

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

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

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, Chair; Charley Miller, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary-Treasurer; Phil Klein, Director; Ken Leijon, Director.

***Guests present:** Assistant Fire Chief, Russell Barnum, NLTFPD; Division Chief, Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; Legal Counsel, Devon Reese; Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant, Andreina Quiroz, NLTFPD; PIO Tia Rancourt, NLTFPD; Logistics Manager, Alan Green, NLTFPD; Battalion Chief Casey Quinlan, NLTFPD; Administrative Assistant, Amanda Jillson, NLTFPD; Administrative Clerk, Mitzy Cruz, NLTFPD; Engineer, Jeff Cutler, NLTFPD; Captain, Tommy Kokenge, NLTFPD; FF/PM, Mike Roen, NLTFPD; Engineer, Jason Knight, NLTFPD; FF Michael Lucey, 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 December 18, 2024, Board of Directors Meeting.

Review of Accounts Payable for December 2024.

Approval of the December 2024 Monthly Management Report.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of and Possible Action to elect Officers for the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Board of Directors for 2025. From the following nominees- Susan Herron, Charley Miller, Denise Bremer, Ken Leijon and Phil Klein for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary-Treasurer. The election of the Officers is effective immediately after the adjournment of the January 15, 2025, Board of Directors Meeting.

Director Bremer made a motion to appoint Chair Herron as Chair, Director Miller as Vice-Chair miller, and Director Bremer to Secretary-Treasurer.

Director Klein seconded the motion.

Chair Herron asked for any discussion.

Secretary-Treasurer Bremer clarified that the motion was made with respect and in the interest of allowing new Board members the opportunity to gain experience.

Director Klein expressed his understanding and comfort with the appointments, acknowledging that he looks forward to learning in the coming months.

Chair Herron called the question.

All in favor, the motion passes unanimously.

REPORTS:***Legal Reports**

Legal Counsel Reese had no report for the Board.

Legal Counsel Reese advised that Ethics Training for the newly appointed Board Directors will need to be scheduled and noted that he will coordinate the training with Chair Herron.

***BOD Reports**

Secretary-Treasurer Bremer noted that, in light of the Los Angeles (LA) fires, she has been approached with questions regarding the evacuation plan and inquired whether this information could be addressed with the public.

1 Vice-Chair Miller thanked the crews and shifts that are working on the LA
2 fires and recognized the efforts of those going to the incidents and the ones
3 staying behind to cover department shifts.

4
5 Chair Herron echoed the concerns expressed, noting that as a native of
6 Pasadena, California, the incident struck close to home. She reported that
7 her family is safe but shared that she has friends on the edge of the
8 evacuation zone and one friend who lost their home in the Eaton Incident.
9 Chair Herron expressed her appreciation for the district resources deployed
10 to assist and stated she is proud of the district's response. She also
11 mentioned receiving inquiries from the public and agreed that issuing a
12 statement would be beneficial. Chair Herron added that she is comfortable
13 waiting until Chief Sommers returns if the district prefers and suggested that
14 any statement be prefaced with acknowledgment of the district's support
15 and deployment of crews to the incidents.

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17 Vice-Chair Miller added that, in preparation for anticipated questions in
18 Olympic Valley, a presentation has been developed to address local facilities,
19 water tanks, and hydrants. He noted this effort was prompted by concerns
20 raised after the Lahaina Fires and highlighted the challenges posed by the
21 proximity of wildland and residential areas, along with the capabilities of
22 existing water systems and firefighting resources. Vice-Chair Miller stated he
23 is unsure what the district currently has prepared in response and, based on
24 his experience, encouraged the district to be ready to address such
25 questions.

26
27 Assistant Fire Chief (AFC) Barnum stated that evacuations is a sensitive
28 subject given that it is part of the Washoe County Sheriff (WCS) and
29 Emergency Management. Chief Barnum expressed appreciation for Vice-
30 Chair Millers suggestions to expose one of the benefits of Incline Village like
31 the incredibly robust water system. AFC Barnum added that with that, we
32 can avoid what has happened in LA and agrees that a statement or a
33 presentation would be great.

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35 ***Fire Chief Report presented by Fire Chief Sommers.**

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37 No report.

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39 ***Chief Officers Report presented by Assistant Fire Chief Barnum.**

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41 AFC Barnum reported on the following:

42
43 AFC Barnum welcomed the new directors on behalf of Chief Sommers.
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Resources responding to the Southern California incidents include resources from Operations and Fuels division. Operations sent a Battalion Chief (BC) who is heading a strike team of five local engines from Lake Valley, South Lake Tahoe, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), Central Lyon Fire Protection District (CLFPD). A brush truck that is staffed by four people from our staff. AFC Barnum stated he appreciates Vice-Chair Millers comment because the employees present at the meeting are also the ones who are picking up shifts knowing that it is a quid pro-quo in the occasion that something would happen here, the same would be done. In the fuels division, four overheads were sent out, they are acting as crew bosses for hand crews as well as a Type 6 engine.

Fleet- two Type 1's and a truck went out of service a week ago, making available resources limited. AFC Barnum expressed that having two mechanics in the house made it able for the repairs to be completed within a day and had crews in a brush truck responding to calls. AC Barnum recognized the mechanics for the work that they do, and the amount of time spent to have fleet in order.

A local fire department will be looking at the jet skis to possibly purchase them on Friday.

Training- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and avalanche focus are the trainings for the month.

End of report.

Vice-Chair Miller inquired what a Type 6 engine was.

Division Chief (DC) Powning explained a Type 6 Engine is more of a pickup truck with a tank on the back usually with smaller water capacity.

AFC Barnum added that the Type 6's was originally a part of the NV Energy stock.

***Prevention Report presented by Fire Marshal James.**

Fire Prevention report has been submitted as part of the Board packet.

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

DC Powning reported on the following:

Four overheads at the LA incidents are acting as overhead for the

1 international crews from Mexico and recognized this is once in a career
2 opportunity for them.

3
4 Crews reported to DC Powning they are doing well and confirmed the Type 6
5 Engine staffed by four people is on the Palisades Incident.

6
7 Staff that remained onsite are in training and working on the smaller burns
8 until weather conditions permit.

9
10 The seasonal hiring process will commence upon the return of crews from
11 LA.

12
13 DC Powning advised that the Forester and the Fuels Management Officer
14 (FMO) evaluated the water infrastructure for Incline Village General
15 Improvement District (IVGID) today to see what extra fuels management
16 work can be done around the area to maintain the area clear in the occasion
17 of a situation.

18
19 Chair Herron asked DC Powning if he had connected with IVGID Trustee
20 Noble as Trustee Noble is looking into the possibility of increasing defensible
21 space work.

22
23 DC Powning advised they have not connected.

24
25 End or report.

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27 ***Chief Financial Report presented by Chief Financial Officer Signorelli.**

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29 Chief Financial Officer (CF) Signorelli's report has been submitted as part of
30 the Board packet

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32 ***Public Education Information Officer Report presented by PIO**
33 **Rancourt.**

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35 Public Information Officer (PIO) Rancourt welcomed the new directors and
36 noted that the PIO report was included in the Board packet.

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38 PIO Rancourt shared that she has also been receiving inquiries and emails in
39 response to the Los Angeles incidents and recommended having an internal
40 discussion to prepare a thoughtful and mindful response. PIO Rancourt also
41 reported that a release was issued addressing questions regarding assistance
42 and monetary donations.

43
44 Additionally, PIO Rancourt spoke with a coordinator from Living with Fire, who

1 informed her of upcoming events in March focused on home hardening and
2 defensible space, scheduled for March 11 and 12. She stated she will share
3 the event details on social media as soon as they are provided. Furthermore,
4 she noted that information regarding the upcoming Fire Adapted Nevada
5 Summit at the University of Nevada, Reno, in the Joe Crowley Student Union,
6 will be distributed as soon as it becomes available.

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8 Chair Herron would like the BOD to consider attending the events.

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10 End of report.

11
12 ***Local Union 2139**

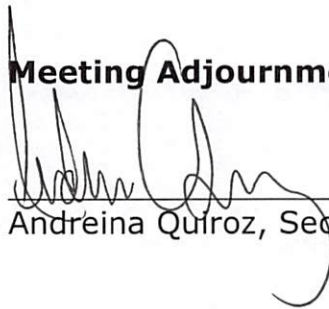
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14 Tommy Kokenge, Local Union 2136 representative, welcomed the new
15 Directors and stated they look forward to working with them in the future.

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17 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer inquired about the status of fire hydrant clearing.

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19 AFC Barnum advised crews are being checked and cleared in addition to the
20 Adopt a Hydrant program.

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

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27 **Meeting Adjournment 12:15 p.m.**

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Andreina Quiroz, Secretary

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Susan Herron, Chairman