

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

PRESENT:

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

Evonne Strickland, Deputy County Clerk
Richard Edwards, Fire Chief
Jennifer Gustafson, 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, Deputy County Clerk Evonne Strickland called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

26-143F AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

26-144F AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Commissioner Herman expressed sincere thanks to everyone for their hard work related to the recent fires.

Chair Andriola requested that the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards research an equivalent to a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) course for elected officials, in case of regional disasters, to be prepared for January 2027. She believed that, given the prevalence of the recent fires and the possibility of future fires, it was appropriate for elected officials to take a course.

Chief Edwards asked if Chair Andriola would like him to include other jurisdictions and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) in the request. Chair Andriola confirmed that she wanted both Cities, the WCSO, and the Tribes to be included. Chief Edwards said that he would investigate Chair Andriola's request.

CONSENT ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5F

26-145F 5A Recommendation to approve the meeting minutes from the June 23, 2026, and July 7, 2026, Board of Fire Commissioners meetings (All Commission Districts).

- 26-146F** **5B** Recommendation to approve a Notice of Cancellation for the regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners meeting on November 3, 2026, at 10 a.m. and reschedule the meeting for November 10, 2026, at 9 a.m. (All Commission Districts).
- 26-147F** **5C** Recommendation to accept on behalf of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, a subgrant award from the State of Nevada’s Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) in the amount of \$2,560.95 for the purchase of one sim stethoscope, which will be used in training of air management scenarios that may occur during emergency medical services calls; authorize the Fire Chief to execute the grant agreement and related documents; and if accepted, direct staff to make the necessary budget adjustments (All Commission Districts).
- 26-148F** **5D** Recommendation to accept a sub-grant award on behalf of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) from Washoe County upon recommendation by the Washoe County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), providing funding for the purchase of thirteen (13) Cyanokits from the Operations, Planning, Training and Equipment State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) FY 2027 Grant from the Nevada State Emergency Response Commission in the amount of \$14,640.00; and if accepted, direct staff to make the necessary budget adjustments (All Commission Districts).
- 26-149F** **5E** Recommendation to accept on behalf of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District a donation of one (1) Lucas Mechanical Compression Device, including any carrying cases and corresponding supplies, valued at \$19,204.20 from the Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council (IHCC); and if accepted, express sincere appreciation for the thoughtful contribution; and if accepted direct staff to make necessary budget adjustments (All Commission Districts).
- 26-150F** **5F** Recommendation to approve the re-classification of one (1) vacant Logistics Coordinator Regular NV PERS position at an annual salary range of \$61,901 to \$80,392 to a Logistics Support Specialist Regular NV PERS position at an annual salary range of \$60,154 to \$78,250 (All Commission Districts).

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

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

26-151F AGENDA ITEM 6 Resolution to recognize and express sincere appreciation for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Communications Manager Adam Mayberry.

Chair Andriola read the resolution. Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards presented Communications Manager Adam Mayberry with an award for his many years of public service. He thanked Mr. Mayberry for his contributions to the District and wished him all the best in his future endeavors.

Mr. Mayberry indicated that it was nice to wake up and not know what day it was. He said that it was an honor to represent the TMFPD. He recalled that over the past month, he had received many phone calls and emails from people asking whether he was glad to be retired. He divulged that it was difficult not to be on the sidelines, but he was proud to witness the hard work of the crews and first responders who tackled serious issues over the past month. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity to work alongside so many individuals at the TMFPD Headquarters on Barron Way and appreciated their support, friendship, and camaraderie. He believed the new Public Information Officer (PIO) would be great, and he wished her great success with the TMFPD team. He thanked the Board and noted that the recognition was unnecessary; however, he appreciated it. He mentioned that he had a few other career-related things he was working on and would see the Board in the future.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

Commissioner Hill expressed that it was a joy working with Mr. Mayberry and asserted that his commitment to public service was incredible. She said that he had worked in public service for 30 years and that she had started working with him in 2005, when he was still early in his career. She reiterated that it had been amazing to work with Mr. Mayberry, and she could not wait to work with him again in another capacity through the City of Sparks. She speculated that most people did not continue serving after they maxed out their Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) benefits. She said that she admired his work and passion for the community.

Vice Chair Garcia echoed Commissioner Hill's sentiments. She thanked Mr. Mayberry's daughters for allowing the community to have their father in an important role for 30 years. She said that as a PIO, Mr. Mayberry was always in front of a camera and oversaw messaging to the community. She opined that Mr. Mayberry's public service through different roles was admirable. She asserted that Mr. Mayberry was an incredible father and citizen. She thanked Mr. Mayberry for his dedication and passion. She said that she was excited to see him in his next role.

Chair Andriola wished to express similar comments to Vice Chair Garcia and Commissioner Andriola. She felt that she had learned a lot working with Mr. Mayberry and that the community was better because of him. She asserted that Mr. Mayberry's commitment to recognizing everyone equally with respect, even when it was not easy, was commendable. She hoped that Mr. Mayberry's daughters could recognize that they had a

great father, who was a wonderful community leader that genuinely cared about everyone. She believed that Mr. Mayberry had sacrificed a great deal and would continue to sacrifice more in future endeavors.

On motion by Chair Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Hill, which motion duly carried on a 5-0 vote, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be recognized and expressed.

26-152F AGENDA ITEM 7 Introduction of New Employees, Public Information Officer Kimberly Flores, and Fire Management Officer Scott Lucas.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards introduced Public Information Officer (PIO) Kimberly Flores. He provided a brief history of her background. Ms. Flores commented that it had been a great month working with the TMFPD because of her amazing team. She thanked the Board for their support and for advocating for the residents. She expressed excitement about working with the TMFPD.

Chair Andriola indicated that she felt like she already knew Ms. Flores because she had spent hours working with her during the fires. She believed that Ms. Flores had done an amazing job and made it seem as if she had been doing it for years. She congratulated Ms. Flores on her professionalism and dedication to the community.

Division Chief August Isernhagen introduced Fire Management Officer (FMO) Scott Lucas. He provided a brief history of Mr. Lucas's background. Mr. Lucas noted that he was both humbled and excited for the position. He said that he was looking forward to returning to public service with the TMFPD. He indicated that he was eager to work with the department, partner agencies, and the utility industry to make Washoe County more fire safe and resilient. He said that after 30 years of public service with the federal government, he had never experienced a more welcoming and supportive staff.

26-153F AGENDA ITEM 8 Badge Pinning and Introduction for Fire Mechanic Chris MacKenzie, and EMS Coordinator Courtney Harrell.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Division Chief Jay Cwiak introduced Fire Mechanic Chris MacKenzie. He provided a brief history of Mr. MacKenzie's background. Chris MacKenzie was pinned by his wife, Amy MacKenzie. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Manager Sarah Klein introduced EMS Coordinator Courtney Harrell. She provided a brief history of Ms. Harrell's background. Courtney Harrell was pinned by her husband, Jeremy Hall.

26-154F AGENDA ITEM 9 International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2487 Report.

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487 President Mark Thyer indicated that August had been a busy, overwhelming month for fire staff. He

said that the staff was fatigued but dedicated to the community and the District. He expressed pride in the actions taken by the firefighters, chiefs, and support staff through the multiple human-caused fires recently. He thanked the District's regional partners and said large-scale fires could not be tackled by a single agency. He recalled that the Reno Fire Department (RFD), Sparks Fire Department (SFD), Carson City Fire Department (CCFD), Central Lyon Fire Protection District (CLFPD), and all regional lake fire departments assisted the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) during the recent fires. He noted that the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), Reno Police Department (RPD), and the Army National Guard also assisted. He recalled that fire departments from Las Vegas went north and helped staff engines while other agencies dedicated resources to fighting the fires. He expressed gratitude to all the previously mentioned partners. He reported that the team was down ten suppression staff compared to the previous year and had not had to fight a fire that large since the Davis Fire in 2024. He said that he was proud of all the efforts made by the staff.

Mr. Thyer announced that October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month and that the IAFF Local 2487, in collaboration with the TMFPD, the Truckee Meadows Firefighter Foundation (TMFF), and Public Information Officer (PIO) Kimberly Flores, was creating Breast Cancer Awareness Month shirts. He said that the shirts would not only be worn by firefighters during October but also be on sale to the public. He reported that all proceeds would be donated to a breast cancer awareness organization. He looked forward to providing further updates at the next Board meeting.

Chair Andriola asserted that it took a team of many agencies to fight the recent fires. She recalled that at a recent incident command meeting, a six-person team shared that they went to fires for various reasons and had noted how seamlessly the region's staff worked during the recent regional fires. She wished for the team to know they were recognized and that everyone had performed a good job. She believed that it was a compliment to have outside agencies comment on the good work of staff.

26-155F AGENDA ITEM 10 Fire Chief Report

- A. Informational briefing on operational matters and activities for August 2026 and September 2026 to include the following items:
 - 1. Capital Projects Apparatus Update
 - 2. Capital Projects Construction Update
 - 3. Regional Dispatch Update
 - 4. Wildfire Season Update
- B. Monthly Response Statistics
 - 1. June 2026
 - 2. July 2026
- C. Monthly Prevention Statistics
 - 1. June 2026
 - 2. July 2026

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards explained that the District had received three new Type 1 engines, which were being upfitted and were scheduled to be presented at the next Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) meeting. He said that the engines would be put into service in either October or November. He indicated that Fire Station 35 was still awaiting internet service. He said that the team had been working with Washoe County Technology Services (TS) to bring infrastructure.

Chief Edwards noted that the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB) had approved the transfer of surplus funds from the Station 37 renovation to Station 35; therefore, the District could now purchase items like furniture for the station. He anticipated that Station 35 would be open and running by the end of the year. He said there was an architectural meeting scheduled for the following week to identify workstation needs and workspace configurations for regional dispatch. He explained that further concurrent meetings with regional partners would be held to discuss governance and financing and to identify barriers before workstations were configured. He said that the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) could be added to the interlocal agreement for regional dispatching, meaning all Washoe County fire agencies would be under one dispatch center. He believed that the agreement would be great for efficiency, service delivery, and cost savings. He said that the topic had been discussed extensively and that it was exciting to see it come to fruition within the next nine months.

Chief Edwards reported that it had been a very destructive wildfire season and that staff were tired. He asserted that staff had shown incredible grit and tenacity, and he could not be prouder of their actions and service to the community. He recalled that there were three major fires over two weeks, an unprecedented occurrence. He said that the Bug Fire was 100 percent contained as of August 27 and that it had burned over 93,000 acres with 11 residential structures lost and one fatality. He mentioned that the Stallion Fire was 100 percent contained as of August 27 and had burned over 40,000 acres with no loss of life or homes. He said that the Hawk Fire was 98 percent contained as of September 1, with over 15,000 acres burned, 48 residential structures lost, 1 commercial structure lost, and 1 fatality. He noted that the Hawk Fire had transitioned to a Type 4 Incident Command as of September 1, meaning it had stepped down from the complex incident management team required for a Type 3. He mentioned that as the fire neared containment and transitioned to repair and recovery efforts, the Type 4 Incident Commanders began handling the fire. He said that the S1 Vya Fire was 64 percent contained, with over 9,600 acres burned and two residential structures lost.

Chief Edwards believed that the number of people who had to evacuate was incredible, and noted that some had evacuated for both the Bug Fire and the Hawk Fire. He reported that at its peak, more than 43,000 community members were under the GO-NOW evacuation, with an additional 45,000 under the GET-SET. He explained that the Hawk Fire was transitioning to recovery operations in collaboration with Washoe County Emergency Management (EM). He said that the District met with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region 9 Administrator, Robert Fenton, to discuss the process for major disaster declarations for presidential assistance. He hoped the District

would have an update that week on the disaster declaration being granted. He said that if the award was granted, more resources and funding would be available for individuals who were uninsured, whose businesses were affected, or those affected by evacuations. He noted that FEMA brought two technical specialists assigned to the incident to advise staff on recovery and cleanup operations, ensuring the District was performing properly in case funding was awarded.

Chief Edwards felt it was important for the community to understand that, with large fires, the District reviewed the event afterward through a formal process and an after-action review. He asserted that the TMFPD wished to build upon its strengths and identify opportunities for improvement. He said the recent fires would not be the last Washoe County would experience and that it was important to acknowledge that no two emergency incidents were the same. He believed that any feedback was a learning opportunity to improve the District and provide a higher level of service in the future. He noted that the District had been conducting extensive community preparedness outreach because many questions had arisen since the fires began. He reported that Perimeter Map, Watch Duty, Smart911, home hardening, and fuel mitigation were all important topics for the community to know because the fires would not stop. He wanted to ensure that the community had the tools to be resilient and weather wildfires.

Chief Edwards indicated that the team was working on dates for the Green Waste Collection Program, which would begin the following month. He said he would share the information with each Commissioner and issue social media posts and press releases so that homeowners would have the opportunity to participate in fuel mitigation around their properties to become more wildfire resilient. He reported that the Bug Fire, Stallion Fire, and Hawk Fire were all human-caused and preventable; therefore, Stage 2 Fire Restrictions went into effect on Friday. He understood the frustration the restrictions had on people, but felt they were necessary to help protect the community. He noted that as weather conditions changed and fuels gained more moisture, the District would scale back the restrictions.

He reported that the TMFPD responded to 1,686 incidents in June. He said that the Reno Fire Department (RFD) had assisted the TMFPD 74 times while the TMFPD had assisted the RFD 302 times. He noted that Sparks Fire Department (SFD) assisted the TMFPD 35 times while the TMFPD assisted the SFD 61 times. He mentioned that the TMFPD responded to 1,759 incidents in July. He said that the RFD assisted the TMFPD 104 times while the TMFPD assisted the RFD 297 times. He relayed that the SFD assisted the TMFPD 23 times while the TMFPD assisted the SFD 57 times.

Chair Andriola noted that the EM team encouraged the community to provide input on the after-action review at emergencywashoe.com.

Commissioner Clark expressed appreciation for all the hard work that the firefighters and support staff had done. He recalled that he received an excellent tour of the fire the previous week with Chief Edwards, which illuminated many issues he had heard about from citizens. He said every fire was unique but believed that the evacuation of

residents and livestock needed improvement. He noted that people relied on traffic signals to evacuate in an orderly manner, and when the signals failed, there was chaos. He believed that the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) should focus on directing traffic out of specific neighborhoods. He said he could take up to 20 horses, cows, or sheep at his house, and that by planning livestock evacuations in advance, people could move their animals to other facilities for extended periods. He reiterated that human-led traffic directions, such as using whistles, lights, and walkie-talkies, would make evacuating areas without power easier, so that evacuees would not be stuck in traffic or risk stampedes. He urged the District to find a more efficient way to evacuate people and to provide better information so they can get their livestock out. He relayed that the County was surrounded by rural communities and that they could not all evacuate to the Reno Sparks Livestock Events Center (RSLEC). He said that large-animal veterinarians, horse clubs, Head, Heart, Hands, and Health (4-H) programs, the Future Farmers of America (FFA), and feed stores could be added to voluntary lists for those who could foster animals during emergencies. He asserted that traffic management needed to be addressed and that there was insufficient infrastructure to evacuate 60,000 people quickly.

Vice Chair Garcia thanked Chief Edwards for the update. She expressed excitement regarding the efforts made for regional dispatch. She asked whether the interlocal agreement would have to be presented to all regional boards or only to the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC). Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Jennifer Gustafson indicated that the interlocal agreement would need to be approved by the BOFC and the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) if Washoe County were a party in the agreement. Vice Chair Garcia asked if it would require approval from the Cities of Reno and Sparks. DDA Gustafson confirmed it would need their approval.

Vice Chair Garcia recalled that a resident had inquired about their Homeowners Association (HOA) and if there was any interest in defensible space. She asked whether the Wildland Fuels Division could share more information, as she was not sure how many people knew how to get involved with defensible space. She indicated that Division Chief August Isernhagen had done a great job leading the program but wanted people to know how to connect with the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Coordinator. Chief Edwards said that there was a Wildland Fuels Division within the District that performed a lot of work regarding fuels mitigation. He clarified that there was also a WUI Coordinator who worked with the HOAs to help them develop neighborhood protection plans. The coordinator also applied for fuel mitigation grants and provided guidance to community groups, such as Living With Fire (LWF). He explained that a team of firefighters helped perform fuel mitigation work and guided neighborhoods to improve home hardening. He called Mr. Isernhagen to the podium to provide further information.

Mr. Isernhagen indicated that he managed the Wildland Fuels Division for the TMFPD, which comprised roughly 40 personnel, the majority of whom were full-time employees, with some seasonal workers. He asserted that the personnel were firefighters by trade and that the program was unique because they were present during the winter, when fires were not actively being fought, to provide year-round fuel mitigation. He said that the TMFPD had historically spent \$4 to \$5 million per year on fuel mitigation projects

to keep the community ahead of wildfires, with funding from external grants and partnerships. He reported that the WUI Coordinator was Brett Taylor, whose position's core intent was to interface with the HOAs, Citizen Advisory Boards (CABs), and individual community members for defensible space inspections and activities.

Commissioner Herman expressed deep gratitude to the staff for their hard work.

26-156F **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Truckee Meadows Firefighters Association IAFF Local 2487's Non-Supervisory Unit to memorialize an agreement between the District and Association to extend the duration of the existing collective bargaining agreement (2024-2026) between the parties to June 30, 2027 (All Commission Districts).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

26-157F **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to accept Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District's Debt Management Policy, Indebtedness Report, and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan as of June 30, 2026 (All Commission Districts).

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Crystal Sublet expressed gratitude to the fire staff. She said that her children were affected and had to evacuate to her home. She reported that there was a lot of paperwork regarding fire billing and payroll that had to be provided to her department while staff were fighting fires.

Ms. Sublet noted that the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) was required to provide its Debt Management Policy, Indebtedness Report, and Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) under the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS). She said that the Debt Management Policy and the Indebtedness Report were prepared by the TMFPD's consultants and were to be filed with the Department of Taxation, the Debt Management Commission (DMC), and the Washoe County Clerk by August 1. She recalled that the documents were filed by July 29, 2026.

Ms. Sublet reported that the TMFPD's outstanding debt issuance totaled \$2.3 million in medium-term debt bonds or debt for equipment, \$1.4 million for Fire Station 37, \$6.2 million for the Barron Way Administration Building and warehouse, and \$5.2 million for Fire Station 37's apparatus. She explained that the next 5-year principal and interest obligations for outstanding debt included \$1.3 million in 2027, \$1.3 million in 2028, \$1.3 million in 2029, \$1.3 million in 2030, and \$838,000 in 2031. She said that the District's debt limit for fiscal year (FY) 2026 was roughly \$365 million. She noted that the

TMFPD was only obligated to report the 2027 CIP to the State. She said that the FY 2027 budget included three Type 1 engines for \$3 million and \$170,000 for miscellaneous items.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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

26-158F AGENDA ITEM 13 Financial presentation on the status of the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 General Fund & Capital Project Funds as of July 31, 2026.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Crystal Sublet indicated that the District had only 0.2 percent of revenue as of July 31, 2026, and that she did not receive the first property tax (p-tax) distribution until the previous week. She reported that most expenditures were salaries, wages, and benefits, totaling \$5 million and accounting for 9 percent of the annual budget. She said that there were no capital project expenditures in July and did not know if the District would have any by the time she presented the first quarter's financials for fiscal year (FY) 2027, because the District was paying for the Type 1 engines. She appreciated that the Board had approved quarterly financial assessments because she planned on revamping the process to include proprietary funds in the presentation. Chair Andriola thanked Ms. Sublet for her work.

26-159F AGENDA ITEM 14 Announcements/Reports.

There were no announcements or reports.

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Chair Andriola asked if a closed session was needed. Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards indicated a closed session was not needed.

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26-160F AGENDA ITEM 15 Public Comment.

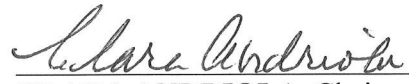
There was no response to the call for public comment.

26-161F AGENDA ITEM 16 Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

There was no closed session.

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11:01 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.


CLARA ANDRIOLA, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:


JANIS GALASSINI, Washoe County Clerk
and Ex-Officio Clerk, Truckee Meadows
Fire Protection District
Minutes Prepared By:
Lizzie Tietjen, Deputy County Clerk

