

TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PREVENTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
April 20, 2015

Those Present:

Chairman Larry Schussel
Vice Chairman Greg Felton
Trustee Bill Kirschner
Trustee Kevin Kjer
Trustee Steve Seibel
Fire Chief Ben Sharit
Legal Counsel Devon Reese
Assistant Chief Tim Allison
Battalion Chief Rich Nalder
Fire Marshal Eric Guevin
Fire Inspector Todd Stroup

Captain Bill Romanowitz
Captain Chuck Salerno
Firefighter Ben Arrate
Firefighter/Paramedic James Ward
Forester John Pickett
Engineer Andy Isenberg
Office Manager Kate Warner
Accounting Specialist Carrie Nolting
Administrative Assistant Casey O'Neill
Former Trustee Ann Grant

1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Chairman Schussel.

3. Roll Call.

Chairman Schussel, Vice Chairman Felton, Trustee Kirschner, Trustee Kjer and Trustee Seibel were present. A quorum was present.

4. Approval of Agenda.

Vice Chairman Felton motioned to approve the agenda. Trustee Kirschner seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved 5-0.

5. Public Comment.

Chief Sharit introduced TDFPD's new Legal Counsel Devon Reese.

6. Approval of the Consent Calendar.

Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes 03/26/15
- b. Monthly Expenditures
- c. Strategic Plan – Workforce Excellence Update

Trustee Kjer motioned to approve the Consent Calendar items. Trustee Seibel seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

7. For Possible Action: Consent items moved forward.

None.

8. Presentation: Review of the FY 2015-16 Tentative Budget. No action will be taken.
Fire Chief Ben Sharit

Cover Page/Form 1 The budget contains 5 funds requiring property tax revenues totaling \$5,594,927 reflecting an Ad Valorem decrease of approximately \$28,000 and a CTX increase of approximately \$89,000 over the prior year. The budget contains 6 governmental funds with estimated expenditures of \$11,971,657 and the Ambulance Enterprise Fund with expenditures of \$2,783,895. The FY 2015-16 budget is a work in progress and the public hearing is scheduled for May 21, 2015.

P1/Form 4 Full Time Equivalents by Function
The Assessed Valuation is at \$1,089,565,376 with a decrease of approximately 7 million.

P2/Form 27 Property Tax Rate and Revenue Reconciliation
The tax rate remains the same at 0.6381%.

P3/Form 5 Schedule A – Estimated Revenues & Other Resources
6 Funds

P4/Form 6 Schedule A-1 Estimated Expenditures and other Financing
Salaries & Wages, Employee Benefits, Services/Supplies, Capital Outlay, Operating Transfer Funds.
Balanced with expenditures at about 18 million and revenues at 18 million.

P6/Form 12 Schedule B-General Fund - Revenues
The Ad Valorem taxes for the General Fund represent .38 with a small decrease of approximately \$28,000 due to the Assessed Valuation. The CTX went up by approximately \$89,000.

Other Sources of Revenue - The 2012 SAFER Grant revenue is set at \$113,876.

Total revenues are at \$9,407,350 with a decrease of approximately \$1.5 million from the prior fiscal year due to SAFER Grant funds.

- P8/Form 14** **Schedule B-Capital Projects Fund – Revenues/Expenditures**
Voter Approved Tax Override of .02, or \$171,788.
A drop in Ad Valorem taxes caused a loss of approximately \$2,000 from the prior fiscal year.
- P9/Form 14** **Schedule B- Sick Leave Fund – Revenues/Expenditures**
.01 in Ad Valorem taxes for a total of \$85,894 with a slight decrease of approximately \$600 from prior fiscal year.
The anticipated amount of retirements with paid out sick leave has a possible expenditure of \$292,000. These numbers account for any employee eligible for retirement.
- P11/Form 14** **Schedule B- Health Insurance Fund – Revenues/Expenditures**
Revenues from 3 different funds: General, Ambulance Enterprise and Fire Safe Community.
General Fund, including all fire suppression forces = \$1,728,597.
Ambulance Fund for 15 paramedics = \$553,161.
Fire Safe Community Fund = \$112,669.
Total transfers in = \$2,394,427.

Anticipated expenditures = \$2,894,409 with a transfer of approximately \$500,000 from the RBIF.
- P12/Form 14** **Schedule B- Fire Safe Community Fund – Revenues/Expenditures**
Shows a .05 tax override equating to \$543,513.
- P14/Form 20** **Schedule F-2- Ambulance Fund – Statement of Cash Flows**
Shows .20 for Ad Valorem taxes equating to \$1,717,876.
- P15-17/Form 23a-c** Scheduled transfers in and out.
- P18/Form 30** Lobbying Expenses are zero.
- P19/Form 31** Schedule of Existing Contacts for anticipated Legal Fees, Medical Director, Accountants, Auditor, Ambulance Billing, Storage, Dept. Insurance,

Health Insurance, Life Insurance, Cobra Insurance etc. are generally at a 5% or 10% increase to be safe.

P21/Form 32 Explanation of Ending Fund Balance with an approximate ending fund of 4.8% for fiscal year 2016.

Vice Chairman Felton asked if the board will have a final version of the budget anticipating that the expenses will not change, assuming that the only likely changes would be on the estimates from the state.

Chief Sharit said the state's estimate should not change. If they do change, typically it will happen within the next month by only a small amount. At this point and time, the expenses should be accurate, except for a few more items coming back from the Capital Projects meeting. The budget will be brought back for the public hearing next month with any noted adjustments.

9. Presentation: Discussion of the Ambulance Rate Review. No action will be taken.

Assistant Chief Tim Allison

Chief Allison stated that the district conducted a survey of the current ambulance rates and found that the only agency with significant changes was Truckee Fire. All other neighboring agencies have stayed consistent with their rates.

Chairman Schussel asked for clarification that different types of transports were charged at the same rates.

Chief Allison replied yes; some agencies choose to charge the same flat rate for different types of services. However, most agencies charge different rates depending on the cost of the service. For example, ALS1 services are less than an ALS2, and therefore would charge a lower rate based on the actual cost.

Current billing rates for TDFPD are shown on the last line of the Ambulance Rates Survey for 2015. Chief Allison averaged the rates for all other neighboring jurisdictions to demonstrate how they compare to TDFPD.

Trustee Kirschner asked why the rates for Truckee Fire are twice the amount of all the other agencies in the area.

Chief Allison replied that they completed their survey through different agencies in California including Los Angeles, San Francisco and Bay area communities. He is not sure if their expenses are really that high, but the cost allocation plan determined service rates based on these areas

in California. TDFPD has a cost allocation plan for our EMS system and we are not even close to this number.

Chief Sharit added that it could possibly be that the higher rate, the higher the reimbursement is for Medi-Cal or Medicare.

Furthermore, Chief Allison stated that Truckee Fire included all of their supply fees in their base rate. This makes it much easier for the billing and coding companies. The ICD 10 codes are still on schedule to go into effect in October 2015, which will increase the number of codes (90 to several hundred codes). This will not affect TDFPD too much, but the workload for the ambulance billing company will be more difficult.

The last time rate adjustments were made was in 2013 due to the higher cost of medications and mileage rates. These rates increased to \$150 for medications and \$24/mile for mileage. Drug shortages continue to cause an increase in medication prices; however, rates remained the same in 2014. Central Lyon has two rates (\$165 or \$500) for treated on scene depending on how many interventions they take for advanced, moderate, and non-emergency services. All other neighboring agencies charge a flat rate. TDFPD falls below the average in every category. Once NV HHS goes into effect, revenues for Medicaid transports will go up. TDFPD transports about 82 patients each year and anticipate that this number will increase due to more people signing up for subsidized medical insurance from the Affordable Care Act. A conservative estimate would be about a \$100,000 increase in revenues. The first meeting with NV HHS to begin this process is scheduled for May 8th. All trustees are welcome to meet with Chief Allison to give him direction on this matter. Chief Allison's first inclination is to at least go to the average billing rate, coordinating with our cost allocation. He will complete another cost allocation plan through NV HHS and anticipates saving about \$1200-\$1300.

Chairman Schussel asked if there has ever been a connection between increasing rates and less people paying their bills off.

Chief Allison stated that initially there was a downward trend in the collection percentages because the contracted providers for CMS can only collect a portion of the full cost. Collection percentages went down a bit in 2013 finishing in the upper 40s. However, this year no changes were made and TDFPD is up at 55% of collections year to date. The state amendment should make a big difference as well, because as a CMS provider, TDFPD can write off 90% of all Medicaid transports and about 20-25% of Medicare transports.

Vice Chairman Felton asked what conclusion Chief Allison could draw from this information.

Chief Allison answered that it all comes down to the cost allocation and what the actual cost is to provide those services. You must take into consideration what is equitable for our tax payers and what can keep the system running.

Vice Chairman Felton asked what the ideal number would be in order for us to feel like we are covering our costs.

Chief Allison responded that again, this comes down to our cost allocation, which is around \$1200 per EMS call.

Vice Chairman Felton observed that when looking at Truckee Fire's rate, added up TDFPD's base rate and costs and found that even if you add all these charges, TDFPD still does not come close to Truckee's rate.

Chief Allison reiterated that Truckee completed their cost allocation study in comparison with larger agencies in Southern California and the Bay area.

Vice Chairman Felton asked if Chief Allison thought this is why TDFPD is considerably above the average on medications because we have recently adjusted and others have not?

TDFPD could have absorbed costs in other areas, but decided to raise the rates based on the increasing prices for medications which are a large portion of district costs.

Vice Chairman Felton agrees to charge people based on what it costs the district for those services. He asked how TDFPD decides whether to charge patients or not after treating on scene.

Chief Allison replied that there are certain criteria to look at from the billing company. If the patient is treated and not transport then this is considered an AMA and there is no charge to the patient. There is a fee for situations where you would charge and not transport directly to the hospital. For example, when an ambulance transports a patient to a helicopter landing in order to fly a patient. Generally, the ambulance must move in order to charge for services.

10. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action on Resolution #01-2015 to endorse an exclusive Ambulance District within Douglas County for TDFPD.

Assistant Chief Tim Allison

Chief Sharit stated that this endorsement is for a Douglas County ordinance for the prevention of emergency medical services within the county itself. There are two fire districts in Douglas County, TDFPD and East Fork FPD. This is a proposal to support the ordinance for providing

ambulance and related emergency medical services within our district boundaries. This ordinance is already in place in counties around Nevada including Carson City, Storey County, Central Lyon County and Washoe County. Douglas County is the only county without an ordinance. Chief Sharit and Chief Allison also spoke to the EMS Chief from East Fork Fire about the matter and agreed that it should be addressed.

Chief Allison added that he and Chief Sharit met with Chairman Schussel and Trustee Kjer and understood that there were concerns with the endorsement of an ordinance with our district obstructing a private enterprise to provide ambulance or emergency medical services here. This is not the intent of this ordinance. It states that no other person, firm, corporation or association may provide ambulance services within the county without prior approval from the governing bodies. This is to ensure that we know who they are and what kind of certifications they have in order to verify that they meet the standards of care.

Chief Sharit added that TDFPD is not getting in the way of any private enterprise. This ordinance ensures that if another provider comes into the county for a special event that they have the same high level standard of care that TDFPD provides to our tax payers and our visitors. This ensures that we have the same ordinance in place as other surrounding counties.

Chief Allison provided an example that REMSA and Carson City each have exclusive provider ordinances for their respected counties and they have an MOU with each other in order to perform transports within each other counties. All of our neighboring agencies and all counties in California already have this ordinance in place.

Trustee Seibel asked as far the motion goes, should East Fork Fire be included in that motion?

Chief Sharit replied that this is specific to our governing body. East Fork Fire will bring this before their governing body, Douglas County Commission.

Trustee Seibel motioned to approve the action. Trustee Kirschner seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Felton believes it is possible that citizens may interpret this that is a protective step the district is taking. He believes that our role is to provide the best services to our residents and visitors.

Trustee Seibel and Trustee Kjer concurred with Vice Chairman Felton's comment.

Motion approved 5-0.

11. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action on Resolution #02-2015 to participate in the State of Nevada FICA Alternative Deferred Compensation Program as an alternative to Social Security coverage for seasonal employees.

Fire Chief Ben Sharit

Chief Sharit stated that he became aware of the NV FICA Alternative program through other seasonal employers in our area. The FICA Alternative plan is an alternative to Social Security coverage as permitted by the federal Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990 (OBRA). This plan would relieve the fire district of employer contributions required for Social Security while providing the option for an employer match. This means that in lieu of the seasonal employee paying into social security, they would have a plan similar to the current TDFPD Deferred Compensation plan. The seasonal employee would pay into the VOYA program with a guaranteed 2.5% return rate. If approved, this resolution will go before the NV Deferred Compensation Committee for their approval on May 21, 2015. The Zephyr Crew starts work on May 20, 2015 and ideally, the plan would need to be in place by the beginning of the IRS tax quarter (July 1, 2015). If approved by the state, an agreement would be made similar to what is in place for current full time employees. The employees would contribute 6.2% of their pay check, but an employer match would not be guaranteed. The issue of the employer matching contributions will be brought to a future board meeting for discussion. The benefit to the seasonal employee is that it's completely portable and they can start saving early for retirement. The Zephyr Crew supervisor and foreman met with those agencies already utilizing this program and agreed that it was a good program.

Vice Chairman Felton asked for clarification on the numbers displayed on the action item in the board books. He thought he heard 6.5% when the board books page shows 7.5%.

Chief Sharit corrected his previous statement. It should actually be an employee pre-tax contribution of 6.2%.

Office Manager Warner stated that she believes the 7.5% is for FICA and the 6.25% is for the social security. If you reference the attached agreement, it states 7.5%.

Chief Sharit stated the number is 7.5% employee pre-tax contribution.

Chief Sharit added that if the board approves this action item, then it will go before the NV State Deferred Comp. Committee next month for approval. If approved, it will not affect the seasonal employees until July 1, 2015.

Trustee Kjer asked how much the cost to the tax payers would be.

Chief Sharit replied zero. There will not be an increase in cost to the tax payers; it will be the same expenses as there are for Social Security.

Chairman Schussel reiterated that this is not a difference in costs just a difference in programs. His understanding is that it is deciding between the two programs without having the crew's input because they are not on board yet.

Chief Sharit said that he received input from the crew's supervisor and foreman and those returning seasonal employees contacted were interested. This plan is good for the employees and there will be no increase in costs to the tax payers.

Vice Chairman Felton added that just like Social Security, the employee would have no choice in whether or not they want to participate in the program. But, they could choose to liquidate their account after termination. He presumed that through this program the employee would have more control of where the funds are invested.

Chief Sharit stated that for this specific program, it would only have guaranteed earnings of 2.5%. Once separated from employment, they can transfer into many different types of retirement accounts (IRA, 401K, etc.).

Trustee Seibel asked if the employee can keep their funds in this program at 2.5% forever.

Chief Sharit answered until 2059 or whenever they reach retirement age.

Vice Chairman Felton interpreted this as a minimum of 2.5%.

Chief Sharit said that number is the current rate. It does not fluctuate up or down.

Trustee Seibel asked if the employees in the program would probably be employed for 2-3 years.

Chief Sharit said yes. These are for employees who are not paying into PERS. Also, if you are paying into PERS then you would not be eligible for Social Security.

One public comment made from Ann Grant. She would prefer this program as a young person because you can transfer the money elsewhere for a better return when you leave.

Trustee Kirschner motioned to approve the action. Vice Chairman Felton seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved 5-0.

12. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action regarding minor revisions to vacation accrual time in the Employment Contract of Fire Chief to comply with Nevada law.
Fire Chief Ben Sharit

Chief Sharit stated that this item is regarding his current employment contract with the board, which states that he is set to accrue 30 shifts of 8 hours of vacation time annually and has the option to rollover up to 4 unused vacation days (32 hours) from each current fiscal year to the next. There is no provision for sell back at any time. Also, last year Chief Sharit lost vacation

time and had to cancel a vacation this year due to unforeseen circumstances of the former Assistant Chief's retirement. He does not anticipate being able to utilize 5 weeks of vacation time that are still on the books.

Proposing two options:

1. Approve a change to the 2011 Fire Chief agreement expanding the provision for: The rollover up to 50% unused accrued vacations hours from each current fiscal year to each successive fiscal year; and the sell back of up to 50% unused accrued vacation hours, payable in the last pay period of the fiscal year, calculated at the hourly rate.
2. Take no action. The Fire Chief will likely forfeit a significant amount of unused accrued vacation hours this fiscal year as he did in the prior year.

Chairman Schussel asked if our legal counsel had any additional thoughts since in the action item it says to comply with NV law.

Legal Counsel Reese explained that he has reviewed other employee contracts at the executive level officers that exist in Northern Nevada and all of those contracts include provisions that are very similar to this. The proposal is for the fire chief to rollover and purchase a part of the accrued vacation hours. It is generally true under NV law, that when an employee separates from employment that they are paid for all of their accrued or unused sick and vacation time. Essentially, the current contract attempted to avoid this part of NV law.

Vice Chairman Felton asked for clarity on the action item; it discusses what happens at the end of the fiscal year and not at retirement.

Legal Counsel Reese stated that this particular provision talks about the way in which it is accrued or rolled over for each fiscal year. However, there will ultimately be a time when Chief Sharit decides to retire.

Vice Chairman Felton stated he understood. His point is that you said most people in a similar position have the opportunity to cash out based on whatever is on the books at retirement. He does not think this action item addresses that.

Reese stated that some will cash out at intervals throughout the years. He gave the example of the Meeks Bay Fire Chief where he had accrued about 2,600 hours of unused vacation time, which resulted in costing the district almost half a million dollars. There will come a time when Chief Sharit will retire and it is important that he is paid out in intervals rather than rolling everything at the end. The provision is for the purchase of the vacation time at yearly intervals avoiding this consequence at the end.

Vice Chairman Felton assumed that there will be a provision in the chief's contract to pay him the remaining vacation time at the end.

Reese responded yes, that is true under NV law.

Vice Chairman Felton stated that this is not a matter of whether or not to pay out at the end, but what to do at the end of each fiscal year.

Reese stated that right now the chief does not have the ability to carry forward his accrued time. There are some days that are carried forward under the current contract and the remaining balance, however large that may be, would find a loss of 4 or 5 weeks of vacation time. The board could also ask the chief to use the vacation time before the end of the fiscal year. The point being that he would lose these weeks for not being able to carry forward according to the current contract.

Trustee Seibel added that he was a bit confused with the action item and before he makes a decision, he would like more information in order to understand this better. He proposed to table the action item and bring it back to the May board meeting.

Trustee Kjer concurred with Trustee Seibel. He tried to crunch the numbers and believes he personally does not have enough information to make a decision today.

Trustee Seibel stated that he does not have an issue with dealing with it. He feels the board needs to deal with it and must be fair to the chief.

Chief Sharit stated that he brought the item before the board today because there are less than 70 days left in the current fiscal year and he does not anticipate going on vacation for 5 weeks before it expires.

Chairman Schussel asked that if the board tables this item for next month, is there more information to be provided in order to make a sound decision or is it just a matter of thinking it all over.

Trustee Seibel stated that personally, he would like to review the chief's contract and get a better understanding of this first, and then sit down with the chief to discuss before the next meeting.

Trustee Kirschner added that Chief Sharit works very hard for this district and does not want to see him lose his vacation time.

Trustee Felton stated that everyone in the district has a contract and knows the terms of the contract. He would want to review the terms of the contract and understand why they were set this way for the fire chief in the first place. He thinks the board needs to be cautious because you do not want to set a precedent that anybody who did not use up all their time asks for this and reasonably expects it.

He sees it as two months ago, an unforeseen circumstance happened with the Assistant Chief leaving, and it would be reasonable to expect that a good amount of the vacation the chief was going to take this year was affected. He thinks we need to be fair and careful.

Trustee Kjer added that it would help if the board could view different fire chief contracts as a comparison to find out what other agencies are doing.

Reese emphasized that the other contracts he has reviewed for other chief officers all provide these kinds of buy-outs. The Chief's contract has holes in it compared to other fire districts and it is not consistent with other internal contracts.

After meeting with Chief Sharit last week, Vice Chairman Felton understood the emergency service personnel and battalion chiefs have the option to buy back and roll over time. However, he did not discuss fire prevention staff and the Assistant Chief's contracts.

Reese stated that they have the ability to roll over all the accrued hours. He can provide other chief officer contracts to the board for their review.

Vice Chairman Felton stated that it is a reasonable expectation for employees to take vacation time throughout the year. If the board takes no action and tables it, then he would expect the chief to take some vacation time between now and the next meeting as he may have to use the entire 5 weeks before the end of the fiscal year.

Reese stated that the board could motion for the contracted year only. The board could recognize the unique nature of the Assistant Chief leaving the organization, which resulted in this compressed schedule for the fire chief.

Reese said that the board has two options today:

1. To table the action item for another date and put it back on the agenda.

Or

2. To make a main motion.

Trustee Seibel made a motion to table this item to a later meeting. Vice Chairman Felton seconded the motion.

Trustee Kjer commented that if we do table this, he wanted to assure the Chief that he does a great job. This is not to punish him in anyway.

Trustee Seibel agrees. The motion is to not avoid doing something; it is to have a better understanding of the situation and the contracts. He fully intends to deal with the issue and to be 100% fair to the Chief.

Chairman Schussel encourages the Chief to go ahead and take time off if it works out within the organization.

Motion approved 5-0.

- 13. For Possible Action:** **Discussion and possible action to revise policy to clarify that chief officers will be compensated for out of district assignments for response to reimbursable “all risk” incidents.**
Fire Chief Ben Sharit

This action item came from a California Fire Assistance Agreement Rates and Reimbursement workshop. This agreement before the board requires an update to annual rates for wildland and all risk assignments. TDFPD must identify that the employees sent on these assignments can be billed from the time of dispatch to the time of return (portal to portal) and will be compensated. For example, the assistant chief and battalion chief’s agreements identify that they will be compensated for straight time for out of district assignments because they are salaried employees. If it is a captain level or below, they will be billed for time and half. At the chief officer level, must pay straight time because typically there is no back fill for these positions. This document is in lieu of having to send 3-5 different contracts and provides that that all employees (salaried and hourly) will be compensated for all hours billed from agency to agency.

Trustee Seibel asked that, if a battalion chief goes out on a fire and is there for seven days, does he get paid straight time.

Chief Sharit said yes, straight time for seven days and bill for straight time. An employee that goes out on Strike Team who normally works 40 hours per week Monday thru Friday, so those days on the fire the district would be compensated for those 40 hours not the employee. At the same time, from 5pm – 8am the following morning, then the employee would be compensated for those hours.

Vice Chairman Felton asked if the Assistant Chief went to a fire for seven days, then he would be expected to work five days with two days off. So, if he worked the two additional days, then they would bill straight time.

Chief Sharit said yes, and for the night hours too. It is from the moment a person is dispatched to when they are back in the district. And for that salaried employee, you would bill for twenty-four hours per day with 8 hours of that time being compensated back to the district because they are already being paid for their straight salary.

Right now, some agencies do not have an agreement in place to bill for portal to portal for salaried employees. This document covers all staff (salaried and hourly) billing portal to portal, so that you do not have to send more than one agreement.

Vice Chairman Felton motioned to approve the action. Trustee Kirschner seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion approved 5-0.

14. For Possible Action: Discussion and possible action to authorize the replacement of the inflatable collar and associated components on Marine 24 at a total cost not to exceed \$11,000.

Battalion Chief Jim Antti

Chief Sharit spoke for Chief Antti as he was unable to attend the meeting. After years of wear and tear, the inflatable collar on Marine-24 has developed small leaks which require either replacement of the vessel or replacement of the collar. Options are to purchase a new vessel for an estimate of \$60,000 or to refurbish this piece of equipment to extend the life of it. When Chief Sharit delivered the vessel to Arcadia for an inspection, they found that the boat did not need a brand new collar and could repair it for about \$5,000.

Chairman Schussel asked if they could check for other possible problems other than the known leak on the collar.

Chief Sharit said that they went through a testing process on the entire vessel and did not find any other major issues with the vessel.

Trustee Kirschner motioned to approve the action. Trustee Kjer seconded the motion.

Vice Chairman Felton asked if the existing polyurethane fabric collar is the same generation as the one that would have been purchased new.

Chief Sharit said yes that is correct.

Motion approved 5-0.

15. Report Item: Review of Monthly Fire District Activities. No action will be taken.

Fire Chief Ben Sharit

Employees Years of Service Recognition:

Fire Chief Ben Sharit	30 Years of Service
Zephyr Crew Supervisor Keegan Schafer	7 Years of Service
Fire Marshal Eric Guevin	5 Years of Service

Updates:

Financial Summary – Shows the current money market balance, approximately \$600,000 was purchased in CDS and Financial Advisor Omel is currently shopping for more to find the best rates possible.

Attachments:

Southtaoenow.com Article – TD Rotary honors Captain Ralph Jones.

State of NV Letter – Annual Audit Filing Completed for Fiscal Year 2014.

Western Fire Chiefs Association - Former Fire Board Trustee Grant honored.

2015 Business EXPO – TDFPD attended this annual event.

Laketahoenews.net - Fire District residents, Mr. and Mrs. Truxler acknowledged TDFPD's support of their nephew, injured Fresno Fire Captain Pete Dern. The Local 2441 hosted a pancake breakfast and raised about \$3,500 for Captain Dern and his family.

16. Report Item: Fire District Division Reports.

Assistant Chief Tim Allison, Fire Marshal Eric Guevin, A-Shift Acting Battalion Chief Bryce Cranch, B-Shift Battalion Chief Rich Nalder, C-Shift Battalion Chief Jim Antti and Crew Supervisor Keegan Schafer

Operations/Administration/Training – Assistant Chief Tim Allison:

- **Single vehicle accident at SR 207 Buchanan** - extrication was required, one patient flown to Renown and two transported to Barton.
- **Barton Hospital is now an accredited Level 3 trauma center** – Responded to a call where a person fell and cut his external jugular, helicopter was unable to transport due to windy conditions, contacted base station at Barton to send patient to the trauma surgeon and had a good outcome. Trauma Coordinator at Barton said our crews did an outstanding job.
- **Acting Battalion Chief Rotation - Captain Bryce Cranch** completed his two month rotation as BC for A-shift. **Captain Brandon Brady** just began his rotation with a completion in June and **Captain Todd Moss** will take over as the final Acting BC.
- **June 8th Evacuation Drill in Skyland** – in process of coordinating this event with Former Trustee Ann Grant.
- **Engineer's Academy** - Recognized Captain Bryce Cranch, Mechanic Gregg Gemmet, Captain Chuck Salerno, Engineer Steve Prather, Captain Brian Zabel, Engineer Will Morgan and Battalion Chief Rich Nalder with their assistance in Phase 1 of the Academy.

- **Firefighter/Paramedic Chris Wade** completed his EMS probationary process.
- **Firefighter/Paramedic TC Ghisletta** completed his Haz Mat Technician training.
- **Kahle Easter Egg Hunt** – sponsored by Local 2441.

Fire Prevention Report – Fire Marshal Eric Guevin:

- **Senate Bill 477** – Sprinkler Ordinance – fighting this bill as it is contrary to our ordinance, went through the hearing, partially amended.
- **Defensible Space Training** - completed for Engine Companies. Curbside Defensible Space Inspections coming up next month.
- **Fire Sprinkler System in Lake Village** – system failed, faulty installation, must put back into service in some way. Asking if they can do without the system or help mitigate the costs, issue between homeowners and ABC Fire.
- **Hard Rock Hotel & Casino** – signed off on low rise permit, still working on the tower.
- **Thanked Inspector Todd Stroup** for his work on special events permits, preparing for a busy concert season.
- **Business Inspections** with Engine Companies – 95% completed.
- **Operational Permits** - Lots coming in. Generally can process them within 10 business days.

Facilities - B-Shift Battalion Chief Rich Nalder:

- **Health and Safety** – Due to fire season starting 6-8 weeks early, wildland pants have been approved start wearing now. Physicals completed, certain employees had low or no immunity to measles, will offer immunizations for those people.
- Preparing for fire season and getting **Strike Team equipment** together.
- **Zephyr Crew/Frontier Building** – actively seeking live investments, building is painted and glass work completed, garage door to be installed, flag pole and signage coming soon – “Crew Quarters No. 22”.
- **Fire Stations** – annual spring cleanup, inside and out. Some projects to complete. Station 24 and 25 updates for appliances and flooring.

Fuels Management – Forester John Pickett:

- **NDF Defensible Space Grant**– in process of applying for grant, residents can schedule their inspections and submit an application for grant funding.
- **Compost your Combustibles** – Opening Memorial Day – July 4th. More information next week may be able to negotiate an earlier open date.
- **Recognized Accounting Specialist Carrie Nolting** and all her assistance with the defensible space grant program for district residents.
- **Welcomed the Zephyr Crew** back - start date is May 20th.

- 17. Discussion: Confirm next meeting, with a proposed date of Thursday May 21, 2015 with a start time of 3:00pm and possible agenda items.**

Suggested agenda items:

- Tabled action item regarding minor revisions to vacation accrual time in the Employment Contract of the Fire Chief to comply with Nevada law.

15. Adjourn.

Vice Chairman Felton motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Trustee Kirschner seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Closed Session: Not needed at this meeting.

This meeting was recorded on audio tape.

Casey O'Neill
BOT Secretary
Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District

APPROVED