1	NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
2	BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
4	January 22, 2020
5	LOCATION OCCUT. T. II. WIII. N. I.
6	LOCATION: 863 Tanager, Incline Village, Nevada.
7 8 9	<b>MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:</b> Chairman McKay called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.
10	DOLL CALL OF THE MODELL LAVE TAHOF FIRE PROTECTION BOARD OF
11 12	ROLL CALL OF THE NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Upon roll call, the following Board Members were present:
13 14	Greg McKay, Chairman; Susan Herron, Vice-Chairman; Denise Bremer, Secretary-Treasurer; Art Cross, Director; James Costalupes, Director.
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16 17	<b>GUESTS PRESENT:</b> Fire Chief Ryan Sommers, NLTFPD; Sharon Cary, NLTFPD; Geno Menchetti, Legal Counsel; Jeff Sambrano, NLTFPD; Isaac
18	Powning, NLTFPD; Jennifer Donohue, NLTFPD; Alan Green, NLTFPD; Tia
19 20	Rancourt, NLTFPD; Carol Green, NLTFPD; Andreina Quiroz, NLTFPD; Erick Rodriguez, NLTFPD; Jeff Byrne, NLTFPD; Monte Santos, NLTFPD; Jeff Cutler,
21	NLTFPD; Russell Barnum, NLTFPD; Kurt Schlicker, Eide Bailly; Heather
22	Lunsford; Kelly Mullin, Washoe County.
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24	APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Approved as submitted.
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26	NRS 241.020 RE: PUBLIC COMMENT: This is a Time for the Public to
27	Comment on any Matter, Whether or Not it is Included on the
28	Agenda of this Meeting.
29 30	CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda approved as submitted.
31	CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda approved as submitted.
32	Approval of Minutes of the October 16, 2019 Board of Directors
33	Meeting.
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35	Review of Accounts Payable for October 2019.
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37	Chairman McKay inquired about Denise Azzara listed on Accounts Payable
38	report for October in the amount of \$685.00.
39	Duckness Manager Come did and have a little of the first
40	Business Manager Cary did not have explanation for the A/P charge in
41	question but will investigate and would get back to the Board with an
42	answer. Business Manager Cary did state that she believes it was either a Defensible Space Reimbursement Rebate or an Ambulance Refund, Business
43 44	Manager Cary more than likely believes it is a Defensible Space
44	Reimbursement Rebate.

No further questions.

Review of Accounts Payable for November 2019.

Review of Accounts Payable for December 2019.

Approval of the October 2019 Monthly Management Report.

Approval of the November 2019 Monthly Management Report.

Approval of the December 2019 Monthly Management Report.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

 Discussion and Possible Action to accept the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Audit Report from Eide Bailly, presented by Business Manager Cary.

Business Manager Cary introduced Kurt Schlicker from Eide Bailly to present the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Audit Report.

Kurt Schlicker, with Eide Bailly introduced himself as the Senior Manager in charge of North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Financial Audit. Mr. Schlicker also introduced Mr. Mike Nicholson who called into the NLTFPD Board of Directors meeting. Mr. Nicholson is the partner responsible for the audit. Mr. Nicholson is based out of Salt Lake City and is unable to physically appear at the meeting therefore Mr. Schlicker is present. Mr. Schlicker thanked the Board of Directors for having them at the meeting. Mr. Schlicker expressed his pleasure and stated it had been a good year. Mr. Schlicker stated that he would commence by summarizing some of the items from the audit and he welcomed any questions.

Mr. Schlicker began by stating that working through the Financial Statements, this year they issued an Unmodified Opinion. Mr. Schlicker stated that what that means is that the balances listed in the Financial Statements are fairly stated within the reasonable amount, the material amount. Having an Unmodified Opinion is good news, as it is the object of every audit. In addition, having an Unmodified Opinion allows for some reliance on the audited Financial Statements. In the opinion, there is an Emphasis of a Matter paragraph, which talks about correction of errors from a prior period, that Mr. Schlicker assured he would talk about a little bit later as he talks through Disclosures and other items.

Mr. Schlicker stated that their opinion is not modified with respect to that matter, meaning we make the correction to have all the numbers get updated and the numbers as they stand, appear fairly stated. He further assured the Board of Directors it is nothing to get overly concerned with the numbers.

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Mr. Schlicker moved on to speak about the First section called Management Discussion and Analysis found on Pages 4A-4C of the Financial Statements. Mr. Schlicker stated that this is intended and written by Management, in this case, Business Manager Cary would write that, and what is intended to be is a Financial Highlight Summary written by Management in more easy to understand non-Accountant speak terms. The Financial Highlights are provided so the reader does not have to read the next 80 pages to obtain the full run down. Mr. Schlicker encouraged the Board of Directors to read the Financial Highlights as there is good information.

Next Mr. Schlicker spoke about the Government Wide Financial Statements on pages 5-6. They are called, Government Wide Financial Statements and what is meant by that is that all the funds put together and presented more in the way that a Commercial Entity would present its numbers rather than a Budget. There are Capital Assets, Depreciation, Debt, and Big Liability. Different from normal Budget or Fund Accounting as they are putting it all together and presenting more on a Commercial Basis, also known as a Full Accrual Basis. Looking at that from the District as a whole, the total Deficit was about \$4.4 Million. Mr. Schlicker stated that it sounds bad when he says there is a Deficit meaning that the District Liabilities exceed Assets by about \$4.4 Million. Mr. Schlicker added that the cause of that, as we know from previous years, are the significant estimates revolving the other post-employment benefits such as health cost for Retirees and Pension costs. The District ends up picking up a share of Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) Liability for our employees that earn service credits under that.

Mr. Schlicker expressed that those are really, really big numbers Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) and PERS combined are about \$22.5 million. Those numbers are not numbers that we will have to pay out immediately as PERS will not request immediate payment, rather its paid as part of every employees' payroll we contribute a percentage as we go and as they earn that. This is a 30-year liability all compressed into a balance sheet all at once. With the deficit in that position of a little over \$4 million, \$22 million of that are related to those Liabilities that are going to be paid over the next 30 to 40 years. We are not in a cash flow crunch right now with a big deficit.

Mr. Schlicker expressed that the good news is that there was a change in that position this year of \$1.3 Million dollars, meaning that the Deficit balance was lowered. There was income of \$1.3 million, of that \$1.1 million was in Governmental Activities, so the General Fund, Capital Projects, Debt Service and the other \$200,000.00 approximately was Ambulance Fund. Therefore, there is positive growth, which is good for the District.

Mr. Schlicker continued saying that, in the Fund Financials found on pages 7-13 this is the General Fund, Capital Projects, Debt Service, Ambulance Fund, this is for Fund Accounting. In the Fund Financials, the total Fund Balances in our Governmental Funds was \$12 Million, this is where the Assets exceed the Liabilities by \$12 Million, which is in stark contrast the Government wide due to those large liabilities that get recorded Government Wide. PERS and OPEB are not recorded in the funds.

 Mr. Schlicker continued by stating that looking at funds everything is very healthy. Of the \$12 Million, about \$10 Million is unassigned in the General Fund, which is also very healthy. The District has a Strong financial position. The change in balance was \$1 Million, Revenue exceeded expenses by \$1 Million, which is positive. The District budgeted that way for a potential refund of Property Taxes of \$3 Million so when those do come in, we have a strong year. Ambulance Fund does have a Deficit Balance but again it is related to pensions. Ambulance Fund report that Pension Liability approximately \$2.6 Million allocated to the Ambulance Fund. There was positive increase in the Net Position but that is because of the transfers from the General Fund. The General Transfers to Ambulance Fund are to subside the operations, so that is a factor of the transfers.

On Page 14, the Financial Statements Notes are found. The notes to the Financial Statements are really, really detailed. Anything that we want to know about the Financial Numbers in the Financial Statements are generally disclosed, these notes are written by Accountants. The notes are very technical and very detailed, items may be confusing. Mr. Schlicker proceeded to go over some of the Note disclosures.

The District implemented two new accounting principles this year these are Governmental Accounting Standard Board Statements, so the standard making Board of Directors of governmental accounting issue new statements every year that have to be implemented by Governments. This year, the two standards that were implemented were Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) 83, which is Asset retirement obligations, and that is if the District has a Contractual obligation to retire an asset so for example if we entered

into a contract when we shut down a building or if we dispose of any asset and there is some sort of liability at the end of that, we have to dispose of it a certain way, that is called an Asset Retirement Obligation, the District does not have any of those. In the future if we have any, that will be a new liability that will pop up in the books.

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The next item Mr. Schlicker explained was GASB-88 which is certain debt disclosures. Mr. Schlicker stated that GASB wanted to make debt easier to understand therefore disclosures are included and were implemented this year in Note 7 of the Financial Statements. This note talks about if there is any Events of default of debt what kind acceleration clauses in Retainment are present. Governments across the country got in trouble and declared bankruptcy with default of non-debt and all of a sudden, that debt that was due over 30 years became due immediately. People were upset, as they did not know that that debt was due immediately or extra penalties if they defaulted therefore GASB implemented these two new standards this year.

Mr. Schlicker elaborated on the other disclosures, such as the Pension Disclosures listed on Note 5; Note 5 tells us everything we want to know about PERS.

Note 10 is OPEB, it tells us everything we want to know about the District's Health Plan and the assumptions that go into creating those estimates.

 Note 13 is the disclosure on the Correction of the Error, essentially with OPEB implemented last year, there was new guidance this year that was released and some things that were learned this year that caused them to go back and reevaluate a couple of numbers in the prior year and under that new understanding and with new guidance that was released it was determined our numbers needed correction. Therefore, they rolled that correction through.

Director Herron asked Mr. Schlicker on how common it is for them to have a correction of error with other agencies.

Mr. Schlicker answered that, for him personally and Eide Bailly, he believes prior period adjustments happen especially with new standards. They have had a couple this year and some are due to errors from management to where no Board of Directors knew about them. He added that some of them were unidentified and just came to light in the new year. Some were guidance changes by GASB Q & A's that come out saying please handle it this way and they at Eide Bailly make the changes. Mr. Schlicker stated that is does not happen on every job, he also added that it does happen for a handful of jobs.

Director Herron confirmed then that it was not uncommon and Mr. Schlicker agreed and added that it is true especially with new standards. Mr. Schlicker then stated that OPED is very difficult as there is a specialized actuary that are hired to come up with estimates as their entire career is just on coming actuarial estimates for these balances. They are very, very specialized and difficult so when GASB writes these standards they try to write it for the Country as a whole and for all Governments however not every Government is created equal and there is a lot of very particular very nuance items that come and GASB cannot predict all of those in the initial standard so it takes about takes a year or two of implementation where people write in stating that this or that is not addressed or what do we do in this situation. They get is called Q&A's and those Q&A's are published over the next years to try to answer questions. Mr. Schlicker confirmed that it was not uncommon to have every statement with a new standard.

Chairman McKay asked if what is recommended is that people be trained in the new standards and move on. Mr. Schlicker agreed and added that with no criticism or the critique he confirmed that new standards are very complex. Mr. Schlicker confirmed that he has hundreds of hours in continuing education in trying to understand, learn, and work through them, as they take repetition and a deep dive as they are very complex and difficult.

Before turning over the conversation to Mr. Nicholson for discussion, Mr. Schlicker moved on to speak about the one finding that they had this year. He advised the Board of Directors that there is a new standard coming out next year known as GASB 84, Fiduciary Activities, this new standard will cause a change in the reporting entity where the OPEB Trust will come into the Financial Statements of the employer. It will be a separate fund, called a Fiduciary Component Unit and it will essentially come after the Ambulance Fund, but it will be reported as part of the District Audit next year. This is due to standard changes that GASB has issued. It will be implemented for the year end June 2020 and the OPEB trust will be reported as a Component unit meaning the District has Fiduciary responsibility over it and so now it will be reported as a Component Unit next year and subject to audit in the same audit timing as these Financial Statements, it will all be combined in one.

Chairman McKay asked if with this change will it require additional study by some Board of Directors and expense?

Mr. Schlicker responded that this there are a couple of things, currently the District's OPEB trust is audited separately, under separate Financial Statements, as separate engagement fee, different

cost for planning and its own Financial Statements. That separate audit once they are all caught up will no longer be needed as it can be covered under this audit. Which means the District gets to forgo the cost of a complete full other audit. Probably of a little bit of increase in this audit but it will not be as significant as the stand alone as there will be cost savings because we do not need to do planning twice. conclusion work papers twice, add another set Financial Statements. There will be cost savings to the District but it will increase the timing and the need for information the actual reports will not change it will just be more impactful and important to get those early, as they will influence the audit of the OPEB numbers which will have to be finished before Financial Statements are even issued. The actuary report has to come early or late summer, late fall, to make that timing. Mr. Schlicker wanted to call to attention for the Board of Directors that the OPEB trust will be coming in the Financial Statements next year and he did not want the Board of Directors to be surprised.

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Mr. Schlicker turned the presentation over to Eide Bailly Account partner Mr. Nicholson.

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Mr. Nicholson expressed that he was glad to be on the call. He confirmed that Mr. Schlicker walked through the emphasis of the matter on note 13 and how he talked about the difficulty in estimating OPEB and the related liability as there is a lot that goes in to that. He asked the Board of Directors to look at Note 10 on Page 36 there is a list of all the assumptions that the actuary goes through in coming up with that number, he confirmed it's a very involved process. Mr. Nicholson stated that they hire the actuary because that specific experience necessary to run those assumptions and calculate that number. Kurt mentioned that GASB frequently will revisit a standard and how it's being implemented and practiced and offer additional quidance. In April 2019 they issued implementation quide that made some changes to OPEB and how the differed out flow resources was calculated and what is included in that. There were some changes and a prior period adjusted made to OPEB liability to correct that in accordance with that Implementation Guide. There was also an issue in the actuary report, the actuary corrected the report, as a result of restatement of the prior period and getting the OPEB liability correct under the Audit standards, they are required to look at any adjustments they make including prior period corrections and determine what the effect of internal control is in relation to that. As a result, under the audit standards, they issued this finding related to the OPEB and pension related matters as listed on page 54 the finding walks through what has already been discussed and the fact that there were necessary changed that needed to be made to that liability. He believes that in one question that was asked, it was confirmed the

recommendation has been read, management has provided its response and views and they managements has agreed that they will continue to work with Eide Bailly and work with management to see implementation issues come out. OPEB plan has been audited to make sure everything is correct. Mr. Nicholson stated that they are required to report this finding as a result of that restatement that was made for the OPEB liability. He hopes that he explained that clearly to Board of Directors and is happy to answer any questions that the District and Board of Directors might have.

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Chairman McKay asked if there were any questions of the Board about any matter of the Auditors.

Director Herron inquired about a statement on page 54 under Cause that reads, As a result, the District had chosen to ask for assistance from Eide Bailly which to Director Herron it sounds like a reasonable thing to do assuming they were paid for said assistance.

Mr. Schlicker advised that they were not paid for that assistance but rather rolled it in part of the total fee. The original fee did not include the assistance fee but due to the complexity of these matters Eide Bailly's works to help in an effort to help management. They are not looking to cause conflict but rather facilitate the success of completing the audit.

Chairman McKay complimented Eide Bailly on their good customer service.

Mr. Schlicker confirmed they are not trying to make things difficult but rather they trying to help management with these two standards as they are really, really complex, he has tried to explain that it take years of expertise from an actuary to be able to come up with these numbers.

Director Herron expressed her appreciation to Eide Bailly.

Mr. Nicholson confirmed that Mr. Schlicker did spend a lot of time on that.

Director Herron thanked Mr. Nicholson for his confirmation and proceeded to inquire on does Eide Bailly have any suggestions (other than recommendation for allocating resources to provide sufficient training) since Mr. Schlicker stated that it takes years and years of training, what is the recommendation on how do we go about this, so that we do not have this?

Mr. Schlicker, clarified that the training piece is for the actuary to come up with the numbers and the recommendation on the finding, they work with Business Manager Carv but ultimately it is managements responsibility to make sure that the actuary has all the correct assumptions. All they are trying to say is that they recommend that Business Manager Cary work with Eide Bailly and obtain more training to be able to facilitate that relationship of that actuary to make sure the assumptions are correct and that Business Manager Cary can ask questions of the actuary too. Mr. Schlicker confirmed that he spent many hours talking to the actuary, because it has been so complex but in an ideal world, it would actually have been management talking to the actuary. Business Manager Cary worked and helped to get this done, but in all, the recommendation is trying to say is that they recommend some resources be allocated to help Business Manager Cary work through that process with the actuary. Eide Bailly would be able to assist her with that and walk through with some of that with her as well with no criticism.

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Director Herron stated no criticism intended and that she intended to understand what Eide Bailly was seeking.

Mr. Schlicker stated that in a perfect world, these conversations would be held with the actuary in June, July, August with all the assumptions and all of that being worked out. These are the items that we need, these are the items are we are looking for. But the actuary run all their calculations and numbers that is what it their expertise, but to be able to recognize that the actuary report is not correct that is the responsibility of management which is what Eide Bailly Audits. They do not audit that the actuary is an actuary, rather they audit that the assumptions are reasonable and that all the required data elements are there. Therefore, if the data elements are missing or the assumptions are not reasonable that is where issues commence. In a perfect world, that is where they would like Business Manager Cary to converse with the Actuary rather than Eide Bailly.

 Mr. Nicholson stated that one other issue is the timing. Auditors can be overloaded with others that come in late, so having Business Manager Cary have some additional training and additional knowledge, Business Manager Cary will be providing information to the actuary she can have some of those conversations and ask some of the questions. Mr. Nicholson agreed to be able to help her and teach her what questions to ask so that what comes back from the actuary the first time is as accurate as it can be. Even with the timing issue, Eide Bailly is as involved as they can be but this can be after the fact. Therefore, some of these questions and work can be done before hand provided

Business Manager Cary knows what to ask, and Eide Bailly can assist with that as well as with the training.

Chairman McKay stated that we are in a vicious circle every year as GASB continues to come up with standards and no one knows what GASB is talking about until after they adopt Standards. They complicate our books; there is more work to be done which complicates our timetable to the State. Chairman McKay expressed that he would like to see a way to break this cycle.

Mr. Nicholson agreed and added that with the volume of standards coming out now is higher than it was at the beginning of his career 25 years ago where they would have one or two Standards a year but now there are several, like six to seven standards from both FASB and GASB every year to change the standards so the volume of what they have to deal with has increased as the world gets more complex.

No further questions.

Chairman McKay said he would entertain a motion to accept the 2018-2019 Audit from Eide Bailly. Director Herron made a motion to accept the FY 2018-2019 Audit Report from Eide Bailly as presented. Director Bremer seconded the motion. Chairman McKay called the question, all Directors voted in favor of the motion; the motion passed.

Director Herron congratulated Business Manager Cary on a good job.

2. Discussion and Possible Action of the review of the Fire/Life Safety Inspection and Permitting Program for Short Term Rental Properties within the jurisdiction of the North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District, presented by Chief Sommers.

Chief Sommers began by saying that in the October 2019 Board of Directors Meeting there was an agenda item, pertaining to Short Term Rentals and the update that he would be provided at this meeting with the assistance of Washoe County and Fire Prevention. He then mentioned that with the lobbyist for the Realtors, when this began back for us in 2017 when we came out with a very aggressive policy or resolution which did not pass and was not to the satisfaction to most of the homeowners, realtors, and property owners within Incline. From there we entered into this educational program and campaign with the Board of Realtors, there are mixed emotions of this program as a whole. Chief Sommers would say from the Fire Department, the Fire Districts standpoint, he would say it was very good, it gave everyone, all agencies included time to study this and to look at this and take

advantage of some of the headlines and get some educational material out to folk of Incline and Crystal Bay property owners and property managers. That has come to an end. Chief Sommers elaborated that we are very much in need of some type of process when it comes Short Term Rentals (STR's), again we are not the only Fire District in the community in this scenario, as much of the Western United States is dealing with this. We were able to sit back a little bit and see some programs that are working and not working. With that, Washoe County has taken upon themselves to start this process to disclose an STR's. We do not have the authority right now to walk into a house that is supposedly a STR's and have any kind of enforcement or requirement regulations above and beyond above normal residential structures. There needs to be a processed to be developed to determine that STR's and then what do we do once we have determined a property to be a STR. Again, Washoe County took the lead on this, and Chief Sommers would like to introduce Ms. Kelly Mullin with Washoe County. Chief Sommers complimented Ms. Mullin of the excellent job that she has for the County as a whole and this process. Chief Sommers stated that he did not know if Ms. Mullin knew this, but most of the STR's are within Incline Village and Crystal Bay. Ms. Mullin did a lot of work for our Fire District. Washoe County is coming up and going through this process, there is 186 Staff Report written by Ms. Mullin on this issue

Chief Sommers would like to also mention that Interim Fire Marshal Jennifer Donohue was very instrumental on the Life/Safety portions of this process and Chief Sommers bragged that Interim Fire Marshal Donohue wrote it for Truckee Meadows as well, as he is unsure if Truckee Meadows even gave in any input because we are experiencing it a lot more heavily than they are.

Chief Sommers proceeded to thank both of them for their work and stated it is turning out very, very good. Ms. Mullin has a 25 minute presentation that she had given at a couple of meetings now, such as the Board of County Commissioners and the Planning Commission both of which have been very well received by those Boards and who stated that they were highly complementary of her work on this, and Chief Sommers stated he would echo that. This process has been adopted by the Planning Commission and it needs to go before the County Commissioners towards the end of February with an addition to that which will be the fee structure which is currently being worked on.

Chief Sommers believes that they have addressed pretty much everything by that meaning Tahoe specific things, such as bears, and

what needs to be done about trash, parking, as parking is a big issue up here. More importantly, the Fire and Life Safety aspect of this process as he has said and continues to support NLTFPD will not give up any of the Life Safety Inspections or code requirements that this Board has adopted to a program such as STRs. What we have done is gone in and said we love that the County wants to take lead in this but we need to be able to maintain the Life Safety portion of that. He thinks this has been accomplished. There is a document not for public, as nothing has been adopted with it. This document has been drafted by the retired fire marshal Mark Regan that had a lot of good information in it, it was very short and impactful, Chief Sommers does not know how well that would have been suited as a document standing alone, but most of those processes have been put into this process. Meaning we will go out and do the Life Safety inspections, we would be reimbursed for that and both Washoe County and NLTFPD this will be a cost neutral process.

Chief Sommers said he is receiving a lot of what if questions from the community and he stated he does not have answers yet as this is very new. He asked that we get through this, as the Planning Commission asked for a revisit of this program in 18 months or 12 months.

Ms. Mullin confirmed it would at the maximum be two years.

Chief Sommers stated that at that time, the District will know what worked for us at this Fire District and what did not and we will be able to address those issues.

Chief Sommers stated that on the agenda for today's meeting was an update and if the Board of Directors is inclined, he could send them a link so that the Board of Directors can read the document. A lot of it is public comment as well. Chief Sommers is in hopes that he has summarized it well enough for the Board and he would like to turn it over to Ms. Mullin for a few minutes to address and answer any questions the Board may have and or input anything Chief Sommers may have forgotten, as well as for Interim Fire Marshal Donohue.

Chairman McKay asked if there were any questions from the Board and progress of this document and how it is accommodating our needs.

Director Cross stated that we needed to hear from Ms. Mullin prior to having any questions.

Chairman McKay gave Ms. Mullin the opportunity to add anything she felt was needed to be said.

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Ms. Mullin complimented Chief Sommers on the great job he did summarizing the process. Ms. Mullin stated that we are trying to work together as they recognize as part of this process of trying to establish a permitting for STRS in Washoe County that there is a lot of effect in agencies as well as many different perspectives. Washoe County has really been trying to reach out and hear from different groups of people who are impacted whether they are operating STRs or they live next door to a STR realtors, property managers, etc. Ms. Mullin added that it is certain that they have had many safety considerations that they have been building into the proposed draft and she is certainly happy to answer questions and speak of any aspect of the process further.

Director Cross asked if the County has any issues with NLTFPD remaining an independent inspection agency for Fire Life Safety issues. Ms. Mullin responded, that it is not an issue what so ever it was been discusses as part of this this process in recognizing that they need to build in some minimum safety standards in the proposed language, they have done that they have worked on this together with Jen and working with Truckee Meadows fire as well. They anticipate that as part of the process there will be mandatory inspections, before even issuing a permit for a STR. The inspection process will include inspections from Washoe County Building inspection team, NLTFPD as well as Truckee Meadows Fire Protection in their District.

Director Costalupes asked if STRs are going to require two inspections one from Washoe County Building and NLTFPD?

Ms. Mullin confirmed that that was correct as that is how it is proposed at this time.

Director Cross referenced some research he has done and stated that from he has seen be done in other places, there is a STR fee and also a Fire Inspection Fee.

Ms. Mullin answered that Washoe County is in the process of putting together what those fees will look like. The fees will absolutely include as a portion of that inspection fees, where they expect to have the attempt to have this as cost neutral so the cost to the agencies of completing those inspections, any pre-work, post-work to have that incorporated into the overall fee and making that cost neutral. Ms. Mullin added that they do not expect any kind of duplication of services as that is important to them so that Washoe County Inspectors are inspecting different things than the Fire Inspectors.

Chairman McKay inquired if anyone else had any questions or comments.

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Director Herron wanted to first say Thank You to the Board of Realtors for their collaboration during that time, that it was very much appreciated, she believes it was a really good program, everyone worked well together, herself, Director Bremer and Chief Sommers had the opportunity to work with them and she found the experience very positive. Additionally Director Herron stated she was able to attend Ms. Mullin's presentation with to the Washoe County Commissioners and congratulated Ms. Mullin on the well job. Director Herron stated that she has read the document and she has found it to be well written and believes that it has addressed the needs that she was concerned about as a Director for the NLTFPD. Additionally, she is looking forward to seeing the fee schedule and believes that a 2 year review may be a little long but is sure we will have an opportunity to have suggestions as we go along and if something needs to be changed that we see as important hopefully every Board of Directors will recognize this new and we can do that a little sooner. Overall, she believes Ms. Mullin has done a great job and Director Herron would like to thank her for taking the lead.

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Ms. Mullin expressed gratitude for Director Herron's compliments.

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Director Costalupes inquired about if Washoe County had any idea how many STR's properties there are in the Incline Village-Crystal Bay area.

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Ms. Mullin responded that there the numbers vary pretty dramatically by season but they estimate that there is anywhere from 500 to over 1100 that operate at any given time. Additionally she stated that over 90% of those are within the Incline Village-Crystal Bay area within Washoe County's jurisdiction.

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Director Cross asked if even with the STRs that do not operate full time and STRs that only operate part time if they will all fall under that same permitting process

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Ms. Mullin stated that absolutely, regardless if they are renting for 3 weekends in a row or year round it is same process.

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Director Cross stated believes that, that may cut the numbers down slightly because if people are only absent for two months, it is not worth it to go through the permitting process if they are only gone for those two months.

Chairman McKay asked if Ms. Lunsford had anything she wanted to add from the realtor's perspective.

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Heather Lunsford with Carrara NV introduced herself, and is at today's meeting on behalf of the Incline Village Realtors. Ms. Lunsford expressed appreciation all of Ms. Mullin 's work as well as the Fire Districts work in the past couple of years. They do still have a couple concerns as she has shared with the Chief, Ms. Lunsford confirmed that they have been talking to the County staff. It is confusing from their side on the inspection fees, where the separation is between what the county will be inspecting to what the Fire District will be inspecting. And if they are two completely separate inspections where the homeowner would have to be present for both, two costs and what does that look like. They have followed other jurisdictions to where they realized that combining inspections was a bit of a nightmare. Ms. Lunsford confirmed that they are working on that. Another issue that Ms. Lunsford brought up is exterior signage's, as it is known that posting on the outside of the homes that the house is vacant is a house safety problem. Especially with people coming in and out of homes they do not want to cause any more problems in the area for emergency personnel is already busy enough. Ms. Lunsford also added that the last issue is occupancy piece, if when the Fire District and the County are looking at occupancy, they would like clarification if infants are considered exempt from total occupancy from a home or not. Ms. Lunsford also agreed that all together, it has been a great process and she appreciates that too.

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Director Herron asked if Ms. Lunsford had an issue with the 30-minute response time.

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Ms. Lunsford answered that yes, inside the proposal right now there is a 30-minute response time, they are trying to obtain clarification on if it is 30-minute response time on the phone and then an hour in person. As 30-minutes in person is unrealistic and almost impossible to meet from different points in the County, therefore they are trying 30-minutes from the call and then an hour in person if needed for an emergency contact.

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Director Cross asked that if Ms. Lunsford was suggesting that a property manager lived in Reno, they would have to make the drive up and that would exceed the 30-minutes.

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Ms. Lunsford answered that yes it could or even a homeowner if they have a second home up here and they live down in Reno and they need to get up here to meet with Fire District or Sherriff it could take longer than 30 minutes to get up here. Ms. Lunsford added that, that

is why they are trying to get that clarified as 30-minutes by phone is easy, but in person, it is a little tricky.

Chairman McKay stated that going back a few years when the District was responsible for different places, he thought they would try to give 30 minutes, they answer the phone, and it is quicker. He stated that that worked but he is sure they work with them.

Chief Sommers added that he would like to keep in mind that the 30-minute response time could affect our personnel if it has to do with us and with what the District is asking of that STR, or we see in the violation of.

Chief Sommers does think and has been going forward and asking and we may be or may not be getting there but these Property Owners with STRs we have asked that the Property Manager be licensed or we would support that PM being licensed as we feel that those 30-minutes could be address, and as far as NLTFPD some issues could definitely be handled over the phone. Most people who understand what we are there for can help address right away. There are a few bullet points still being address in the draft form, Chief Sommers believe the Public Comment has been closed and now it is now more of getting through the policies. As far as inspections go, Chief Sommers asked that it is kept in mind that there is a fairly decent model in place right now when it comes to construction. The County has their inspections to do on a Construction Permit, and NLTFPD has their inspections to do as well. Chief Sommers foresees it along those types of inspections, where there is a duplication of services there so much and our goal would be to have that homeowner have only one point of contact at least for exchanging of the monies to Washoe county and then we have the process in place that if it is a Life Safety Inspection, those monies do hit our account within 72 hours. Chief Sommers stated that that is something we could do for STRs.

Chairman McKay complimented Ms. Mullin, Ms. Lunsford and Chief Sommers on a job well done. He stated that there is a very good compromise with some last minutes but overall, good job. He attended the August hearing, and again reiterated that they are doing a great job and looks forward to hearing more as the process gets closer to completion.

Director Costalupes requested the link to the Washoe County 186 page Document draft on this matter be emailed for review.

3. Discussion and possible action to approve policies, 100.07 Purchasing Policies & Guidelines and 100.12 Property Control

and Inventory Management Policy, to be compliant with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Grant requirements, presented by Chief Sommers.

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Chief Sommers stated that generally the District has been very blessed with no need to bring these policies before the Board unless there is an NRS statute attached to it or feel we need to. This was driven by an outside circumstance FEMA to be exact, so again, they have said it, so Chief can say it too, Hawaii and Lake Tahoe are the two most audited placed for FEMA anywhere in the nation. This is our second audit, and we have only had three FEMA grants. The District is going through an audit currently, and Chief notified the Board of the audit. Chief Sommers stated that he has good and bad news. FEMA only did not like our procurement or purchasing policy. In summary, Chief Sommers asked our compliance officer Erick Rodriguez to look into this and what it exactly mean because there were many acronyms. Erick worked with them and came up with draft that is in the Board Packet with how we would address the purchase and inventory of money used directly from FEMA for equipment. We did not have anything in our policies for that, Central Lyon gave us their policy as they went through the same thing. We will be using something similar to carry this out for the folks out on the floor. In the board packet today is the language that FEMA agrees with and they are asking for the Board Chairman signature on that policy hence being on the Board Meeting agenda today. It does not change much other than that if it is FEMA dollars, the District will need to bring it against the Board prior to purchase.

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Chief Sommers stated if anyone had any questions, Compliance Office Rodriguez was available to assist.

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Chairman McKay asked if anyone had any questions about either of the policy in the Board of Directors Meeting Packet and if anyone had any issues with the verbiage procedure.

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No questions from the board

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Chairman McKay asked Legal Counsel Menchetti if it would be beneficial to pass them separately

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Legal Counsel Menchetti stated no issue to pass them together if there is no objection

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Director Herron made a motion to approve Policy 100.07 Purchasing Policies & Guidelines and Policy 100.12 Property Control and Inventory Management Policy, to be compliant with the Federal Emergency

and believes it is time for a change.

 Management Agency (FEMA) Grant requirements as submitted. Motion was seconded by Director Bremer. Chairman McKay called the question, all Directors voted in favor of the motion and the motion was unanimously passed.

 North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District Board of Directors for 2020. The election of the Officers is effective immediately after the adjournment of the January 22, 2020, Board of Directors meeting.

4. Discussion of and possible action to elect the Officers for the

Director Herron made a motion to nominate a slate of officers as follows - Susan Herron as Chair, Greg McKay as Vice-Chairman and Denise Bremer as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Director

Cross. Hearing no further discussion, Chairman McKay called the

Chairman McKay stated that he has done Chairman for a couple years

# **OLD BUSINESS:**

Nothing to report.

#### **REPORTS:**

\*Legal Counsel Reports - (Legal Counsel, Geno Menchetti)

question, the motion was unanimously passed.

 Legal Counsel Menchetti apologized for his voice as he is having vocal cord issues.

Legal Counsel Menchetti added that the reason why Legal Counsel Devon was not present is because to pursuing money owed dating back to six or seven years ago dating back to Chief Brown days. They should be obtaining a resolution today and is in hopes that there will be a check in near future.

#### \*Board of Director Comments/Reports:

Director Cross wanted to circle back to the STR's with a question/comment. He asked if Ms. Mullin foresaw a timeframe to see about when the County/FD will implement.

Ms. Mullin answered that they are expecting to come before the Board of County Commissioners at the end of February for a first reading and introduction. Also estimating and possible adoption would occur at the first meeting in March meeting. If adopted on that date, they are

proposing a 4-month grace period. Would allow them to do some Outreach to the community, to existing STR operators so they can start getting familiar with the standards, they can plus processes in place and have an effective date of July. Of course, they expect that a month or 6 weeks prior to that they may start to accept applications and start doing inspections.

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Director Cross thanked Ms. Mullin for the information

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### \*Fire Chief's Report.

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Chief Sommers reported that last Board of Directors meeting he brought up an issue with Dispatch and Washoe County Sherriff's Office (WCSO). The Board of Directors asked Chief Sommers to look for alternatives and or renegotiate with WCSO, after a conversation, nothing truly official was talking to WCSO, they could possibly lower by \$20,000.00-\$30,000.00. Therefore, we would go from \$1.3 Million lowered by 30k. At that point WCSO was very local to Chief Sommers that that was all he could do and that it would be a waste of time to move further up the chain at the Sherriff's office. Chief Sommers stated that it was a little disheartening but he still will make a phone call to the Sherriff now that the Holidays are done. Additionally looking at other options, the best turnkey is to study and look at Grass Valley Emergency Command Center. It is a Cal-Fire Facility, we have done research on transferring the 911 calls over state line, and there is none, it is done every single day between Douglas and Alpine County, between Clark and San Bernardino, no risk with this taking place. There is also no FCC regulations we ultimately we have the right to choose who will dispatch for us for service. Chief Sommers added that he asked the best avenue to start contract rather than reinventing the wheel, and he sat in on a meeting in California with all the Fire Chiefs on the East slope and to together, collectively they have an agreement called the Easter Placer JPA. Chief Sommers added that he asked if we could be signatories to that, and they had a meeting without Chief Sommers present which he was okay with and it was unanimously voted NLTFP into that and we are now signatories. Now that we are signatories, it gives us the authority and the ability to start negotiations with Grass valley.

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Battalion Chief Green is going to be doing most of the operational side of the house to get all the policies and procedures and call taking up to date with Grass Valley. They do some things different and we are going to try to address and one of them is if we are responding after they dispatch it versus coming on and saying we are responding. Chief Sommers stated that he needs to see what that does and how that affects ISO.

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There is a work around from that and that would be we start utilizing our computers more in service, and that is the time we utilize and ISO does accept that. Chief Sommers added that he is trying to do his due diligence and look at all aspects of this move.

On Friday January 24, 2020 Chief Sommers will be attending a Public Safety Pier Meeting at the Forest Service.

Chief Sommers stated he has casually mentioned to State Parks and Sand Harbor for a location for a Boat Safety pier and both agencies love the idea. They think it is a great idea and it is moving forward. Depending on how the meeting goes, Chief Sommers may be asking for direction on how to get funding. It may be a trip to Washington D.C. to see Senator Finestad, he will get together a game plan.

The consulting work for the Regional hazard mitigation for the County has been complete. Chief Sommers stated that he is waiting on the Waiting on final product that we are signatories as well to come out. Once received, he will send out to the Board members. We are officially part of Washoe County's plan.

End of report by Chief Sommers unless there are any questions.

Chairman McKay questioned Chief Sommers on the women who came back a few months ago up into the Apollo neighborhood area that got all the neighbors together on the progress for the Federal Agency.

Chief Sommers responded that he had the pleasure to attend a Good Neighbor meeting with Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF), Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Tahoe Douglas, and what is needed for that project, an agreement in place that we can go work on federal land or state land without having to before both those agencies for each and every parcel and each and every project. Chief Sommers stated that that is gaining some ground; NDF is stepping up to the plate and wants to be the go between NLTFPD and federal government and get that accomplished. It is at snail's pace as there are three different Government layers but Chief Sommers believes we are getting to a point where Chief Sommers believes that we are going to have some results and some answers especially for the Apollo Crew. Chief Sommers is hopeful that this will move faster as his goal would be to have this in a year.

Chairman McKay thanked Chief Sommers for the update.

Director Cross Art complimented Chief Sommers for the fantastic plan

that is in place for Dispatch. Director Cross inquired about a meeting where Chief Sommers brought up that maybe further down the road there would be something with Inter Basin. Director Cross if there was any update with that.

Chief Sommers responded that Basin Chiefs have reached out to DHS for monies for a Basin wide Dispatch center, all fire agencies and most law enforcement agrees that this could benefit too. DHS has been out to do study and audit but again Federal Government red tape, and as of right now they are looking for a facility to build a Dispatch Center. Chief Sommers added that there are funds available for a basin wide dispatch center and more funds if a dispatch center is closed. Chief Sommers stated that he does not know that is a local or federal dispatch center. If South Lake Tahoe's dispatch center could come into the Basin, and closes, DHS has expressed that there would be more funds available for such an activity. They are looking at sites for the sites for new dispatch center, they talked about the old IES as one of them, also talked about a new brand building at Truckee airport, they have also talked about the existing building on Kingsbury and 28 which the old Frontier Communications building, now owned by Tahoe Douglas Fire. BC Green attended the last meeting on the fourth possible location but he is unable to recall. This is still on the table but about 5 to 6 years out.

# \*Chief Officers Reports.

Battalion Chief Sambrano reported that the crews have been focusing on Avalanche training, every week they focus on a different pieces of it like treatment and beacon searches. The crews at the end of the month will have final exam scenario, crews will get together and have a simulated burial, AC search, trying to locate the victims. This would be an opportunity to put together everything the crews have been learning.

Battalion Chief Sambrano added that January 24 Fire Academy will end. Graduation will take place on January 24 at Douglas County Park and Recreation Center 6pm-9pm, we have two guys graduating. The two new guys have done really well at the Fire Academy and we have received positive reviews and he expressed his excitement to have the new hires come on board, they will continue to train then and get them up so speed.

Chairman McKay thanked Battalion Chief Sambrano for his update.

#### \*Fuels Management Reports.

1 2 3	Chief Powning reported that numbers have changed up until the year ends. Crews have done 187 acres cut in pile between Incline and North Tahoe.
4 5 6	We were able to get 34.5 acres understory burning, which is better than last five years of 0.
7 8 9	Currently there are 280 acres of piles.
10 11 12	We are at about 90 acres but with uncooperative weather this has not been consistent. Crews are moving around to accessible piles.
13 14	Chipping stats, 335 Incline residents versus 246 last year. 760 residents in North Tahoe versus 650 in North Tahoe
15 16 17	So far this year, the crews have done 910 Christmas trees. The Christmas tree project ends on Monday January 27, 2020
18 19 20	Chief Powning provided an Update on Grants- Western States Foresters Grant, NV not successful in getting any of that.
21 22 23 24	LSR (Landscape Scale Restoration) grant we were awarded \$300,000.00 which will leverage IVGID funds for all the work that has been done at Diamond Peak.
25 26 27 28 29 30	Chief Powning congratulated Compliance Officer Rodriguez on completion of the Federal Grant Certificate program, he added that this is a 4 or 5-year process and Compliance Officer Rodriguez completed the certification in two and a half years. Chief added that the big thing is how he is viewed as Federal Partners.
31 32 33 34 35 36	Chief Powning attended an NV Energy Workshops of the Natural Disaster preparedness plan which part of the SB329 Bill. Part of that was being involved and helping them with their plan and so forth. NLTFPD feels that this is very important and it is in the best interest to NLTFPD and the citizens of Incline Village and Crystal Bay and in
37 38 39 40 41 42 43	reality all of the Eastern Lake Tahoe shore. Yesterday was the final process of that and now, they are now going into public hearing. There will be a public hearing in Incline on 02.06.2020 where we will be there to assist. The main themes they are talking about are Risk Based Assessment and the power shut off which will be a big discussion. System hardening, inspections and corrections and situational awareness will also be topics on conversation.
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Chairman McKay referred back to the 187 acres of piles for North Tahoe, and asked what is the split is.

Chief Powning responded that it is 100.5 acres for Incline and 86.5 for North Tahoe.

Chairman McKay asked if Chief Powning had any idea what the Forest Service was doing about their piles in town.

Some of the piles that we are burning, we took an agreement with the Forest Service to burn those piles, within town we have burned with except ion of some before Jill Ct. The piles off of Fairview and the first lookout, we are with in agreement with Forest Service to get those. The remaining ones have not been done yet.

Chairman McKay thanked and complimented the crews on the nice work.

#### \*Business Manager Reports.

Business Manager Cary stated that now that the Audit is complete, we need to start the Budget process for 2021. She handed out calendar of events and welcomed the attendance of any of the Board members. Business Manager Cary pointed out the yellow highlights, on the calendar of events, and first referred to April 10, 2020 which is a Friday and that would be the Board Workshop. The workshop will have most of the information from the Department of Taxation. Business Manager Cary also added that May 20, 2020, that is when new budget will have to be approved.

End of report from Business Manger Cary.

### \*Public Education Information Officer Reports.

Public Information Officer Rancourt reported on FEMA grant, we did finally receive the close out module. It is ready, drafted, and it will send out with other information at the end of the week.

PIO Rancourt added that they preschool Fire Safety visits have been completed. PIO thanked C-Shift as a lot of the Crew assisted in the visits. PIO Rancourt expressed that the kids loved the visits, as they are helpful. The children are also thankful to have met the Crews when they are young and as they grow up and continue to be in town they come back to visit and it is a community good will.

PIO Rancourt stated that B Shift held Fire Extinguisher training in November. They trained a total of 95 students. The District also held the Holiday Card contest.

PIO Rancourt stated that the Paramedic Refresher was a Lecture Year. The refresher had 257 attendee's ten vendors next year is a skills year. There will be more to follow up with the Union President. PIO Rancourt spoke about the Winter Wilderness Program that will be help mid-February with the fourth graders at Incline Elementary School. Tahoe Nordic Rescues is also helping so they are working on that.

PIO Rancourt reported that there plans are underway for Nevada Wildfire Awareness month Lake Tahoe Wildfire Awareness Month. The theme is "Fire knows no boundaries so make yours." They are working on graphics, outreach, and events. PIO Rancourt also added that the Community Pancake breakfast would be held on Friday, July 3, 2020. C-Shift will be working that event. PIO Rancourt stated that CPR numbers from September through current there have been 125 classes and 1004 students have been trained.

Director Cross asked if those numbers part of the NV Students HS Curriculum for CPR certification.

PIO Rancourt answered they were not, that those numbers were just for the District. PIO Rancourt also added that this year the High School CPR training cancelled and has not yet rescheduled.

## \*Local 2139 Union Reports.

New Union President Jeff Byrne introduced himself.

President Byrne reported that the Union had a fundraiser for the Northern Nevada Children's Cancer Foundation at the Paramedic Refresher and \$9,800.00 was raised. The Pennington foundation also matched it dollar for dollar.

President Byrne expressed his excitement for the two new hires that will be joining us as he had the opportunity to attend the Fire Academy to help and saw them perform and he believes they will be an excellent addition to our District.

Chairman McKay thanked President Byrne for the update. Chairman McKay informed that Cornerstone Church raided \$22,000.00 for NLTFPD's Jay Euse and family.

Director Costalupes added that Cornerstone Church just had a generator installed, it is online and working, with this, Cornerstone Church will soon be an official Red Cross Center.

## \*Fire Prevention Reports.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue provided an update for the end year report for what Fire Prevention has been doing in 2019.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue reported that they have completed 700 inspections, those inspections include reoccurring life safety, new business application, and construction inspections. In addition, as of October prevention took over defensible space inspections related to construction, open construction permits. They have completed over 600 plan reviews, which includes initial plans review, any corrections, revisions and modifications to the plans. Interim Fire Marshal Donohue also reported that Prevention has issued 165 Fire District permits, for fire sprinklers, fire alarms, kitchen hood suppression, and residing.

Interim Fire Marshal Donohue also reported that 23 burn permits were issued and since the Fiscal Year began Prevention has billed \$76,000.00 in permit fees and they have collected over \$64,000.00. For Pre-TRPA Prevention has billed \$2,700.00 and has collected \$2,500.00

Last on the report, Interim Fire Marshal Donohue stated that she is aware of two fires within District that required an investigator and one outside agency assist.

Chairman McKay thanked Interim Fire Marshal Donohue for her report.

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.

There were no public comments.

Meeting Adjournment. Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at 01:19 p.m.

Greg McKay, Chairman