



MEMORANDUM

April 30, 2025

To: Board of Fire Commissioners
Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District

Fm: Richard J. Edwards, Fire Chief

Re: Chief's Report for the May 5, 2026 Meeting

1. Capital Project Update

Washoe Valley Fire Station - The district continues to explore funding opportunities for the Washoe Valley Fire Station. We are currently evaluating a Federal Grant through the Defense Community Infrastructure Program to determine if a new fire station is an eligible project. If eligible, the submission would be due at the end of June.

Fire Station 35 – The Station is in its final stages of construction. A "punch list" walk was recently completed to identify small issues and blemishes with the details of the structure. Those issues are being addressed daily and on schedule.

Crews are currently installing components for the water treatment system and chlorine injection system. This will ensure that crews will have water supplied throughout the facility that meet the health recommendations of both Washoe County and the State of Nevada.

There is a delay in connecting an internet network to the building due to its remote location. However, the project team has been working closely with Washoe County IT to establish a temporary cellular based service that will allow the project to complete the commissioning process. The goal of the project team is to have the fire station completed on time by the end of May.

2. 2026 Community Report

Attached is the 2026 Truckee Meadows Fire & Rescue Community Report outlining the District's responses in 2025, with detailed tabulations of calls per station and area. The report also highlights District programs and services.

3. Donation of Used Fire Equipment

On May 26th representatives from "Bomberos Latinos" will be accepting a donation of several crates of used fire equipment from the District. The equipment has fulfilled its service life with the District and is no longer useable due to being obsolete or out of

compliance with national standards such as OSHA, NWCG, and the NFPA. The equipment is not financially worth sending to public auction for liquidation, and organizations such as the “AACT Fire Science Course”, “Silver State Women in Fire”, and local regional fire academies have already had their pick of the stock that best suits their needs. Over 100 pieces of firefighting clothing, boots, and helmets, two-dozen life jackets, over 100 pieces of breathing apparatus with air cylinders, and several pieces of old EMS gear are being donated to the group. In all the equipment filled seven (7) large crates (4’ x 4’ x 4’) within our warehouse, and utilizing our forklift will be loaded onto pallets into a large moving truck to be transported to the U.S./Mexico border at no cost to the District.

Bomberos Latinos is a non-profit organization that collects obsolete fire equipment from around the western United States and redistributes the equipment to communities throughout Mexico and Latin America. Once they get the equipment in hand, they organize the parts and repair the equipment to make it operational. For over 27 years they have hand delivered equipment, fire apparatus, and several thousand articles of PPE to communities in 15 different countries. They have trained over 23,000 firefighters, translating all the education into the community’s language and adapting the information to the level that community can provide. These efforts are not only a significant improvement for the safety of our fellow firefighters south of our borders, but also protects the citizens and the tourists within communities that may have had no emergency services to rely on before.

4. REMSA Franchise Agreement Update

The District Board of Health (DBOH) held its regularly scheduled meeting on April 23, 2026. The Agenda did not include an item for Reconsideration of the vote to approve the Franchise Agreement from the January meeting. Dr. Kingsley provided a presentation on the next steps with the Franchise Agreement following the stakeholder workshops held in March and April. Dr. Kingsley’s presentation referred to the list of Nineteen items for consideration in future Franchise Agreements and stated that he was scheduled to begin negotiations with REMSA in early May to see whether any of these items could be included in the most recent agreement. He will bring an update on the negotiation process to the May DBOH meeting.

5. Regional Operations Update

The district continues to work with our regional partners to build on regional efficiencies. Ahead of Octave implementation, our team met with representatives from the various dispatch and fire agencies to make recommendations and evaluate dispatch processes, including Automatic Vehicle Location (AVL). This was a promising meeting that clearly illustrated the efficiencies that can be realized when the new CAD is implemented. The number of CAD blocker cases is increasing as software engineers work on Mobile Field Reporting (MFR) for our law enforcement partners, potentially delaying go-live once again. The MFR is creating the most challenges for the engineers and preventing CAD from being operationally ready. Executive-level conversations are underway to define how we proceed as training and implementation timelines are quickly approaching.

6. Regional Fire Service Study Board Update

As part of the information and data gathering conducted by Emergent Global Solutions (EGS), the district coordinated a meeting with all of our volunteer staff on Thursday, April 16, 2026. Rick Martinez from EGS was present to provide information and ask our volunteers questions. The meeting helped illustrate how the volunteer program functioned under Reno in the early 2000s and then under Truckee Meadows after 2012. We emphasized the importance of volunteers in areas where we cannot afford to staff full-time firefighters due to call volumes, population density, and limited revenue. While we meet formally with EGS and the stakeholders every month, the next milestone meeting will be in July, when EGS holds the mid-project stakeholder workshop.

7. Senior Fire Prevention Fair

On April 23, 2026, the district hosted a fire prevention fair in collaboration with Jane Swartley from the Cold Springs Family Center. Jane coordinated a luncheon for senior citizens, and the district provided emergency preparedness, CPR, defensible space, home hardening, and other risk-reduction information to more than 70 local residents. We were joined by partner agencies from Emergency Management and the American Red Cross. We plan to host similar events in other parts of the County later this year.

8. Weeds, Invasive Species, and Hazardous Fuels Information Sheet

Each year, the district receives many calls to our Fire Prevention Division regarding vegetation complaints. In the past, these calls were often routed to Washoe County 3-1-1, which would then route them back to the district, leaving callers without a definitive resolution. In collaboration with the district's Fire Prevention, Fuels and Wildfire Division and Washoe County Code Enforcement, an information sheet was developed to clarify the different types of vegetation and explain the codes and how they apply to various complaints. The International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC), adopted by the district, provides guidelines for defensible space, including specific spacing between vegetation and structures. However, the code applies only to structures built after its adoption, which had to comply with defensible space requirements as part of the building permit process. The district is committed to educating the community about the risks of hazardous fuels, home hardening, and fuel mitigation. As such, we are also making defensible space and fire inspectors available to the public to evaluate their parcels and provide recommendations to make them more resilient to wildfires. This information sheet is available on our district's website and is also being shared by our partners at Washoe County.

[Weed Informational Sheet Link](#)