

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

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m.

JANUARY 24, 2012

PRESENT:

Robert Larkin, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairperson
John Breternitz, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Simon, County Manager
Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel
Michael Hernandez, Fire Chief

ABSENT:

David Humke, Commissioner

The Board convened at 11:05 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:

12-11F 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.

12-12F AGENDA ITEM 3A

Agenda Subject: “Approval of the BOFC meetings minutes from January 10, 2012.”

There was no public comment on this item.

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

12-13F AGENDA ITEM 4

Agenda Subject: “Fire Chiefs Report – Report and discussion related to Fire District operations by Reno/Truckee Meadows Chief Michael Hernandez.”

Reno/Truckee Meadows Chief Michael Hernandez summarized the Washoe Fire that occurred on January 19, 2012. He reported that the fire began as a brush fire, but turned into a major long-term response effort that extended through January 22, 2012. Based on the conditions viewed upon arrival, the call was immediately upgraded to multiple alarms. He said the origin of the fire was a small vacant field surrounded by homes and, due to the wind conditions, the fire quickly spread in two directions. Chief Hernandez stated that the fire was managed via a multi-agency unified command system, which included the Reno Fire Department, the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), the Sierra Fire Protection District (SFPD) the US Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). He noted that approximately 29 residential structures were destroyed, multiple homes sustained fire damage and, sadly, one fatality. Chief Hernandez reported that 3,177 acres were charred and some responders were treated for minor injuries, such as wind-blown debris into their eyes, but none were transported for treatment.

During the fire investigation, Chief Hernandez indicated that a person presented themselves to the investigators and admitted to accidentally causing the fire through improperly discarded ashes from a wood-burning stove. He said that a Fire Management Assistant Grant (FMAG) had been requested and received, which would cover approximately 75 percent of the response costs.

Chief Hernandez commended the work of SFPD Interim Chief Tim Leighton and said it was an honor to work with him. He stated that the fire crews worked long hours and he was impressed with their dedication and professionalism. Chief Hernandez also thanked Washoe County Sheriff Mike Haley, Nevada Department of Public Safety Director Chris Perry, NVenergy, Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), and Washoe County School District Superintendent Dr. Heath Morrison.

Commissioner Jung thanked Chief Hernandez for his leadership and his professionalism. Commissioner Breternitz echoed those comments and expressed his admiration for the work that was completed.

There was no action taken or public comment on this item.

12-14F AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: “Recommendation to correct staff report dated November 29, 2011, action upon which was taken on December 13, 2011, to approve benefit packages to be offered to former TMFPD employees who are currently employed by the City of Reno and choosing to return to the District, to reflect that the agreement upon which “Option 1” and “Attachment 2” was based is the 1999-2000 Agreement

between the TMFPD and Local 2487 IAFF, to reflect that vacation accrual is 4.5 hours bi-weekly, and to otherwise confirm the Board's previous action."

Kurt Latipow, Fire Services Coordinator, explained that errors were listed in the original staff report approved during the December 13, 2011 Fire Board meeting. He said an error was discovered in Option II regarding vacation leave. Depicted previously was a minimum vacation accrual of 3.5 hours, but should have been a minimum vacation accrual of 4.5 hours. The second oversight related to references in the 1999 Collective Bargaining Agreement with IAFF Local 2487. The Agreement used to prepare the December 13, 2011 staff report was the 1999/2000 version not the 1997-1999 version, which was inadvertently attached. He requested that the corrections be accepted.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 5 be accepted.

12-15F AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: "Update, discussion and possible direction related to the status of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Transition Plan."

Commissioner Jung inquired on the number of tasks related to the transition and how many had been completed. John Slaughter, Management Services Director and Transition Team Leader, replied that 150 tasks were in the Transition Plan and indicated that 24 tasks had been completed. He noted that an additional 10 tasks were due to be completed by the end of January. Commissioner Jung asked how many tasks were at risk or not being tracked. Mr. Slaughter stated that he did not have that information. Commissioner Jung requested that type of information be supplied in order to follow the tasks and the progress being made toward completion.

Of the 10 tasks that were near completion, Chairman Larkin asked if any were critical. Mr. Slaughter recalled that some of those tasks were critical. Chairman Larkin requested an update be given to the County Manager on the items that were critical. Mr. Slaughter explained that the Transition Team met bi-weekly and would provide the requested reports every other week.

In response to the call for public comment, Thomas Daly spoke on his concerns in regard to the lease by the City of Reno for Truckee Meadows Station No. 14. He hoped that the Automatic Aid plan would be concluded prior to deciding the fate of Station 14.

There was no action on this item.

12-16F AGENDA ITEM 7

Agenda Subject: “Update on Joint Fire Advisory Board Meeting of January 23, 2012.”

Due to the lack of a quorum, Chief Michael Hernandez reported that a meeting had not taken place. He noted that the Joint Fire Advisory Board (JFAB) had not had a recent meeting so the agenda had carried over. In regard to the public comment about Truckee Meadows Station 14, he said the discussion was a lease/sale, but had yet to be determined by the City of Reno.

There was no action taken or public comment on this item.

12-17F AGENDA ITEM 8

Agenda Subject: “Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters associated with delivery of new fire services by July 1, 2012.”

11:25 p.m. On motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried with Commissioner Humke absent, it was ordered that the meeting recess to a closed session for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters associated with delivery of new fire services by July 1, 2012 per NRS 288.220. It was noted that the meeting would adjourn from the closed session.

2:39 p.m. The Board reconvened with all members present.

12-18F AGENDA ITEM 9

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 Board member comments.

12-19F AGENDA ITEM 10

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.

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ADJOURNMENT

2:41 p.m. There being no further business to come before the Board, on motion by Commissioner Breternitz, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, the meeting was 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*