

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

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m.

JULY 22, 2014

PRESENT:

**David Humke, Chairman**  
**Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairperson**  
**Marsha Berkbigler, Commissioner**  
**Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner\***  
**Kitty Jung, Commissioner**

**Nancy Parent, County Clerk**  
**John Slaughter, County Manager**  
**Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel**  
**Charles Moore, Fire Chief**

The Board convened at 11:30 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:

**14-0113F     AGENDA ITEM 2**

**Agenda Subject:** "Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to three 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 three minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the District as a whole."

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**14-0114F     AGENDA ITEM 3A**

**Agenda Subject:**" Approval of minutes from Board of Fire Commissioners meetings of April 22 and June 17, 2014."

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

**14-0115F      AGENDA ITEM 4**

**Agenda Subject: "Fire Chief Report – report and discussion related to Fire District operations and Monthly Statistics."**

Fire Chief Charles Moore talked about the Insurance Service Office (ISO) audit of the Truckee Meadows Fire District (TMFPD). He provided a map, which was placed on file with the Clerk, that showed areas which would benefit from the District's new ratings. He said the pink areas were rated as a Class 3, and explained Truckee Meadows was previously rated as a Class 5, with the exception of properties that exceeded 1,000 feet to the nearest fire hydrants, which were rated as a Class 10. He said there were substantial rating improvements in areas that did not have active fire departments, such as Palomino Valley, because of the credit for hauled water. He explained "hauled water" meant water that was brought to a fire when it was not available on-site. He credited volunteer efforts for affecting ISO rating changes in Palomino Valley and said they had been very active in recent days due to brush fires sparked by thunderstorms. He said the Franktown area rating had changed to a Class 3 and pointed out the yellow areas on the map, which indicated locations where ratings were reduced from a Class 10 to a Class 10W. He said the new ratings could result in substantial reductions to fire insurance premiums; however, not all insurance companies used the ISO ratings system and instead performed physical inspections. Those inspections took into account construction materials, defensible space, and fire alarm systems to determine premiums, especially for homes that were valued at a million dollars or more. He said most homes would see significant savings as a result of the new ISO ratings.

**\*11:35 a.m.** Commissioner Hartung arrived.

Chairman Weber asked for the Board to be provided with copies of the map since it was not included in their packets.

Chief Moore said the new ISO ratings did not give credit for the new Mogul station and explained that would not happen until the station had been commissioned and in service for a period of six months. He said after the six month period, documentation would be sent to the ISO and the credit they would receive would affect ratings for the Caughlin Ranch area.

Commissioner Berkbigler thanked the District for doing an effective job and for raising the bar for protection, which would result in lowering insurance costs. She thought it was important for citizens to know the County recognized the District's improved structure.

Chief Moore said the Mogul station would become operational on Thursday, July 31st, and the total cost for it came in well below three million dollars. He proposed some dates for the Grand Opening, suggesting either Friday, August 1st or Saturday, August 2nd. Chairman Humke recommended having it on a Saturday so the

public could attend. Chief Moore said it would be planned for Saturday, August 2nd at 10:00 a.m.

Chief Moore said the District had a very active week due to thunderstorms and lightning. He said a number of fires had been caused by lightning and many had been put out by the rain; however, there were four brush fires that required District intervention. He said none of them threatened structures and the District responded aggressively to put them out. He commented the rain had been refreshing and was beneficial, but it would take a long time for fuels to recover from years of drought. He hoped people would not become complacent with respect to fire danger. He said cheatgrass was already cured so there was no amount of rain that would bring it back to normalcy and there would continue to be grass fires throughout the season.

Commissioner Hartung asked if there would be discussion about Mutual Aid. Chief Moore said he sent a letter to the City of Reno and received an informal response from the Reno Fire Chief; however, he had not received anything official as to whether or not they would proceed with discussions. Commissioner Hartung noted aid had been given to Reno twice and asked if it was for wildland fires. Chief Moore responded he was unsure and explained it was considered Mutual Aid when two departments responded to one incident, which was typical when jurisdiction was unknown.

Commissioner Weber commented about the Volunteer Report and wondered why the training hours for Verdi were so high. Chief Moore said he knew Verdi was stepping up their activity; however, volunteers reported their own numbers and he could not quantify why the numbers were different than District records. He thought it would be important to change the process in the future so there would only be one set of records. Commissioner Weber noted Lemmon Valley did not turn in a volunteer report and she encouraged staff to make an effort to get that information.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**14-0116F      AGENDA ITEM 5**

**Agenda Subject: "Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor negotiations with Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220."**

There was no closed session scheduled.

**14-0117F      AGENDA ITEM 6**

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

Commissioner Hartung congratulated the District for staying on top of a tough season.

Commissioner Weber read a thank you letter from John and Cathy Glatthar regarding a fire near their property; and she thanked everyone involved, especially Chief Moore for supporting the Volunteer Fire Department in Palomino Valley.

Chairman Humke congratulated Chief Moore on his achievement regarding the Insurance Service Office (ISO) ratings and said he spoke with some constituents who expressed appreciation for the District's improvements.

**14-0118F      AGENDA ITEM 7**

**Agenda Subject: "Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to three 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 three 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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**11:50 p.m.** There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

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**DAVID HUMKE**, Chairman  
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection  
District and Sierra Fire Protection  
District

**ATTEST:**

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**NANCY PARENT**, Washoe County Clerk  
and Ex-Officio Clerk, Truckee Meadows  
Fire Protection District and Sierra Fire  
Protection District

*Minutes Prepared By:  
Cathy Smith, Deputy County Clerk*