

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

TUESDAY

9:00 A.M.

OCTOBER 17, 2000

PRESENT:

Ted F. Short, Chairman
Jim Shaw, Vice Chairman (arr 9:40 am)
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
Joanne Bond, Commissioner
Pete Sferrazza, Commissioner

Roy Slate, Divisions Chief
Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Maureen Griswold, 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 Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Short ordered that the agenda for the October 17, 2000, meeting be approved with the following amendment: **delete** Item 6, purchase of Buddy Breather Systems as a capital expenditure.

Commissioner Galloway registered a protest stating he has repeatedly asked the Fire District to agendaize an item for a discussion of how the new system is working with regard to the volunteers and that the volunteers be invited to the meeting so they can bring forth their comments, criticism, problems, etc.

Commissioner Bond advised Chief Slate is in the process of putting together a complete review. Chief Slate advised the item will be on the Joint Fire Advisory Board meeting of October 19, 2000. Chairman Short directed that an item concerning this matter be put on the agenda of the next Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners meeting.

MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Short ordered that the minutes of the September 19,

2000, meeting be approved. It was noted that Commissioner Galloway's request for an agenda item regarding the volunteers was included in those minutes.

00-42F REPORT OF OPERATIONS

Chief Slate reported they are concentrating on cross training personnel and bringing the different policies together now that the wildfire season has slowed down. As coordinator of the volunteers, Chief Slate has been working on stabilizing communications with the volunteers and holding training and recruitment meetings.

The consolidated departments have a fleet of over 200 vehicles with five mechanics. A new program for having vehicles serviced and maintained by private contractors has been implemented to address the fleet maintenance problems. The volunteers have been assisting in transporting the vehicles back and forth.

There have been some problems with Dispatch, which Chief Sheuerman has been addressing. They believe the hardware and technological problems have been resolved, and the problem area continues to be the turnover and shortage of staff. Commissioner Bond asked for an up-to-date report, as of October 19, 2000, concerning staffing in Dispatch to be presented to both the Fire Advisory Board and to this Board, including detailed information regarding how many more employees are needed and what other innovative ideas are being attempted or could be implemented to address this problem.

Commissioner Bond noted another problem affecting fleet maintenance is that the size of the service bays is too small to accommodate the larger trucks and a new facility may be necessary.

Chief Slate further advised that Deputy Chief Jim Johns is now the new Commander of Dispatch, and he will have Deputy Chief Johns at the next Fire Commissioner meeting to discuss this matter with the Board members.

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9:40 a.m. – Commissioner Shaw arrived at the meeting.
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Commissioner Sferrazza stated he always felt the problem with keeping people in Dispatch was the wages and requested a report concerning wages and the turnover rate.

Chief Slate summed up by stating that overall things are going well and he feels good progress is being made.

**EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION – HEATING AND AIR
CONDITIONING SYSTEM AT STATION 17**

Upon recommendation of Chief Chuc Lowden, on motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Bond, which motion duly carried, Chairman Short ordered that the expenditure of \$10,341 from the FY-01 TMFPD Capital Budget to install a new heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) system at Station 17 (Spanish Springs) be authorized. It was noted that \$8,000 was the budgeted amount for this item. Chief Slate reported the Finance Department advised him funds are available in the same account and no transfer would be necessary.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sam Dehne, a Reno citizen, discussed the Airport Authority, his arrest at one of their meetings, and other issues.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

Commissioner Bond said it is apparent the minutes of the Joint Fire Advisory Board meetings should be included in the information that comes to the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, and there should be an item on the TMFPD agenda each month to discuss actions of the other Board.

Commissioner Bond requested that Chief Scheuerman provide a key to the Palomino Valley Fire Station building to the General Improvement District Board because they have their meetings there.

Commissioner Galloway repeated his request that a review of the volunteer fire operations be on the next possible agenda for the Fire Commissioners and that all the volunteer companies be notified and invited. He further stated it would be helpful to note on the agendas the next known meeting dates of both boards.

Chairman Short requested information concerning the status of the training program for the volunteers. Chief Slate stated he would provide a report. Commissioner Galloway suggested the report also be provided to the volunteers so the Board can learn whether the volunteers are in agreement with the information.

Commissioner Shaw commented on the opening and celebration of the new Sun Valley fire station saying it was a very nice affair and thanked staff for their efforts.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

**TED SHORT, Chairman
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District**

ATTEST: AMY HARVEY, County Clerk

*Minutes Prepared By:
Sharon Gotchy
Deputy County Clerk*