

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

TUESDAY

9:00 A.M.

MAY 15, 2001

PRESENT:

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

**Nancy Parent, Chief Deputy County Clerk**  
**Katy Singlaub, County Manager**  
**Roy Slate, Division Chief**  
**Madelyn Shipman, Legal Counsel**

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 May 15, 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 April 17, 2001 be approved.

**01-25F      REPORT OF OPERATIONS**

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

**01-26F      REPORT ON VOLUNTEER AND AUXILIARY OPERATIONS**

Roy Slate, Division Chief, Reno Fire Department, noted that Fire Act Grant applications have been submitted for the eight chartered volunteer companies. Two additional grants were submitted for the Fire District at large (to include the three

auxiliary fire companies), and the City of Reno. He reviewed the equipment requests made on the applications.

Chief Slate provided updates concerning the Volunteers recruiting brochure, the Cold Springs Station, and the Lemmon Valley Station.

On motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Short, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Volunteer and Auxiliary Operations Report dated April 7, 2001 be accepted.

**01-27F            ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION – SILVER LAKE VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Upon recommendation of Roy Slate, Division Chief, Reno Fire Department, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the donation of \$2,000 on behalf of the Silver Lake Volunteer Fire Department be accepted with gratitude, and the Comptroller be directed to reimburse same to the Silver Lake Volunteer Fire Department.

**01-28F            INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT – DIAMOND STATE  
INSURANCE COMPANY – CLAIM SETTLEMENT**

Upon recommendation of Roy Slate, Division Chief, Reno Fire Department, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that receipt of two insurance reimbursement checks from Diamond State Insurance Company, Check No. 00004069 in the amount of \$4,047.07 and Check No. 00004068 in the amount of \$52,393.35, both dated April 16, 2001, totaling \$56,440.42, be acknowledged, and the Comptroller be directed to reimburse same to the Reno Fire Department.

It was noted this payment represents full and final settlement of a claim filed for damages to the 1996 International Brush Truck listed under the policy as Vehicle No. 68.

**01-29F            BROKER AGREEMENTS – TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT IN CONJUNCTION WITH WASHOE  
COUNTY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT – INSURANCE PROGRAMS**

Ray Sibley, Risk Manager, provided comments and responded to questions of the Board concerning this item. He advised this is the first time the Fire District, the County, and the School District insurance programs have been combined, which has resulted in a reduction in overall costs and some coverage improvements.

Following discussion, upon recommendation of Raymond Sibley, Risk Manager, on motion by Commissioner Bond, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Washoe County Risk

Manager be authorized to enter into four separate broker agreements on behalf of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District in conjunction with Washoe County and the School District concerning insurance programs as outlined in the Agenda memorandum dated May 4, 2001.

Chief Slate thanked Mr. Sibley for his efforts concerning insurance for the District. He noted that Mr. Sibley and all of the Washoe County departments have worked very well with the Fire Department.

### **VOLUNTEER/AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP COMMENTS**

Dulcie Lilly, Vice President, Lemmon Valley Volunteers, provided a brief update and advised that things are going pretty well.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Sam Dehne, Reno citizen, complimented the firefighters that protect lives and property. He discussed issues concerning the Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA), commenting that people who know virtually nothing about water are running that board. He expressed concerns regarding the recently appointed Executive Director of TMWA.

Gary Schmidt, Mt. Rose area resident, commended firefighters and emergency medical personnel as among the most honorable and admirable professions in public service. He then discussed issues concerning Assembly Bill 225, which he said was an outgrowth of the serial meetings held prior to the demolition of the Mapes. He commented that Assistant District Attorney Madelyn Shipman testified and characterized the bill as expanding the law, which he thinks she did incorrectly and fallaciously. He read excerpts of the Bill and said all it does is make clear it is illegal to go into small groups of two and do in private what cannot be done as a group in private. He was shocked to hear Ms. Shipman represent that the Board voted unanimously to oppose the Bill and wonders how that came about, especially based on Commissioner Galloway's campaign slogan for open government and a fair process.

### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Commissioner Galloway commented that he feels at a terrible disadvantage because he cannot respond to public comment. There is obvious reasoning with regard to the position taken on AB225 and if Mr. Schmidt had talked to him about it, he may have had the answer to his questions.

Upon inquiry of Commissioner Sferrazza, Chief Slate provided information concerning the incident on North Hills Drive. He advised that, in general terms, the Interlocal Agreement does not provide for volunteer response within the city limits. This does not necessarily mean that volunteers cannot be used in the City at the direction of the Chief Officer, and volunteers would be used in a life-threatening

situation. Commissioner Bond requested reaffirmation that, in any life threatening incident, the nearest units would be called whether they were volunteer, Truckee Meadows, or Reno, so that all Battalion Chiefs are aware of that protocol.

Dulcie Lilly, Vice President, Lemmon Valley Volunteers, clarified that the volunteers were dispatched to the incident, but were then cancelled. According to the dispatch log, there was a 23-minute dead air time, during which time they were dispatched and cancelled, and this will not show on the dispatch logs.

Commissioner Bond requested the log for the North Hills Drive incident. Commissioner Galloway requested a complete transcript of the dispatch conversations.

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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:

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AMY HARVEY, Washoe County Clerk  
and Ex Officio Clerk, Truckee Meadows  
Fire Protection District

*Minutes Prepared By:  
Barbara Trow  
Deputy County Clerk*