

East Fork Fire Protection District

OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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East Fork Fire Protection District Receives Clean Audit

Minden – The East Fork Fire Protection District, in its sixth year standing on its own, received a clean audit report from the District’s independent auditors for the fiscal year of 2021/2022. Under Nevada Revised Statute 354.624, government entities are required to submit an annual audit of its financial statements which must be presented in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and audited by independent certified public accountants. The professional accounting firm of Sciarani and Company, who specialize in local government auditing, prepared and presented the audit to the Board at the Board’s regular meeting on December 21, 2020. In the audit presentation, it was identified that all funds are being used expressly for the purposes for which they were created and that they were administered in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. There were no audit violations or findings.

The auditing firm noted that there has been a significant increased interest in the internal control systems of governmental entities in response to public perception that weaknesses are leading to inefficient and/or inappropriate use of public funds. This resulted in changes in the way auditor’s must assess and report on an auditee’s internal control system. The Governmental Auditing Standards, published by the Comptroller General of the United States, require audits of financial statements to now include a more in-depth assessment and report of internal accounting controls. Consequently, local governments can expect to see more scrutiny placed on their control systems as the standards evolve and are implemented.

The District was not mandated to conduct a special audit of Federal Funds this year, as they did not hit the \$750,000 threshold. The District also saw its first ever SAFER Grant come to a successful close. The SAFER Grant allowed the District to hire an additional four positions three years ago, contingent that the organization would fully absorb the cost when the grant closed.

District Chief Tod Carlini complimented the districts’ administrative staff and CFO Kathy Lewis, CPA, for their efforts in managing the districts’ finances and accounting. This was the second audit received under Ms. Lewis’s direction. The stand-alone audit is very transparent and follows the primary funds under the District’s authority.

Chief Carlini also acknowledged the work of the auditors and thanked them for their services and for the professional manner in which the audit was conducted, finishing up a month early.

The Board of Directors approved the audit in a 5 -0 vote.

The District budget is the third largest budget in Douglas County, behind Douglas County Government and the Douglas County School District. The current year budget for the East Fork Fire Protection District is now over \$25,000,000 and supports a staff of 105 personnel and 70 volunteers, responding to over 7,000 calls for service and covering 675 square miles, or 96% of Douglas County.