

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

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m.

OCTOBER 16, 2018

PRESENT:

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

Nancy Parent, County Clerk
Charles Moore, Fire Chief
David Watts-Vial, Deputy District Attorney

ABSENT:

Marsha Berkbigler, Chair

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:

Vice Chair Jung assumed the gavel as Acting Chair in the absence of Chair Berkbigler.

18-159F **AGENDA ITEM 3** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

18-160F **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore mentioned the meeting of November 20 would occur on November 13. He indicated staff had critical issues for the Board to consider.

Commissioner Hartung announced he attended the TMFPD open house at Stations 17, 15, and 34. He noted many people attended.

CONSENT ITEMS – 5A through 5C

18-161F **5A** Approval of minutes from the September 18, 2018 meeting.

18-162F **5B** Notice of cancellation and reschedule of the November 20, 2018 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting.

18-163F **5C** Discussion and possible direction to staff in regards to an Assistance to Firefighters Grant Application. (All Commission Districts.)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5C be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5C are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

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Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore opened Agenda Item 6. International Association of Fire Fighters President Ian Satterfield was not present so the Board proceeded to the next item and noted the item would be heard when Mr. Satterfield arrived.

18-164F **AGENDA ITEM 7** Introduction and Badge Pinning of New Employees

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Deputy Chief Lisa Beaver introduced the following new employees and presented badges for pinning:

Don Coon, Fire Prevention Specialist II
Brittany Lemon, Fire Prevention Specialist I

Battalion Chief Alex Kukulus introduced the following new employee and presented a badge for pinning:

Mitchell Hammond, Firefighter Paramedic

18-165F **AGENDA ITEM 6** I.A.F.F. Local 2487 Report.

International Association of Fire Fighters President Ian Satterfield stated dispatch was a challenge and told a story about a call in District 17. He said the call involved a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the arm of a person sleeping with a gun under their pillow. He indicated procedure called for the Sheriff's Office to clear the scene for emergency medical personnel, but in this case, the Sheriff's Office was busy and asked for mutual aid. He said the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority cleared an ambulance to respond to the scene. He thought a disconnect occurred between agencies because the Sheriff's Office had not declared the scene as safe. He voiced concern about the safety of first responders. He stated the agencies needed to discuss and figure out the communication and dispatch issues.

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

18-166F **AGENDA ITEM 8** Fire Chief Report.

- A. Informational briefing on operational matters and activities for the month of September and October 2018 to include the following items:
 - 1. Green waste collection
 - 2. Fire Prevention Month and TMFPD open house activities
 - 3. Recent wildfire activity
 - 4. Status of fire hydrant maintenance and testing
 - 5. Change of station numbers

- B. Career Statistics and Report for May, June and July 2018

- C. Commissioner Request Dashboard

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore announced the green waste date collection for Lemmon Valley and Silver Lake would be on November 10 and Washoe Valley was scheduled November 17. He said staff was considering a green waste day for Verdi and Spanish Springs if staffing was available; if not it would occur in the spring.

Chief Moore displayed a fire prevention video that included children riding in a small firetruck pulling out of a station as if they were responding to a call. He stated the open house drew in more than 300 attendees. He announced the District had a giveaway of emergency packs and emergency pet packs. He asked the Commissioners to draw the winning names. The winners of the emergency packs were:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| William Sams | Jeremy Weller |
| KJ Bredy | Edith Crushing |
| Marisa Sotelo | Linda Lemar |
| Ray Winkler | Darrell Metcalf |
| Crystal Donley | Brenda Cash |
| Mary | N. Choi |
| Esmee Colbert | Derek Eiler |
| Debbie Allen | Kim Davis |
| Jeannette Cook | Grant Keegan |
| June Scarfe | Scott West |
| Katya | Terry Kollodge |

And the winners of the emergency pet packs were:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Ron Hammer | Eddie Wilcock |
| Karen Amestoy | Sharon Usher |

Vice Chair Jung thanked Chief Moore and staff for hosting the open houses.

Chief Moore displayed photos of recent fire activity, which were placed on file with the Clerk. He said the photos demonstrated the importance of defensible space. He stated one of the fires occurred in the Arrowcreek area and it threatened many homes. He explained the pink and red areas in the photos depicted slurry drops of chemicals, which helped keep fires from spreading. The Palomino Valley fire was a concern because the wind was blowing and could have spread into Palomino Flats, but fortunately, a slurry bomber was nearby to drop chemicals. He hoped the area was out of danger but said fuels were still dry. He mentioned the Board received public input about the Perry Fire and indicated no volunteers were engaged, but said he witnessed volunteers onsite driving water tenders. He said County Manager John Slaughter and Assistant County Manager Kate Thomas were with him in the vehicle when he pointed out the volunteers. He stated volunteers were playing an active role in firefighting operations.

Chief Moore stated the fire hydrant in Lemmon Valley that required the replacement of a street key would be replaced immediately. He said the other fire hydrant of concern was tested and no issue was found.

Commissioner Hartung asked whether Truckee Meadow Water Authority (TMWA) was repairing the hydrant at no cost to the District. Chief Moore confirmed it was.

Chief Moore stated staff had completed hydrant testing in Washoe Valley, the Franktown area, the Bowers Mansion area, Hidden Valley, and the Foothill area. They were still working on Sun Valley, Spanish Springs, and Arrowcreek. He said significant progress was made, but he thought it would be the end of the year before the process was complete.

Commissioner Hartung stated in Spanish Springs there were two water providers, TMWA and Great Basin Water Co. (GBWC). He asked if GBWC was maintaining and testing the hydrants that belonged to them. Chief Moore indicated GBWC was taking care of the hydrants they were responsible for.

Commissioner Hartung asked whether the TMFPD checked the GBWC hydrants to ensure they were not hidden by landscaping. Chief Moore indicated there was no need to check them twice. Commissioner Hartung was concerned about residents putting fences up against hydrants making them difficult to access.

Chief Moore mentioned staff was placing snow flags on the hydrants in the Mt. Rose corridor. He stated the previous winter there were issues locating hydrants because snowfall and banks created from snowplows buried them. He indicated the flags would extend up to eight feet so they could be located and dug out by fire department staff. He said in extreme situations, it was necessary to use a backhoe to access hydrants.

Commissioner Hartung asked about the setback code for fire hydrants. Chief Moore replied five feet of clearance was required.

Chief Moore said station numbers should have been changed when the TMFPD merged with the Sierra Fire Protection District to make the transition easier, but it did not happen then. He explained dispatch and firefighters were already using the new numbers but it would take time for the public, press, and Commissioners to get used to the new numbers. He said the change occurred for safety and efficiency reasons because as the area grew there would be station numbers for the TMFPD, City of Reno, and City of Sparks that were not logical. He stated there was Reno Fire Station 12 and TMFPD Station 13, so when Reno needed to add another station it would have to assign it a number in the twenties. He indicated many people, including the press, did not know what the station numbers meant so the geographical names for the stations would continue to be used to communicate the locations to the public. He said for internal purposes the best practice was to number the stations accordingly. He apologized if this took anyone by surprise and said he would continue to use both station numbers until people were used to the changes.

Chief Moore stated the Career Statistics and Report for May, June and July 2018 along with the Commissioner Dashboard would stand as reported unless there were any questions or comments.

18-167F **AGENDA ITEM 9** Approve a First Amendment (Extension of Term) to a Lease Agreement between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company for the warehouse facility located at 1315 Greg Street, Suite 105, Sparks, NV extending the term of the lease for thirty-six (36) months, for a total lease amount of \$220,838.80 plus operating costs as required by contract for each year which total approximately \$8,640.00 for the remainder of FY2019. (All Commission Districts)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore stated this was the facility used for fleet maintenance. He said he hoped by the end of the lease term they would have a new facility to relocate the fleet operations to.

Commissioner Hartung inquired about the location of a new facility. Chief Moore replied the County hired a consultant to study the Master Plan for the District and engaged them to study the administrative, fleet and logistics procedures and building requirements. He said they were looking at a number of sites of which a site on Longley Lane was the most logical. He indicated he had not discussed this with the County Manager yet although the County's fleet maintenance operation was there. He thought the building could be extended and warehouse space added to accommodate the TMFPD fleet maintenance operation. He thought construction there would be easy. He stated the second site they were considering was at the County Complex.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Hartung, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved.

18-168F **AGENDA ITEM 10** Discussion and possible direction to staff to negotiate a contract with Sierra County, California in the approximate amount of \$48,000 to provide fire protection to structures and EMS in certain areas. (Commission District 5.)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore referred to a map included in the staff report. He pointed out the subject area was indicated in the lower right hand corner in yellow boxes. He believed it was important for the TMFPD to respond in those areas because a fire could spread into Washoe County constituents' property. He stated Sierra County was a delight to work with and it was a limited area for the District to protect. He explained the annual revenue would increase from \$16,000 to \$48,000. He said if this was approved, a formal agreement would be created for the Board to ratify.

Commissioner Hartung asked how many residents this agreement represented. Chief Moore replied approximately 120 structures.

Commissioner Hartung questioned how the \$48,000 compared with taxes paid by Washoe County residents. Chief Moore replied it was on par according to a study of Verdi and Cold Springs. He said the provided services were not the same but concessions and valuations were considered in the comparison.

Commissioner Hartung expressed his concern about whether the protection provided was being fairly compensated for. Chief Moore stated Sierra County was adding water resources in the area. He said the draft agreement specified the parameters would be reviewed every three years.

Commissioner Jung stated the parameters of the agreement needed to be monitored to ensure fair compensation.

On the call for public comment, Rick Maddalena provided a map to be distributed to the Board, which was placed on file with the Clerk. He stated he was one of the Fire Commissioners for the Sierra County Fire Protection District (SCFPD) 1 in California. He indicated he was involved in discussions with Chief Moore and staff for a couple of years regarding this topic. He expressed his excitement about the forward progress for the residents along the border. He said the topics were focused on different subject matters which included comparable costs, the services to be provided, and emergency medical services. He indicated wild fire services were provided by Cal Fire. He said the topic of water was important to the TMFPD and noted a 10,000 gallon cistern was located along Dog Valley Road that could help firefighters either in California or Nevada. He stated every resident in the SCFPD service area was required to provide an underground cistern service designed to match the size of the structure. He said there was

not a lot of growth in the Sierra County area although there were 12 parcels in the planning stage. He indicated the people in the area were extremely appreciative of the services being provided.

Mr. William Copren stated he was also a Fire Commissioner for the SCFPD 1 in California. He displayed the map that was provided by Mr. Maddalena. He spoke about the area Sierra County was interested in contracting services with the TMFPD. He stated Long Valley was adjacent to Cold Springs and 17 structures were located there. He indicated protection in some areas near Interstate 80 were still being discussed with other organizations involved. He explained the lower sections on the map were Verdi and said the top two sections were not within the SCFPD as of yet but were in the process of annexation. He stated there were 130 structures in Verdi which included detached garages.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved.

18-169F **AGENDA ITEM 11** Presentation, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding a possible District boundary adjustment to include Gerlach, Nevada (as outlined in the attached map) at the request and direction of Commissioner Berkbigler. (Commission Districts 5.)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore indicated the Board requested items to be brought back for consideration. His intent was to explain the revenue aspect if the District were to cover the boundary north of Township 22 to north of Gerlach. He stated the boundary was somewhat arbitrary but he said it was stopped at the edge of private property. He noted the valuation was small with an estimation of approximately \$267,000. He indicated it was a large area to protect for a small amount of money. He mentioned he was meeting with County Manager John Slaughter on October 17 to discuss this issue.

Commissioner Jung asked the Commissioners if they would rather wait until Chair Berkbigler was present for a decision to be made.

Commissioner Hartung asked if conversations had occurred with the Burning Man people and if so, the information could be brought back to the Board. He expressed concern about whether northern areas would need to be subsidized by the County. He said areas in Wadsworth had the same issues and paid fire tax but received a lower level of service. He said he was not comfortable with Gerlach receiving a higher level of service than Wadsworth.

Commissioner Jung thought Chief Moore was saying close to the same thing Commissioner Hartung said. She understood the concern and said if taxes were being charged then equal services needed to be provided.

Commissioner Lucey wanted information about the levels of service discussed for Gerlach brought to the Board when this item was revisited.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered for this item to be continued until Chair Berkbigler could be present.

18-170F **AGENDA ITEM 12** Discussion and direction to staff regarding 2019 Nevada Legislative Session and other legislative issues proposed by legislators, or by other entities permitted by the Nevada State Legislature to submit bill draft requests, or such legislative issues as may be deemed by the Chair or the Board to be of critical significance to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore stated Public Information Officer Adam Mayberry was monitoring the bill draft requests (BDRs) on a regular basis. He said there were approximately eight to ten that were pertinent and ranged from fire service training to workers compensation issues. He stated there was nothing to report as of yet.

Commissioner Jung asked for annexation issues to be monitored to help protect the County. She was concerned about fair compensation for properties annexed into the City of Reno or Sparks.

Commissioner Hartung thought a time limit should be established for annexation. He explained if a piece of property was annexed but not developed within a reasonable time period, it should revert back to the original holder.

Commissioner Lucey stated the City of Reno had discussed bringing a new fire service into the area and said this issue raised concerns across the State. He asked for this topic to be monitored for BDR draft language. Commissioner Jung asked for an update about the topic.

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

18-171F **AGENDA ITEM 14** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Jung stated President Ian Satterfield brought up the dispatch issue and staff not being cleared by law enforcement when there were firearms or other types of violence involved. She asked for a discussion regarding best practices and how to handle these situations. She stated she would not go into an area that was possibly unsafe and thought there needed to be discussion about procedures.

Commissioner Lucey asked for an update about the new volunteer program and stations.

18-172F **AGENDA ITEM 15** Public Comment.

On the call for public comment, Mr. Levi Hooper spoke regarding rules against smoking at bus stops.

Mr. Sam Dehne spoke about voting, the Reno voting system, and a Reno Mayor debate.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar spoke about volunteers not allowed to leave their trucks. She did not agree with not utilizing volunteers.

Ms. Elise Weatherly spoke about the history of her life in Northern Nevada.

18-173F **AGENDA ITEM 13** Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

County Manager John Slaughter stated a Closed session for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District was needed and would convene in the Caucus Room immediately following this meeting. He indicated after the Closed Session, final public comment would be heard.

10:09 a.m. On motion by Commissioner Hartung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Chair Berkbigler absent, it was ordered that the meeting recess to a closed session for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

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12:13 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

MARSHA BERKBIGLER, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared By:
Doni Gassaway, Deputy County Clerk