

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

TUESDAY

9:00 a.m.

JULY 24, 2018

PRESENT:

Marsha Berkbigler, Chair
Kitty Jung, Vice Chair
Bob Lucey, Commissioner
Jeanne Herman, Commissioner

Jan Galassini, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Charles Moore, Fire Chief
Paul Lipparelli, Deputy District Attorney

ABSENT:

Vaughn Hartung, Commissioner

The Board convened at 9:01 a.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada. Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of our Country, the Clerk called the roll and the Board conducted the following business:

18-122F AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar alleged the State of Nevada defined a person as an entity and a natural person was the director of a one-person company. She indicated ordinances needed to refer to persons and not human beings. She expressed her frustrations about the County thinking it had the authority to mandate what she did on her property.

Ms. Vicky Maltman expressed her concerns about the possible elimination of volunteer firefighters and referenced statistics from an assessment written in 2014. She announced her support for volunteer firefighters but expressed frustration about response times in the area being higher than they should be.

Mr. Peewee Henson expressed his frustrations about possible restrictions being placed on shooting in open areas. He thought if shooting was restricted, all other recreational activities should be required to follow the same restrictions.

18-123F AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore mentioned there would not be a Board of Fire Commissioners meeting in August and said the next meeting was scheduled for September 18.

AGENDA ITEM #5A

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Commissioner Lucey commented on the recent firestorms and weather events. He thanked Chief Moore, the leadership staff, and especially the firefighters for the many hours they worked to suppress the local fires. He expressed special thanks to the stations within his district that helped to protect homes from flash floods.

Commissioner Jung announced she attended the opening of Station 33 and it was a great event. She noted Chief Moore's wife dressed in a Sparky costume and passed out stickers to children. She indicated the new station was paid for so no additional tax dollars would be collected for its construction. She noted the life expectancy of the station was 75 years.

Chair Berkbigler said she wished she had been able to attend the opening of Station 33.

CONSENT ITEMS

18-124F **5A** Approval of minutes from the June 19, 2018 meeting.

18-125F **5B** Cancellation of the August 21, 2018 Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting. (All Commission Districts.)

18-126F **5C** Approval of an Annual Operating Plan between the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Storey County Fire Department. (All Commission Districts.)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore clarified the minutes for approval in Agenda Item 5A were for June 19 not June 18 as indicated in the draft minutes.

There was no public comment on this item.

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

18-127F **AGENDA ITEM 6** I.A.F.F. Local 2487 Report.

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487 President Ian Satterfield indicated he had nothing to report.

18-128F AGENDA ITEM 7 Executive Fire Officer Program Certificate presented to Captain Ian Satterfield.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore presented a National Fire Academy Award of Executive Fire Office to Captain Ian Satterfield. Chief Moore stated the program was academically rigorous and it was an important milestone for Captain Satterfield. Chief Moore congratulated him on his accomplishment.

Commissioner Lucey said Captain Satterfield's achievement exemplified the dedication the Board was looking for and hoped more officers would complete the program. He said this type of dedication would allow officers to promote and build a succession plan, which was very important to the District.

Chair Berkbigler expressed her appreciation to Captain Satterfield for all he did and said she was proud of his accomplishments.

18-129F AGENDA ITEM 8 Promotional Badge Pinning, Battalion Chief Joe Schum

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore introduced Battalion Chief Joe Schum. His wife, Kate Schum, pinned his new badge on his uniform.

18-130F AGENDA ITEM 9 Fire Chief Report.

A. Information briefing on operational matters and activities for the month of June 2018.

1. Summary of recent lightning and wildfire activity.
2. Outcomes of July 18 meeting with Verdi Community (Attachment.)
3. Status of TM facility plan (Attachment.)
4. Presentation and video of TMFPD vent trailer (Requested by Commissioner Hartung.)

B. Commissioner Request Dashboard.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Charles Moore stated the District was extremely busy with lightning storms and fires during the past weekend. He noted the region had every available engine responding to reported fires. In order to make more firefighters available, the United States Forest Service (USFS) took charge of the Peavine fire. He indicated the regional departments coordinated and communicated well during the storms. He conveyed his pride towards the firefighters.

Chair Berkbigler expressed her appreciation to the firefighters for their hard work and protection from the fires.

Chief Moore indicated because attendance was low at the Verdi Community meeting on July 18, another meeting was scheduled for August 15. He said a

location was found for a future volunteer station in Verdi and he thought the USFS and the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority were interested in co-locating on the three-acre parcel. He indicated a discussion about fuels reduction occurred and his intent was to organize the Verdi community and help to develop a community fire protection plan. Once the plan was developed, many opportunities for grants would become available. He expressed the importance of fuels reduction in Verdi.

Commissioner Lucey agreed with the importance of fuels management. The County supported Arrowcreek and its initiative to apply for and receive grants for fuels reduction efforts. He indicated the work the community did and continued to do was tremendous and would enable them to be more prepared in the event of a wildfire. He said contractors were cutting the undergrowth of pinyon trees and most of the loose debris had been removed. He urged the Board to communicate the importance of fuels reduction and encourage communities to develop a fire protection plan.

Chair Berkbigler asked Chief Moore how long it would take to put a fire protection plan together. Chief Moore replied it would take approximately three months and explained his staff would assist in the process. Chair Berkbigler asked whether a committee was established at the last meeting. Chief Moore stated that did not happen because there was low attendance at the meeting.

Chair Berkbigler asked how far along in the process Chief Moore was in hiring a fuels management position. Chief Moore indicated a job specification had been developed but the pay class needed to be discussed with the International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2487. He anticipated the process would take approximately a month before being ready to hire for the position.

Chief Moore stated the status of a facility plan requested several months before by Commissioner Lucey was in development and he was working to present the plan to the Board in September. He noted on the last page of the staff report was a graphic from Dyer Engineering, which displayed where the Truckee Meadows Water Authority expressed its desire to locate a 100 square foot area to install a new pump station. He feared the pump station could interfere with the useable space and intended to place that request on hold until it was determined how the remainder of the parcel would be used.

Chief Moore indicated Commissioner Hartung requested a presentation about the TMFPD vent trailer. He said Captain Chris Black would narrate a video about the trailer and explain what the trailer did for the District.

Captain Black explained the trailer could provide 15 to 20 different fire training exercises. He said it was extremely versatile for training especially because it was mobile. He noted many times it was difficult to get staff to trainings but the vent trailer allowed the experience to be brought to them. He said the trailer was manufactured locally in Carson City and it was the first trailer to be located in Northern Nevada.

Commissioner Lucey asked about the cost of the vent trailer. Captain Black replied \$70,000 and stated the manufacturer gave the District a good deal. Commissioner Lucey said it seemed like a lot of money for a piece of equipment but when compared to the cost of the regional training facility it was a great use of training dollars. He thought the ability to train staff and volunteers at multiple locations was valuable.

Captain Black mentioned the trailer was onsite at the last academy class so the new recruits were able to train on it as well.

Chief Moore referred back to Agenda Item 9A1 and stated during the last lightning storm all of the volunteer agencies were activated. He said Battalion Chief Chris Ketring informed him that the volunteer firefighters at the Silver Lake station did an exemplary job containing the American Flat Fire and kept the fire from jumping the road, which would have created a much larger incident. He stated the volunteers were very active, did great work, and were an essential part of call responses.

Chair Berkgigler said she had constituents who expressed concerns about volunteer firefighters being eliminated but she explained to them the Board did not intend to get rid of volunteers.

18-131F AGENDA ITEM 10 Presentation and possible approval for distribution of the 2018 Report to the Community. (All Commission Districts.)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore said the 2018 Report to the Community final draft had been presented to the Board, but there were small changes staff wanted to make. He noted distribution of the report had been discussed and it was suggested by Commissioner Jung to mail a copy to each of the constituents. He reported the cost to print and mail the report would be approximately \$35,000 but he noted staff could research other processes to distribute the report to the public that would not be so costly.

Commissioner Jung stated she did not have a problem if Chief Moore determined a different way to get the report into the hands of the taxpayers. She thought it was a great report and each person that paid taxes for fire services should know where money was being spent.

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

- 18-132F** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation that the Board of Fire Commissioners ratify Fiscal Year 2018 reimbursements from the Washoe County, Nevada OPEB Trust Fund to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District for the cost of retiree health insurance premiums in the amount of \$215,174.10. (All Commission Districts.)
There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Lucey, which motion duly carried on a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Hartung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be ratified.

- 18-133F** **AGENDA ITEM 12** Approve the annual services of two (2) part time administration assistants, one (1) part time volunteer coordinator and one (1) part time, on call incident Public Information Officer through Manpower Temporary Services in an amount not to exceed \$132,000 using the State of Nevada contract #3296 as allowed by NRS 332.195. (All Commission Districts.)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Chief Charles Moore explained the District utilized part-time temporary services only when needed. He indicated the process was financially effective because benefits for part-time workers did not have to be included in the budget.

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Lucey, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried on a vote of 4-0 with Commissioner Hartung absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be approved.

- 18-134F** **AGENDA ITEM 13** Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

There was no need for a closed session.

- 18-135F** **AGENDA ITEM 14** Announcements/Reports.

There were no Board member comments on this item.

- 18-136F** **AGENDA ITEM 15** Public Comment.

Ms. Katherine Snedigar expressed her concerns about shooting being banned during red flag days but said people were prohibited from burning dry brush on their property because of fire danger. She wanted the burn season to be longer in order to burn dry brush to keep it from becoming a fire danger. She assumed the proposed shooting ban would become a civil matter and would only be effective on County

property. She stated no one had the authority to restrict her from shooting on her property. She indicated the County did not have authority over the Bureau of Land Management to evoke a shooting ban on its property. She noted a shooting ban was against the constitutional rights of citizens.

Ms. Vicky Maltman indicated there was not a comma or stopping point between “one nation” and “under God” in the Pledge of Allegiance. She said she would appreciate if it was said correctly. She expressed her concerns about people shooting responsibly but noted construction equipment was the cause of more recent fires, not target shooting. She said more responsible processes could be established to keep the community safe and healthy instead of banning shooting. She thought fire safety education and awareness were good ways to address wildfire dangers.

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9:49 a.m. There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

MARSHA BERKBIGLER, Chair
Truckee Meadows Fire
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

Minutes Prepared By:
Doni Gassaway, Deputy County Clerk