

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

TUESDAY

1:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 27, 2011

PRESENT:

John Breternitz, Chairman
Bonnie Weber, Vice Chairperson
Robert Larkin, Commissioner
Kitty Jung, Commissioner
David Humke, Commissioner

Amy Harvey, County Clerk
Katy Simon, County Manager
Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel
Michael Greene, Fire Chief

The Board convened at 3:16 p.m. in regular session in the Commission Chambers of the Washoe County Administration Complex, 1001 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada, and conducted the following business:

11-122SF AGENDA ITEM 2

Agenda Subject: “Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to two minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The District will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to two minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the District as a whole.”

Bob Ackerman felt that the Board had a conflict of interest when it convened as the Board of Fire Commissioners. He suggested the creation of an interim Fire Board for the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD) and the Sierra Fire Protection District (SFPD) to begin implementing a regional fire board.

Garth Elliott spoke on the Open Meeting Law and the two minute time limit allowed for public speakers.

11-123SF AGENDA ITEM 3A

Agenda Subject: “Approval of BOFC meeting minutes from July 26 and August 23, 2011.”

There was no public comment on this item.

On motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Humke, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 3A be approved.

11-124SF AGENDA ITEM 4

Agenda Subject: “Chief’s Report including Arrowcreek Station update.”

Fire Chief Michael Greene reported that the Arrowcreek Station was on schedule and under budget.

There was no action taken or public comment on this item.

11-125SF AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda Subject: “Discussion and consideration of approval of a labor agreement between the Sierra Fire Protection District and the Sierra Fire Protection District Firefighters Association, IAFF Local 3895 (Sierra Fire Association) effective July 1, 2011; and if approved authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board.”

Fire Chief Michael Greene reported that the Agreement included new cost saving provisions to the District. He said one change required Engine Company staffing to go from four to three personnel with the flexibility to use two-person rescue units. Chief Greene indicated that the Agreement had been distributed to the Board and thanked the firefighters for the action that was taken.

Mark Gregersen, Renne Sloan Holtzman Sakai LLP, explained that the agreement had been ratified by the firefighters. He said it had been signed by the Association president about an hour prior to this meeting, which was the reason the Agreement was delivered to the Board this afternoon.

Since the Board just received the document, Commissioner Humke asked for a brief review of the Agreement. Commissioner Larkin added that Article 16 held the most interest for the public and asked for specific detail on that Article. Mr. Gregersen replied that Article 16 addressed the minimum constant safety staffing. He said the change allowed the District to shift to a three-person staffing per engine and use a two-person rescue apparatus in order to provide service and minimize overtime. He stated that was the primary driver for the overtime cost and, since those changes had been implemented, the overtime related to shift staffing had been driven down to zero.

Commissioner Larkin asked for a definition of a “special assignment.” Chief Greene explained that a special assignment included agreements with the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) when a crew could be sent to out of area assignments, which were reimbursable. Commissioner Larkin remarked that Article 16(G) dealt with three-person staffing for fire engines in the Sierra Fire Protection District (SFPD). Chief Greene stated that was correct. Commissioner Larkin congratulated the Chief on a job well done.

Due to the fact that copies of the Agreement were just given to the Board, Chairman Breternitz asked if action should be postponed until Board members had an

opportunity to review the Agreement. After discussion, it was determined to return to this item later in the meeting, which would allow the Commissioner's time to review the document.

There was no public comment on this item.

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7:55 p.m. Later in the meeting, Commissioner Humke stated that he had reviewed the document and was satisfied with the Agreement.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 6 be approved, authorized and executed.

11-126SF AGENDA ITEM 7

Agenda Subject: "Commissioner's/Managers Announcements, Requests for Information, Topics for Future Agendas and Statements Relating to Items Not on the Agenda. (No discussion among Commissioners will take place on this item.)"

There were no Board member comments.

11-127SF AGENDA ITEM 8

Agenda Subject: "Public Comment. Comment heard under this item will be limited to two minutes per person and may pertain to matters both on and off the Commission agenda. The District will also hear public comment during individual action items, with comment limited to two minutes per person. Comments are to be made to the District as a whole."

There was no response to the call for public comment.

11-128SF AGENDA ITEM 5

Agenda Subject: "Possible closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Employee Organizations per NRS 288.220."

3:36 p.m. On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Larkin, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the meeting recess to a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Washoe County, Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District and the Sierra Fire Protection District per NRS 288.220.

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7:58 p.m. There being no further business to discuss, on motion by Commissioner Jung, seconded by Commissioner Weber, the meeting was adjourned.

JOHN BRETERNITZ, 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 County Clerk*