

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

3
4 **May 23, 2018**

5
6 **LOCATION:** 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.

7
8 **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Chairman McKay called the meeting to
9 order at 12:00 p.m.

10
11 **ROLL CALL OF THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION BOARD OF**
12 **DIRECTORS:** Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present:
13 Greg McKay, Chairman, Susan Herron, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer,
14 Secretary Treasurer; James Costalupes, Director; Dennis Perry, Director; and
15 Beckie Dunn-Spomer, Secretary.

16
17 **GUESTS PRESENT:** Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Sharon Cary,
18 NLTFPD; Bryan Calder, NLTFPD; Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; April Shackelford,
19 NLTFPD; Dave McClellan, NLTFPD; Jed Horan, NLTFPD; Alan Green, NLTFPD;
20 Jake Chatelle, NLTFPD; Josh Whitman, NLTFPD; Rachel Whitman, Family;
21 Eric Darragh, NLTFPD; Jaricka Darragh, Family; Sierra Whitman, Family;
22 Scott Peterson, Retired NLTFPD; Kiley Peterson, Family; Karina Peterson,
23 Family; Brian Maples, NLTFPD; Roxanne Maples, Family; Fire Chief Chris
24 Maples, Sparks Fire Department; Linda Baker, Family; Bob Maples, Family.

25
26 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Agenda approved.

27
28 **NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: This is a Time for the Public to**
29 **Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the**
30 **Agenda of this Meeting.** None

31
32 **CONSENT AGENDA –** The consent agenda was approved. Director Herron
33 asked to have a line item added to the Monthly Management Report to
34 represent the overtime hours of Prevention.

35
36 **Approval of Minutes of the April 12, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting**

37
38 **Review of Accounts Payable for April 2018.**

39
40 **Approval of the April 2018 Monthly Management Report.**

41
42 **NEW BUSINESS:**

- 43
44 **1. Recognition of Engineer Scott Peterson's years of service and**
45 **retirement from NLTFPD (Presented by Fire Chief Ryan**
46 **Sommers)**

1 Fire Chief Sommers recognized Engineer Scott Peterson who joined
2 North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District (NLTFPD) in 2003 from
3 Carson City where he had worked since 1991. He presented Scott, his
4 wife Kiley and daughter Karina with a shadowbox of mementos from
5 his career. Chair McKay added his thanks for all his hard work and
6 dedication to the District over the years.

7
8 **2. Badge Pinning Ceremony for promotion of employees Brian**
9 **Maples, Engineer; Eric Darragh, Fuels/Prevention Specialist and**
10 **Josh Whitman, Crew Supervisor. (Presented by Fire Chief Ryan**
11 **Sommers)**

12 Fire Chief Sommers introduced Engineer Brian Maples who started with
13 the District in 2005 as a seasonal firefighter. Brain then went on to
14 work for REMSA as Medic, and Storey County as a FF/Medic. Engineer
15 Maples returned to the District in 2013 as a FF/Paramedic. Fire Chief
16 Sommers introduced Brian's Father, Fire Chief Chris Maples with
17 Sparks Fire Department to do the pinning of his Engineer badge. Fire
18 Chief Maples said whenever he was promoted over the years, starting
19 when Brian was just eight years old, Brian was the one to pin on his
20 badges, and now it is his great honor to help Brian's son Harlen pin the
21 badge on his father. Brian was joined by Roxanne Maples, Bob Maples
22 and Linda Baker all members of his family.

23 Fire Chief Sommers introduced Division Chief Powning to introduce the
24 promotions in his departments. Chief Powning started with Eric
25 Darragh who was promoted to Fuels Specialist. He has been with
26 NLTFPD for nine years. He was a sniper in the Marine Corp and a spent
27 a season with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) as Helitak. In his
28 spare time he is a volunteer with Lyon County Search and Rescue.
29 Eric was joined by his wife Jaricka and daughter Sierra who will help
30 with the pinning of his badge. Chief Powning said with the promotion
31 of Eric, this left the position of crew Supervisor for Slide Mountain
32 Team open. Josh Whitman has accepted the position and was
33 promoted to Crew Supervisor. Josh started his career with North Bend
34 Fire in Oregon and Elko Fire and Rescue, from there he joined the
35 Steamboat team with Sierra Front Fire and when they disbanded,
36 NLTFPD was able to hire him and he has been with the district for ten
37 years now. Josh was joined by his wife Rachel who pinned his badge.
38 Fire Chief Sommers thanked all of the promoted employees and invited
39 them to adjourn to the kitchen, where there were desserts for them
40 and their families to enjoy.

41 Fire Chief Sommers called Fire Marshall Regan on the phone so he
42 would be present via phone call.

43
44 **3. Discussion of and possible action to approve the Agreement**
45 **between the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest**

1 **Service (USFS), Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest (HTF),**
2 **individually referred to as Forest Service; United States**
3 **Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Carson**
4 **City District, individually referred to as BLM; and the North**
5 **Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, to provide for cooperation**
6 **in the wildland fire management (prevention, detection and**
7 **suppression of wildland fires) and in all-hazard emergency**
8 **support function activities as requested and authorized.**
9 **(Presented By Fire Chief, Ryan Sommers)**

10 Fire Chief Sommers explained as of the end of last year's fire season
11 the Forest Service will no longer pay for Department of Interior (BLM)
12 fires. This agreement will allow the District to be paid for BLM and
13 Forest Service fires. Chair McKay asked for questions. Director Herron
14 made a motion to approve the Agreement between the United States
15 Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USFS), Humboldt-Toiyabe
16 National Forest (HTF), individually referred to as Forest Service; United
17 States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Carson
18 City District, individually referred to as BLM; and the North Lake Tahoe
19 Fire Protection District, to provide for cooperation in the wildland fire
20 management (prevention, detection and suppression of wildland fires)
21 and in all-hazard emergency support function activities as requested
22 and authorized. Director McKay seconded the motion.
23 Motion Passed 5-0.

24 Director Herron congratulated Division Chief Powning and Fire Chief
25 Sommers for this agreement, as she believes this will cover the
26 District for all fires except Department of Defense Fires.

27

28 **4. Discussion of and possible action to approve the Interlocal**
29 **agreement between public service agencies Drone America, a**
30 **Nevada Corporation, Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District**
31 **and North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. (Presented By**
32 **Fire Chief, Ryan Sommers)**

33 Fire Chief Sommers introduced the president and CEO of Drone
34 America, Mike Richards, who will be explaining what Drone America
35 does, what their relationship with the District is and how they have
36 grown over the years as a business here in Incline Village. Mike
37 Richards started out by thanking the board for the opportunity to
38 present his company. He showed a PowerPoint presentation which
39 covered the evolution of Drone America from their first drone in 2009
40 to where they are now. In 2001 he was called upon to help pull some
41 kids from the water at Seal Beach. It was at that time Mr. Richards
42 decided drones could be of use, even if it was to drop a life vest to
43 someone in the water. Drone America participated in the Evacuation
44 Drill in Crystal Bay last Saturday and were an integral part of the drill.
45 Since the Drill Drone America has received the Nevada Institute for

1 Autonomous Systems (NIAS) certification, which allows them to be
2 called in when they are needed and fly in all kinds of different
3 environments and conditions. The relationship with drones and first
4 responders has grown over the years and is continuing to evolve at a
5 rapid pace. This agreement will allow the District to call upon Drone
6 America to help in situations where they can be useful. It also allows
7 them to continue to build and test their equipment in the area. The
8 District will benefit with this partnership now and in the the future with
9 first responding and other incidents at no cost to the District.
10 Director Perry asked if the drone could fly over the Tahoe Basin and
11 detect illegal campfires. Mr. Richards said yes, it is like having an asset
12 available for situations like that and others when called upon. Fire
13 Chief Sommers put in that during the drill at Crystal Bay this drone
14 was given permission to fly with in the same airspace as a Blackhawk
15 helicopter which is unheard of. Director Herron verified the drones
16 would be called upon at the direction of the Fire Chief and only then
17 would they intervene in an incident. Director Herron asked if this
18 wording could be added to the agreement, Mr. Richards agreed and
19 said yes, this is an evolving program and it is outlined in the
20 agreement to be called upon first. Director Herron said thank you to
21 Mr. Richards his presentation. Director Bremer asked if Fire Chief
22 Sommers would have the drones be dispatched and they would not
23 just show up and if that's the case where are the drones going to be
24 located. Fire Chief Sommers said yes and this agreement is the
25 foundation to a relationship with Drone America for growth on both
26 parts and allows the District the ability to utilize them as needed.
27 Director Costalupes said he could see that the drones could be a great
28 asset to the District. Director Costalupes asked if they had a flight
29 Base of Operations picked out yet. Mr. Richards said it would be site
30 specific depending on the mission. Chair McKay asked for any more
31 questions.
32 Director Herron made a motion to approve the Interlocal agreement
33 between public service agencies Drone America, a Nevada Corporation,
34 Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District and North Lake Tahoe Fire
35 Protection District. Director Perry seconded the motion.
36 Motion Passed 5-0.

37
38 ***PUBLIC HEARING:**

39 **Discussion of and Possible Action to Approve the North Lake Tahoe**
40 **Fire Protection District's Fiscal Year 2018–2019 Budget as Presented**
41 **at the April 12, 2018 Budget Workshop Meeting.**
42 Chair McKay asked if there were any updates on the budget. Business
43 Manager Cary mentioned she is still looking for lower bids for the Post
44 Retirement Trust Audit.
45 Director Bremer made a motion to approve the North Lake Tahoe Fire
46 Protection District's Fiscal Year 2018–2019 Budget as presented at the

1 April 12, 2018 Budget Workshop Meeting. Director Herron seconded
2 the motion.

3 Business Manager Cary said the change to the title of our Fuels
4 Foreman has been approved by the Public Employees Retirement
5 System (PERS) as of May 17, 2018 and they will now be in the
6 Police/Fire category of PERS, with the new title of Crew Fire Captains.
7 Chair McKay said once the budget has been approved, it will be Fire
8 Chief Sommers' responsibility to keep the District within the limits of
9 the budget.

10 Chair McKay called for a vote and the motion passed 5-0.

11

12 **OLD BUSINESS:** None.

13

14 **REPORTS**

15

16 ***Legal Counsel Reports:**

17 Devon Reese Legal Counsel reported there are a few litigations in process
18 two are bankruptcies. One is the Fire Safe Council case which is continuing
19 to drag out even though there is money to be distributed, one of the vendor
20 is trying for more, so it is holding up the process. The other is the Cal Neva
21 case and it has changed to a liquidation, the District made a decision to pull
22 the equipment out of there in the beginning and is trying to make an
23 agreement with the new owners to use the equipment and get as much as
24 possible for the District. The only other litigation is the Tax Revolt case with
25 Washoe County that effects the budget, however there is no solid
26 information on the ongoing case.

27 ***Board of Directors' Comments/Reports.**

28 Director Herron wanted to thank the staff and the treasurer for all their hard
29 work on the budget.

30 ***Fire Chief Reports. (Fire Chief, Ryan Sommers)**

31 Fire Chief Sommers said the Insurance Service Office (ISO) will be here in
32 the middle of June. Last evaluation the District was rated a two which means
33 lower insurance rates for our citizens.

34 Last Saturday the District participated in the Bi State Evacuation Drill. Fire
35 Chief Sommers said the Districts staff did a fantastic job especially, Tia
36 Rancourt and Fire Marshal Regan. Some of the Number from the drill are
37 407 people and 89 animals checked into the simulated evacuation station at
38 the Biltmore, out of 1,100 homes that were contacted. There will be more
39 numbers on the drill in the Public Information Officers report that Tia will
40 email out to the Board.

41 May 31, 2018 and June 1, 2018 Village Blvd. will be closed for the Every 15
42 Minutes program.

43 There is a new seasonal employee for defensible space evaluations (DSE) his
44 name is Jeffery Smith. This position is fully funded by grant money.

45 As talked about in the last Board meeting Pine Cone Circle and the use of

1 their boat lift is now off the table.

2 Fire Chief Sommers said he has been assigned first alternate for Cal OES
3 fires this season and will be Sacramento next week for meetings.

4 Director Perry suggested there should be a public education of the ISO
5 ratings and how they affect the insurance rates of our citizens. Director
6 Herron said we could discuss this with the Board of Realtors and add it to
7 one of the education pieces being sent out from the committee. Director
8 Costalupes asked for an explanation of what ISO is. Fire Chief Sommers
9 said it is the Insurance Service Office and they come in and rate the District
10 on certain areas such as: Staffing, Training, Water supply and the ability to
11 respond to an emergency and protect their assets. This rating effects the
12 homeowner's insurance rates and ability to get insurance.

13 ***Chief Officers Report (Battalion Chief, Dave McClellan)**

14 Battalion McClellan said during the time between winter and summer months
15 is when the District does most of its training, right now they have been
16 focused on wildland training and today they are out doing water safety
17 training. The District's newest employee is doing great at the academy and
18 both he and Captain Ashby will be back in District on June 15, 2018.

19 ***Fuels Management Reports. (Division Chief, Isaac Powning)**

20 Division Chief Powning said the crews started this week on a 40 hour week
21 and on May 27, 2018 they will start their 24 hour coverage shifts. The New
22 DSE Inspector started on Monday as well.

23 The DSE and Chipping will start on the 28th. Director Herron asked if they
24 received a lot of signups for Chipping and DSE inspections at the drill.

25 Division Chief Powning said yes they will be very busy.

26 ***Business Manager Reports. (Business Manager, Sharon Cary)**

27 Nothing new to add just gearing up for year end.

28 ***Public Education Information Officer Reports. (Public Education
29 Information Officer, Tia Rancourt)**

30 Tia will email her report.

31 ***Local 2139 Union Reports. None**

32

33 **NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT. This is a time for the public to
34 comment on any matter, whether or not it is Included on the agenda
35 of this meeting. None.**

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37 **Meeting Adjournment.** Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at 1:05
38 p.m.

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Beckie Dunn-Spomer, Secretary

Greg McKay, Chairman