



# Meeks Bay Fire Protection District

Post Office Box 189  
Tahoma, CA 96142  
Lake Tahoe  
PHONE 530-525-7548  
FAX 530-525-4502  
Steve Simons, CHIEF  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS:  
Edward I. Miller  
Jane L. Warmack  
Stephen W. Hyde  
Ellie Beals  
Korie Kromydas

## Meeks Bay Fire Protection District Board of Directors Meeting

**Minutes**  
July 24, 2019

**Directors Present:** Director Beals, Vice President Hyde, Director Kromydas, President Miller and Director Warmack

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting of the Meeks Bay Fire Protection District Board of Directors, for the month of July was called to order at 3:31pm by President Miller.

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

It was moved by Director Warmack and seconded by Director Kromydas to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Approval of Past Minutes**

It was moved by Director Warmack and seconded by Vice President Hyde to approve the Board Minutes dated June 26, 2019, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Financial**

It was moved by Director Kromydas and seconded by Vice President Hyde to accept the financial reports, items 4A-G, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**5. Public Input**

There was none.

**6. Presentation Items**

**A. Upcoming Board Vacancies**

A board vacancy cannot be posted until a resignation has been submitted by a board member. This item was for discussion only. No action was taken.

**7. Business Requiring Action**

**A. Public Hearing to Approve: Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Annual Report; Annual Update of the Budget for the Assessment; Annual Update of the Services to be Provided; Annual Update of Other Specifics of the Assessment; and Authorize the Continuation of the Fire Suppression Assessment**

The Public Hearing was opened at 3:38pm.

It was moved by Director Warmack and seconded by Director Kromydas to approve the Fire Protection and Emergency Response Services Assessment Report, including the Annual Update of the Budget for the Assessment, the Annual Update of the Services to be Provided, the Annual Update of Other Specifics of the Assessment, and Authorization to Continue the Fire Suppression Assessment. The motion passed unanimously.



Staff will file the information with the county auditor.

The Public Hearing was closed at 3:40pm.

## **B. Homeowner Meetings - Follow up and Future Public Meetings**

President Miller discussed some of his observations from recent homeowner meetings he spoke at. Noting that when asked, no one present, at any of the three meetings he attended, remembered receiving the surveys that were sent out by ESCI in early 2018.

Chief Simons handed out approximately 45 surveys following HOA meetings he attended and approximately 15 (35%) have been returned. This is consistent with the percentage of surveys returned last year. Staff will have additional copies of the survey, with stamped, self-addressed envelopes, available at upcoming homeowner meetings.

Chief Simons provided a copy of the ESCI survey to all board members.

The next homeowner meeting will be the Tahoe Cedars Homeowner Association meeting on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, to be held at Marie Sluchak park.

## **C. Alternative Governance Models Between Meeks Bay Fire and North Tahoe Fire**

Staff will provide the Management Agreement between Meeks Bay Fire and North Tahoe Fire to new directors.

## **D. Next Board Meeting Dates**

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be August 28<sup>th</sup>. The September meeting will be held on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

## **8. Chief's Reports**

Chief Simons updated the board on activities since the last meeting. Items of particular interest included:

- Call volume has been up this month and North Tahoe Fire is also providing inter-facility transfers for Tahoe Forest Hospital this month. staffing has been increased to assist with the higher call volume;
- Live fire training was held in Carson City at the burn building; staff has also be holding drills at North Tahoe High School;
- The track chipper, trailer and dump truck have been brought up from Mound House. El Dorado Hills Fire might be interested in purchasing the equipment. Staff will pull the grant documents to review initial costs. Staff believes the worth of the vehicles is: chipper \$120,000, truck \$40,000, trailer \$3,000;
- Forest Fuels Coordinator Horntvedt will discuss with US Forest Service about paying to have their slash piles chipped;
- Station 53 (Homewood) is still moving forward, possibly another six weeks primarily due to sprinkler installation; Station 61 will likely be staffed with four personnel through August;
- A strike team was sent to the Jasper fire which was located near Reno;
- Chief Simons announced that he would be retiring December 1<sup>st</sup> of this year;
- Chief Schwartz discussed the state requirement for fire hydrants within 400' of structures, and alternative means and methods that can be used for fire suppression;
- Staff attended approximately 15-20 homeowner meetings; primary concern is evacuation and lack of insurance;



- Insurance companies like fire agencies to have additional, stricter, local ordinances attached to the Fire Code, as long as the ordinances are being adhered to. Boards should never appear they are being more lenient than the Fire Code;
- Fire prevention officer and firefighter/paramedic recruitment has started; North Tahoe Fire will be part of the consortium process which will be taking place in Carson City. A total of 89 applications are in the recruitment in pool;
- Chief Whisler discussed the new staff fitness program.
- The defensible space inspectors of completed 1100 inspections so far this year;
- Forest Fuels Coordinator Horntvedt will be working with Tamarack Mutual Water Company to identify fuel treatment in their area of Rubicon;
- The online insurance survey PIO Holland set up has already received 132 responses; 88% of the respondents have received either cancellation or non-renewal notices. The survey includes a link to California Insurance Commission which allows homeowners to provide cancellation and non-renewal information;
- Chief Schwartz would like to schedule his insurance presentation for the board at a future board meeting;
- California Special District Association (CSDA) is holding a seminar in San Diego in September. This is a good seminar for new board members to attend; and
- Fire Districts Association of California (FDAC) may also be holding a seminar in Napa next year.

**9. Information Items**

- Director Beals' insights after she participated in the Camp fire tour:
  - Air operations was not on duty at the time of the start;
  - The 9-1-1 dispatch center had only one person on duty;
  - Evacuation orders did go out through reverse 9-1-1, but it did not go out in the intended manner by zones;
  - The fire ran eight miles in less than an hour;
  - There is a need to educate about personal responsibility and situational awareness during emergencies.
- Former director Massie is doing better but still working on improving his strength and mobility.

**10. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Vice President Hyde and seconded by Director Warmack to adjourn the meeting of the Board of Directors at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shawn R. Crawford  
Clerk of the Board

**Additional Attendees:**

Fire Chief Michael Schwartz  
Fire Chief Steve Simons  
Director of Finance Kim Eason  
Clerk of the Board Shawn Crawford  
Battalion Chief Alan Whisler  
Public Information Officer Erin Holland  
Forest Fuels Coordinator Eric Horntvedt

Captain Sarah Lagano  
Engineer Jason Boyd  
Firefighter Jordan Carter  
Firefighter Jeff Rau

**Additional Attendee(s):**  
Eric Wilson