

BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

TUESDAY

1:30 P.M.

MARCH 14, 2000

PRESENT:

Ted F. Short, Chairman
Jim Shaw, Vice Chairman
Joanne Bond, Commissioner
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
Pete Sferrazza, Commissioner

Marty Scheuerman, Acting Fire Chief
Sharon Gotchy, Deputy 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 Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Short ordered that the agenda for the March 14, 2000, special meeting be approved.

00-6F NEW CLASSIFICATION - GIS ANALYST - CONTINUED

Acting Chief Marty Scheuerman and Carla Fells, Administrative Assistant II, explained the necessity, and urgency, of the District having its own GIS Analyst to produce current and accurate maps needed to provide the most efficient emergency services, and further explained that by converting an existing vacant Clerk Typist position to the GIS Analyst position and abolishing an existing Public Service Intern position, the District will save approximately \$15,000 in salary expenses. Chief Scheuerman also advised that they have been working with the County IT staff, but they have not really been able to get what they need; that he has discussed this with City of Reno Chief Lowden and the position would transfer over if the District and the City consolidate; and that Reno has no GIS personnel and is currently trying to get mapping done by the firefighters and Captains working overtime. The Chief also displayed the hand-drawn maps currently being used and described other items for which the data base could be used, such as fire hydrant locations, fire station location planning, profiling commercial occupancies, etc.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, stated that she has a number of concerns and has requested some additional information from the Information

Technology Director; that it has been proven in the past that it is better to centralize computer functions rather than various departments having their own computer personnel; that several other departments are using and inputting information into the GIS system; that if the position functions within the IT Department, the employee will be in a better position to keep updated and fulfill training requirements; and that an alternative would be to contract out the production of the immediate maps and then train staff to add to them and maintain them.

Commissioner Galloway noted that the Fire District is not the only agency that needs these maps; that Commissioner Bond had indicated that REMSA probably has these maps also; and suggested that consideration be given to hiring a temporary person in GIS to accomplish the task of getting the maps done.

Ms. Fells stated that the run maps are only about 2 percent of what the maps are needed for; that the other tasks for which the information is needed are spatial analysis, fire modeling, station planning, geographical analysis for EMS calls, wildland fires, etc. She stated that the County's GIS system is parcel based without a geocoded center line and therefore cannot be attached to the CAD system that Tiberon is bidding or their SUNPRO Fire Records Management system; and that the rapid growth in the area is another critical issue. Ms. Fells advised that they will not be duplicating the efforts of the County's GIS Division.

Ms. Singlaub pointed out that the County is spending in excess of \$200,000 for the COGO mapping. Commissioner Shaw stated that he is also concerned about duplication, as other agencies have, or should have, maps.

Commissioner Sferrazza stated that he does not understand why everyone cannot develop and use the same maps; that the Assessor needs maps of every parcel; that the Registrar of Voters needs much of the same information; that fire and police personnel need this information; and that while it may not all be needed in the same detail, it seems to him that one map system would work rather than having different departments drawing different maps.

Following further discussion, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Short ordered that consideration of establishing a new GIS Analyst position within the Fire District be continued to March 28, 2000, when the IT Department can be present to respond to the questions and concerns.

00-7F UPDATE AND STATUS REPORT – CONSOLIDATION

Acting Chief Marty Scheuerman reported that Reno Chief Lowden has advised that Local 731 is still considering the last offer made by the City concerning their labor contract; that they expect to have an answer from the union by the end of next week; and that if not, the City will probably give Local 731 a deadline for accepting or rejecting the offer.

Chairman Short stated that it has been 6 weeks since we supposedly had an agreement. Board members concurred that they wanted a complete update from the City as this needs to come to resolution and not drag on all summer.

Commissioner Bond asked what happens if Local 731 does not accept the offer. Chief Scheuerman stated that it is his understanding that if the offer is rejected it would mean that some of the aspects the Commissioners requested as far as written protection for the volunteers would not

exist.

Following further discussion, on motion by Commissioner Shaw, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that staff be directed to send a letter to the City of Reno requesting a written update from them and from Local 731 concerning the status of the agreement to consolidate the two fire departments.

00-8F UPDATE AND STATUS REPORT ON DISTRICT FINANCES

Acting Chief Scheuerman reported that he will be submitting a tentative budget for 2000/01 on March 28, 2000; that they are preparing 2 budgets, one if consolidated and one if not consolidated; that they are looking at some unique ways to bring down expenses; and that the District will be experiencing the secondary loss of some revenues from annexations. He further stated that if consolidation does not occur, the District will probably be looking at a tax increase. Commissioner Sferrazza requested that a budget be prepared with no tax increase. The Chief stated that staff will bring forth all possible scenarios.

Commissioner Galloway stated that he is as resistant to a tax increase as everybody else is, but because of the accelerated annexations by the City of Reno, the District's revenues are way down.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no response to the call for public comments.

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

TED F. SHORT, Chairman
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

ATTEST: AMY HARVEY, County Clerk