

The Board of Directors of the Truckee Fire Protection District met in Regular Session on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 in the Truckee Sanitary District Boardroom located at 12304 Joerger Dr. Truckee, CA 96161.

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Directors Present:	Hernandez, Herrick, Prado and Wilford.
Directors Absent:	Botto.
Employees Present:	Fire Chief Kevin McKechnie, Division Chief Matt Parkhurst, Battalion Chief Ryan Ochoa, Battalion Chief Steve Kessmann, Wildfire Prevention Manager Eric Horntvedt, Administrative and Financial Services Director Niki Holoday, and Administrative Assistant Brittany Shelton-Dooley.
Others Present:	Legal Counsel Steve Gross.

Chair Hernandez requested all Board Members in attendance to put their iPads in airplane mode for the duration of the meeting. The Board Members complied.

The meeting commenced with the pledge of allegiance led by Chief McKechnie.

# <u>CLEAR THE AGENDA – ITEM 4</u>

No action taken.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS – ITEM 5

Members of the public shall be allowed to address the Board of Directors on items not appearing on the agenda that are of interest to the public and are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board, provided that no action shall be taken unless otherwise authorized by California Government Code Section 54954.3. Each speaker will be limited to one (1) appearance and be limited to three (3) minutes, but speaker time may be reduced at the discretion of the Board Chairman if there are a large number of speakers on any given subject. There shall be no assignment of speaking time from one member of the public to another member of the public.

Chair Hernandez asked for any Public Comments. There were none.

# **CONSENT CALENDAR – ITEM 6**

These items are expected to be routine and non-controversial. The Board will act upon them at one time without discussion. Any Board member, staff member or interested party may request that an item be removed from the consent calendar for discussion.



The Board reviewed the Consent Calendar. Administrative & Financial Services Director Holoday discussed some changes to items listed in the consent calendar.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Wilford moved to accept the Consent Calendar as presented. Director Prado seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 4/0

For the record the Consent Calendar includes the following:

- A. Approval of the January 16, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
- B. Approval of the January 11, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.
- C. Approval of the January 25, 2024 Finance Committee Meeting Minutes.
- D. Check Register January 2024.
- E. Fund Balance January 2024.
- F. Balance Sheets January 2024.
- G. LAIF Fund Report January 2024.

## **STAFF REPORTS- ITEM 7**

Chief's Report – Item A

The Board reviewed Chief McKechnie's report, which is included in the agenda packet.

In addition to his report Chief McKechnie welcomed a new addition to our Truckee Fire Family. He also discussed the complimentary recognition he received for Battalion Chief Davis, Captain(s) Tennant & Fichter, and the mutual aid agencies in response to a recent fire incident. Captain Fichter communicated to the Chief that he was also appreciative of a 4-person engine company.

Chief McKechnie answered questions from the Board.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

<u>Division Chief Report — Item B</u> The Board reviewed Chief Parkhurst's report, which is included in the agenda packet.

Chief Ochoa provided a recent incident summary and accolades to FF/Paramedics Ackerman, Hunt, Brock, Brixey and Battalion Chief Davis for a job well done which resulted in a positive patient outcome.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.



Fire Marshal's Report- Item C

The Board reviewed Chief Kessmann's report, which is included in the agenda packet.

Chief Kessmann provided an update on the Defensible Space Ordinance, and the School Site Safety Plan. Chief Kessmann also noted that he had a successful interview process for the Prevention Specialist Non-Safety position and has selected a candidate that will begin April 1, 2024.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

<u>Administrative & Financial Services Director Report – Item D</u> The Board reviewed Finance Director Holoday's report, which is included in the agenda packet.

Administrative & Financial Services Director gave thanks to the staff for supporting the admin team over the next few months while a staff member is on leave.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

## Wildfire Prevention Manager Report – Item E

The Board reviewed Wildfire Prevention Manager Horntvedt's report, which is included in the agenda packet.

Wildfire Prevention Manager Eric Horntvedt gave an update on the RFP listed in his report, and the seasonal Defensible Space Inspector positions. He also gave kudos to Wildfire Prevention Specialist Maria Marsh for her excellent work on the Defensible Space Ordinance.

Wildfire Prevention Manager Eric Horntvedt answered questions from the Board.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

# <u>COMMITTEE REPORTS – ITEM 8</u>

Measure T Citizens' Oversight Committee (COC) – Item A.

Wildfire Prevention Manager Eric Horntvedt advised the Board that the annual COC meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2024.

Chair Hernandez asked for board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.



<u>Fire Protection Funding from Annexation No. 7 Ad Hoc Committee – Item B.</u> Chief McKechnie gave the following verbal report to the Board;

Well, we have been at this for a year now. As you recall, it was February of last year when we sent the letter requesting fire protection funding for Annexation No. 7. Last fall it seemed that we were moving in the right direction but that was derailed based on differing opinions on the Placer Ad Hoc committee. With that, their committee has elevated this to the full board of supervisors for direction. As you have seen in your board packet, I have written up a position paper for your consideration. If this position finds consensus with the board, we can send it over to the Placer County Clerk of the Board for inclusion with their item next Tuesday.

The essence of our position has not changed. We assert that the special tax zone has not been implemented as intended, we assert that the policies of the Martis Valley community plan have not been implemented and due to this lack of implementation on the part of Placer County with both the land use and taxing authority, the impacts predicted in the environmental impact report are being felt by the fire district and the community we serve. The Fire District has lived up to its end of the partnership. We have provided service to the best of our ability with the resources available. Placer County has not facilitated funding for that service as required in the special tax zone and Martis Valley Community plan and that has put the community and responders at increased risk again, as predicted in the environmental impact report.

I believe there is adequate evidence to support this position. Our ISO rating is clearly being impacted by permitted development without fire protection funding. This is forcing our community members onto the fair plan and the exorbitant premiums for reduced coverage. Our base minimum staffing level of 8 has not changed in more than a decade but call volume has increased by more than 50%. Our facilities and equipment are feeling the effects of unmitigated depreciation. And the extremely valuable efforts of fire prevention are underfunded. That's the situation that Placer County has put us in by permitting development without fire protection funding and with that, I'm happy to take any questions or entertain any discussion.

Chief McKechnie answered questions from the Board.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Herrick moved to approve the position statement as presented. Director Prado seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 4/0

# **OLD BUSINESS - ITEM 9**

Discussion with Possible Action: Fire Protection Funding from Placer County Related to Annexation #7. – Item A.



Resolution 01-2024; A Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Truckee Fire Protection District Asking the Board of Supervisors of Placer County to Place an Immediate Moratorium on Building and Improvement in the Area Designated as Annexation No. 7 – Truckee Fire Protection District Due to Inadequate Fire Protection Funding. – Item 1.

Chief McKechnie reviewed the Staff Report and Resolution with the Board, which is included in the agenda packet.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

No resolution action taken.

## **<u>NEW BUSINESS – ITEM 10</u>**

Discussion with Possible Action: Resolution 03-2024; A Resolution Adjusting Charges and Fees for Providing Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services.

Administrative & Financial Services Director Holoday reviewed the Resolution with the Board, which is included in the agenda packet.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Wilford made a motion to approve Resolution 03-2024; A Resolution Adjusting Charges and Fees for Providing Ambulance and Emergency Medical Services, and waive the reading. Director Prado seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Director Prado – yes, Director Herrick - yes, Director Hernandez – yes, and Director Wilford – yes.

Motion passed unanimously 4/0

Discussion with Possible Action: Request for Porter Simon Rate Increase.

Steve Gross recused himself from the discussion.

The Board reviewed the request, which is included in the agenda packet.

Chief McKechnie communicated our overwhelming satisfaction in the services provided by our legal council Steve Gross and encouraged the Board to approve the proposed rate adjustment.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.



Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Wilford made a motion that the Board approve the salary revisions. Chair Hernandez seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 4/0

Discussion with Possible Action: Sierra Joint Community College District and Truckee Fire Protection District Affiliation Agreement 2024.

Battalion Chief Ochoa discussed the Staff Report which is included in the agenda packet.

Chair Hernandez expressed that he was very happy to see this on the agenda for consideration.

Battalion Chief Ochoa answered questions from the Board.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

Director Prado made a motion to approve the Sierra Joint Community College District and Truckee Fire Protection District Affiliation Agreement 2024, and waive the reading.

Chair Hernandez seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously 4/0

Presentation: 2023 Truckee Fire Community Wildfire Prevention Fund Annual

Accomplishment Report.

Wildfire Prevention Manager Eric Horntvedt gave a presentation, which is attached to the minutes.

## WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS-ITEM 11

Chief McKechnie reviewed the written communication with the Board.

Chair Hernandez asked for Board comment. There was none.

Chair Hernandez asked for public comment. There was none.

#### **CLOSED SESSION-ITEM 12**

No items.

#### **RETURN TO OPEN SESSION-ITEM 13** No items.

## **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS-ITEM 14**



Director Prado wished congratulations to Harrison & Monica Skov and looked forward to meeting their new baby. She expressed her gratitude to Steve Gross for providing excellent service to the District. Director Prado thanked many of the staff members for job's well done during challenging months of service. She was also very pleased with the School Site Plan update given by Chief Kessmann.

Director Herrick discussed a recent paramedic tragedy and conveyed the importance of being safe. He offered congratulations to Monica & Harrison, and offered additional congratulations to the crews that were recognized for the outstanding work on the recent fire incident. Director Herrick passed along information regarding the Truckee Tahoe Airport District possible funding of a transparency reporter. Lastly, he wanted to thank his fellow board members for their respectful and productive work.

Director Wilford congratulated the Skov family, and expressed his gratitude for the excellent work provided by all the crews during these busy few months. He thanked Chief McKechnie for composing the position letter for Placer County and acknowledged Steve Gross for his continued work.

Chair Hernandez wanted to thank all the crews for their service and stated that it is the biggest compliment to receive such positive feedback from those that have served and recognized the immense training that the crews do. He also commented on the importance of awareness when crews approach homes and urged everyone to proceed with caution. Chair Hernandez was also pleased with the school safety plans and the new EMT ride along agreement. Chair Hernandez discussed the importance of a good ISO rating.

# ADJOURNMENT – ITEM 15

Having no further business on the agenda Director Wilford made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Director Prado seconded the motion.

Chair Hernandez adjourned the meeting.

Adjournment: 7:20p.m.

Respectfully submitted: *Niki Scoloday* Administrative Director / Assistant Clerk of the Board