

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

TUESDAY

4:00 P.M.

NOVEMBER 13, 2007

PRESENT:

Bob Larkin, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Director*
Jim Galloway, Director
David Humke, Director
Kitty Jung, Director

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Singlaub, County Manager
Melanie Foster, Legal Counsel
Michael Greene, Fire 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:

07-61SF AGENDA ITEM 2

Agenda Subject: Chief Report Updates and information regarding District operations including volunteer programs, strategic planning committee update, vehicle maintenance, community evacuation drill for Galena, planned evacuation training for Washoe Valley community.

On motion by Director Galloway, seconded by Director Humke, which motion duly carried with Director Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 2 be accepted.

07-62SF AGENDA ITEM 3

Agenda Subject: Discussion and possible acceptance of FFY 07 State Fire Assistance grant program award in the amount of \$43,000 (no district match) from the Nevada Division of Forestry for the purpose of conducting fuels management work in the area of the Mount Rose Corridor: Possible direction to Washoe County Finance Department to make appropriate budget adjustments to the adopted FY 07/08 Sierra Fire Protection District budget; Possible authorization to the Washoe County Fire Services Coordinator and/or Chief of the Sierra Fire Protection District to sign the necessary grant documents in connection with the acceptance of the grant.

In response to Chairman Larkin, Mike Heikka, Battalion Chief, replied two projects were slated for the \$43,000, which would include approximately 45 acres.

Director Galloway asked if the volunteer firefighters or inmate work crews were used to do some of the fuels management work. Chief Heikka remarked since much of the work was specialized, the Nevada Division of Forestry had been used in the past assisting with controlled burns.

On motion by Director Humke, seconded by Director Jung, which motion duly carried with Director Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 3 be accepted, directed and authorized.

07-63SF AGENDA ITEM 4

Agenda Subject: Acknowledgement and Acceptance of a Fire Management Assistance Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Sierra Fire Protection District's partial cost of the 2006 Verdi Fire; Direction to the Washoe County Comptroller to Increase the Sierra Fire Protection District's Fiscal Year 2007-08 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$316,282.82; authorization to the Chief of the Sierra Fire Protection District to sign any documents related to the acceptance of these grant funds on behalf of the district.

On motion by Director Galloway, seconded by Director Humke, which motion duly carried with Director Weber absent, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 4 be accepted, acknowledged, directed and authorized.

***5:05 p.m.** Director Weber arrived.

07-64SF AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: Discussion and direction regarding implementation of a fire hazard abatement program pursuant to NRS 473.100 to include on-going inspection of high hazard areas, response to citizen complaints, and, where necessary, appropriate action by the board.

Chief Michael Greene explained this was a new program that would be implemented to identify high hazard areas by working with homeowners and the fire safe chapters concerning fuels management. However, if the program was unsuccessful, he indicated staff would return to the Board and request approval to conduct fuels management and charge the property owner.

Chairman Larkin asked if the Board of Realtors would be involved in informing prospective homebuyers about fuels reduction. Chief Greene confirmed the District was working with that Board. He said properties would be inspected and evaluations conducted to identify high-risk areas.

On motion by Director Galloway, seconded by Director Humke, which motion duly carried, Chairman Larkin ordered that Agenda Item 5 be acknowledged, accepted and authorized.

AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: Public Comment and discussion thereof. The Sierra Fire protection District Board of Directors welcomes courteous and respectful public comment and input. Due to the amount of business the board conducts, public comment is limited to 2 minutes per person. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of the agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken. NOTE: the board may take additional public comment during individual agenda items. Any such additional public comment is likewise limited to 2 minutes per person.

Kathleen Burn spoke on reseeding the areas that were recently burned in the wildfires.

Chief Michael Greene remarked the reseeding efforts were being completed in the Hawkin fire area. Kurt Latipow, Fire Service Coordinator, commented the fuels management followed by the District was by prescription allowing for root structure to remain in place and to keep slides from occurring. He said, in regard to fire rehabilitation and the Hawkin fire, the District was working to rehabilitate the more hazardous areas that had developed.

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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:
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy Clerk*