

**NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

May 17, 2023

LOCATION: 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Chair Herron called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

***Roll Call of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Board of Directors:** Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present: Susan Herron, Chairman; Greg McKay, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary-Treasurer; Director, Charley Miller, Director; James Costalupes.

***Guests present:** Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Assistant Fire Chief Russell Barnum, NLTFPD; Business Manager Sharon Cary, NLTFPD; Chief Financial Officer Jackie Signorelli, NLTFPD; Fire Marshal, John James, NLTFPD; Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant Andreina Quiroz, NLTFPD; Division Chief Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; PIO Tia Rancourt, NLTFPD; Acting Battalion Chief Jed Horan, NLTFPD; Firefighter Chase Purinton, NLTFPD.

Approval of Agenda: Approved as submitted.

***NRS 241.020 RE: Public Comment. This is a Time for the Public to Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the Agenda of this Meeting:** No Public Comment.

CONSENT AGENDA: Approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes of the April 14, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting.

Review of Accounts Payable for April 2023.

Approval of the April 2023 Monthly Management Report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of and Possible Action to Proclaim the period of May – October 2023 as, Lake Tahoe Wildfire Awareness Campaign, presented by Chief Sommers and Jamie Roice-Gomes.

Chief Sommers stated this proclamation was done last year, and this is the district’s second year presenting the proclamation before the

1 Board (BOD). Previously, the district was working in cooperation with
2 University of Nevada Reno (UNR), Living with Fire program, doing a
3 County Wide Proclamation that included Chief Sommers accepting
4 the proclamation on behalf of the Lake Tahoe Basin before the
5 Washoe County Commissioners. From this came the idea to instead
6 present the proclamation before the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection
7 District (NLTFPD) Board of Directors (BOD) as it has to do with our
8 Fire District (FD) and the Tahoe Basin.

9
10 Chief Sommers turned the meeting over to Jaime Roice-Gomes.

11
12 Jaime Roice-Gomes thanked the Board for having her present today
13 and for the potential acceptance of the Proclamation.

14
15 Ms. Roice-Gomes began her presentation by stating wildfire can
16 threaten Lake Tahoe communities, impact homes, properties, and
17 sometimes human life, and in response, Local, State, and Federal,
18 Firefighting (FF) agencies, along with wildfire prone communities and
19 UNR Cooperative Extension have done the Wildfire Awareness
20 campaign since 2006. She said the theme for this year is, "Protect
21 Our Home, Prepare for Wildfire." Ms. Roice-Gomes stated the
22 proclamation includes tips and projects and again thanked the BOD
23 for potentially accepting the Proclamation.

24
25 Chair Herron thanked Ms. Roice-Gomes and asked if anyone had any
26 questions.

27
28 Vice-Chair McKay inquired if South Lake Tahoe (SLT) would be
29 implementing the Proclamation only for the month of May or the
30 whole season.

31
32 Chief Sommers commented that this was a good question for Ms.
33 Roice-Gomes and confirmed with Ms. Roice-Gomes that there is a
34 separate campaign for the Basin.

35
36 Ms. Roice-Gomes confirmed there are two separate campaigns and
37 explained the State of Nevada (NV) has a campaign that includes
38 lower laying areas in Nevada and that campaign is just for the month
39 of May. For the Tahoe Basin, it was decided to have the campaign
40 run from May to October.

41
42 Vice-Chair McKay stated he would imagine the campaigns would have
43 a similar message and inquired if Elwood Miller was still present.
44 Ms. Roice-Gomes agreed and confirmed he is.

1 Director Costalupes inquired about guidelines or suggestions for
2 individuals performing yard cleanup.

3
4 Ms. Roice-Gomes explained it is critical to remove all combustible
5 items, such as pine needles, pinecones, twigs, and flammable shrubs
6 in the first five feet. In the five-to-thirty-foot zone, in the Basin it is
7 recommended to remove pine needles once every spring; from the
8 30 to 100 plus foot zone, away from your home, one would want to
9 make sure there are no accumulations of more than three inches.

10
11 Director Costalupes inquired if this information was being publicized
12 to the community and if they also mention having pine needles
13 cleared from roofs.

14
15 Ms. Roice-Gomes replied confirmed the community is receiving this
16 information and added that the zero-to-five-foot zone includes roofs
17 and gutters.

18
19 Ms. Roice-Gomes advised there will be a North Tahoe Wildfire
20 Preparedness presentation on May 23rd at the North Tahoe Events
21 Center in Kings Beach (KB) and said it will be a big event with
22 presenters. Lastly, Ms. Roice-Gomes advised the Tahoe Living with
23 Fire website also has the guidelines available.

24
25 Public Information Officer (PIO) Rancourt confirmed she has been
26 working on publicizing this information along with chipping and
27 defensible space services.

28
29 Chair Herron asked if there were any further questions, no further
30 questions.

31
32 Chair Herron stated she would entertain a motion.

33
34 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer made a motion to accept the
35 Proclamation as presented.

36
37 Vice-Chair McKay seconded the motion.

38
39 Chair Herron called the question.

40
41 All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

- 42
43 **2.** Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Wildland Fire
44 Protection Program (WFPP) Interlocal Contract, between the State of

1 Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Nevada
2 Division of Forestry (NDF) and North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection
3 District (NLTFPD), as presented by Chief Sommers and Division Chief
4 Powning.

5
6 Chief Sommers referred to the agreement included in the board
7 packet, saying the agreement is the WFPP with the Nevada Division
8 of Forestry (NDF). Chief Sommers advised we have gone into this
9 agreement for multiple years now. Chief Sommers explained that
10 when we enter into this agreement, if approved and by signing the
11 agreement today, NDF agrees to pay for resources used for any
12 wildland fire that could happen in our district in lieu of our payment.
13 Chief Sommers stated that although we would take measures to
14 aggressively fight that fire, additional resources including air assets
15 and ground resources could be used. Chief Sommers compared this
16 agreement to a glorified insurance policy, stating the cost of it has
17 decreased significantly for us in the past couple of years. The
18 agreement started at almost \$60,000, and after being revamped a
19 few times over the years and it is now based off acres burned, and
20 since we have very low acres burned, we have a very good rate of
21 \$1,382, that includes an increase of \$108 from last year, and said
22 the increase is not due to acres burned but is unsure of what the
23 increase is due to. Chief Sommers recognized it is a great program
24 and said not only do they pay for everything, but they do the cost
25 share and represent us on the fires as those can also be costly
26 expenses.

27
28 Vice-Chair McKay asked if there were any changes from last year,
29 materially or if it was the same agreement.

30
31 Chief Sommers confirmed that it was the same agreement and
32 advised Division Chief (DC) Powning could provide more information.

33
34 DC Powning advised there were no significant changes, except for
35 the implementation of a new billing system, Fire Billing System
36 (FBS). Billing will now be required to be done through FBS, and if it
37 is not or we choose not to bill through FBS, we will be charged a 20%
38 fee. DC Powning added that the system is not working well right now,
39 but it is being worked on and he is in hopes that it will be in order by
40 the end of week. DC Powning stated that because of this, NDF is also
41 willing to provide us with a stipulation that states they will not charge
42 us the 20% fee if the system is not working to meet our needs.
43 Another noticeable change pertains to the type of responses and said
44 the agreement states NDF would only cover Federal responses

1 outside of the State of NV. DC Powning advised this was discussed
2 and now has a better interpretation. DC Powning explained that
3 verbiage means that for example the Salt Lake City Fire Department
4 reaches out to our Fire Chief and requests our resources on their fire,
5 since they did not go through the Federal dispatching system, NDF
6 would not cover the agreement reimbursements. DC Powning added
7 that Compact Agreements will be implemented as currently there is
8 a five-state agreement with five states in the Western region. The
9 agreement could potentially increase to include nine states this year,
10 with an overall goal of including 12 states over the next year. DC
11 Powning advised our agency is never requested that way, so this
12 would not be an issue for us, and he is not concerned.

13
14 Chief Sommers reiterated he looks at this like an insurance policy for
15 the basin and said DC Powning has a good point as the agreement
16 does encompass when we respond elsewhere to assist as we do go
17 through NDF for billing purposes due to the Fire Reciprocal Act written
18 1955, where the Forest Services' (FS) District Attorney (DA)
19 reinterpreted that four years ago, and Local Government can no
20 longer be paid by the Feds directly. The State had to be involved, like
21 a broker, and said there is a component of this agreement for the
22 brokerage. Chief Sommers reiterated that the majority of the \$1300
23 is protecting the fire district.

24
25 Director Costalupes inquired if the billing broker obtained a point for
26 any percentage of the billing amount.

27
28 Chief Sommers advised that if the WFPP is not passed and signed
29 today, we would be billed for every NDF bill. However, by being a
30 member of WFPP, there is no cost to it other than the 20% fee for
31 not using FBS. Chief Sommers reiterated we have every intention of
32 using FBS so there will be no additional cost or fees once the
33 agreement is signed, either way, to receive resources, or give
34 resources to other agencies.

35
36 Director Costalupes commented that this sounded like a sound
37 investment.

38
39 Chair Herron asked if there were any other questions, no further
40 questions.

41
42 Chair Herron stated she would entertain a motion.
43 Vice-Chair McKay made a motion to approve the Wildland Fire
44 Protection Program (WFPP) Interlocal Contract as presented.

1 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer seconded the motion.
2

3 Chair Herron called the question, all voted in favor; the motion
4 passes unanimously.
5

6 **3. Discussion of and Possible Action to Reappropriate Fiscal Year 2023**
7 **Capital Fund resources for the Purchase of the Foresters Vehicle, as**
8 **presented by CFO Signorelli.**
9

10 CFO Signorelli stated that after speaking with Attorneys regarding
11 the need for a Budget Augmentation for this purchase and pending
12 a response from the auditors she would like to ask the Board to
13 move this item to the June BOD meeting as given the current
14 circumstances, we are in limbo. CFO Signorelli explained that
15 additional resources are not being used, because the full resources
16 that were allocated to the Capital Fund last year have not been
17 used as they were earmarked specifically for the ambulance that
18 has been pushed into 2024. CFO Signorelli advised that additional
19 resources are being received in revenue and if this goes through
20 properly and the contract is signed everything could move forward.
21 CFO Signorelli added that if a Budget Augmentation needs to be
22 done, she will obtain it in writing and said it would possibly be done
23 either outside of or prior to the June BOD meeting.
24

25 Chair Herron affirmed the agenda item is tabled and would leave it
26 up to Staff to determine when they would like to bring it before the
27 Board.
28

29 Chief Sommers stated he wanted to provide clarification and said
30 the purchase of the Foresters vehicle and the resources that CFO
31 Signorelli was referring to is in NV Energy contract and said it is all
32 NV Energy's monies. Chief Sommers said the money is in the NV
33 Energy budget that they gave us, and confirmed the funds are
34 there, however, because we have taken it into our budget, we need
35 to be cognizant of budget reallocation. Chief Sommers stated we
36 will have to wait to see what we hear back from the auditors.
37

38 Chair Herron confirmed with CFO Signorelli this is pending auditors'
39 response because we need to make sure this is done right. Chair
40 Herron commented that depending on the timing, it is unknown if
41 this would require being moved into the next Fiscal Year (FY), a
42 budget augmentation, reappropriation, and advised CFO Signorelli
43 is working on figuring this out. Chair Herron advised, that under her
44 direction, CFO Signorelli called the auditor because anything that is

1 done at the end of the fiscal year will always come up as an item
2 within the audit. With that, Chair Herron stated she would like this
3 done right, and if a quick special meeting needs to be called, she
4 believes it could be accommodated but this item will be tabled for
5 now pending auditor answers.

6
7 Director Miller asked CFO Signorelli if there is enough left over in
8 Capital to avoid a budget change.

9
10 CFO Signorelli replied there is enough this year because \$625,000
11 was allocated for purchases and the ambulance was \$300,000 of
12 that and that will not be used as it was pushed into 2024.

13
14 Director Miller asked if to do that, the budget needs to be
15 reappropriated.

16
17 CFO Signorelli explained reappropriating within a fund can be done
18 so within the Capital Fund, we can say that it was specifically
19 earmarked for the ambulance as that is what is publicized so we
20 have to ensure that is okay and also having the \$70,000 of
21 coverage from the NV Energy contract.

22
23 DC Powning advised this would hinder the current contract because
24 the discussion, and what is currently being worked on with NV
25 Energy, is that that money is coming out of the current Purchase
26 Order (PO) that we are in right now and when the new contract is
27 signed, we change to a new PO and that money is not identified in
28 the new PO therefore a decision needs to be made.

29
30 CFO Signorelli explained this is not on NV Energy, it is on us if we
31 need a budget augmentation or not.

32
33 DC Powning replied this is on NV Energy because he would need to
34 bill them.

35
36 CFO Signorelli agreed and added this as a procedural part on our
37 end.

38
39 Chief Sommers advised DC Powning and CFO Signorelli are both
40 correct and said it would be best to hear from auditors as soon as
41 possible (ASAP) and call a special meeting ASAP, because we are
42 trying to allocate the funds that are on the existing extension that
43 we are on with NV Energy that expires on Friday. Chief Sommers
44 stated we are trying to get a second extension as we have not

1 heard on the official agreement, even with DC Powning's efforts in
2 attempting to have something signed for our next three FY. Chief
3 Sommers advised NV Energy has been slow to respond to requests
4 and sent an agreement that was terrible.

5
6 Chair Herron asked if the Board would be okay if the Board made a
7 motion, exactly how the agenda item states to reappropriate, and if
8 it were a possibility, staff would have Board motion to do so. Chair
9 Herron stated that if it is a budget augmentation it would be
10 different, and it could not be done by Friday due to public noticing.
11 Chair Herron said that if reappropriating could happen, at least staff
12 would have Board approval and suggested the Board to go that
13 route.

14
15 Chair Herron inquired with Legal Counsel, Russell Carr, if this was
16 okay.

17
18 Legal Counsel Carr replied he agreed with Chair Herron's suggestion
19 as long as it is reappropriating funds, as this complies with the
20 three-day notice requirement.

21
22 Chair Herron suggested the Board move forward with this and
23 stated she would entertain a motion.

24
25 Director Miller made a motion to reappropriate Fiscal Year 2023
26 Capital Fund resources for the Purchase of the Foresters Vehicle not
27 to exceed \$70,000 pending auditor approval.

28
29 Director Costalupes seconded the motion.

30
31 Chair Herron called the question, all voted in favor; the motion
32 passes unanimously.

- 33
34 **4.** Discussion of and Possible Action to Adopt the North Lake Tahoe Fire
35 Protection District's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, as presented at
36 the April 14, 2023, Board of Director's meeting, as presented by CFO
37 Signorelli.

38
39 Chair Herron confirmed the Memorandum dated May 16, 2023, was
40 received by all Board members.

41
42 CFO Signorelli confirmed Budget Version 3 was received by all Board
43 members.

44

1 CFO Signorelli advised the first page of the Final Budget packet that
2 she e-mailed lists the changes from the original version to the final
3 version.
4

5 CFO Signorelli advised adjustment made include:
6

7 Covered additional expenditures, this includes salaries missed on the
8 original budget in the Fuels Division. CFO Signorelli confirmed those
9 salaries have been added back into the budget and said those salaries
10 are also covered by the contracts that we have and are working on
11 securing. CFO Signorelli explained that when we have additional
12 expenditures added, we increase the revenue to cover those
13 expenses.
14

15 CFO Signorelli noted the top of the document displays the revenues
16 that are added to cover expenses.
17

18 Allocations are based on salaries & wages, benefits and services and
19 supplies expenses and said some of them had to do with the planning
20 effect of pay increases that happened that were not originally
21 planned when she did the first version of the budget.
22

23 Next, CFO Signorelli confirmed we do not have a final cost for
24 Workers' Compensation (WC), but we do have a close estimate, so
25 she had to increase the budget to account for modification increase
26 as well as general classification increases.
27

28 Benefits offset some of the increased wages that were missed that
29 funnel down into benefits that those individuals are offered.
30

31 Under services, CFO Signorelli reported a correction of a duplicate
32 item and advised archiving of Public Records needs to be added into
33 this. CFO Signorelli and IT/Logistics Manager Alan Green are still
34 discussing this, but to comply with regulations and to ensure that
35 when a request is received, it covers social media, the district
36 website, and e-mail. CFO Signorelli advised there is a one-time
37 conversion fee as well as an annual storage of e-mails and reported
38 this would be an additional \$10,850 on top of the annual fee for just
39 doing the social media archiving.
40

41 Ambulance Fund includes the updated WC rates.
42 Capital Fund, the ambulance remount was increased as new quotes
43 were received. The quotes have increased upwards of \$200,000
44 however Battalion Chief (BC) Sambrano believes it will be less than

1 that, so he only wanted to allocate another \$25,000 to the ambulance
2 remount, with the increase, the remount goes from \$175,000 to
3 \$200,000.
4

5 CFO Signorelli stated that due to adding a Full Time (FT) mechanic
6 that would potentially be covered by the NV Energy contract, at half
7 (50%) of the personnel, a truck for the mechanic was added, as the
8 mechanic truck would not be covered by the contract.
9

10 The General Fund (GF) shows the balances on the Fund Balance and
11 said it was updated due to an erroneously using the prior year
12 beginning balance, instead of the current year and acknowledged this
13 error had a significant effect on the ending balance.
14

15 Overall, in the budget, both the GF and the 5-Year Analysis show
16 where the fund balance sits and reported the beginning fund balance
17 at \$8.3 million with revenues of \$24.7 million and said it includes
18 Expenses, funding of Capital Projects, Debt Service Fund and
19 Ambulance Fund. CFO Signorelli explained the net change is a loss of
20 \$5 million net and said she also listed an estimate for the taxpayer
21 refunds of \$3.1 million. CFO Signorelli advised we still do not know
22 where the tax refund will land as the last estimate from April through
23 end of FY had roughly about \$500,000 coming in. She said that
24 because we do not know truly how much will be received, this amount
25 is questionable. Final claims had to be submitted by May 1, 2023 and
26 advised Washoe County (WC) then had two months to sift and
27 resolve claims received, and the homeowners not identified or
28 located, have a long time to be able to come back and claim their
29 refund, and we also do not know what that will look like so she is still
30 allocating \$3.1 million with the idea that it will not be that high,
31 however she would like to be conservative in that estimate.
32

33 CFO Signorelli checked with the Board on any questions.
34

35 Vice-Chair McKay inquired if there was a percentage rate of claims
36 completed.
37

38 CFO Signorelli replied there is and offered to e-mail that information
39 to the Board.
40

41 Vice-Chair McKay stated a rough estimate would be okay.
42 CFO Signorelli replied as of two weeks ago, the rough estimate was
43 about 400 households were still outstanding and advised that as soon
44 as another update is provided, she would ask for the analysis.

1 Vice-Chair McKay commented 400 out of 8800 parcels was
2 encouraging.

3
4 Chief Sommers wanted to elaborate on the mechanics vehicle and
5 said he would like to explain that the ambulance is being remounted,
6 the chassis/fleet number is 34, and said Braun Northwest offered
7 \$500 for the chassis, which we turned down. Chief Sommers said the
8 chassis is a Dodge 3500 with about 87,000 miles on it and explained
9 it had occurred to him to make that the mechanics truck and said the
10 \$52,000 is to outfit the cab back with the body, as the mechanic will
11 be mobile because with the 50/50 partnership with NV Energy, the
12 mechanic will be working on NV Energy vehicles with other
13 departments and will need something that will be utilized in the field.
14 Chief Sommers stated the truck is a dually and can and will hold a
15 generator, a crane, and the body itself. Chief Sommers said he hopes
16 the Board would agree that the allocated funds are a lot less than
17 purchasing a new truck which is running around \$200,000 to be
18 outfitted the same way.

19
20 Chair Herron commented it sounded like a smart decision to her and
21 Vice-Chair McKay agreed.

22
23 Chair Herron stated if there were no further questions on the budget,
24 she would entertain a motion.

25
26 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer made a motion to adopt the North Lake
27 Tahoe Fire Protection District's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, as
28 presented.

29
30 Vice-Chair McKay seconded the motion.

31
32 Chair Herron called the question, all voted in favor; the motion
33 passes unanimously.

34
35 CFO Signorelli took a moment to thank the Board.

36
37 Chair Herron thanked CFO Signorelli and all the Staff for their hard
38 work.

39
40 **OLD BUSINESS:** No old business.

41
42 ***Legal Counsel Reports:**

43
44 Legal Counsel Carr had no report.

***Board of Directors Comments or Reports:**

The Board of Directors had no report.

***Fire Chief Reports presented by Fire Chief Sommers.**

Chief Sommers reported the following:

PIO Rancourt, Fire Marshal (FM) James and he had been on presentation tours. Presentations have been given to the Realtors of Incline, Douglas County, Rotary Club, and the Republican Women's Group. The presentations have been going well and have been keeping them busy.

Public Safety Pier: Chief Sommers reported a name change, it is now the First Responder Pier and they have verbally acquired a Civil Engineer to look at the site and say if it is viable. If the Civil Engineer believes it is viable, Chief Sommers stated he will be working with Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID), General Manager (GM) and staff to go before their Board and ask for permission to take this further. Chief Sommers stated he does not know the timing of this as his and Washoe County Sheriff's Office (WCSO) goal would be that when they present in front of IVGID, they also have a basic conceptual drawing for the Board.

Fire Aside; Defensible Space Evaluation (DSE) module for evaluations and Chipper Day is a module for chipping. Chief Sommers reported we were very fortunate to be granted funds from the Parasol Foundation for these modules. The modules have been launched, and the public is using them as of the end of last month. Chief Sommers confirmed a press release will come out as part of the grant requirement from Parasol. Chief Sommers stated when citizens of Incline Village/Crystal Bay (IV/CB) utilize the platform, or have any interaction, they will see NLTFPD and Parasols logos at his request. Chief Sommers stated that after a meeting yesterday, Parasol will also fund these modules for Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District (TDFPD) with the hopes of securing some type of funds for the sustainability of it from this point forward either from southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA) funds or additional funding found by Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA). Chief Sommers stated the goal is to have the same database basin wide.

Evacuations: Chief Sommers advised that the Evacuation Plan is written and administered by WC Emergency Management (WCEM), not NLTFPD; however, he is very involved in the re-writing of the Mass Casualty and Evacuation Plan for WC. Chief Sommers stated they are in the second phase of the plan confirming an outside vendor has been secured, and they are going through the process. Chief Sommers acknowledged citizen complaints have been

1 received are valid, but changes will not happen overnight as this is a process
2 and said the plan cannot be re-written because of one citizen who is not
3 content with the plan. Chief Sommers added this citizen is very local and while
4 he was at the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Citizen Advisory Board (CAB)
5 meeting, this citizen verbalized her disgust with Chief Sommers and his staff
6 for not addressing her concerns and although not entirely true, asked that if
7 anyone had any questions, to please contact him directly. Chief Somers added
8 WCEM, is planning a full launch of a full-scale evacuation drill in July. He has
9 reviewed all Requests for Proposal (RFP) requirements and the vendors, and
10 is in hopes it can be executed. If the drill does not happen in July, it will be
11 changed to some other time this year. Chief Sommers advised the drill will
12 entail NV residents to go to California (CA), as the goal is to evacuate into KB
13 as that is going to be a real-life scenario. Chief Sommers said this goal has
14 prompted WC to work on an agreement with Placer County Office of
15 Emergency Services (OES) and recognized this was needed especially after
16 the Caldor Incident and how those evacuations happened.

17
18 Official launch date of Perimeter is May 26th, 2023; Perimeter will be
19 implemented in Washoe, Carson City, and Douglas counties.

20
21 Chief Sommers had a meeting in which Parasol Foundation mentored. The
22 meeting was about living in the wildland urban interphase and home insurance
23 not being renewed. The meeting went well as there is a new Insurance
24 Commissioner in office under the new Governor for the State of NV who is
25 very promising, aggressive, and one of the first things the Commissioner
26 would like to do is meet with Tahoe Fire Chiefs to address this issue and find
27 resolutions. Chief Sommers stated this issue is not happening as much in NV
28 as it is in CA and said the commissioner is receptive and knows what is
29 happening here thanks to the work of Insurance Broker Michael Menath along
30 with TDFPD, NLTFPD and our Fuels Department.

31
32 Chief Sommers lastly reported that the districts BCs do not have any type of
33 contract for guaranteeing employment security. Chief Sommers stated that
34 once being a BC, he understands this concern and advised the BOD that the
35 BCs asked to be organized as an Association. Chief Sommers confirmed this
36 is being entertained and the BCs have come up with a contract, in which AFC
37 Barnum was involved in. Chief Sommers compared the agreement to a "Me
38 Too," clause, and confirmed they would not be joining Local 2139, they would
39 be their own Association, Tahoe Association of Chief Officers (TACO). Chief
40 Sommers confirmed the initial draft of the contract/agreement has been given
41 to Legal, with a phone conference call scheduled for next week. Chief
42 Sommers added the BCs explanation to him about the Association was that
43 he as Fire Chief and Chief Barnum as AFC, will not be Chief's forever, and they
44 are not sure what will happen to them as BCs once they are gone. Chief

1 Sommers stated he is working to take care of employees as one equal and
2 recognized he is unsure of what will happen to that part of the working
3 relationship once he is no longer with NLTFPD. Chief Sommers said that other
4 than job security, he does not foresee this costing the district anything other
5 than what would already be on the budget, and this is to have something in
6 writing for the BCs and said this is something they are entitled to having. Chief
7 Sommers advised there will be more information to come, but wanted to
8 preface this as it will be an agenda item in the future.

9
10 Chief Sommers inquired with AFC Barnum about further input, otherwise this
11 would be the end of his report.

12
13 Director Costalupes asked Chief Sommers if, for the evacuation, the flow chart
14 of road construction crews was looked at.

15
16 Chief Sommers replied the plan encompasses more of a global aspect, not
17 day-to-day construction and said this hurdle will be dealt with on a day-to-
18 day basis. Chief Sommers said construction specifically is not included in the
19 plan, nor an accurate number of vehicles that could be here any one summer
20 day. However, the vehicle subject was brought up to the County, and he is
21 hopeful that it will be in the plan but not day-to-day construction.

22
23 Chair Herron inquired if Kelly Echeverria, WCEM would like to come and speak
24 with the BOD.

25
26 Chief Sommers stated he had previously spoken with Ms. Echeverria about
27 coming and addressing the Board and said he would follow up with Ms.
28 Echeverria on attending the June BOD meeting so she could address the plan
29 and answer questions.

30
31 ***Chief Officers Reports presented by Assistant Fire Chief Barnum.**

32
33 In support of Chief Sommers report on TACO, AFC Barnum added that this
34 reflects how business is being done now, and said the difference is that it will
35 now be on paper. AFC Barnum advised this is not a negotiation as there will
36 be no negotiations, but rather collectively with the BCs outlining the way they
37 currently function so if and when a new Chief comes in, there is a playbook to
38 go by on what the BCs have.

39
40 Director Miller asked if this was a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

41
42 AFC Barnum replied it was like an MOU and said in CA typically they do an
43 MOU between an Association, but this is a contract.

44

1 Chair Herron referred to it as an employment agreement and confirmed there
2 would be no Union involvement.

3
4 AFC Barnum confirmed it would be an employment agreement and said it is
5 an Association not unionized, however they could collectively bargain through
6 the Government Employee-Management Relations Board (EMRB) through the
7 State of NV. AFC Barnum advised there would be more information following
8 Monday's meeting with Legal Counsel as far as any nuisances. AFC Barnum
9 added that forming an Association is done in a lot of different districts
10 especially with a Supervisory group because they do not necessarily want to
11 be unionized but they do want to be represented.

12
13 AFC Barnum reported the following:

14
15 Engine 13 would be out of service for a while, pending warranty repairs on the
16 differential and said Mechanic Phillips is going through the process of making
17 sure it will be covered under warranty.

18
19 The boat will be put in the water on May 23rd in Sand Harbor where it will also
20 be stationed. A training will be held in the beginning of June with Naval Air
21 Station (NAS) Fallon and TOPGUN doing water rescues where the districts
22 rescue swimmers and boat operators will participate and interact with
23 Professionals.

24
25 Training for the month is dedicated to Engineer and Apparatus because an
26 Engineers Promotional Test will be held at the end of the month. Although
27 there are no current openings, openings are anticipated, and the list is
28 available for two years.

29
30 Cal-Neva has loaned us their parking lot for training, and it is currently set up
31 with a cone course for driver training.

32
33 Chief Sommers was able to have a house on Driver Way donated, and crews
34 are doing training scenarios there.

35
36 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) order has been placed with an
37 expected delivery date of sometime between August and October followed by
38 distribution to the collective regional cooperators.

39
40 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) week is May 21st through May 26th and
41 extended an invite to the BOD to stop by, say hi, place a call and let EMS
42 personnel know that what they do is important, as they see and do a lot of
43 things that many people should not, and recognizing what they do is
44 important.

1 End of report.

2
3 ***Prevention Reports presented by Fire Marshal James.**

4
5 Chair Herron advised the Prevention report was included in the BOD packet.

6
7 Chief Sommers confirmed and advised that Fire Marshal (FM) James is
8 currently in a class at the National Fire Academy and said PIO Rancourt had
9 an additional update.

10
11 PIO Rancourt reported the correct total fees billed for April 2023 are
12 \$7,325.84.

13
14 ***Fuels Management Report as presented by Division Chief Powning.**

15
16 DC Powning reported the following:

17 Seasonal employee onboarding will happen next Monday, May 22nd. Crews
18 will be doing critical training the first week, and unavailable for anything
19 other than local things. The Engine Companies will be doing an extra week of
20 training off the hill because of NV Energy and Engine requirements. DC
21 Powning stated all crew resources will be available by next Friday and all the
22 Engine Resources will be available the week after. DC Powning advised the
23 Defensible Space Inspector's (DSI) onboarding will be staggered so they can
24 be taught Fire Aside one at a time as the program is cumbersome even
25 though the program will be of great help in the end.

26
27 Crew work will focus behind the Ponderosa Ranch, as well as completing the
28 work behind the powerline corridor along the East Shore through the park up
29 until they reach FS land where they will stop and move to other projects. DC
30 Powning stated concluding that work through the remainder of the year, all
31 the resources will be working on urban lots around town on State and FS lots
32 as agreements to address those issues and concerns have been received.

33
34 Heavy equipment is working above Tunnel Creek trail as there is a two-to-
35 three-acre patch of beetle kill that occurred over winter and it is being
36 addressed so it does not expand; our resources are not working on that, as
37 that is being handled by a contractor through the FS and NV Energy.

38
39 Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for the basin is moving at a good
40 pace, with a stakeholder and community meeting scheduled for June 1st,
41 2023. The meeting is to involve the community and stakeholders in some of
42 the decision making and planning. DC Powning advised the CWPP is
43 important to us because any grant that we put in for require a current
44 CWPP.

1 The FS have been in the Humboldt-Toiyabe conducting burning. Since they
2 have quite a bit of burning planned in the valley, they have asked for help in
3 backfilling initial attack responsibilities and sending an engine to perform
4 that function. This has not happened just yet as it is still being worked out at
5 the Regional Office as this was brought up because of the recently passed
6 Infrastructure Bill which gives them the ability to use resources this way.

7
8 Helicopter Operations- NV Energy is planning on utilizing a helicopter for
9 helicopter logging, however due to the weather, this has been pushed out. A
10 meeting is scheduled for next week for continued planning. DC Powning
11 stated the work that needs to be done in Incline is small-scale compared to
12 the East Slope and may not require a helicopter. The impacts to the district
13 include possible road closure or one lane traffic on Highway 28 between
14 Burnt Cedar and CB, the powerline up off Sugarpine, the Brunswick line out
15 of Ponderosa Ranch, and Diamond Peak Ski Resort as there is an MOU to use
16 as a landing zone, decking material, and serving as dual purpose being
17 contracted out for construction work.

18
19 End of report.

20
21 ***Chief Financial Reports presented by Chief Financial Officer**
22 **Signorelli.**

23
24 CFO Signorelli advised her report was included in the BOD packet.

25
26 CFO Signorelli additionally reported the following:

27
28 Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool/Public Agency Compensation Trust
29 (Pool/Pact) would be present at the June BOD meeting to do their presentation
30 and go over our policy package.

31
32 Compensation and Benefits Salary Surveys are being conducted agency wide
33 and said she is working on NLTFPD's for every department and every position
34 to facilitate availability and reporting.

35
36 Policies and Procedures (P&P's), CFO Signorelli is working to have them
37 finalized in the fall and said they would be presented to the Board in stages.

38
39 End of report.

40
41 ***Public Education Information Officer Reports presented by PIO**
42 **Rancourt.**

43
44 PIO Rancourt reported her report was included in the BOD packet.

1
 2 PIO Rancourt added that on Monday and Tuesday, Fuels Prevention Specialist
 3 Ryan Dominguez and Slide Mountain Squad Boss Jacob Keppelmann were at
 4 Incline Middle School and taught 145 6th through 8th grade students what a
 5 Fire Adaptive Community is, the principles, what kids can do to help clean up
 6 the outside of homes, the presentation went great and she will be putting
 7 together a public post.

8
 9 In support of AFC Barnum’s statement on EMS week, PIO Rancourt thanked
 10 EMS Staff for all they do every day especially because they have been doing
 11 EMS tours with schools to teach kids what they do, and to help them
 12 understand what an emergency is and not to be afraid.

13
 14 End of report.

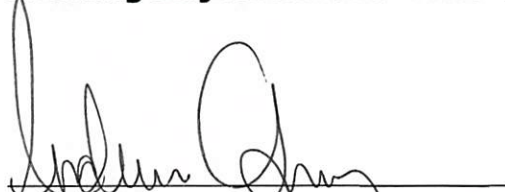
15
 16 Chair Herron will coordinate with AFC Barnum of what the Board can do for
 17 EMS week. Chair Herron reminded the Board that this is considered a social
 18 event and said that if multiple Board members come to the district at the same
 19 time for EMS week, they do not speak business, and reiterated it would be
 20 best to coordinate with AFC Barnum.

21
 22 ***Local Union 2139**

23
 24 Chase Purinton, Executive Board Member alluded to the upcoming Engineers
 25 Exam AFC Barnum reported and said the Union would like to formally thank
 26 the district for having a set schedule and offering promotional testing every
 27 two years for Captain and Engineer.

28
 29 ***NRS 241.020 RE: Public Comment. This is a Time for the Public to**
 30 **Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the Agenda**
 31 **of this Meeting.**

32
 33 **Meeting Adjournment 12:59 p.m.**

34
 35
 36
 37
 38 
 39 Andreina Quiroz, Secretary

40
 41
 42
 43
 44 
 Susan Herron, Chairman