

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

FEBRUARY 20, 2001

PRESENT:

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

**Katy Singlaub, County Manager**  
**Marty Scheuerman, Reno Fire Department**  
**Madelyn Shipman, Legal Counsel**  
**Nancy Parent, Chief Deputy County Clerk**

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 E. 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 Short, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the agenda for the February 20, 2001 meeting be approved.

**MINUTES**

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Short, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the minutes of the regular meeting of January 16, 2001, be approved.

**01-06F      REPORT OF OPERATIONS**

Marty Scheuerman, Operations Chief, Reno Fire Department, reported on the Fire Department operations for January. He advised there were over 1900 calls for service and the Department has been extremely busy. He noted that January is normally a slow month and, if this rate continues, it is projected there will be 24,000 - 25,000 service calls this year.

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Operations Report for the month of January, 2001, be accepted.

**01-07F            REPORT – VOLUNTEER/AUXILIARY OPERATIONS**

Roy Slate, Division Chief, Reno Fire Department, presented the Report on Volunteer and Auxiliary Operations dated February 9, 2001.

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Report on Volunteer and Auxiliary Operations be accepted.

**01-08F            CAPITAL EXPENDITURE – CONSTRUCTION OF WALKWAY ENCLOSURES - STATIONS 14 AND 16**

Roy Slate, Division Chief, Reno Fire Department, reviewed background information concerning the recommendation to construct walkway enclosures between the living quarters and the apparatus rooms of Stations 14 and 16. He advised that staff's intent was to keep the cost under \$25,000, and informal quotes were solicited for the project. The quotes came back exceeding \$40,000, which was \$10,000 over what had been budgeted. Staff is requesting that the additional funding come from the Station 17 siding project, which came in under budget.

Chief Slate responded to questions of the Board concerning the Station 17 project, the possibility of obtaining assistance from the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) for these projects, etc. He noted that he recently became aware of another possible option that could lower the cost of the walkways. Commissioner Bond suggested that this item be continued so that staff could look at alternatives to the walkways construction and determine if any assistance can be obtained from NDF.

Following further discussion, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that this item be continued; and that staff conduct further research and determine possible alternatives to reduce the cost of the walkways project.

**01-09F            SECOND QUARTERLY REPORT OF FINANCIAL STATUS – FISCAL YEAR 2000/01**

Mary Walker, Walker & Associates, provided information concerning the Second Quarterly report of of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. She responded to questions of the Board, advising that revenues are in line with projections, and there will be some savings as a result of consolidation. She discussed the circumstances of the bill submitted by the City of Reno for dispatch services for the past couple of years. She advised that the TMFPD is disputing the bill; and that the amount the City says the County owes would place cash reserves in the negative. It will be necessary to carefully watch the cash flow status and look at options during the budget cycle to increase reserves. Ms. Walker stated that the previously projected deficit has been reduced to approximately \$140,000, which could be reversed through negotiations

concerning the bill for dispatch services; and that she believes this can be accomplished without raising taxes.

On motion by Commissioner Short, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Second Quarterly Report for Fiscal Year 2000/01 be accepted.

**01-10F            DISCUSSION AND OVERVIEW OF FIRE OPERATIONS**

Marty Scheuerman, Operations Chief, Reno Fire Department, provided background information and responded to questions of the Board concerning the overview of fire operations outlined in the agenda material dated January 26, 2001.

Discussion was held concerning urban and rural area response times and the need to have response time data available through an automated program. Chief Scheuerman advised this data would be available when the Tiburon system comes on line in June or July. Commissioner Galloway requested a future report concerning the progress of implementing the automated system for reporting response times.

**01-11F            DISCUSSION – JANUARY 12, 2001 FIRE INCIDENT**

Marty Scheuerman, Operations Chief, Reno Fire Department, responded to questions of the Board concerning the response time to the structure fire on 1/12/01 in Sun Valley. He advised that the engine company normally stationed at the Sun Valley station was on a training assignment, and the Sun Valley District was being covered by the adjacent engine companies. He noted this is normal practice when an engine company is busy with another emergency or assignment.

Discussion was held relative to possible options to avoid such incidents in the future because an engine was out of its station for a training exercise. It was noted that these and other fire issues will be reviewed in an upcoming workshop.

**01-12F            DISCUSSION – COMMISSIONER BOND LETTER OF JANUARY 18, 2001 – DEPLOYMENT AND RESPONSE TO STRUCTURAL FIRES**

Marty Scheuerman, Operations Chief, Reno Fire Department, advised that, in response to Commissioner Bond's letter concerning a citizen who questioned certain calls, he reviewed all calls in the subject area and found nothing significantly out of the ordinary.

Commissioner Bond advised that she met with Chief Lowden and reviewed all the records relating to this matter, and her issues were addressed. She noted that the Fire Department will be conducting a review of protocol, which will encompass these kinds of issues.

**01-13F            MINUTES - JOINT FIRE ADVISORY BOARD**

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Short, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the minutes of the November 30, 2000 Joint Fire Advisory Board meeting be approved.

**VOLUNTEER/AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

Dulcie Lilly, Lemmon Valley Volunteers, discussed the Gates fire in Lemmon Valley. She advised the volunteers were treated very well and Chief Stolz thanked them for their efforts. The communication by Chief Stolz was very much appreciated and increased the morale of the department. She thanked Chief Scheuerman and Chief Slate for everything they have done for the volunteers.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sam Dehne, Reno citizen, commended firewomen and firemen for protecting lives and property. He then advised that the Airport Authority and the City of Reno are continuing their efforts to bring more air cargo to the airport and are bypassing this Board's request that an Environmental Impact Study be conducted. He asked that the Board demand that the EIS be started.

**COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS**

Commissioner Short stated he would like to move forward and identify the property to be donated in the St. James area for a fire station. Legal Counsel Griswold suggested the issue be placed on a future agenda.

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

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JAMES M. SHAW, Chairman  
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

ATTEST: AMY HARVEY, County Clerk

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*Minutes Prepared By:*  
*Barbara Trow, Deputy County Clerk*