

TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
October 16, 2024

Those Present:

Chief Scott Lindgren

Chairman Greg Felton

Vice Chair Ben Johnson

Legal Counsel Paul Cotsonis (virtual)

Trustee Stacy Noyes

Trustee Janet Murphy

Trustee Larry Schussel

1. Call to Order

Chairman Felton called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Fire Inspector Kris Rowlett led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call.

Chairman Felton, Vice Chair Johnson, Trustee Noyes and Trustee Schussel were present. A quorum was met.

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Vice Chair Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Second: Trustee Noyes.

Motion approved: 4-0.

5. Public Comment:

Linda Hoffman-Rudy, District resident, explained that she and her husband Michael maintain insurance on their first home without any issues. They purchased a second home in the District and before moving into their new property, they consulted with Tahoe Douglas Fire, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) and the State of Nevada. These consultations ensured that the property was well-prepared and met the necessary home hardening and defensible space requirements.

After receiving a notice from their insurance company, Linda contacted Chief Schafer to update him on the situation. She expressed concerns regarding:

- The Nevada Division of State Lands (NDSL) did not remove trees that needed to be removed, according to her insurance policy
- An increase in insurance companies not renewing homeowners' insurance
- Requesting more help from the District in obtaining/maintaining homeowner insurance
- Insurance companies use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to measure fire risk

Trustee Murphy arrived at 2:33PM.

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6. Trustee Comments:

Vice Chair Johnson thanked TDF Board of Trustees candidates (Dan Kruger, John Breaux) for attending the Board meeting. Trustee Schussel acknowledged the fundamental problem that Linda Hoffman-Rudy discussed in public comment and thanked her for her comments. Chief Lindgren will discuss the difficulties that District residents are experiencing with home insurance with the State Insurance Commissioner.

7. Approval of the Consent Calendar.

- a. Board Meeting Minutes 09/18/2024
- b. Monthly Expenditures

Trustee Noyes made a motion to approve the consent calendar.

Second: Vice Chair Johnson.

Motion approved: 5-0.

8. Consent items moved forward:

None.

9. Special Recognition

Fire Chief Scott Lindgren

October

Firefighter/Paramedic Daniel Glover	5 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Cade Bolton	4 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Joseph Fording	4 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Corey McCarthy	4 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Matt Steventon	4 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Nolan Weintz	4 Years of Service

Captain Curtis Baker	3 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Austin Evans	3 Years of Service

Firefighter/Paramedic Mason Brewer	2 Years of Service
Firefighter/Paramedic Djair Sancho	2 Years of Service\

10. Set a date for the Annual Performance Appraisal for the Fire Chief and select Board Members to compile results for the Performance Appraisal.

Chairman Greg Felton

ADO Warner proposed a plan for the Fire Chief Performance Appraisal:

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11/01/2024 – Finalize evaluation form

11/15/2024 – Fire Chief Self Evaluation

- ADO Warner will coordinate Trustees interviewing Division Officers

11/29/2024 – Trustee evaluation forms due

12/13/2024 – Consolidated evaluation will be provided/Fire Chief interview completed

12/18/2024 – BOT Meeting Agenda

Trustee Murphy made a motion that Vice Chair Johnson and Trustee Noyes represent the committee to complete the Fire Chief Performance Appraisal, including accepting the proposed plan submitted by ADO Warner.

Second: Trustee Noyes.

Motion approved: 5-0.

11. District Divisions

Wildland Fire & Fuels - Division Chief Keegan Schafer

Chairman Felton thanked Chief Schafer for the division's work in clearing Edgewood Properties, located behind Bally's casino.

Chairman Felton asked for clarification on what is happening with the trees in Rabe Meadow. Chief Lindgren advised that the beavers dammed the meadow, which resulted in flooding the trees and now there are around 100 dead trees. Chief Schafer is communicating with the Forest Service regarding how to mitigate this issue.

Vice Chair Johnson asked how the Kingsbury Fuel Breaks Project is going. Chief Schafer responded that it is going very well. The Spider excavator is excavating around Upper Kingsbury.

Chief Schafer advised that the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is updated every 10 years and the 2024 version is close to being finalized. Chief Lindgren discussed the importance of the CWPP, advising that funding for fuels reduction can be very difficult, therefore if a priority fuels project is not listed in the CWPP, then it will be even more difficult to get the funding for the project. DS Van De Hey will send the CWPP link to the Trustees.

Administration Division Officer - Kate Warner

ADO Warner thanked Chief Lindgren and her administration staff for the support and teamwork while she was out of the office.

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ADO Warner advised the Board that the District credit card bill for July added up to over 500 pages. The current process is very tedious, so the Administration team is looking into other ways to streamline this process.

ADO Warner reached out to Stuart Shipley from Edward Jones Investment, and he is unable to attend both October and November Board meetings.

ADO Warner and HRS Nalder met with Workers Compensation to review the 2024 claim status.

HRS Vindel is diligently updating the District's policies and job descriptions.

ADO Warner and HRS Nalder attended a benefits symposium sponsored by LBG Advisors which was an excellent training and networking opportunity. Mental health and specialty drugs present the highest risk to medical plans, and a Rx data analysis was requested.

DS Van De Hey is the Website Project Lead.

Trustee Murphy had to leave the meeting for an emergency at 3:21 PM.

Fire Prevention Bureau - Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Bryce Cranch

Chief Cranch discussed the recent wrap up of the Harvey's Summer Concert Series, positive feedback regarding the George Whittell High School Fire Science Program and thanked PIO Turner for coordinating with all the neighboring agencies in organizing FireFest on September 28th.

12. Review of Monthly Fire District Reports and Activities including an update on the Helicopter Base and Program at George Whittell High School.

No action will be taken.

Fire Chief Scott Lindgren

Chief Lindgren acknowledged the concern regarding homeowner insurance. Chief Lindgren, Chief Sommers and the Parasol Community Foundation met with State Insurance Commissioner, Scott Kipper a year ago, where they discussed the problem that some homeowners have been facing obtaining and maintaining insurance. Kipper will be doing a tour in the area where the Davis Fire burned, showcasing the NV Energy fuel breaks and how those fuel breaks aided in stopping the fire from progressing.

Chief Lindgren discussed the update on the Fire Rescue Helicopter Program. The District is currently in the design phase with the goal of having a community meeting at George Whittell

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High School in December. The meeting will be a great opportunity for community members to ask questions and view the design plan.

Chairman Felton asked for a status update on the District's fire engine that is being rebuilt in Las Vegas. Chief Lindgren confirmed that the engine had to be completely rebuilt. The engine will be completed in November, and it will cost the District less than half of the cost of a brand-new fire engine.

There was a water rescue call for service at Deadman's Point. Chairman Felton responded with Douglas County Search and Rescue. The rescue jet-skis were able to rescue all patients.

13. Public Comment

Linda Hoffman-Rudy mentioned the artificial intelligence application, First Street, advising that, according to their website, the application claims to *"leverage the most advanced climate science and engineering approaches to quantify and communicate the risk for every property in the country."* Some of the insurance companies utilize this application when evaluating a property.

14. Confirm next meeting, Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 2:30 PM; possible agenda items.

The next meeting is being rescheduled to November 20, 2024.
Meeting adjourned at: 4:02 PM

Submitted by:

Amanda Van De Hey
District Specialist