

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

3
4 **October 21, 2020**

5
6 **LOCATION:** 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.

7
8 **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Vice-Chair McKay called the meeting to
9 order at 12:00 p.m.

10
11 ***Roll Call of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Board of**
12 **Directors:** Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present:
13 Greg McKay, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary-Treasurer, James
14 Costalupes, Director, Art Cross, Director.
15 Susan Herron, Chairman; Absent.

16
17 ***Guests present:** Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Assistant Fire Chief
18 Russell Barnum, NLTFPD; Interim Fire Marshal Jennifer Donohue, NLTFPD;
19 via teleconference, Legal Counsel Devon Reese; Business Manager Sharon
20 Cary, NLTFPD; Logistics Manager Alan Green, NLTFPD; Administrative
21 Assistant/Board Secretary Andreina Quiroz, NLTFPD, PIO Tia Rancourt,
22 NLTFPD; Division Chief Powning, NLTFPD; FF/PM James Nelligan, NLTFPD;
23 via teleconference Steven Price, Resident 170 Village Blvd #30; via
24 teleconference Frank Wright, Resident of 36 Sommers Loop in Crystal Bay;
25 Retired Captain Timothy Allen, NLTFPD; Engineer Jason Knight, NLTFPD;
26 Lyndsay Knight Dylan Knight Collin Knight.

27
28 **Approval of Agenda:** Approved as submitted.

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

33
34 Vice-Chair McKay advised that action cannot be taken on Public Comment.

35
36 Incline Village Resident Steven Price attending via teleconference would like
37 to make Public Comment.

38
39 Mr. Price stated that he has been a resident of Incline Village for 28 years
40 and he has seen tremendous change over the years. Mr. Price said he lives
41 at the McCloud complex located at 130 Village Blvd. The complex has 256
42 units, and he is concerned about the safety of residents and the community.
43 He stated that he knows Home Owners Associations (HOA) are not
44 concerned but out of 256 units, they now have 27 that are Short Term
45 Rental Units (STR's).

1 Mr. Price added that his comments are going to be on STR's.

2

3 Mr. Price continued to say he knows other communities across the State
4 have the Fire Department (FD) enforce a lot of regulations and efforts to
5 monitor what is going on with STR's. Especially the number of people that
6 can occupy a unit, an annual inspection and the amount of parking allowed.

7

8 Mr. Price stated that he has witnessed 12 people in a two-bedroom
9 apartment in their complex and the parking is unbelievable. Mr. Price added
10 that he also knows that there are other HOA's where people drive onto, and
11 there are so many cars in the parking lot for guests that the FD would never
12 be able to access the complex in case of an emergency. He said there has
13 been an increase in STRS in the last few years and it continues to grow. Mr.
14 Price stated he believes that the FD should at least have some kind of safety
15 inspections done, in his opinion, and again in his opinion the two main points
16 he is concerned about is too many occupants and the parking.

17

18 Mr. Price stated he believes that those issues could be addressed, and he is
19 wondering why we cannot go back to the Resolution 2017 and update it
20 based on the current situation, as it is getting out of hand. He also said he
21 would like to have the entire community be involved and not so much the
22 self-interest entities that imposed themselves in the 2017 meeting. Mr. Price
23 would like to see if the Fire Board could put the STR situation and Resolution
24 as future agenda item.

25

26 Mr. Price proceeded to thank the FD for all the services the FD provides and
27 is in hopes that we can help with this too.

28

29 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Mr. Price for his Public Comment and added that
30 he had made good points.

31

32 Vice-Chair McKay asked Frank Wright if he would like to contribute with his
33 Public Comment.

34

35 Mr. Wright joining the meeting via tele-conference stated that he did not
36 want to cover the same territory Mr. Price did but that he is running for the
37 Incline Village General Improvement District Board (IVGID) and whether he
38 is elected or not this is an issue that he would like participate in. He would
39 like to see the FD, Washoe County and IVGID come up with a regulatory
40 methodology where they can have oversight, and even a reporting facility, or
41 an agency of its own to advise that there are problems within the
42 community. Mr. Wright stated there was already a fire incident at an STR
43 that caused a death and that there are no extra provisions that he knows of
44 that are undertaken by the FD to go in and make sure these places are
45 compliant with the same type of regulations that you would have in a
46 hotel/motel. Mr. Wright does believe that STRs are hotels/motels that are in

1 residential areas and can affect many people if they get out of hand which
2 they have been.

3

4 Mr. Wright is asking the NLTFPD Board to initiate and get involved with the
5 County Commissioners and IVGID, to see if we can put together a
6 methodology and bring it all under a reasonable set of rules so the
7 community is safe. Mr. Wright believes it is a reasonable thing to have and
8 he believes that as a FD we would want to do that anyway to make our job a
9 lot easier by knowing how STRs are regulated.

10

11 Mr. Wright added that he is always ready and able to help and can be
12 contacted at (818) 601.1996.

13

14 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Mr. Wright for his Public Comment.
15 No further public comment.

16

17 Vice-Chair McKay closed the Public Comment.

18

19 **CONSENT AGENDA:** Approved as submitted.

20

21 Approval of Minutes of the July 15, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting.

22

23 Review of Accounts Payable for July 2020.

24

25 Review of Accounts Payable for August 2020.

26

27 Review of Accounts Payable for September 2020.

28

29 Approval of the July 2020 Monthly Management Report.

30

31 Approval of the August 2020 Monthly Management Report.

32

33 Approval of the September 2020 Monthly Management Report.

34

35 **NEW BUSINESS**

36

37 **1.** Recognition of Captain Timothy Allen's 17 years of service and
38 retirement from NLTFPD, presented by Fire Chief Sommers.

39

40 Chief Sommers began by recognizing retired NLTFPD Captain Tim
41 Allen after 17 years of service. Chief Sommers added that Captain
42 Allen came to our District from Carson City and NLTFPD has been
43 very lucky to have him. Captain Allen has a military background from
44 the Marines and he brought with him good ideas through and such
45 throughout his years at the District. Captain Allen came to us as a
46 Paramedic, and worked his way up to Captain until retirement. Chief

1 Sommers added that currently, Captain Allen is taking welding
2 classes where he was granted permission from, to attend today's
3 meeting. Chief Sommers recognized Captain Allen and expressed all
4 of his appreciation for everything he has done NLTFPD; Chief
5 Sommers thanked Captain Allen for his 17 years of service and
6 congratulated Captain Allen on his retirement.

7
8 Captain Allen began thanking everyone and stated that he is proud
9 of this organization. Captain Allen commented on the high standards
10 of the District, that are amazing, and the great work done at this
11 District. Captain Allen added that in his family, personal and
12 professional life he has received so much help and support from the
13 District and through the many crisis they faced over the years the
14 District has always been behind him. Captain Allen expressed his
15 hopes that he has been able to give some of that help and support
16 back to his co-workers. Captain Allen lastly added that he hopes that
17 he has served the system well.

18
19 Vice-Chair McKay added that he worked with Captain Allen on his first
20 day on the job they worked on the snow mobile training. Vice-Chair
21 McKay commented that he appreciated Captain Allen's personality
22 and worth ethic, and is glad the District had such an exemplary
23 employee. Vice-Chair McKay wished Captain Allen luck in his future.

24
25 Business Manager Cary also congratulated Captain Allen on a great
26 job and his retirement.

- 27
28 **2.** Badge Pinning Ceremony for promotion of employees, David
29 Melkonian, Captain; and Jason Knight, Engineer, presented by Fire
30 Chief Sommers.

31
32 Chief Sommers stated that with retirements, come backfills. Chief
33 Sommers took a moment to advice the Board that Captain Melkonian
34 would not be present for pinning and so his pinning would be
35 rescheduled for a later time.

36
37 Chief Sommers introduced Engineer Knight, by saying Engineer
38 Knight came to NLTFPD from the Medical Industry, Careflight in 2015.
39 Engineer Knight was hired with NLTFPD as a Firefighter/Paramedic
40 (FF/PM) where he has done an outstanding job; he went through the
41 testing process for Engineer this last round of tests and came out
42 well enough to be promoted. Chief Sommers complimented Engineer
43 Knight on the great job he is doing and said that Engineer Knight had
44 been having some Acting time before the promotion. Chief Sommers
45 complimented Engineer Knight on the great job and had Engineer

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Knights wife, Lyndsay Knight, and their two children Dylan Knight and Collin Knight, perform the Badge pinning.

Engineer Knight thanked Chief Sommers and the Board and he and his family excused themselves to adhere to COVID-19 standards.

Chief Sommers informed the Board that we are adhering to the COVID-19 standards and to comply with social distancing we are set up a little bit different from normal for Badge Pinning's, hence why we had families come in and out of the meeting.

3. Discussion of and Possible Action Regarding the Board of Directors' Performance Evaluation of Fire Chief Ryan Sommers and Possible Action to provide and increase in his annual compensation.

Vice-Chair McKay began by stating that on Page 29 of the Board of Directors Meeting packet are the results of the Collective Performance Evaluation. Vice-Chair McKay added Chief Sommers scored very well and that personally he is very happy with his performance this year and not having any issues. Vice-Chair McKay again expressed he was very happy.

Vice-Chair McKay asked if anyone else wanted to make any comments about Chief Sommers Performance Evaluation or performance so they could discuss what to do or not do about his annual compensation increase, or he asked if the record spoke for itself.

Treasurer/Secretary Bremer commented that Chief Sommers does a great job.

Director Cross said that Chief Sommers records speak for themselves.

Director Costalupes said he agreed with the prior comments and that he did not have negative or disparity comments.

Vice-Chair McKay stated he was open to suggestion on what the Board wished to do as far as an increasing Chief Sommers annual compensation.

Vice-Chair McKay asked what the Collective Bargaining Increase (CBI) was this year.

Business Manager Cary stated that page 32, shows the CBI for this year was at 2.8% plus 1%, making 3.8%. Business Manager Cary

1 added that on page 32, there are also different scenarios showing
2 5% increase, 7.5% increase and a 10% increase, and below are
3 salary comparisons throughout the Basin.

4
5 Vice-Chair McKay replied that Chief Sommers is in the middle of the
6 pack as far as Chief in the area and that Union Bargaining, is a 5%
7 raise.

8
9 Treasurer/Secretary Bremer made a motion to increase Chief
10 Treasurer Sommers salary by 5% for the 2020-2021 year.

11
12 Motion seconded by Director Costalupes.

13
14 Vice-Chair McKay asked if there was any further discussion.

15
16 Director Cross confirmed that Collective Bargaining Unit was 2.8%
17 plus 1%, making it 3.8%. Director Cross added that he himself being
18 a Union member he supports what the Union needs and what
19 Management needs and in regards to that, he thinks something in
20 line with what the Union shows and in good faith and from a
21 managerial standpoint.

22
23 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Director Cross for his comment.

24
25 Director Costalupes commented saying that compensation increases
26 do not usually come because of ten years, you do not get them
27 annually because of the time you have spent but rather it is more
28 about the performance. Director Costalupes complimented Chief
29 Sommers on performing excellently all of the time, whether it is at a
30 point of contention, negotiation with other Districts and Federal
31 entities, Chief Sommers is always on top of it and always brings good
32 information to the meetings and to the Board of Directors. Director
33 Costalupes concluded by stating that Chief Sommers has earned the
34 raise, and it is not just because of time spent.

35
36 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Director Costalupes for comment and
37 stated he had good points.

38
39 Vice-Chair McKay asked if there was any further discussion.

40
41 Vice-Chair McKay called the question.

42
43 Treasurer/Secretary Bremer in favor.

44
45 Director Costalupes in favor.

46

1 Vice-Chair McKay in favor.

2

3

Motion carries.

4

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Vice-Chair McKay thanked Chief Sommers for this work.

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- 4.** Discussion of and Possible Action to designate the re-employment of a retired public employee pursuant to NRS 286.523 as a Medical Unit Leader which is a Critical Labor Shortage position, presented by Business Manager Cary.

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Business Manager Cary began by stating that according to Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) in order to have a retiree come back and earn more than \$26,003.50 they have to be a Critical Needs Employee. Therefore, the Board needs to designate a Critical Need Position, which would be a Medical Unit Leader at Fires. Business Manager Cary said that right now there is a shortage of Medical Unit Leaders due to COVID-19 and because of all of the fires currently in the Western states. Business Manager Cary also said that, according to PERS, the Board of Directors would need to go over and discuss each of the questions listed on page 34 of the Board of Directors Meeting Packet to designate the position.

Business Manager Cary read the first question;
History of the rate of turnover for the position: Business Manager Cary read the reply, stating that the position is created under extreme Medical Need, as there is a shortage of Medics/Medical Unit Leaders available to fill Fire Assignments. After release and days of mandatory Rest and Recuperation (R&R), new Fire Assignments are created and Medics/Medical Unit Leaders immediately report and will continue assisting until November or when Fire Season ends.

Chief Sommers stated that every Incident Management Team that exists, there are teams that exist in the Great Basin; five Type 2 and three Type 1's, and that is a tiering system based on how complex the Fire is. The retired individual that qualifies for the position of Medical Unit Lead is on a Type 1 team. Chief Sommers informed the Board that this year has seen more Type 1 teams mobilized than there has been in the last five to six years. He also added that with COVID, the Incident Management Team cannot go out without a Medical Unit Leader and that between Safety and the Medical Unit Leader, they work hand in hand keeping our crews and fellow Firefighters on the fires safe, while putting the Policies in place on how to handle COVID, as their number one priority. Chief Sommers added that we have two Medical Unit Leaders on staff, one is retiree one, and the other Medical Unit Leader that is on staff, fulltime.

1 Furthermore, Chief Sommers stated we have had to deny the fulltime
2 employees requests to go to fires as we cannot backfill in the District
3 and it will continue to be that way. Chief Sommers compared the
4 situation to not sending our Engines out, as we are not getting the
5 staffing to come back in. He added that for us to be able to fill an
6 order with a retiree, it very much helps all of our partners in the Fire
7 Agencies. Chief Sommers added that this is a two-year position, and
8 if in the next fire season, we do not have one or the Type 1 teams
9 do not go out, this does not matter next Fiscal Year (FY) with PERS,
10 therefore it would not impact the next FY between PERS and NLTFPD.
11 Chief Sommers added that it would be to catch up this year because
12 they were utilized so much.

13
14 Chief Sommers said that by saying that it was for these reasons that
15 we are asking for an increase in this position that will apply to a
16 retiree, as it is a very necessary position. Chief Sommers assured the
17 Board that he would not be asking this of them if there were a
18 plethora of people qualified for this position in the Western United
19 States and eligible to go out on fires. Chief Sommers added that we
20 have a qualified Medical Unit Leader, he is on staff, full time, and we
21 cannot send him because we would not be taking care of the home
22 front at that time so we have elected not to send him.

23
24 Chief Sommers also confirmed that with having a retiree fill the
25 position, it would not impact our daily staffing and the position is able
26 to help with the dramatic and catastrophic scene we are seeing the
27 in the Western States.

28
29 Director Cross asked how long it took an employee to be qualified to
30 the level of Medical Unit Leader.

31
32 Chief Sommers replied that Division Chief Powning (DC Powning)
33 would be joining the meeting as he has more knowledge about the
34 guidelines and requirements to answer his question.

35
36 DC Powning replied that it depends on the type of year that it is.
37 During a busy year, it could take one or two years if the classes are
38 available. DC Powning added that with the COVID challenge we are
39 facing, classes in the last nine months have not been offered or were
40 cancelled. DC Powning also added that there are not a lot of trainees
41 right now, because they cannot take the class.

42
43 Director Cross asked how long it took to complete the training under
44 normal circumstances.

45

1 DC Powning replied the training could be done in 2 years if they have
2 the opportunity, under normal circumstances. DC Powning added
3 that with everything going on there is going to be plenty of
4 opportunity.

5

6 Chief Sommers added that this is not a normal year, and we would
7 not be asking for this in a normal year.

8

9 Business Manager Cary, read question two aloud:

10 Number of openings for the position and the number of qualified
11 candidates for those openings after all other efforts of recruitment
12 have been exhausted:

13

14 Business Manager Cary stated that we cannot find Medical Unit
15 Leaders that are available.

16

17 Chief Sommers confirmed that was correct and added that are so
18 many Unable to Fill (UTF) overhead positions this year it is incredible
19 to him that some of those positions are the Medical Unit Leaders (Med
20 L's).

21

22 Business Manager Cary, read question three and four aloud:

23 Difficulty in filling the position due to special circumstances, including
24 special education or experience required for the position and the
25 History and success of the efforts to recruit for the position including
26 advertising, which we do not do, out of state recruitment and all other
27 efforts made:

28

29 Business Manager Cary said that these questions sounds like they
30 are pertaining to more in District duties she doubts we would be
31 advertising for a Medical Unit Leader to go to a fire outside of our
32 District.

33

34 Chief Sommers replied that what Business Manager Cary has stated
35 was correct. Chief Sommers informed the Board that the retiree for
36 this position is classified as a Supplemental Employee on all of our
37 agreements with the Forest Service and when mobilized he goes out
38 under a Forest Service agreement, just like all of our employees.
39 Chief Sommers added the fact that agreements are changing as far
40 as the requirements as to who is going to accept and who is not going
41 to be accepting supplementals from here on out. Chief Sommers said
42 that at the end of the current Fire Reciprocal Agreement, we may not
43 be paid back, and if that is the scenario, we will not have the ability
44 to have supplemental employees. Chief Sommers reiterated that this
45 was strictly for this year and making sure that the retiree is able to

1 fulfill the position and assignment that he obligated to until April of
2 2021.

3
4 Business Manager Cary thanked Chief Sommers for his assistance
5 and information.

6
7 Vice-Chair McKay stated that the case had been made in showing the
8 need this position. He added that it would not do the District any
9 harm and that financially it is no burden for the District. Vice-Chair
10 McKay confirmed that the District was needed a motion to designate
11 a Medical Unit Leader which is a Critical Need Position as of
12 September 8, 2020.

13
14 Vice-Chair McKay called for the motion and discussion.

15
16 Director Cross made motion to designate a Medical Unit Leader,
17 which is a Critical Need Position as of September 8, 2020.

18
19 Secretary/Treasurer Bremer seconded motion.

20
21 Vice-Chair McKay asked if there was any further discussion, or
22 questions that came up during presentation.

23
24 Business Manager Cary stated she did not believe so and added that
25 she may be back at the next Board of Directors meeting with more
26 information as she is not certain whether PERS will accept all of the
27 explanations.

28
29 Vice-Chair McKay called for the vote.

30
31 All in favor, motion carries unanimously.

32
33 **OLD BUSINESS:** No old business.

34
35 *Legal Counsel Reports.

36
37 Legal Counsel Devon Reese present via-telephone call, thanked
38 everyone for the discussions held in this meeting.

39
40 Legal Counsel Reese informed the Board of Directors he would like to
41 put them up to speed on a piece of litigation that has been in our
42 community for the better part of the past 10 to 11 years, related to
43 the Incline Village property owner's issue.

44
45 Legal Counsel Reese stated that this has been heading toward
46 resolution for some time and he wanted to bring the Board up to speed

1 with the most recent development. He informed the Board that in the
2 District Court, Judge Drakulich is now waiting on the School District
3 who has intervined trying to seek a judicial determination that they
4 should not be obligated to pay for the money owed, that they received
5 in error. Rather accounting should pay those out of its own reserves;
6 by levying a tax on community members to pay. Legal Counsel Reese
7 also said this argument has been raised before; one time about six or
8 seven years ago by us, and it was unsuccessful, we took that case to
9 the Nevada Supreme Court and lost it. What is different this time
10 around is simply that the School District believes that they have legal
11 theory that they should not have to pay it, and or the alternative; they
12 should not have to pay any of the interest of legal fees.

13
14 Legal Counsel Reese advised that at this time, he is not making a
15 recommendation to the Board to do anything other than to monitor
16 and continue to monitor the Litigation.

17
18 Legal Counsel Reese explained that if the School District were
19 successful with their argument we would have the ability to intervene
20 at a later point and say, "us too."

21
22 Legal Counsel Reese reiterated that he was not asking the BOD to
23 anything now and added that if the BOD decides to pursue,
24 participating fully in a similar motion or intervention as the School
25 District has undertaken, we are certainly in a position to do that.
26 However, Legal Counsel Reese stated that his professional
27 recommendation is that the District not do anything at this time and
28 simply watch what the court does.

29
30 Legal Counsel Reese stated that if there was something beneficial that
31 could be to the benefit of our District then we could piggyback on. He
32 added that as of right now he is giving the BOD information, he
33 confirmed there has not been agendized any action, and also said that
34 if the BOD is interested in exploring options it would need to be an
35 agendized item at a future meeting date.

36
37 Legal Counsel Reese stated that he was available for questions.

38
39 Vice-Chair McKay asked if anyone had any questions.

40
41 No questions from the Board.

42
43 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Legal Counsel and asked if he had any
44 items on his legal report.

45
46 Legal Counsel Reese replied there was nothing else he had for his

1 report other than that he continues to work with the District and
2 service of the various Divisions on various contracting relating things.

3
4 End of report.

5
6 *Board of Director Comments/Reports.

7
8 Director Costalupes inquired on if there had been any progress on
9 finding out who had been starting fires in the area.

10
11 Chief Sommers replied he had that information in his Board report or
12 he could address that now.

13
14 Director Costalupes stated he would wait for Chief Sommers Board
15 Report.

16
17 No further report.

18
19 *Fire Chief Reports presented by Fire Chief Sommers.

20
21 Chief Sommers began by thanking the Board for the increase in
22 compensation, he stated that he was appreciative and said it is a great
23 place to work, challenging at times but he feels very fortunate to have
24 the Board of Directors and employees that we do.

25
26 Chief Sommers stated that he has been talking back and forth with
27 Legal Counsel and we will have to wait to see what happens with the
28 School District and that it is high priority as it affects the District and
29 there may be a chance to recuperate.

30
31 Chief Sommers moved on to talk about the new boat saying that as
32 the BOD knows the District was awarded a donation from a local
33 foundation. He added that the boat had been on track up until about
34 two weeks ago, a needed pump is on back order, and we are now
35 looking towards the end of November 2020 to receive the boat.

36
37 Chief Sommers moved on to talk about STR's and advised the Board
38 that the County has been at a standstill. He added that we do have
39 quite bit of input on the document that goes before the County
40 Commissioners and Chief Sommers said that if anyone wanted to
41 review that, they could reach out to him to set up a meeting.

42
43 Chief Sommers reiterated that we do have some requirements in the
44 document and we are looking at additional requirements of things that
45 have come up in the last week or two that he will be addressing with
46 Interim Fire Marshall Donohue regarding what direction to take. Chief

1 Sommers also added that if he needed input from the BOD he would
2 reach out to the Chair and Vice-Chair and would advise everyone of
3 what is happening. Chief Sommers reiterated that everything is at a
4 standstill at the County and the last meeting that was supposed to be
5 at the County Commissioner's was removed from the Agenda and has
6 not been back on. Chief Sommers gave his opinion and advised that it
7 may not be on the Agenda before the elections and depending on the
8 results of the election for County Commissioner will drive where it
9 goes. Chief Sommers confirmed we would have to wait and see what
10 happens.

11
12 Chief Sommers reported that the Mt. Rose Ski area is not in our Fire
13 District but it is in our Ambulance Franchise Agreement area. Chief
14 Sommers then informed the Board that NLTFPD was approached by
15 Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD); asking if they could
16 staff an ambulance on the parking lot of Mt. Rose Ski area. Chief
17 Sommers said that to him, that is what is best for the customer, as
18 they are on scene, they are there and it gives some of their Medic's
19 exposure and experience to transport.

20
21 Chief Sommers also stated that we are working on a Memorandum of
22 Understanding (MOU) so that if anyone sees a TMFPD ambulance at
23 Mt. Rose Ski area, it is absolutely through an MOU. Having the MOU
24 and very clear communication that we are helping our partners, as
25 they help us out too and we would not have to go over the hill as
26 much as last year, two to three times a day. Chief Sommers also
27 added that although this year may be different since Mt. Rose will be
28 at 25% capacity and the lodge would be closed.

29
30 Chief Sommers reported three wildland fires in District, which were
31 human caused; however, they were not malicious. Chief Sommers said
32 there is a clause for Arson that is has to be malicious and stated that
33 was not the case.

34
35 Chief Sommers recognized Interim Fire Marshal Donohue on the
36 outstanding job of tracking down the individual along with the
37 Battalion Chief on duty that day. Both did a great job finding what we
38 think and truly believe is the individual responsible for the fires. Chief
39 Sommers added that the fires are still under investigation perse, but
40 are certain the problem has been mitigated and the person is no
41 longer an issue.

42
43 Director Costalupes asked if the individual was a person sleeping out in
44 the woods with a warming fire, otherwise known as a forest dweller.

45
46 Chief Sommers confirmed that was correct and advised the individual

1 in question was removed from the Basin and we do not foresee the
2 issue happening again and added that the good thing was that the act
3 was not malicious as it could have been a lot worse.

4
5 Chief Sommers recognized the crews saying they did an outstanding
6 job, especially during the fire in Crystal Bay; crews were able to
7 handle that fire just fine. Chief Sommers added that being with Grass
8 Valley Dispatch, dispatching the resources from North Tahoe, Tahoe
9 Douglas, and even TMFPD, was seamless to get them on scene and
10 help with the incident. Chief Sommers also said that it goes back to
11 having only one dispatch center in the Basin instead of the three or
12 four that we had in the past.

13
14 Director Cross inquired on the third incident, as he was only aware of
15 two.

16
17 Chief Sommers replied the incidents were on Hwy 28, Northwood and
18 Winding Way and Hwy 28. Chief Sommers stated that the fire on
19 Winding way and Hwy 28 turned out to be very small, but that was
20 where Interim Fire Marshal Donohue was able to question the person
21 of interest.

22
23 Director Cross congratulated Interim Fire Marshal Donohue on a great
24 job done.

25
26 Chief Sommers added that Interim Fire Marshal Donohue did a great
27 job.

28
29 End of report.

30
31 No further questions.

32
33 *Chief Officers Reports presented by Assistant Fire Chief Barnum.

34
35 Assistant Fire Chief Barnum (AFC Barnum) was in agreeance with Chief
36 Sommers about the response to the fires and added that the Captain's
37 and Battalion Chief's (BC) did an outstanding job on the fires. He also
38 added they were able to take control in a quick manner and it was
39 very impressive. AFC Barnum said there was a new hire who was part
40 of the response team and the employee was already able to do a
41 progressive hose lay, move up the hill and gave Kudos to the Captain's
42 and Battalion Chiefs who were on duty.

43
44 AFC Barnum reported for BC Sambrano who is in charge of Emergency
45 Medical Services (EMS), reporting the Paramedic Refresher would be
46 held at the Chateau this year and it will be internal only. The Refresher

1 will be held December 1st -3rd 2020.

2
3 AFC Barnum said we would be participating in a free drive-up Flu Shot
4 Clinic in coordination with Incline Village Community Hospital (IVCH)
5 sponsored by Washoe County Health District (WCHD). AFC Barnum
6 stated WCHD wanted to see if they offered free flu shots, the type of
7 turn out there would be. AFC Barnum added that NLTFPD would be
8 there for logistics and the Nurses would be administering the Flu
9 Shots.

10
11 AFC Barnum reported for Dispatch they are working through some
12 nuisances of the new radio system, like changing some of the settings
13 on some of the local repeater towers. AFC Barnum said the Crews
14 have been very flexible, as there is a learning curve, due to using
15 three different communication tones. AFC Barnum said there will be
16 dual monitor upgrades, as well as new antennas at the old Incline
17 Station, as well as Station 11 and Station 13.

18
19 AFC Barnum reported we had put in for a Grant for handheld radios
20 and were not successful; therefore, we would be looking at demoing
21 some handheld radios to see what direction to go.

22
23 AFC Barnum reported for BC McClelland who is in charge of training
24 reporting we had a house on Cristina Dr. donated to NLTFPD that has
25 been being used a lot for training. AFC Barnum said that a lot of that
26 has paid it dividends on the fires we have had for the new hires. AFC
27 Barnum added that we had just received an additional home that was
28 just donated a couple of days ago so the training opportunities are
29 significant.

30
31 AFC Barnum advised Vehicle Extrication is the focus of the month for
32 training. There will be training done today and he added that they are
33 also preparing of winter operations.

34
35 AFC Barnum informed the BOD that for Offsite Response, we have one
36 single resource from the Operations side currently on its way back to
37 the District and that should be it for the rest of the season.

38
39 AFC Barnum reported for Fleet and said that all of our First Response
40 apparatus are in service and they are preparing for what Operations
41 needs like studs and oil changes. AFC Barnum said they are working
42 on the logistics for the final documentation and resting place to retire
43 for Marine 16 so we have enough space for the new Marine 16.

44
45 AFC Barnum provided a COVID update, stating we had received the
46 first Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supply order delivered in the

1 last four months. AFC Barnum reported the order included a significant
2 amount of N-95 masks, which really lightens the stress for him
3 because now we can assure that our Paramedics will be safer in the
4 near future. AFC Barnum stated that we have had to tag onto the
5 larger purchasers to obtain supplies as being a small purchaser it has
6 been very difficult to obtain supplies.

7
8 AFC Barnum said there have been COVID challenges over the past
9 months but that our Infection Control Office Jill Andersen has been
10 doing an absolute amazing job in making sure that everybody in the
11 District is safe, as well as families and community members.

12
13 AFC Barnum advised the State Laboratory Testing has changed the
14 way they are testing; they are now adding Influenza A and Influenza B
15 onto the COVID tests, which AFC Barnum believes is a good thing so
16 they can be able to separate the two.

17
18 End of report by AFC Barnum.

19
20 Vice-Chair McKay asked if it was safe to say that when there is a
21 COVID vaccine, NLTFPD will be some of the first to get it.

22
23 AFC Barnum replied IVCH is the point of distribution so we would have
24 to work with them. AFC Barnum said he could see us assisting with
25 logistics but they would be the point of distribution.

26
27 Director Costalupes inquired about the Flu Shots, asking if NLTFPD had
28 the stronger dose of the Flu shot for the older population.

29
30 AFC Barnum replied we have the standard Flu Shot. AFC Barnum also
31 apologized for not mentioning that in the District, we do not vaccinate
32 children but the IVCH drive-up clinic will be able to incorporate
33 children. AFC Barnum also said there is an underserved portion of our
34 community and that this clinic will benefit that portion.

35
36 Director Costalupes asked AFC Barnum if he could vaccinate Board
37 Members.

38
39 AFC Barnum replied yes, he could do that at the end of the meeting.

40
41 Chief Sommers took the opportunity to ask the people who called in
42 via teleconference if they could mute their phones due to a lot of
43 background noise.

44
45 Vice-Chair McKay asked if there were any further questions, no
46 questions.

1 *Prevention Reports presented by Interim Fire Marshal Donohue.

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Interim Fire Marshal Donohue reported she submitted the Prevention Report via email to be included in the Board packets but if anyone had any questions, she would be happy to answer them.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue also wanted to clear up on an item brought up at the beginning of Public Comment.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue referred back to the fatality mentioned during Public Comment. Interim Fire Marshal Donohue stated that the fatality that we suffered in the area was not because of a STR. Interim Fire Marshal Donohue also added that it was a misconception the Public has and she would like to get it cleared up, as it did not occur in a STR.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue confirmed that we are working closely with the County on the regulations; and as the Board is aware, legally, there is a fine line of being able to go into someone’s private home and doing a fire inspection. She added that this has been a part of the issue with having a regulation, and as to why we are holding off and working with the County to get an ordinance and have something adopted through a business license process.

Vice-Chair McKay asked if there were any further questions, no questions.

Director Costalupes said he would like to comment and said he liked the idea of people applying for a license that will allow us to perform the inspection, although there will be people that do not follow the rules.

Vice-Chair McKay stated that he was curious about the Cal-Neva and asked if there had been any movement of submission of plans.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue replied that there was nothing that involved the District.

Prevention Board Report

- I. Prevention Report, September 2020 (22 regular working days)
 (Inspector Smith away from District Sept. 21-25 for training)
- A. Inspections Completed = **71**
 - 1. Business License, Reoccurring/Annual, Re-inspections,
 Complaints = 33

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End of report.

*Business Manager Reports presented by Business Manager Cary.

Business Manager Cary reported that she is working on year-end business and the Annual Audit.

End of report.

*Public Education Information Officer Reports presented by PIO Rancourt.

PIO Rancourt’s Board Report was submitted via email to be included in the Board packets but if there were any questions, she would be happy to answer them.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

1. 2019 AFG Open Application Period 2/2/2020 – 3/13/2020
 - a. Submitted grant for radios \$176,798.57 (\$168,379.59/federal; \$8,418.98/non-federal match (5%)
 - i. 88 radios/mobile and portable; fuels and ops
 - ii. As of Sept 9, our FEMA region representative said they have two more weeks of awards so we should be notified by 9/23. As of October 15th, we have not received notification, so we are assuming we did not unfortunately get grant funding.
2. CAL FIRE Ad Campaign Series
 - a. We collaborated with CAL FIRE and filmed the third of series of 3 TV spots for this summer season. The spot focused on Defensible Space and home hardening (the other 2 were about FAC’s and Evacuation). Thank you, Ryan Dominguez/Fuels Prevention Specialist, for being our star!
 - b. Link - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tx7SIismzE>
3. Fire Prevention Week/October 10/4 – 10/10
 - a. Distance Learning/working with NT Fire, TD Fire to create videos to share in our schools and follow up with Zoom Q&A
 - b. Link - https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GSK8rIZj3Q7MYae_ryoHszje3uLRbyoj/view
 - c. Emailed IES and LTS online activities, and videos
 - d. Following up with Zoom Q & A meetings

- 1 e. Hosting information table at Incline Middle School
- 2 October 19th, 20th
- 3
- 4 4. Website Upgrade
- 5 a. Our new site launched 7/22
- 6 b. Working on content update, adding photos
- 7 c. Adding language translation option to website in
- 8 September
- 9 d. Added 'Featured Article' on homepage for 'easy to find'
- 10 time sensitive information
- 11
- 12 5. B & C Shift Battalion Photos – Thursday, Sept 24
- 13 a. B Shift 0730, C Shift 0800, Individ. photos 0830
- 14 i. Individual photos for:
- 15 1. AFC Russ Barnum
- 16 2. FF Chase Purinton
- 17 3. FF Courtney Kollasch
- 18 4. FF/PM Cory Crosby
- 19 5. Admin Asst. Andreina Quiroz
- 20
- 21 6. Physicals Scheduled
- 22 a. Part 1 = Oct 19, 20, 22
- 23 b. Part 2 = Nov 2,3,5
- 24

25 *Local 2139 Union Reports presented by Union President Byrne.

26

27 Vice-President (VP) Jim Nelligan, of the Local Union 2139 introduced

28 himself on behalf of the Union President Jeff Byrne. VP Nelligan

29 reported that with the retirements and promotions acknowledged

30 earlier, four new employees were hired, they are currently at the

31 Academy and all four have joined the Local Union; the Union now

32 consists of 43 members.

33

34 VP Nelligan stated the Union wanted to acknowledge the great work of

35 the District, AFC Barnum, and the Infection Control Office Jill

36 Andersen, and how commented on how well it has been working

37 together through COVID. VP Nelligan stated it has been great for the

38 Union members, who have COVID questions related to guidelines and

39 how we are going to do things, or the accessibility to a test, the

40 cooperation has been great and they are very thankful for that.

41

42 VP Nelligan added that the one thing that will be different with them

43 this year is that although their Local is not a Charitable Organization,

44 they always like to raise money and donate that money at the end of

45 the year to the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation. VP

46 Nelligan said that unfortunately due to the have atmosphere with

1 Coronavirus they have not had the usual opportunity to raise money
2 for that Charitable cause, which is unfortunate. VP Nelligan added that
3 they are hoping to be able to collect and donate next year on behalf of
4 the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation.

5
6 End of report.

7
8 Vice-Chair McKay thanked VP Nelligan and asked who was assisting at
9 the Academy this year.

10
11 Chief Sommers replied that this year Captain Ashby was assisting.

12
13 ***NRS 241.020 re: Public Comment.**

14 **This is a Time for the Public to Comment on any Matter, Whether or**
15 **Not it is Included on the Agenda of this Meeting.**

16
17 Mr. Wright provided Public Commented saying that listening to Legal
18 Counsel Reese's position in returning tax dollars; he was taken aback by
19 the fact of the timing and what the School District is asking for. Mr. Wright
20 added that a reconsideration on the responsibility of the School District
21 because they did not have a say in the law suit, and they had to sit back
22 and wait and see how the County accrued so much in interest over the
23 years by not going forward with the law suit that they lost.

24
25 Mr. Wright commented that the Fire District has a big say in this fight as
26 far as financial responsibility goes. Mr. Wright added that having to wait
27 until after the School District gives a rendition on their decision and leave
28 the Fire District off that decision making process, and thinking that maybe
29 at the end of the arguments over whether or not the school District has a
30 legal mandate.

31
32 Mr. Wright commented that he believes the Fire District is being cheated
33 out of the opportunity because once the ruling is made, they will move
34 forward with whatever that ruling was.

35
36 Mr. Wright stated that he does not believe the Fire District has the
37 opposition to file a similar action because of the time factor unless the Fire
38 District files to tag onto the School District position. Mr. Wright added that
39 he is hopes that the Fire District would be held with the same light as the
40 School District when the final decision comes out.

41
42 Mr. Wright expressed that to not position ourselves is irresponsible on the
43 Attorney's part and stated that he disagrees with Legal Counsel Reese's
44 position on this matter.

45
46 Mr. Wright advised the BOD to maybe talk to Legal Counsel and ask if it is

1 a position, the District should take in order to protect ourselves and be a
2 part of what the School District might accomplish as an idea.

3

4 Vice-Chair McKay thanked Mr. Wright for his Public Comment.

5

6 No further Public Comment.

7

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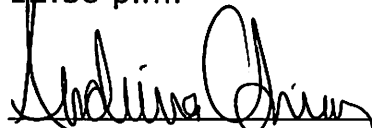
9 **Meeting Adjournment.** Vice-Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at
10 12:38 p.m.

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Andreina Quiroz, Secretary



Susan Herron, Chairman