

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

TUESDAY

4:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 19, 2004

PRESENT:

Jim Shaw, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairman
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
David Humke, Commissioner
Pete Sferrazza, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Marty Scheuerman, Chief of Operations
John Slaughter, Acting County Manager
Melanie Foster, 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:

04-63F AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the agenda for the October 19, 2004 meeting be approved.

04-64F MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the minutes of the regular meetings of July 13, and August 17, 2004 be approved. It was noted that Chairman Shaw abstained from the vote on the August 17, 2004 minutes.

04-65F MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2004

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the monthly operations report for September 2004 be accepted.

04-66F **MONTHLY VOLUNTEER/AUXILIARY REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2004**

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Shaw ordered that the Volunteer/Auxiliary Report for September 2004 be accepted.

04-67F **DISCUSSION - RENO EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DIVISION – EMERGENCY 911 SYSTEM**

Susan Parker, Emergency Communications Division Director, said the regional center answers 58 emergency and non-emergency lines and provides radio dispatch for 13 public agencies. She said this past fiscal year 27,000 calls were entered for service in the Reno Fire Department and the Truckee Meadows Fire District. In 2003 the Division took in over half a million calls; and of those, over 147,000 came over the 911 lines. Also, last year the center had 20,000 abandoned 911 calls. She said staff is working on a public service announcement to try and lower those numbers. Ms. Parker reviewed a handout, which was placed on file with the Clerk, explaining the schematics of the Emergency Communications Division routing of calls.

Commissioner Galloway asked, when a major incident is occurring, if it would be possible to set-up a recording informing callers to stay on the line if they have new information regarding that incident or are reporting a new incident. Ms. Parker replied the equipment used is Verizon, and they would have the ability to input that message.

Commissioner Humke requested an explanation of the reverse 911 program. Ms. Parker replied reverse 911 is a commercial notification computer based program. The screen automatically dials numbers from a database and sends out a voice message.

COMMISSIONERS'/CHIEF'S/DIVISION CHIEF'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marty Scheuerman, Chief of Operations, said the search has begun for a Fire Chief to replace Chief Lowden. In the interim, Chief Scheuerman said he and Gary Nielson would share the duties through the end of January and both would be attending Board meetings. Chairman Shaw requested a schedule of events be given to the Board leading up to selection of the new chief. He also requested the Board have some input into the selection.

Commissioner Weber stated the Fire Advisory Board never rescheduled their meeting. Chief Scheuerman replied he is working with Aaron Kenneston, Emergency Manager, and the Manager's Office on scheduling that meeting.

Gary Schmidt, Washoe resident, suggested a future agenda item for review of evacuation procedures and policies as they now exist and as they were applied during the Andrew Lane Fire. He said he has asked many officials who was responsible for the closure of Andrew Lane and by what authority decision was made, but no one could answer his question.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Schmidt, Washoe resident, spoke on his displeasure of being denied of access to his home during an emergency situation.

Al Hesson, local resident, stated he supports both Chairman Shaw and Commissioner Galloway who are running for re-election.

Sam Dehne, Reno resident, requested the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District meeting be scheduled no later than 3:00 p.m.

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

JAMES M. SHAW, Chairman
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared by
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy County Clerk*