



MEMORANDUM

February 6, 2026

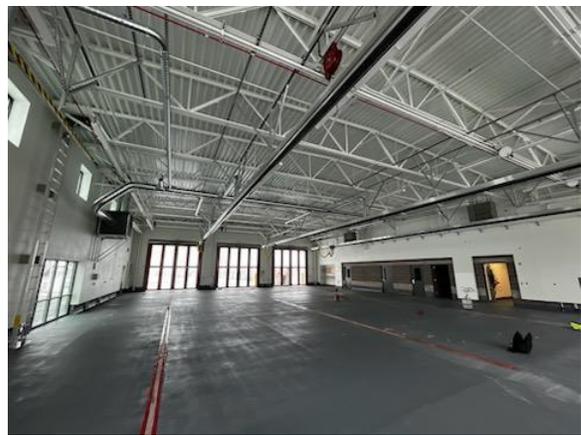
To: Board of Fire Commissioners
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

Fm: Richard J. Edwards, Fire Chief

Re: Chief's Report for the March 3, 2026 Meeting

1. Capital Projects Construction Update

Fire Station 35 near Reno Technology Parkway is on schedule to be completed in May of this year.



2. WCSO Drones

The District has been working closely with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) to support their Drone First Responder Program. The purpose is to provide first responders a "bird's-eye-view" of an incident prior to the arrival of ground resources. While the program is fully managed and funded by WCSO, we have been helping establish guidelines for how the program interacts with our fire crews and federal wildland firefighting partners.

Currently, a drone platform at Fire Station 45 in Sun Valley has been successfully responding to incidents, and another in Spanish Springs is just now coming online. As the Sheriff's Office works to expand their program in other neighborhoods, they may house similar installations at our fire stations throughout the District. Although several communities throughout the United States have similar programs, our relationship with WCSO provides a unique collaboration that can benefit both agencies and ultimately the service we each provide to the public.

3. Regional Fire Study Update

During the 83rd Session of the Nevada Legislature, Senate Bill 319 required Washoe County, the City of Reno, and the City of Sparks to jointly establish a board by interlocal agreement to study options for the delivery of regional fire and emergency services.

In December, following a comprehensive Request for Proposal process, the study board selected Emergent Global Solutions (EGS) to conduct an independent regional fire and EMS feasibility, efficiency, and service enhancement study.

The study board last met on February 2, 2026, when the Fire Chiefs from Sparks and Reno joined me for a joint presentation on the history of regional fire service delivery and governance in Washoe County. EGS were also present at the meeting and provided an introduction and an overview of their approach to conducting the study.

On February 13, 2026, Chief Ketring and I held our introductory agency meeting with EGS and began collecting internal documents and data to support the study. EGS will moderate a public meeting on March 19, 2026, to provide an overview of the comprehensive project and outline how the public can share feedback. This project will be a significant lift for each of the agencies, with a final report due back to the regional study board by November 2026.

4. Washoe County Funding

We have been meeting with County Manager Thomas regarding the Gerlach and Red Rock Volunteer fire stations north of Township 22 and the current funding mechanisms that support their operations and associated TMFPD responses. In December, we submitted a proposal to Manager Thomas to bring all volunteer fire stations under the umbrella of TMFPD, including training, facility maintenance, and apparatus maintenance. This proposed transition not only enhances operational consistency and training standards but also removes the County's responsibility for managing these volunteer stations, their personnel, and their equipment. This change will improve efficiency and optimize the use of limited resources.

Under the proposal, the District seeks \$1.3 million annually to provide these services, including managing the existing Washoe County ambulance contract in Gerlach. This funding will replace the current cost allocation formula. The specific terms of the agreement are still being finalized and will be memorialized in an amended interlocal agreement between Washoe County and the District. We will present the agreement to the Board of Fire Commissioners for final approval before the end of the fiscal year.

5. CAB Reporting Update

Recently, we were challenged to streamline our fire department reports at the CAB meetings across the County. We want to acknowledge and thank Division Chief Schum and Administrative Support Specialist Krystal Shaver for reformatting our information and creating a one-page handout. This new document consolidates all of our reporting into a single page that can be incorporated into the agendas and provided as a handout to attendees. It also helps ensure the community receives an update from the District, even when we cannot be there in person, as sometimes happens when we are committed to emergency responses. This new format delivers our message concisely, ensuring plenty of time for other CAB business and presentations. We are grateful for the creativity and ingenuity of Krystal and Chief Schum.