, presented a report prepared by Mary Walker of Walker & Associates concerning a five-year financial projection for the District and stated that the negative impacts of annexation coupled with the busiest wildland fire season in 20 years necessitated a re-evaluation of the current year's budget and a reallocation of funds. He stated that the District lost over \$700,000 in revenue because of annexations; that the projections show a deficit by 2002-2003; and that there is approximately 18 months, if the District does not consolidate, in which to change the operations and reduce expenditures. Chief Scheuerman further stated that a substantial number of homes are planned to be built in the District, both in the south and the north; that they are meeting with the Department of Community Development to determine the assessed value of what is likely to be built; and that that may or may not make up the difference lost to annexations.

Chairman Galloway noted that extensive discussion was held on this matter at the Caucus meeting. He asked if the annual costs of having to have 4-man crews due to the mandated 2-in/2-out rule has been calculated. Chief Scheuerman stated they figure that cost is \$320,000. The Chairman stated that he is exploring other ways for the District to fulfill that 4th man requirement.

Board discussion ensued concerning working on a plan to eliminate the projected deficit in case the District does not consolidate with Reno and remains a stand alone District.

**99-52F STATUS REPORT - CONSOLIDATION**

Acting Chief Scheuerman, stated that finance staff from both Reno and the District are still looking at the financial impacts/benefits of consolidation; that they are not in full agreement on that yet; that the fire station master plan is not completed and will not be ready for next week's meeting; that most of the operational issues have been settled; and that there will be a package for the Board to discuss on November 23rd.

Commissioner Short commented that his ultimate goal is total consolidation and asked about the initiative from the City of Sparks a few weeks ago concerning a contract for fire protection services in Spanish Springs. The Chief stated he would check into that.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sam Dehne, a Reno citizen, stated that he is absolutely against laying off personnel to cut costs and that other ideas, such as pay cuts, leaves of absence, early retirement, etc., should be considered first. (Mr. Dehne's other comments concerning the Washoe County Airport Authority are being included under the Public Comments section of the Board of County Commissioners agenda.)

Frank Partlow, a Reno resident, stated that total consolidation of fire services is the only way to go for the entire region. He also stated that he has looked very carefully at the 2-in/2-out rule; that it has to do with structure fires only; and that the Board should ask the question: how many structure fires does the District respond to?

Mr. Partlow stated that he believes the number would be between 2 and 5 percent of all the calls; and that these kinds of labor laws just drive up costs.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

JIM GALLOWAY, Chairman  
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

ATTEST: AMY HARVEY, County Clerk

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