

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

3
4 **September 18, 2019**

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

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

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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; Art Cross, Director; James Costalupes, Director.

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16 **GUESTS PRESENT:** Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Sharon Cary,
17 NLTFPD; Geno Menchetti, Legal Counsel; Bryan Calder, NLTFPD; Mark
18 Regan, NLTFPD; Isaac Powning, NLTFPD; Jeff Sambrano, NLTFPD; Jennifer
19 Donohue, NLTFPD; Alan Green, NLTFPD; Tia Rancourt, NLTFPD; Jack Dalton;
20 Mike Menath; Heather Lunsford; Kendra Murray; Diane Brown; Don Conley;
21 Wayne Ford; Pete Todoroff; Barbara Perlman-Whyman; Sara Schmitz;
22 Margaret Martini; Linda Newman; Andy Whyman; Pamela Fernandez; Jamie
23 Golden; Adam Hirsh; Heather Wilkins.

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25 **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Approved as submitted.

26
27 **NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: This is a Time for the Public to**
28 **Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the**
29 **Agenda of this Meeting.**

30 Heather Lunsford with Carrara Nevada here today on behalf of the Incline
31 Village Realtors. I wanted to give a report on the fire safety campaign we
32 have been conducting for the past year and a half with the Fire District. We
33 just concluded our second round of digital ads and campaign. We had over
34 2.5 million impressions, social reach was over 250,000, we had over 2200
35 visits to our Incline Village website, over 21,000 mailers sent, over 7,000
36 flyers were distributed throughout the community and over 8,000 coffee
37 sleeves were used in our local coffee shops.

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39 Director Jim Costalupes asked if he may submit a letter from Rhonda Tycer
40 with the short-term rental citizen advisory group.

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43 **CONSENT AGENDA:** Consent agenda approved as submitted.

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45 Chairman McKay noted the discrepancies in the monthly management
46 reports as noted by Director Bremer and those have been corrected.

1 **Approval of Minutes of the July 17, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting**

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3 **Review of Accounts Payable for July 2019.**

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5 **Review of Accounts Payable for August 2019.**

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7 **Approval of the July 2019 Monthly Management Report.**

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9 **Approval of the August 2019 Monthly Management Report.**

10

11 **NEW BUSINESS:**

12

13 **1. Presentation by Mike Menath of Mike Menath Insurance Inc.,**
14 **the Fire District's General Liability and Property Insurance**
15 **Broker.**

16

17 Mr. Menath gave a presentation to the Board, which is incorporated
18 herewith by reference.

19

20 Seven out of ten policies currently are now Lloyd's policies in the
21 excess of surplus market; which means the standard markets have
22 pulled out of Incline Village, North Tahoe, Kings Beach, and Tahoe City
23 area. The Paradise Fire scared carriers out of the area so it is
24 becoming a very difficult market. The Lloyd's policies that we
25 represent several different syndicates through several different
26 sources are good policies; they are complete all risk coverage,
27 replacement cost, good liability rates but they are more expensive and
28 more difficult to obtain. The challenge is that if we have a wildfire,
29 they do not respond immediately and directly with adjusters; the
30 adjusters are independent and come from everywhere. Whereas the
31 standard carriers combine efforts and bring catastrophic teams. That is
32 the challenge if we have a problem. In addition, the Lloyds policies are
33 starting to reach capacity and starting to pull back. It is becoming a
34 more and more difficult situation. I have presented twice to the
35 insurance commissioner of Nevada; we are a small part of the state so
36 they do not take it to task. The Insurance Commissioner could do
37 many things. Companies are cancelling for change of risk and because
38 of all of the work you have done as a Fire District, your risk is better
39 than in the past. I am trying to impress upon the Insurance
40 Commissioner that because of all the work you have done your risk
41 has improved; you have a better risk than before. I just presented to
42 22 different insurance carriers at the Commissioner's office; I did not
43 get a lot of traction. What we really need is letters to the Insurance
44 Commissioner. It is going to be a process; we hope we do not run out
45 of market capacity before then.

46

1 Chairman McKay asked who were the three that are not Lloyds
2 affiliated that are still writing. Mike Menath said it is a number of
3 different carriers; we probably represent about 15 different standard
4 carriers. They pick and choose homes; they are using a technology
5 called Core Logic, which does not include the protection Class 1 that
6 your Fire District obtained. They use aerial brush mapping, drive by
7 inspections. There are a couple new programs that are coming out that
8 will utilize more detailed information, Anthiam, will represent slope,
9 measurable distances, protection class, the history of the client that is
10 living in the home.

11
12 Legal Counsel Geno Menchetti asked about the Fire District's Insurance
13 Service Office (ISO) 1 rating and why it is not resonating with the
14 insurance community.

15
16 Mike Menath answered that the insurance companies just do not care;
17 they have their own statistics and use Core Logic. They are not
18 showing loyalty.

19
20 Fire Chief Sommers mentioned that he and Mike Menath need to
21 present to the Insurance Commissioner on the wildfire aspect of our
22 community and the work we have done to reduce our community risk.
23 Mr. Menath has been looking out for our district and with every
24 homeowner to work with insurance companies, so they do not cancel
25 but just do not renew the policy if the term that is happening.

26
27 Chairman McKay asked if there have been rate increases with new
28 renewals. Mr. Menath answered with the standards carrier's; the rates
29 are remaining stable, whereas the Lloyds policies are more expensive.
30 We are suggesting some ideas to Nevada Industrial Insurance
31 Commission that has a policy that if you ca not qualify for a worker's
32 compensation policy; you go in a pool and pull a policy out. If all the
33 carriers participate in that, the risk is better shared.

34
35 Margaret Martini asked about the ISO designation being just for Incline
36 Village/Crystal Bay or the entire Lake Tahoe basin. Fire Chief Sommers
37 answered that it is for our fire jurisdiction of Incline Village/Crystal
38 Bay, 16 square miles.

39
40 Citizen Sara Schmitz asked if homeowners need to get a special rider
41 or policy to have insurance coverage during a Short-Term rental
42 situation; and if my neighbor's house is a short-term rental, and burns
43 down and takes mine with it that my carrier will not cover my home.
44 Mr. Menath answered the second question saying, no, that is not true;
45 your insurance carrier will provide coverage. He said regarding the
46 Short-Term rental situation, the carriers will provide a surcharge.

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Chairman McKay added that homeowners are being asked to have a defensible space evaluation completed for all situations.

Citizen Andrew Whyman asked what Mr. Menath thinks about the future direction of homeowner coverage. Mr. Menath answered that there has to be something done in legislature that regulates the situation.

Citizen Blane Johnson asked about his property in California where his rate went from \$3000 to \$12,000. The only way we could get affordable fire insurance was California Fair Fund. Does Nevada have anything like that? Mr. Menath said no, California Fair Fund just increased the limits on this fund to 1.5 million. It is not a full replacement cost policy, so we write a policy over the top of that called a differencing condition policy that picks up the remainder of the coverages.

Citizen Pete Todoroff asked about the Mountain Golf Course building that burnt down and if that has been paid and how much. Mr. Menath answered that, it has been paid, and it is been a bit more difficult because, it is not being rebuilt exactly how it was before.

Citizen Jack Dalton asked if Mr. Menath gives advice to school districts and the fire district on umbrella coverage and criteria meeting certain IT requirements. Mr. Menath answered yes, we do an assessment, and the Fire District has had an assessment done.

2. Discussion and possible action to accept the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Strategic Plan

Fire Chief Sommers prefaced to the Board that when he became the Fire Chief three years ago, he asked for Board direction on the District pursuing a Strategic Plan. The last plan was done in 2005, at that time the current Board then approved it and we have moved forward, and I believe we have an awesome final product. It took two years to get it done but we did it all in-house. We saved the District money by doing this project in house. We had one person come in and help us get it going. I delegated this to Assistant Fire Chief Bryan Calder, and he did an outstanding job with staff – Tia Rancourt, David Melkonian and others.

Assistant Fire Chief Bryan Calder presented an overview of the process starting with explaining the difference between our new strategic plan and the previous strategic plan, our process, employee contributions, a brief overview of the plan, and finally our plan for implementation.

1 In 2005, we all got together at the Parasol and we had a company
2 come in, we did some brainstorming over a series of several meetings,
3 they gathered all of our ideas and they took them back and plugged
4 them in to their template, and gave us our strategic plan. That plan
5 was intended to take us from 2005 – 2009. The plan was very
6 detailed; it had a lot of goals and objectives. It was written at a time
7 that was about the best time we have had here in terms of our budget,
8 it was growing, and the economy was good. About two years into the
9 five-year plan, there was a change in the world around us and we had
10 a downturn in the economy, coupled with a taxpayer payback. It was
11 devastating to our District; our line staffing dropped by 30% and we
12 essentially went into survival mode. The plan was written in such a
13 way that it was no longer applicable to help us get to the other side of
14 what we were going through. It ended up on the shelf and that is
15 where it stayed.

16
17 Looking at developing our new plan, we wanted to build it with the
18 flexibility of looking at our annual goals and objectives that we identify
19 each year and reevaluating each year as the world changes around us
20 and being able to alter our course as needed so the plan will stay
21 relevant. So even though there is a date on here, there is a beginning
22 date but no ending date so the idea is that it is a living document that
23 will be changed as time goes on.

24
25 The process involved our facilitator who was a macro thinker. We
26 brought in each battalion and people from all areas of the organization
27 and brainstormed, and came up with ideas of what is important in
28 order for us to fulfill our mission statement and goals and objectives.
29 We ended up with at least fifty flip chart papers from everyone and
30 then we paired down to the central team that then narrowed down
31 these ideas to six areas of focus. We did the rest of the process
32 ourselves with the exception of hiring a professional photographer for
33 the cover photo. Our main contributors for this project were PIO Tia
34 Rancourt, Fire Apparatus Operator (FAO) David Melkonian who did all
35 the formatting from pieces of paper to our final pamphlet, Compliance
36 Officer Eric Rodriguez who also helped with formatting, and
37 Firefighter/Paramedic Jill Andersen helped with the editing process. A
38 brief overview of the plan: it opens up with a letter from the Chief
39 talking about our Fire District and our need to learn from the past; we
40 cannot project what is going to happen in terms of the finances
41 available for us to do our jobs and so we need to build in some
42 flexibility. An introduction to our fire District and also identifying all the
43 things that we are responsible for in our response. Unlike larger
44 departments that have teams that do rescue or this or that; our crews
45 do it all – everything from structure fire response to back country and
46 water rescue, high angle rescue, confined space rescue, defensible

1 space work, fuels reduction, advanced life support transport,
2 emergency medical services and public education. We take those
3 things into consideration, we took a look forward, and we identified
4 four areas that we are going to need to pay close attention to. The first
5 is there has been a trend in increasing calls for service over the last
6 years; the need for technological innovation; the need to plan for fiscal
7 challenges, and then also perhaps most importantly, creating the best
8 organizational culture that we can have; it is a recruiting tool for us.
9 We consider ourselves the best fire district in the region and we tell
10 people that who want to work here that that is the type of person we
11 are looking for, so we want to have the type of organizational culture
12 that supports that.

13
14 We also want to plan for successorship. Over 36% in the next 5 years
15 are eligible for retirement and we need to plan for that.

16
17 Next are the six areas that are addressed in the Strategic Plan that
18 enable us to fulfill our mission:

19
20 Governing Documents - one challenge in a changing world is that our
21 guiding documents (three separate documents) policies and
22 procedures, standard operating guidelines (guidelines that we follow
23 operationally out in the field) and collective bargaining agreement, all
24 work in concert together.

- 25 • Technology - we need to plan for maintenance, upgrades,
26 and replacement, (for example, our cardiac monitors, they
27 are a diagnostic 12-lead EKG machines that are about
28 \$30,000 per unit).
- 29 • Equipment – with the downturn of the economy, we fell
30 way behind in our replacement of our equipment and we
31 found ourselves in a bad spot where we had things
32 breaking down and at times had to borrow ambulances
33 from other districts. Fortunately, we are out of that now
34 but we need to make sure that we plan for those things
35 regardless of what is happening in the economy.
- 36 • Organizational Culture – we already discussed.
- 37 • Community Education – it is important; it is an add on and
38 Tia handles that pretty much by herself and we all pitch in
39 and add on to our daily duties.
- 40 • Financial Sustainability – we need to have a plan that has
41 flexibility built in to it regardless of our financial situation.

42
43 One of the things that we have done more of is seeking grants. For
44 example, we wrote a FEMA grant for \$51,000 for state-of-the-art EMS
45 training equipment. The audit for that grant was as time consuming as
46 writing the grant however it is a necessary part of our fiduciary

1 responsibility in order to supplement our budget where and when we
2 can.

3
4 Finally, we have our implementation; the goal is to incorporate the
5 objectives that we have developed into our annual planning in the
6 spring when it is budget time so we can allocate the necessary funds
7 available to accomplish our goals. At the end of the year when we do
8 our annual review, we can look at how successful we actually were.
9 We can look at our goals and objectives and ask ourselves "Is the
10 world changing in a way that would necessitate a change in our
11 goals?" This way we are not locked in to a plan that is not reflective of
12 our current reality. This process is what makes this document a living
13 document and will make it maintain its relevancy to moving us
14 forward.

15
16 Director Susan Herron made a motion to accept the North Lake Tahoe
17 Fire Protection District Strategic Plan 2019 and Director Denise Bremer
18 seconded the motion. Chairman McKay called the question and the
19 motion was approved unanimously.

20
21 **3. Discussion and possible action to direct the North Lake Tahoe**
22 **Fire Protection District staff to work with Washoe County and a**
23 **possible sub-committee to develop a Fire/Life Safety**
24 **Inspection and Permitting Program for Vacation Home Rental**
25 **Properties within the jurisdiction of the North Lake Tahoe Fire**
26 **Protection District. A comprehensive program review to be**
27 **presented at the January 2020 board meeting.**

28
29 Chairman McKay commented that for the record, we never passed
30 Resolution 17-1 and will not pass it today, as it was not agenzied.
31 There will be no decisions made today; just discussion and a direction
32 moving forward.

33
34 Fire Chief Sommers explained that the district's staff has been working
35 with Washoe County to develop a process for Short Term Rentals
36 (STR). This is a multi-faceted situation with a lot issues, of which most
37 cannot be addressed by North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. We
38 have been working with Washoe County, offering our expertise with
39 regard specifically to fire and life safety aspects of this program. We
40 worked on this motion to show our follow through and accountability of
41 a more comprehensive report back to the board in January 2020.
42 Additionally, the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District entered into
43 a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Board of Realtors
44 until November 1st. With that, I know there are some board members
45 that would like to address this topic and I turn it back over to you
46 Chairman McKay.

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Director Cross made motion, "The Board of Directors direct the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection staff to work with Washoe County and a possible sub-committee to develop a Fire/Life Safety Inspection and Permitting Program for Vacation Home Rental Properties within the jurisdiction of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. A comprehensive program review to be presented at the January 2020 board meeting." Director Susan Herron seconded the motion for purposes of discussion.

Chairman McKay asked if there are comments or questions from the board.

Director Art Cross responded saying that not only is he a board member, but he is also a member of the community, and has a short-term rental property near my home. I have studied this both for what is in the best interest for us as a District and as community members. In 2017, the 17-1 resolution came up and was met with opposition by a group at the July Board meeting and as a result of that, the MOU was created that expires in November. That MOU is out there and on the website. Having read the MOU, it is only one leg of a four-legged barstool. You need four legs for a barstool to sit. You need education, inspection, permitting, and enforcement. Without all four of those, you have nothing. I applaud the district and the realtors for the education effort; but standing alone, I personally feel it is insufficient. From my research I have found that several communities like ours, such as South Lake Tahoe, Mammoth Lakes, Park City Utah, Bozeman Montana, Jackson Hole, Santa Fe New Mexico, Kalispell Montana, Buena Vista Colorado, Teton County Wyoming, Whitefish Montana and Stowe Vermont. I would classify those as like/similar communities. They all have inspection permitting and enforcement for STR's. The blessing of 17-1 resolution not passing and the MOU being a placeholder for two years is that it allowed that many communities that are similar to ours, to implement these things. Some of the requirements that I would like to suggest to my fellow Board members to work on is an inspection program, developed by a working group made up of District personnel, local property managers and other interested local community members. The inspection costs must be fair, reasonable and line up with other like communities. All costs for the program would ultimately be paid for by the end users, resulting in zero cost to the District. Inspections would include only all aspects of life and fire safety relating to the internal occupant, interior occupancy, external defensible space, and vehicle parking. Inspections shall be compliant with NFPA, International Fire Code, WUI Code, and local residential code NLTFPD Resolution 18-1 and the inspection program in order to be effective needs to be reoccurring. These are my personal

1 feelings and they do not reflect anyone else on the Board. I think a
2 proactive approach such as we have done with the ISO rating; a
3 proactive approach will work better to fit and benefit our community.
4

5 Director Jim Costalupes commented that he would like to see the
6 International Building Code added as a part of the criteria for the
7 inspection process.
8

9 Director Susan Herron had two questions. Is South Lake Tahoe in
10 court with their STR's, so currently in the state of Nevada and
11 California and around the lake there is nothing that is being done?
12 Director Art Cross answered that yes South Lake Tahoe has a plan in
13 place, but is unsure where exactly it is at in the court system or
14 whether it is being implemented.
15

16 Director Susan Herron asked if Douglas County has one in place?
17 Citizen Sara Schmitz answered yes, they do; Washoe County is the
18 only county in the basin that does not have any type of regulations.
19

20 Director Susan Herron asked Director Art Cross to summarize the
21 enforcement component piece again. Director Art Cross reviewed his
22 four components that he would like to see implemented: education,
23 inspection, permitting, and enforcement.
24

25 Director Susan Herron asked if Director Art Cross had thoughts on
26 enforcement component. Would that be our staff enforcing it? Director
27 Art Cross answered yes that what I would envision.
28

29 Director Denise Bremer commented that we should work with Washoe
30 County on this and not take this on ourselves. I would like to watch
31 how the County does this and work with them on the life safety aspect
32 and see how that looks; as opposed to using our personnel at this
33 point and not being reimbursed.
34

35 Chairman Greg McKay added that Washoe County has the authority to
36 zone, do business licenses, collect taxes and enforcement so I think it
37 is prudent to see what Washoe County comes up with our input
38 reflecting our own needs and see where that process goes. It would
39 premature to do too much other than work with Washoe County now
40 and see what product we come up with. If Washoe County can do a
41 good job implementing all factors maybe it should be their job, if not
42 maybe we should explore other options.
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44 Director Susan Herron asked Chief Sommers if he is been meeting with
45 Dave Solaro on this. Fire Chief Ryan Sommers and Fire Marshal Regan
46 said yes, we have been meeting with the County, they have launched

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their survey, and we have attended all three public meetings and have been meeting weekly for the last three months with the county on this regulation. We have been working with the property management companies to make sure we have incorporated everyone's concerns and bringing that information back to Washoe County. Fire Chief Sommers added that Acting County Manager Dave Solaro has delegated this to Kelly Mullin and she is keeping Dave Solaro updated.

Director Susan Herron asked if, this motion that Director Cross made, and I seconded, does that just formalize what we are doing right now. Fire Chief Sommers answered yes; it formalizes the process and educates the board and staff in terms of our intentions of getting something in place to work with the county and keeping our standard of life safety in tact and in place. We will not give up ground with regard to the fire, life and safety aspect of what our Fire District has established.

Director Susan Herron asked if Reno Fire is at the table on this.

Fire Marshal Mark Regan answered that this only pertains to Washoe County, so it is just Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District.

Chairman Greg McKay asked for Public Comment.

Citizen Margaret Martini asked Fire Chief Ryan Sommers about statistics on fire calls and catastrophic events; what percentage of our town has STR's and of those, what percentage has prompted catastrophic events, fire and sheriff responses. Fire Chief Ryan Sommers responded that, we could provide a report on STR's that we know of that had an incident (not providing details on medical and/or anything that may be under investigation). We do not have exact numbers on how many STR's we have in our community. There are people that are running STR's using a licensed property manager, that enables us to have a point of contact and we can resolve issues; there are however a lot of internet-based property managers as well and that is where the difficulty is as far as gathering statistics. There is a database through RSCVA however, that costs money, and we have not allocated funds to pay for that. We can provide stats to addresses that may have involved, or were declared a short-term rental.

Citizen Pete Todoroff commented that he would like to see the Fire District use their authority to enforce codes and make it a mandatory annual inspection before issuing a STR permit. The Fire District should provide contact information of the owner and property. The owner of the property should have to comply with defensible space; BMP's to

1 ensure the property is safe for the occupants, owners, and neighbors.
2 Occupancy, parking, and trash issues should be properly addressed,
3 and all rules and regulations as well as an evacuation plan should be
4 posted at each STR. Inspection of STR include smoke alarms, CO
5 detectors, and proper placement of fire extinguishers.

6
7 Citizen Sara Schmitz commented that Washoe County has been
8 working on our area plan for over 10 years as required by TRPA. The
9 new requirement from TRPA of Washoe County is to provide
10 neighborhood compatibility guidelines. There is no incentive for
11 Washoe County to actually deliver on this. It is financially beneficial for
12 Washoe County to stall the STR rules and enforcement like they have
13 stalled on the area plan for 10 years. Why? Money, if our community
14 remains completely unregulated Washoe County and RSCVA win. They
15 rake in more money and expend nothing on oversight and
16 infrastructure. It is in their best interest to remain the status quo at
17 our expense and our physical risk. I support the independent efforts of
18 our Fire District, to quickly implement oversight and the safety of our
19 community. We need your courageous leadership to enforce life safety
20 for all. Because Washoe County will not provide funding to support
21 your efforts to manage STR's, I urge you to charge fees to cover all
22 costs related to inspections, permitting, and enforcement. In reviewing
23 resolution 17-1, I did not see anything about verification for insurance.
24 We need homes to be insured for short-term rental use. I also think
25 you should add a statement for surprise or spot inspections. Regarding
26 occupancy limits, that is very difficult to regulate. Rules that are
27 created must also be enforceable. I also believe that large homes
28 should be restricted. They are the epitome of a mini hotel without
29 health and safety management oversight like a hotel. In other
30 mountain tourist communities like Jackson Hole, Wyoming, areas are
31 zoned for STR's in the commercial town center and the hotel district to
32 maintain local residential neighborhoods and to ensure some inventory
33 for long-term rental properties. We should look to them for an
34 example. We ca not wait for Washoe County to take action. This is our
35 community and our safety is at risk. We need you to courageously lead
36 the effort.

37
38 Citizen Wayne Ford commented about the fees and that they should be
39 increased. The STR's are going from mild use to high intensity use and
40 after talking with some folks in the international residential building
41 code that says when you go to that use, you may lose your right of
42 exemptions under residential code. It is a concern from our own
43 building department. Resolution 17-1 needs to be a part of this
44 discussion going forward. Dealing with all the traffic issues as well is a
45 challenge. Let us learn from the past.

1 Citizen Barbara Perlman-Whyman stated her various board
2 memberships and positions. Barbara referenced the American
3 Disabilities Act (ADA) Title 3, which addresses private places of public
4 accommodation and how it interacts with health and safety.
5

6 Citizen Linda Newman commented that she supports the adoption
7 resolution 17-1 to ensure that all properties used for STR's are
8 equipped with the same safety standards and regulatory oversight as
9 commercial hotels and motels. The fees will provide additional
10 resources to support an infrastructure strained by the prolific increase
11 of short-term visitors. The fines should be increased to ensure that
12 property owners do not violate the regulations that protect our
13 community health and safety as well as the guests staying at these
14 properties.
15

16 Citizen Jack Dalton supports 17-1 and acknowledged the efforts and
17 leadership of our Fire District. The problem is where our governance is
18 in Washoe County. Around the Lake all of the counties have
19 something. Go to Douglas County and look at their restrictions, rules,
20 and regulations and guidelines. I encourage the Fire District to reach
21 out into the community, go to the TRPA and Washoe County meetings.
22

23 Citizen Margaret Martini commented that there will be private property
24 issues and lack of concern for those private property rights of the non-
25 short-term rental owners whose right to peaceful enjoyment of their
26 property is being cast aside.
27

28 Citizen Adam Greer, 1021 Saturn Court in the Apollo neighborhood.
29 You already know about the forest service lot fire in the area. There is
30 currently a property, 1014 Saturn that is a short-term rental, 3100 sq.
31 ft, three bedrooms on the property record and it is advertised as five
32 bedroom that accommodates 14. There have been many more there
33 than 14 people. There is no sprinkler system, limited egress, have to
34 use very narrow stairs to get out. There was a house fire in the winter
35 there, burning a 20ft section of the house, I do not think it was
36 reported to the Fire District. In August, my wife witnessed four grown
37 men smoking outside and throwing their lit cigarettes in the forest.
38 Earlier this year there was a bachelor party there and there was an
39 overdose to which we responded. In conclusion, I support resolution
40 17-1.
41

42 Citizen Andy Whyman has been working with Washoe County for the
43 last year attending monthly meetings regarding health-related issues.
44 There has been little to no progress and I am mindful of what the Fire
45 District's posture is in meetings with Washoe County as they go
46 forward. Does the District take a passive listening role or an active role

1 in insisting on certain criteria in order to meet the needs of the District
2 itself and doing their work?

3
4 Chairman McKay replied that as Fire Chief Sommers stated earlier the
5 District is taking an active role with regard to fire, life safety and
6 conservation area.

7
8 Citizen Don Conley, Property Manager with Vacation Station. Most of
9 our business is Short-Term vacation rentals. I am familiar with 17-1, it
10 includes common-sense life safety matters that we 100% support. Two
11 years ago, we adopted the recommendations and as a property
12 manager, we inspect our own properties to that standard whether we
13 are required to or not. The county will be looking forward to more
14 regulation, it makes sense to incorporate what we have underway and
15 work with Washoe County.

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17 Citizen Pete Todoroff for Rhonda Ticer (not present) – Rhonda’s
18 statement incorporated herewith by reference)

19
20 Pete Todoroff also added that he has been working with Washoe
21 County about code violations with a property across the street for
22 three years. Nothing has happened. The code enforcement should be
23 up here from the Fire District not from Washoe County.

24
25 Chairman Greg McKay asked for board comments.

26
27 Director Art Cross thanked everyone for their participation and
28 comments. Mr. Todoroff and Ms. Schmitz, your comments and ideas
29 are well within what I would consider industry standard in other like
30 communities around the country. Someone mentioned something
31 about zoning and American with Disabilities Act (ADA). I do not think
32 the fire service is in the zoning or ADA business. I personally would
33 not choose to go down that path. We can use 17-1 as a springboard to
34 move us forward working together to create the new resolution. I
35 disagree with the term someone mentioned, ‘prolific increase in STR’s’.
36 It is the same; it is the internet accessibility, which has allowed more
37 people to use the same 800-1000 STR’s that has increased transient
38 occupancy within our community which increases risk. I think we can
39 put together something that will work for all. My closing question is to
40 Fire Marshal Regan, do you think you have the resources necessary to
41 put something together for something like this to go forward.

42
43 Fire Marshal Regan said yes, having public comment to get input to
44 get something established. As far as resources for a program to move
45 forward with inspections and enforcement would create, workload and
46 we do not have enough personnel for that. We would implement

1 something with fees that would cover that cost. We could have
2 additional separate meetings to to gather more information.

3
4 Chairman McKay called for a vote on the motion; all passed
5 unanimously.

6
7 **OLD BUSINESS:**

8 None

9
10 **REPORTS:**

11
12 ***Legal Counsel Reports – (Legal Counsel, Geno Menchetti)**

13 None

14
15 ***Board of Director Comments/Reports:**

16 None

17
18 ***Fire Chief's Report.**

19
20 Chief Sommers said there are many issues going on right now with regard to
21 reimbursement for federal wildland fires. I have met with Congressman
22 Amodei and Senator Masto and we are gaining some traction with that.

23
24 We are working on a FEMA audit, Tia has been working on that.

25
26 Next board meeting I will have an agenda item looking for direction from the
27 Board of Directors. I met with Washoe County Sheriff's three weeks ago
28 regarding our dispatch fees. They intend to raise our fee from \$300,000 a
29 year to 1.3 million dollars a year as of July 2020.

30
31 ***Chief Officers Reports.**

32 Assistant Fire Chief Calder outlined what we have going on operationally for
33 the fall. Our focus is technical rescue. This month we are doing trench
34 rescue; we have four people also at high angle rescue and next month we
35 will be doing confined space rescue.

36
37 Battalion Chief Jeff Sambrano gave an overview about our 24th Annual
38 Paramedic Refresher December 4 - 6, 2019 in an effort to educate our folks
39 on the ongoing requirements to maintain certifications at the paramedic and
40 EMT level. We expect approximately 225 attendees from California and
41 Nevada. We use the fees to help offset and pay for our costs.

42
43 Fire Marshal Mark Regan reported that since July 1st, we have done 195
44 reviews, out of those 195 reviews, 45 were corrections, and 17 were Pre-
45 TRPA reviews. We have billed out \$47,120 for those reviews. I have noted
46 the input we have received and will get with the Fire Chief to make sure we

1 address the action item discussed today.

2
3 ***Fuels Management Reports.**

4 Fuels Division Chief Isaac Powning reported an update on three grants that
5 we put in for this spring. We chose to pull out of the FEMA hazard mitigation
6 grant due to the complicated requirements. The LSR (large landscape
7 restoration) grant is moving forward and we are waiting to hear on the farm
8 bill grant. As far as hand crew work, we are way above our average due to
9 an extremely quiet fire season so far. We had the Dale Block Party, had good
10 participation. Through our current grant, we are allowed to do community
11 assistance so we can bill out our hand crew time. The last item I have is that
12 we are preparing to begin prescribed burning.

13
14 ***Business Manager Reports.**

15 Business Manager Sharon Cary thanked Tia for being acting board secretary.
16 We have two good candidates for Administrative Assistant interviewing on
17 Friday.

18
19 ***Public Education Information Officer Reports.**

20 Public Education/Information Officer Tia Rancourt reported that we did a TV
21 interview in August with Tahoe Douglas Fire talking about Defensible Space.
22 Thank you to Captain Ashby and Compliance Officer Rodriguez for all of their
23 help. School started August 26th and we have met with all schools to get our
24 public education programs on the calendar. We have already a few fire
25 alarms at the middle and high school. We had approximately 45 attendees at
26 the Dale Drive block party and appreciate our agency partner's participation
27 and support (USFS, TN FAC, Parasol, CERT and State Farm Insurance. We
28 attended the IVGID Community Picnic & Job Fair Sept 8th at Diamond Peak,
29 thank you to our on-duty crew Cpt Monte Santos, Engineer Mike Steiner,
30 M13/Micah Wilcock, Jack Ryan, and Zac Bray for attending. We had a very
31 special station tour on Sept 9th with Tania Modic and Bruce Gray; they
32 bought our 'Firefighter for a Day,' silent auction item at the Ullrfest
33 fundraiser event for the Diamond Peak Ski Education Foundation. Captain
34 Ashby and crew rolled out the red carpet for our guests and Fire Chief
35 Sommers and Assistant Fire Chief Calder joined for lunch. Our Forester April
36 Shackelford presented information about our block parties this summer at
37 the Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities event on Sept 16th.
38 Approximately 20 people attended. For CPR classes, we taught 73 classes,
39 290 students attended.

40
41 ***Local 2139 Union Reports.**

42 none

43 **NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT. This is a time for the public to**
44 **comment on any matter, whether or not it is Included on the agenda**
45 **of this meeting.**

1 Ryan Sommers mentioned that for the record, even though 17-1 was not on
2 the agenda for today, we received quite a few emails pertaining to that and
3 they will be put in the minutes.

4
5 Citizen Pete Todoroff asked if we were reimbursed for our out of state
6 response. Fire Chief Ryan Sommers answered yes and likewise for in state
7 as well.

8 Pete mentioned his meeting that he hosts every other Friday and welcomes
9 our presence at these meetings. We are well supported.

10

11

12 **Meeting Adjournment.** Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

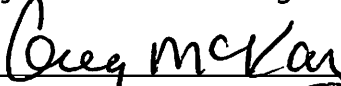
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15



Tia Rancourt, Acting Secretary



Greg McKay, Chairman