

NORTH TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Board of Directors Special Meeting
NTFPD Station 51 Public Safety Center
222 Fairway Drive, Tahoe City, California

Tuesday
August 6, 2019 – 4:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:32 p.m. by President Baffone.

Roll Call

Attending:

Board Present

Directors Baffone, Correa, Loverde (out at 6:45 pm), Doyle, and Ragan. A quorum was established.

Staff Present

Fire Chief Schwartz
Division Chief Steve Simons
Division Chief Todd Conradson
Director of Finance Kim Eason
Battalion Chief Steve McNamara
Battalion Chief Greg Smith
Battalion Chief Al Whisler
Captain Naman Beatie
Engineer Rhett Stemmler
Engineer Dustin Hollingsworth
Firefighter Chris Bartow
Engineer Brent Armstrong
Engineer Jason Boyd
PIO Erin Holland
Forest Fuels Coordinator Eric Horntvedt
Administrative Assistant I/Clerk of the Board Kelly McElravey

Public

Pat Davison, CA-TT	John Wood
Ellie Waller	Ellie Waller
Brad Altman	Patty McNamara
Joan Jones	Mark Cronon, KTVN Channel 2 News

Via GoToMeeting
David Hansen
Library-Tahoe City Branch
Karl Empey
Matthew Regan
Robert Farac
Holly Fuller Lea
Mary Cushing
Janette Conradson
Sonia Picone
Sandy Hauserman

2. Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda

There were no additions or changes to the Agenda. Agenda approved as is.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Public Comment

Brad Altman spoke regarding defensible space, fire pumps, and insurance issues.

Pat Davison made a public apology for the comments that were made at the June 19, 2019 regarding the hydrant topic that embarrassed the staff.

Ellie Waller showed a picture a neighbor sent her of a bonfire in a backyard at Dollar Point. She encouraged people to attend the TRPA meeting on August 14 and to post fire safety literature in rental homes.

President Baffone recognized the staff who received complimentary letters from the public as follows:

- A. Letter from patient recognizing Captain Dan Gomez, Engineer Jeremiah Meadows, Firefighter/Paramedic Stephanie Lockhart, and Firefighter/Paramedic Ted Soloski.
- B. Letter from Chief Calder (North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District) recognizing Engineer Jeremiah Meadows for his input during their evaluation of the Fire Apparatus Operator candidates.
- C. Letter from Judy Friedman recognizing Forest Fuels Coordinator Eric Horntvedt and PIO Erin Holland for their presentation at the North Shore meeting.
- D. Letter from California Fire Chiefs Association, Fire Prevention Officers Section, thanking Chief Schwartz for hosting the June meeting and recognizing FPOs David Rodriguez and Casey Ransdell for organizing and Forest Fuels Coordinator Eric Horntvedt for performing the sergeant-at-arms duties.
- E. Letter from community member recognizing Engineers Mike Braziel and John Perhacs for providing great service to them when their smoke detector battery (15 feet up) needed to be changed.

F. Letter from patient's brother recognizing the C-shift at Station 52 on June 21, 2019 (Battalion Chief Greg Smith, Captain Sedgwick, Engineer Scott Worl, and Firefighter/Paramedic Erik Gustafson) for their prompt, calm, and professional response which allowed his sister to be transported by air to Renown and ended in a positive prognosis thanks to our team.

5. Presentation by the Fire Chief to update the Board report on the fire insurance nonrenewal crises and the activities that the District is engaged with to make our communities more insurable.

At the request of the Board from the June 19, 2019 meeting, Chief Schwartz gave an update regarding the insurance nonrenewal crises. PIO Erin Holland assisted in giving the PowerPoint presentation. The District has been engaged with this issue since mid-2017. Alpine Meadows was the first area to get hit with nonrenewals. Chief Schwartz looked at new products to assist upgrade scores. Unfortunately, seven out of ten policies are not legal in our area today. More details on this presentation are available upon request.

No action necessary. There were no public or Board comments.

6. Consider amending NTFPD's Fire Code in relation to Section 507.5.1, exception 3. Chief Schwartz said this is known as the "fireflow" ordinance. It was designed to provide private water via an above-ground system. Today, staff is recommending the Board discontinue it.

Chief Conradson said it was a great idea in the beginning, but only one agreement was signed. It was intended to be a form of alternate means of protection if no hydrants or fireflow were available. The program hasn't performed. No one has taken advantage of this program. He explained to the Board that the District's 2016 Fire Code includes a section that provides for an alternate means of protection known as the "Fire Flow Initiative". The Board has the ability to modify the Fire Code and is authorized under section 114.1 of the Fire Code.

Upon motion by Director Doyle, seconded by Director Ragan, the Board approved to repeal Section 507.5.1, exception 3 of the NT Fire Code. The vote was three in favor (Doyle, Baffone, Loverde), two opposed (Ragan, Correa). Motion passed.

There was a Q&A session between Board and staff. The details are available upon request.

There was a five minute break from 6:40-6:45 p.m.

7. Presentation by Pat Davison, CA-TT Government Affairs Committee, to request support of a draft procedure developed in cooperation with Fire Prevention staff regarding evaluation of alternate means and methods requests for single-family residences. (15 minutes).

Chief Schwartz began this agenda item by stating that there is a hierarchy of rules. The highest level are the federal laws, which we can't change, then state laws, which are codified (i.e., 4291), which we can't change; then fire district laws, then contracts with non-labor employees (i.e., Rules & Regulations), then Lexipol policies, which consist of- 650 pages. We need legal

coverage and support of our local laws. If we change their policies, we take on the liability. He then introduced Pat Davison from CA-TT.

Pat Davison thanked Chief Schwartz and Chief Conradson for educating them. She presented a proposed procedure for new construction (new single-family residences on vacant parcel or an addition). Only applies to single-family residence. This would not apply to commercial projects. She explained that “AMM” stands for alternate materials and methods. The short-term solution is water improvements, but four things are not included: 1) direct contribution to a water supplier; 2) grant tool for water supplier; 3) negotiations to seek resolution as soon as possible after denial, and 4) Fire Chief provide review at a public meeting. She added background information and intent as well as the two alternatives provided by Chief Conradson: sprinklers and hydrants. She also added President Baffone’s idea of encouraging homeowners/builders to come in for a pre-development meeting, and that process is working. The submittal process they propose includes changes to the existing Lexipol Policy 404 by adding timelines. (See page 3 of her handout that refers to their suggested revisions to Lexipol Policy section 404.3.2(b). Their proposed revisions to Policy 404.3.2(d) state that negotiations start upon the when the applicant is notified of denial. On page 4, CA-TT proposes a new section to include an upper level review process. If there is no agreement after 15 business days, then the appeal goes to the Fire Chief. They would also add a section to include Director Loverde’s suggestion of having two Board members to review. They would recuse themselves if it was appealed to the full Board. They would like an appeal process.

There was no public comment. There was a Q&A session between Board and staff. The details are available upon request.

No action was taken. CA-TT will continue to work on their draft procedure for evaluating alternative materials and methods requests for single-family residences.

8. Consider authorizing the Fire Chief or his designee to enter into an amendment to/contract extension for the Prehospital Advanced Life Support Services and Dispatch Services contract between County of El Dorado and the District beginning September 1, 2016 and ending August 31, 2020.

Chief McNamara explained that this is an amendment to extend the time to enter into finalize and execute the long-standing contract for EMS in El Dorado County. A complete agreement will be ready by August 31, 2020.

There were no Public Comments. There was a Q&A session between Board and staff. The details are available upon request.

Upon motion by Director Correa, seconded by Director Ragan, the Board the Fire Chief or his designee to execute on behalf of the District an amendment to/contract extension for the Prehospital Advanced Life Support Services and Dispatch Services contract between County of El Dorado and the District beginning September 1, 2016 and ending August 31, 2020. The vote was four in favor. Motion passed.

9. Consider Resolution 06-2019 changing the Board meeting schedule.

Chief Schwartz explained that in order to have legal counsel present at our Board meetings, the Board meeting scheduled will need to be changed.

There was no public or Board comment.

Upon motion by Director Doyle, seconded by Director Ragan, the Board approved Resolution 06-2019 amending Resolution 01-2019 changing the regular Board meeting schedule beginning September 2019 to the fourth Tuesday of each month between January and October, and first Tuesday in November and December. The roll vote was: Doyle, Ragan, Baffone, and Correa in favor. Motion passed.

10. Consider declaring Vehicle No. M-203 (Arrow Dump Trailer) as surplus and disposing it in a manner deemed appropriate by the District, including the use of consignment dealers' lots or auctions.

The old dump trailer has been sitting unused at Station 55 for several years, and it is recommended we dispose of it in a manner deemed appropriate by the District.

There was no public or Board comment.

Upon motion by Director Correa, seconded by Director Ragan, the Board declared M-203 as surplus and authorized District staff to dispose of M-203, an Arrow dump trailer, in a manner deemed appropriate by the District. The vote was four in favor. Motion passed.

11. Consider Resolution 07-2019 authorizing the Board President and the Fire Chief to enter into a five-year Lease Purchase Agreement for a 2019 Dodge 4x4 3500 Ambulance.

Chief Schwartz explained we have six ambulances in our fleet, and we keep them on a rotated basis (under 20,000 miles). At the January 2019 Board meeting, the Board approved the purchase of an ambulance. A 2019 Dodge 4X4 3500 is available through Braun Northwest, the District's sole source ambulance provider.

This new ambulance will have a "square" box which provides more working room in the back of the ambulance for the paramedics to provide patient care and provides additional storage for equipment. The new module "box" comes with the latest safety and technology features and can be remounted several times. The cost of the ambulance is \$164,897.95, which the District will be financing through Community Leasing Partners.

Upon motion by Director Correa, seconded by Director Doyle, the Board approved Resolution 07-2019 authorizing the Board President and the Fire Chief to execute on behalf of the District and enter into a five-year Lease Purchase Agreement for \$164,897.95 with Community Leasing Partners, as included in the budget and apparatus replacement schedule for a new ambulance (M-106), which replaces the old lease. The roll call vote was four in favor: Directors Doyle, Ragan, Baffone, and Correa. Motion passed.

12. Consider Resolution 08-2019 adopting a new inflation adjustment period in the Fire Facilities Impact Study dated November 30, 2018.

As a condition of collecting mitigation fees on projects that generate new service demands, the District must maintain a current Capital Facilities and Mitigation Fee Plan, which includes the Fire Facilities Impact Fee Study. The document, updated annually with five year budget projections and the current fee schedule, was adopted first by the District's Board of Directors on December 6, 2018 and then by the Placer County Board of Supervisors on January 29, 2019.

We are requesting the Board consider adopting Resolution 09-2019 changing the inflation adjustment period for calculating the annual mitigation fee increase to be from September to September, rather than October to October to allow time to be approved by the Placer County Board of Supervisors and be effective annually in January. With Board approval, the request will then go before the Placer County Board of Supervisors for approval. The new inflation adjustment period will go into effect 60 days after that final approval.

There was no public or Board comment.

Upon motion by Director Ragan, seconded by Director Correa, the Board adopted Resolution 08-2019 to change the inflation adjustment period from October-October to September-September in order to allow enough time to have them be effective annually in January. The vote was four in favor (Directors Doyle, Ragan, Baffone, and Correa). Motion passed.

13. Finance Report

- 13.1 Purchases Journal
- 13.2 Breakdown of CalCard purchases
- 13.3 Gross payroll totals
- 13.4 Account Detail Report

There was a Q&A session between Board and staff. There was no public comment on this item.

Upon motion by Director Correa, seconded by Director Ragan, the Board approved the finance report dated August 6, 2019, account detail, purchases journal, breakdown of CalCard purchases, and the payroll report for June 2019 as presented. The vote was four in favor. Motion passed.

14 Staff Reports

- 14.1 Fire Chief
- 14.2 Operations Chief
- 14.3 Fire & Life Safety / Forest Fuels / PIO
- 14.4 Emergency Medical Services
- 14.5 Safety & Logistics / Facilities
- 14.6 Training & Rescue

Reports were given. No action necessary.

15. Approval of Minutes from the regular Board meeting held June 19, 2019.

Upon motion by Director Doyle, seconded by Director Correa, the Board approved the Minutes from the regular Board meeting held June 19, 2019. The vote was five in favor.

16. Board Comments/Information Items.

There was no public or Board comment or informational items to discuss.

17. Next Board Meeting and Other Important Dates

- *September 24, 2019*
- *No meeting in October*
- *November 5, 2019*
- *December 3, 2019*
- *January 28, 2020*

18. Adjournment. *The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m*