

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

JUNE 6, 2023

PRESENT:

Alexis Hill, Chair
Jeanne Herman, Vice Chair
Michael Clark, Commissioner
Mariluz Garcia, Commissioner
Clara Andriola, Commissioner

Catherine Smith, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Charles Moore, Fire Chief
Wade Carner, Deputy District Attorney

The Board convened at 10:00 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, Chief Deputy County Clerk Cathy Smith called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

23-083F **AGENDA ITEM 3** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

23-084F **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Clark acknowledged that on May 6, 1944, one of the largest seaborne invasions in history occurred when the Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France. He requested a moment of silence for those heroes.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore mentioned Item 5G would be pulled from the agenda.

CONSENT ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5O

23-085F **5A** Recommendation to approve the meeting minutes from the May 2, 2023, and May 16, 2023, Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting.

23-086F **5B** Recommendation to approve a Notice of Cancellation for the regularly scheduled Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District's Board of Fire Commissioners meeting on July 4, 2023, at 10 a.m. and to reschedule the meeting for July 11, 2023, at 9 a.m. (All Commission Districts)

- 23-087F** **5C** Recommendation to approve a Notice of Cancellation for the regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners meeting on August 1, 2023, at 10 a.m. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-088F** **5D** Recommendation to approve and adopt resolution TM04-2023 authorizing overtime and portal-to-portal pay for all Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District employees. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-089F** **5E** Recommendation to approve the sale of a surplus 1996 Ford F350 4X4 Patrol Truck, VIN # 2FTHF36GITCA30676 (FD222) with 54,417 miles, in “as is” condition from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to Palomino Valley General Improvement District, in the amount of \$2,500. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-090F** **5F** Recommendation to approve the sale of a surplus 1996 International 4800 Type III Brush Truck, VIN # 1HTSEAAN0TH369332 (FD5015), with 50,783 miles, in “as is” condition from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to North Lyon County Fire Protection District in the amount of \$20,000. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-092F** **5H** Recommendation to retroactively approve an Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County on behalf of the Washoe County Sheriff’s Office and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to provide testing and training connected to Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment for the period of May 23, 2023, to May 22, 2025, with an option to extend it for one additional year. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-093F** **5I** Recommendation to approve retroactive and continued purchases for needed supplies and services from various suppliers that have or will exceed in the aggregate \$100,000 during this fiscal year but will remain within available adopted budget funding. All such purchases will continue to be subject to and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Purchasing Act. Vendors receiving these additional funds include the following: ARC Health & Wellness LLC, LN Curtis & Sons, NV Energy, Regional Emergency Medical Services, Siddons Martin Emergency Group, LLC, and Spectrum and shall not exceed \$150,000. The supplies and services to be provided by each include, but are not limited to, equipment, equipment repairs, supplies, internet, and utilities. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-094F** **5J** Recommendation to approve Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Resolution TM05-2023 to augment the District’s Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$63,500 and direct the District to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)

- 23-095F** **5K** Recommendation to approve Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Resolution TM06-2023 to augment the District’s Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Emergency Fund in the amount of \$94,500 and direct the District to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-096F** **5L** Recommendation to accept a grant award from the State of Nevada’s Division of Public and Behavioral Health in the amount of \$9,090.00 for the purchase of an iSimulate cardiac monitor and if accepted, approve resolution TM07-2023 directing staff to make the necessary budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-097F** **5M** Recommendation to approve the sale of a surplus 1997 International 4800 Type III Brush Truck, VIN # 1HTSEAAN7VH498140 (FD5021), with 71,083 miles, in “as is” condition from Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to Paradise Valley Fire District, located in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, in the amount of \$19,500. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-098F** **5N** Recommendation to retro-actively accept and express thoughtful consideration of in-kind donations of space, services, materials, and food items from Starbucks Coffee (Damonte), Doughboy’s Donuts (Damonte), Firehouse Subs (Damonte), Ernest Packaging Solutions (Reno), Wal-Mart (Damonte), and Petro Travel Center (Sparks) for the Battle of the Badges Public Safety Food Drive held on Saturday, May 13, 2023. (All Commission Districts)
- 23-099F** **5O** Recommendation to approve an agreement in the amount of \$47,500 for Professional Design Services between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Paul Cavin Architect, LLC. to provide professional services for design improvements to the Spanish Springs Station 46 Fire Station Apparatus Bay as defined in the proposal dated February 24, 2023. Services to be provided include but are not limited to the design of the apparatus bay addition, verification of code requirements, assistance with the Special Use Permit process, and construction administration. (Commission District 4)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore stated he had a correction on Item 5F relating to the fiscal note. He informed that in the fiscal impact, the engine had a value of zero dollars, not \$25,700, and the book value and sale proceeds would be \$20,000, not \$5,700 as stated in the fiscal impact. Chair Hill declared those corrections did not affect whether the Board could approve the item at the meeting.

There was no response to the call for public comment on the Consent Agenda Items listed above.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5O, with the exclusion of 5G, be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5O, with the exclusion of 5G, are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

23-091F **5G** Recommendation to approve an agreement for Interfacility Transfers and Emergent Transfers between Northern Nevada Medical Center and Northern Nevada Sierra Medical Center and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District to include the approval of a revised Ambulance Transport Rate schedule incorporating non-emergent ambulance transport/transfer fees. (All Commission Districts)

This item was pulled from the agenda.

23-100F **AGENDA ITEM 6** Introduction and badge pinning of Promotional Employees
Adam Crichton - Crew Boss
Collin Thompson- Squad Boss
Cameron Moore - Squad Boss
Logan Nordyke - Squad Boss

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Division Chief of Wildland and Fuels August Isernhagen provided a brief history of the wildland division and how far it had come over the last three years. He stated when the division was created, there were six personnel members, one engine, and an external funding source of just over \$1 million. To date, members of the division have spent over 1,000 personnel days committed to incidents. They treated thousands of acres of hazardous fuels across the County and tens of thousands of power poles. They also collected and processed over 10,000,000 pounds of hazardous wildland fuels through the green waste program. Division Chief Isernhagen informed funding to support the division had increased tenfold and the personnel numbers increased sixfold. He declared the complexities and diversities of the mission that the division was able to accomplish increased exponentially. He stated he was frequently asked how the division was able to achieve those accomplishments which he asserted was due to the team members who jumped into the brand-new program and happily tackled all extra duties as assigned.

Division Chief Isernhagen introduced Squad Bosses Cameron Moore, Collin Thompson, and Logan Nordyke, and Crew Boss Adam Crichton. He provided a brief history of their backgrounds. Mr. Moore was pinned by his fiancée Lauren Laughton, Mr. Thompson was pinned by his fiancée Kayla Pitto, Mr. Nordyke was pinned by his mother Sheryl Bryant, and Mr. Crichton was pinned by his wife Allie.

10:13 a.m. **The Board recessed.**

10:17 a.m. **The Board reconvened with all members present.**

23-101F **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to approve the Property and Liability Insurance and Workers' Compensation Insurance Proposal for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for one year beginning July 1, 2023, for a total estimated annual premium of \$1,768,114 and authorize purchase of insurance based upon the Proposal. The Proposal includes Property, Casualty, Professional and Excess Liability Insurance to be provided by VFIS and will include Crime/Employee Theft Insurance through Travelers Bond & Specialty, Cyber Liability through AIG Specialty, and Workers' Compensation through 7710 Insurance Company. (All Commission Districts)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be approved.

23-102F **AGENDA ITEM 7** International Association of Firefighters Local 2487 Report.

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487 Vice President Jamie Rivera reported that the IAFF recently hosted a couple of charity events including a pickleball tournament which raised \$3,500 and the annual Guns and Hoses Golf Tournament which raised \$35,000 for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation (NNCCF). He added the IAFF had also been selected by the Reno Rodeo for the 50/50 raffle.

23-103F **AGENDA ITEM 8** Fire Chief Report

A. Informational briefing on operational matters and activities for the month of May 2023 and June 2023 to include the following items:

1. Green Waste Program Update.
2. Update on Federal lawsuit regarding the use of red fire retardant.
3. Wildfire Season update, including a discussion about evacuations versus protecting in place.

B. April 2023 Response Statistics

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore shared a video relating to Item 8A3 which was placed on file with the Clerk. Chief Moore explained the video depicted the Rock Farm Fire in Arrowcreek. He stated the video was taken after a full evacuation was ordered and he pointed out the people who should have been evacuating were parked to watch the tankers drop flame retardant. He said the point he was trying to make was that when a full evacuation was called, there were not a lot of people leaving, there were a lot of people watching. He reported he met with Commissioner Clark regarding evacuations in Arrowcreek and he wanted to apply a District-wide

principle of protecting in place rather than calling for a full evacuation for every fire. He declared more public education would be required concerning how the District communicated with people. He asserted when an evacuation was called, not everyone complied, which blocked the ability of the TMFPD to deploy resources. He stated it was not always a straightforward decision about when to protect in place or evacuate, so it was important to start communicating with the public.

TMFPD Division Chief of Wildland and Fuels August Isernhagen stated he was frequently asked during community engagement what the plan would be in the event of an evacuation. He explained there was not a generalized plan due to differing conditions with each fire occurrence; sometimes it was better to evacuate and other times sheltering in place was the best option. He asserted the most important thing community members needed to understand was, whatever the plan ended up being, they needed to listen to the orders. He recalled the Beckwourth Fire that traveled towards Highway 395 and triggered an evacuation in Rancho Haven where less than 1 percent of the community chose to comply. He stated similar events occurred during the Joy Fire near Joy Lake Road where more people were going towards the fire to spectate rather than leaving the neighborhood. He declared the bottom-line message the District wanted to remind the citizens was to please listen and follow instructions when orders were given to evacuate or shelter in place.

Chair Hill stated she knew communities in her district desired to have a cookie-cutter solution for emergencies, but every incident was different. She did not want there to ever be a scenario where people were evacuating toward danger because that was the general location they had practiced evacuating to. She spoke about the Perimeter application the District had invested in and she hoped it would help notify people. Chief Moore stated, from his understanding, the application was live. He declared the beauty of the software was that anyone could access real-time information about fires through a smartphone or laptop. He stated the District intended to push a lot of information through the application to ensure the public had the most complete and accurate information available, including known risk factors, to make informed decisions. He stressed when an evacuation was ordered, it was not done lightly. He stated the District would work on pushing out more public information on how the software would work.

Commissioner Clark thanked Chief Moore for meeting with him and providing him with explanations. He wanted to encourage the education of community members to remind people they might cause further harm by preventing professionals from getting in and doing their jobs. He suggested schools should look at educating children about this issue as well. He thought the sooner the District started educating people, the more beneficial it would be in the long run.

Commissioner Andriola appreciated Chief Moore's commitment to safety messaging during natural disasters. She suggested the District could work with the American Red Cross, Living with Fire, and other organizations to leverage messaging and reiterate the importance of sheltering in place and downloading the application to stay informed. She thought those organizations could help to spread the word to as many people as possible. She stated many organizations wanted to do what they could to help the

community be safe and support first responders. Chief Moore responded the Red Cross had been a fantastic partner for the District.

There was no public comment or action on this item.

23-104F **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to approve a two-year Interlocal Contract between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the State of Nevada acting by and through the Nevada Division of Forestry Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, effective July 1, 2023 in the amount of \$204,502.00 per fiscal year, not to exceed 409,004.00 for the purpose of providing resources, equipment and financial assistance in the mitigation of emergency fire incidents and would require the District to pay the State in exchange for the provisions of specified emergency fire incident services by the State. (All Commission Districts)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore declared this program was very important to the District because it had saved millions of dollars over the last decade.

TMFPD Division Chief of Wildland and Fuels August Isernhagen stated this was the Wildland Fire Protection Plan (WFPP). He informed that the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) started this program with local cooperators in 2013. He explained the District bought into the State's system with an amount of money created by a risk formula. That money was then used to fund the State's fire response program and gave the District access to certain benefits. He stated the benefits included access to NDF resources for fire response and project implementation. He informed no agency across the Country had enough equipment or personnel to deal with a catastrophic fire and this program allowed the District to tap into a nationwide database where resources were shared across the Country. He added that Mr. Logan Nordyke, who appeared before the Board during Item 6, was actively utilizing this program as he would be traveling to Alaska for aircraft training elements which he would bring back at zero cost to the District. Division Chief Isernhagen stated the biggest benefit of this item was that it was an insurance policy. The District paid into the plan every year and in any scenario where the District bore part of the cost for a fire response, the cost would be picked up by the State of Nevada instead of the TMFPD. He recalled the video Chief Moore shared of the Rock Farm Fire and reported three Very Large Air Tanker (VLAT) drops were ordered which averaged \$100,000 per drop. He asserted most years the District easily saved more than its buy-in.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 9 be approved. The Interlocal Contract for same is attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

BLOCK VOTE – 10 THROUGH 13

23-105F **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to accept a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award from the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency, in an amount up to \$604,564.50 over a 36-month period with a match component of \$201,521.50 to treat hazardous fuels at Washoe Lake State Park between Eastlake Blvd. and the sand dunes to the east of Washoe Lake. (Commission District 2)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be accepted.

23-106F **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to accept a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award from the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency, in an amount up to \$491,473.31 over a 36-month period with a match component of \$163,824.44 to treat hazardous fuels on County lands south of I-80 and west of I-580. (Commission Districts 1, 2, and 3)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be accepted.

23-107F **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to accept a Hazard Mitigation Grant Program award from the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency, in an amount up to \$491,473.31 over a 36-month period with a match component of \$163,824.44 to treat hazardous fuels on County lands south of I-80 and west of I-580. (Commission Districts 1, 2, and 3)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be accepted.

23-108F **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to authorize staff to submit a request for reimbursement on a quarterly basis from the Washoe County, Nevada Other Post-Employment Benefits Trust Fund for the cost of retiree health insurance premiums for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. This Trust was established to provide a funding source for current and future retiree health costs. Monies transferred from this Trust will be placed into the District's General Fund and are estimated at \$180,000 annually. (All Commission Districts)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be authorized.

23-109F **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to approve Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Resolutions TM08-2023 and TM09-2023 to augment the District's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 (FY 22/23) General Fund in the amount of \$1,100,000 and augment the District's FY 22/23 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund in the amount of \$1,100,000 and direct the District to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be approved, augmented, and directed.

23-110F **AGENDA ITEM 16** Recommendation to approve salary change recommendations for the Fire Management Officer (from \$97,448.00 - \$126,880.00 to \$129,459.20 - \$147,617.60), Crew Boss (from \$70,886.40 - \$92,227.20 to \$85,072 - \$110,593.60), Heavy Equipment Operator (from \$59,196.80 - \$76,502.40 to \$75,753.60 - \$98,550.40), and Squad Boss (from \$59,196.80 - \$76,502.40 to \$80,412.80 - \$104,582.40), as evaluated by Korn Ferry effective February 13, 2023. Each of these positions is within the Wildland/Fuels Reduction Program and approve resolution TM10-2023 to augment the District's Fiscal Year 2022-2023 General Fund in the amount of \$230,000 and direct the District to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts.)

Chair Hill requested background information on this item.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore explained that at least 90 percent of the increases were being paid for by NV Energy through a contract for services that the District provided to NV Energy.

TMFPD Division Chief of Wildland and Fuels August Isernhagen informed an initial contract was signed with NV Energy in May 2020 and was up for renewal in the spring of 2023. He explained when the division was initiated, employee class specifications were written broadly, and the mission complexity was very low. He stated as the program had developed over the years, those complexities that fell onto middle management roles had exponentially increased. With that, discussions began with NV Energy in August 2022 to rewrite class specifications to truly capture what was expected out of each position. He explained no other cooperative agency had similar class specifications across the board, so the District hired Korn Ferry to perform an analysis.

Chair Hill asked why the salary change was only being looked at for a subsection of staff. Division Chief Isernhagen explained NV Energy was the primary funding source for the program and since the District was working on a contract renewal with NV Energy, it chose to look at reclassifications of positions in the program at the same time. Chair Hill clarified salary changes for other TMFPD employees would be part of contract negotiations with the labor union. Chief Moore added such negotiations would be coming in January 2024. Chair Hill asked if the District was working with the labor union on this item as well to which Chief Moore responded yes.

Commissioner Andriola thanked Division Chief Isernhagen for the clarification. She stated it was helpful to be able to understand how staff in the NV Energy program differed from other TMFPD employees. She spoke about the County-wide Korn Ferry study and potential budget augmentation for retroactive pay for employees; she thought it was important to differentiate between that and what was occurring with this agenda item.

Commissioner Garcia thanked the District's NV Energy partners. She clarified that the grant was for three years and asked what the process was for applying for the grant. Division Chief Isernhagen stated the program was fairly new and the District was one of the first agencies that joined the program in 2020. He stated it was not exactly a grant, it was a contract for service where TMFPD employees on the project worked in and around NV Energy infrastructure and created defensible space for the homes near the infrastructure. He explained that the District paid those employees' salaries and then billed NV Energy, which reimbursed the District for those payments. He confirmed it was a three-year contract cycle that the District had just renewed. He explained there was no application process for the program as NV Energy reached out to all the local cooperators to see who would be interested and TMFPD was the first to say it was. He reported the program had grown to about 15 cooperators across the State including North Lake Tahoe, Carson City, East Fork, Storey County, Lincoln County, and Elko County. He stated when NV Energy initially reached out, the District compiled a budget with personnel and equipment which NV Energy agreed to.

Chair Hill reported she had seen some crew members working very hard in Washoe Valley during a tour she took of Commissioner Clark's district and she appreciated their hard work.

Commissioner Clark thanked the District for working with NV Energy. He postulated NV Energy did not want to hire its own fire crew so it contracted with the other professionals in the area. He thought the arrangement was a win-win for all parties involved and declared that any chance to reduce fuels around power lines and NV Energy rights-of-way was invaluable.

On motion by Commissioner Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Andriola, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 16 be approved, augmented, and directed.

23-111F **AGENDA ITEM 17** Possible Closed Session for the purpose of discussing labor issues with Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore informed there was no need for a closed session.

23-112F **AGENDA ITEM 18** Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Clark read an email from a constituent who had concerns regarding the Fire Chief’s Report at the May 2 meeting. The report included response statistics for March 2023 and call volumes by station which showed 31 calls for Station 30 in West Washoe Valley. The constituent recalled Commissioner Clark had asked how that statistic could be true considering Station 30 had been closed since the beginning of August 2022, and Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore responded he would get back to Commissioner Clark with a response later. The constituent reported that the April Fire Chief’s Report showed 23 calls for Station 30 and they wondered if Commissioner Clark had received an answer from Chief Moore. The constituent thought the report was odd and noted community members were disappointed and angry about the closing of Station 30. Commissioner Clark asked Chief Moore why the District was still showing statistics for Station 30. Chief Moore explained the District labeled that as a response area which used to be Station 30 so the Board could see how many calls were in the area that was formerly served by that fire station.

Chief Moore mentioned that the first draft of the District’s Strategic Plan would come before the Board in September. Chair Hill expressed excitement about that news and stated she had discussions with the consultant and was looking forward to seeing the plan.

23-113F **AGENDA ITEM 19** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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10:48 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.



ALEXIS HILL, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

Catherine Smith, Chief Deputy Clerk
for **JANIS GALASSINI**, Washoe County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk, Truckee Meadows
Fire Protection District



Amitee Prepared By:
Senior Chambers Deputy County Clerk