

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

TUESDAY

10:00 AM

SEPTEMBER 22, 2009

PRESENT:

David Humke, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairperson
Bob Larkin, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner
John Breternitz, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Simon, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel
Tim Alameda, Interim Fire Chief

The Board convened at 11:10 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business:

09-46F 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 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.

11:11 a.m. Commissioner Larkin temporarily left the meeting.

09-47F AGENDA ITEM 3A

Agenda Subject: “Approval of May 18, 2009, June 23, 2009, July 14, 2009 and August 11, 2009 meeting minutes.”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Larkin absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 3A be approved.

09-48F AGENDA ITEM 4A

Agenda Subject: “Verbal report from Pete Cannizzaro-President, Washoe County Volunteer Fireman’s Association (WCVFA) on overview of the accomplishments of the WCVFA over the past twelve months.”

Fire Chief Pete Cannizzaro, President of the Washoe County Volunteer Fireman’s Association (WCVFA), explained there were 15 volunteer fire departments in the unincorporated areas of Washoe County and the adjacent federal lands. He noted monthly meetings had taken place to provide input for the Fire Services Master Plan Study and to align the agreements between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), the Sierra Fire Protection District (SFPD), and the unincorporated area north of Township 22. He said there was consensus that all volunteer fire departments should have the same contracts for services, training policies and procedures, and vehicle maintenance throughout the County. It was decided the volunteer departments would retain their autonomy as 501c(3) nonprofit organizations and the SFPD contract would be used as the model. He indicated web-based training and maintenance of volunteer vehicles by Washoe County were still being discussed. He stated the vision was to have a two-tiered volunteer program that would allow citizens to serve in support and logistics, and would serve as a “farm league” for individuals seeking a career path as firefighters.

11:15 a.m. Commissioner Larkin returned to the meeting.

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Breternitz, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the report in Agenda Item 4A be accepted.

09-49F AGENDA ITEM 4B

Agenda Subject: “Review and acceptance of volunteer/auxiliary report for June and July 2009 (including monthly operations report of Volunteer Fire Departments indicating response data, training activities/apparatus updates, administrative, radio communication and dispatch issues etc.)”

Fire Chief Tim Alameda reviewed the service calls and training hours for the volunteer fire departments. He noted July 2009 had been extremely busy, with the volunteers responding to 166 calls for service and putting in 2,329 hours of training. He thanked all of those who participated with the training.

Commissioner Weber thanked Volunteer Fire Chief Pete Cannizzaro for getting all of the volunteer departments to report in. Chairman Humke noted the Galena Volunteer Fire Department, led by Chief Cannizzaro, logged the greatest number of training hours and was setting a good example.

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Breternitz, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the report in Agenda Item 4B be accepted.

09-50F AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: “Report from the Fire Chief on recent Fire call activity and statistics (including Alexander Apartment Fire).”

Division Chief and Emergency Manager Sandy Munns discussed fire calls and statistics for the month of August 2009. He noted the consolidated department received 4,306 calls, of which 1,100 were within the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD). He indicated the Alexander Apartment Fire was still under investigation and an internal after-action review was also being conducted to look for ways to improve response. He stated 22 structures that were still under construction had been lost, but 17 structures were saved and ready for occupancy within the week following the fire. An adjoining mobile home park was safely evacuated with no loss to property. He described the four-alarm response to the fire. He identified several agencies that provided automatic and mutual aid response, including the Sparks Fire Department, the Sierra Fire Protection District and the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD). He stated a strike team of engines was provided by the Lake Tahoe Fire Chiefs Association, which included the Northstar Fire Department, the Squaw Valley Fire Department, the NTFPD, the Truckee Fire Protection District and the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District. He said the volunteers provided excellent coverage in areas left vacant by the response, particularly the Pleasant Valley Volunteers.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Larkin, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the report in Agenda Item 5 be accepted.

09-51F AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: “Request for input and comments from Board of Fire Commissioners regarding staff report on Public Safety Priorities for fiscal year 2009-2010.”

Fire Chief Tim Alameda conducted a PowerPoint presentation, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He gave an overview of the six strategies outlined by the Reno City Council, which included: (1) reevaluate service delivery methodologies, (2) focus on customer service, (3) plan for future expansion, (4) reduce overtime, (5) evaluate wildland interface issues, and (6) review emergency management assessments and plans.

Commissioner Jung asked how the priorities had been modified by the new administration in the Reno Fire Department. Chief Alameda indicated the priorities

and strategies were the same, but the tactics might be different. Commissioner Jung wondered whether the City Council was requesting feedback or just providing the information as a formality. Chief Alameda said the Board's input was requested. He stated the intent was to meet the needs of the City, the suburban areas, and the rural areas. Commissioner Jung pointed out it should be a priority to work with all of the other fire agencies in the region on prevention and best practices in the wildland interfaces.

Commissioner Larkin noted the labor contract was being renegotiated. He asked whether there had been any discussion with the City Council about procedures for reviewing the terms and elements of the contract. Chief Alameda indicated there had been no such discussion. Commissioner Larkin suggested the issue should be a strategic priority for the City Council.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Weber, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the report in Agenda Item 6 be accepted.

09-52F AGENDA ITEM 7

Agenda Subject: "Commissioners'/Manager's Announcements, requests for information and identification of topics for future agendas. (No discussion among Commissioners or action will take place on this item.)"

There were no announcements.

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11:40 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Breternitz, which motion duly carried, the meeting was adjourned.

DAVID E. HUMKE, Chairman
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared By: Lisa McNeill, Deputy County Clerk