

NORTH TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
NTFPD Station 51 Public Safety Center
222 Fairway Drive
Tahoe City, California

Tuesday
May 23, 2023 – 3:30 p.m.

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order** - *The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Baffone.*

Roll Call

Attending:

Board Present

Directors Baffone, Doyle, Loverde, and Ragan. A quorum was established.

Staff Present

Fire Chief Steve Leighton

Legal Counsel Steve Gross

Division Chief Alan Whisler

Battalion Chief Scott Sedgwick

Battalion Chief Naman Beatie (arrived 4:10 p.m.)

Forest Fuels Manager April Shackelford

Administrative Assistant II/PIO Erin Holland

Administrative Assistant II/Clerk of the Board Melissa Daniels

Public

No Public

2. **Additions to Agenda/Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved as presented. There was no public comment.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

4. **Public Comment**- There was no public comment.

5. **Approval of Minutes from the regular Board meeting held April 18, 2023**

The District Clerk needs to make two corrections to the April 18, 2023 minutes. The first correction is to Item 10 to reflect the correct *Aye* roll call vote for the motion to adopt Resolution

07-2023. The second correction is to Item 21 which was taken in the open session and is to read “Consider taking action on the agreement with Chief Leighton that was discussed in Closed Session.” Additionally, the motion by the Board and the roll call vote need to be added. There was no comment from the public.

Upon motion by Director Ragan, seconded by Director Loverde the Board approved the Minutes from the Regular Board meeting held April 18, 2023 as advised. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was four in favor:

*Ayes: Directors Baffone, Doyle, Loverde, and Ragan
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Director Correa*

6. Correspondence

President Baffone went over the thank you notes received since the last Board meeting.

7. Public Hearing regarding Resolution 10-2023 adjusting the rates for Ambulance Services

Chief Sedgwick presented this item. Back in June of 2019, Chief Schwartz brought to the Board Ordinance 03-2019 establishing ambulance transport rates which passed. This ordinance also established a mechanism to adjust those rates every year based on the same rates of the CPI by a Resolution of the Board during a Public Hearing. The District has not adjusted the ambulance rates since 2019.

North Tahoe Fire continues to provide excellent ALS service at a great value to our constituents. The District is asking the Board to adopt Resolution 10-2023 to increase the ambulance rates by 4.05% which reflects the percentage change in the CPI specific to ambulance transports. The District will still be providing this service at a lower cost than 10 other SSV providers and almost \$1000 below average. Our El Dorado County ALS service billing is controlled by the County and those rates are higher than ours.

Public Hearing Opened: 3:40 p.m.

There was a discussion on how the billing works with Wittman Enterprises and El Dorado County for the District.

There was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

Upon motion by Director Doyle, seconded by Director Baffone, the Board adopted Resolution 10-2023 to adjust the rate for ambulance services. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was four in favor:

*Ayes: Directors Baffone, Doyle, Loverde, and Ragan
Noes: None*

Abstain: None
Absent: Director Correa

Public Hearing Closed: 3:50 p.m.

8. Future planning with Meeks Bay Fire

Chief Leighton presented this item to the Board. Next Thursday, June 1st, Chief Leighton, Chief Armstrong, and Director Eason have a Zoom meeting scheduled with the representatives from Placer County and El Dorado County to get some momentum going for the annexation process.

This morning, Chief Leighton received the Goodwin Consulting Group’s financial impact analysis that was commissioned by Placer County. He has not had the chance to dig deep enough into it to report on anything.

At the last Meeks Bay Board meeting the Board concluded that they are going to write letters, either individually or as a Board, to El Dorado County to state their desire to keep the annexation process going.

There potentially is an option for El Dorado County to ask El Dorado LAFCO to dissolve Meeks Bay Fire District and take control of the organization, which proposes an opportunity for North Tahoe Fire to contract with El Dorado County to provide fire protection in that area, similar to the way it provides fire protection with Alpine Meadows. The District can also continue to have the Board take the action to be at-large members through LAFCO. Kim has some emails to CalPERS to see if El Dorado County dissolves Meeks Bay Fire District are they responsible for the UAL, and if that is the case El Dorado County can do what they want with the UAL.

This item was for informational purposes. No Board action was required, but there was a discussion between Board and staff. There was no public comment.

9. Finance Report

- 9.1 Purchases Journal
- 9.2 Breakdown of CalCard purchases
- 9.3 Gross payroll totals
- 9.4 Account Detail Report

Chief Leighton presented this item in Kim’s absence and answered the questions from the Board.

There was a discussion between the Board and staff. There was no public comment.

Upon motion by Director Ragan, seconded by Director Loverde, the Board approved the finance report dated May 23, 2023 and the supporting Items 9.1-9.4, as presented. A roll call vote was taken. The vote was four in favor:

Ayes: Directors Baffone, Doyle, Loverde, and Ragan
Noes: None
Abstain: None

Absent: None

10. Staff Reports

- 10.1 [Fire Chief](#)
- 10.2 [Division Chief – Operations / Training](#)
- 10.3 [Division Chief – Fire Marshal/ Forest Fuels / PIO / Facilities](#)
- 10.4 [A Shift Battalion Chief - Emergency Medical Services](#)
- 10.5 [B Shift Battalion Chief - Safety](#)
- 10.6 [C Shift Battalion Chief - Logistics](#)

Staff reports were reviewed. There was a discussion between Board and staff. No action was taken.

11. Next Board Meeting and Other Important Dates

- *June 27, 2023 – regular Board meeting*
- *July 25, 2023 – regular Board meeting*
- *August 22, 2023 – regular Board meeting*

There was no Board or public comment.

12. Board Comments/Information Items

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by President Baffone at 4:59 p.m.