

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

TUESDAY

10:00 A.M.

OCTOBER 1, 2024

PRESENT:

**Alexis Hill, Chair**  
**Jeanne Herman, Vice Chair**  
**Mariluz Garcia, Commissioner**  
**Clara Andriola, Commissioner**

**Catherine Smith, Chief Deputy County Clerk**  
**Dale Way, Fire Deputy Chief**  
**Michael Large, Deputy District Attorney**

ABSENT:

**Michael Clark, Commissioner**

The Board convened at 10:00 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:

**24-127F      AGENDA ITEM 3 Public Comment.**

Mr. Brett Porter introduced himself as a Fire Captain for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD). He stated he did not speak as a representative of the TMFPD but as the company officer in charge of Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Doerr. He said those in his line of work often referred to their position as a job, profession, or calling, and Mr. Doerr was one of those rare individuals who saw it as an opportunity to serve. Mr. Porter reported that Mr. Doerr was an Eagle Scout, a member of the peer support team, the Truckee Meadows Firefighter Foundation President, and the Nevada State Director of the Firefighter Cancer Support Network, all of which were selfless, unpaid positions. Mr. Porter remarked about Mr. Doerr's incredible work ethic and the kindness and care he showed his patients as a paramedic. Mr. Porter stated he had worked with some outstanding humans while in his position, but he did not know if he had ever met someone who cared for their fellow firefighters, community, and family like Mr. Doerr. He pointed out that Mr. Doerr would be awarded a lifesaving medal later in the meeting for his actions while off-duty when he came upon a vehicle that had struck a building. Mr. Doerr went to the wreckage and found an elderly man being pulled from the car. Mr. Doerr first checked the victim for a pulse, which he found, and then secured the vehicle. When Mr. Doerr returned to check on the patient, he found him without a pulse and called for bystanders to locate an automated external defibrillator (AED) and coached another individual in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The subject was shocked by the AED and regained consciousness before the TMFPD and emergency medical services (EMS) arrived. Mr. Porter reported that the crash victim was discharged from the hospital a few days later. He

explained that when Mr. Doerr happened upon the car wreck, he was on his way to volunteer his own time to assist an elderly couple with sifting through the wreckage of their home, which the Davis Fire destroyed. Mr. Porter could confidently say that he, as a Captain, the TMFPD as an agency, and Washoe County as a community were lucky to have Mr. Doerr serving them.

**24-128F**      **AGENDA ITEM 4** Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Deputy Chief Dale Way announced dates and locations for green waste collection. He highlighted the cancellation notice in the Consent Agenda and explained that the November 5, 2024, Board of Fire Commissioners' (BOFC) meeting would be rescheduled to November 12, 2024, due to Election Day.

Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Michael Large disclosed an issue with posting the agenda on the TMFPD's website. He said that pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 241.020, the agenda was posted in a physical location and digitally on both the TMFPD and the State's websites the Wednesday before the meeting. He remarked that the TMFPD website went down over the weekend, and the agenda was no longer available. According to NRS 241.020 subsection 4A and 4B, he advised that the BOFC meeting could still proceed without any open meeting law (OML) violations.

Chair Hill congratulated Commissioner Andriola, who, during the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) meeting, was unanimously elected to be the Vice President and would ascend to the NACO presidency in 2027. She mentioned an upcoming event on October 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Reno Aces Ballpark to celebrate the local heroes who supported the community during the Davis Fire. She remarked the event was free to the public and would be concluded by a fireworks show sponsored by NV Energy. She noted the event was also an opportunity to give back to the nonprofits that supported firefighters and the community during the Davis Fire.

**CONSENT ITEMS – 5A THROUGH 5D**

**24-129F**      **5A** Recommendation to approve the meeting minutes from September 3, 2024, Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting.

**24-130F**      **5B** Recommendation to approve a new position for a newly created Logistics Supply Specialist job classification, with a salary range of \$55,515 - \$75,108 with Regular Nevada Public Employees' Retirement System with Regular NV PERS. (All Commission Districts)

**24-131F**      **5C** Recommendation to retroactively approve a Sub-Grant Agreement effective from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025, between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and Washoe County to provide for the purchase of one Toxic Medic Kit retroactive in the amount of \$5,317.30 as part of the 2025 Nevada State Emergency Response Commission, Operations,

Planning, Training and Equipment Grant, passed through from Washoe County. If approved, authorize the Fire Chief or his designee to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts)

- 24-132F** **5D** Recommendation to approve a Notice of Cancellation for the regularly scheduled Board of Fire Commissioners meeting on November 5, 2024, at 10 a.m. and reschedule the meeting for November 12, 2024, at 9 a.m. (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 Clark being absent, it was ordered that Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5D be approved. Any and all Resolutions or Interlocal Agreements pertinent to Consent Agenda Items 5A through 5D are attached hereto and made a part of the minutes thereof.

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

- 24-133F** **AGENDA ITEM 6** Fire Prevention Month Proclamation

Commissioner Andriola read the proclamation.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark being absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be adopted.

- 24-134F** **AGENDA ITEM 7** Awards and Recognition.

Life-Saving Medal:

Captain Noekeef Henry  
Engineer Brian Paquette  
Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Bizzack

Chief's Medal of Commendation:

Washoe County Resident Josh Kirkorian  
Washoe County Resident Jennifer Kirkorian

Life-Saving Medal:

Captain Gregory Lompa  
Engineer Jonathan Sieben  
Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Nuthall

Life-Saving Medal:  
Engineer Nikolaus Raw  
Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Mann

Life-Saving Medal:  
Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Doerr

Meritorious Conduct Award:  
Engineer Jonathan Sieben

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Deputy Chief Dale Way introduced Mr. Josh Kirkorian and Ms. Jennifer Kirkorian. He stated on September 20, 2024, Mr. and Ms. Kirkorian found an individual who had been out for a bicycle ride and was suffering a cardiac medical event. The couple performed life-saving cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) until a TMFPD crew arrived on the scene. He declared that the TMFPD wanted to award Mr. and Ms. Kirkorian the Chief's Medal of Commendation.

Deputy Chief Way introduced Captain Noekeef Henry, Engineer Brian Paquette, and Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Bizzack, the crew of Engine 36, who arrived on the scene where Mr. and Ms. Kirkorian were working on the patient. The crew took over care until the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) transferred the patient to the hospital. He declared the TMFPD crew successfully maintained the patient's pulse and spontaneous respiration throughout the call.

Deputy Chief Way called Captain Gregory Lompa, Engineer Jonathan Sieben, and Firefighter/Paramedic Matthew Nuthall to the podium. He declared that the crew witnessed a sudden cardiac arrest while on a call for a fall. He said on November 5, 2023, the crew arrived at a low-priority call for a fall in a residence. The crew was performing assessments when the patient suddenly went into cardiac arrest. The crew was able to provide immediate CPR and defibrillation, which resulted in the return of spontaneous circulation. He remarked that the patient was fully alert and able to answer questions when transported. He asserted that the quick action and care provided by the crew saved that citizen's life.

Deputy Chief Way introduced Engineer Nikolaus Raw and Firefighter/Paramedic Andrew Mann. He declared that the crew witnessed a sudden cardiac arrest while on a call for chest pain. On September 26, 2023, the crew identified the need for rapid transport and treatment to save a patient's life. The patient was having chest pain in their driveway and called 9-1-1. Upon arrival, the patient was awake and breathing, complaining of not feeling well. REMSA arrived shortly after the TMFPD crew, and Engineer Raw noticed the patient had an irregular pulse. Once he moved the patient onto the gurney and into the ambulance, the patient went into cardiac arrest. The REMSA team transported both crew members to assist the patient to the hospital. He remarked that they had regained the patient's pulse upon the crew's arrival at the hospital. He asserted that the team's skills and quick action saved the patient's life.

Deputy Chief Way called on Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Doerr. He stated that while off-duty on September 18, 2024, Mr. Doerr was driving and noticed a vehicle had crashed into a building. Mr. Doerr saw light smoke coming from the building, and several people were filming and talking on their phones near the incident. After witnessing several people pull a man from the vehicle, Mr. Doerr checked the patient and found a faint pulse. Mr. Doerr then secured the car and went back to check on the patient, where he found the patient to be pulseless and apneic. Mr. Doerr called for an automatic external defibrillator (AED), which a bystander provided. The patient was shocked by the AED, and CPR was administered, after which the patient was revived. The Reno Fire Department (RFD) and REMSA arrived on the scene, and Mr. Doerr passed off patient care to the RFD and REMSA. He recalled Fire Captain Brett Porter's earlier comment, which highlighted the services Mr. Doerr was on his way to perform when he stopped to assist with the emergency.

Deputy Chief Way declared that the last award was for meritorious conduct regarding the Guns and Hoses golf tournament. He stated that Engineer Jonathan Sieben was instrumental in coordinating the annual event between the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) and the TMFPD. He said the tournament had raised over \$300,000 for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation (NNCCF). The money helped numerous families and victims of cancer who might not have had any other resources to tap into. Mr. Sieben and his wife purchased a significant portion of the raffle items to ensure every year's donation to the NNCCF was greater than the last. He opined Mr. Sieben's notable acts came with professionalism, gratitude, and the highest levels of integrity while representing the TMFPD.

**10:23 a.m.**    **The Board recessed.**

**10:29 a.m.**    **The Board reconvened.**

**24-135F**    **AGENDA ITEM 8** International Association of Fire Fighters Local 2487 Report.

International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) Local 2487 President James Clouser declared that October was Breast Cancer Awareness Month. He stressed the importance of early detection and frequent screening and asked women to take care of themselves. He expressed his appreciation and thanks to the Washoe Valley volunteers for the appreciation barbeque they held the previous weekend. He thought there were always a lot of ideas for prevention in the wake of a tragedy. He believed the east side of Washoe Lake was terrified of the possibility of a devastating fire. He recalled discussions of prevention ideas, especially for homeowners who could not physically maintain their yards or create defensible space. He said the staff's solution was to garner volunteers from organizations such as the Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC), University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) fraternities, high school students who wanted to bolster college applications, and the Boy Scouts of America. He wanted to launch a volunteer program as quickly as possible before the weather got too cold, and people forgot about the tragedy of the Davis Fire. He mentioned that he had lunch with Mr. Dan Tapia, the President of the Reno

Firefighters Association, where they discussed their excitement about the auto-aid item being heard later in the meeting.

Chair Hill opined that recruiting volunteers for a day of community service was a great idea and told Mr. Clouser to contact the Board if there was anything they could do to help.

Commissioner Andriola thought volunteers could also be recruited from the Rotary Club, of which she was a former member. She believed many organizations in the community would be interested in volunteer work.

**24-136F**      **AGENDA ITEM 9** Fire Chief Report

1. Status of Hidden Valley Fire Station Project
2. Ladder Truck Acquisition
3. Update on the Fire Chief Selection Process
4. Perimeter Software Use Report on the Davis Fire
5. Homeowner's Insurance Issues in Northern Nevada
6. Grant Award Notification

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Deputy Chief Dale Way spoke about the status of the Hidden Valley Fire Station Project. He remarked that the state investment bank generally held two meetings in their approval process. The TMFPD received its first approval and planned to bring the contract before the Board during the November Board of Fire Commissioners' (BOFC) meeting. He said the state investment bank would have its second meeting on November 18, 2024, where the TMFPD item would be heard for final approval. He hoped construction on the station could begin on November 19, 2024.

Deputy Chief Way gave an update on the fire chief selection process. He said the TMFPD received three of the eight requests for qualifications (RFQ) that were sent out. Washoe County Human Resources (HR) planned to assist with the recruitment and create a matrix of the RFQs to bring before the BOFC.

Emergency Management Administrator Kelly Echeverria stated that Fire Chief Charles Moore asked her to speak to the Board about the success Emergency Management experienced with the Perimeter platform during the Davis Fire. She expressed appreciation for the TMFPD, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), and all the other organizations that assisted with the fire for how quickly and effectively they could work with Emergency Management. She said that the WCSO relayed that over three days, 2,600 homes were contacted by 90 WCSO members. She opined how quickly the WCSO could go door-to-door in such a spread-out neighborhood was amazing. She said the emergency shelter council consisted of the Human Services Agency (HSA), the American Red Cross, Northern Nevada Public Health (NNPH), Washoe County Regional Animal Services (WCRAS), the WCSO, Emergency Management, the Washoe County School District (WCSD), and any other organizations needed to run a mass-care operation. She

remarked that due to the processes and procedures in place, the council could rapidly designate an emergency evacuation point at the South Valleys Library and then pivot to the Washoe County Senior Center. She declared that it was no small feat, and it took a lot of partners coming together to make emergency locations functional and supportive of the community. She asserted that because Emergency Management planned, trained, exercised, and built relationships when times were good, they could see successful evacuation stories like the Davis Fire, where no one was injured, and no lives were lost. She stated that the Perimeter platform agency had been a phenomenal partner and checked in with Emergency Management daily to see what they needed. She reported over 2.4 million total web page visits with 309,000 unique users for the Perimeter platform's map from September 6 through September 16. She declared there were no delays in relaying information to first responders or the public. She said that the success of using Perimeter to communicate life safety information to the public and amongst first responders impressed people in the emergency management community and made them take note of the map as a successful tool to use when sharing lifesaving information. She asserted that she was proud to partner with Perimeter. She reminded the Board that Washoe County piloted the Perimeter platform for Douglas County, Carson County, and Storey County, and it planned to pilot the program for Lyon County, Persimmon County, Elko County, Humboldt County, and Nye County.

Chair Hill stated that the Commissioners regularly heard from the public that they wanted more information. She knew that was discussed throughout the emergency process surrounding the Davis Fire. She wondered if Perimeter did more than what the County was presently using the software for and if there was any way to look at other applications to ensure people felt informed about emergency events. Ms. Echeverria responded that the public had to use the Perimeter website as the app was not designed for the public. She thought that Perimeter, as a vendor, had been very engaged about what it could improve upon based on feedback from first responders and the public. She remarked that Perimeter was already working on some of her suggestions. If Board members had specific ideas, she was happy to discuss them and thought Perimeter was open to suggestions. She pointed out that the County recently switched from Code Red as an alerting system to Rave Motorola Solutions on September 20, 2024, and the County was working with Perimeter to seamlessly integrate their files into the County's alerting software so that they did not have to re-draw maps and could streamline the process. Chair Hill asked if everyone who signed up for Code Red could still be converted to the new system, to which Ms. Echeverria responded yes. Ms. Echeverria also recommended that the public sign up for Smart911 to add things like the amount of people who lived in the home, if anyone in the residence had any access or functional needs, and if there were pets. Chair Hill thought Ms. Echeverria should give the Board a presentation on that software so people would know how to navigate the system. She recalled comments from people who claimed they were signed up for Code Red but did not receive any information about the Davis Fire. Ms. Echeverria stated that Code Red attempted to call 75,518 people with a 32.23 percent success rate, which was the percentage of people who answered the phone. She said she was happy to provide a presentation to the Board and asserted that the public did not need to sign up for Perimeter; all the information for the software could be found on the Ready Washoe Website.

Deputy Chief Way spoke about homeowners' insurance in Northern Nevada and reported that TMFPD Fire Chief Charles Moore invited the Nevada Fire Chief's representative, Chief Rich Harvey, to the December BOFC meeting to present additional information. He mentioned that when Senator Jacky Rosen was in Washoe County, he spoke with one of her representatives about homeowners' insurance issues. Commissioner Andriola stated that local insurance companies had helpful information about claims. She relayed that residents were frustrated with how some insurance companies were putting together data for claims and thought it would benefit the Board to receive more information to help the public better navigate the issue.

Deputy Chief Way announced that the TMFPD co-authored a grant proposal to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and was awarded \$2 million for a project to reduce fuels on private property in East Washoe Valley towards Carson City. He said TMFPD Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator Brett Taylor would provide more details on the project in the future. He was hopeful an item would be before the BOFC the following month once the grant was finalized.

**24-137F**      **AGENDA ITEM 10** Recommendation to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the City of Reno Fire Department for automatic and mutual aid for fire and emergency services within designated districts as outlined in the Memorandum of Understanding. (All Commission Districts)

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Deputy Chief of Operations Chris Ketring stated that the TMFPD and the Reno Fire Department (RFD) had a cooperative agreement and an annual operating plan specific to mutual aid calls for all types. Those agreements also included predetermined, automatic aid response areas for structure and brush fires. As the community continued to move towards a new regional computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system, the goal was to find solutions and improve service delivery to the region while the new system was being developed and implemented. The memorandum of understanding (MOU) would expand the existing automatic aid responses between both agencies for all calls in districts where the boundaries met or intersected. He said the MOU was a short-term solution that would be in effect for 90 days. He remarked that during the trial, data would be evaluated and collected between both agencies to determine if any adjustments were necessary to make the project effective. Once the evaluation was complete, staff would recommend whether to update operating plans between the TMFPD and the RFD. He thanked the staff who worked behind the scenes to make the project happen.

Chair Hill expressed excitement for the agreement and opined it was a big deal. She stated the MOU had been discussed since before she was a Commissioner. She commended the TMFPD and the RFD for working together. She remarked she was hopeful for the new process. Deputy Chief Ketring echoed Chair Hill's sentiment and said there



might be hiccups along the way because it was a new process but declared that staff would work through issues as they arose.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

On motion by Commissioner Andriola, seconded by Commissioner Garcia, which motion duly carried on a 4-0 vote with Commissioner Clark being absent, it was ordered that Agenda Item 10 be approved.

**24-138F** **AGENDA ITEM 11** Possible Closed Session pursuant to NRS 288.220 for the purpose of discussing with management representatives labor matters and negotiations.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Deputy Chief Dale Way remarked there was no need for a closed session.

**24-139F** **AGENDA ITEM 12** Announcements/Reports.

Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) Fire Deputy Chief Dale Way reiterated his earlier reminder of the green waste collection effort. He remarked the public could find dates and locations for the event on the TMFPD website. He mentioned the October 15, 2024, event to celebrate local heroes. He informed there would be free parking in the garage across from the Aces Stadium. He stated the event was to support and hopefully replenish some funds for local relief agencies such as the American Red Cross, the United Way, and Nevada Peer Support. He said the doors would open at 5:00 p.m., and the event would run from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with fireworks after.

**24-140F** **AGENDA ITEM 13** Public Comment.

There was no response to the call for public comment.

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**10:51 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:*  
*Taylor Chambers, Deputy County Clerk*

Pending Board Approval