

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 3, 2024

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
Michael Large, 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:

24-109F AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

24-110F AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Clark reported on the progress of the relocation of materials which he had expressed concern about at prior meetings. He said the materials were being inappropriately stored at a site in Washoe Valley. He described the site as a converted church and had become a storage facility for used fire apparatus, ambulances, and industrial equipment. He informed that a large tent formerly at the site was taken down and all the vehicles appeared to be in an online auction.

Commissioner Clark asked for an update on the Washoe Valley Fire Station.

Chair Hill expressed her appreciation for the work done by the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) on the Gold Ranch Fire. She noted that she acknowledged their work during the last Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting and wanted to formally give her thanks at the TMFPD Board meeting. She was impressed by how quickly the Gold Ranch Fire was put out and the effectiveness of regional teamwork. She was proud to be associated with the TMFPD team. She asked the TMFPD Chief, Charles Moore, if he had anything to report on Agenda Item 4.

Chief Moore stated his gratitude to the community. He said the TMFPD had gotten through two red flag warnings unscathed, which he attributed to diligence and caution from residents.

24-111F **AGENDA ITEM 5** International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2487 Report.

President of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487, James Clouser, related that the IAFF had a productive week in Boston for their international convention the prior week. He informed that elections were held for multiple offices, and they heard from both vice-presidential candidates. He noted it was the third time someone on that level spoke to the IAFF, which he found affirming. He reported that the IAFF's concerns regarding a social security issue, which he had previously reviewed with the Board, were being taken seriously. He conveyed that concerns regarding perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were also being taken seriously at the federal level. He was hopeful that measures would be passed by Congress that would help protect firefighters from PFAS exposure.

Mr. Clouser addressed concerns expressed by Commissioner Clark about an accumulation of old fire equipment on a parcel in Washoe Valley. He said the owner of the material and the caretakers of the property were aware of Commissioner Clark's concerns and were taking big steps to remedy the problems. Mr. Clouser advised he had been unable to get a timeline but had worked with the owners on some projects to help alleviate some of the concerns. He expected additional progress would be made. He was unsure if Commissioner Clark was included in any of those discussions, but he assured Commissioner Clark that his concerns were heard and were being taken seriously.

Commissioner Clark thanked Mr. Clouser for the update. He clarified the concerns did not originate from him but were relayed to him by surrounding neighbors. He added that he, fortunately, lived half of a mile away and could not see the mess from where he was. He indicated the people living on that street were not used to having an auto dismantler, wrecking yard, storage facility, and old, worn-out apparatus lying around jam-packed in. He said if the neighbors were happy, then he was happy.

Mr. Clouser expressed his gratitude to everyone for including his organization in the search for a new fire chief. He thought it was prudent to start the process early to allow ample time to find the person who best suited everyone's needs.

24-112F **AGENDA ITEM 6** Fire Chief Report

A. Informational briefing on operational matters and activities for the month of August 2024 and September 2024 to include the following items:

1. Report on the Gold Ranch Fire.

2. Capital Projects Update on the Hidden Valley, Apple, and Washoe Valley Consolidated Fire Station Development.
 3. Debt Management Policy.
- B. Review of recent critical calls response statistics for June and July 2024.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore noted that a fire had recently surfaced in California (CA) and was referred to as the Bear Fire. He understood it was approximately five miles from Nevada (NV) at the time of the meeting. He asked the TMFPD Operations Division Chief Joseph Schum to provide a brief report on that fire.

Division Chief Schum reported the Bear Fire broke out on the afternoon of September 2, 2024, and spread towards the Sierra Brooks subdivision near Loyalton, CA. He informed that on the morning of September 3, 2024, the fire was estimated to be seven miles from the NV border and was likely to reach a burn scar from a fire in 2020 near Loyalton, CA. He said if that prediction was realized, the fire would encounter a lot of cheatgrass, which was a fast-burning fuel. He advised the fire would then move towards United States (US) 395. Division Chief Schum related that a TMFPD battalion chief was at the incident command post the prior night and expressed the TMFPD was available and prepared to help. He stated that they were interested in putting the fire out as quickly as possible. He shared that the battalion chief also visited the Bear Fire briefing that morning, and Mr. Schum added he planned to visit the site that afternoon to work with the incident commander and the incoming team to build the relationship and offer assistance. He wanted to ensure the interests of Washoe County and the Truckee Meadows were considered.

Chief Moore advised that in addition to the Bear Fire report, there was also a report on the Gold Ranch Fire, which included details he thought Board members were likely unaware of.

TMFPD Wildland Fuels Division Chief August Isernhagen conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Gold Ranch Fire; Gold Ranch Fire August 11, 2024 (3 slides); Appreciation to the Following Entities.

Division Chief Isernhagen provided an overview of the Gold Ranch Fire. He displayed an aerial photograph of Interstate 80 (I-80) and the area of the fire. He indicated where the fire started and how it rapidly jumped the Truckee River and Quilici Ranch Road. He said the total number of acres burned was 625, 80 percent of which was within the jurisdiction of Reno Fire. He added the remaining 20 percent was under TMFPD's jurisdiction, but because the point of origin was within that 20 percent, the TMFPD had a sizable role. He reported one primary residence was lost and there was one firefighter injury. He disclosed the injuries were moderate, and the person was hospitalized but had since been released. The individual was not from the TMFPD. Division Chief Isernhagen remarked that at the height of the incident there were over 300 firefighting

personnel assigned, which was a large response within less than 24 hours. He felt that spoke volumes for TMFPD's cooperators and their willingness to help. He clarified that number was just firefighters and did not include any support staff or law enforcement. Including auxiliary support, he theorized the number was closer to 500 people associated with the Gold Ranch Fire response. He said over 27 government and private entities were involved, which further demonstrated good working relationships.

Division Chief Isernhagen reviewed the timeline of events shown in his PowerPoint presentation. Crews actively fought the fire during the entire night of August 11, 2024, and through the next day. Division Chief Isernhagen described the structure of Incident Management Teams, which were interagency teams comprised of firefighters from all the agencies. Those firefighters were on a rotation for the duration of the summer. He said the TMFPD had approximately 12 people Incident Management Teams across the Country. The teams were prepared to respond to scenarios like the Gold Ranch Fire due to their command and general staff structure and had the ability to arrive at an incident and provide assistance effectively. He declared the TMFPD would not have been as successful as they were without the involvement of Incident Management Team Four, who arrived when local crews had been combating the blaze for 48 hours and needed respite. He showed a video of the fire, which depicted the unique type of fire behavior seen in the Gold Ranch Fire. Generally, he reported, fire activity was expected to reduce at night as temperatures cooled and relative humidity increased. That was not the case on the Gold Ranch Fire, which still had close to two miles of open line the next morning when the second shift began. In conclusion, he displayed a slide that listed entities who provided assistance with the fire. He acknowledged that some agencies were probably missed but he expressed gratitude for all the assistance given towards the successful outcome. He gave special thanks to North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD), North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD), Storey County Fire Protection District (SCFPD), North Lyon County Fire Protection District (NLCFPD), and Reno Fire Department (RFD), because those entities specifically sent overhead and chief officers along with other resources. He advised that with over 300 personnel, bolstering middle management staff helped substantially.

Division Chief Isernhagen noted evacuations went well, and there were no reported public injuries. He felt it was an overwhelming success that, despite a red flag warning the next day and a significant remaining open line, they were able to hold the fire and prevent further spread. He attributed that success to two things. First, the grit of the first responders, some of whom went 48 hours without sleeping, and second, the collaboration and relationships demonstrated by the list of entities previously shown on his PowerPoint slide. He theorized that without those relationships across the region, many more houses would have been lost, and the fire would have grown exponentially.

Chair Hill asked if there were any questions from the Board members.

Vice Chair Herman expressed enormous gratitude to everyone who responded to the fire.

Chair Hill expressed her gratitude for the support from the regional teams. She thought the response and results were excellent.

Chief Moore asked Division Chief Isernhagen to define containment. He said there were often questions from the press when, for example, no active fire was visible, but containment was reported at only 10 percent. He thought it would be helpful for the Board to better understand what the term meant.

Division Chief Isernhagen described the three terms used to indicate benchmarks towards the tail end of a fire. The first benchmark was when all active flames were eliminated, and forward progress was stopped. He noted that benchmark differed from containment, which referred to lines being in place around the perimeter of a fire. The final benchmark was when the interior was sufficiently suppressed to determine that containment would hold under the predicted weather for the next few days. He said those factors resulted in a controlled status. He added that if a fire was described as controlled and windy conditions were predicted, it indicated that even with winds, the fire was predicted to remain under control.

Commissioner Garcia asked what caused the fire to skip over the river.

Division Chief Isernhagen responded that winds were the cause, and the burn pattern was typical for the area because of the direction of the winds. He informed that it was exponentially worse in the Truckee River Canyon because of the way the canyon funneled winds.

Chief Moore said a major concern of the TMFPD was the number of structures. He asked Division Chief Isernhagen to go back to a map on the second slide of his PowerPoint which showed the proximity of homes. He directed attention to the top of the map where the number of threatened homes could be seen. He pointed out that if the fire could jump the river, it could certainly have burned in the direction of the homes. He stated if it had burned over I-80, it could have been a disastrous fire for the community. He gave his highest compliments to his staff and the agencies that helped. He also acknowledged administrative agencies, including Washoe County Emergency Management, who helped. He summarized it as a disaster averted.

Chair Hill thought everyone should be very proud and the response to the event should be viewed as a model for other communities. She thanked everyone for their work.

Division Chief Isernhagen stated his agreement. He divulged he had been fighting fires for many years and the Gold Ranch Fire response was the template of what everybody should strive for.

Chief Moore provided a report on capital projects that were underway. He informed that the Hidden Valley Fire Station was very close to completion. He hoped everything would be finalized with the State Investment Bank and that a guaranteed

maximum price on the building would be received from the contractor soon. If so, he would be able to present a contract at the next TMFPD meeting. If not, he disclosed there was a chance that he might ask for a special meeting in the middle of October. He shared that the contractor was ready to begin work in October. He reported the bids came in and nothing was shocking about them, so he expected that everything would be as estimated. He hoped there would be a groundbreaking in October.

Chief Moore advised construction documents on the Apple Station were 50 percent complete. He said the TMFPD had weekly meetings with Apple, Inc., and the Apple Station was one of the more complicated fire stations he had ever been involved in because of the lack of utilities at the site. He said they were working from a well and had to bring in internet and electricity. He hoped to be ready to break ground on that station in the spring of 2025.

Chair Hill remarked that was wonderful.

Chief Moore reminded the Board that the Washoe Valley Fire Station proposal was identical to the Apple Station. When there was a guaranteed maximum price on the Apple Station, the cost for the Washoe Valley Fire Station would be known, and affordability assessments could be made. At that time, TMFPD would evaluate if they could afford the station as proposed or if downgrades regarding size or materials would be needed. He noted the site adaptation drawings would not take much time. He theorized they could proceed when those drawings were complete, and financing was in place.

Commissioner Andriola expressed her thanks to Chief Moore for his hard work. She acknowledged it was challenging to balance everything, especially without knowing what some of the pricing would be.

Chief Moore introduced the TMFPD Chief Fiscal Officer (CFO) Cynthia Vance to give a brief presentation on the debt management policy.

Ms. Vance informed the debt management policy was prepared every year by JNA Consulting Group, LLC (JNA). She said it outlined the debt position of the TMFPD and the regulations governing the debt being obtained. She directed attention to the first page of the policy (i), which provided an executive summary of existing and proposed debt as of June 30, 2024. She noted the information was the same as what would be seen on financial statements when issued. She reported the balance on June 30, 2024, was \$10,713,000. She advised page two (2) contained good information on historic and projected debt alongside combined debt service payments. She disclosed that the TMFPD anticipated debt in the future, but did not yet have enough information to include projections about those debt service amounts in the report. She offered to answer any questions and to prepare a presentation for the next meeting if Board members wanted one.

Chair Hill asked if any Board members had questions. She thanked Ms. Vance.

Chief Moore reviewed the June and July 2024 monthly reports. He shared that he found software that he thought would improve event reports to the Board. After conferring with his staff and Ms. Vance, he learned that the software was not expensive. He described that it did an eloquent job detailing statistics within wards, not just from stations. He said the statistics represented all fires, included response time and address data, and could be displayed on a map. He said the software linked to the computer-aided dispatch (CAD) software used by the TMFPD and could provide real-time data. He theorized it would also help with standards of cover because the methodology and development of the standards of cover were not clear and comprehensive. He communicated that currently, raw data had to be downloaded from the CAD and then given to a Geographic Information System (GIS) professional who could turn the raw data into usable results. He related that the process was cumbersome, whereas the new software would be able to instantly, with the touch of a button, provide critical information. He hoped to provide more information in October or November of 2024. He thought the Board would be pleased with the result.

Chief Moore informed the Board that the City of Reno requested TMFPD's attendance at a meeting on September 4, 2024, to discuss regionalization. He expected to have more information afterward to bring back to the Board, likely in November. He said that prior to that meeting, mutual aid enhancements would be discussed. Chief Moore was concerned about ensuring automatic aid with priority 1 medical calls and recalled a number of life-threatening calls that occurred close to fire stations in other jurisdictions. He affirmed the new CAD software would improve effective response, and he theorized some processes to deploy responders when they were close to the scene of an emergency, regardless of jurisdiction, could be put in place before the new CAD software was fully operational.

BLOCK VOTE – 8 THROUGH 13

24-113F **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to ratify Fiscal Year 2023-2024 reimbursements from the Washoe County, Nevada Other Post-employment Benefits Trust Fund to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for the cost of retiree health insurance premiums in the amount of \$177,264. Monies transferred from this trust have been placed into the District's General Fund. (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 8 be ratified.

24-114F **AGENDA ITEM 9** Recommendation to retroactively approve a Joinder Provision of a three-year contract effective July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027, with two additional one-year extensions, to the original Request for Proposal No. 3226-24 for Medical Services-Washoe County Personnel, RC Health and Wellness Centers, in the estimated annual amount of 180,000

for a three year total of \$540,000; and if approved authorize the Fire Chief to execute all documents to include the two one-year renewal options. (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 9 be approved and authorized.

24-115F **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to approve the purchase of three (3) new 2024 Ford F250 Crew Cab 4X4 trucks for the purpose command staff use, in the amount of \$63,425 per vehicle, a total purchase price of \$190,275 using Joinder Nevada State Contract Bid #99SWC-S1495 pricing. (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 10 be approved.

24-116F **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve the purchase of seventy-five (75) P25-compliant Tri-Band handheld radios to include miscellaneous accessories at an estimated cost of \$182,159.93 from L3Harris Technologies, Inc. 221 Jefferson Ridge Parkway Lynchburg, Virginia 24501 in accordance with Washoe County/Harris Corporation (Now L3Harris Technologies) Agreement MBP#19829. (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 11 be approved.

24-117F **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to approve the purchase of one hundred twenty sets (120) of structural firefighting protective clothing for career employees from AllStar Fire Equipment Inc, 2552 Barrington Court, Hayward, California 94545, in the amount of \$429,738 pursuant to NRS 332.115 (b), Exemptions to Requirements for Competitive Bidding. (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 12 be approved.

24-118F **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to accept a donation of three (3) Lucas Mechanical Compression Devices and accessories and four (4) Airway Manikin trainers including any required carrying cases and corresponding supplies from the Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council, and if accepted, express sincere appreciation for the thoughtful contribution. (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 accepted and sincere appreciation be expressed.

24-119F **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to approve the meeting minutes from July 2, 2024 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting.

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 7 be approved.

24-120F **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to approve a new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 2487 Supervisory Unit for a four-year term effective July 1, 2024, and if approved authorize the Chair to sign on behalf of the Board. (All Commission Districts).

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore advised that the group under consideration comprised chief officers below the deputy rank, which included battalion chiefs and division chiefs. He said he was happy to have the item before the Board to solidify the collective bargaining agreement (CBA) for four years.

Chair Hill congratulated Chief Moore and said the item was significant. She asked if there was anything he wanted to highlight.

Chief Moore informed that the TMFPD Deputy Chief of Operations Chris Ketring and Washoe County Director of Human Resources Patricia Hurley were the principal negotiators for the CBA.

Commissioner Garcia said she was pleased to see the addition of bilingual pay in this round of negotiations.

Chair Hill thanked Commissioner Garcia for her advocacy on bilingual pay.

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 14 be approved and authorized.

24-121F **AGENDA ITEM 15** Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the selection and appointment of an interim Fire Chief and development of a search process and timeline for selection of a permanent Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Fire Chief, including but not limited to the selection of an executive search firm. (All Commission Districts).

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore spoke about his upcoming retirement. He said an interim chief needed to be appointed, and he highly recommended TMFPD Deputy Fire Chief of Prevention Dale Way for the role. He informed the Board that Deputy Chief Way spent his fire service career in Nevada and was very well attuned to regulations in the State.

10:29 a.m. **Commissioner Clark left the meeting.**

Chief Moore noted TMFPD Deputy Chief of Operations Chris Ketring was one of the finest deputies he had ever worked with and had agreed to stay on through the transition period. Chief Moore advised that within the next month or two, he would bring a recommendation to appoint Deputy Chief Way as the interim and extend Deputy Chief Ketring's contract. He affirmed the continuity of the TMFPD would be maintained through his retirement. With respect to selecting the permanent fire chief, he noted Chair Hill had asked him for search process options. He consulted with the County's Human Resources (HR) Department, who provided him with recommendations for search firms. He described that it was usual to hire an executive recruiting firm that would advertise the opening and prescreen applications and resumes for chiefs. He said that in the interim, it was essential for the TMFPD Board members to determine what qualities they wanted in the next fire chief and develop recruiting information for the executive search firm to use.

Chief Moore referred to a timeline he created which showed the search and selection process would take approximately ten months. He recommended starting as soon as possible. He said, ultimately, there would be a choice for the Board to make between retaining the interim chief permanently or selecting a different candidate from the recruitment. He thought the next step was for the Board to authorize him to reach out to executive search firms. In that outreach, he would determine which firms had the capacity and interest. He observed the firm used for the county manager search, Ralph Andersen & Associates, was familiar with Washoe County. He stated he would reach out to the list of firms to ask them for proposals and added that if the Board wanted presentations from each of the firms, he could arrange that. At the least, he would request a written proposal from each firm for the Board's consideration. He expected those proposals would come in November, and a firm could be selected in December. After that, he thought it was probably unwise to start a search process before the holidays, but he reasoned it would be possible to move forward with the search in the new year. He noted there would be somebody new in his position by September 2025.

Chair Hill thanked Chief Moore for the timeline that he provided. She thought the recruitment timeline presented by Chief Moore was realistic. She mentioned she had been through some recruitments recently and confirmed it took a lot of time. She wanted to see community involvement included in the recruitment process, which she acknowledged would take additional time. She asked if the recruitment of fire chiefs was a specialty and if the listed firms conducted searches for that.

Chief Moore advised that recruitment for a fire chief was no more specialized than, for example, any major department head or manager. He said as far as he knew, all the firms under consideration had experience in recruiting fire chiefs.

Commissioner Andriola recalled Chief Moore mentioning that the Board would establish the qualifications and requirements. She thought it was important for the TMFPD's staff and leadership to be consulted about which qualities they felt were important since they were so well acquainted with the responsibilities of Chief Moore's position. She believed it was helpful to know what staff wanted to see from that person. She noted that she found nothing about a selection committee in the timeline. She observed that candidate interviews and Board selection were planned for June, but she wondered if there was a body that would help in the screening and narrowing of the applicant pool.

Chief Moore explained that many managers, chiefs, and department heads wanted or needed confidentiality when they initially applied for similar positions. He reported that in his experience, the list of applicants was closely guarded until candidates made the top ten list. He said there could be an evaluation committee, which would certainly be helpful; however, if confidentiality was not maintained and it was revealed that a person was looking at other opportunities, it could cause a problem with the organization where the applicant was currently serving. He offered to continue discussions and check with Washoe County Director of Human Resources Patricia Hurley on how to best involve a committee in the process. He speculated that some TMFPD Board members, community members, and staff would be appropriate to take a look at the long list of resumes.

Commissioner Andriola commented that she understood the confidentiality concern and the need to be respectful of the applicants. She thought it was important to balance confidentiality and participation and that it was important to reach out to the TMFPD's staff and ask them about the qualifications of their perfect candidate. She reasoned having those perspectives would help the smaller group consider whether those particular qualifications were met. She said working with Chief Moore had been a pleasure, and she spoke warmly about his upcoming retirement. She appreciated the time and effort he gave to finding his replacement. She believed the success of the TMFPD could be attributed to the work of Chief Moore and his team. She appreciated his commitment to selecting the best person for the community as a whole and wanted to analyze more information when it was appropriate.

Chief Moore advised he would start working on the list of qualities. He recalled the meeting with Chair Hill and County Manager Eric Brown when he announced his date for retirement. At that time, he communicated that one of the most important qualities for the next leader was business acumen because running a fire district was different from being a fire chief in a municipality. He elaborated that there was a lot of support in a municipality, but at the fire district level, the position became more like a chief executive role. He recommended the individual selected have good experience with finance, financial planning, HR issues, and labor relations, as well as a long list of other things needed for success. He affirmed he would reach out to staff for their ideas, develop a list of qualities and qualifications, and bring it back to the Board for their review.

Chair Hill spoke about a recent Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority (RSCVA) recruitment in which the executive search firm narrowed down to the top three. She determined there was some confidentiality benefit in that approach and did not think even the Chair took part in narrowing down the top three. She wanted to ensure nothing muddied the perception of fair and thorough candidate evaluation. She wondered if the chosen firms could make a recommendation about the process. Chair Hill liked the timeline Chief Moore provided and thought it might be possible to add some community outreach with the top candidates in May 2025. She suggested that could be a good time for the community and staff to meet, similar to a process used in a recent Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) search for a new executive director. She recalled staff and community members wrote their thoughts on comment cards which were then compiled by the recruiter that TRPA used, so community feedback was included in the review process without compromising anonymity.

Commissioner Garcia noted Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH) had recently been through a search for a new district health officer. She commented that if the firm used for that search was not already listed, they might be a good one to include because the role was similar.

Chair Hill said she was excited to work with Deputy Chief Way and was looking forward to potentially having a new chief in August 2025. She thanked Chief Moore for his timeline. She stated her intention to select a search firm at the meeting in September.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Michael Large advised no motion was needed for the item.

24-122F **AGENDA ITEM 16** Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

Chair Hill asked if a closed session was needed, and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief, Charles Moore, responded that it was not.

This item was tabled.

24-123F **AGENDA ITEM 17** Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore pointed out the meeting in November was scheduled on Election Day and, due to the lobby near Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administrative Complex being used as a voting location, he thought either the date or location of the meeting should be moved. He offered to hold the meeting at the TMFPD's headquarters. He noted conducting the meeting in a different location could be difficult for Technology Services (TS), but he was happy to look into it. Alternatively, he suggested the meeting date could be moved to mid-November if there were sufficient matters for the Board's consideration.

Chair Hill added it might be possible to hold a 9:00 a.m. TMFPD meeting before a 10:00 a.m. Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting, depending on the contents of the agenda.

Chief Moore did not anticipate a complex agenda for November and said he and Chair Hill could work together to establish a plan.

Commissioner Andriola spoke about the emergence of a trend of home insurance companies opting to discontinue coverage for many County residents. She disclosed that she had spoken with some TMFPD staff and had meetings set up with insurance companies to improve her understanding. She questioned whether the TMFPD was involved in creating the maps insurance companies used to inform their coverage choices. She wondered who drew the maps.

Chief Moore responded that his understanding was that insurance companies used their own criteria to determine risk. He said he had been given some insights from a peer of his, Chief Rich Harvey from Central Lyon County Fire Protection District (CLCFPD), who went to a meeting with the insurance commissioner. Chief Moore verified that people were being dropped from their coverage, though he noted other companies were gladly offering insurance to those who had been dropped. He confirmed it was a problem for some, and he offered to report on the trend at the next month's meeting.

Commissioner Andriola thought a report from Chief Moore would be helpful. She said although there were always actuaries determining risk, the increase in people being dropped from coverage seemed significant and disproportionate. She acknowledged the questions might go beyond the purview of the TMFPD, but she was concerned about the exposure to residents. She thought the TMFPD's staff had a lot of information that was critical to the assessments being made by the insurance companies. She welcomed the opportunity to hear more from Chief Moore about the issue.

Chair Hill said that the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) Chief Ryan Sommers had also worked extensively on the insurance coverage issue. She thought conferring with him might help. She noted many of her constituents in Incline Village had experienced the challenge of being dropped from their insurance. She was most concerned about condominium residents.

Chief Moore speculated that the insurance companies did not care about the fuel reduction projects the TMFPD had done. He cited Arrowcreek as a community where the TMFPD had done a lot of work and education. He said homeowners were well aware of what the risks were and the TMFPD had done everything they could to assist the community, but the insurance companies did not seem to regard their efforts.

24-124F AGENDA ITEM 18 Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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10:47 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

ALEXIS HILL, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared By:
Heather Gage, Deputy County Clerk