## TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING July 16, 2025

## **Those Present:**

Chief Scott Lindgren
Chairman Ben Johnson (virtual)
Vice Chair Stacy Noyes (virtual)
Legal Counsel Devon Reese (virtual)

Trustee John Breaux (virtual) Trustee Dan Kruger (virtual) Trustee Ben Ward (virtual)

#### 1. Call to Order

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:31PM.

## 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Chief Lindgren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

## 3. Roll Call

Chairman Johnson, Vice Chair Noyes, Trustee Breaux, Trustee Kruger and Trustee Ward were all present. A quorum was met. All Trustees attended the meeting virtually.

## 4. Approval of Agenda

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

Second: Trustee Ward Motion approved: 5-0

### 5. Public Comment

Lisa Hokholt and Terry Huff, community leaders of the Zephyr Heights Firewise Program, spoke at Station 23 on behalf of their neighborhood. They shared that it's their first full year as an officially recognized Firewise community and expressed appreciation for the excellent services provided by TDFPD. They noted that collaboration with the District has significantly improved their wildfire risk reduction efforts, alongside motivation from insurance requirements related to defensible space and home hardening.

Hokholt shared that many residents, including a couple she spoke with recently, have been unable to find fire insurance and cancellations are common - something she and her husband have also experienced. These insurance challenges have become a major motivator for residents to take action, including implementing home-hardening and wildfire prevention measures.

Hokholt explained that to maintain their official Firewise recognition, the community must report the amount of green waste removed. As of now, they've removed at least 433 cubic yards of green waste through both the fire districts and their own efforts - comparing the volume to

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several football fields. There is no formal volunteer reporting system in place, and much of the green waste likely goes untracked despite biweekly assessments and trailer data collection.

Hokholt expressed gratitude on behalf of the Zephyr Heights community, sharing that neighbors regularly thank them for their efforts and consistently praise the fire district staff. She specifically highlighted the success of the Green Waste Trailer Program which has been heavily utilized in their neighborhood.

*Upcoming:* 

Zephyr Heights Community Workshop

Date: Saturday, July 19th

Time: 2PM - 4PM

Location: TDF Station 23 Classroom

193 Elks Point Road Zephyr Cove, NV 89448

Janet Murphy, District resident and a former TDF Board Trustee, spoke to express concern about fuel reduction work happening behind her property. She mentioned past flooding issues at her home, which her insurance company investigated. Murphy is concerned that excessive clearing on the hillside behind her could lead to more flooding in the future. She asked that fuel reduction be done mindfully and in moderation and requested that her comments be officially recorded in the meeting minutes. Her goal is to have documentation in case future flooding occurs, to show that she raised concerns with fuel reduction projects.

Debbie Benson, District resident, had some concerns about some defensible space on her property and inquired as to what could be done. Chief Lindgren reminded Benson that she can schedule a defensible space inspection at her home and the Inspector can provide important, helpful information as to what needs to be done on her property.

### 6. Trustee Comments

Vice Chair Noyes commented that she and Chairman Johnson appreciated the opportunity to participate in a ride-along with Captain Will Darr and the bomb squad on Sunday. They were joined by personnel from Reno and other areas, including Inspector Rowlett and EOD Canine Tracker. The experience was described as fascinating and educational, providing valuable insight into the bomb squad's work, which went far beyond initial expectations.

Chairman Johnson echoed what Vice Chair Noyes stated about the ride along with Captain Darr.

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Trustee Ward advised he was in a car accident a few weeks ago and he wanted to say thank you to the District for the response. Ward noted how reassuring it was to see the firefighters in action and thanked everyone involved.

Chairman Johnson took a moment to honor and acknowledge the recent passing of Guy Moss, recognizing his significant contributions to both the department and community.

#### 7. Approval of the Consent Agenda

- Board Meeting Minutes 06/25/2025 a.
- Administrative Policy 004.00 Travel Policy b.
- Administrative Policy 007.00 Annual Employee Physicals c.
- Administrative Policy 010.00 Fire/Emergency Travel Policy
- Personnel Policy 5.6 Safe Harbor to 6.12.2 Prohibition Against Retaliation e.

Chief Lindgren noted a typographical error on page 87, 6.3 Sick Leave Policy

The typographical error stated, "Employees will accrue sick leave at the rate of 4.62 hours per each regularly scheduled hour worked or on paid status."

The corrected, "Employees will accrue sick leave at the rate of 4.62 hours per each regularly scheduled pay period.

Trustee Ward made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, including the change to the typographical error discussed by Chief Lindgren on page 87 regarding the Sick Leave Policy.

Second: Vice Chair Noyes Motion approved: 5-0

#### 8. Consent items moved forward:

None.

9. Discussion and Approval of Resolution #010-2025, identifying the terms and conditions for the fire districts non-suppression personnel response away from their official duty station and assigned to an emergency incident.

Finance Manager Carrie Nolting-Bammer

Although the District's Wildland acquisitions are for suppression, California Emergency Services (OES) does not classify them that way. As a result, we're not supplying them through OES, which affects the District's ability to get fair reimbursement rates.

Trustee Ward made a motion to approve Resolution #010-2025, identifying the conditions for the fire districts non-suppression personnel response away from their official duty station and assigned to an emergency incident.

Second: Trustee Breaux

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Motion approved: 5-0

## 10. Public Comment

None.

# 11. Confirm next meeting, Wednesday, August 20, 2025, at 2:30pm; possible agenda items.

Closed session item on the agenda for union negotiations.

## 12. Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 3:03PM.

## **Submitted by:**

Amanda Van De Hey District Specialist