

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

TUESDAY

4:15 P.M.

FEBRUARY 12, 2008

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairman
Jim Galloway, Trustee
David Humke, Trustee
Kitty Jung, Trustee

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel
Marty Scheuerman, Division Chief

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:

08-07F DISCUSSION ON AGENDA

Marty Scheuerman, Division Chief, stated agenda Item 3 would be pulled from the agenda.

08-08F AGENDA ITEM 2

Agenda Subject: “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to two minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The District will also hear public comment during individual action items, with a comment limited to two minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the District as a whole.”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

08-09F AGENDA ITEM 4

Agenda Subject: “Review and acceptance of volunteer/auxiliary report for December 2007 and January 2008. (Including monthly operations report of Volunteer Fire Departments indicating response data, training activities/ apparatus updates, administrative, radio communication and dispatch issues etc.)”

Commissioner Weber commented several Volunteer Reports were not received from the Departments and hoped there was some accountability.

Marty Scheuerman, Division Chief, stated the District was working with the volunteer departments to increase productivity of reporting. He said some departments were experiencing personnel shortages; however, commended the Silver Lakes Volunteer Department for always submitting a timely report. Commissioner Weber suggested media attention to encourage citizens to volunteer. Chief Scheuerman explained press releases had been completed and staff had worked with the media in producing Public Service Announcements (PSA) encouraging recruitment. He indicated a grant was received through Nevada Fire Chiefs to help with recruitment. Chief Scheuerman commented all volunteer organizations were having a difficult time recruiting volunteers. Commissioner Weber recommended information such as received grants be placed in the staff report in the future.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 4 be accepted.

08-10F AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: “Authorization to pay extraordinary fire costs of major wildfires to the Bureau of Land Management from the TMFPD Contingency Account in the amount of \$102,862.51 and to direct the Finance Department to increase the TMFPD General Fund Payment to Other Agencies Account in the amount of \$102,862.51 from the Contingency Account.”

Marty Scheuerman, Division Chief, explained this expense was the result of wildland fires over the past three years that included air tanker costs.

Commissioner Galloway asked why this took so long to come before the Board. Chief Scheuerman explained there was an issue with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) about the Andrew Lane fire where the BLM wanted to charge the District double the amount. He indicated the collection letter was for a missed billing and stated the bill was sent to the City of Reno instead of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District. Chief Scheuerman explained the billing had to BE done through the District. Commissioner Galloway asked if the District was re-billed at a lesser amount and, if so, what was that amount. Chief Scheuerman replied the submitted bill represented the decreased amount and the negotiated cost. Commissioner Galloway said a letter from the BLM asked to adjudicate the bill. Chief Scheuerman said it was adjudication for the purposes of the Federal government agencies. He explained when the agencies agree on what cost would be paid, in this case the Department of the Interior and the U.S. Forest Service, that process was called adjudication.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 5 be authorized and directed.

08-11F AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: “Presentation on Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District fire codes and ordinances by the Fire Marshal.”

Bill Burney, Fire Marshal, commented the Board had previously adopted the 2003 International Fire Code. He provided an update on the process of adopting the 2006 International Fire Code. He stated the Board was responsible for the enforcement of regulations to furnish fire protection in the District. Chief Burney presented the Board draft proposals that the District would move forward with. He said in the 2003 Code there was a section that gave the authority to reference the wildland urban interface code and noted this version included public education to educate residents on the seriousness of wildland interface problems. Chief Burney reviewed sections in the 2006 International Fire Code, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He said the 2003 adoption contained a service charge for a number of permits. He explained if a complaint was received an inspection would be conducted, then a certified letter would be sent with a timeline. If the work was not completed per the timeline, then the customer could be charged an additional \$150 for a re-inspection. He remarked if after the re-inspection the work was still not completed, the \$250 process as listed would begin.

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Chief Burney clarified the Fire District Board could have the property cleaned, which was covered in the proposed language. He said if the amendment was placed in the Fire Code it then was law and provided a guideline and a process. Chief Burney commented there were 263 complaints received last year during the three month fire season and emphasized those areas were cleaned without any citations being issued. Commissioner Galloway asked if this was being proposed to the City of Reno. Chief Burney stated the City had Code Enforcement and a separate ordinance for those enforcements.

Marty Scheurman, Division Chief, said a feature of the 2006 Code was the ability to review slopes, fuels and unusual situations and the ability to go beyond the standard 30 feet clearance.

There was no action on this item.

08-12F AGENDA ITEM 7

Agenda Subject: “Trustees’/Manager’s Announcements, Requests for Information, Topics for Future Agendas and Statements Relating to Items Not on the Agenda. (No discussion among Trustees will take place on this item.)”

Marty Scheuerman, Division Chief, requested a proclamation for Wildland Awareness Week be placed on a future agenda.

Chairman Larkin said a demonstration was scheduled for February 14, 2008 for the RAVEN helicopter retrofit.

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

ROBERT M. LARKIN, 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*