

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

TUESDAY

4:00 P.M.

OCTOBER 10, 2006

PRESENT:

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

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel
Vince Thomas, Battalion Chief

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:

06-46SF AGENDA

In accordance with the Open Meeting Law, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the agenda for the October 10, 2006 meeting be approved.

06-47SF MINUTES

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the minutes of the special meeting of August 8, 2006 be approved.

**06-48SF SCREENING COMMITTEE – RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION
OF FIRE CHIEF**

Vince Thomas, Battalion Chief, said Aaron Kenneston, Emergency Management Administrator and Mary Anderson, District Health Officer, could not participate in the screening process to select the new Fire Chief because of prior commitments.

After discussion on who should be appointed, Commissioner Galloway said he wanted to know who would actually be on the committee and did not want to appoint a designee. Chief Thomas stated a member of this Board could serve. Chairman Larkin said there was no restriction on the number of Commissioners who could be on

the committee. Commissioner Galloway stated going over seven members could be a problem. Chairman Larkin replied he was okay with eight.

Commissioner Sferrazza indicated he preferred people with fire expertise.

Commissioner Humke favored a technical group making the cut and the County Commissioners making the final selection.

Katy Singlaub, County Manager, suggested Mike Brown, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Acting Chief be considered. Ms. Singlaub said Acting Chief Brown was the appointee of the elected North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District.

In response to the call for public comment, Gary Schmidt believed, because this was a rural fire area, representatives from the Cities of Reno or Sparks should not be considered nor should Assistant Sheriff Lopey. He said users and/or victims of fire services were absent from the list, and he volunteered for the committee. He also recommended Steve Perez, Arrowcreek Community Safety Committee, as being the closest thing to a public representative or suggested leaving a spot open for an area homeowner.

Alex Kukulus, Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) Firefighters Association Local 3895 President, strongly recommended Mr. Perez and mentioned he was a retired Captain from the San Jose Fire Department. He supported representation by the Volunteer Chief's Association, but he requested the NDF Firefighters Association be represented because those members had their careers and livelihoods at stake.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Mr. Kukulus submitted his name as the representative of the NDF Firefighters Association. Commissioner Sferrazza supported Mr. Kukulus being included, especially if volunteers were included.

After further discussion, it was decided to select eight names for the committee.

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the screening committee for the recruitment and selection of the SFPD Fire Chief consist of the following eight members: Assistant Sheriff Lopey; Paul Heffner, Fire Services Coordinator; John Schuler, Washoe County Volunteer Chief's Association President; Greg Befort, Regional Public Safety Training Center Director; James Wright, State of Nevada Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshall; Mr. Perez; Mr. Brown; and Mr. Kukulus.

On motion by Commissioner Sferrazza, seconded by Commissioner Galloway, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the screening committee bring to the Board three to five names.

06-49SF **INTERLOCAL FIRE SERVICES AGREEMENT – TRUCKEE MEADOWS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, explained staff limited the level of service to the amount budgeted, put in deadlines for calculating those amounts, and put the term at three years with provisions to allow renewal at the end of the term.

Upon recommendation of Joe Reinhardt, Interim Fire Chief, on motion by Commissioner Galloway, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the Interlocal Fire Services Agreement between the Sierra Fire Protection District and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District be approved and the Chairman be authorized to execute the same.

06-50SF **PURCHASE – USED WATER TENDER – TRUCKEE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Upon recommendation of Joe Reinhardt, Interim Fire Chief, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Sferrazza, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that the purchase of a used water tender in the amount of \$25,000 from the Truckee Fire Department for issue to and use by the Washoe Valley Volunteer Fire Department be approved.

06-51SF **COOPERATIVE FIRE PROTECTION AGREEMENT – DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT, CARSON CITY FIELD OFFICE**

In response to Commissioner Galloway, Joe Reinhardt, Interim Fire Chief, said it was a standard contract with the same terms and conditions as the previous contract. Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel, indicated the District Attorney's Office reviewed the contract.

Upon recommendation of Chief Reinhardt, on motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement between the Sierra Fire Protection District and the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office be approved and the Chairman be authorized to execute the same. It was noted that this agreement was originally presented to the Board on June 27, 2006 (Item No. 06-29SF), but the Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Field Office had not signed the agreement.

06-52SF **PRESENTATION OF EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE CERTIFICATE – SEPTEMBER 2006**

Joe Reinhardt, Interim Fire Chief, presented Mark Regan, SFPD employee, with the Excellence in Service Certificate for the month of September 2006.

He stated Mr. Regan worked in the fire prevention field with volunteers, the Safe House trailer, and setting up school programs and community events.

Mr. Regan said the program, including the Safe House, would be at the Home Show this weekend.

Commissioner Humke said the Safe House would be at the Washoe Valley Fire Station adjacent to the haunted house during Halloween.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Kukulus, Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) Firefighters Association Local 3895 President, read from a prepared statement regarding the proposed public safety sales tax increase, which was placed on file with the Clerk.

Gary Schmidt addressed public officials not being allowed by State law to support or oppose initiatives. He said he witnessed that being done in violation of State Ethics and Campaign Laws. He indicated he was filing complaints about those violations. He felt the Board had the responsibility to stop the abuse and violation of State law.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Katy Singlaub, County Manager, stated the Board of County Commissioners had not taken a position on the Sales Tax initiative. She said there was a joint informational campaign on what the County would do with the funding if the question passed, and she discussed the proposed distribution. She stated there was a team from the Sheriff's Office who went to Citizen Advisory Board meetings to provide information about the ballot question. She indicated the Commission voting to place the question on the ballot so citizens would have an opportunity to vote on it did not constitute an endorsement of the question.

Commissioner Humke asked if ambulance service was considered public safety. Ms. Singlaub said the ballot question and the explanation the Commission adopted was inclusive of criminal justice facilities and support services. She did not recall it specifying ambulance service. Commissioner Humke felt a reasonable interpretation of the ballot question was that it would be possible to hire an additional Deputy District Attorney, a Deputy Public Defender, detention center personnel, and court personnel. Ms. Singlaub understood those would be allowed in the general language, which included prosecution of persons charged with crimes. Commissioner Humke felt some of the confusion might lie with the lists supplied by staff of the County and the Cities of Reno and Sparks; and whether facilities, bricks and mortar, were a possibility. Ms. Singlaub said the City of Reno indicated facilities would be funded from this revenue stream if it should pass, and the City of Sparks indicated facilities would not be part of their use of the funds. She stated the County had allowed for the possibility that facilities could be included.

Commissioner Humke stated he voted to place the question on the ballot, and it was for citizens to decide it at the ballot box.

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

ROBERT M. LARKIN, Chairman
Sierra Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

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

*Minutes Prepared By
Jan Frazzetta
Deputy County Clerk*