

**01NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

February 15, 2023

LOCATION: 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: Chair Herron called the meeting to order at 09:00 a.m.

***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.

***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; via Video Conference, Legal Counsel, Devon Reese; IT/Logistics Manager, Alan Green, NLTFPD; Engineer Brian Maples, Local 2139 Secretary-Treasurer; Union President Dale Spieker, Local 2139; FF Whitman, NLTFPD; Engineer Brett Jacobsen; NLTFPD; Captain Scott Woodcock, NLTFPD; FF Chase Purinton, NLTFPD; Captain Jake Fonken, NLTFPD; Acting Battalion Chief, Justin Ashby, NLTFPD. Todd Lowe, The Village League.

Approval of Agenda: Approved as submitted.

***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.**

CONSENT AGENDA: Approved as submitted.

Approval of Minutes of the January 18, 2023, Board of Directors Meeting.

Review of Accounts Payable for January 2023.

Approval of the January 2023 Monthly Management Report.

NEW BUSINESS

1 **1.** Presentation and Discussion of City of Incline, presented by Todd
2 Lowe.

3
4 Todd Lowe began by thanking the Board for having him present. Mr.
5 Lowe began by stating he had met with Chief Sommers in late June
6 or July when the initiative of incorporating Incline Village/Crystal Bay
7 (IV/CB) as a city commenced. At that time Mr. Lowe expressed to
8 Chief Sommers his wishes to interact directly with the North Lake
9 Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) Board of Directors (BOD) to
10 fully inform the BOD and make sure there is nothing that causes
11 issues for the Fire District as that is not the intention. Mr. Lowe
12 advised he is more interested in getting feedback and input as well
13 as answering questions the BOD may have.

14
15 Mr. Lowe presented himself as President of the Village League to
16 Save Incline Assets, an organization that started 23-years ago, with
17 the mission to look out for things that might be a detriment in Incline
18 Village, and the League takes the position to step forward where they
19 can, to address those issues. Mr. Lowe advised this current initiative
20 is the fourth thing they have done, adding the first issue they faced
21 was keeping the hospital in Incline Village which worked out okay.
22 Next was defending the Beach Deed, when the attempt to open the
23 beaches arose in 2001. Mr. Lowe stated the third item, what he
24 believes the League is more noted for is the Tax Revolt, where they
25 fought with Washoe County (WC) after they unconstitutionally
26 assessed and taxed residents of Incline Village. Mr. Lowe explained
27 that was 17-year fight, with five trips to the Supreme Court, that
28 resulted ultimately and sadly in WC having to return over \$100
29 million of property taxes collected. Mr. Lowe advised that the Tax
30 Revolt is essentially over, and the last tranche, a \$56 million tranche,
31 is being turned and now the last day that anyone in IV/CB can submit
32 a claim for a refund is May of 2023 then it is over, done and behind
33 us. Mr. Lowe reported he is happy to say that there is now what he
34 considers a very good relationship with WC and the WC Assessor but
35 that is not the way it had started out. Mr. Lowe stated that as the
36 Tax Revolt is winding down, he and the Board of the Village League,
37 were surveying the community and found a lot of strife and difficulties
38 of people essentially feeling out of control, not listened to by WC. Mr.
39 Lowe stated a lot of ideas were vetted, and after five failed attempts
40 to obtain independence, in the past it was becoming a separate
41 county or a town, however in this case, it was decided that the best
42 opportunity for people of IV/CB would be to consider incorporating
43 as a city. Mr. Lowe advised he has a lot of examples of why they are
44 working towards this, what is heard from people, and he can dive

1 into those examples to give the BOD an idea.
2

3 Mr. Lowe continued to say one of the things that has been causing a
4 lot of strife and is a hot topic currently is the old elementary school,
5 where well over 1,000 people raised their hands and said they did
6 not want the space to become bus hub, however that is marching
7 forward. Mr. Lowe move on to the next example and stated that if
8 anyone attended the sessions done for the people who are candidates
9 for trustees for Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID)
10 they had five questions they were to answer; three of those questions
11 had nothing to do with IVGID. Mr. Lowe explained this meant people's
12 concerns in the community did not apply to IVGID, which is
13 recreation, sewer, trash and water, they were other concerns
14 Trustees could never address but a city could. At that moment, the
15 Village League believed that would be a good time to take over an
16 incorporation and explained they are proceeding by putting together
17 a petition under the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 266 to where
18 the voters in Incline Village independent of the Legislature and
19 independent of the County or any other political body get to decide
20 for themselves whether they incorporate. Mr. Lowe recognized it is a
21 bit of a heavy lift, because it requires developing a detailed plan what
22 services will be taken over from the County, revenue, expenses,
23 budget, boundaries etc. Once all of that is taken care of and defined
24 it is submitted to the voters for them to decide if they want to do it
25 or not. Mr. Lowe advised the petition needs to be signed by one third
26 of registered voters of IV/CB. This is not something that can be done
27 online or by mail, this must be witnessed and the signatures have to
28 be validated. Once the signatures are validated, they are sent to the
29 registrar in WC, and if all the signatures are valid, and they have a
30 third, then the next step is to have an election; the election is a one
31 item election, which is up or down, it would be on a ballot, and on
32 the ballot if there is a majority the proposal would be on its way,
33 meaning that there is only one day of the year to become a city, and
34 that date is July 1. Mr. Lowe advised that in this case, should the
35 process move forward, and if the voters decided they would like to
36 incorporate as a city, this would become effective July 1, 2024.

37
38 Mr. Lowe stated one of their motto's and a driving force is not to
39 break anything that is working or create any new problems. Mr. Lowe
40 elaborated on the subject of problems, and said one of the precious
41 things we have is the Beach Deed, and from the beginning the Village
42 League stated that if the Beach Deed would be compromised in any
43 way, shape or form, the incorporation would be off as it would be a
44 bad idea. Mr. Lowe advised there are no fewer than seven attorneys

1 working on that position since September, and advised they have
2 received good news, it is a clear path, and the beaches will be fine
3 no matter what is done. Mr. Lowe reported there is a list of 14 pages
4 of some of the problems collected from the community. Mr. Lowe
5 commented that similarly to Chief Sommers, Mr. Lowe attends a
6 weekly community forum meeting on Friday mornings and like Chief
7 Sommers, he too is aware that for the past three years, someone has
8 been tattling every single little issue that has come up in IV/CB. Mr.
9 Lowe explained the notable thing of the list is that there is nothing
10 on it about Fire Protection, therefore Fire Protection in the North Lake
11 Fire Protection District is not an issue, it is not broken and frankly it
12 needs to be protected and not bothered. Mr. Lowe recognized that is
13 one of the biggest reasons he is here today before the Board, to
14 assure that this way the Village League sees this unless the Board
15 says they would like something better or different.

16
17 Mr. Lowe stated their concern is that NRS 266.043 says, that except
18 for Fire Protection Districts and Police Department if the boundaries
19 of a new city encompass the district, then the district becomes part
20 of the city and is dissolved. Mr. Lowe confirmed their plan is to not
21 do that, but rather to propose a city boundary that excludes some of
22 the NLTFPD territory, and thereby preserves the district and it will
23 remain essentially completely unchanged. Mr. Lowe commented
24 stated he could imagine there may be reasons why NLTFPD would
25 want to be a part of the city or managed by the city, as there are
26 some advantages but there are also disadvantages and it ultimately
27 comes down to the district's preferences. Mr. Lowe advised his
28 organization visited people in Fernley, the last city incorporated in
29 the State of Nevada 20 years ago. Mr. Lowe commented that Fernley
30 is now turning into little, tiny districts and this is not being well
31 received. Mr. Lowe explained that Fernley has a complete GID for
32 their swimming pool, and when the individual who does the sewer
33 work wants to work on the swimming pools broken pump, the
34 individual must borrow tools, fill out time sheets and wear different
35 hats to complete the job. Mr. Lowe explained it was a difficult
36 administrative thing and said the City Council must adjourn their
37 meetings to talk about the swimming pool, because they are in fact
38 Trustees of all the GIDS that have been created. Mr. Lowe continued
39 saying there may be services, support, or functions that the district
40 may want that a city would have and therefore the people would want
41 to be part of it, however at this juncture, there is nothing like that no
42 one is raising their hands to want to be in control of the fire
43 department. Mr. Lowe advised his organization would like to use this
44 mechanism to keep the district the way it is, and it will not be

1 touched.

2
3 Mr. Lowe presented a map of what he and his organization believe
4 the boundaries of the district are.

5
6 Director Costalupes inquired if Mr. Lowe was referring to the brown
7 shaded area.

8
9 Mr. Lowe confirmed and added this map was off the GIS system that
10 WC uses. Mr. Lowe explained that what they are proposing to do is
11 take the three parcels on the map where blue arrows are pointing to
12 and exclude them from the city. Mr. Lowe said those are parcels that
13 NLTFPD is responsible for protecting and in doing that, there would
14 be a disjoint boundary with NLTFPD having territory outside of the
15 city, the NRS statute leaves the district alone, and Mr. Lowe believes
16 that is something worth looking at very closely, Mr. Lowe reiterated
17 this is what he and his organization were advised and added it would
18 be great to have it coming from both sides. Next, Mr. Lowe referred
19 to the red line on the map and explained that would be the city
20 boundaries. Mr. Lowe explained this was nearly the size of the fire
21 district and one can see three parcels that have been removed to the
22 city, these parcels are about 750 acres and they are owned by the
23 US Forest Service, and they believe that if they exclude those parcels
24 and incorporate as a city then there is no issue, however this is
25 something that needs to be assured.

26
27 Mr. Lowe moved on to explain another important part of the process,
28 is that their job is to get the petition for consideration, then the voters
29 decide if they want to do it or not, and after that someone takes it
30 over the rest of the way. Mr. Lowe reiterated his organization wants
31 to give citizens a choice, control, and some independence.

32
33 Mr. Lowe asked if there were any questions from the BOD.

34
35 Vice-Chair McKay asked why they would want to take US Forest
36 Service responsibility out.

37
38 Mr. Lowe replied, there are several districts and a couple answers.
39 One is the judicial district, IV/CB is getting ready to lose our judge
40 and court, although we would like to keep it here, therefore they do
41 not want anything that WC must jump over on the other side of us.
42 The other thing is that similarly to Fernley, this is something that you
43 would want and need to do, because if we are surrounded by
44 influences that are not necessarily aligned with us, we now have a

1 coordination issue, and other problems. Mr. Lowe added that if we
2 expect to provide anything, like a service in those areas, then the
3 areas need to be inside the city, and although ownership does not
4 matter, one can imagine there are not going to be a lot of city
5 services. Mr. Lowe stated that in summary if the objective is to gain
6 control, we need to make sure we have influence for as large area as
7 possible, without a little portion of WC unincorporated on the other
8 sides which creates a strained burden for them. Mr. Lowe referred to
9 the map and advised there would be 22 acres of the lake in the city,
10 and services would be provided on the lake in cooperation with other
11 agencies.

12
13 Chair Herron asked if there were any residential parcels excluded.

14
15 Mr. Lowe replied there is one parcel excluded and that would be the
16 Laxalt's parcel on Marlett Lake. Mr. Lowe explained the problem with
17 that parcel is that it is not owned by one Laxalt, but rather 18
18 Laxalt's. Mr. Lowe confirmed his organization spoke with the Laxalt's
19 and said getting 18 Laxalt's to agree is not an easy task. Mr. Lowe
20 stated any parcels over 100 acres can choose to come in or out and
21 his organization decided to exclude them from the city as it does have
22 to be unanimous consent and they did not believe they could have
23 all 18 family members agree.

24
25 Mr. Lowe advised Chair Herron that every other parcel over 100 acres
26 is signed up.

27
28 Chair Herron asked if Mr. Lowe knew the number or what was 1/3 of
29 the registered voters.

30
31 Mr. Lowe replied it is about 3,000 people although he does not
32 understand how there could possibly be 9,000 registered voters in
33 Incline Village. Mr. Lowe added that as a matter of interest, they are
34 hiring support for petition collection and gathering, and said this is a
35 complete volunteer effort by himself and his organization, and said it
36 had always been this way, they are volunteers, however they do not
37 want to rely on the goodwill and efforts of volunteers, because if
38 signatures are not obtained, it is over with only eight days to cure
39 and eight days is not sufficient time. Mr. Lowe referred to the recent
40 election where there were eight or nine initiatives that people were
41 attempting to obtain petitions, and most of those initiatives failed.
42 Mr. Lowe stated the reason those initiatives failed was due to not
43 obtaining sufficient signatures. Mr. Lowe stated the Village League is
44 hiring a firm for the one initiative that did get on the ballot to

1 advocate for them. Mr. Lowe is in hopes that if a good job is done in
2 preparing a plan that appeals to IV/CB residents, that the petition
3 signatures will come.
4

5 Chair Herron asked what Mr. Lowes' funding source was.
6

7 Mr. Lowe stated that everything is being done out of donations made
8 to the Village League to Save Incline Assets which has been around
9 for a long time and one can imagine that a lot of people are grateful
10 for the \$100 million that came back into the community and a lot of
11 those people are open to sharing a portion of that. Mr. Lowe
12 confirmed there will be a fundraising campaign at some point. Mr.
13 Lowe mentioned their budget for petition signing is \$80.00 per
14 signature. Mr. Lowe added he cannot believe it costs that much and
15 reiterated that there is no one person or organization that provides
16 funding, but rather it is all donations of people who live here as well
17 as people turning over their entire refunds to them.
18

19 Chair Herron inquired on if Mr. Lowe and his organization were
20 targeting an election in 2023.
21

22 Mr. Lowe replied probably not, as he believes what will happen is the
23 petition has to be approved, otherwise there is no election. If the
24 petition is scheduled to start the petition signature collection process
25 in May and finish in July, after that, there are many administrative
26 steps, and at the end of the administrative steps, the County
27 Registrars must schedule an election. Mr. Lowe said he does not think
28 the election will coincide with the general elections, but it would be
29 rather a special election and this would be the only thing on election
30 ballot. Mr. Lowe added another reason this was pushed into this time
31 period is because besides no resources available to do signature
32 collections, there is so much noise around the general election, that
33 they did not want to mix this issue into that. Mr. Lowe admitted he
34 does not know when the election will be but is in hopes that if it goes
35 forward, it would be in a position to be incorporated by July 1, 2024,
36 and probably no later than 2025 as it is not a fast process.
37

38 Director Miller asked Mr. Lowe what services would be brought.
39

40 Mr. Lowe replied that when NRS 266 is incorporated, there are
41 services that are a must and some services that are optional. Mr.
42 Lowe said IVGID has water, trash, sewer, and parks but what is
43 needed is police, fire, and in the police case, there is the option of
44 starting our own police force, or continuing to liaise and contract with

1 Washoe County. Mr. Lowe stated that even if our own police force
2 was initiated as some people are advocating for, there are portions
3 of policing that would not be done, as there is no intent of building a
4 jail or having a SWAT team as it does not make any sense.

5
6 Director Costalupes inquired if roads were in the plan.

7
8 Mr. Lowe replied roads are big concern as they have to be taken.

9
10 Director Costalupes agreed that was a big concern and stated if we
11 are credited with the WC property tax basis and an add on with the
12 new City of Incline corporation property taxes as there is a lot of
13 equipment to buy and deferred maintenance that needs to be
14 addressed.

15
16 Mr. Lowe explained the way this works under Nevada (NV) Law, when
17 a governmental agency takes a service from another agency all the
18 costs and equipment come to the new service provider therefore
19 those funds are transferred, and it is not legal at least for the first
20 year, to increase any tax.

21
22 Director Miller inquired on the property that WC owns in town if it
23 would transfer over.

24
25 Mr. Lowe confirmed the property would become city portion because
26 it is deeded over and confirmed it transfers to City of Incline Village.
27 Mr. Lowe reiterated the services come across, the monies to provide
28 the services comes with it. Mr. Lowe said that generally one would
29 think taxes would need to be raised in order to do all of these services
30 that were not being done before, while it is possible that might be
31 needed, but that would only be because the city cannot be done as
32 efficiently, or if the city would want it to be done in a way that was
33 better or different than what was already being done. Mr. Lowe stated
34 he knows of people that are not all that happy with the snow plowing,
35 including a gentleman that his street had not been plowed for two
36 days and he had to hire someone to plow a path on his street, so the
37 city would probably want better snow plowing. Mr. Lowe stated that
38 would ultimately be a to be determined item as there is no automatic
39 change in taxes and advised a tax increase is not even allowed. Mr.
40 Lowe referred to his list and said the list is defined and directed by
41 the NV Department of Taxation, so they will go to WC and there will
42 be a negotiation.

43
44 Director Costalupes commented that one cannot count on the State

1 of NV to maintain even roads they are responsible for as driving down
2 Highway 28, there are potholes that are eight inches deep.

3
4 Mr. Lowe agreed and added he was sorry to say that Highway 28 will
5 not come in as part of the city as it is still federal, but there will
6 probably be people from the city talking to the NV Department of
7 Transportation regarding potholes.

8
9 Director Costalupes confirmed residents should not expect a big
10 property tax increase.

11
12 Mr. Lowe responded numbers will be produced and the expectation
13 is that taxes are decreased.

14
15 Director Costalupes commented that was a good selling point for
16 obtaining signatures.

17
18 Mr. Lowe said when they have all their numbers and other tasks are
19 completed that would be a selling point. Mr. Lowe asked the BOD to
20 keep in mind the Village League is about having a choice, not actually
21 trying to sell a city, per say they are trying to sell the idea of choosing
22 to go down that path.

23
24 Director Miller commented with the signatures obtained, that is what
25 they are trying to sell.

26
27 Mr. Lowe confirmed and said that is when the selling takes place, as
28 that is when the opportunity to decide is.

29
30 Director Miller clarified on if once it is voted on it is a majority or a
31 third.

32
33 Mr. Lowe stated it is supplementary.

34
35 Director Miller confirmed that at that point there was no turning back.

36
37 Mr. Lowe replied yes and no. Explaining that you are on your way,
38 and if one decided incorporation was a bad idea then one can choose
39 to disincorporate at any time and that takes another vote.

40
41 Director Miller asked if Mr. Lowe is recommending IVGID remains as
42 its own entity.

43
44 Mr. Lowe confirmed they are.

1
2 Director Miller commented that it would primarily be judicial and
3 roads and asked about schools as schools are by county.
4

5 Mr. Lowe confirmed schools are by county and said there are many
6 people that say if they really want control, get control of everything,
7 and if you do not like the schools as some people do not, and they
8 believe they can do it better, we need to become a county. Mr. Lowe
9 explained the problem with becoming a county besides the fact that
10 is has failed every time, it depends on the good will of strangers in
11 the Legislature to agree. Mr. Lowe added that this path depends
12 solely upon the intentions, preferences, priorities, and desires of
13 people who live here, the Legislative has no vote, WC has not vote,
14 they can issue an opinion but not a vote. Mr. Lowe elaborated that
15 this is something residents have control and said that in the occasion
16 Incline wanted to become a county, take control of the schools,
17 manage or even do schools differently, becoming a city first would
18 be a first prudent step, as it is a smaller step, and it would have been
19 done after demonstrating a good job is done of running a city. Mr.
20 Lowe said when one thinks about running a city, one thinks about
21 having the best government in the nation, there is an aspiration to
22 follow a path that leaves the city that residents are proud of, it is
23 being cheered on, everyone involved does a fantastic job, so
24 everyone is fairly equitably and does what the city wants, considering
25 Incline Village is already one of the best places in the world to live
26 in, why not have the best city Government and Mr. Lowe believes
27 frankly that is something Incline Village is capable of.
28

29 Director Miller asked that if this is voted on in 2024, and it is
30 approved, would a City Mayor be appointed.
31

32 Mr. Lowe clarified the voting would be in 2023, early 2024 and said
33 the other things that would be a part of the city would be a general
34 charter city, although they are not enthusiastic about a general
35 charter, it is the only thing that can be done charter wise that does
36 not require Legislature to approve, therefore they are working to stay
37 away from that process. Therefore, the city would need a City Mayor
38 and five council people, and the only choice beyond that is the city
39 can choose to have wards and divide the city rather than at large.
40 Mr. Lowe stated that is a future choice and there is no sense in even
41 talking about it unless we were on that trajectory. Mr. Lowe advised
42 they believe there are better forms of city government than what he
43 just described in the charter but there can be an election to make
44 those changes down the road, but for now the petition will have a

1 general charter.
2

3 Vice-Chair McKay asked if people have asked about consolidating
4 with Carson City (CC) as an option.
5

6 Mr. Lowe stated confirmed and said there are people who live here
7 who would love to get out of WC more because of their dislike of WC
8 so they would like to get out of WC and if we cannot become our
9 own, they would consolidate with CC. Mr. Lowe added those people
10 are not in that desire and he believes they will continue that option
11 is not being advocated for. Mr. Lowe stated he believes WC may
12 behave in a way where we could change our minds, and said this is
13 not about WC being bad, it is about the community being
14 underserved, because structurally it is not appropriate. We are 20%
15 of one commissioner's district, 2% of the population of WC and we
16 pay 10% of their budget, Incline is located the better part of an hour
17 away, WC is taking services away, for example law enforcement,
18 where 75% of policing is being paid by Dave and Cheryl Duffield
19 Foundation, this is not sustainable or right and the reason that exists
20 is because of the precipitous reduction to all of the County. The
21 people who say maybe CC would be better and it might be.
22

23 Vice-Chair McKay commented that this reduces duplication of
24 services if they have a City Council or City Mayor etc., we may not
25 have to provide that ourselves.
26

27 Mr. Lowe stated the two biggest expenses in the city, one is fire and
28 police, so when speaking about duplication it is great having council
29 people. Mr. Lowe reported something Fernley did because of the
30 GID's they have, is that the City Council sit as the De-Facto Trustees
31 of all the GID's. This would be like if the BOD was running the city,
32 the fire department, and the GID however they are not down that
33 path. Mr. Lowe added he would love to hear from the BOD and
34 provided contact information and said that if there is something the
35 Village League needs to understand that is important to the district
36 for them to either do or not do or to consider, Mr. Lowe asked to
37 please contact them. Mr. Lowe as an example referred to the policing
38 situation and said it was suggested that the Sheriff and the fire
39 district are on different dispatch systems and as consequence
40 agencies show up at different times therefore one of the questions
41 Mr. Lowe would have is if the district would like to be on the same
42 dispatch system or is there an advantage and is this something they
43 should be carving out with detailed plans or does the district like
44 being on different dispatch systems.

1
2 Chief Sommers answered to Mr. Lowe and said to the first part of his
3 question, yes, we are on two different dispatch centers, we were on
4 the same dispatch centers and said he has all the statics that show
5 they still show up at different times. Chief Sommers explained that
6 WC is going to beat us to every call because they are in their car in
7 the town already where we are dispatched, get into the rigs and go.
8 Chief Sommers added that the same dispatch center has no relation
9 to two different agencies showing up at two different times, and there
10 are proven, proven, proven statistics on that. Chief Sommers
11 reported the district is very happy with the current dispatch center,
12 because they dispatch $\frac{3}{4}$ of the basin and we are in tune with our
13 neighbors, if we each are need of each other's services, it is a lot
14 more streamline and we are getting to incidents quicker all the way
15 around the basin not just this district as we are servicing everybody.
16

17 Mr. Lowe stated he is sure there are activities and programs
18 conducted by the district that require approval from WC, and said
19 that in the context of city, some if not all requests would be going to
20 the city not WC so there are aspects of that to be considered as the
21 idea would be to make the districts jobs easier, better, or faster. Mr.
22 Lowe stated he is in hopes that the district will look at this as an
23 opportunity to have even a better fire district and better service, and
24 Mr. Lowe asked the district to tell him how the Village League can
25 help the district and said that at the same time there are things the
26 district may not want or duplicate.
27

28 Chief Sommers reiterated that this is an informative presentation and
29 thanked Mr. Lowe. Chief Sommers stated he believes this
30 presentation raises a lot of questions and said that if the steps, and
31 their process to become a city go further then Chief Sommers
32 believes a more detailed discussions need to be had on how the
33 district would interact with the city but in his opinion, he would rather
34 not get into that today.
35

36 Chair Herron stated she would concur with Chief Sommers and stated
37 May to July 2023 would need to be watched to see how it goes and
38 once the proposal is in process the BOD would invite Mr. Lowe back
39 for an update.
40

41 Mr. Lowe said he has asked how his organization would intend to
42 protect the district, but he would love to hear something from the
43 district that says that works for us and the district agrees to the City
44 of Incline Village and understands to obtain that, the district would

1 require a meeting with their Legal Counsel.
2

3 Chair Herron said the question would definitely be considered at a
4 later date and said the BOD appreciates Mr. Lowes' attendance and
5 presentation and if there were no further questions, the BOD again
6 thanks Mr. Lowe.
7

8 Mr. Lowe thanked the BOD for having him and said he looks forward
9 to the adventure ahead. Mr. Lowe added that if there is any follow-
10 up afterwards from anyone, he asked the BOD not to hesitate to
11 contact him as they are in listening mode to design something that
12 works.
13

- 14
15 **2.** Discussion of and Possible Action to donate a 2008 Ford F-150 5.4
16 4x4 Super Cab Standard Bed W/ Camper Shell, to the Nevada Peer
17 Support Network Inc., presented by Chief Sommers.
18

19 Chief Sommers reported we had plethora of rolling stock that was
20 put out for auction and released the list to other agencies first with
21 the preface that it would be going public February 6th and closing
22 February 12th. Chief Sommers reported a lot of the agencies stepped
23 up and purchased most of rolling stock. Chief Sommers advised he
24 was approached by NV Peer Support and referred to BOD to the
25 Memo he wrote on page 17 of the Board packet. Chief Sommers
26 referred the Board to page 17 so they could review the organization
27 mission statement as well as the flyer and brochure that follow the
28 memo. Chief Sommer stated the NV Peer Support Network is an
29 organization that was put together by First Responders to help with
30 the mental health crisis that is going on with First Responders. Chief
31 Sommers advised NV Peer Support Network has a psychologist, on
32 staff, Dr. Steven Nicholas, who is doing a great job, and not only do
33 they reach out to local government, but they now support at the
34 Federal level and assist Bureau of Land Management (BLM), US
35 Forest Service (USFS), and services are offered are mostly free
36 anytime it is needed. Chief Sommers alluded to the Memo in the BOD
37 packet, and said that as stated in the memo, mental health can start
38 at incident or after an incident, or maybe not even incident related
39 but some of them are incident related and with that all Fire Chiefs
40 and Union members, feel that NV Peer Support Network brings a very
41 good service to the First Responders. Chief Sommers stated that right
42 now the only way for the Network to get to an incident as needed is
43 by a giant motor home that is not going to make it around, especially
44 in the snow. Chief Sommers stated the NV Peer Support Network got

1 wind of the surplus equipment and they really liked a 4-wheel drive
2 F-150 that we have had and is valued at \$5,000.00. Chief Sommers
3 stated he comes before the Board today to ask for the approval to
4 donate the vehicle to the NV Peer Support Network, because it is not
5 only going serve NLTFPD in the future but all organizations within the
6 State of NV. Chief Sommers finalized his statement by saying he is
7 available for any questions.

8
9 Vice-Chair McKay if NV Peer Support Network has an organized
10 training program for all their volunteers to provide this service.

11
12 Chief Sommers confirmed they do and said they are very, very, well
13 organized and referred to the brochure and flyer, and added they
14 also have a website where one can see how in depth this is. Chief
15 Sommers noted that to him, just having a doctor on staff, is huge.
16 Chief Sommers reiterated they are very well organized, and said the
17 Network was originally put together by a Battalion Chief (BC) at
18 Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD), who saw the
19 need, a lot of people have stepped up and the Network even has a
20 BOD.

21
22 Director Costalupes asked if these are first responders to the first
23 responders when they are on scene.

24
25 Chief Sommers confirmed and added they are first responders with
26 the training that they need to help during the mental crisis.

27
28 Director Costalupes asked if the support was for the people on scene
29 and bring assistance and comfort.

30
31 Chief Sommers confirmed.

32
33 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer asked how long the Network has been
34 around.

35
36 Chief Sommers replied they have been around four or five years, they
37 are very young but it is a start.

38
39 Vice-Chair McKay commented this would complement what the
40 district already offers such as the EAP program through the benefit
41 package and the value would be the first responder is talking more
42 to a peer than a doctor.

43
44 Chief Sommers replied that was correct, and explained the difference

1 is the employee must call EAP and they can be months down the road
2 before any assistance is obtained and with this service, an employee
3 can call right now, and they can be in tomorrow to see them.
4

5 Assistant Fire Chief (AFC) Barnum added that one of the benefits
6 from this organization is they have physicians on staff and a list of
7 physicians that can take care of these things and they have been
8 vetted based upon their knowledge of first responders and what first
9 responders go through. AFC Barnum explained that there is nothing
10 against EAP, but unlike EAP that has a pool of physicians that when
11 you sit in front of them and explain what you went through on a call,
12 they may not necessarily understand everything that goes into that
13 and all the mental impacts that are happening. AFC Barnum
14 reiterated the Networks physicians are vetted and they understand
15 as they have either been married to, been involved with or are first
16 responders on their own and they are now physicians, so they have
17 a different way to help those first responders through everything.
18

19 Director Miller asked if the Network has been seen on scene at any
20 of our incidents.
21

22 Chief Sommers responded we have not seen them here but they have
23 responded in the valley.
24

25 Union President Dale Spieker advised they have had members use
26 NV Peer Support Network and advised southern Nevada is doing
27 something like this program. President Spieker advised TMFPD, took
28 it and ran with it as unfortunately they had an employee take his own
29 life and that was what got the ball rolling five years ago. President
30 Spieker advised there are people even in this department who went
31 through the training they provide. President Spieker reported they
32 have a resiliency center in Reno where a lot of things take place with
33 a lot of small groups, and like Chief Sommers alluded, they have their
34 own clinician on staff, and said it is significantly different than EAP as
35 far as dealing with doctors that are specific to first responders.
36 President Spieker stated there is a bad trend being noticed with
37 Firefighters (FF), Police Officers, and everyone in this country and
38 this Network is fit for them.
39

40 Vice-Chair McKay commented it reflects general society.
41

42 President Spieker agreed.
43

44 Vice-Chair McKay made a motion to donate a 2008 Ford F-150 5.4

1 4x4 Super Cab Standard Bed W/ Camper Shell, to the Nevada Peer
2 Support Network Inc.

3
4 Secretary-Treasurer Bremer seconded the motion.
5 Chair Herron recognized the motion and the second and asked if
6 there were any further questions, with no further questions, Chair
7 Herron called the question.

8
9 All in favor, motion passes unanimously.

10
11 Chair Herron stated she is a big proponent of mental health and
12 thanked Chief Sommers for bringing this to the Boards attention and
13 said it is a good way to support. Chair Herron also thanked the Board.

14
15 Chair Herron referred to the Memo to the Board found on page 22 of
16 the Board packet and inquired if this had intended to be an item on
17 the agenda.

18
19 AFC Barnum replied the Memo is from him and is a part of his report.

20
21 Chair Herron thanked AFC Barnum for the clarification.
22

23 **OLD BUSINESS:** No old business.

24 *Legal Counsel Reports.

25
26
27 Legal Counsel Reese stated he had no Legal report for the Board.

28
29 Legal Counsel Reese advised the Board that next month during the regularly
30 scheduled meeting, Ethics Training has been scheduled for the Board and
31 expressed Legals excitement to meet with the Board for that. Legal Counsel
32 Reese advised the presentation should be around 45 minutes to an hour,
33 and advised the Board the meeting may be a little longer than what they are
34 accustomed to. End of report.

35
36 Chair Herron asked if the training will touch on Open Meeting Law for newly
37 appointed Director Miller.

38
39 Legal Counsel confirmed it will.
40

41 Chair Herron asked Directors to make a note of that in their calendars.
42

43 *Board of Directors Comments or Reports.
44

1 Director Costalupes reported that as a Contractor he has clients at Crystal
2 Tower, located at 450 Lakeshore Blvd and they had an incident two Sundays
3 ago where the fire sprinkler popped off the main water supply line and
4 hundreds of thousands of gallons of water filled up the building and tennis
5 court located in the downstairs of the tower. Director Costalupes reported
6 everybody is extremely impressed with the professionalism and of the help
7 the district provided. Director Costalupe's stated luckily there were only two
8 or three resident's in the building at the time that utility services had to be
9 shut down, and no one was upset about anything, they just wanted him as a
10 Contractor and Board Director to send their regards and thanks.

11
12 Chair Herron commented she appreciates those types of reports and thanked
13 Director Costalupes for the report.

14
15 *Fire Chief Reports presented by Fire Chief Sommers.

16
17 Chief Sommers reported at the last Board meeting that he would be going
18 before the E-911 Board in Reno to be refunded of First Due fees, the new
19 Application (App) that will be used for responding to incidents and the item
20 has been tabled until March. Chief Sommers stated he could go into more
21 detail of what the Board would like and added the reimbursement should be
22 successful after they do some research.

23
24 Chief Sommers reported on Parameter, the Evacuation platform the district
25 will be moving to with WC, Parameter is still drafting the contract. Chief
26 Sommers stated the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
27 approved the fees, the contract is being drafted and once it is signed, he can
28 bring the contract forward.

29
30 Chief Sommers stated he had no update for the Public Safety Pier other than
31 it is still on the radar however nothing has happened in the last four weeks.

32
33 Next, Chief Sommers reported the Regionalization Process went through a
34 couple of workshops, and said he declined attending the workshops as they
35 were four, eight-hour days, and since he made it clear we do not want to
36 participate in the Regionalization, he did not think it was worth his while to
37 attend, and if something had come up, they would have reached out to him,
38 but he has not heard anything. Chief Sommers stated he has a couple of
39 good sources attending and assured the Board they would have let him
40 know if something came up that he needed to address.

41
42 Lastly, Chief Sommers reminded the Board that at the last Board meeting he
43 talked about an Employee Survey that was sent out to employees. Chief
44 Sommers confirmed he did a presentation on the results, the results were

1 then sent to the body, and said with Chair Herron's approval he would like to
2 send the results to the Board, and it could be discussed or made an Agenda
3 item for the March meeting.

4
5 Chair Herron approved.

6
7 End of report.

8
9 *Chief Officers Reports presented by Assistant Fire Chief Barnum.

10
11 AFC Barnum reported on apparatus and said the backup engine is currently
12 being repaired and is about a week out.

13
14 AFC Barnum reported training will be at the Biltmore this month and focus
15 will be FF survival rescue training, rapid intervention.

16
17 AFC Barnum stated much of his report is about the bid received from the
18 FEMA grant and said they are in the sunset phase of the first part of the
19 grant and said we went out to bid for three grants but only received two.
20 AFC Barnum stated he had priorly explained there are not a lot of
21 distributors, and Scott Airpack the manufacturer selected has very few
22 distributors specifically on the west coast, so they are not surprised only two
23 bids were received back instead of three. AFC Barnum explained that of the
24 two bids, the bid was awarded to All-Star who was \$1.7 million and that left
25 us with a little bit of wiggle room for the grant to ask for additional
26 equipment on top of that because we do have a 10% matching fund that
27 needs to go into that. AFC Barnum stated they will be going forward into the
28 next phase and is available for any questions.

29
30 AFC Barnum also took a moment to thank everyone who worked on it and
31 said that there is a lot of work that goes into this.

32
33 AFC Barnum lastly recognized Captain Spieker for completing his 5th year
34 with the district on February 12th.

35
36 End of report.

37
38 *Prevention Reports presented by Fire Marshal James.

39
40 Fire Marshal (FM) James greeted the Board and advised the Prevention
41 report is included in the Board packet and stated they are working on plan
42 checks for the most part and feeling the construction pressure as spring
43 arrives. FM James is available for any questions the Board may have.

44

1 No further questions.

2

3 *Fuels Management Report as presented by Division Chief Powning.

4

5 Division Chief (DC) Powning reported crews continue working in the valley,
6 Christmas Tree Chipping has been completed with 842 trees being chipped.
7 Next week Forester interviews will be conducted, and some Fuels employees
8 are in district preparing for in house training as well as getting the crews
9 equipment prepared for the upcoming field season, and lastly, they continue
10 to work on contracts to get them up to speed.

11

12 Vice-Chair McKay commented that in reading through the minutes from the
13 last meeting DC Powning stated the crews did some work in Lyon County
14 and Truckee Meadows, and asked if that work was FEMA aid or NV Energy.

15

16 DC Powning replied it was all NV Energy work, funded by NV Energy's NDPP
17 program.

18

19 Vice-Chair McKay thanked DC Powning.

20

21 End of report.

22

23 *Chief Financial Reports presented by Chief Financial Officer Signorelli.

24

25 CFO Signorelli provided the Board with a copy of the Budget Schedule and
26 said the highlighted sections are the sections that involve the Board
27 members. CFO Signorelli pointed out the deadlines and dates in March and
28 April to go through the tentative budget and the final budget approval. CFO
29 Signorelli advised the Budget Committee is listed at the bottom and thanked
30 everyone on the committee for their time.

31

32 CFO Signorelli reported that she is working on process improvements that
33 include different software packages to include a full financial software
34 package and said Eide Bailly is the consultant right now on this and they will
35 give us a proposal but we may or may not use them but it will give us an
36 idea of software packages for Governments so we can actually use a fund
37 accounting software. CFO Signorelli advised that as of right now we do not
38 have that and we are not using the software that we have to any potential, it
39 is cumbersome and it is not giving us anything that is productive or efficient.
40 CFO Signorelli added she is also looking at Human Resources (HR) and
41 payroll to streamline the processes, and working directly with Pool/Pact and
42 they will be walking us through Phase 1 and Phase 2 over the next year, and
43 added they are going through all of our processes with HR and payroll and
44 making sure we are compliant. CFO Signorelli stated said in that regard, we

1 will also be looking for an HR software platform to make it a streamline
2 process for everyone throughout the district.

3 CFO Signorelli is also working with IT Manager, Alan Green and PIO Rancourt
4 on social media, as there are requirement for public records and this is an
5 area we need to resolve, currently they have two vendors, and will make a
6 final selection and said it does not need to go to bid as it is low cost. This
7 service will allow us to archive all social media and websites and handle any
8 public records request.

9
10 CFO Signorelli reported the GEMT audit has officially been filed, which is the
11 Medicaid reimbursement we received from Medicaid for ambulance Medicaid
12 patients. CFO Signorelli stated the last few years have been between
13 \$160,000 to \$300,000 for reimbursement; CFO Signorelli is estimating a
14 reimbursement between \$150,000 to \$200,000 this year and said there is a
15 cost for the audit that is passed to us.

16
17 Next, CFO Signorelli reported on the Financial Close for September has been
18 completed and she and Business Manager Cary are working on December
19 close as well as budgets. CFO Signorelli advised GASBY 96 was implemented
20 in June of 2022, and it has to do with leases, software subscriptions amongst
21 other things that we must pay attention to and make sure it is implemented
22 on our books this year.

23
24 Lastly, CFO Signorelli reported on the Tax Payback and alluded to Mr. Lowe's
25 earlier comments about May 1st being the last date for any resident to file
26 for a claim with WC, however, WC also said there is a potential for any
27 unlocated tax payors once located to submit a claim and said once she
28 figures out the percentage, she will send that number out.

29
30 Vice-Chair McKay commented it is difficult to estimate how much time WC
31 needs to process the balance of the request after May.

32
33 CFO Signorelli agreed and alluded to Business Manager Cary's comment, one
34 cannot rely on the guess from the county.

35
36 End of report, no questions.

37
38 *Public Education Information Officer Reports presented by PIO Rancourt.

39
40 PIO Rancourt greeted the Board and advised her report was submitted as
41 part of the BOD packed and is available for any questions.

42
43 PIO Rancourt stated she looks forward to taking the Board photo after the
44 meeting.

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End of report, no questions.

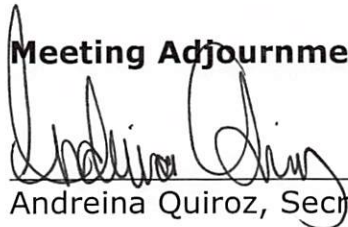
*Local 2139 Union Reports presented by Union President Dale Spieker.

Union President Dale Spieker thanked the Board for donating the truck to the NV Peer Support Network and said it is awesome NLTFPD will be able to contribute to the program.

End of report, no questions.

***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.**

Meeting Adjournment 01:04 p.m.



Andreina Quiroz, Secretary



Susan Herron, Chairman