

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

TUESDAY

10:00 a.m.

MARCH 23, 2010

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, Division Chief**

The Board convened at 12:54 p.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:

**10-17F            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.

**10-18F            AGENDA ITEM 3A**

**Agenda Subject:** “Acceptance of volunteer/ auxiliary report for January 2010 (including monthly operations report of Volunteer Fire Departments indicating response data, training activities/apparatus updates, administrative, radio communication and dispatch issues etc.)”

Commissioner Weber remarked seven volunteer departments still were not submitting volunteer reports. She thanked the departments that did submit their reports.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chairman Humke, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item, 3A be accepted.

**10-19            AGENDA ITEM 3B**

**Agenda Subject: “Approval of purchase of two (2) new Chevrolet Tahoes for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District career command vehicles from Champion Chevrolet pursuant to Sate of Nevada fleet vehicles bid 7662, in the amount of \$61,656.50 for both. (All Commission Districts.)”**

Commissioner Jung said while negotiations and deliberations were occurring, she requested a statement be put on future agenda items as to the necessity of purchasing now rather than delaying the purchase. She noted her concerns about agencies making capital investments at the present time.

Commissioner Breternitz understood the maintenance cost; however, there was no mention in the staff report that justified an increase in the maintenance cost. He asked if there was a possibility to overpay maintenance costs versus the cost of buying new vehicles. He stated he was not supportive of purchasing new vehicles at this time.

Division Chief Tim Alameda explained the two Chevrolet Tahoes would be assigned to battalion chiefs providing general transportation needs and response to incidents, and would replace two 1999 vehicles. He said the Department was utilizing the State of Nevada bid, not only to take advantage of the bid pricing, but to also maintain and create a standardization of the Fire Department vehicle fleet, resulting in a reduction to future maintenance costs.

Kurt Latipow, Fire Services Coordinator, stated the bid had an expiration date. He said he had been advised by Fleet Services that if action was not taken the bids would need to be reconsidered. He indicated prior to Chief Alameda taking office as the Interim Chief, this item was discussed during budget preparations and supported by County staff as part of the natural rotation and distribution of vehicles.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Chairman Larkin, seconded by Commissioner Breternitz, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 3B be continued until further information was provided and until the preliminary negotiations of the contract had been concluded.

**10-20F            AGENDA ITEM 4**

**Agenda Subject: “Fire Chief Report – Introduction and background of newly appointed Reno Fire Chief Michael Hernandez.”**

Reno Fire Chief Michael Hernandez said he would schedule individual meetings with Board members to solicit opinions, advise, direction and guidance. He explained his form of management was transparent and was inclusive in formulating

policies and directing projects and programs. He reviewed his background and noted he was looking forward to working with the Board.

The Board members welcomed Chief Hernandez.

There was no public comment on this item.

**10-21F      AGENDA ITEM 5**

**Agenda Subject: Approval to cancel Washoe County Purchase Order 450002816 for purchase of one (1) new Model 14 Brush apparatus for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District career Station 18 from Placer Fire Equipment, Inc. 10203 Missile Way, Mather, CA 95655 pursuant to the award of bid Northwest Fire District, Tucson, AZ January 11, 2008, in the amount of \$278,592. (Commission District 5)."**

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, Chairman Humke ordered that Agenda Item 5 be approved.

**10-22F      AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Agenda Subject: "Update on March 8, 2010, Joint Fire Advisory Board Meeting on the progress of the Joint Fire Advisory Board's list of proposed interlocal agreement issues and provisions to be amended."**

Commissioner Larkin said the Joint Fire Advisory Board (JFAB) had been meeting every other week. He said a schedule of meeting dates were set and "Bin" issues were identified as being any issues relevant to contract negotiations currently in process. He said there were significant discussions concerning level of service and, based on advise from legal counsel, the contract was silent on the level of service other than specifying what equipment and personnel associated with that equipment would be stationed at a particular fire station. Based on that standard, currently there had been no "brown-outs" within the District and no facilities affected. Commissioner Larkin stated a recommendation coming forward from JFAB to the Board of Fire Commissioners was direction for language to change that level of service requirement and define that level based on the standards of coverage.

Commissioner Larkin indicated the JFAB took up representation of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) during the Reno Fire Department's contract strategy development negotiations. He said there had been a recommendation from JFAB to request the Reno City Council include two components during the negotiations. First, during strategy meetings with the City Council, a Fire Commissioner should be included; and during labor negotiations with staff, a staff member from the Board of Fire Commissioners should be included to participate. Commissioner Larkin

stated during the upcoming April 5, 2010 JFAB meeting an amendment would be discussed for the interlocal agreement on Fire Services consolidation that would extend the notification period for one year and would be tied to the milestones.

Commissioner Larkin explained one milestone was tied to the City of Reno's completion of "standards of coverage" that must be completed in order to arrive at the level of service requirement being discussed. He said another milestone was how the budget was put together and how that budget process proceeded forward, specifically how any reductions in the budget would be allocated between the Reno Fire Department and the TMFPD. Commissioner Larkin said also expanding the role of the JFAB to be a fire review board, which was in anticipation there may be formation of a fire district to help the Reno City Council and the Board of Fire Commissioner's review, if that particular model worked in terms of governance.

Kurt Latipow, Fire Services Coordinator, explained the intent was to bring forward recommended language from legal staff to formally move the negotiation item to the Reno City Council. He commented staff would bring forth basic language to construct the milestones and receive direction from the Board.

Commissioner Larkin said that depended on the actions taken at the March 24, 2010 Reno City Council meeting and the April 5, 2010 JFAB meeting. He stated the negotiations would not impede the Board of Fire Commissioners if they chose to issue a Notice of Cancellation. He explained the extension of notification extended the period of notification, but not the contract and had to be tied to specific milestones.

Commissioner Jung remarked the formation of the "Bin" list was inclusive and indicated there had been sufficient time for the public to come forward. She stated workmen's compensation was also discussed, which had been the first real contract question for the JFAB. Commissioner Jung said the extension was not a signal to staff that the JFAB was slowing down, it was so an arbitrary time crunch did not occur.

Commissioner Breternitz thanked Commissioners Jung and Larkin for a very comprehensive report. Commissioner Weber echoed those sentiments.

In response to a question from Chairman Humke concerning the City of Sparks Fire Department, the Sierra Fire Protection District and the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District in contract terms, Commissioner Larkin replied it was the understanding that the purpose of JFAB was to deal with the existing contract. He said one of the anticipations of expanding the role of JFAB was to wait and see if there would be a desire on the part of the City of Reno and the County, as well as other entities within the region, to join the contract. He said that could lead to a district being formed neither run by the City of Reno or the County, but by another governance structure.

Commissioner Jung commented the guiding principle of JFAB was improving the delivery of fire services in the region.

Chairman Humke understood that a one-year extension of the notice period had been negotiated to allow for purposeful further negotiations. He commented he had never intended to terminate the agreement.

Commissioner Larkin commented it was a possibility that a proposal could return to the Board of Fire Commissioner's to take over all fire services.

There was no action or public comment on this item.

**10-23F      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.)"**

Division Chief Tim Alameda announced the "Red Cross Heroes Breakfast" was scheduled for March 25, 2010 and indicated Firefighter Jesse Washington would be honored.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**1:31 p.m.** On motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, the meeting was adjourned.

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**DAVID E. HUMKE**, 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:  
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy County Clerk*