1 2	NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
3	April 12, 2018
5 6	LOCATION: 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.
7 8 9	MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Chairman McKay called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
10 11 12 13 14 15	ROLL CALL OF THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present: Greg McKay, Chairman, Susan Herron, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary Treasurer; James Costalupes, Director; Dennis Perry, Director; and Beckie Dunn-Spomer, Secretary.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	GUESTS PRESENT: Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Sharon Cary, NLTFPD; Bryan Calder, NLTFPD; Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; Mark Regan, NLTFPD; Dave McClellan, NLTFPD; Tia Rancourt, NLTFPD; Alan Green, NLTFPD; Tim Allen, NLTFPD; Jeff Sambrano, NLTFPD; Rick Jones, Citizen; Art Cross, Citizen.
22 23 24 25 26	Chairman McKay introduced Art Cross as a tentative Board member; Art Cross has applied to run for the open board seat and is running unopposed. Mr. Cross said he is a 26 year citizen of Incline Village, a father of two and a former firefighter.
27 28	APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Agenda approved.
29 30 31 32 33 34 35	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. Rick Jones, a 36 year resident of Crystal Bay, stated he was delighted to see all the work that has been done by the hand crews and the District's Fuels Management program in the upper region of Crystal Bay.
36 37 38 39	CONSENT AGENDA – The consent agenda was approved with minor changes to the minutes.
40 41	Approval of Minutes of the March 12, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting
42 43	Review of Accounts Payable for March 2018.
44 45 46	Approval of the March 2018 Monthly Management Report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1 2 3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

1. Review and Discussion of the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Tentative Budget.

Fire Chief Sommers thanked staff and personnel for assisting in putting the budget books and materials together. Fire Chief Sommers stated the budget is tentative and difficult to forecast due to pending litigation with the taxpayers of Incline Village and Crystal Bay and the possibility of a large tax refund in the future. He also mentioned there might be some fall back from the State of Nevada's litigation with AT&T and the issue of overpayment of sales and use tax to the State. Fire Chief Sommers pointed out the District has not increased its tax rate in five years to stay consistent and conservative in our budgeting. He then introduced Business Manager Sharon Cary to discuss the tentative budget for fiscal year (FY) 18-19. Business Manager Cary started out by discussing the first page of the budget book, which is an overview of changes from last FY to this FY and actual budget expenses and revenues. She pointed out if there were changes in departments or funds it would show up as a percentage of change to budget (column three on page 1). Business Manager Cary moved on to explain the four different funds the General, Capital Projects, Debt Service, and the Ambulance funds. All monies are received in the General Fund and distributed from there to the appropriate funds. The property tax revenue line shows an increase in estimated revenue for FY1819, due to property values in Incline Village increasing. Consolidated taxes, which is a combination of miscellaneous taxes, are estimated to be the same as actually collected in FY1718. Fuels management and fire response reimbursements are budgeted on estimated amounts from the actual monies received in FY1718. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) class fees, permits, and fees are based on the amount of permits issued and classes taught. Other income is higher because of the Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) funds. Director Herron asked why the fire response reimbursement fund is higher for the FY1819 then it was in FY1718 while the District did not hit budgeted amount for FY1718. Business Manager Cary said the amount

Other income is higher because of the Other Post-Employment Benefit (OPEB) funds. Director Herron asked why the fire response reimbursement fund is higher for the FY1819 then it was in FY1718 while the District did not hit budgeted amount for FY1718. Business Manager Cary said the amount of fire revenue will increase from FY1718. Fire Chief Sommers explained the actual only shows what has physically been paid to the District, however, there is still \$400,000.00 in outstanding invoices that will be paid before the beginning of FY1819.

Business Manager Cary explained the increase in salaries and wages and benefits are due to the inevitable increase in health care expenses of 12% and a regular increase in wages. She said she would explain the other increases in the individual departments as she goes through the budget. Debit service fund shows a transfer of \$1,003,573.00 to cover amounts currently owed and to set up a reserve. The Capital projects fund transfer will be explained later in detail. The ambulance fund transfer will be the

same amount of \$1,400,000.00. The Property tax refund of \$1,800,000.00 1 and interest of \$1,250,000.00 is the District budgeting to repay the property 2 owners of Incline Village and Crystal Bay in the event litigation is settled in 3 their favor. This leaves the District in a negative net change position of 4 (\$4,026,897.00). The net change for FY1819 after position savings over 5 roughly \$300,000.00 is (\$3,728,894.00). The District budgeted for a 6 beginning fund balance for FY1718 at \$7,451,193.00 and an ending fund balance of \$5,199,466.00 and it was actually \$8,097,837.00. The FY1718 8 ending fund balance should be \$6,165,271.00 as well as beginning fund for 9 FY1819. After expenditures, the budgeted overall ending fund balance for 10 FY1819 is \$2,436,377.00. Director Perry asked if the interest of 11 \$1,250,000.00 is an accurate number for the amount of interest the District 12 will be required to pay. Business Manager Cary said the amount budgeted is 13 what the County assessor's office projected it to be. Director Herron said in 14 clarification the District has not paid this money out, it is being saved, in the 15 event they are required to repay the property owners of Incline Village and 16 Crystal Bay who are involved in the tax revolt. Business Manager Cary 17 agreed and Fire Chief Sommers said the interest is based on the unknown 18 balance at six percent, according to the Nevada Revised Statue (NRS). 19 Art Cross asked if the property taxes and consolidated tax amounts have 20 changed with the economy. Business Manager Cary said yes, and explained 21 revenue dropped considerably during the great recession and is just now 22 starting to come back with the economy. The consolidated taxes are based 23 conservatively on the amount the District actually received in FY1718. The 24 consolidated tax will change according to tax revenue throughout the state. 25 Director Perry pointed out the legislature controls the consolidated tax so it 26 could change. The District also gets a local government relief tax, which 27 generally ranges from \$400,000.00 to \$600,000.00. However, every 28 legislative year it is up for discussion as to keep it or not, so it could change. 29 Business Manager Cary asked for more questions. 30 Citizen Rick Jones asked to be excused from the meeting. 31 Business Manager Cary moved on to the General Fund, Administrative 32 Executive section. The highlighted areas within the budget are costs that 33 increase or decrease as a cost of doing business. The vacation leave in all 34 departments has increased to follow the District's Policies and Procedures. 35 An employee may not accrue more than three years vacation, so this 36 requires the District to pay out any employee who accrues more than the 37 allowed vacation. In the past, the budget has not reflected this expense 38 directly, this FY the budget reflects the actual estimated amount spent to 39 buy back the accrued vacation in every department as needed. Health 40 insurance is going up, according to the advice of our insurance brokers, so 41 the budget will show an increase in health insurance across the board for all 42 departments of 12%. The Professional fees and dues/memberships will 43 cover the lobbyist and our legal fees which have gone up to cover litigations 44 and such. The Administrative Services Department salary has increased due 45

to a request for a part-time position in administration. Audit expense 1 increased by \$3,000.00, for the Governmental Accounting Standards Board 2 (GASB) 75 implementation. Professional fees increased by \$12,000 for the 3 GASB 75 necessitated actuarial valuation and \$20,000 for the annual audit 4 of the Post-Retirement Plan and Trust. The Information services department 5 budget has gone down because there is only one Information Technology (IT) person this year. Fleet has also gone down in this budget because there will only be one mechanic in FY1819. 8 In Suppression, the increase in retiree medical premiums, is an in and out as explained earlier with the OPEB fund for retiree medical expenses. The 10 Operating expenses are explained in the requests from staff for ongoing 11 expenses and new requests. 12 Business Manager Cary introduced Fire Marshal Regan to explain his request 13 for the new position of Fire Inspector/Pre-Tahoe Regional Planning 14 Association (TRPA) plan reviewer. Fire Marshal Regan explained with the 15 increase in new construction and the changes being made at the county 16 building department, a new inspector is needed to help with the overload on 17 the prevention department. Fire Marshal Regan explained the District would 18 utilize this position to perform the yearly inspections required of public, 19 commercial, industrial, residential and other buildings and property to 20 ensure compliance with current fire codes and regulations. The increased 21 amount of Pre-TRPA reviews are due to the suspension of Memorandum of 22 Understanding (MOU) with Washoe County and TRPA. This position will be 23 paid for with Fuels Management revenue of \$50,000.00, and Permit and 24 Fees revenues from Prevention collected by the District. The District issued 25 386 permits and fees in 2017 and this year the District has issued 320 26 permits as of today's date, which has produced \$86,000.00 for the year so 27 far. This position would be a qualified Fire Inspector; the Fire Inspector will 28 perform Pre-TRPA inspections; annual required business inspections and new 29 construction inspections. Fire Marshal Regan pointed out there are many 30 businesses and structures in the District that have been converted and not 31 inspected in a timely manner due to the shortage of qualified staff to 32 perform these duties. Chairman McKay asked for questions. Director 33 Costalupes pointed out the Fuels management budget has been running 34 under budget. Division Chief Powning explained as of now 60% to 70 % of 35 the fuels management specialist time is being used to do defensible space 36 inspections for new construction and Pre-TRPA reviews and not the grant 37 mandated projects. This position will free up the fuels management 38 specialist to be able to work on the fuels management monitoring and 39 vegetation management which is a grant revenues and not District funds. 40 Fire Marshal Regan pointed out this week alone there was 12 Pre-TRPA plans 41 submitted. Director Costalupes said as a builder in the community he has 42 seen the overload at the county and Pre-TRPA, which slows down the whole 43 construction progress cycle and costs the contractor time lost and profits. 44 Director Perry asked Division Chief Powning and Fire Marshal Regan if the 45

permits and fees were going up. Business Manager Cary said the numbers in 1 the budget are conservative as the actual amount in permits and fees 2 revenue is unknown as of now. Fire Marshal Regan said the District will take 3 in close to \$100,000.00 by the end of the fiscal year. Director Perry asked 4 Division Chief Powning if he understood it correctly, by hiring this suggested 5 position, it will free up the fuels management specialist. Division Chief 6 Powning said yes by freeing up the 60% to 70% of time it will allow the fuels management specialist to work on grant reimbursable projects. Director 8 Herron asked if the District is bringing in that much in fees why would 9 prevention need the \$50,000.00 from fuels and if there is additional funds 10 where would it go. Fire Marshal Regan said it is a buffer if the permits go 11 down the funds would cover the excess, and it would go back to the general 12 fund if not needed. Director McKay asked for more questions, he then gave 13 his explanation of how this situation developed. There was a loss of 14 personnel at the County building department and lack of staff at TRPA which 15 has effected all parties involved including the District, he believes it is the 16 District's place to step up for its constituents to foster construction and 17 economic development. Fire Marshal Regan added the District needed this 18 position last year before the situation with the County and TRPA, but it is a 19 definite need now with the added permits and requests upon the District. 20 Director Perry asked Director Costalupes, as a contractor, do the steps that 21 a contractor goes through and the hold up from the County and the TRPA 22 really effect the contractors. Director Costalupes said yes, there is a definite 23 effect and if it continues people will start bootlegging stuff in without the 24 permit process. Fire Marshal Regan agreed with him about bootlegging and 25 the time loss to contractors, then the District is forced to bill for overtime 26 inspections or write more citations. Director Costalupes asked what the Fire 27 Marshal meant by citations. Fire Marshal Regan replied a citation would be a 28 fine to contractors for working without a permit or proper paperwork, a fine 29 issued to students at Sierra Nevada College for tampering with smoke 30 detectors in their rooms, or citizens burning illegally with or without a burn 31 permit. Chairman McKay asked if there were any more questions. 32 Chairman McKay then turned the meeting back over to Business Manager 33 Cary. Business Manager Cary explained the operating request for the Fuels 34 budget is moving money from one account to the other to cover the radio 35 replacement needs. 36 The Prevention Public Education fund is the same as last year with an 37 explanation of expenses in the narrative by Public Information Officer Tia 38 Rancourt on page eight A. The prevention budget includes the additional 39 position. The four foremen in the Fuels budget are currently not in the 40 Police Fire Public Employees System (PERS) category. Division Chief Powning 41 has been working on a proposal for the PERS board to have the foreman 42 position included in the Police Fire category, to insure they will have Heart 43 and Lung benefits. This change will increase the amount of PERS paid by the 44 District by an estimated \$24,000.00. The PERS amount is lower in FY1819 45

45

because of an error in calculating PERS on overtime hours for seasonal 1 employees. Overtime hours are not PERS compensable. Director McKay 2 asked if the overtime budgeted for FY1819 is reimbursable through fire 3 revenue. Business Manager Cary replied yes, most of the overtime is 4 reimbursable. There are a few times in a year when overtime is required of 5 the hand crew staff, e.g. Fourth of July, extremely bad weather. 6 The reimbursable fire expense and the homeowner's rebate increased to better reflect the cost of these programs. In FY1718, the Ambulance fund 8 received \$401,000.00 in Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) 9 Reimbursement. The District anticipates \$496,000 for FY 1819. Director 10 Perry asked if these are the funds the District has been working on getting. 11 Business Manager Cary replied yes, and it has finally paid off. Director 12 McKay pointed out with the \$1,400,000.00 transfer in from the general fund 13 and with the offset of the GEMT monies, the District's Ambulance fund is not 14 in such a deficit. 15 Business Manager Cary explained the Capital Projects budget page is a list of 16 all the capital projects anticipated over the next five years, which is a 17 Nevada Revised Statue (NRS) budget requirement. Business Manager Cary 18 turned the explanation of the capital projects over to Fire Chief Sommers. 19 Fire Chief Sommers started by explaining the projects in the capital project 20 fund such as: the front door at station 12, the flooring in station 11, the fire 21 suppression system for the server room at station 11 and lockers for station 22 12 to keep the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in better shape, all of 23 these projects are budgeted for FY1819. He then moved on to discuss the 24 purchase of a type one engine with all the equipment that is needed to outfit 25 it for service it is budgeted at \$800,000.00 and then the District will sell one 26 of the current 20 year old engines. The purchase of an ambulance cab and 27 chassis is needed with a budgeted cost of \$176,805.00, the ambulances in 28 service now have been switched out with new boxes already, and the District 29 is in need of updated equipment for its first out vehicles. Utility vehicles are 30 budgeted at \$70,000.00, and \$60,000.00 for a fuels management vehicle to 31 replace some of the aging fleet, the budgeted amount of \$40,000.00 is set 32 aside for a new fuels crew carrier to be purchased next FY. Fire Chief 33 Sommers passed around the included handout with pictures of the current 34 boat, Marine 16, which was purchased 30 years ago for \$.50 from 35 government surplus. The new boat is budgeted at \$200,000.00. The amount 36 requested will include a pump and the necessary equipment to outfit the 37 boat for service. Director Costalupes questioned the budgeted amount and 38 type of boat suggested in the handouts, and asked how the current boat 39 would be sold. Fire Chief Sommers reaffirmed the amount budgeted is an 40 estimate to cover the expenses of outfitting a recuse boat for the District, 41 along with taking into consideration the unique services required from the 42 public. Since the boat was bought through the government surplus as per 43 the requirements it must be sold the same way. Director Perry asked if 44 Washoe County Sheriffs are still, per legislation, required to respond for

- search and rescue on the lake. Fire Chief Sommers said he believes if there
- is a patient involved, they would be the District's responsibility for treatment
- and transportation off the water. Director Perry asked if there was a MOU
- 4 with Washoe County Sheriff Office (WCSO) for these types of incidents. Fire
- 5 Chief Sommers said the District initiates the search and rescue for WCSO,
- 6 until they arrive on scene, then if a patient is found, it becomes our rescue
- 7 operation for that patient. Director Costalupes asked if the District has
- 8 divers, Fire Chief Sommers said no only surface rescue swimmers. Chair
- 9 McKay asked for questions and said the Board would like updates on the
- purchase of the boat.
- Fire Chief Sommers briefly went through the purchase requests for
- technology to keep the District current with ever changing technology. Fire
- 13 Chief Sommers said there is a budgeted amount for new Zoll monitors.
- 14 Battalion Chief Sambrano said the older model monitors the District
- currently has are not compatible with the newer equipment and need to be
- replaced on our first out engines.
- 17 The tire changer needs to be updated to allow the mechanic to work properly
- on the equipment the District has now. The aerobic equipment is to replace
- and update the equipment in use now.
- The budgeted amount of \$205,000.00 in FY2022-2023 is to replace the
- 21 aging radio system at the County. The purchase of the new system will be
- passed on to the agencies using the system, and the radios need to be
- purchased to keep up with the changes in the systems as they change.
- 24 The budgeted amount of \$26,500.00 is to train and equip a few staff to
- repair and test our Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)'s in house
- because, the company which the District has been using, is no longer doing
- 27 the testing. Director Costalupes asked what kind of testing is done and how
- the tanks are filled. Fire Chief Sommers explained each is pressure tested
- 29 and the tanks have a shelf life as well, each tank is filled here at the District
- 30 already so having the training and equipment would pay for itself in two
- 31 years.
- 32 The budgeted amount to replace the Shore Tel phone system, because the
- system is not supportive to the Districts' current needs. The forcible entry
- training door is needed to keep our staff current in the new type of doors
- being installed in commercial buildings.
- The tow behind grill was approved in FY1415 and never purchased.
- However, the grill the District has been borrowing will no longer be available,
- so the District has a few ideas on different grills that are less expensive than
- 39 previously budgeted.
- 40 Business Manager Cary followed up by explaining the total proposed
- expenditures are \$1,605,324, of which \$1,000,000.00 would be financed.
- The General Fund transfer to Capital Projects is \$565,324.00. The
- ambulance and other EMS items are purchased out of the ambulance fund.
- Director Perry asked if it would be a good idea to finance these purchases
- 45 pending the Tax Revolt situation. Business Manager Cary said yes, that is

- the plan. Fire Chief Sommers said when the financing is arranged he will
- 2 make sure there is no early buy out penalties. Director Perry asked what
- the interest rate is these day. Business Manager Cary said the District uses
- 4 Marty Johnson to secure financing and he thought he could get an interest
- 5 rate at approximately three percent. Director McKay asked the Board their
- 6 thoughts on financing, Director Perry said he is in favor of financing until the
- 7 Tax Revolt is decided. Director Herron also agreed, adding she does not
- 8 believe the tax revolt will go in favor of the District so financing and bonding
- 9 is the best approach. Director McKay asked Director Costalupes and Bremer
- if they were in favor of financing and they both agreed.
- 11 The Board took a ten minute break.
- Director McKay reconvened the meeting and turned it over to Business
- Manager Cary. Business Manager Cary said the next subject is Debit
- Service. Last year there was no transfer to the fund. This FY the transfer is
- \$1,003,573.00, which will cover the current year debt payments and a
- reserve for next year. The District should be out of debit by 2024 if it stays
- on the current path of payments showed on page 18.
- Business Manager Cary said the next few pages are analysis of the budget in
- different formats, she briefly explained the salary range page is now up to
- 20 date salary with current salaries show on Transparent Nevada. Director
- Herron asked if the budget is approved as is, these salary ranges will be
- 22 effective. Business Manager Cary said yes.
- 23 The five-year plan is a requirement to show where the District will be in five
- years. According to the statute, there must be four percent of previous
- operating expenditures in our fund balance. The ending fund for FY22-23 is
- close to the allotted amount required by the NRS statute, so if nothing
- 27 changes the District will have to possibly finance the radio system or other
- expenditures required. Director Perry asked if there was a copy of a five year
- 29 plan from five years ago, Business Manager Cary replied yes if he wanted a
- 30 copy she would give him one.
- 31 Business Manager Cary asked if she could talk about the negotiations.
- 32 Director McKay agreed. Business Manager Cary said the District is in
- negotiations with the Local 2139 because the contract is up at the end of
- this fiscal year June 30, 2018. The plan is to have a closed session on May
- 23, 2018 to discuss the negotiations progress.
- 36 Director McKay asked if there were any more questions for Business
- 37 Manager Cary. Business Manager Cary said she will be available for any
- 38 questions.

39

41

43

45

- 40 **OLD BUSINESS**: None.
- 42 **REPORTS**
- *Legal Counsel Reports: Nothing to report

*Board of Directors' Comments/Reports. None

2

1

*Fire Chief Reports. (Fire Chief, Ryan Sommers)

- 4 Fire Chief Sommers said the forest service (Albuquerque Service center) will
- 5 no longer pay for fires outside of forest service lands, so he will be
- 6 negotiating with Forest Service and the Bureau of Lands Management (BLM)
- to arrange the payment method for fires the District is called to.
- 8 The District is going to conduct the Lake Tahoe Basin OES peer reviews at
- 9 the end of the month, Division Chief Powning will be handling it.
- 10 Business Manager Cary already covered the negations with the Local 2139.
- If the budgeted amount to purchase a boat is approved, the District will be
- in need of a pier with an appropriate lift. Fire Chief Sommers and Assistant
- 13 Chief Calder will visit with a couple Home Owner Associations (HOA)'s one at
- 14 Vivian Lane and the other at Pine Cone Circle which have piers and discuss
- the possibility of building or extending the pier and lift to handle the new boat.
- 17 Fire Chief Sommers and Division Chief Powning will be participating in the
- Incident Management Teams (IMT) training for Wildland Fires next week.
- 19 Fire Chief Sommers explained he was selected to be an IMT trainee this
- 20 season for Sierra Front.
- 21 Director McKay asked if the REMSA agreement is close to being completed.
- 22 Fire Chief Sommers said yes and asked the Board's permission to sign it
- once it is completed. Director McKay asked for approval from the Board, all agreed.
- 25 Fire Chief Sommers asked if there were any questions regarding his report.
- 26 Director Costalupes inquired about the piers on Vivian Lane and Pine Cone
- 27 saying they sometimes get locked out with bad weather and asked if the
- 28 District still has access to the lift and pier at Crystal Bay pump area. Fire
- 29 Chief Sommers said yes, and it is still very early in the planning stage. There
- are other locations being considered including the possibility of a public
- 31 safety pier at Sand Harbor.

32 33

34

35

36

37

38

39

*Chief Officers Report (Assistant Fire Chief, Bryan Calder)

Assistant Fire Chief Calder updated the Board on the in house training being presented by the fuels division for wildland training requirements. There have been some changes in the local WCSO personnel, there is now a resident sergeant and a few new deputies. The District has been reaching out to them and participated in trainings such as, training for active shooter incidents and has trained with each of the Battalions. The District has one candidate at the academy now and he his is doing very well.

40 41 42

*Fuels Management Reports. (Division Chief, Isaac Powning)

- Division Chief Powning said the crews have gone to North Tahoe Fire
- 44 Protection District as part of the California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC)
- agreement to do piling burning, however there was an issue with

1	notifications so it will be postponed till a later date. The crews are preparing
2	to do pile burning on the Diamond Peak Ski area next week. There will be
3	two new squad bosses starting next week to help with the pile burning. The
4	rest of the seasonal will not start until May 21, 2018 due to weather
5	conditions not being favorable.
6	
7	*Business Manager Reports. (Business Manager, Sharon Cary)
8	Business Manager Cary wanted to thank her staff for all the help in
9	preparing the budget books and the information to present for the Board.
10	*Dublic Education Information Officer Deposits (Dublic Education
11	*Public Education Information Officer Reports. (Public Education
12	Information Officer, Tia Rancourt)
13 14	Submitted report via email.
15	*Local 2139 Union Reports. None
16	
17	NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT. This is a time for the public to
18	comment on any matter, whether or not it is Included on the agenda
19	of this meeting. None.
20	
21	Meeting Adjournment. Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at 11:18
22	a.m.
23	
24	
25	
26 27	
28	
29	Beckie Dunn-Spomer, Secretary Greg McKay, Chairman