

**BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS, SIERRA FOREST FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

TUESDAY

4:00 P.M.

AUGUST 9, 2005

PRESENT:

Bonnie Weber, Chairman
Bob Larkin, Vice Chairman
David Humke, Commissioner
Jim Galloway, Commissioner
Pete Sferrazza, Commissioner

Nancy Parent, Chief Deputy Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel
Tim Rochelle, Regional Forester

The Board met in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business:

AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, Chairman Weber ordered that the agenda for the meeting of August 9, 2005 be approved.

05-15SF MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, Chairman Weber ordered that the minutes of the July 12, 2005 meeting be approved.

**05-16SF REPORT OF DISTRICT ACTIVITY - STATUS ON
CONSOLIDATION OF FIRE SERVICES**

Tim Rochelle, Regional Forester, discussed the status of the consolidation of fire services of the District as stated in the agenda memorandum dated August 1, 2005.

Commissioner Galloway asked if boundary issues were a motivating factor to seek consolidation. Chief Rochelle replied the District is honoring the current mutual automatic aid agreement. Commissioner Galloway was concerned there would be no motivation for the City of Reno to consolidate if this continued. He requested this be placed on a future agenda.

Marty Scheuerman, Interim Fire Chief, clarified the reasoning behind the consideration of consolidation, extension for the contract of services and the continuation of discussion for another year.

Jay Cwiak, Nevada Department of Forestry (NDF) Firefighters Association President, reiterated he did not want Alternative Seven to be discounted or excluded by the Board. He asked for a review of the options and consideration of other alternatives.

Gary Schmidt, Washoe County resident, voiced his opposition to the consolidation of fire services.

In response to Commissioner Larkin, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, replied the City of Reno had proposed discussions on Alternative Seven be postponed for a year. She said staff did not believe postponing action on the fire services issue was a wise course of action. She said staff recommended direction to consider other alternatives and to revisit and update the alternatives currently available. Ms. Singlaub stated it would be too late to initiate bill draft requests for the 2007 Legislative session if the County waited a year before talks began. She said Alternative Seven was unanimously approved for implementation by the Citizen Advisory Boards affected by consolidation. Chief Rochelle commented he did not believe an unsafe condition was being created. He said all entities were fire service professionals and that public safety was their top priority.

Commissioner Humke asked if staff or equipment would be deployed to areas currently covered by NDF for additional services. Chief Rochelle replied he did not believe so. He said there was a certain level of service available and consolidation would provide a higher level of service. Commissioner Humke questioned if staff had compiled a list of fires that occurred within the newly annexed areas where staff and equipment had been deployed. Chief Rochelle responded some data was available, and he would provide the information to the Board when it was completed.

Chairman Weber commented she had worked with the City of Reno and all the entities that were in favor of moving forward with Alternative Seven. She requested this be continued so the Board could consider the facts from the Reno City Council.

Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, stated this item was not agendaized for the Board to take action on; however, the Board may request a future agenda item.

05-17SF REVIEW OF CALL DATA FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005

Tim Rochelle, Regional Forester, reviewed the July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005 Incident Report as detailed in the agenda memorandum dated August 1, 2005.

05-18SF REVIEW OF 5 YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Tim Rochelle, Regional Forester, reviewed the five year Capital Improvement Program and said in the future this would be provided with the District's budget. He said the Fire Service Coordinator would also review the plan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gary Schmidt, Washoe County resident, spoke on the Wildfire Risk Assessment report and how that report ignored the Andrew Lane fire.

Chairman Weber reminded Mr. Schmidt this was the second time she requested him to stop speaking at the end of his time limit and directed he abide by the rules.

Jay Cwiak, Nevada Department of Forestry (NDF) Firefighters Association President, said members of the NDF would respond to any emergency they were called to. He said public safety was a top priority.

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There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned.

BONNIE WEBER, Chairman
Sierra Forest Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

AMY HARVEY, Washoe County Clerk
and Ex Officio Clerk, Sierra Forest
Fire Protection District

*Minutes Prepared by
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy County Clerk*