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Board of Directors Meeting April 14, 2023

1 2	NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
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4	April 14, 2023
5 6 7	LOCATION: 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.
8 9	MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Chair Herron called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
10	The II Call of the North Lake Takes Five Duetoction District Daniel of
11 12 13 14 15	*Roll Call of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Board of Directors: Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present: Susan Herron, Chairman; Greg McKay, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary-Treasurer; Director, Charley Miller, Director; James Costalupes.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	*Guests present: Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Assistant Fire Chief Russell Barnum, NLTFPD; Business Manager Sharon Cary, NLTFPD; Chief Financial Officer Jackie Signorelli, NLTFPD; Fire Marshal, John James, NLTFPD; Board Secretary/Administrative Assistant Andreina Quiroz, NLTFPD; Division Chief Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; PIO Tia Rancourt, NLTFPD; IT/Logistics Manager Alan Green, NLTFPD; Local 2139 President, Dale Spieker, NLTFPD.
24 25 26 27 28 29	Approval of Agenda: Chair Herron informed the Board that before the agenda is approved, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) Staff asked to have New Business Agenda item one removed as new information had been received and they would like more time before presenting to the Board.
30	No objections.
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32 33	Chair Herron approved Agenda as revised.
34 35 36 37	*NRS 241.020 RE: Public Comment. This is a Time for the Public to Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the Agenda of this Meeting.
38 39	No public comments.
40 41 42 43 44	Chair Herron took a moment to offer condolences to Vice-Chair McKay and his family due to the passing of his wife, Donna McKay. The Board respects his desire to return to normalcy and appreciates him being here today. Chair Herron also thanked the NLTFPD crew that responded and continues to offer support to the McKay family as they are appreciated.

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Vice-Chair McKay responded he is very humble and appreciative of the support he has had as it has made a big difference.

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CONSENT AGENDA: Approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes of the March 15, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting.

Review of Accounts Payable for March 2023.

Approval of the March 2023 Monthly Management Report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of and Possible Action to Award the Contract for the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District's (NLTFPD) Workers' Compensation Insurance Policy for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to 7710 Insurance, presented by CFO Signorelli.

2. Discussion of and Review of the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Tentative Budget, presented by CFO Signorelli.

 Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Signorelli began by mentioning there was a summary placed at each of the Director's seats, that lists the adjustments made, and said she would speak to them through the presentation as well as one more piece of information regarding an increase that is being requested by Chief Sommers.

CFO Signorelli stated some of the key points noted; the tax rate has not changed, an increase has not been requested therefore the tax rate will remain at .648, we are fully staffed, with the same numbers as last year just different allocations.

CFO Signorelli explained the overview for next year noting some big increases. Overall, there is a 7% increase in revenue, some of it is stemming from the Fuels Division and NV Energy because to cover those expenses, we need to increase revenue which is a balancing act that Division Chef (DC) Powning is well in charge of and understands. To staff, we need to have the revenue to offset. CFO Signorelli stated efforts are being made to segregate the Fuels and NV Energy departments and efforts will continue to be made over the next calendar year. The segregation will ensure that whatever happens in the NV Energy pool and the Fuels Division pool stay separate and explained that currently they are a little conflated

because we are not necessarily moving personnel that work in one division, although it is being billed out and we are being paid, it is crossing over to different departments. CFO Signorelli reassured the Board this would be amended in this coming Fiscal Year (FY), that way DC Powning can strive for a negative or better \$450,000 budget for Fuels Management and strive for a zero-bottom line for NV Energy.

Next, CFO Signorelli stated, the biggest increase year over year is typically salaries and wages and said this will happen again this year. CFO Signorelli explained this has to do with positions we are looking to add if approved. Another portion has to do with the pension increase, line personnel is increasing from 44% of total salary to 50%, and non-line personnel, is increasing from 29.75% to 33.5%, this is a 14% increase year over year.

CFO Signorelli explained expenses are increasing by 11% and recognized this is a big jump when we are only increasing revenues by 7%.

CFO Signorelli moved onto the General Overview, of the General Fund (GF); the beginning fund balance is of \$13 million, and explained the information listed on the columns of the GF, Fund Balance Calculation, where Revenues, Salaries and Benefits at 12.7%, Services and Supplies, Transfers that go to the other departments such as Fuels, Capital Projects, Debt Service, and the Ambulance Fund. CFO Signorelli explained the Property Tax refund is also listed although no final notice has been received since March from Washoe County (WC). She has requested an update, but nothing has been received, and explained this was put in the budget, because claims are being put in through May and will be paid out through next June. CFO Signorelli stated that even though claims are still being submitted, the payback could potentially happen over the next year, and she inquired with WC what that projection looked like based on the numbers that have been touched. CFO Signorelli thanked Chair Herron for the information she provided to CFO Signorelli and said the numbers are global since it is for all of WC and although it is not as specific as she would like, on how many applicants they have versus how many they have actually touched, they are working through all of that. CFO Signorelli advised the caveat to this is if they cannot locate someone and someone files a claim, they can still come back and be awarded the claim. Next, CFO Signorelli stated the Contingency Fund is listed and has not been touched yet and with that, the Net Change is \$4.1 million.

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CFO Signorelli advised one of the corrections listed on the summary is the balance of the Capital Project Fund for this year; there is an increase of \$487,000, making the Ending Fund Balance \$6.4 million, instead of \$6.9 million as the requested amount is \$750,000.

CFO Signorelli asked if there were any questions. No questions.

CFO Signorelli directed the Board to the GF section, and commented Ad Valorem we do not take the full number from WC as we assume that we are not going to collect on all items, as per historical trends, we do not collect 100% of what they tell us our revenue is supposed to be, therefore that is adjusted as well as Consolidated and Local Tax.

CFO Signorelli went over the following Budgets:

The Administrative Executive budget has decreased year to year due to the changes that have happened, including Business Manager (BM) Cary's retirement, salary increases, and two requests for executive office supplies. CFO Signorelli explained that in general, for Services and Supplies she came up with totals after looking at every department's historical trend over the last five years and where we think we need to go and adjusted things to reflect historical averages. As an example, CFO Signorelli stated that if there is a budget that normally had \$12,000 in expenses, for the last five years and the budget is for \$20,000 she made the adjustment, considering price increases, adjustments, and small contingencies or changes. CFO Signorelli advised this trend can be noticed throughout the Budget as she does not break out every line item in Services and Supplies but can be seen on the detail page; Dues & Membership and Training & Travel increased due to her Certified Public Accountant (CPA) work, training, conferences, and other professional memberships, and said that on the summary, there is an additional \$5,000 listed for membership renewal for Chief Sommers.

The Administrative Services budget has also increased due to a request from CFO Signorelli to add an additional Administration/Human Resource (HR)/Accountant employee. CFO Signorelli advised the request comes from not having the bandwidth from current Administration (Admin.) personnel to take on projects, work on revamping of areas and assisting. Admin. would like to be an advocate for the district, but currently they are doing the jobs that are in front of them in the time slots allotted, with not enough

bandwidth to take on other projects. CFO Signorelli advised her goal is to give current Admin, personnel the opportunity to excel and exceed in the roles that they want to be in while having an additional employee with accounting experience to assist with reconciliations amongst other tasks. With this comes another request, Legacy Dynamics Great Planes (GP) is currently being used, however CFO Signorelli is requesting Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software to take all the financial aspects and put them into one house including budgets. Currently the district is using different systems to execute their needs and the only thing GP is being used for is Accounts Payable and bank reconciliations, and it does not give us the analysis tool needed. This also takes more effort as things are done manually. CFO Signorelli has two other requests, one, for consultant, Eide Bailly to look for, research, and help us understand what the right system is for us and in the same process looking for a new HR and payroll system, as currently there is not a not a good tracking system for HR responsibilities. From a confidentiality standpoint, we do have our Information Technology (IT) system set up, but still it required a lot of manual inputs from one system to the other to keep track of all the complicated factors such as step increases, promotions, education pay. From an HR standpoint, housing employee performances, new employee onboarding, having a secure portal for document submittal, but also having a true HR system and payroll system that handles time entries and has more controls that we need like who can look at the data in the system. CFO Signorelli explained the current process of time tracking and exporting to ADP for payroll and emphasized there is still a lot of manual entries being done. CFO Signorelli advised the consultant would be looking at what the other inputs are, and they will be looking at every option for the inputs coming in and what are the best systems for the district. CFO Signorelli recognized this process takes a lot of time, between demos, speaking with vendors, going through the needs analysis, and deciding what vendors meet our needs. CFO Signorelli recognized this process could take hours for each individual package, this is her history, she has done this in the past and has no problem taking this project on, she only must keep in mind that she only has so much bandwidth to take the rest of everything else done for the district hence the request for the consultants. CFO Signorelli stated that with that purchase there are additional expenses such as annual maintenance. CFO Signorelli explained the quote from Eide Bailly for consulting was between \$70,000 to \$80,000. The two software requests were submitted to Capital Projects, one is for \$70,000 and is for HR/Payroll and the other request is for \$70,000 for the accounting package. CFO Signorelli added this does not all have to

happen in one year, but this was the highest quote amount received

NLTFPD

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from all of the systems that are offered. The total highest bid came 2 from NEO Gov, a very common government HR system. CFO 3 Signorelli explained that we get what we pay for and that is what 4 makes the difference. It is about finding the sweet spot where fund 5 accounting can be done while feeding under the budget and financial 6 statements. CFO Signorelli said this also feeds into the hiring of the 7 additional person, because if the new accounting software is 8 approved, the implementation of the software also needs to be done. 9 The implementation will take a lot of effort as we will need to go 10 through and enter information into the new system, and while the 11 consultant will help with some of that, it is a matter of what can our 12 staff take on and what do need in the long run. Having the new 13 person help with that process and having the long-term role of 14 monthly reconciliation amongst other duties that happen on a month-15 to-month basis. In the Services & Supplies area, is where the 16 maintenance agreement for the new software programs that would 17 potentially happen in year one and the Capital part of it would be in 18 the Balance sheet on the Earned Net Assets. CFO Signorelli reiterated 19 increases in Services & Supplies are based on historical averages, 20 increases in utilities are due to inflation, increase in payroll fees for 21 ADP, office cleaning increased to \$200 from \$150, Awards and 22 Recognition for an employee recognition program resulting from 23 Chief Sommers survey and contractual maintenance that has to do 24 with software systems. 25

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The Information Services budget is asking for an increase of 4.23%. Although salaries and wages have a negative, it does not mean we have gone down, but rather budget year-to-year has decreased, actuals will increase like normal. This request is also to get IT up to market value for the IT individual. Standard benefits, Services & Supplies include annual increases, Contractual Maintenance, Social Media Archiving for the social media platforms, website, and e-mail. CFO Signorelli advised Smarsh has been the vendor selected for social media archiving, and can also do the public records request, this is beneficial in protecting the district, citizen complaints, and NLTFPD staff. Office 365 upgrade is also under Contractual Maintenance to increase the cyber security level. There are different levels of licensing with Office 365, and while not all staff would be upgraded, the executive staff and full-time (FT), employees would be upgraded to the E5 license, as this is also a requirement from Smarsh to be compliant. First Due would also fall under this.

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Assistant Fire Chief (AFC) Barnum commented that First Due is the

NLTFPD

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platform for response that ties all of the platforms that we use to track inventory and reporting.

CFO Signorelli added this would also include other licensing such as Maraki and again reduce budgets to historical averages.

CFO Signorelli asked if there were any questions for IT.

Vice-Chair McKay asked if E5 level was like Homeland Security level.

IT/Logistics Manager Alan Green responded that currently we have E3 security, which gives us some security, E5 would provide better security and better archiving.

CFO Signorelli added that with E5 if we are communicating with someone outside of the district, it will be a secure email and encrypted as currently, we do not have that.

The Fleet Maintenance budget is also increasing due to the need for a new mechanic. We only have Mechanic Josh Phillips, now Fleet Manager, therefore we are looking for a Part-Time (PT) mechanic and have had zero applicants in the four weeks the position has been advertised. CFO Signorelli stated part of the problem of not having any interest in the position is that NLTFPD is in Incline Village, it is a PT position with no benefits, a probable commute as we cannot find anyone local. CFO Signorelli advised the request is to offer at least 34 time if not FT and advised Chief Sommers and DC Powning have been working on one potential resource, where NV Energy would potentially pay for 50%, or half time for that individual. DC Powning confirmed this was well explained by CFO Signorelli and added this was put in the proposal for the next contract, and in the last discussions with NV Energy, it sounded like it was a high possibility that the contract would cover that. CFO Signorelli added that NV Energy was not looking at a FT person, but they have been in negotiations to do half time. CFO Signorelli stated that if the mechanic is not covered by NV Energy, she is hopeful the Board will approve the new mechanic at 34 to give the individual benefits, and if this still does not attract any leads, we will look at another option. The Fleet budget reflects the new mechanic, 50% funded by NV Energy as the goal, so the full balance would drop to \$84,000 however because this would be our employee and if we go out of contract with NV Energy, they are still our employee, we will have that increase or find another resource for funding. The budget also includes an ERS system for maintaining the Fleet schedules. Noted is

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a reduction in Professional Fees associated with funding to pay for the help of an outside Mechanic for when Mechanic Phillips reported for duty to the National Guard, Mechanic Phillips has since retired from the National Guard and this expense is no longer needed. Training and Travel was increased to \$5,000 per employee due to the schooling and certifications needed such as California Fire Mechanics Academy, testing fees, and quarterly mechanics tests.

The Operations Suppression (OPS) budget has a salary increase of 6% across the board and this includes step increases and benefits. Services & Supplies, with historical averages, some budgets went away as OPS personnel do not want or need them, for example Water Rescue Training as training is done in-house and they no longer have to pay a third party to do the training. OPS Budget Requests, Contractual Maintenance has an increase in pricing due to ladder and pump testing as mandated. Equipment Supplies had two items removed as listed on the summary sheet, the items removed were the 9" Battery Powered Saws and circular saws saving us \$9,000. AFC Barnum advised these items are being put off until further information is received on the supplies. Hose supplies are listed as we need to be compliant, currently we have aging hoses that are over 17 years old and need to be replaced. Hazmat supplies, lists two MultiRae monitors, AFC Barnum explained we received a grant out outfit our first out vehicles with new gas monitors, the first our engines have the monitors, the reserve engines, and Battalion Chief (BC) vehicle still have the older monitors, this is an attempt to have all first out apparatus and reserve engine with the same hardware as far as the gas monitor. CFO Signorelli stated there are regular price increases for Maintenance and Supplies for power saws, replacing ten chainsaw chaps to comply. AFC Barnum commented that the benefit of hiring from the Fuels Division is obtaining professionals that know how to use chain saws and know what wildland compliance is for safety equipment. AFC Barnum added that this employee was able to go through all the OPS wildland response equipment and found the chaps were not compliant, hence the request. CFO Signorelli reminded the Board these increases or decreases listed are over budget to budget, they are not going to zero it is just based on the needs. CFO Signorelli offered to go through each line item if the Board wished and gave a synopsis of each line item. CFO Signorelli noted Radio Supplies increased due to the need of Wildland Radios, as these need to be replaced almost every year, because of this, \$15,000 to \$40,000 is allocated every year for replacement because they are often used, each radio ranges from \$2,000 to \$4,000 depending on the need and use. Chief Sommers commented that this

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purchase is not made every year, but it is an increment. CFO Signorelli added that funds are allocated as we know the purchase will need to be made and we need to have the reserves for the expense. Training & Travel increased with the onboarding of younger employees and continued training for existing employees and because in previous years OPS has gone through this budget, hence the request to increase. CFO Signorelli noted she is working on individuals putting in requests into the right budget bucket as a request for an increase may offset with a decrease in another department because coding was not being done correctly. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), request includes turnouts, boots, replenishment, and a new request for turnout drier. AFC Barnum stated that a few years back the Board approved the purchase of an additional set of turnouts for crews and replacing those retired, a huge investment of over \$6,000 per employee for their turnout equipment. Currently a commercial tumble dryer is what is used to dry turnouts, and this is not the ideal way of drying turnouts to any standard. Although robust it is delicate because they do not want to destroy the turnout fabric. The new drying cabinet will allow for six turnouts to dry slowly over a 24-hour period after being used and washed. AFC Barnum added the dryer has a dual purpose as it also handles drying hoses and feels this is a good way to ensure the investment is taken care of properly. CFO Signorelli noted the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) request was higher in last year budget but since a grant was received, this request was decreased to \$19,500 and this will be used to maintain SCBA's. Building Maintenance, requesting keyless entry for the three doors to the Admin, building, repairing the Admin, front door, maintenance on the Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) for allergens, ozone treatments, new NLTFPD graphics on doors, and window cleaning.

Director Miller inquired on the coding of salaries and wages, as he noticed a change in how they are accounted for because salaries decreased but vacation and Compensation (comp.) time increased.

CFO Signorelli replied this was a great question, and said everything is generally pushed into salary, and since salary is generally split, employees will take sick and vacation over time at the employees' preference, but at the end it should be a net-net year to year, so she allocated those specific budgets. CFO Signorelli offered to provide Director Miller with additional information if he wished.

CFO Signorelli reported on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)

budget, stating CPR classes are held for the public, the budget includes the contract fee for the instructor managing the classes and training. CFO Signorelli advised that as of yesterday, the current contract with Jim Whitson has been terminated and a new contract with a new instructor will be put in place. The contract will remain at \$1,800 per month. Additionally, we purchase Automated External Defibrillator (AED) units for other agencies, and they purchase them from us.

The Prevention budget had a decrease in salaries with Fire Marshal (FM) Jennifer Donohue's retirement and hiring of current FM John James. Preventions Contractual Maintenance requests include, Washoe County's (WC) Accela software, First Due specific to Prevention to assist with inspections and permitting modules, this portion of First Due is not included in the other First Due package, employee physicals, and advertising. Dues and Membership increased as well in Prevention as they do year to year.

Vice-Chair McKay complimented Prevention on the well job done digging out hydrants this season.

Director Costalupes stated the hydrants that were ignored were around the school district.

The Public Education (Pub Ed.) budget includes a request for consumable items, and an Emergency Preparedness Video for evacuations. Public Information Officer (PIO) Rancourt commented that evacuations are a hot topic so the next video will focus on evacuations.

The Fuels Management budget has increased revenue to come in at the bottom line and to get to \$450,000, we must increase revenue depending on what additional requests are needed and the management of the budget. Fuels does not have any specific items to request for Capital Projects.

The NV Energy budget needs to get to zero to solve our problem for all the salaries, wages, and services, we must have revenue to offset that, \$3 million is what is being projected. CFO Signorelli advised the Forester position was mistakenly not added to the budget but the information for the Forester is listed on the summary and assured the net numbers work.

CFO Signorelli referred to the summary and said there was a double

NLTFPD

Board of Directors Meeting April 14, 2023

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dip between Prevention and Fuels for an employee that is crossing over, the Fuels Prevention Specialist/Inspector as he will continue to be under the Fuels Department but performing a lot of work for Prevention. CFO Signorelli explained this employee was listed under the Prevention budget assuming that the additional expender would be in the Prevention budget, but this employee will remain on the Fuels side of the house but will report to FM James.

Chief Sommers added this is a day-to-day change for the Fuels Prevention Specialist/Inspector to work under FM James because of Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) requests and requirements on permits that pertain to the Defensible Space Evaluations (DSE). Instead of having two Chief Officers trying to schedule, the Fuels fiaure out one person's Specialist/Inspector was placed in one spot, however his position is partially funded by grants and in order to keep that part straight in the Budget, this employee will remain under Fuels but for the dayto-day operations he will be in Prevention, as this will streamline day to day operations around the district.

Vice-Chair McKay commented that maybe one day the Board can see a presentation on how this will be executed and the progress.

DC Powning added that another reason behind this is to have consistent messaging to community, because when inspectors are coming out of different divisions or departments, they are not necessarily on the same page or wavelength, based on the interpretation of what is being seen in the field, this is an attempt to streamline that process and provide more work capacity for Prevention.

Vice-Chair McKay commented this was a positive step.

CFO Signorelli stated that with this, the Board will notice a net-net of zero, because one position was in fuels, and the revenue had to be increased to offset the additional item.

The Ambulance Fund (AMB) was established in 1982; the fund is set up for nine employees and usually the newest employees are placed in the AMB fund. If we can maintain the parameters for which it was set, for which we fund \$1.65 million a year into the fund to keep it in operation. Looking at historical records, in the future we may be able to alter the fund and have all ambulance employees in this fund. This is pending information from WC to see if they have any information

NLTFPD

on the tax initiative that was passed in 1982 to create the AMB fund. This would make more sense to do as it would transpire with Paramedics (PM) as well as for easier reporting requirements such as segregating OPS from Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for the Ground Emergency Medical Transportation (GEMT) audit. CFO Signorelli reiterated that EMS is for nine personnel, eight of which are employees of three years, newest hires with lowest salary commitment. CFO Signorelli noted some increases, \$7,000 for the tablets on the First Out Medic Units to ensure they stay current and up to date. CFO Signorelli added this item was listed in a different budget last year and she is listing it correctly this year. Additional increases include bank fees to include credit card processing fees for ambulance billing payments, EMS radio replacements saying the increase requested is for \$33,900 and that is an increase from the prior year, employee physicals increased to \$750, as well as an increase to Training & Travel for the newer staff.

CFO Signorelli moved onto the GF listed at the end stating the 2024 budget should be \$750,000, an increase of \$487,000 that she will explain.

CFO Signorelli continued with Capital Projects, explaining the requests are listed in the same format as other requests. There will be sales of Fixed Assets, Operating Transfers, Crew Carrier Revenue that comes from the Fuels budget and explained every year \$40,000 in revenue is moved to offset some Capital Expenditures.

Capital Requests include \$100,000 for structural repairs on the Admin. building but repairs have been pushed out to 2027. Station 12 front door overhang; IT/Logistics Manager Green explained the front door needs to have a cover to protect it from rust. Fire alarm replacement in the Admin. building and at Station 12. IT/Logistics Manager Green explained the alarm system at Station 12 is very old and outdated and the replacement parts to fix are becoming more difficult to find.

Director Miller inquired if this was for the fire alarm inside the building.

IT/Logistics Manager Green confirmed.

Director Miller inquired on the monitoring company used for the district fire alarms.

IT/Logistics Manager Green replied Holm Electric does the fire alarm monitoring.

CFO Signorelli referred to Capital Requests stating that some items listed are for future years, such as the Type 1 and Type 3 engines. New Forester vehicle for \$60,000, because we will be appropriating the \$60,000 for this year, as NV Energy will be paying for the vehicle out of the current contract therefore it will be a net zero. CFO Signorelli recognized the due diligence of the team saying she reached out and DC Powning did the leg work, advising NV Energy the Forester has been hired and we do not have a vehicle available, and NV Energy wanted to add this to this year's contract.

DC Powning added that in the next proposal to NV Energy he will be working to obtain another Type 6 engine to bring the fleet up to four Type 6 engines, as currently they have seven people per engine module which has many challenges on off district assignments. DC Powning stated the norm is that typically we are reimbursed for five people and because of this challenge two people are left behind then causing logistical difficulties of staffing the two individuals. DC Powning advised he approached NV Energy with the idea of taking down the engine modules to five-person engine modules and bringing in another engine. DC Powning added this will help with having good staffing for in district when an engine is out on incident, it will maintain another module here. DC Powning stated this request along with the Forester will also be added to the next contract and advised it has been approved, pending final contract. The cost of the Type 6 Engine is \$300,000.

Chief Sommers added that NV Energy is wanting us to hire more people and recognized the negotiating DC Powning has been doing with NV Energy as we do not want to hire that many more people as we would like to keep staffing manageable and said this is the plan that they came up with and said the two agencies are meeting in the middle.

Director Miller inquired if NV Energy wanted the employees to be hired as seasonal or FT employees.

Chief Sommers replied it was a combination of both.

DC Powning added that if this were to go through the contract, two additional FT employees to manage the engine would be hired and the seasonal staff would be reduced by two people.

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42 43 44 CFO Signorelli moved onto the new ambulance and the remount. AFC Barnum confirmed items had been approved and ordered and said the additional \$175,000 is the cost of the remount and that the remount had been pushed back because of the tax payback. CFO Signorelli added that funds would be allocated for the future, allocating \$175,000 per year or every other year for updating chassis. \$80,000 a year, will also be allocated ongoing to replace and keep up to date Utility vehicles in the district, plus the \$40,000 Crew Carrier revenue from Fuels. There is also a new request for a Sea-Doo Search & Rescue Watercraft for \$40,000. AFC Barnum stated he removed this request from the budget last year as he did not believe we were ready. He noted the jet skis were obtained a while ago, and although they are great, they are not rescuing jet skis but rather recreational jet skis. And to have one truly dedicated rescue jet ski with a platform that we have for our rescue swimmers is ideal to have at the beach, additionally we will retain one of the current jet skis and retire the other.

Director Costalupes inquired on the difference between a rescue and recreation jet ski.

AFC Barnum explained the rescue jet ski is wider and more stable, and the current jet skis were retro fitted to attach the rescue board and not specifically designed to be a rescue board, and the new board is the whole key to the rescue swimmer program.

Director Costalupes confirmed the jet ski comes premade and inquired on what would be done with the current jet ski.

AFC Barnum deferred the question to Chief Sommers.

Chief Sommers replied we would take proper measures to sell the jet ski and said we were contacted by one Government agency, Truckee Donner Recreation & Park District as they do not have any type of rescue vessel for their lifeguard program, so they inquired about a vessel.

Director Costalupes stated that would be a good way to repurpose the jet ski.

Director Miller asked AFC Barnum if the vessel is like the rescue vessel used for surfers.

AFC Barnum confirmed it is similar. 1 2 Director Miller inquired on the ambulance remount process, and 3 asked if the ambulance top is removed and placed on a new chassis 4 with a new engine. 5 6 AFC Barnum confirmed that was correct. 7 8 Vice-Chair McKay inquired on how much the rescue jet skis used. 9 10 AFC Barnum replied he is unsure and would have to look at the 11 statistics and mentioned that Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District 12 (TDFPD) has already had to use theirs twice. 13 14 Director Costalupes inquired where the jet skis would be placed. 15 16 AFC Barnum replied that one would be at Ski Beach and the other 17 would be on a trailer. 18 19 Director Costalupes inquired if Sand Harbor has their own jet ski. 20 21 AFC Barnum confirmed they do. 22 23 CFO Signorelli moved on to Extrication Equipment, this is the third 24 year that this request is being placed and replenished for the 25 equipment needed and said this is the final year of the request. 26 Technology request includes a server replacement. IT/Logistics 27 Manager Green stated only one server has been purchased in the las 28 seven years, and prior to that, a new server was being purchased 29 every single year. Although we are moving the cloud, there is still a 30 need for a server to maintain our data and Electronic Patient Care 31 Records (EPCR). CFO Signorelli reiterated Human Resource & 32 Information System (HRIS) and Payroll (PR) platforms sometimes go 33 hand in hand sometimes, but not always, and since we have a very 34 complicated payroll system, it may end up being two separate 35 systems or ideally a collaborative software program. The accounting 36 ERP is the financial package mentioned earlier at \$70,000. 37 38 CFO Signorelli concluded the Operations Requests stating this would 39 put us at \$1.165 million. CFO Signorelli added that with the carrier 40 revenue that offsets and the sales of fixed assets it would take us to 41 \$1.1 million for this year. 42

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CFO Signorelli moved onto Debt Service stating the schedule of when

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debt will be paid off and deferred to Business Manager (BM) Cary for further information on early payoff.

BM Cary reminded the Board of the loan that was refinanced at 1.7% for Station 11 and vehicles and advised we cannot prepay; it must be paid over the next ten years. CFO Signorelli noted the significant decrease in 2025 and BM Cary advised Station 11 will be paid for when the decrease occurs in 2025 and just the vehicles will be left on loan.

CFO Signorelli moved on to the Overall Analysis stating it shows the current year budget, estimated actuals, requested budget, GF revenue is at \$24.3 million, AMB decreased based on last year and advised we must take a 50% reduction of the Bad Debt per the auditors. CFO Signorelli noted the Bad Debt looks worse than in reality, and recognized that although things are improving, there are some issues with our AMB billing and that is something we have no control over. Listed next, Personnel Costs, Services and Supplies, Contingency, which we would like to increase to \$200,000 in the budget in case something may happen. CFO Signorelli stated a lot of the revenue earned is from other places such as AMB billing and Mutual Aid. Chief Sommers stated he asked that Contingency be increased as the Board can see the trend in the Budget, everything is increasing, however if there were an in-district incident, on local responsible area or Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) land we may be responsible for some of the suppression cost if it is a wildland fire for other agencies, a Hazmat event or anything like that. Chief Sommers stated this is similar to an insurance policy that we could have to pay other agencies when they come into our district to help us beyond any agreed upon Mutual Aid Agreement that is already in existence. Chief Sommers stated right now the first 24 hours we are helped are free, but as incidents escalate resources are kept longer. Chief Sommers stated he is asking for this increase in the occasion we have a wildland fire that starts on local responsible area but goes to the federal, we still will have to participate in the cost share because we will be responsible for some of the Suppression costs and to him \$100,000 in today's world is not enough, hence the increase request.

CFO Signorelli moved to Net Revenue (Loss) noting it comes to a loss of \$400,000; Transfer to other Funds is adjusted and will increase because of the additional \$487,000 that she did not have in the original; Repayment to Taxpayers, we do not know where it will come in, but is estimated at \$3.1 million; Net Revenue (Loss), will be close to \$5 million for the year. The Training Budget shows an overview for

each department, and advised the budget released had an error on this page and a copy of the corrected version was also provided. Personnel Cost is the overview of the GF, AMB Fund and total of prior year budget, current year actual, requested budget for this FY and increasing 11.22%. Board Approved Salary Ranges, the document shows a 6% increase across the district, in line with Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), CFO Signorelli requested a change, to the Mechanic II position, which is Mechanic Phillips, in the Fleet Manager position. CFO Signorelli referred to the information on the graph provided to the Board and said he manages more vehicles for staff members than other districts in the area, the information on the graph is from January 2022 and explained the comparison of where other mechanics are salary wise versus where Mechanic Phillips is. In January of 2022, compared to other districts, Mechanic Phillips' annual salary was \$63,000 and is responsible for 80 vehicles; he is responsible for more vehicles per person with less income. Therefore, CFO Signorelli is requesting the salary parameter for Mechanic Phillips to be increased 10% to give him more room to have some salary increase in this area.

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Director Miller stated that based on the information, Mechanic Phillips is behind the curve and inquired if the other districts listed on the graph had assistant mechanics.

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Chief Sommers replied they do not.

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Director Miller asked if with the hiring of another mechanic, Mechanic Phillips numbers would be hurt as far as how many vehicles he manages.

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CFO Signorelli said we also have the NV Energy detail that needs to be taken care of.

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Chief Sommers apologized and corrected himself and said that North Tahoe Fire Protection District (NTFPD) does not have an assistant mechanic, TDFPD has two mechanics and East Fork Fire Protection District (EFFPD) also has two mechanics assistants.

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CFO Signorelli advised she could obtain updated numbers from the districts used on the graph.

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Director Miller stated it seems that a compensation adjustment is needed.

Vice-Chair McKay stated he agreed and inquired about Mechanic

NLTFPD

Phillips length of employment with NLTFPD.

CFO Signorelli replied he has been working for NLTFPD for six or seven years.

Director Costalupes commented Mechanic Phillips is also limited source meaning there is only on qualified person to do his job and that is him where there are other qualified employees in other districts with redundant manpower and they are all valuable but without the rolling stock working properly, we would be going backwards as a man is worth his wage.

CFO Signorelli reiterated this was her request to increase Mechanic Phillips by at least 10% to give him the necessary increase he should have. CFO Signorelli advised Mechanic Phillips can also be given a higher increase, as some of these positions, employees are generally already in the middle of the compensation table and Mechanic Phillips is already being capped at the top. Based on an increase and getting Mechanic Phillips there if he is given the 10% increase it will be over the \$81,000 salary, and although he will be increasing, CFO Signorelli is in hope that year-to-year we will be more in reality with a Mechanics salary and continue to increase.

Next, 5-year plan; the 5-year plan drops by \$487,000 because of the adjustment to the Capital Projects transfer, the \$263,000 is replaced \$750,000 decreasing to 6.4% but at the end of the day, we are okay come 2027 as we are not in the red until 2028, based on assumptions. CFO Signorelli referred to the Annual Percentage Increase, saving that if revenue is being increased by 4% and expenses by 5% on average, we will be in a Net Loss position, therefore we need to do our due diligence to get to a balanced budget, so that year over year we get to a zero position and are balanced. CFO Signorelli commented sometimes we do not have as much control as we would like to but there are a few things that we can pull from such as increases, to a certain regard, benefits, and services and supplies, and have no budget increases for the next five years and we will have to figure out how to make that work or look at alternatives. CFO Signorelli said that if the tax rate decreases or the economy swings, we must look hard at taking care of current staff and how we can retain them without having to make layoffs. Additionally, we have a few liabilities, and a couple of things that were not added to the 5-year plan including Juneteenth, a state holiday recognized by the State of Nevada, and said if the BOD feels we need to add Juneteenth holiday, she can add it to the budget and

could provide updated numbers. It is also unknown when tax refunds will come in, therefore those numbers can fluctuate; compensated absences because in the next five years, estimates are that the top third of our staff will be retiring and we will have severance payouts. Currently we are at \$1.7 million for compensated absences, and with that significant number she needs to forecast our liability in payroll for those hours. CFO Signorelli advised they are on the books, and it will be like a cash payment that we have to make out the door. Additionally, we have Pension Liability at \$11.9 million and Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB) at \$5.1 million. Those liabilities are still owed, this is where we would look at increasing the tax rate, reducing benefits, change services and supplies to zero, and said there are areas that we can manipulate but be conscientious that where we are going, we do not operate in the negative.

Vice-Chair McKay stated this was a great future discussion and is hoping for a surplus to take care of some of our liabilities and for future plans.

CFO Signorelli said this may or may not happen, and advised there will be a meeting with Pool/Pact next Wednesday on Workers Compensation (WC). Pool/Pact has stated we have a reduction in our experience modification factor, which should drop from this prior year. Another WC insurance carrier we are looking into is 7710 Insurance, and said it is difficult finding a WC carrier that will cover FF's. CFO Signorelli advised there are pros and cons, but their current proposal is less than \$800,000 a year for our premium, while Pool/Pact is \$1.2 million, a significant dollar amount to not make a move and reiterated that there are pros and cons. CFO Signorelli advised there are moving parts, and if the switch is made we will reach out for BOD approval, and she will keep them informed and report in the May agenda.

Chief Sommers added there were conversations with 7710 Insurance in the past but now that they are more established, he believes both options need to be looked at.

CFO Signorelli concluded her Budget presentation and is available for questions.

Vice-Chair McKay commented he is impressed with her team, and everyone involved as good work was done and is also impressed with CFO Signorelli's future plans and aspirations to make it even better.

 NLTFPD

1	Chair Herron agreed and recognized CFO Signorelli for doing a good
2	job.
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4	Chair Herron asked if there were any other questions, no further
5	questions.
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7	Chair Herron confirmed CFO Signorelli will be filing the tentative
8	budget by Monday and confirmed Secretary-Treasurer Bremer would
9	be reviewing and signing the tentative budget.
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11	CFO Signorelli confirmed and inquired if the Board is okay if she adds
12	the additional adjustments to the Budget.
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14	Chair Herron stated she does not believe anyone has heard anything
15	that they do not want CFO Signorelli to do and asked CFO Signorelli
16	to please make proposed adjustments.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business.

*Legal Counsel Reports.

No report.

*Board of Directors Comments or Reports.

Vice-Chair McKay commented that at the last meeting he expressed some believes about district employees and after some reflection he would like to clarify that he is sure 90% of employees are doing the right things for the right reasons, and he directed that to the small minority that do not subscribe to that attitude.

End of report, no other reports.

*Fire Chief Reports presented by Fire Chief Sommers.

Chief Sommers reported on Perimeter, the evacuation application (App) is currently at Washoe County's District Attorney's (DA's) office as they are working on the implementation, and it will be rolled out to the public once it is in place. Chief Sommers reiterated Perimeter was paid for by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grants. There are two more software packages apps that will be rolling out to the public, one is Fire Aside, this app will assist with Defensible Space Evaluations (DSE), the other app is Chipperday that will help schedule chipping piles, both app's are paid for by Parasol, all agencies will get recognition on the apps along with the Parasol

1 logo.

Chief Sommers reported it is the time of year to do presentations, he has presented at the Incline Village Republican Women's Group with FM James and PIO Rancourt. Next, they will be presenting to the Rotary and Realtors Board.

Chief Sommers lastly reported he received an e-mail late yesterday that the WC Emergency Manager is putting out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a vendor to schedule, organize, conduct a multi-scale evacuation drill in Incline Village/Crystal Bay (IV/CB) and will more than likely include Placer County and Kings Beach area, he will have more to come.

Director Miller inquired on the last evacuation drill.

Chief Sommers confirmed there was a drill done a few years ago.

End of report.

*Chief Officers Reports presented by Assistant Fire Chief Barnum.

AFC Barnum reported one Type 1 apparatus is out of service and being repaired in Reno, currently using a backup apparatus.

Training is focused on Wildland and going over all the wildland preparation to be properly red carded when personnel go into wildland season. AFC Barnum recognized Engineer Nelligan who put on a joint training with NTFPD, Truckee Fire Protection District (TFPD) and other agencies; it was a trailer rollover class, and it was a great opportunity for other districts to participate as tankers were brought into train.

End of report.

*Prevention Reports presented by Fire Marshal James.

FM James reported the shifts that are being done in Prevention compliment what he is trying to do with his department; with the Fuels Specialist joining his department, along with PIO Rancourt there has been successful movement in meeting with Homeowners Associations (HOA's) such as Bitterbrush II, where all four individuals addressed different issues and provide information that will hopefully lead to more compliance. FM James believes the plan that is being put forward will go very well and make good succession for the Fuels Specialist and consistency.

FM James referred to the WC program, Accela, stating twenty more inspection types were added, as during a building inspection, FM James noticed some ambiguity to the way inspections are called and what requires inspections from us and with the addition made, we now have a bigger list and WC helped with adding the items into Accela.

FM James advised the Prevention Report is in the Board packet and is available for any questions.

*Fuels Management Report as presented by Division Chief Powning.

DC Powning reported crews are back in the district. Last week the crew successfully conducted pile burning and quality control east of Incline along the East shore Trail. Crews will continue cutting on the east shore and begin to address some of the urban lots, Forest Service urban lots, and State urban lots as contracts were received for all the lots, this will be the year's big effort.

DC Powning reported the hiring process of seasonal employees has been completed, job offers have been extended, their pack test is schedule for two weeks from tomorrow, and after a discussion with Chief Sommers, the official hire date is set for May 22, 2023.

DC Powning stated the new Forester has been hired with a start date of March 27, he is working on figuring out our program and what he will be doing for NV Energy as it is complex, with everything going on and what we are trying to do in the district.

Lastly DC Powning reported completion of contracts and tasks for the Operating Plan for this year. Also working on redoing the Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) via the Tahoe Fire & Fuels Team (TFFT) as well as working on the Operating Plan for the basin.

End of report.

*Chief Financial Reports presented by Chief Financial Officer Signorelli.

CFO Signorelli thanked the district for all of the help provided to her during the preparation of the budget as she had many people being helpful and walking her through stuff. BM Cary guiding her through items she did not know where they were coming from. CFO Signorelli recognized Administrative Assistant Andreina, in being instrumental in helping CFO Signorelli with keeping things moving and making sure the correct paperwork was being

done. CFO Signorelli also recognized Chief Sommers, AFC Barnum, DC Powning, IT/Logistics Manger Green for all their help.

CFO Signorelli reiterated there are a lot of moving parts in her department, with changes to improve processes, communication, and deadlines across the board.

CFO Signorelli reported on upcoming events and deadlines, the Department of Taxation deadline is Monday April 17th, along with finalizing questions for the GEMT audit; 990-T Tax Return is due May 15th; EMS audit that she will be working with AFC Barnum and Captain Quinlan to complete; Cal-OES training with DC Powning; 5-year plan that she will be working with FM James on; the Seasonal onboarding game plan with Accountant Tracy Collins; starting the search for software and revising chart of accounts with or without new software; obtaining actuals to present to Secretary-Treasurer Bremer; and preparing for the annual audit.

End of report.

*Public Education Information Officer Reports presented by PIO Rancourt.

PIO Rancourt reported her report was submitted as part of the Board Packet.

PIO Rancourt reminded everybody the Blood Drive is scheduled for May 5th, 2023.

PIO Rancourt alluded to FM James report and stated they are all very excited about all the upcoming changes, and glad to interphase with HOA's this season and in the future. She stated she is learning a lot and learning new things.

PIO Rancourt stated there will be working in events relevant to Fuels such as also working with TFFT, CWPP, and updating the community and asking the community for input to add to the plan.

*Local union 2139

President Dale Spieker thanked the Board on behalf of the Union for the contract extension and stated the Union appreciates the extension.

*NRS 241.020 RE: Public Comment. This is a Time for the Public to Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the Agenda of this Meeting.

Chair Herron thanked everybody for a good budget workshop meeting and reminded the Board that this is the only meeting that will be held for the month of April, the next Board meeting will be held in May.

CFO Signorelli inquired with Chair Herron on the need for a follow up meeting between April 17^{th} and April 28^{th} before the final budget.

Chair Herron did not believe a follow up meeting was needed and turned to Board members for confirmation.

No follow up meeting needed.

Meeting Adjournment 11:40 a.m.

Secretary

Susan Herron, Chairman