

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

TUESDAY

11:00 a.m.

NOVEMBER 8, 2011

PRESENT:

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

**Nancy Parent, Chief Deputy Clerk**  
**Katy Simon, County Manager**  
**Paul Lipparelli, Legal Counsel**  
**Tim Leighton, Acting Fire Chief**

The Board convened at 12:07 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:

**11-149SF     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.”

There was no response to the call for public comment.

**11-150SF     AGENDA ITEM 3**

**Agenda Subject:** “Confirmation of the temporary appointment of Battalion Chief Tim Leighton as Acting Fire Chief of the Sierra Fire Protection District, and delegation to the Chairman of the authority to negotiate an agreement covering additional terms of his temporary appointment to be ratified at the December 13, 2011 Board meeting. The terms of the temporary appointment may include, but not be limited to, temporary 20 percent increase in base salary effective November 8, 2011, which will continue during the period of time Leighton is so appointed, and approval of Leighton’s return to his previous position as a Battalion Chief following this temporary appointment, with no reduction in seniority or related accruals.”

Kurt Latipow, Fire Services Coordinator, stated that during the October 25, 2011 Fire Board meeting action was taken to accept the resignation of Fire Chief Michael Greene and appoint Battalion Chief Tim Leighton as Acting Chief with the

understanding that staff would return with a proposed adjustment to the compensation for Chief Leighton. He said there had been ongoing discussions and it was being recommended that the appointment be continued, the Chairman be delegated the authority to finalize the negotiations with Acting Chief Leighton on any additional terms of the temporary appointment and then the agreement be ratified during the December 13, 2011 Fire Board meeting. Mr. Latipow said the terms of the appointment may include, but not be limited to, a temporary 20 percent increase in base salary effective November 8, 2011, which would continue during the period of time Chief Leighton was appointed, and approval of Chief Leighton's return to his previous position as Battalion Chief following the temporary appointment with no reduction in seniority or related accruals.

There was no public comment on this item.

Chairman Breternitz inquired on the process of the negotiations. Acting Chief Leighton stated they were close to reaching an agreement and he felt that agreement would soon be solidified.

On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Jung, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that Agenda Item 4 be approved and that the Chairman be authorized to negotiate an agreement covering additional terms of the temporary appointment to be ratified during the December 13, 2011 Fire Board meeting.

**11-151SF     AGENDA ITEM 4**

**Agenda Subject: "Chief's Report."**

Acting Fire Chief Tim Leighton presented slides, which were placed on file with the Clerk, showing the progress on the Arrowcreek Station and a recent structure fire in District 5. He noted that the Arrowcreek Station was on track to be completed by March of 2012.

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

**11-152SF     AGENDA ITEM 6**

**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.)"**

Commissioner Larkin requested an agenda item to discuss a joint regional fire board for the Sierra Fire Protection District and the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.

**11-153SF      AGENDA ITEM 7**

**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.”**

William Steward suggested that the Joint Fire Advisory Board (JFAB) meetings be televised. He congratulated Acting Chief Tim Leighton on his appointment and felt there was an opportunity to move forward. He said there should be a dedicated fire board that made decisions only on fire related issues.

**11-154SF      AGENDA ITEM 5**

**Agenda Subject: “Possible closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Sierra Fire Protection District Employee Organizations per NRS 288.220.”**

**12:18 p.m.** On motion by Commissioner Humke, seconded by Commissioner Weber, which motion duly carried, it was ordered that the meeting recess to a closed session for the purpose of discussing negotiations with Sierra Fire Protection District Employee Organizations per NRS 288.220. It was further ordered that the meeting would adjourn from the closed session.

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**JOHN BRETERNITZ**, Chairman  
Sierra Fire Protection District

**ATTEST:**

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

*Minutes Prepared by:  
Stacy Gonzales, Deputy County Clerk*