

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 4, 2025

PRESENT:

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

**Catherine Smith, Chief Deputy County Clerk**  
**Richard Edwards, Fire Chief**  
**Jennifer Gustafson, Deputy District Attorney**

ABSENT:

**Mariluz Garcia, Commissioner**

The Board convened at 10:01 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, Chief Deputy County Clerk Cathy Smith called roll and the Board conducted the following business:

**25-179F      AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.**

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**25-180F      AGENDA ITEM 4 Announcements/Reports.**

Commissioner Andriola reminded everyone that Operation Green Light was taking place from November 4 through November 11 to support and show appreciation for all veterans. She encouraged people to help light the community up in green.

Commissioner Clark recognized Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Captain Jonathan Sieben for saving someone the prior week at the Elks Lodge. Commissioner Clark described how Captain Sieben, who was off duty, attended the dinner as a participant and saved a woman from choking. He said nobody else in the audience seemed to know how to perform the Heimlich maneuver, but Captain Sieben happened to be there and knew what to do. Commissioner Clark recommended that Captain Sieben be recognized with a commendation.

**CONSENT ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5D**

**25-181F      5A Recommendation to approve the meeting minutes from the October 7, 2025, Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting (All Commission Districts).**

- 25-182F**      **5B** Recommendation to approve freezing one unclassified/appointed Fire Deputy Chief of Fire Prevention position (#70010000) and approve a revised Fire Marshal class specification and position (#70008230) with the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District, with a salary range of \$144,560-\$184,496, with Regular Nevada Public Employees' Retirement System benefits (All Commission Districts).
- 25-183F**      **5C** Recommendation to approve a Notice of Cancellation for the regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners meeting on December 2, 2025, at 10 a.m. and reschedule the meeting for December 16, 2025, at 9 a.m. (All Commission Districts).
- 25-184F**      **5D** Recommendation to approve a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District ("District") and Truckee Meadows Firefighters Association IAFF Local 2487's Non-Supervisory, Supervisory and Wildland Units to memorialize an agreement between the parties related to the following collective bargaining agreement ("CBA") articles: (1) Article 58 -Specialty Pay (Non-Supervisory Unit) to increase the rate of specialty pay from 5% to 5.75% of base hourly rate, retroactive to July 1, 2024; (2) Article 50 - Seniority (Non-Supervisory Unit) to clarify station bidding seniority for Firefighter/EMTs and Firefighter Paramedics; (3) Article 33 - Medical Plan (all units) to specify that the District may offer medical plan options in addition to those required by the CBAs, which may include cost sharing and varying employer contribution levels, and to temporarily suspend OPEB contributions; (4) Article 21 - Working Out of Classification to temporarily lower the salary increase for working at a higher classification from 10% to 5% (Non-Supervisory & Wildland Units) and from 15% to 5% (Supervisory Unit); and (5) Article 14 - Promotions to temporarily suspend Officer Development School and testing for Captain positions (Non-Supervisory Unit) and Battalion Chief positions (Supervisory Unit). This MOU shall remain in effect until the sunset dates specified in the MOU or upon replacement by terms agreed to in successor negotiations, as applicable (All Commission Districts).

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

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Vice Chair Herman, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5D be approved.

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Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards observed that the presenter for Agenda Item 6 was not yet in attendance. He recommended moving on to Agenda Item 7, then returning to Agenda Item 6 when the presenter was ready. Chair Hill expressed her agreement with the recommendation.

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**25-185F      AGENDA ITEM 7 Awards and Recognition.**

Clinical Excellence Awards

Fire Captain Randy Gates  
Fire Engineer Anthony Schiro  
Firefighter Paramedic Blake Miller  
Firefighter Paramedic Ryan Rutter

Fire Engineer Mike Lambert  
Fire Engineer Geno Higman  
Firefighter Paramedic Jeff Bode  
Firefighter Paramedic John Williams

Captain David Curns  
Fire Engineer Travis Johnson  
Firefighter Paramedic Cameron Chappell  
Firefighter Paramedic Aaron Reynolds

Captain Noekeef Henry  
Fire Engineer Shad Vetrock  
Firefighter Paramedic Andrew Mann  
Firefighter Paramedic Brian Kellor  
Firefighter/EMT Austin Fotinos

Meritorious Conduct Commendation

Firefighter/EMT Juris Vaskovskis

Chief's Medal of Commendations

Chris Padgett, Pinnacle Yard and Home Solutions  
Bryan McPhail, Pinnacle Yard and Home Solutions

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Division Chief Joseph Schum announced that there were four Clinical Excellence Awards. He explained that the Clinical Excellence Award was given to TMFPD employees who, while on duty, were principally involved in exceptional clinical medicine that prevented a patient from succumbing to critical life threats during their care.

Division Chief Schum introduced the crew from Engine 40: Fire Captain Randy Gates, Fire Engineer Anthony Schiro, Firefighter Paramedic Blake Miller, and Firefighter Paramedic Ryan Rutter. He described an incident that occurred on May 19, 2025, during which Engine 40, located in Verdi/Mogul, along with Reno Engine 11, were dispatched to a cardiac arrest on the Truckee River Trail near Dorokstar Park. He reported that Engine 40 was initially cancelled because Engine 11 was closer, but Captain Gates continued to respond due to the location and his knowledge of the difficult-to-access area. Division Chief Schum revealed that both engine companies and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority Health (REMSA Health) arrived at the park and made their way approximately 400 yards down the trail to find cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) in progress by a bystander. The crew of Engine 40 applied the Lund University Cardiopulmonary Assist System (LUCAS) device, which provided mechanical compressions. The crews worked quickly and cooperatively to render appropriate aid, and collectively agreed to carry the patient with a mega mover to the ambulance while resuscitation continued with shocks and medications. The patient had a pulse at the ambulance. Two Firefighter Paramedics rode in the ambulance with REMSA Health and continued care as they transported the patient to the hospital. While at the hospital, the patient was removed from the LUCAS device and began breathing spontaneously. Division Chief Schum heard that the patient was walking and talking days later, but noted that recovery would be slow. He informed that with only one engine company, carrying the patient out while simultaneously providing care would have been immensely more difficult, if not impossible. He summarized that the scenario represented a wonderful outcome as a result of close cooperation and teamwork among multiple agencies. He presented the Clinical Excellence Award to Captain Randy Gates, Fire Engineer Anthony Schiro, Firefighter Paramedic Blake Miller, and Firefighter Paramedic Ryan Rutter.

Chair Hill remarked that the work of the crew was amazing.

Division Chief Schum recognized Fire Engineer Mike Lambert, Fire Engineer Geno Higman, Firefighter Paramedic Jeff Bode, and Firefighter Paramedic John Williams. He described that on June 4, 2025, Engine 33 responded to a medical call and, upon arrival, found the patient lying in the street near a sidewalk in cardiac arrest. A bystander was administering CPR, and crews were able to provide lifesaving care and achieve return of spontaneous circulation, which stabilized the patient's heart rate. The patient was loaded into the ambulance, transported with both Firefighters assisting, and delivered to the hospital with a pulse. Although the patient later passed away, Division Chief Schum expressed gratitude for the swift and compassionate actions of the first responders. He conveyed heartfelt condolences to the family and presented the Clinical Excellence Award to the crew. He noted that Acting Captain Mike Lambert was not in attendance, but Fire Engineer Geno Higman, Firefighter John Williams, and Firefighter Jeff Bode were present.

Chair Hill remarked on the difficulty of the job.

Division Chief Schum recognized Captain Noekeef Henry, Fire Engineer Shad Vetrock, Firefighter Paramedic Andrew Mann, Firefighter Paramedic Brian Kellor,

and Firefighter/EMT Austin Fotinos. He described that on July 17, 2025, Engine 46 and Medic 46 were dispatched to a call in Hungry Valley involving a self-inflicted gunshot. He disclosed that the crew was able to treat the patient and initiate transport in just six minutes after arriving on the scene, which he said was a truly impressive timeline given the nature of the injury and the environment that they faced. He elaborated that Firefighter Paramedics Kellor and Mann and Firefighter/EMT Fotinos initiated care measures during transport to Renown Medical Center in Medic 46. Captain Henry drove the ambulance, and three crew members worked as a team in the back. Fire Engineer Vetrock followed in Engine 46, and the patient was transitioned with a pulse to a higher level of care at the hospital. Division Chief Schum advised that the outcome was directly tied to the rapid assessment, focused interventions, and seamless execution of the TMFPD team. He presented the Clinical Excellence Award to the crews and recognized that Captain Henry and Firefighter Paramedic Mann were present in the meeting.

Chair Hill expressed her thanks to the crews.

Division Chief Schum recognized Captain David Curns, Fire Engineer Travis Johnson, Firefighter Paramedic Cameron Chappell, and Firefighter Paramedic Aaron Reynolds for the fourth occurrence of clinical excellence being highlighted. He acknowledged that not everybody could be present for each award presentation, but he noted Firefighter Paramedic Chappell was in attendance on behalf of the crew. Division Chief Schum described that on July 17, 2025, Engine 33 was dispatched to a reported cardiac arrest. Upon arrival, the crew was directed by a family member to the patient, and Division Chief Schum disclosed that an officer from the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) was performing chest compressions when the crew from Engine 33 arrived. The TMFPD crew immediately took over CPR and initiated Advanced Life Support (ALS) interventions. REMSA Health arrived shortly thereafter and assisted. Division Chief Schum revealed that, thanks to the training and quick action of the crew, the patient regained a pulse before being transported to the hospital. He advised that, unfortunately, the patient later passed away. Division Chief Schum expressed his gratitude for the swift and compassionate actions of all first responders and sent condolences to the family.

Chair Hill added her thanks.

Division Chief Schum reported that Firefighter/EMT Juris Vaskovskis was receiving a Meritorious Conduct Commendation, which was awarded to employees who performed a notable act or act of distinction in the course of duty that reflected integrity and devotion to duty or service to public safety. He described that on September 7, 2025, Engine 40 was in the Mogul/Verdi area when they were dispatched to a vehicle fire. The vehicle that was on fire was located on the second level of a car carrier, which was hauling eight passenger vehicles. As the engine arrived, the driver of the semi-truck was seen standing on the second level in the smoke, attempting to put out the fire with water bottles. Division Chief Schum revealed that the driver only spoke Russian, and the only firefighter who spoke Russian in the TMFPD happened to be Firefighter/EMT Vaskovskis, who was part of the Engine 40 crew. Firefighter/EMT Vaskovskis immediately stepped in, guided the driver to safety, gathered necessary documentation and information, and allowed the

rest of the crew to focus on putting out the fire and managing traffic on Interstate 80. Further damage was avoided because Firefighter/EMT Vaskovskis was able to overcome the language barrier. The fire did not result in any injuries or loss of life, and Firefighter Vaskovskis was being awarded the Meritorious Conduct Commendation because of his actions.

Chair Hill expressed her admiration.

Chief Schum explained that the next awards involved citizens. He invited Chris Padgett and Bryan McPhail to come forward to receive the Chief's Medal of Commendation, an award given to citizens who rendered initial and spontaneous valuable assistance to an incident that TMFPD responded to. He described that on the morning of September 15, 2025, Pinnacle Landscape owner Chris Padgett and his employee Bryan McPhail were working in the Dolores Drive area of Spanish Springs when they heard a loud pop followed by a significant amount of smoke near a residence. They located the smoke and found a vehicle on fire under a carport. He said the fire was actively threatening the home and an extension of the home. Mr. Padgett and Mr. McPhail jumped into action, obtained a towing strap, hooked it to the back of the vehicle, and pulled it out from under the carport. Once the vehicle was outside the carport, they began suppressing the fire with their portable extinguishers. Division Chief Schum informed that their actions reduced the threat of spread to the wildland and to the home until the arrival of Engine 46. Their quick action and bravery saved the home from catastrophic damage and allowed the fire to be contained to the vehicle of origin. For that reason, he recognized Mr. Padgett and Mr. McPhail with the Chief's Medal of Commendation. Division Chief Schum related that people often stood back and recorded incidents, but Mr. Padgett and Mr. McPhail stepped forward to take action, which prevented the TMFPD from needing to suppress a house fire in addition to the car fire. He thanked them.

Chair Hill remarked on the leadership demonstrated by Mr. Padgett and Mr. McPhail and thanked them.

Chief Schum remarked that although awards had just been presented, numerous actions occurred in the field daily that the TMFPD Board did not hear about. He commented that TMFPD staff were incredibly humble, but they were professionals, and all deserved recognition for what they did each day.

Chair Hill remarked that it would be ideal to have a TMFPD staff member in all neighborhoods throughout the community because of the incredible work they did. She thanked all of the individuals who were recognized.

**10:19 a.m.**     **The Board recessed for a photo.**

**10:21 a.m.**     **The Board reconvened with all members present.**

**25-186F**      **AGENDA ITEM 6**      Presentation by the National Weather Service regarding the Winter Weather Outlook and how it pertains to fire.

National Weather Service Senior Service Hydrologist Tim Bardsley conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: NWS Reno 2025-26 Winter Outlook; This Week...More Wind & Some Rain; Drought Status; Current Soil Moisture Conditions: Top 1 Meter of Soil; Avg. Soil Moisture (8", 20") In Eastern Sierra; Significant Fire Outlook; What Might Winter Have in Store...?; Every Year We Talk About ENSO; Winter 2025-26: Neutral to Weak La Niña; Typical La Niña Deviations from Average; ENSO Neutral Cases; Weak La Niña Cases; Nevada Northwestern; Weak La Niña's and Winter River Flooding...; Seasonal Outlook for Last Winter: JFM 2025; Official Outlook: November-December-January; Official Outlook: December-January-February; Predictability Spectrum; Watch/Warning/Advisory; Webpage Resources; Probabilistic Rain and Snow Totals; California-Nevada River Forecast Center; NWS Partner Emails, aka "The Freakout"; That's a Wrap. Any questions?.

Chair Hill welcomed Mr. Bardsley and remarked that Commissioners loved his presentations.

Mr. Bardsley thanked the Board for the invitation to present. He shared that his presentation would focus primarily on the weather outlook for the area in the upcoming winter. He showed his *This Week...More Wind & Some Rain* slide and described that it showed what was currently happening. He theorized that most people in attendance at the meeting likely already received his email briefings, and he invited them to contact him for access if they did not. He advised that there would likely be a lot of wind and some rain coming into the area later that day. His office issued a High Wind Warning starting at 1 a.m. the next morning and carrying through the day for the Reno/Carson area, Tahoe, and down through Mono County. He commented that, despite a good start to the water year, which began on October 1, high winds raised some fire concerns, especially in the southern end of Mono County. He reported that there was a 40 to 70 percent chance of damaging winds of 60 miles per hour (mph) or more, especially in wind-prone locations like the Interstate 580 and Highway 395 corridor. He revealed that there could be winds of up to 100 mph in some high-elevation areas.

Mr. Bardsley showed his *Drought Status* slide and described that most of the area was drought-free, especially in Northern Nevada. He pointed out that the yellow areas on his slide indicated areas categorized as abnormally dry, which was not a drought classification, but was close to it. He added that the area had shrunk in the last month due to the good start to the water year. He predicted that there could be additional shrinkage of the abnormally dry area, but he noted that the County was not in a drought. He indicated the right-hand side of his graphic, which showed that drought conditions were expected to persist in southern Nevada and parts of eastern Nevada.

Mr. Bardsley reviewed his *Current Soil Moisture Conditions: Top 1 Meter of Soil* slide and explained that the soil moisture conditions were presently favorable. He

mentioned that the top meter of soil was quite dry in Southern Nevada, but was near normal or slightly above normal in Washoe County. He displayed his *Avg. Soil Moisture (8", 20") In Eastern Sierra* slide, which he described as a different way to look at the data. He said the data came from the SNOwpackTELelemetryNetwork (SNOTEL), which he articulated was a series of stations throughout the mountains that measured snowpack, precipitation, and soil moisture. He said the black line on the graphic represented the current water year, the blue-green line showed the previous year, and the light green line showed the median for the sites. He observed that the area was not anywhere near record conditions, but was currently well above normal soil moisture in the mountains. He noted that the timing of the precipitation was ideal, as it was beneficial to receive some moisture before a snowpack was established, promoting efficient runoff in the springtime.

Mr. Bardsley showed his *Significant Fire Outlook* slide and described that the information in his graphics was received from the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) the prior day. He summarized that conditions were normal for the area, but he recommended monitoring strong wind events and any long, dry periods going forward. He recalled strong wind events in November from previous years, although he noted that the current moisture made conditions comparatively favorable. He reviewed his *What Might Winter Have in Store...?* slide and commented that NWS Reno did a good job predicting short-term weather, but it was more challenging to predict at a seasonal level because there were many variables in the area. He acknowledged that some parts of the Country had more skillful forecasts.

Mr. Bardsley displayed his *Every Year We Talk About ENSO* slide. He advised that ENSO referred to the El Niño Southern Oscillation Index, which he explained was measured by the temperature of the Pacific Ocean at the equator. He described that the blue colors shown on the graph on the right side of his slide represented temperatures that were cooler than normal, which impacted wind currents, ocean currents, and weather patterns. He pointed out the graph on the upper left of the screen, which depicted how ocean temperatures related to La Niña, which referred to cooler temperatures, El Niño, which referred to warmer temperatures, or neutral, which referred to normal conditions. He showed his *Winter 2025-26: Neutral to Weak La Niña* slide and related that the plot on the left of the graphic represented conditions over the past year. He said the data shown started in December 2024, which was part of a weak to moderate La Niña season. That year was followed by neutral conditions, and the current year showed weak La Niña conditions. He revealed that there was a 55 percent chance of weak La Niña conditions initially, followed by a shift into neutral conditions for the latter part of the winter. He displayed his *Typical La Niña Deviations From Average* slide and described that drier conditions in the South, wetter conditions in the Northwest, and colder conditions in Canada were typical for La Niña years. He cautioned that there was significant variability in Nevada, which negatively impacted the accuracy of predictions.

Mr. Bardsley reviewed his *ENSO Neutral Cases* slide and stated that precipitation was slightly reduced along the Sierras in neutral conditions, but increased going into Western Nevada. He advised that temperatures in ENSO neutral years were close to normal, although they could be somewhat cooler in the mountains and



Northwestern Nevada, then slightly warmer in central Nevada. He showed his *Weak La Niña Cases* slide and described that there was comparatively more precipitation in Northwestern Nevada in those years, and temperatures typically ranged from cool to normal. He explained that the predictions were based on an average derived from data of 12 weak La Niña years since 1950. He showed the *Nevada Northwestern* slide and opined that the graphic told a bigger story. He said it depicted winter precipitation from December through February, which were the prime winter months in the area. He pointed out the variability represented on the graph. He summarized that there were wet years and dry years, regardless of whether a season was classified as La Niña, El Niño, or neutral. He noted the large circle on the slide that indicated what was expected for the upcoming season.

Mr. Bardsley displayed his *Weak La Niña's and Winter River Flooding...* slide and acknowledged that although there was not much scientific evidence, there was a body of data that showed that the biggest flow years in the area historically occurred in weak La Niña and neutral years. He said that the graphic on the left represented peak flow for the Truckee River at Farad, and the graphic on the right showed peak flow at the West Fork of the Carson River at Woodfords. He pointed out that both graphics showed the highest flow years were on the line between weak La Niña and neutral years. He noted that there were also many normal years, many dry years, and six or eight outlying extremely high-flow years. He recommended attention be paid to the potential for flooding in the coming season.

Mr. Bardsley showed his *Seasonal Outlook for Last Winter: JFM 2025* slide and compared the observed temperatures from the prior year to the seasonal outlook for the year ahead. NWS Reno predicted that temperatures would be warm in the Southwest and cooler in the Northwest. He added that they expected conditions to be dry in Arizona and New Mexico and wet in Northern California and Oregon. He indicated the tiles at the top of his slide and said they represented the forecast, which he described as not horrible, but not conclusive. He related that his office joked about forecasts being too good to ignore but not quite good enough to use. He reported that many qualified people were working to refine the forecasts, but it was a challenge. He reviewed his *Official Outlook: November-December-January* slide and revealed what the Fire Prediction Center projected for the winter. He explained that there was a slight indication of wetter conditions in the northern third of Nevada, with equal chances for the rest of the State. He added that there was some indication of warmer conditions during the November through January period. He specified that the breakdown of probability for Reno showed 40 percent likelihood of warmer-than-normal conditions, 33 percent for normal, and 27 percent for cooler, which was overall a slight tilt towards the odds of a warm season. The precipitation probability charts provided no signal.

Mr. Bardsley reviewed his *Official Outlook: December-January-February* slide and said that it represented the core winter months. He pointed out that there were equal chances for above-normal, normal, and below-normal precipitation; there was no good indication of the likely amount of precipitation. He shared that there was a weak signal for warmer temperatures. When the data was broken down for the Reno area, it was

evident that there was only a very slight indication of warmer temperatures, but no good indication one way or the other about precipitation. He showed his *Predictability Spectrum* slide and said that broad patterns could be seen 7 to 14 days in advance, but not specific days. He recalled storms and flooding in 2017, which he stated NWS Reno talked about at least 10 days in advance. They were not able to specify that it would be a large flood event, but they knew enough to recommend vigilance. He explained that the details of whether a storm would be all wind, what the rain and snow elevation would be, whether there would be flood concerns, and whether significant snow load was expected would emerge two to five days in advance. He added that smaller-scale features could be predicted 6 to 48 hours in advance. He spoke about an event from a couple of years prior with a heavy wet system that transitioned from a flood risk to a large snow load and transportation problem in a very short period of time. He said those developments occurred less than six hours in advance and did not allow much time for people to plan. He explained that the picture on his slide was an example from the Thomas burn area in Southern California from a 2018 storm with debris flows from Montecito. The atmospheric river was predicted a week in advance, but the narrow cold front of rain that triggered the debris flows was not evident until four hours before the event.

Mr. Bardsley showed his *Watch/Warning/Advisory* slide and described that NWS Reno issued numerous watches, warnings, and advisories. He likened the terms *watch*, *warning*, and *advisory* to a *ready, set, go* framework. He said the *ready* phase was outlined in the NWS Reno briefing emails, which he hoped Commissioners already received. He explained that the email briefings provided a seven-day projection of potential hazards to life and property and indicated any prudent action planning. The second threat tier was a *watch*, which tended to be issued two to five days before an event. He elaborated that a *watch* was usually issued when there was a minimum of 50 percent confidence that an event was going to happen and be impactful. The top tier was an *advisory*, which was issued when an event was happening or about to happen. He described that, whether the *advisory* was for an inconvenience or a more impactful circumstance like flooding or snow, an *advisory* indicated that it was time to take action to protect life or property. He provided an analogy of a *taco watch* as compared to a *taco warning*. A *taco watch* would be issued when all the ingredients were assembled, like when all the factors needed for a snowstorm or flood were present, but the event was not yet happening. A *taco warning* would be issued when there were fully realized tacos.

Mr. Bardsley displayed his *Webpage Resources* slide and reviewed the resources available. He said the webpage shown allowed people to get semi-custom digital forecasts for any area at any time, and they could save or bookmark their customized parameters for future reference. He advised that there was a Quick Response (QR) code on the slide that people could scan for access to the webpage, or they could search for *NWS IDSS forecast* to find it. He showed the *Probabilistic Rain and Snow Totals* slide and said it was another webpage that included information and a probabilistic forecast of snowfall amounts. It also provided snowfall totals by location. He noted that it was a different page hosted by NWS partners at the Weather Prediction Center. He showed the *California-Nevada River Forecast Center* slide and informed that it was from an NWS partner in Sacramento that did hydrologic forecasting. He described it as a great tool and a well-

calibrated model that saw attention from a hydrologist every day. He said the plots were updated twice a day during the winter, but typically only once a day in the off-season. He elaborated that probabilistic forecasts utilized a range in potential precipitation and provided an array of probabilities instead of a single deterministic number. He noted that it did not account for hydrologic uncertainty, and thus, some variability remained in the probabilistic forecast.

Mr. Bardsley showed the *NWS Partner Emails, aka "The Freakout"* slide, and said it provided a good example of the format of his emails. He said the emails highlighted the highest risk through the next week and gave general statements about the week beyond that. He pointed out that the information was now broken down by region, where it used to be grouped by hazard. He reported a transition away from an email server and to NWS Connect. He advised that if people were no longer getting his emails, he would need to get them connected through the new service. He related that people often inquired about an application (app), and he said that, for various reasons, the NWS did not have an app. He revealed that there was an individual with the NWS who independently developed an app called Everything Weather. He noted that Everything Weather used NWS data and allowed people to get alerts of watches, warnings, and advisories. He mentioned that the data source used for some apps was unclear.

Mr. Bardsley showed his *That's a Wrap. Any questions?* slide. He thanked the BCC and offered to answer any questions.

Chair Hill expressed her thanks. She said the information was all very helpful and informative.

Vice Chair Herman stated her thanks.

Commissioner Andriola expressed her thanks. She remarked that Mr. Bardsley and his coworkers had a great sense of humor, and she appreciated how that was woven into his slides. Mr. Bardsley thanked Commissioner Andriola and said he and his coworkers liked to maintain a sense of humor about their work.

Commissioner Clark thanked Mr. Bardsley for his report.

Chair Hill expressed her appreciation for Mr. Bardsley's work, especially in light of the government shutdown. She thanked him for continuing to keep the community informed, and she hoped he was getting the support he needed. Mr. Bardsley said he would pass her sentiments along to the rest of his crew.

**25-187F      AGENDA ITEM 8 International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2487 Report.**

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487 President James Clouser reported that over \$60,000 was raised during the Reno Rodeo for the Truckee Meadows Firefighter Foundation (TMFF). He stated that the partnership

continued to grow and was beneficial to everyone involved. He informed that a Christmas toy drive was underway, and people could contribute by dropping off new, unwrapped toys in their original packaging at any Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue (TMFR) station through December 15. He advised that a special event called *Fill the Engine* would be held at the Spanish Springs Walmart on November 29 and 30. He shared that donated toys would be given to area families who could use some extra joy in their lives during Christmas

Mr. Clouser disclosed that the TMFF undertook some meaningful work with Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards, during which all parties remained cognizant of the financial picture. He stated his appreciation to Chief Edwards for the productive collaboration, which he predicted would continue to grow. Mr. Clouser revealed that it was his last meeting. He elaborated that he would not run for IAFF Local 2487 President again because he planned to retire in 2026. He expressed that working with the Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) was a pleasure and a privilege. He said he had learned a lot while working with each Commissioner and saw a tremendous amount of passion and dedication from them. He disclosed that he understood and appreciated the sacrifices the Commissioners made, and he theorized that their differences of opinion generated creative solutions.

Chair Hill thanked Mr. Clouser for his service, leadership, and collaboration with the BOFC.

**25-188F      AGENDA ITEM 9 Fire Chief Report**

A. Informational briefing on operational matters and activities for the month of October 2025 and November 2025 to include the following items:

1. Capital Projects Construction Update
2. Capital Projects Apparatus Update

B. Monthly Response Statistics for September 2025

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards advised that construction projects continued District-wide. He reported that Station 35 was closed for the winter, which allowed work to start on the inside of the station. He said that project was still on track to be done sometime in the late spring or early summer of 2026. He informed that Station 37 was complete and the final inspection would be conducted on November 5. He expressed his excitement and conveyed that there would be a ribbon-cutting on November 12 at 10 a.m. for the reopening of that firehouse. He communicated that the TMFPD took delivery of a new Type 3 fire engine, which he disclosed was on-site for the meeting and available to view. He hoped to show the apparatus to the Commissioners and get a photo after the meeting. He reported that calls decreased by 207 in September, which he attributed to cooler temperatures and increased precipitation. He added that fires decreased by more than 90 percent, and there was a total of 21 fires in September.

**25-189F**      **AGENDA ITEM 10** Financial presentation on the status of the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 General Fund & Capital Project Funds as of September 30, 2025.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Chief Fiscal Officer (CFO) Cynthia Vance conducted a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed slides with the following titles: Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District General Fund; General Revenues; General Expenditures; Questions?.

Ms. Vance showed her *General Revenues* slide and reminded the Commissioners that the figures shown for September 30 were not comprehensive due to the timing of Board of Fire Commissioners (BOFC) meetings. She advised that the figures shown at the next BOFC meeting would include revenues through November. She elaborated that revenues typically tracked slower than expenditures because service charge revenues and tax revenues, including consolidated tax (c-tax) revenues, were received several months after the events occurred. She noted that the first c-tax payment was received in September, and revenues for services were typically received in July and August for services performed during the prior fiscal year (FY). She informed that taxes were at about 36.3 percent of budget, compared to an average of about 34.8 percent for the first quarter. Although the figure was slightly above budget, she cautioned that it only reflected the first of four quarters, and what she had seen so far for October revenues was lower.

Chair Hill pointed out potential anomalies due to a new system being used by the State.

Ms. Vance advised that property tax revenue was not impacted by the changes at the State level, but c-taxes were. She explained that, due to the problems with the system at the State level, the County received a comparatively small payment of around \$840,000 in September. She understood that the difference would be made up, and she said the October payment was much larger. She revealed that although the TMFPD was running under budget on c-tax for a time, they would be above budget when the next c-tax payment was taken into account. She stated that her next presentation would include those updates, and she expected payments from the State to be more consistent moving forward. She shared that the State was taking about 45 days to reconcile c-tax, and the payments should be more accurate in the future than they were towards the end of the prior FY. Ms. Vance summarized that total revenues were slightly under budget, primarily due to timing.

Ms. Vance showed her *General Expenditures* slide and described that expenditures were realized more immediately than revenues. She disclosed that the TMFPD often had expenditures for which they had not yet received revenues. She noted that the TMFPD fund balance would be addressed in the next agenda item. She said salaries and wages were slightly above budget, but employee benefits were slightly below; overall, expenditures were aligned with the budget. She recalled that a Resolution with some changes was adopted as part of the Consent Agenda, and she said she would incorporate those changes into her budget presentation the following month. Ms. Vance advised that

the capital projects budget and detailed budget by department were included in the backup materials for Agenda Item 10. She mentioned that the capital projects budget was not consistent, which was expected and was not a matter of timing. She echoed TMFPD Fire Chief Richard Edwards's statement about Station 37 being near completion.

Chair Hill thanked Ms. Vance for keeping the BOFC informed. She expressed her appreciation to Ms. Vance for her diligence and for making sure available funds were aligned with expenditure and cash flow.

### **BLOCK VOTE – 11 THROUGH 15**

**25-190F** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Recommendation to approve a Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Ending Fund Balance Board Policy (P405.0B), establishing the level of reserves necessary for ensuring the District's fiscal stability, maintaining the District's creditworthiness, and adequately providing for economic uncertainties and other financial needs. The Board Policy sets the District's goal to achieve and maintain an unassigned fund balance in the general fund at fiscal year-end of not less than 17% and not more than 20% of budgeted annual expenditures (All Commission Districts).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 11 be approved.

**25-191F** **AGENDA ITEM 12** Recommendation to accept a subaward grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the Nevada Division of Forestry to Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District in the amount of up to \$197,125 [\$38,000 match required] to fund hazard fuels mitigation on property owned by the Arrowcreek HOA and the Club at Arrowcreek, with an expiration date of September 30, 2028 (Commission District 2).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 12 be accepted.

**25-192F** **AGENDA ITEM 13** Recommendation to accept a subaward grant from the U.S. Forest Service through the Nevada Division of Forestry to the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District in the amount of up to \$284,220 [\$52,000 match required] to fund hazard fuels mitigation on property owned by the Arrowcreek HOA and the Club at Arrowcreek, with an expiration date of September 30, 2028 (Commission District 2).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 13 be accepted.

**25-193F**      **AGENDA ITEM 14** Recommendation to accept a grant award from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation valued at \$39,120.00 for eighty (80) pairs of Globe Onyx structural firefighting boots (All Commission Districts).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 14 be accepted.

**25-194F**      **AGENDA ITEM 15** Recommendation to approve a Health Benefits Program for District employees, dependents, and retirees for an estimated total cost to the District of \$2.7 million; and authorize the Chair of the Board of Fire Commissioners to execute all insurance contracts and service agreements pertinent to the approved Health Benefits Program for calendar year 2026 (All Commission Districts).

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Vice Chair Herman, seconded by Chair Hill, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote, with Commissioner Garcia absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 15 be approved and authorized.

**25-195F**      **AGENDA ITEM 16** Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Chief Richard Edwards expressed his thanks to the Arrowcreek Homeowners Association, the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service (USDAFS) for their grants and their partnership. He said the grants would make a big difference in the TMFPD fuels reduction programs in that area. He thanked the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487. He elaborated that tough decisions were being made in the TMFPD to live more within their fiscal means, which he thought started with partnership and everyone coming together to recognize the significant challenges that would be faced on the road ahead. He stated his appreciation for the partnership and collaboration, which he believed would enable the TMFPD to stay fiscally solvent as they moved into the future. He announced that open burning began on November 3 and would continue through April 3 with the exception of any non-burn days that were determined to be high-risk due to projected weather and winds. He suggested that burning was a good opportunity for people to remove green waste and reduce fuel loading across

the District. He encouraged people to visit the TMFPD website to obtain a permit and burn when it was allowed. He noted that Veterans Day would be observed the next Tuesday, and he expressed his appreciation to all veterans for their service. He pointed out that many TMFPD staff members were veterans.

Commissioner Andriola echoed the thanks Chief Edwards expressed to veterans. She hoped that it might be possible to have all TMFPD stations lit in green the following year for Operation Green Light. She noted that Operation Green Light was started by the National Association of Counties (NACo), and she appreciated that Washoe County was embracing it. She thought there might be an opportunity for the County to show support for veterans by increasing participation in future years.

Chair Hill announced that the Nevada Peer Support Network, which helped with all major fires in the County, had open house opportunities for people to learn more about their work. She stated their address as 4583 Longley Lane, and said open houses were scheduled from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on November 11, 13, and 15.

**25-196F      AGENDA ITEM 17 Public Comment.**

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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**10:58 a.m.** There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned without objection.

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**ALEXIS HILL**, Chair  
Truckee Meadows Fire  
Protection District

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared By:  
Heather Gage, Deputy County Clerk*