

TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
December 15, 2008
Regular Meeting

Those Present:

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| Bob Cook | Assistant Chief Rick Nicholson |
| Frank Forvilly | Captain Jim Antti |
| Steve Seibel | Captain Tim Allison |
| Roy Clason | Engineer Ralph Jones |
| Patrick Atherton | Inspector Leo Horton |
| Chief LeFever | Captain Rich Nalder |
| R.J. Clason | Captain Chuck Salerno |
| Brad Dorton | Paramedic Chris Peterson |
| Assistant Chief Van Ogami | Paramedic Justin Rossi |
| Battalion Chief Dave Hekhuis | |
| Battalion Chief Ben Sharit | |

1. Action Item: Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Chairman Bob Cook.

2. Action Item: Pledge of Allegiance.

Trustee Patrick Atherton led the pledge.

3. Action Item: Roll call.

All board members were present.

4. Action Item: Public comment.

There was none.

5. Action Item: Discussion and possible action: Approval of consent calendar:

Items on the consent calendar will be approved without discussion unless an item is specifically “moved forward” for discussion.

Item:

- a. Approval of agenda 12-15-08.
- b. Approval of minutes 11-24-08.

- c. Approval of expenditures.
- d. Approval of financial statements 11-30-08.

Motion by Trustee Steve Seibel to approve the consent calendar as presented. The agenda of 12-15-08, the approval of the minutes of 11-24-08, the expenditures and the financial statements were not available.

Trustee Atherton seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a vote of 5-0.

Action Item #6: Discussion and possible action: Consent Items moved forward.

There were none.

Action Item #7: Discussion and possible action: Approval of Health Insurance Benefit Plan and MOU with Union Local 2441.

Chief LeFever stated that both Ben Sharit and Leo Horton worked extensively with President Tim Allison, Ralph Jones and Justin Rossi to develop language to bridge us from what we have today to what we want to implement January 1st. This will be with the knowledge that we have negotiations coming up this being part of next year's negotiations. They tried to come up with language that addresses everyone's concerns with that goal in mind.

Trustee Roy Clason said he was concerned with the first draft of the MOU and a provision that said beginning 2010 on or before January 15th of each year which indicates that we have an ongoing benefit that will bypass the 2009 negotiations. I said I would approve the MOU if that language was rescinded. It was rescinded however, there was a word inserted from the first draft into the second draft that read: "Employees and qualified retirees insured as individuals will have \$2,700 deposited into their HSA annually". The question is what does the operative word "annually" do? Does it continue the infusion into the HSA into 2010?

Leo Horton replied "yes".

Trustee Clason then asked what if we decide to change that in the negotiations.

Leo replied he believed that the first draft of the MOU was only in effect until the contract was signed. Since that language was taken out, I couldn't tell you what it means.

Chairman Bob Cook said it does specifically say for the insurance year 2009.

Trustee Clason said there is a word annually. This implies that the infusion of the money will go on in 2010, 2011, 2012 unless the MOU were superseded in the negotiations.

Leo Horton replied that the \$3,000 or \$6,000 deductible resets itself every January 1st. Since the deductible needs to be paid annually the HSA needs to be funded annually.

Trustee Clason said that deductible is only with the PPO carrier that you are currently using. If you get another PPO carrier, which I hope you would do, sometime between now and the time that this one runs out, those numbers could all change.

Those numbers are spelled out in the MOU. The MOU specifies the \$3,000 and \$6,000 deductible policy and the \$5,400 and \$2,700 HSA contribution. They are both spelled out in the same MOU so if we can change one, we should be able to change the other.

Trustee Clason asked is it going to tie the hands of the district if nothing is acted upon in the entire year.

Ralph Jones this MOU was to reassure the board that we are not taking any rights away from the board or the administration side of negotiations. Insurance is one of the things in NRS that is allowed to be negotiated. We will be bringing this to the board because we need to enhance some of the language that goes beyond this. Insurance is an ever evolving thing. He also stated Roy's son said last meeting about the new insurance. We are willing to go look at as a committee. Our goal is to make our insurance the least amount of cost to the district and provide a decent benefit to the employees. The last line in the MOU guarantees you the right to negotiate that when we open up the contract.

Leo added he would recommend they put back into "This MOU will expire when the new contract is signed". There is no question about which document prevails. That was the purpose of putting the last paragraph in the MOU in the beginning.

Chairman Cook said you could also make an amendment to the MOU.

Leo said his understanding was the MOU goes away when the contract is signed.

Trustee Clason said MOU language will no doubt in one form or another become part of the boiler plate for the contract. He for one is pleased to see we are starting on a more modern approach to achieving health care for the men that we have been remiss in the past. Everyone has heard me say we need to do something better and obviously the HSA provides that vehicle. Now when you are willing to take the high deductible you can go to many other carriers and be competitive. Where in the past, only one firm would permit that. In no way does this tie the negotiators hands, is that correct.

Leo stated it was.

Motion by Trustee Clason to approve the Health Insurance Benefit Plan and MOU with Union Local 2441 as presented.

Motion seconded by Trustee Patrick Atherton.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

Item #8: Presentation: Fire Chiefs report of previous months activities.

Chairman Bob Cook wished to recognize the following employees for their service:
Assistant Chief Rick Nicholson – 29 years of service

Rick stated today was 31 years.

Ambulance collection is at 64.6%.

Chief Sharit should take a bow. He has been working hard to see where are funds are coming from and where they are going.

Transports year to date are the same as they were last year which is a good sign in this economy.

February 4th will be our luncheon for promotions and employee appreciation awards. We will recognize two of the board members (Bob Cook and Patrick Atherton) two community members of the Blue Ribbon Committee, and five members of our Citizens Committee. More to come on that.

Receivables – we did receive half of the money back for the EOD grant. We are starting to purchase some of the new equipment off the \$400,000 plus grant.

Strike Team Reimbursement – we are still due \$355,000. Received notice from OES that our payments are going to be delayed.

Fuels Reduction – we still have \$58,000 outstanding primarily from the USFS and that is due to the fact that they pay on a quarterly basis. That should be cleared up by next month.

Investments - Our December total of \$3,564,903.99 is real close to the June total of \$3,602,999.00. That is the million dollars we borrowed to roll us into the next two to three months because we used that money for EOD grant funding.

Legal Issues – Nothing new.

There was a significant alarm that we had Sunday morning. Captain Allison was first in on a structure fire that we had.

Captain Allison said there was fire at 1464 Friedhoff Drive in the Cave Rock area. They had a fire the evening before. The fire popped out onto a rug in front of the fireplace. The rug began to smolder and they doused it with water. They then threw it out on the front porch near a woodpile and eventually caught fire. The homeowner noticed the fire and ran outside. They could not go out the front door and had to go out through the garage. When we arrived the north side of the house was involved in flames. There were no rescues necessary. There was

vegetation around the house that gave him cause for concern. We knocked down the interior fire quickly.

Chairman Bob Cook asked if the deck was wood.

Captain Allison replied it was and it was also wrapped with a veneer.

Assistant Chief Ogami added the wood pile was well seasoned and the decking was also wood. We were able to determine the cause was accidental. The insurance carrier is estimating around \$150,000 to \$175,000 damage in building materials and an additional \$100,000 in personal effects.

Trustee Cook said, there were no sprinklers and the smoke detectors, were they battery or electric.

Van stated they ran on house current. By opening the garage door may have created a negative pressure to compromise the glass.

Trustee Clason asked if the owner had done a defensible space evaluation.

Assistant Chief Ogami said the owner had some work done so the vegetation was not an issue.

Assistant Chief Ogami informed the board that they are working on the details of the contract will get with the manufacturer sometime this week.

Chief LeFever stated he wanted to point out on Chief Novak's report regarding grants, we have been identified as tied for number one, and alone in third place for our two \$500,000 grants. We tied with Washoe County as it moves through the process. This is very promising and we need to contact our Legislators to get it approved and earmarked. Mark and Leo will put on an overview of the past year and plans for the future at the board meeting next month.

Chairman Cook asked if we were supposed to treat 6 acres in Douglas County each year?

Leo said yes and that had been done. It was property at the end of Andria and along Sunflower Circle.

Trustee Steve Siebel asked if the crew will continue to work in the snow.

Leo said they are burning. They have between 50 and 60 acres of piles left to burn.

Chairman Cook asked How is the funding looking for them?

Trustee Frank Forvilly wanted to share that he has heard in the community that the kids are doing great. They are the most polite kids they have ever been around.

Leo said they decided from day one that they were not going to be held to any lesser standards than any other employee of this fire district. That includes grooming standards, dress standards and the quality of their work. He drives around and checks on them. The neighboring jurisdictions that have chipping crews don't approach our crew for professionalism and commitment. The credit goes to Keegan Shafer, Crew Supervisor. His level of professionalism is second to none.

Chief LeFever wanted to remind the two new board members of the swearing in ceremony on December 19th.

Trustee Clason asked if the agreement was concluded on the erosion project.

Chief LeFever said no, George Echan was still working on it. There have been some or and communication and the latest is, they took the project that they were asking \$40,000 for and after discussions they have shrunk the project down to identify what they are responsible for. It will probably less money but the easement will be smaller too. This will benefit both NDOT and us.

Chairman Bob Cook said, Mark stated in his report that the water companies will be tying all the water companies together. Is that all the county operated ones only?

Chief LeFever said Mark was at the meeting at Zephyr Cove last week.

Leo answered by saying that was one of the findings of the Blue Ribbon Fire Commission there be as much inter tying and operability of the water systems as possible. Douglas County has contracted with JWA to draw up an initial study of what it would take just to inter tie the Douglas County water systems. Our goal is to someday have the best water delivery as possible in the whole district.

Action Item #9: Discussion and possible action: Set date for next meeting and possible agenda items.

The next meeting will be January 26, 2008.

- Presentation by Mark Novak and Leo Horton on the past year for Fuels Management.
- Election of Board Officers.
- Review the Code of Ethics.
- Appoint members for negotiations.
- Appoint sub-committee to work on goals and objectives.

Action Item #10: Adjourn.

Motion by Trustee Patrick Atherton to adjourn.

Seconded by Chairman Bob Cook for the final time.

Motion carried with a vote of 5-0.

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

This meeting was recorded on audio tape.