

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

TUESDAY

9:00 A.M.

JUNE 23, 2026

PRESENT:

Clara Andriola, Chair
Mariluz Garcia, Vice Chair
Alexis Hill, Commissioner

Janis Galassini, County Clerk
Richard Edwards, Fire Chief
Michael Large, Deputy District Attorney

ABSENT:

Michael Clark, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

The Board convened at 9:01 a.m. in special 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:

26-112F AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

26-113F AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards indicated that he had nothing to announce.

Commissioner Hill commended staff on all the work they had been doing. She acknowledged that addressing the flooding incidents, the fires in Sun Valley, South Reno, and Sparks had been a substantial amount of work for them. She noted that the Board supported them, and she commended their work again.

Chair Andriola echoed Commissioner Hill's comments and thanked staff for their rapid response, which helped the community understand where they could evacuate and how they could receive updates. She stated that the feedback she received from the constituents she served in Hidden Valley had been exemplary. She opined that it was unfortunate that the weather had its own way of handling situations and reiterated her appreciation for everyone's hard work. She requested that Deputy County Clerk Evonne Strickland notify the Board if Commissioner Herman appeared on the phone during the meeting.

26-114F AGENDA ITEM 5 New employee introduction and badge pinning for Deputy Chief Shannon Lewis.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards stated that the day marked both a celebration and a new era in the TMFPD's history. He explained that, before introducing a new member of the TMFPD team, he thought it important to first recognize Deputy Fire Chief Chris Ketring as he approached the end of his tenure with the TMFPD. He stated that Deputy Chief Ketring had left an indelible mark on the organization over the course of his distinguished career, with his calm demeanor, steady leadership, and genuine love for the TMFPD and those who served the region, helping shape the culture currently enjoyed by all residents. He shared his personal experience, noting that Deputy Chief Ketring's counsel, friendship, and unwavering support extended to Chief Edwards during his first year in the role had been invaluable to the TMFPD's success. He explained that Deputy Chief Ketring's legacy would continue to be felt long after his retirement, and that the TMFPD would forever be grateful for his service. He noted that the TMFPD looked forward to celebrating Deputy Chief Ketring at the July 7, 2026, Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) meeting.

Chief Edwards introduced Deputy Fire Chief Shannon Lewis. He provided a brief history of Deputy Chief Lewis's background and experience. Deputy Chief Lewis was pinned by his wife, Barbara Lewis.

Deputy Chief Lewis thanked Chief Edwards, the BOFC, and members of the TMFPD. He stated that he was honored and humbled to accept his badge and the responsibility that came with it. He explained that throughout his career, he had learned that leadership was not about rank or position but about service and representing the community. He stated that the badge represented a commitment to serve the TMFPD's firefighters, employees, community, and the organization with integrity, professionalism, and accountability. He thanked his family and wife for their support throughout his career, noting that they had studied during vacation to prepare for his next position and had made sacrifices for the role. He expressed gratitude to Chief Edwards and the TMFPD for the trust they had placed in him, and he voiced anticipation for working alongside the incredible men and women serving in the TMFPD. He stated that he would continue building on the organization's foundation to support one another and provide the highest possible level of service. He explained that he would wear his badge with pride and reiterated his appreciation for the opportunity to serve as the TMFPD's deputy fire chief.

Chair Andriola welcomed Deputy Fire Chief Lewis, and Chief Edwards invited the BOFC to participate in a photo being taken at the podium.

9:10 a.m. The Board recessed for a photo.

9:12 a.m. The Board reconvened with Commissioners Clark and Herman absent.

26-115F AGENDA ITEM 6 Recommendation to approve an increase in the amount of \$10,000 to Blanket Purchase Order #7500004872 for Manpower

Temporary Services, increasing the total not-to-exceed amount from \$125,000 to \$135,000, utilizing Nevada State Contract pricing (99SWC-NV25-25407). This increase will allow for the funding of one part-time Accountant within the Finance Division (All Commission Districts).

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 3-0 vote, with Commissioners Herman and Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved.

26-116F **AGENDA ITEM 7** Recommendation to approve an Amended and Restated Agreement for Emergency Medical and Emergency Fire Dispatch Services between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (“TMFPD”) and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (“REMSA”), which extends the term of the existing agreement for an additional one-year commencing July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027; updates the annual fee schedule for dispatch services from \$632,303.32 to \$777,652.00; and modernizes various provisions. (All Commission Districts).

Chair Andriola asked whether any members of the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) had questions about Agenda Item 7 for Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards.

Commissioner Hill acknowledged that the TMFPD was beginning to integrate its partnership with the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority Health (REMSA) and noted that she was serving on the BOFC when the matter was first considered in 2021. She emphasized that she had no problem with the new contract outlined for Agenda Item 7 and explained that, when she reviewed the original Staff Report describing the off-ramp installation, she recalled that the Board had wanted to ensure it was the proper course of action. She reported that she had not recently heard from TMFPD line staff regarding the partnership, about which she had previously heard concerns. She noted that those matters had significantly improved as both organizations figured out how to communicate and work collaboratively. She stated that she was curious about how Chief Edwards felt about working with REMSA Health on the agreement.

Chief Edwards opined that Commissioner Hill had asked a great question and clarified that the TMFPD had done substantial work with REMSA Health to improve some of the local dispatching challenges experienced by both organizations. He reported that REMSA Health had been very receptive to the TMFPD’s needs. He noted that the contract outlined in Agenda Item 7 was for a one-year term, reflecting ongoing conversations between the TMFPD and its regional partners for pursuing a regional dispatch model. He suspected that a contract term longer than one year would distract from that goal, and the proposed time frame would motivate the TMFPD to continue pursuing the eventual integration of the regional model, which was desperately needed in the

Washoe Valley. Commissioner Hill stated that she was excited to hear more about those conversations in the future, and Chair Andriola agreed that the entire Board anticipated it.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Hill, seconded by Vice Chair Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 3-0 vote, with Commissioners Herman and Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 7 be approved.

26-117F **AGENDA ITEM 8** Recommendation to approve Property, Liability and Workers' Compensation policies for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for one year beginning July 1, 2026, for a total amount not to exceed \$2,320,495; and authorize the purchase of insurance based upon the recommendation. The recommended selection includes a new property, liability, auto, cyber and pollution coverage policy through membership in the Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool (NPAIP), to include the Board's approval of a resolution authorizing membership in the NPAIP; a renewal of a crime/employee dishonesty coverage policy through Travelers Bond & Specialty ("Travelers") for a combined cost of \$442,365; as well as a workers' compensation and employer's liability coverage policy renewal through 7710 Insurance Company ("7710") for a cost of \$1,878,130 (All Commission Districts).

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards introduced USI Insurance Services (USI), Limited Liability Company (LLC) Senior Vice President Brandon Lewis, and USI Senior Claims Consultant Donna Stewart. He explained that Mr. Lewis was the County's broker and would provide a presentation on Agenda Item 8 with Ms. Stewart, who specialized in workers' compensation. Chair Andriola thanked Mr. Lewis and Ms. Stewart for coming to provide the presentation and share detailed information.

Mr. Lewis and Ms. Stewart conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District; Insurance Renewal Options; Executive Summary; Exposure Comparison; Market Summary; Coverage Comparison; Premium Comparison; Insurance Requirements (Key Contracts); Services and Resources; Workers' Compensation Discussion; Workers' Compensation Experience Rating; Experience Rating Overview; Experience Modification Analysis; 1. Impact of Experience Rating on Premiums; Analyze experience rating factor to confirm accuracy; Historical Experience Modification Factors; Future Savings Opportunity; Analyze losses and impact on E-Mod; USI's Action Plan for TMFPD.

Mr. Lewis explained that he and Ms. Stewart would discuss insurance renewal options, including the recommended option, as well as workers' compensation strategies for the TMFPD. He noted that every few years in insurance markets, a client's account would be fully marketed to multiple carriers and programs, a process that took a substantial amount of work. He thanked the TMFPD leadership and staff for being incredibly responsive, providing information, and helping USI bring forth the best option.

Mr. Lewis displayed the slide titled *Executive Summary* and stated that it demonstrated the two elements of the program. He noted that the first element was associated with property and casualty, including property insurance liability, auto professional liability, and some cybercrime and pollution coverage. He explained that those factors were associated with the recommended option from within the Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool (NPAIP). He introduced NPAIP Executive Director Wayne Carlson and NPAIP Member Relations Manager Stephen Romero, noting that they were in attendance at the meeting. He explained that, following meetings with TMFPD leadership early in the process, it was decided that the organization's insurance coverage needed to be marketed. He noted that two reasons supported that decision, including the TMFPD's current liability insurer, with which the organization had partnered since 2019, seeking to add an exclusion for fuel mitigation operations to the renewal under the excess liability coverage. He explained that the exclusion would not have worked, as it would have made work performed under the NV Energy contract impossible, and USI knew that work was critical to the organization. He stated that USI believed the NPAIP provided the most competitive terms and pricing under the second renewal option.

Mr. Lewis explained that the second component of the insurance renewal and the larger budget item was workers' compensation. He reported that the workers' compensation markets were extremely limited for government entities with presumptive loss exposures found under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 617. He recalled that such a factor had substantially restricted the market for a fully insured program in the past. He stated that the TMFPD had coverage without a deductible or without a self-insured retention, whereas Washoe County was self-insured for workers' compensation and purchased excess coverage. He elaborated that the markets for the system used by the County were also very limited, as most carriers did not feel they could earn a decent premium and still make a profit, given the associated losses. He reported that workers' compensation rates in Nevada had increased by 20 to 25 percent on average across all employers, another substantial factor affecting the TMFPD. He explained that USI worked with the TMFPD's current workers' compensation insurers, 7710 Insurance Company, after they attempted not to renew the coverage. He stated that the insurer sent a non-renewal notice, but upon review, USI determined that the company had not complied with State law. He explained that the Nevada Division of Insurance assisted USI in compelling 7710 Insurance Company to provide the TMFPD with a quote for one more year of coverage. He reported that although the premium price had increased to almost \$1.9 million, USI had received quotes from other potential options ranging from \$3 to \$4 million.

Mr. Lewis showed the *Exposure Comparison* slide. He noted that the slide provided a brief overview of the exposures. He explained that USI reviewed the exposure data each year to assess coverage and determine whether they had found the best coverage for the TMFPD. He stated that the most substantial change was the increase in building and content values from approximately \$40 million to \$49 million, with the addition of the new Fire Station 35, which had already been added to the current policy and would be included in the future. He displayed the slide titled *Market Summary* and noted that it provided an overview of the financial rankings that USI investigated each time they considered an insurance carrier or program. He explained that the AM Best agency was the

lead organization for such a ranking. He acknowledged that the *Renewal Option 2* category for the NPAIP was not rated, and he explained that it was due to it not being a traditional insurance company. He noted that the NPAIP used its highly rated reinsurers and best financial practices to manage risk, and was member-owned and member-governed by Nevada public entities, which he described as a key part of the NPAIP's process.

Mr. Lewis introduced the slide titled *Coverage Comparison* and explained that USI had also reviewed the coverage for the different renewal options. He reported that there were three options to review at the meeting with the TMFPD leadership, and USI ultimately recommended the NPAIP. He noted that there were key differences between each of the quotes, but the NPAIP provided a very broad range of coverage, including property, liability, cybercrime, and pollution. He stated that the NPAIP option would also allow the TMFPD to not need to renew some separate policies between the current year and the following year, which would save additional premiums. He reported that other key differences from the NPAIP included a \$5,000 deductible for most covered losses. He acknowledged that there were higher deductibles for cybercrime and pollution when applicable, but those factors helped keep the overall pricing competitive. He explained that the NPAIP had worked with several other fire districts that had worked with NV Energy on fuel mitigation contracts, and NV Energy had accepted the coverage under a special endorsement they had written for those efforts, which was a key factor USI had considered in its recommendation.

Mr. Lewis displayed the *Premium Comparison* slide and noted that it described the premiums and the associated costs in dollars. He reiterated that the main component of the comparison was associated with workers' compensation. He explained that the top portion of the slide's chart provided the different options, such as the NPAIP, which would keep the TMFPD within 2 percent of the previous year's premium and liability plan of the estimate for the new fire station. He reported that workers' compensation increased by 35 percent, with approximately 25 percent of the increase attributable to rates and 10 percent to the experience rating, which Ms. Stewart would discuss further. He showed the slide titled *Insurance Requirements (Key Contracts)*. He reported that USI reviewed the TMFPD's contractual liability each year, including key contracts with organizations such as NV Energy, to ensure that the insurer or program representing it could meet the necessary requirements. He acknowledged that each of the listed options had certain limitations, but USI had considered those as part of its recommendation for the NPAIP option, believing that it would meet most major contract requirements while allowing the TMFPD to continue key operations. He introduced the *Services and Resources* slide and explained that because the NPAIP was not a traditional insurance company, it offered a wide range of additional services unavailable from other insurers, such as Human Resources (HR) consulting, governance board training, and property appraisals.

Mr. Lewis showed the slide titled *Workers' Compensation Discussion*. He explained that the next section of his presentation would provide an overview of how workers' compensation claims directly impacted the TMFPD's workers' compensation premiums, as well as USI's strategy to work with the TMFPD to reduce costs in the future. He reiterated that the key issue with workers' compensation claims was the presumptive

benefit laws for heart and lung disease and cancer. He noted that those factors had made it very difficult to find insurers willing to quote the TMFPD, and despite USI having forced the current carrier to provide a quote for the current year, the carrier had indicated it planned to file a complaint notice to non-renew the account the following year. He displayed the *Experience Rating Overview* slide and explained that experience ratings were a way for insurers to ensure that they were charging an appropriate premium for each employer. He stated that an experience rating considered the claims that occurred, accident frequency, and the total cost of the related losses, which would be compared against those of employers with the same job classification codes. He noted that if the employer had worse-than-average claims, their experience rating would go up and they would pay higher premiums. If the opposite occurred and they had a better claims experience, their costs would decrease. He showed the *Experience Modification Analysis* slide. He explained that the slide provided an overview of experience modification (E-Mod), a structured process USI used to analyze its clients' experience ratings and ensure that all inputs associated with the E-Mod were correct.

Mr. Lewis displayed the *1. Impact of Experience Rating on Premiums* slide. He provided an example using experience ratings to further explain their impact, noting that an employer with better-than-average claims might have a 0.75 E-Mod, resulting in a 25 percent discount on their workers' compensation premiums. He referred to the bottom of the slide and explained that if an employer had a higher E-Mod, for example, 1.75, the employer would ultimately pay more for workers' compensation. He stated that E-Mod was based on a prior three years' worth of payroll and claims data and was updated on a rolling basis, which Ms. Stewart would explain in more detail. He introduced the slide titled *Analyze experience rating factor to confirm accuracy* and noted that it reviewed the primary components of the E-Mod classification codes, including job classification, payroll, and claims. He noted that each factor needed to be carefully analyzed to ensure they were correct each year.

Mr. Lewis showed the *Historical Experience Modification Factors* slide and invited Ms. Stewart to review those matters. Ms. Stewart explained that the slide's graph demonstrated E-Mod data spanning from 2020 to 2026. She noted that the three years currently impacting the TMFPD's E-Mod rating were 2022, 2023, and 2024. She stated that she would discuss the 2025 and 2026 E-Mod ratings more than those of other years, review what had happened in previous years, and explain why the reported statistics appeared as they did. She reported that the TMFPD's E-Mod was approximately 2.0 in 2024, then decreased to 1.61 in 2025, as the 2020 COVID-19 (C19) exposure claims no longer impacted the experience rating in 2025. She recalled that there were a significant number of claims in 2020, with 37 claims accounting for \$1.5 million. She noted that those claims halted in 2025, thereby reducing the experience rating, which benefited the TMFPD. She acknowledged that the graph showed a 0.11 E-Mod increase in 2026, which she attributed to the poor results of 2024 having begun to impact the rating. She reported that the improved results in 2025 offered an opportunity in the year between 2024 and 2026 to fully review the losses that had occurred in 2024, which was a poor performance year for the TMFPD with 40 claims and \$1.4 million of experience incurred value, resulting in the E-Mod rating having increased again in 2026.

Mr. Lewis thanked Ms. Stewart and referred to the slide titled *Future Savings Opportunity*, explaining that it provided information on how E-Mod factors could be controlled to reduce quoted workers' compensation costs. He reported that the TMFPD's renewal quote currently included just over \$1 million in surcharge costs because of the claims experience. He noted that those costs were offset by USI's ability to maintain over \$500,000 in credits to apply against them. He emphasized that the TMFPD would not pay the additional \$1 million because USI had reduced those costs by half through other policy discounts. He explained that the goal was to bring the E-Mod down by working with the TMFPD to manage claims so there would no longer be a need to pay for a surcharge at all. He requested that Ms. Stewart discuss the following slide.

Ms. Stewart showed the *Analyze losses and impact on E-Mod* slide. She explained that the slide provided an analysis of losses and their impact on the E-Mod, with the graph reflecting the actual and expected losses by policy period for 2022, 2023, and 2024, which were the three impactful years she had mentioned previously. She acknowledged that the 2022 statistics reflected actual paid costs rather than the incurred value she had initially referred to. She explained that the 2024 to 2025 policy period still reflected approximately \$1 million in actual payments, including open claims reserved for injuries that were still persisting. She noted that USI's goal was to address those losses, identify strategies in proactive risk management, and develop claims strategies. She referred to a presumptive law that was being monitored to ensure that USI was doing early intervention to prevent any issues from becoming substantial, identify how that law might apply, and whether or not it was applicable based on potential loopholes hidden within the language. She noted that risk control and preventing losses were other factors being considered, as well as monitoring all trends in cancer, lung, and heart claims. She explained that USI was also doing preventative work to help the TMFPD identify and prioritize any efficiencies that would help the District improve.

Mr. Lewis displayed the *USI's Action Plan for TMFPD* slide, thanked Ms. Stewart, and reiterated that USI would continue to work with the TMFPD on active claim monitoring and would also help with monthly claim reviews. He reported that USI would also begin analyzing the TMFPD's E-Mod experience factor quarterly. He explained that USI could give the TMFPD leadership advance notice on its predictions about where the E-Mod could trend throughout the following year, and could provide the other risk management and consulting services offered by the company. He thanked the Board for their time and noted that he and Ms. Stewart would be happy to answer any questions.

Chair Andriola thanked Chief Edwards for inviting those he knew to share the information in the presentation. She acknowledged that legislative changes had some impact on the matters discussed during the presentation, though she noted it was an unfunded mandate. She opined that nobody would ever not want to ensure the health and safety of every employee, which she did not think was what had been suggested, but rather insurance companies and the actuarial data that those companies used for risk, as opposed to being able to pay down any future claims. She noted that those matters were ultimately decided by actuarial analysis and math. She expressed appreciation to Mr. Lewis and Ms. Stewart for looking into those matters, and she thanked Chief Edwards for his leadership.

and consideration of what could be done presently. She acknowledged that a person could not always control what happened, but she opined that the quarterly analysis USI was doing was really helpful. She asked whether any actions were being taken by other organizations that USI was considering enacting as well. She noted that USI's analysis was not the only work being undertaken by other organizations, as the situation affected others as well.

Mr. Lewis responded that there was currently a working group, which he believed was led by Clark County and included the involvement of the TMFPD as a response to Senate Bill (SB) 7. He explained that the bill, passed in 2025, had sparked substantial reaction and was primarily concerned with retroactive liability for lung claims. He expressed the belief that the working group was very active, largely due to the passage of SB 7. He explained that Mr. Carlson and Mr. Romero, whom he had introduced previously as members of the NPAIP, were also representatives of the Public Agency Compensation Trust (PACT), which insured a number of rural fire districts and other entities with presumptive exposures. He noted that PACT was a key contributor to advocacy efforts to make the bill work better for everyone.

Chair Andriola expressed hope that there would be an opportunity to consider returning to the Legislature to share the impacts of SB 7 as efforts with the working group progressed. She acknowledged that 7710 Insurance Company was only doing its job, though she noted that its decision had represented a major blow. She expressed her intent to recognize Mr. Lewis and Chief Edwards for reviewing the non-renewal notice timeline, as if those efforts had been conducted differently, the TMFPD would not have had that coverage at all. She opined that Mr. Lewis and Chief Edwards should be commended for investigating all the small details and fine print within the agreements. She asked Chief Edwards if he had anything to add, and he explained that he did not, aside from sharing the fact that the TMFPD would be reviewing matters closely and investigating the District's injuries throughout the previous five years to identify whether there were correlations or internal actions that could be taken to re-engineer how service was delivered. He explained that some examples of internal actions could be how the TMFPD's fire engines were designed, actions that might be taken around a firehouse, and identifying anything that could be done to reduce injuries in order to reduce the E-Mod. Chair Andriola opined that there was also an employee educational component for those efforts, as the more information they had, the better the injury reduction could be. She encouraged embracing various opportunities. She noted that SB 7, SB 170, and SB 387 had created a substantial impact on local governments.

Commissioner Hill expressed appreciation for learning what an E-Mod was, as she had not known previously. She opined that the presentation was great and noted that she felt very empowered. She asked whether the TMFPD had paid for something to help with injuries, as she suspected it had, though she had forgotten and requested a reminder. Chief Edwards explained that there were two different contracts, one of which was with Ready Rebound, a company that helped get TMFPD's employees to doctor appointments sooner so they could receive definitive treatment. He explained that the second contract was held with a physical therapist, Doctor (Dr.) Brian Fischer, who visited five hours a week to provide assessments and treatment to prevent people from developing workers'

compensation injuries, though that contract would be increased to ten hours over the following fiscal year. He noted that Dr. Fischer's treatments helped employees with flexibility issues or provided rehabilitation services for partial injuries before they became conditions requiring definitive treatment. He opined that it was important to note that it would not be possible to eliminate all injuries, as the TMFPD staff operated in a relatively hazardous environment, with firefighters exposed to various risky situations that further increased the likelihood of injury. He opined that the more attention that was brought to the issue, the more mindful people might be about how they addressed the situation, possibly reducing it.

Commissioner Hill stated that it was great that proactive work was underway and that she suspected it would be effective. She commended the analysis efforts to determine what could be done to ensure the TMFPD was preventing potential injuries. She noted that the presentation was great and that she felt comfortable moving forward with the recommendation.

Vice Chair Garcia expressed appreciation for the presentation, noting that it was very thorough and that the way it outlined USI's methodology had been very helpful in the BOFC's understanding of the internal process for the analysis. She stated that the second part of Agenda Item 8 was for the authorization of membership to the NPAIP. She expressed curiosity about what the NPAIP membership entailed. She recalled having read that the NPAIP integrated many different public entities, though she noted that the TMFPD was a very specialized fire agency. She asked whether the NPAIP membership would lend itself well to the type of work done by the TMFPD. Mr. Lewis thanked Vice Chair Garcia for her question and reintroduced Mr. Romero to address the question. Mr. Romero confirmed that the NPAIP had other fire districts within the organization, so it understood fire districts and their functions. He explained that the NPAIP would hold an onboarding meeting with Mr. Lewis and Chief Edwards. He asked whether there were any additional questions in regard to NPAIP membership, and Vice Chair Garcia thanked him, noting that there were none.

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 3-0 vote, with Commissioners Herman and Clark absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 8 be approved and authorized.

Chair Andriola thanked Mr. Lewis and Ms. Stewart for the great presentation, and she expressed hope that some relief would be seen in various ways. She suspected that it might be helpful to receive periodic updates so the BOFC could be prepared for any budgetary impacts, especially given USI's proposed quarterly analysis.

26-118F AGENDA ITEM 9 Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards stated that he had several announcements to share. He explained that the day prior,

the TMFPD adopted the first level of fire restrictions for the area, which he noted aligned with the organization's State and federal partners. He reported that the list of prohibited activities was posted on the TMFPD's website, which he would discuss in further detail during the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) meeting that would take place following the current TMFPD meeting.

Chief Edwards thanked the TMFPD fire crews for the incredible amount of work they did the previous Friday at Hidden Valley. He described that incident as unique for the TMFPD, as it had begun with a water removal call for a single-engine response. He recalled that when the first Reno Fire Department (RFD) engine arrived on the scene, they provided the TMFPD with an update informing the organization that a substantial amount of mud and debris was flowing through the neighborhood, which initiated a much larger response from the TMFPD and its partner agencies with the City of Sparks. He reported that the incident managers did an incredible job of prioritizing life safety and ensuring that everyone was accounted for, and he expressed pride in the TMFPD staff. He noted that no humans were injured or lost their lives in the incident, which he said was incredible given the extent of the damage, though one cat sadly perished. He explained that the event was significant and required the resources of the various fire agencies, Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) search-and-rescue teams, Washoe County Emergency Management (WCEM), and NV Energy. He recalled that there had been an active gas leak that coincided with people being trapped inside their home due to the debris flow, which damaged the meter and allowed gas to escape. He explained that firefighters were able to enter the home and conduct a rescue to prevent those individuals from harm. He noted that representatives from the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority Health (REMSA), Washoe County Regional Animal Services (WCRAS), and the Community Services Division (CSD) were on the scene. He stated that the incident transitioned to a recovery operation during that evening, and the TMFPD transferred command to WCEM Administrator Kelly Echeverria and her staff. He noted that future updates on the incident for residents seeking additional information could be found at emergencywashoe.com.

Chair Andriola recognized Ms. Echeverria, her staff, the County's Communication Team, the TMFPD, and its regional partners for their helpful communication during the incident. She explained that the incident occurred within her district, and the communication from the agencies she mentioned allowed her to respond as quickly as possible to the phone calls she received throughout the incident. She noted that those efforts enabled her to promptly answer many of those calls, and she stated that the overall response from everyone on that team was wonderful. She recalled having previously mentioned her appreciation to the residents of Hidden Valley for recognizing the situation and responding quickly. She described those efforts as commendable and noted that she could almost not believe the flood had happened. She thanked everyone for the videos, constructing the site, updating perimeter.com, and ensuring that everything was available. She explained that some activity was still ongoing at the incident site, with Waste Management (WM) working in the area to assist with the debris.

26-119F AGENDA ITEM 10 Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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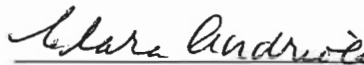
26-120F **AGENDA ITEM 11** Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

Chair Andriola noted that Agenda Item 11 was a closed session and asked Chief Deputy District Attorney (CDDA) Michael Large whether he would like to share details about which individuals could join the session. CDDA Large explained that the closed session for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) was pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 288.220 and Subsection 3 of NRS 241.016. He explained that he, TMFPD Fire Chief Richard Edwards, his TMFPD team, and the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) would participate in the closed session. He noted that public comment would be opened following those discussions, and that the closed session would be held in the Caucus Room on the second floor of the Washoe County Administration Complex. Chair Andriola thanked him.

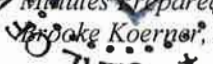
9:45 a.m. **The Board recessed for a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with employee organizations per NRS 288.220.**

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9:58 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:
 **Brooke Koerner**, Deputy County Clerk
