



MEMORANDUM

December 3, 2024

To: Board of Fire Commissioners,
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

Fm: Charles A. Moore, Fire Chief

Re: Chief's Report for the December 2024 Meeting

1. Automatic Aid Update

Staff will present an update on the implementation of automatic aid with the City of Reno and report on a life-saving intervention resulting from the agreement.

2. Capital Projects

I expect the demolition of the old apparatus bay at Hidden Valley to begin shortly. The equipment and the structural engine have been relocated to the RV-sized bay in the residential portion.

The agreement for construction and a final Memorandum of Understanding between the District and Apple are expected to be on the January agenda for your consideration, in addition to the construction agreement. Construction of the Apple Fire Station can commence shortly after those approvals are complete.

I continue to explore funding opportunities for the Washoe Valley Fire Station.

3. Fire Chief Recruitment Update

The Board may recall the approval of Bob Murray & Associates as the executive search firm that will conduct the executive recruitment for the Fire Chief. The contract has been signed, and I will meet with the recruiter on December 6 to refine the timeline. I will present the timeline at the December meeting.

4. Strategic Plan Update

The following information is a condensed summary and progress report of projects that tie to the FY 25-27 Strategic Plan. The goals and initiative pages from the plan are attached.

Goal 1. Serving the Needs of Our Community.

Initiative: Identify and define closest appropriate responses for critical incidents:
Improved Aid Agreements

1a. Automatic aid protocols are now in place with Sparks and Reno. These aid agreements have already proven themselves to be live saving. Hexagon CAD development will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of these agreements.

1b. Common Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) continues to be developed. Automatic aid protocols are now in place with Sparks and Reno. Hexagon CAD development and implementation will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of these agreements.

1c. Changes to the I-80 corridor area response with Storey County, North Lyon County, and Pyramid Lake are in development and will be established once the Apple Fire Station is completed. Carson Fire and TMFPD re-evaluated and adjusted automatic aid response approximately 1 year ago. The changes continue to run seamlessly between the organizations. Updates will be made to the automatic aid agreement with the City of Reno once the 90-day trial period is completed

Initiative: Regional operations practices standardized with all agencies at the table.

1c. We have enhanced our relationship with the Sparks Fire Department in mutual support for each other on large scale incidents. During several fires this year we mentored one of their newest employees on how to perform direct incident support activities. This effort paid off on the Callahan Fire, where the Sparks logistic coordinator stepped in to cover all of these necessary duties while our logistics coordinator was out of town. You will also see an item on the agenda for selling Sparks Fire Department a forklift. This is a direct result of increasing our collaboration with the Sparks Fire Department, beyond just nominal mutual aid.

1.d In collaboration with regional mutual aid partners, we are working to improve regional operational and training practices that also include policies and procedures. Due to the busier fire season locally, efforts have been delayed. The working groups have started meeting again as the project is approximately 20% completed.

Initiative: Special Responses and Operations.

1.e The regional hazardous materials team (Triad) have increased capability with the addition of Chief Klaich of Sparks Fire to oversee training operations. This jointly funded position will correct structural deficiencies identified in recent joint training exercises.

1f. Internal Dispatch: Fire Station Alerting System (FSAS) is fully implemented and in maintenance phase, Dispatch processing times are being evaluated with assistance of REMSA Dispatch. Conversations continue about the standards we have adopted. TM is working on clarifying this standard and improving our ability to evaluate times against the standards.

Goal 2. Build a Safer, More Resilient Community and Workforce.

Initiative: *HR Leadership. Recruitment Platforms. Enhance and expand outreach/recruitment platforms to increase the number of qualified and diverse candidates.*

2a. Human Resources has increased its presence at career fairs and expanded our use of diverse job boards. We're also actively developing partnerships with local schools, athletic coaches, and the military to diversify our candidate pool further. Finally, our new "Attract" recruitment tool provides a transparent look at our hiring process, increasing accessibility for all. We are in discussions with a recruiting firm that will help increase the volume and diversity of applicants for the district.

Goal 3. Creating a Sustainable Future for Truckee Meadows FPD.

Initiative: *Solar Funding and Development.*

3a. Solar Grants: The District was awarded one solar grant for Fire Station 45 in Sun Valley. We are finishing the RFP selection process and, weather permitting, should be able to initiate the project by the first of the year. We have been notified of a possible award for two additional projects. We are awaiting the official notifications from the State of Nevada.

Initiative: *Five Year Financial Plan and Capital Plan*

3b. The forecast is complete, and it will be presented to the Board in January.

Initiative: *Financial Diversity*

3c. Staff are continuing to develop non-traditional funding sources, such as GEMT, fuels reduction contracts, and grant funding. We are engaged in the identification of funding sources for Washoe Valley Fire Station.

3d. Between our previous Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) applications coming to fruition, Brett Taylor's new BLM Grant of roughly 1.5 million, the annual increase in internal TM funding of roughly \$300,000, new HMGP funding from 2024 approved Fire Management Assistance Grants (roughly seven million in applications), our Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) award of roughly \$800,000, Shared Stewardship application (roughly \$250,000), our Contract with the United States Forest Service (roughly two million), and participation in the national response model (off district fire assignments), the Division is optimistic that NVE will comprise less than half of the work load of the wildland division.