

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (TMFPD)**

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m.

JANUARY 17, 2017

PRESENT:

Bob Lucey, Chair
Marsha Berkbigler, Vice Chair
Kitty Jung, Commissioner
Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy County Clerk
David Watts-Vial, Legal Counsel
Charles Moore, Fire Chief

The Board convened at 9:00 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

17-003F AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Roger Puccinelli stated he and his wife lost their home and all of their possessions to a fire. He noted the TMFPD had shut down Verdi's volunteer fire department and the closest fire station was over five miles away. He said the TMFPD lacked access to water to be able to put out a fire in Verdi. He read aloud the TMFPD time log recounting the fire incident that destroyed his home. It took an hour and 18 minutes from the time the fire was called in before the TMFPD began putting water on the burning home. He opined that responding to a residential fire without access to water and with inoperable equipment was not an acceptable response.

Ed Pitchford spoke about the fire that affected Mr. Puccinelli's home. He noted there was a lack of an adequate amount of water on a Type 1 fire truck and a tanker to fight a residential fire in Verdi. He also noted the closest available backup tanker was miles away in Stead. He stated the residents of Verdi would like the TMFPD to hire two additional firefighters for the Mogul fire station. He mentioned Verdi residents saw their insurance rates rise as an effect of moving the fire station to Mogul because they were more than five miles from the nearest fire station.

Jim Sievers said the residents in Verdi and the surrounding neighborhoods created a petition called Save Verdi Homes and Businesses from the Dangers of Fire. The mission of the petition was to promote the fact that it was government's responsibility to protect persons and property. He stated he was unable to find the TMFPD's mission which bothered him. He added people responded to missions. He asked the Board to help the residents of Verdi with decent fire protection.

CONSENT ITEMS

- 17-004F** **4A** Approval of minutes from the December 13 2016 meeting.
- 17-005F** **4B** Discussion and possible approval of an amendment to the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Firefighters Association I.A.F.F. Local 3895 at “Article 43 –Training Courses and Seminars” retroactive to July 1, 2016 to increase the training allowance from \$500 to \$750 per fiscal year.
- 17-006F** **4C** Discussion and possible approval of an “Amendment to Agreement” amending the existing Collective Bargaining Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Truckee Meadows Firefighters Association I.A.F.F. Local 3895 at “Article 2 –Recognition, Article 13 – Salaries, and Appendix A – Salary” to include and recognize the position of Fire Mechanic/Logistics Assistant within the bargaining unit represented by I.A.F.F. Local 3895 retroactively to November 14, 2016, and to clarify an inclusion date of November 1, 2015 for the Fire Officer in Charge of Strategic and Volunteer Services.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Berkgigler, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the Consent Agenda Items 4A through 4C be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 4A through 4C are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

- 17-007F** **AGENDA ITEM 5** I.A.F.F. Local 3895 Report to include a video from the 2016 Fire Ops 101 Event

Ian Satterfield, International Association of Firefighters Local 3895 President, announced the upcoming fifth annual Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament, a partnership event between Local 3895 and the Washoe County Sheriff’s Association to raise money for the Northern Nevada Children’s Cancer Foundation. Over the past five years, over \$100,000 had been raised. He also announced the Truckee Meadows Foundation and the South Valley’s Volunteer Fire Department would be hosting a pancake breakfast on February 11, 2017 at Station 301 to raise money for victims of the Little Valley Fire. A video from the Fire Ops 101 Event was shown which highlighted the partnership between the TMFPD and other fire agencies in Northern Nevada. He hoped more Commissioners would attend the event next year. He informed the Commissioners who were interested in participating in the Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament to contact John Sieben.

There was no public comment on this item.

There was no action taken on this item.

17-008F **AGENDA ITEM 6** Fire Chief Report: A) Report and discussion related to fire district operations. B) Career Statistics and Report for October 2016. C) Volunteer Statistics and Report for October 2016.

Chief Moore introduced Cynthia Vance who was the TMFPD's new Chief Financial Officer. He highlighted her experience as a Certified Public Accountant and with the Washoe County School District. He noted Ms. Vance was the number one pick of the assessment team and that the TMFPD was excited to have her.

Ms. Vance stated she felt welcomed by the TMFPD and she thanked the Board for the opportunity.

Chief Moore spoke about the recent flood response by the TMFPD's career and volunteer staff. He commended County staff for their assistance and he thanked the state of Nevada's Division of Forestry for supplying sand bags. He added without the ability to fill tens of thousands of sand bags, the County would not have been as prepared to deal with the flooding. He noted the TMFPD's career and volunteer staff worked very hard to redirect water away from homes. He stated the TMFPD was prepared to increase staffing for the incoming weather event which would bring in cooler weather and snow.

Chair Lucey praised the TMFPD staff for their work.

Chief Moore indicated part C of Agenda Item 6 would be pulled as the volunteer statistics had not been compiled due to how busy the TMFPD had been; however, the information would be compiled soon.

Commissioner Hartung stated it would be useful to know how many calls each fire station responded to and to understand where the calls were coming from. He noted resources were constantly moved around to respond to calls.

Chief Moore stated he met with a software vendor whose product would allow the TMFPD to analyze all of the calls they received in the past to determine where the calls came from, which station received the calls, and what type of calls they were. He added the detailed information would assist them with their budgeting process. The software would also assist with scheduling. He mentioned he spoke with the City of Sparks regarding an advanced automatic aid system. Under the current automatic aid system, after a call came in, a resource from the City of Sparks and a resource from the TMFPD would be sent out. This was not always necessary or efficient. With an advanced automatic aid system, the TMFPD would be able to analyze whether it could respond to a call with a single resource. Both entities would be able to see each other's calls. He also mentioned the relocation of a few stations.

Chair Lucey injected by stating he would love to continue the conversation; however, the agenda was not stylized to address the issue under the Chief's Report. He asked Chief Moore to bring the item back for the next agenda.

Commissioner Hartung suggested allowing Chief Moore to obtain and implement the software, and then continue the conversation.

Commissioner Berkbigler asked Chief Moore to include in his report why the City of Reno would not be part of the advanced automatic aid system.

Commissioner Hartung indicated the TMFPD extended a lot of mutual aid to the City of Reno. He requested Chief Moore to provide information regarding what those calls were for.

There was no public comment on this item.

There was no action taken on this item.

17-009F **AGENDA ITEM 7** Discussion and possible approval of a salary range for the existing position of Fire Division Chief and to approve a job specification when assigned as an EMS and Training Fire Division Chief.

Chief Moore stated the intent was to hire a Division Chief specifically dedicated to Emergency Medical Services training. He added the position was funded in the current fiscal year's budget.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved.

17-010F **AGENDA ITEM 8** Discussion and possible action to create a Deputy Fire Chief position to include job specification, salary range and benefits and authorization to negotiate an employment agreement to be brought back to the Board for ratification.

Chief Moore reported the application period for the position would end on January 31, 2017 and he anticipated the candidates would be selected by the end of March. He said he originally contemplated the position to be a Division Chief of Operations; however, he felt it would better serve the organization to bring in someone support the administration, as well as, operations. He added in the future, a Division Chief of Operations position may be installed.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Berkbigler, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved and authorized.

17-011F **AGENDA ITEM 9** Discussion and possible approval of an amendment to the existing employment contract to reflect a new annual salary, at a base rate of \$178,500, effective retroactively to April 2, 2016 for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief, Charles A. Moore.

Chief Moore reported staff was directed to complete a regional salary comparison to ensure the TMFPD's Fire Chief's salary was on par with the other regional fire chiefs' salaries. After meeting with the Human Resources Director, the salary presented in the staff report was the result. He noted staff anticipated drafting a new contract during the next evaluation.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved.

17-012F **AGENDA ITEM 10** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Jung requested staff to ensure there was an Agenda Item during future meetings for Commissioners' announcements after the first public comment section.

Commissioner Berkbigler inquired what percentage of Verdi was in the City of Reno's jurisdiction.

Chief Moore replied he did not believe he could answer questions during this agenda item.

David Watts-Vial, Legal Counsel, stated it would be advisable to place the inquiry on a future agenda. The purpose of this section was to announce future items.

Commissioner Berkbigler asked staff to place her inquiry on a future agenda. She also inquired where the nearest City of Reno fire station was to Verdi. She mentioned there was a suggestion to hire additional personnel for the fire station in Mogul and a complaint regarding rising insurance costs due to the lack of a fire station in Verdi. She indicated she would like to see how those issues could be addressed. She asked whether the TMFPD needed to work with the City of Reno on how Verdi's fire service was handled. She also asked whether Chief Moore was aware of any fire related issues which would come before the Nevada Legislature.

Commissioner Jung requested a standing Agenda Item to address legislative issues and affairs.

Commissioner Hartung stated he would like to have a conversation about flex crews in relation to the new software, and how they could be utilized. In regards to automatic aid given to other agencies, he said there needed to be a conversation about equality.

Commissioner Herman spoke about the need for the TMFPD to have the ability to access water in Verdi to fight fires. She mentioned the possibility of leasing a tanker from a construction company. She wanted to know what options were available.

Chair Lucey inquired what the status of Washoe Valley's volunteer firefighters training was, and how the TMFPD could continue to assist them. He requested data regarding the calls in the southern areas in order to make better budgeting and legislative decisions. He also requested an overall update on the TMFPD's staff which was to include the status of the newly hired positions and succession planning.

Commissioner Hartung noted the TMFPD's mission and values statement was on the back of the folders the Commissioners received. He requested the information be made available online if it was not already there.

Chief Moore announced he had not previously engaged the Board regarding where they would like to see service level improvements. He said he would like to meet with each Commissioner to get their ideas, and then prioritize those ideas for the next budget cycle.

17-013F AGENDA ITEM 11 Public Comment.

Ray Lake spoke about single-stream recycling and how it was supposed to save residents money. He stated recycling was supposed to be subsidized by regular trash collection. He believed the County lost its bargaining power by engaging in a new contract before the current one expired. He mentioned his neighbors were unable to use their own containers under the new program.

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9:46 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

BOB LUCEY, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared By:
Michael Siva, Deputy County Clerk*