

TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PREVENTION DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
March 22, 2017

Those Present:

Chairman Bill Kirschner
Vice Chairperson Ann Grant
Trustee Greg Felton
Trustee Kevin Kjer
Trustee Larry Schussel
Fire Chief Scott Baker
Legal Counsel Devon Reese
Assistant Chief Jim Antti
Battalion Chief Todd Moss
Fire Marshal Eric Guevin (via phone)
Forester John Pickett
Crew Foreman Matt Fogarty
Office Manager Kate Warner

Accounting Specialist Carrie Nolting
Administrative Assistant Erin Allison
Captain Andy Isenberg
Captain Bryce Cranch
Engineer Nathan Johnson
Firefighter/Paramedic Scott Vizzusi
Firefighter/Paramedic Derrick Bean
Firefighter/Paramedic Jesse McDonald
Firefighter/Paramedic Nick Robidart
Firefighter/Paramedic Mark Norwood
Guest Gary Midkiff
Guest Stewart Campbell
Guest Rich McGuffin

1. Call to Order.

Meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

Pledge of allegiance was led by Trustee Schussel.

3. Roll Call.

Chairman Kirschner, Vice Chairperson Grant, Trustee Felton, Trustee Kjer, and Trustee Schussel were present. A quorum was present.

4. Approval of the Agenda.

Trustee Felton motioned to approve the agenda. Vice Chairperson Grant seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

5. Public Comment.

Vice Chairperson Grant thanked Captain Spry and Engineer Johnson for the great training for the CERT team on triage. She also thanked Forester Pickett for providing her with a map of Skyland for her presentation to the International Fire Chiefs.

Guest Stewart Campbell, the Director of Camp Galilee in Zephyr Cove spoke in support of the Fire Flow Initiative (FFI) program. He has been at Camp Galilee for ten years working to improve the facilities, and fire flow has been a consistent issue. All other options they have considered have been out of their price range, so he and the Camp Galilee Board are very much in favor of the FFI program.

Trustee Felton thanked the District, Office Manager Warner, and Administrative Assistant Allison for putting on another blood drive (at George Whittell High School). He attended the drive, and there was a huge showing of the community, including a lot of new donors.

Trustee Felton also thanked the District for supporting the Tahoe-Douglas Rotary St. Patrick's Day fundraising event. Station 23 has always been a convenient place for people to drop off donations, and he thanked staff for delivering the donation items to the event.

Trustee Felton worked ski patrol at Heavenly over the weekend, and was able to work directly with our crews on a call, which he stated was a wonderful experience.

Vice Chairperson Grant commented that she attended the Regional Fire Academy graduation on March 17, and thanked Office Manager Warner and Administrative Assistant Allison for their event coordination. They were instrumental in keeping things organized and moving along, and it was a very nice occasion.

6. Approval of the Consent Calendar.

Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes 02/22/17
- b. Monthly Expenditures
- c. Financials – 10/31/16

Trustee Schussel motioned to approve the Consent Calendar, with Item a as corrected. Trustee Kjer seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

7. For Possible Action: Consent items moved forward.

None.

8. For Discussion and Possible Action:

Discussion and possible approval of an Investment Policy for the Post-Retirement Trust that memorializes the past practices as recommended by our auditors.

Fire Chief Scott Baker

During the 2015 Post-Retirement Trust (PRT) audit, our auditors pointed out that we should have an investment policy in writing. We currently follow state law, and the policy will memorialize what we have been doing.

Trustee Felton noted in the second paragraph of the policy, it states that all interest, earnings, dividends and distributions will remain in the fund, which is what we have done to date. He asked if it is possible to change this if we are overfunded, and although we can't get back our principal, is it possible to get any of the money in excess of what we need back. Legal Counsel Reese responded that he does not think so. The trust document is irrevocable. He will look into it to confirm.

Trustee Felton commented that in the interest of our shareholders of our District, if we end up overfunded, we would like to not compound that. Legal Counsel Reese responded that the Trust is administered outside the agency, so we will have to look at the direct documents.

Chief Baker explained that there are ongoing expenditures throughout the year. These would decrease if we were overfunded because we won't be funding those expenditures once we reach our goal.

Trustee Felton asked about the last statement of policy, which says "...there are no requests for money transfers for expenditures for retirement benefits." He asked for clarification that the District is currently paying insurance benefits and operational expenses until the Trust is fully funded, and then we will update the policy. Legal Counsel Reese and Chief Baker confirmed.

Trustee Schussel motioned to approve the Post-Retirement Plan and Trust Investment Policy in agreement with the PRT Board Trustees. Vice Chairperson Grant seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

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| 9. For Discussion and Possible Action: | Discussion and possible approval of the Fire Flow Initiative Implementation Plan to accept funding and approve the purchase of the fire boat, not to exceed \$500,000.
Fire Chief Scott Baker |
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Chief Baker thanked guests Gary Midkiff, Rich McGuffin, Stewart Campbell, and Gary Smith for attending the meeting.

In May 2016, the previous chief and the Board of Trustees authorized the District to look at costs for a fire boat to address fire flow deficiencies.

The District held a preliminary meeting in September 2016 with homeowners to address fire flow issues, and then came to the board with the idea to research a plan, consider engineering costs, and possible funding. In October 2016, the District held a homeowners meeting with Pittman Terrace to discuss a homeowner who was putting in a pump and the options that were available to those residents.

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) approved public safety piers in the lake in Incline, South Lake, and the west shore.

With the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, the District is attempting to push forward with a permanent fire flow solution from this funding. Forester Pickett and Fire Marshal Guevin have been working with Steve Teshara for funding, and the first priority will be fixing the water system in Cave Rock.

Fire flow deficiencies have been an issue on multiple occasions. In February and December of 2016, we responded to fires in areas where significant fire flow was needed.

In August 2016, our crews rescued four victims from the lake at night, which our current boat was not well equipped for. The Tahoe Queen fire was another event where the District could have benefitted from a better equipped fire boat. In addition to emergency response, our boat is also used during special events like the Polar Plunge and the Fourth of July each year.

Fire Flow is required for Certificate of Occupancy at 1,500 gallons per minute for 30 minutes. The business plan includes requirements prorated for square footage less than 3,600.

Underserved areas are the areas where there is inadequate or no water available for firefighting operations. These areas can connect to existing water systems, but it is impossible at the moment. The current options for residents in these areas are to install a fire pump and standpipe system or participate in the FFI program.

Recently in Cedarbrook, a resident installed a diesel pump that draws from the lake. This took a long time and a lot of requirements to complete.

While there are many options for fire pumps, the amount of requirements and permits that need to be met for it to serve as sufficient fire flow is significant.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if there is a limit on the amount of water that people who pump directly from the lake can use.

Fire Marshal Guevin responded that the Nevada Division of Wildlife has approved these pumps for fire flow use only. These pumps cannot be used for domestic purposes. However, the District can use whatever we need for fire protection and emergency purposes.

Currently in the district, there are 128 existing non-compliant residences affected by insufficient fire flow, not including un-built lots/parcels. Over time, all 128 residences will have to come into compliance as homes are remodeled.

Trustee Felton asked how many residences have put in local solutions.

Fire Marshal Guevin responded that there are six, but three of them are currently failing, including Pittman Terrace. The Skyland pump on Forest Service property also failed. The pump on Yellow Jacket in Glenbrook only puts out 50 gallons per minute, which is an insufficient system.

Trustee Felton asked if those six are included in the 128 non-compliant properties.

Fire Marshal Guevin responded that they are all included except the property on Yellow Jacket. Yellow Jacket was an area of deficiency that we didn't initially expect, and we don't have a plan for that as of right now.

The Fire Engineer Report identified fire flow deficiencies and suggested a combination solution of the fire boat, fire sprinkler systems and a monitored fire alarm system in each residence, and water tenders. Crews have been running water tender drills, and have discovered that the use of water tenders alone is not fast enough for life safety fire suppression.

Trustee Schussel asked how many standpipes would be needed, as well as how many houses each standpipe would fuel.

Chief Baker responded that the code states that a residence has to be within 600 feet of an existing standpipe. Pittman Terrace is asking for an easement on county property for the standpipe, and the county has a program that will keep track of the money used. As people need to use the standpipe, they would pay into the county program and the original investors would get some of their money back. Not everyone would have or would be able to have a standpipe. The fire boat could be used to address the areas that won't have standpipe access.

Trustee Schussel asked if a residence would have to put in a standpipe at their own expense if it was outside the 600 foot radius of an existing standpipe.

Chief Baker responded that yes, it is part of the agreement, and they would be paying for it.

Trustee Schussel asked who would be responsible for testing the standpipes.

Fire Marshal Guevin responded that the county is responsible, but the District crews can test them as part of our regular training. They will have a drain in them, so we would just have to flush them out, which we would likely do as annual training. Code requires us to flow water every five years, but we would more than likely exercise them annually.

Chief Baker explained that the main goal of the FFI program is to expand the capabilities of the Fire District to provide fire flow in underserved areas and expand emergency response capabilities. It would also be beneficial to cut down on the different types of systems that are

being installed in the district and the different service requirements and operations that come with each different system.

Because multi-agency permitting is necessary for individual pumps, the number of permits required for systems is extensive.

Fire Boat

Capabilities:

- 1,500 gallons per minute
- Skyhook anchoring system – virtual anchor
- Joy stick piloting
- Navigation
- Sonar
- Forward Looking Infrared Rader (FLIR) – helpful for night rescues
- Can plot out high hazard areas
- 45 mph – faster response time
- Low draft – can anchor on the beach and connect to standpipes

We are using boat manufacturer Lake Assault at the recommendation of Fallen Leaf Lake Fire. They purchased their boat from Lake Assault and reported that their needs were judiciously designed into the specifications, and they have gotten exactly what they need for their district, which mirrors our needs. Lake Assault is out of the Great Lakes, which helps them equip boats to handle severe weather. They are also the sole source of the Skyhook anchoring system.

Gary Smith – Lake Assault

Trustee Kjer asked how many personnel are required to run the boat.

Smith responded that it takes at least two, but typically a minimum of three is desired.

Smith explained that the Skyhook digital anchoring system and joystick steering are tremendous safety features when personnel don't operate this type of equipment on a daily basis. These features take a lot of the difficulty of maneuvering the boat out of the situation. The boat has 500 horsepower, requiring a lot of skill and experience to control. The joystick dumbs it down, and allows the operator to control the throttle and steering with the same device.

The boat is equipped with two joystick locations: in the wheelhouse and at the bow of the boat for visibility right in front of the boat. It is also equipped with a hydraulic bow door that can lift people out of the water.

The Skyhook digital anchoring system will keep the boat in the same place, even when flowing water, which would normally push the boat backwards at approximately 10 mph. This allows the crew to be available to do tasks other than manually keeping the boat in one place.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if Lake Assault does the maintenance or if they have local companies do it.

Smith responded that any local marina can handle most of the work, and warranty work can be completed through any local providers that we would normally use. The fire pumps on the boat can be maintained by anyone who maintains them now.

Chairman Kirschner asked how long it takes to build one of these boats.

Smith responded that Lake Assault is expecting four big orders in April 2017, so if we order the boat by the end of April, we can expect it to be delivered by October 2017. Lake Assault will build over sixty of these boats this year.

Fire Marshal Guevin commented that the timing for ordering and delivery is the reason the District is proposing the approval of the FFI program. There is a fire show in Lake Tahoe in October, and we hope to take delivery at that time to help save cost since Lake Assault will be attending that fire show.

Smith explained that a lot of thought has gone into the design of this boat, including considerations for monitors, capacities, technologies, and location of all equipment on the boat. The FLIR is able to pick up a heat signature over 3,400-4,000 feet away, even if it is just a person's head above the water. The radar/sonar helps when visibility is reduced because it can route the boat to a location automatically, avoiding high hazard areas that are mapped into the navigation. There will be two twelve inch screens in the wheelhouse to be able to look at all different technologies on either or both screens at the same time.

Lake Assault will go through item-by-item and every specification with our staff to make sure the boat is custom designed and engineered to meet our exact needs.

Chairman Kirschner commented that this would act as a dual purpose boat for fire and search and rescue, and it would be a great asset to have in our area. Coast Guard vessels don't have near the equipment and technology that we would have.

Smith responded that the Coast Guard can also be hesitant to go out on some missions.

Trustee Kirschner commented that it may be possible that the Coast Guard could ask us to use our equipment for a mission for them, and they will reimburse the District for the cost of the mission.

Trustee Kjer asked if training is included in the cost of the boat.

Smith responded that a minimum of three days training is included upon delivery. They will conduct both daytime and nighttime training on all features and basic vessel operations. The training can be longer than three days if needed.

Chairman Kirschner commented that the Coast Guard was not qualified to operate at night last year due to a lack of training, so we would be the only agency capable of nighttime response.

Chief Baker explained that our current water tender remains in service, which is a 1992 manual transmission that we would like to update.

The current pier at Zephyr Cove is under agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and Aramark. A new Public Safety Pier has been approved, and it will be a partnership with other agencies with cost sharing.

Trustee Schussel asked where the pier will be.

Chief Baker responded that it will likely be at the Dryfus Estate. The Forest Service plans to tear the house down, and this is a good location because of the break water, paved driveway, and controlled access.

Fire Marshal Guevin commented that the ideal thing is there is piling from a previous pier that was already at the estate, which TRPA likes. The county manager was excited about the location because they are paying rent at the Tahoe Keys, and they would like to be able to have a quicker response from the East side of the lake. Aramark is excited about having a service/backup pier.

Chairman Kirschner asked what the response time would be.

Chief Antti responded that the pier would be directly across the street from station 24. There would be no traffic to deal with since it is controlled access. It would be a lot faster than our current response time because we are trailering the boat.

Chief Baker commented that the first-in unit will still go directly to the structure for life safety and the closest next-in unit will respond to the boat.

The cost of the boat, training, and equipment is expected to be \$500,000. Continuing costs are expected to be around \$7,500 for maintenance, fuel, and training because we will have it on the lake year-round. The cost of the water tender is to be determined. The total cost of the public safety pier is \$250,000, but it will be split amongst several agencies.

The purpose of the program is to provide alternate means for homeowners to meet fire flow requirements. This will be done per lot/parcel served. New construction will require a \$75,000 fee plus a standpipe system. For construction smaller than 3,600 square feet, the cost is prorated at \$20 per square foot. Fire sprinkler and monitoring systems will be required in all homes.

Funding

We have cash in hand of \$525,000. The original goal number was \$750,000, but the public safety pier changes things since we will be splitting the cost. We need to have a program in

place for homeowners to buy into. We would like to take the initiative to create the program and have it available for them to participate in. More residents will be remodeling in the coming years, so the money will be coming in the future.

The State Taxation Department recommended that we create a separate fund for the monies for the boat. Today, there is only a motion to approve the program, and the board will be asked to approve a resolution to create the fund in the future. There is a difference between donations and fee for service. Donations given to the Fire District are given with no direction, whereas fee for service is giving money directly into the fund for the purpose the fund is designated for.

Chairman Kirschner asked if the fund would be for charitable donation. Chief Baker responded that the donation just goes to the Fire District, and the fund would just separate the money.

Trustee Schussel asked if the money coming in for the FFI program would be separate from the Fire District money and budget. Chief Baker confirmed.

Trustee Schussel asked how long the boat should last. Smith responded that these boats are very well built, and if maintained properly, it should last a minimum of 20 years. The boat will be specifically built for our conditions and needs.

Trustee Schussel asked if the fund will continue so that we can purchase another boat at the time that this boat is no longer usable. Chief Baker responded that we anticipate that as the 128 non-compliant properties rebuild and pay in the \$75,000 fee, this will be a capital fund that should provide for that. We are continuing to press hard for the permanent solution of infrastructure. He personally can't guarantee that the future funding wouldn't fall on the District.

Vice Chairperson Grant motioned to approve the Fire Flow Initiative Implementation Plan as represented in the board packet. Trustee Kjer seconded the motion.

Trustee Felton asked what it generally costs homeowners to put in individual fire pump systems. Fire Marshal Guevin responded that it is generally around \$300,000. This program is allowing homeowners a solution for \$75,000, plus the cost of the standpipe.

Trustee Felton asked if we anticipate the need to increase staffing levels to have enough people to man the boat. Chief Baker responded that we don't anticipate the need to increase staffing. We can call for mutual aid in situations where we need increased personnel.

Chief Antti commented that there is a great dependence on mutual aid agreements, and we will always be somewhat dependent on help from our neighboring agencies. There may be a need for fine-tuning or training for these agreements, and Chief Jones is meeting with our neighboring agencies to coordinate training. In an area we would need the boat to respond to, it would be TDFPD personnel manning the boat and the mutual aid filling in at stations or in their original capacities on scene.

Trustee Felton asked what percentage of residences we would be able to hit directly with the water flow from the boat.

Chief Antti responded most of them, especially the conference ground and areas with limited access.

Trustee Felton asked about the time in between when the FFI program is initiated and when the boat and other equipment would arrive, in which homeowners would be depending on us for fire protection that we can't provide without the FFI program.

Chief Baker responded that the homeowners are all aware of it, and it is in the agreement. The time we are expecting is 18 months.

Trustee Schussel asked if that meant that homeowners could not get a Certificate of Occupancy until October.

Fire Marshal Guevin responded that we would authorize occupancy if they have provided the other measures and signed the agreement. They will need a fire sprinkler and monitored alarm system, and we have our current water tender. It will not be any different than the current status of the other homes there. They will be required to provide fire flow during construction.

Trustee Felton commented that he would like to see us pursue the long term solution of getting hydrants in the ground.

Chief Baker responded that this is a 20-30 year gap, but we are aware of the need for a permanent solution.

Trustee Felton commented he would like to see us pursue state or federal grants to fund the program rather than people who own property in the area. He asked if there are agencies that have come forward to fund boats in other areas.

Smith responded that all states are different, but Homeland Security and Port Authority could have possible funding.

Trustee Felton asked if the Coast Guard would provide funding.

Smith responded that it is possible, and we would need to research both California and Nevada, but a lot of boats are funded that way.

Trustee Felton commented that the grant process is not very fast, so we need a plan to fund the program without grants, but he would like us to pursue grants to take the burden off the community.

Legal Counsel Reese responded that the point of his and Chief Baker's trips to Washington D.C. every year is to meet with congressional delegations about our needs. Our agency may be in need of grant writing personnel. Chief Baker and Legal Counsel Reese will be in D.C. this year to try to identify funds for this program or for a long term solution, as will North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District. We are coordinating efforts and trying to identify grant dollars with other chiefs in the area.

Trustee Felton asked if it would push our case to say we can't afford the FFI program without government help, or if it is a weaker case if we are asking for reimbursement after we have already paid for the program.

Legal Counsel Reese responded that homeowners want to solve the problem of not having fire flow in their area, and it is not comparatively the same thing.

Chief Baker commented that we still want the money to come in to fund the rest of the plan in the future. Forester Pickett is currently working on SNPLMA grant funding.

Trustee Felton asked the scope of the fund and what it includes.

Chief Baker responded that it will cover anything related to getting fire flow in underserved areas.

Fire Marshal Guevin commented that the US Forest Service has funding for the public safety pier as part of a partnership agreement. We can pursue funding here too. Different components of the program can be funded in different ways.

Trustee Kjer thanked the District for all the work involved in the FFI program. It is clear that staff has done thorough and extensive research. He also thanked the homeowners who have been patient while we have been putting together a plan.

Chief Baker thanked the Fire Prevention office, Office Manager Warner, Accounting Specialist Nolting, Forester Pickett, and Assistant Chief Antti for their contributions.

Motion approved 5-0.

10. Presentation: Discussion of the FY 2017-2018 Tentative Budget. No action will be taken.
Fire Chief Scott Baker

Some of the changes in our tentative budget will be changes in wages and benefits in accordance with the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. It will also include the addition of FFI funds. There will be enterprise adjustment funds and solutions to help with the audit later on. It will also include increases in special services funding for training.

The Tentative Budget will be filed with the state April 15, and will be presented to the Board in May for a vote. Former Chief Sharit has been consulting on the budget for the historical and state sections.

11. Presentation: Discussion of renewal of an Interlocal Contract with the Nevada Division of Forestry in the amount of \$120,000 for two years for the NDF Wildfire Protection Program.
Fire Chief Scott Baker

In 2013, the Board approved an agreement with the Nevada Division of Forestry for \$60,000 per year for two years for automatic aid. The agreement was renewed in 2015 for the same cost. It was proposed to renew again for the same cost, with some verbiage changes.

It will be business as usual for our particular project, and we plan to do continual renewals.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if we have collected a lot of funds from NDF since we have not had any big wildland fires recently.

Chief Baker responded that we did have NDF crews helping us during the weather event, and there may be a day we get our money out of it.

12. Presentation: Discussion of Intrastate Interlocal Contract – Department of Health and Human Services for Medicaid Transport Reimbursements.
Fire Chief Scott Baker

We have a contract for Ground Emergency Medical Transport (GEMT) with Medicaid that will increase our reimbursement for transport of Medicaid patients. We have a fee schedule currently, and the Northern Nevada Chiefs lobbied at the state to secure federal Medicaid dollars that come into the state. State Medicaid has set up the GEMT program for us and provided a cost analysis. Based on our cost of overhead, vehicles, supplies, and personnel, we will get more money back. We will have to pay for a third party auditor, but the cost will be shared with other agencies in the state. Staff met with a GEMT consultant who gave a lesson on how GEMT was formed and how to weigh cost versus reimbursement. We are expecting at least \$30,000 reimbursement on top of what we put in.

The District won't be getting 100% of our transportation costs reimbursed, but it will be a greater percentage than what we are currently receiving. Accounting Specialist Nolting has been updating our cost analysis, but we will have to be a part of the program before we understand how it will affect us.

Chief Moss commented that legislators are making a lot of changes to the program, so it is not ironed out entirely as of yet, but our reimbursement will be greater than the current reimbursement going through the regular insurance company.

Chief Baker explained that we are gathering data back to 2015, and the third party audit is a big part of this process. He is confident with this program and the District will get it signed and started as soon as possible.

Trustee Felton asked if this is an intrastate program that is covered across borders. Chief Moss responded yes, it is covered through Medi-Cal. The cost is based on where the patient resides. California is participating in the same program, so there is reciprocity.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if costs would be covered by Medi-Cal if we transport a visitor who resides in California.

Accounting Specialist Nolting responded yes, we bill their insurance.

Trustee Felton commented that this is wonderful news, and the Board has talked about getting appropriate reimbursements for a long time.

13. Report Item: Review of Monthly Fire District Activities.
Fire Chief Scott Baker

Chief Baker thanked everyone who supported the St. Baldrick's event in Carson City on March 17, especially B Shift. We have raised \$1,390 so far, and we expect money will keep coming in. Chief Baker was impressed with the support and thanked Engineer Johnson and all other Local 2441 employees involved in putting on the event.

Chief Baker recognized the following employees years of service:

- Captain Cranch, Captain Lucas, and FF/P Kynett – 13 years of service
- Captain Peterson – 12 years of service
- Captain Zabel – 9 years of service
- Engineer Johnson – 7 years of service
- Captain Morgan – 5 years of service
- Engineer Darr, Engineer Sanders, FF/P Baker, FF/P Hamann, FF/P McDonald, FF/P Norwood, FF/P Pruitt, FF/P Robidart, FF Arrate, and FF Serrano – 4 years of service

FF/P Vizzusi has passed his 12 month probationary test and Chief Baker presented him with his helmet shield.

Chief Baker introduced FF/P Bean, our newest recruit, who graduated from the Regional Fire Academy on March 17. He was the valedictorian of the recruit class and the chief motivational speaker.

The Nevada Legislature update has quite a few AB and SBs coming up. Legal Counsel Reese's letter is very thorough.

The Service Awards and Promotional Reception at the Ridge Tahoe will be in May.

Staff is working to quantify the Board Goals and Objectives that Vice Chairperson Grant and Trustee Felton worked on. We will pass them on soon.

There were 45 new applicants for the 2017 Zephyr Crew. Interviews will be conducted at the end of March.

Chief Baker attended an Insurance Symposium in Anaheim. He came out with a lot of questions for our broker and learned a lot.

CD investments with the Bank of Baroda, Bank of China, and Bank of India reached maturity of \$200,000 and have been re-invested. Interest rates are continuing to go up.

County workshops on the water systems are going on and we are staying involved. The focus is on updating infrastructure issues.

Chief Baker thanked Steve Teshara, Forester Pickett, and Fire Marshal Guevin for working hard to keep legislators aware of the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act.

The District is expecting another Regional Fire Academy in the fall. We are currently short one medic, and we anticipate that if we don't hire a fully qualified employee, we will participate in the academy.

Carson City Fire Department has been conducting Chief interviews, and have hired Chief Slamon out of Modesto. They will be conducting Engineer, Captain, and Battalion Chief interviews in the near future. Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District is hiring a Deputy Chief, and we will be assisting with their selection process.

The District has received a report from the insurance broker on the District's insurance utilization. Last year, we were at 110% utilization, which means the claims paid amount was 10% more than what we paid in premiums. Chief Baker thanked Office Manager Warner and Engineer Darr for their work on this.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if the District is receiving an award for the HeartSafe program. Chief Baker responded that he was not aware of it.

13. Report Item: Review of Fire District Division Reports.
Assistant Chief Jim Antti
Forester John Pickett

Antti

The Douglas County Communications Center received certification for emergency fire dispatch, making them the first in the state. They were also the first in the state to be emergency medical certified. This is due to the quality of information from callers and the ability of the dispatchers to translate the information into a response from us. They scored in the 90th percentile for success. Many years of hard work have gone into this. Congratulations to the Communications Center.

The District purchased *IncidentView*, and we are working to get it turned into an electronic map book. This program allows calls to come in directly to iPads in the units with dispatch information, pre-planning, routing, and hydrants/standpipes.

The new Type I engine is in production. On April 4, a crew will be sent to Ferrara for pre-paint inspection and two weeks later for a final inspection. We are expecting delivery before the end of April, but we will need time to outfit the engine and train the crews. It will be approximately a month after delivery before it is in service.

The Engineer's Academy continues. The Engineer's Test will be the second week of May. We are expecting 10-14 personnel to take the test. Chief Antti thanked Chief Jones for coordinating the Academy.

Chief Moss has been appointed to the Homeland Security Working Group, which means he will be sitting on the panel that decides the fate for grant funding coming into the state.

Pickett

The National Cohesive Wildfire Management Policy has been decided on by all agencies as a policy of wildfire management. Every area is working to restore and maintain landscapes using grant funding.

The Lake Tahoe Restoration Act has been signed into law for \$415 million, of which \$150 million has been allocated for wildland fire mitigation and critical water infrastructure for the improvement of wildland fire response.

A \$2.4 million recommendation for appropriation has been made to Congress, which we hope to get for the Cave Rock water system.

The Southern Nevada wildland management grant for fuels reduction is coming in. Fuels reduction money from the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act is not as important as water grants.

Steve Teshara has been working hard to secure funding.

Funding of \$150,000 has been dedicated to fire districts that have dedicated funding to defensible space evaluation programs for inspections and enforcements. We are the only fire district that has this. Because we have dedicated funding, we would be the highest priority district to get that funding.

CALFire is developing a data collector app for defensible space inspection data. This will allow crews to do inspections directly on the iPads, and allows the inspection report to be emailed to the homeowner. Using this app, we will have data to show what areas are in compliance, what areas are not, where our money is being spent, and what the benefit of the money spent has been.

Vice Chairperson Grant asked if the \$2.4 million for Cave Rock water systems would include the small pipes issues in Skyland.

Forester Pickett responded that the funding would only be used for the Cave Rock water system because of its dire need. We recognize the need for work in other areas as well, but we need to address Cave Rock first.

Vice Chairperson Grant said that Inspector Stroup mentioned the Cave Rock system possibly collapsing at the county water meeting last night.

Forester Pickett responded that the system is likely to fail in different ways. If water is pumped through the system, it will collapse the pipe. Once water is pumped through the system and is stopped, it can cause a spike in pressure that will blow out the pipe. Any kind of hammering will blow out the pipe. If the pipe is blown out, it will wash out the road and cause major problems. Cave Rock system renovation will be first priority, and other systems will follow. We are the only district that needs that priority category.

Thanks to former chiefs Guy LeFever and Mark Novak for putting together the committee for the consistent funding for Defensible Space Evaluation that puts the District in this position.

Chairman Kirschner thanked Forester Pickett for all the hard work and for getting this funding for the District.

13. Discussion: Confirm next meeting, with a proposed date of Wednesday April 26th, 2017 with a start time of 2:30 p.m. and possible agenda items.

Meeting confirmed for Wednesday, April 26th, 2017 with a start time of 2:30 p.m. in the Station 23 classroom.

Possible agenda items are the Board Goals & Objectives.

Adjourn.

Trustee Schussel motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairperson Grant seconded the motion. Motion approved 5-0.

Closed Session: Not needed at this meeting.

**Erin Allison
Board Secretary
Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District**

APPROVED