



**TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
STAFF REPORT**

Board Meeting Date: July 2, 2024

DATE: June 18, 2024

TO: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Board of Fire Commissioners

FROM: August Isernhagen, Division Chief
Phone: (775) 326-6000 Email: aisernhagen@tmfpd.us

THROUGH: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief
Phone: (775) 326-6000 Email: cmoore@tmfpd.us

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve a Master Service Agreement with Liberty Utilities for the purpose of elimination of wildland fire-related hazardous fuels and standby services to be paid to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District on a “time and materials basis,” which includes personnel and equipment use costs in an estimated amount of up to \$300,000 per year effective July 2, 2024, to October 15, 2027. (All Commission Districts). FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

SUMMARY

Recommendation to approve a Master Service Agreement with Liberty Utilities for the purpose of elimination of wildland fire-related hazardous fuels and standby services to be paid to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District on a “time and materials basis,” which includes personnel and equipment use costs in an estimated amount of up to \$300,000 per year effective July 2, 2024, to October 15, 2027.

PREVIOUS ACTION

None

BACKGROUND

In the Fall of 2019, NV Energy began working with the State of Nevada and local government fire agencies to develop a program to reduce the risk of fires related to NV Energy’s electrical infrastructure, centered around the removal of vegetation around power poles and within their easements as required by NRS 474.580 and the 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface Code. The result is a long-term plan to identify areas of highest fire risk and prioritize elimination of fire hazards in those areas. This fuels reduction work is proactive and seeks to protect communities from fires within those same areas.

The TMFPD/NV Energy agreement has historically been the cornerstone of Truckee Meadow’s Wildland Division. Due to changes in that program, and the need to diversify work and funding

sources for the Wildland Division, the TMFPD strategic plan captures the need to reduce NV Energy commitments to less than 50% of funding and work in the coming years.

Liberty Utilities approached TMFPD in a desire to partner in a similar fashion as NVE to implement fuels reduction work around Liberty infrastructure in the Verdi, I-80, and Lake Tahoe areas.

FISCAL IMPACT

This contract will be paid on a “time and materials basis,” which includes personnel and equipment costs estimated at up to \$300,000 a year. The final amount will vary depending on the services rendered. Liberty Utilities will pay all costs under this contract.

The fiscal year 2024-2025 (FY24/25) budget included estimated salaries, benefits, services, and supplies. Under this contract, the expenditures and revenues for salaries, benefits, and services and supplies are expected to remain within the approved budget without a need for augmentation for FY24/25.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of a Master Service Agreement with Liberty Utilities for the purpose of elimination of wildland fire-related hazardous fuels and standby services to be paid to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District on a “time and materials basis,” which includes personnel and equipment use costs in an estimated amount of up to \$300,000 per year effective January 1, 2024, to October 15, 2027.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with the staff’s recommendation, a possible motion could be:

“I move to approve a Master Service Agreement with Liberty Utilities for the purpose of elimination of wildland fire-related hazardous fuels and standby services to be paid to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District on a “time and materials basis,” which includes personnel and equipment use costs in an estimated amount of up to \$300,000 per year effective January 1, 2024, to October 15, 2027.”