

## **APPROVED**

The Board Meeting of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board was held on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, in-person and virtually, beginning at 1:00 PM.

### **East Fork Fire Protection District Board Present:**

John Bellona, President, District 1  
Barbara Griffin, Director, District 2  
Bernard Curtis, Director, District 3  
Nathan Leising, Director, District 4  
Mike Sommers, Secretary, District 5

### **Staff:**

Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief  
Larry Goss, Deputy Chief of Business Management  
Amy Ray, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal  
Michael Shockey, Deputy Chief of Emergency Operations  
Holly Megee, Director of Administrative Services  
Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO  
Mark Forsberg, District Legal Counsel  
Erica Amatore, Clerk to the Board

### **Additional attendees that addressed the Board:**

Elaine Pace, EFFPD Volunteer Liaison  
Adam Wennhold, EFFPD Engineer  
Kevin May, IAFF Union President (online)  
Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance Representative  
Barbara Benz, EFFPD Volunteer  
Chris Lang, EFFPD Volunteer Liaison

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Board President John Bellona

## **INITIAL MEETING BUSINESS**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Barbara Griffin led the Pledge of Allegiance

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (No Action)**

**At this time, public comment will be taken on those items that are within the jurisdiction and control of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors or those agenda items where public comment will not be taken as a public hearing is not legally required.**

**Public Comment may be limited to three minutes per speaker, which will be decided by Board President or other presiding officers in his/her absence. If you are going to comment on a specific agenda item that the East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors will act on, please**

**make your comments when the item is considered and is open for public comment.**

**For members of the public not able to be present when an item on the agenda is heard, Speaker/Comment Cards are available in the lobby at the entrance to the meeting room. These cards should be completed and given to the District Fire Chief or designee.**

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA**

The Administrative Calendar handled as follows:

1. The President will read the agenda title into the public record.
2. Staff will introduce the item and provide a report, if any.
3. The applicant, if any, will have an opportunity to address the Board.
4. The Board will then discuss the item. Once the Board has concluded their discussion, public comment will be allowed.
5. Public comment will be allowed and is limited to three minutes per speaker.
6. Once public comment is completed, the Board will then ask any follow-up questions and act.

Agenda items listed as a “presentation” with no action listed, public comment is not legally required and must be made at the beginning of the meeting.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**1. For Possible Action. Approval of proposed agenda. The East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors reserves the right to take items in a different order to accomplish business in the most efficient manner, to combine two or more agenda items for consideration, and to remove items from the agenda or delay discussion relating to items on the agenda. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the meeting agenda for June 17, 2025.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Mike Sommers
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

## **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**2. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to approve the draft meeting minutes of the April 15, 2025, meeting of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

President John Bellona opened public comment.

Director Griffin, second by Director Curtis moved to correct a misstatement in the motion approving the budget that was made at the May meeting of the Board. The correct amount of the budget approved in May is \$29,340,811.

Legal Council Mark Forsberg stated he agreed with Director Griffin, and this would be an appropriate action to take.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to correct the May 20, 2025 Board meeting minutes on item #12 to reflect the amount of the budget, which was \$29,340,811 and approve the draft meeting minutes of the May 20, 2025 meeting of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Barbara Griffin
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSTAIN:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Items appearing on the Consent Calendar are items that can be adopted with one motion unless an item is pulled by a District Director or a member of the public. Members of the public who wish to have a consent item placed on the Administrative Agenda shall make that request during the public comment section at the beginning of the meeting and specifically state why they are making the request. When items are pulled**

**for discussion, they will automatically be placed at the beginning of the Administrative Agenda or may be continued until another meeting. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

**Motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items A-H**

**FINANCE**

- A. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to accept the report on general ledger cash balances as of May 30, 2025. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- B. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to approve the receipt and filing of the list of accounts payable checks issued and cash disbursements/automatic withdrawals in May 2025 per NRS 474.210. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- C. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to approve payroll expenses paid in May 2025 per NRS 474.210. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- D. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to approve the Procurement Card Transactions paid for in May 2025 per NRS 474.210. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- E. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to approve the East Fork Fire Protection District's ambulance billing bad debt write-offs for the period of March 2025 in the amount of \$117,330.50. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- F. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to accept the report on state consolidated taxes collection and distribution as of March 2025. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO)
- G. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to allow the District's Administration to extend the services of Brad Driscoll, an independent contractor, to serve as a Division Chief/Risk Manager for an additional twelve-month period at a cost not to exceed \$132,756 and to allow a month-by-month extension after the first twelve-month period at a monthly cost not to exceed \$10,948 per month plus \$115 cell phone stipend, and to authorize the District Fire Chief to execute all the necessary documents and contracts. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief)
- H. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to approve a five-year (5-year) fee-for-service contract with Alpine County, California, for the provision of Advanced Life Support (ALS) Emergency Medical Services provided by East Fork Fire. The contract will take effect at the start of the

25/26 Fiscal Year, beginning July 1, 2025, and will extend through June 30, 2030. The agreement includes a base annual fee of \$120,787, with a 6% annual increase applied each year for the duration of the contract. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief)

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve Consent Calendar items 3 a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Barbara Griffin
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**4. For Presentation Only. Discussion to staff regarding legislation or legislative issues proposed by legislators or by other entities permitted by the Nevada State Legislature to submit bill draft requests, or such legislative issues that may impact the East Fork Fire Protection District as may be deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief) 10 minutes.**

A slide show Power Point presentation was prepared by Adam Wennhold, East Fork Fire Engineer.

Adam Wennhold, East Fork Fire Engineer, presented the following:

#### LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

How did it go?

- 31 bills tracked
- 14 failed to pass
- 17 passed, 4 of which are not directly applicable

Top 7 bills tracked:

1. **AB64: Revising NRS 241** - Changes to Public Meetings and the Open Meeting Law

❖ Key Points:

- Receiving and deliberating on attorney-client privileged legal advice does NOT constitute a "meeting"

- Most public meetings require a physical location for the meeting for public attendance and participation even if offered online
- A witness, testifying under oath, may publish defamatory matter as part of a public meeting
- Effective October 1, 2025

2. **AB102: Revising NRS 439.410, 450b** - Changes to EMS Certification, Accreditation and Training

❖ Key Points:

- Northern Nevada Public Health (Washoe County) is allowed to create its own EMS regulation structure for individual certification and agency accreditation; but not required to
- The minimum age for EMT certification and ambulance attendant's license is 16 years old
- An EMT student who does not have an attendant's license may ride in an ambulance to observe, but not provide any patient care
- Effective July 1, 2025

3. **AB444: Revising NRS 233b & NRS 237** - Changes to the Process for Adopting Regulations

❖ Key Points:

- Notify the local chamber of commerce and/or relevant trade associations as part of the adoption process
- Include these groups in the Business Impact Statement
- Maintain an electronic mailing list of chambers of commerce, trade associations, and owners & officers of businesses
- Provide copies of notice to chambers of commerce, trade associations, and impacted businesses
- Effective October 1, 2025

4. **SB25 revising NRS 472 & 477** - Changes to NV State Fire Marshal and NDF Powers & Duties

❖ Key Points:

- State Fire Marshall no longer responsible for wildfire response, prevention, or training; Duties passed to NDF
- SFM (or its designee i.e. East Fork Fire) must investigate:
  - ◆ All fires over \$2 million in losses
  - ◆ Any fire resulting in injury or death
  - ◆ Any fire suspicious in nature
- SFM (or its designee i.e. East Fork Fire) must inspect cannabis production facilities
- Effective May 28, 2025



5. **SB69: Revising NRS 360** - Offsetting the Cost of Providing Services to Businesses Receiving Tax Credits

❖ Key Points:

- The County or City leads the negotiation process for all districts
- The County must not charge the district for negotiation services
- Minimum of \$1 billion project size to qualify (Redwood Materials, Tesla)
- May negotiate up to 10% of tax abetment or actual cost of services (whichever is less)
- Documents from negotiations are not public records nor are meetings public
- Effective October 1, 2025

6. **SB170: Revising NRS 617** - Requirements for Fire/Police Physicals

❖ Key Points:

- Does not distinguish between paid and volunteer firefighters
- All cancer screenings must be paid by the employer
- Extensive list of required examinations and tests
- APRN can now sign physicals along with MD/DO
- Effective July 1, 2026

District Fire Chief Ernst clarified that East Fork Fire is mandated by the state to provide the same physical exams and tests to both career and volunteer firefighters.

7. **SB376: Revising NRS 617** - Allowing a Member with a Heart/Lung Work Compensation Claim to Seek Treatment Outside of the State Approved Provider List

❖ Key Points:

- There are often few or no specialty providers on the state approved Work Comp provider list
- This will allow a member to seek specialty care outside the list if there are less than 12 providers statewide
- Must be "in network" of the member employer's insurance
- Initially paid by member or member's personal insurance then reimbursed by the Work Comp administrator
- Effective October 1, 2025, and retroactive for open claims

President John Bellona asked what the status is on the bills that the governor has not signed yet.

Engineer Adam Wennhold stated on the updated Legislative handout he provided it shows all the bills have now been signed; the last day to take action was on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary Mike Sommers asked if SB137 will require any changes in the District's SOG's for the volunteers that are certified in CPR and responding to EMS calls.

Engineer Wennhold noted he doesn't believe so. He thinks the intent of SB137 is to allow the community to receive notifications, such as Pulse Point, to provide standby CPR if needed.

Chief Ernst stated the District has no requirement for the volunteers to have a CPR certification. He noted they are to act as a citizen, and they would fall under the Good Samaritan Law.

Director Barbara Griffin asked Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg if he saw anything significant with the bill pertaining to the Open Meeting Law that would affect the District.

Legal Counsel Forsberg noted he doesn't see any concern at all.

Director Griffin noted Douglas County has always gone above and beyond complying with the Open Meeting Law and the same philosophy carried over to the District.

Legal Counsel Forsberg agreed and stated he hasn't seen any violations with the District since becoming independent from Douglas County.

Chief Ernst commended Engineer Wennhold on his efforts researching and tracking the Legislative Bills and compiling them for presentation. He is very appreciative of his work.

**5. For Presentation Only. Budget Summary for month ending May 2025. (Julie Andress, Director of Finance/CFO) 5 minutes.**

Director of Finance/CFO Julie Andress stated:

- The District is 91% through the current fiscal year
- Revenue is currently on track; still waiting for the GEMT money to be deposited before year-end
- Expenditures: current capital outlay shows a payment secured for the ambulance remount and is not reflected in the current report
- Some of the additional capital outlay items will be rolled into next fiscal year

Secretary Sommers asked if an augment would need to take place within the next two weeks based on the capital outlay report.

Director of Finance/CFO Andress stated she does not foresee the need for an augmentation, and she is finishing up the projection of year-end balances.



Secretary Sommers confirmed with Director of Finance/CFO Address that once the GEMT payment is deposited, the District will be at the goal for this fiscal year.

Director of Finance/CFO Address noted that was correct.

President Bellona asked Director of Finance/CFO Address if GEMT funds are always deposited this close to the end of the fiscal year.

Director of Finance/CFO Address stated yes.

Secretary Sommers asked if the budget report reflected the amount the District has identified to receive.

Director of Finance/CFO Address stated yes, the amount of the GEMT funds is incorporated into the current fiscal year.

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

**6. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed agreements on Articles 8, 20, 22, 36, 48 and 67 between the East Fork Fire Protection District ("East Fork") and the East Fork Professional Firefighters Association ("Non-Supervisory") and as part of the existing five-year contract. The total estimated fiscal impact for the remaining one year of the original five-year labor contract is approximately \$14,945,783. This amount represents an increase of \$164,747 as a result of the new agreement. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief) 20 minutes.**

Fire Chief Alan Ernst commended the Union on their cooperation and partnership through the recent negotiations. He has been a part of many negotiations in the last 8 years and this was by far the smoothest and well-received negotiation process he has engaged in.

Fire Chief Ernst noted:

- Ground rules were set at the beginning amongst all involved
- Goal to remain competitive in the regional market for firefighters, recruitment and retention
- Transparency was key
- Detailed budget presentation was presented by Director of Finance/CFO Address and Chief Ernst to discuss the challenges ahead with the PERS increase from Nevada State PERS
- Tentative agreement was reached within 4 hours

Chief Ernst noted the agreements in each article:

- Article 20 - PERS increase: split between the District and the employees every quarter until the employee is made whole with COLA's by June of 2026
- "Me Too" clause put into place for the non-fire PERS personnel as well
- Article 22 – Promotional Pay Increase: an issue was noted that it was possible for captains to be compensated less than the crew they were supervising; currently affecting 1 employee and will be corrected
- Article 36: Annual Leave: to better budget for overtime costs, annual leave is limited to four 24-hour shifts per day
- Article 48: Employee Life Health Insurance – agreed to attend the insurance symposium conference together with the Union
- Article 67: Station Habitability – agreed this should not be listed in the CBA; however, the committee will still remain together and meet regarding station habitability

Secretary Sommers asked what an insurance symposium is.

Chief Ernst noted it is a conference held by different insurance associations and different classes and training are provided for attendees.

Director Griffin asked if this conference is held annually and if the location changes each time.

Director of Administration Holly Megee stated it is held annually and always at the same location.

President John Bellona opened public comment.

Union President Kevin May stated he agreed with Chief Ernst on how smooth the negotiation process went. He stated there was a lot of help from past employees that created creativity in the decisions that were agreed on. He thanked Chief Ernst, Director of Finance/CFO Julie Andress, and the Board for their efforts to make the process smooth.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the proposed agreements on Articles 8, 20, 22, 36, 48 and 67 between the East Fork Fire Protection District ("East Fork") and the East Fork Professional Firefighters Association ("Non-Supervisory") and as part of the existing five-year contract. The total estimated fiscal impact for the remaining one year of the original five-year labor contract is approximately \$14,945,783. This amount represents an increase of \$164,747 as a result of the new agreement.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Barbara Griffin
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**7. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to approve the proposed agreements on Articles 8, 20, 48 and 67 between the East Fork Fire Protection District ("East Fork") and the East Fork Professional Firefighters Association ("Supervisory") and as part of the existing five-year contract. The total estimated fiscal impact for the remaining one year of the original five-year labor contract is approximately \$982,998. This amount represents an increase of \$11,316 as a result of the new agreement. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief) 20 minutes.**

Fire Chief Ernst noted this agreement pertains mostly to the Battalion Chiefs of the District and the article language is exactly the same as the non-supervisory agreement with the exception of annual leave.

Fire Chief Ernst noted:

- Article 8 – will continue to follow the law
- Article 20 – agreed on life insurance, attending the insurance conference and removing the station habitability from the CBA.

Secretary Mike Sommers asked if there were any issues with annual leave.

Fire Chief Ernst noted there were no issues.

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the proposed agreements on Articles 8, 20, 48 and 67 between the East Fork Fire Protection District ("East Fork") and the East Fork Professional Firefighters Association ("Supervisory") and as part of the existing five-year contract. The total estimated fiscal impact for the remaining one year of the original five-year labor contract is approximately \$982,998. This amount represents an increase of \$11,316 as a result of the new agreement.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Mike Sommers
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**8. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to approve the District's annual worker's compensation insurance package as provided by 7710 Insurance for FY 25/26 at an annual cost of \$1,177,546 and to authorize the District Fire Chief to sign all related documents. (Brad Driscoll, Division Chief) 15 minutes.**

District Fire Chief Ernst introduced Jared Rossi with LP Insurance to present the renewal contract for Worker's Compensation. He noted he will summarize the packet that is provided for the quote.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative noted:

- Class 7710, which is the code for firefighters; currently \$2,885,743 in payroll and aside from that the rate increased this year from \$15.55 to \$18.75
- Class 7711 code for volunteer firefighters; currently \$924,000
- Rate increased this year for 7711 class code from \$2.05 to \$2.55
- Added an automobile services code – onsite mechanic is included this year; currently \$36,000 for payroll at a \$4 rate
- Added a clerical code; \$360,000 in payroll at a \$0.38 cent rate
- Class 9410 for municipal, county or state employees; reduced \$180,000 from \$404,000 for payroll at a \$3.70 rate
- Total premium went from \$891,561,000 last year with a 1.64 mod to this year totaling \$1,177,546,000 with a 1.82 mod; about an 18-point increase in the experience modification; along with rates, this is the primary driver of the increase this year

Secretary Mike Sommers asked why the mod factor jumped so high based on last year's loss recognition and regular wage pay.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative, stated it is a calculation of 3 years of claims, not including the current year. He explained as claims develop and cost more, they will end up capping out. He noted it is claim frequency that really drives the mod.

Secretary Mike Sommers asked what defines the level for a claim to be recognized as part of claim loss and would a "band-aid" claim be recognized as loss.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative stated it is every single claim that is reported regardless of severity.

Secretary Mike Sommers asked if it was possible to eliminate the “band-aid” claims and if they were handled in-house instead would that help the cost.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative noted there is not currently a deductible program available so all claims have to go to the TPA and to the carrier and be treated according to statute.

President John Bellona opened public comment.

Fire Chief Ernst asked Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative to clarify for the public why there is a salary attached to the volunteer firefighters.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative noted it is a deemed wage that has to be generated for the premium somehow; however, they are not paid or reimbursed.

Secretary Mike Sommers asked if the District pays the premium to ensure the volunteers are covered.

Jared Rossi, LP Insurance representative noted yes, that is correct and the volunteers still get the same benefits as the paid staff.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the District’s annual worker’s compensation insurance package as provided by 7710 Insurance for FY 25/26 at an annual cost of \$1,177,546 and to authorize the District Fire Chief to sign all related documents.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Barbara Griffin
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**9. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to approve the District’s annual property and liability insurance package as provided by Warren Reed Insurance representing Nevada Public Agency Insurance (POOL) at an annual cost of \$208,019. (Larry Goss, Deputy Goss) 15 minutes.**



Larry Goss, Deputy Chief of Business Management introduced Alan Reed from Warren Reed Insurance to present the annual property and liability insurance for the District.

Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance representative, stated there are 2 different proposals to review in the Board packet. One is from the incumbent carrier Volunteer Fireman's Insurance Services and the second one is from the Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool. He noted the coverage on both are essentially similar; however, there are some differences.

Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance representative noted he would open it up for questions and discussion from the Board on the information provided for the two policy choices.

Secretary Mike Sommers stated he had the opportunity to sit in on the conversation of the annual insurance discussion with Deputy Chief Goss and Warren Reed Insurance. He was thankful for this experience.

There was discussion between Secretary Sommers and Alan Reed about the differences between the two policies.

Deputy Chief Goss stated the Pool policy offers grant programs, which could be very beneficial for the District.

Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance representative, noted Pool gives away approximately \$500,000 per year for risk mitigation and loss reduction type projects.

Fire Chief Ernst noted for budget purposes the Pool policy is \$66,000 cheaper than what was budgeted and the Volunteer Fireman's Insurance policy will be a \$35,000 increase to what was budgeted.

President John Bellona asked what the record is for Nevada Public Agency's on increasing premiums.

Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance representative noted it has been really good and better than the industry in general and specifically in the past few years has been very solid.

Director Barbara Griffin stated Douglas County used the Pool insurance program years ago and asked if they are still using it.

Alan Reed, Warren Reed Insurance representative stated they left about 10 years ago, but it wasn't because of a bad experience.

President John Bellona opened public comment.



There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the District's annual property and liability insurance package as provided by Warren Reed Insurance representing Nevada Public Agency Insurance (POOL) at an annual cost of \$208,019.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Barbara Griffin
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Nathan Leising
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**10. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to authorize the district administration to apply for the FY 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fund firefighter retention initiatives and recruitment signage. (Alan Ernst, District Fire Chief) 30 minutes.**

Fire Chief Ernst noted every year the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) puts out different types of grants the District can apply for and the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant is one the District has applied for in the past and had success with.

Fire Chief Ernst noted:

- The requirements for the SAFER Grant have changed and it has been 100% paid by FEMA
- There was no match required previously from the District or departments, but now it has changed to a formula between 100%-75% the first year, 75% the second year, and then 35% the final year
- At this time, there is not a high comfort level regarding the financial impact on the budget for the third year.
- Secondary option under the volunteer component where the District could apply for the recruitment and retention portion of the grant would be beneficial for:
  - ♦ Reimbursements for volunteer physicals, PPE, training components, academy costs and materials and signage for recruitment

Fire Chief Ernst explained he is not certain exactly what grants he will apply for or how much would be awarded, but today he is seeking the Board's approval to move forward. If the District is awarded a grant, he will bring all the information back to the Board for review and final approval.

Director Barbara Griffin asked the Chief when he was planning on applying and when the application process opens.

Fire Chief Ernst noted the process is currently open and will close on July 5<sup>th</sup>.

President John Bellona opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to authorize the District administration to apply for the FY 2025 Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant through Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to fund firefighter retention initiatives and recruitment signage.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Mike Sommers
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernie Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

**11. For Presentation Only. Reports/updates from East Fork Professional Firefighters Association concerning the various assignments and committees they may be a member of, liaison to, or meetings/functions they have attended. No action will be taken on these reports/updates. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

IAFF Union President Kevin May noted:

- The Union co-sponsored the ALS event to raise money for Captain Dennis Cote and his family; over 200 registered participants and approximately \$23,000 dollars were raised for the Cote family
- The second annual Youth Fire Academy was a success with approximately 60 kids attending between both days
- Information was discussed and handed out at the Youth Academy for the upcoming Explorer program the District will have in the fall
- Station 12 hosted a dinner for a family that won the opportunity at a fundraiser event as a raffle prize; it was a great experience for all
- An Executive Board Member resigned for personal and professional reasons so there is an opening on the Union Board

**12. For Presentation Only. Reports/updates from East Fork Volunteer Firefighters Association concerning the various assignments and committees they may be a member of, liaison to, or meetings/functions**

**they have attended. No action will be taken on these reports/updates. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

Volunteer Firefighter Liaison Elaine Pace noted:

- This is her last volunteer liaison update as she is retiring June 30<sup>th</sup>
- 8 new volunteers have completed their physicals, and have started volunteer training
- A squad was taken to the Fishing Derby for the kids to explore
- About a dozen volunteers were present at the Fishing Derby to help and assist the children
- Station 6 had their pancake breakfast for Father's Day

President Bellona thanked Elaine for her service and the Board members all stated they will miss her.

**13. For Presentation Only. Reports/updates from District Board Members and the Fire Chief concerning the various assignments and committees they may be a member of, liaison to, or meetings/functions they have attended. No action will be taken on these reports/updates. (John Bellona, President) 10 minutes.**

District Fire Chief, Alan Ernst, noted:

- Recognized Elaine Pace and Jesse Hale for their efforts during their time volunteering for the District
- Busy month with call volume and administrative work
- Purchased a new water tender and the final inspection has been completed
- The remounted rescue is in District and looks very nice
- The members of our District have been very involved with the community this month: The Fishing Derby, The ALS 5k, Father's Day Breakfast, The Youth Academy and the Silver State Woman's Fire Academy
- Complex structure fire in Genoa which was handled very well and knocked down quickly between our agency and other surrounding agencies
- Service Anniversaries:
  - Guy Yeaman – 40 years
  - Brian Nelson – 25 years
  - Nolan Brockhage – 6 years
  - Barbara Benz – 31 years
  - John Plummer – 20 years
- Presented Elaine Pace and Jesse Hale with plaques for their dedicated volunteer service to the District

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg noted:

- No report

Director of Finance/CFO Julie Andress noted:

- Finance team has started to prep for year-end
- Grant reimbursements were completed in a timely manner
- First payment has been made on the new rescue Chief Ernst mentioned
- Certification letter has been received from the Department of Taxation approving compliance for the fiscal year 25/26 budget

Deputy Fire Chief of Emergency Operations, Michael Shockey, noted:

- The District sent a crew over the hill for a pre-position assignment
- Half of the Fuels Crew went with Captain Tracy Connelly to Utah for a 4,000-acre fire threatening some communities

Director of Administrative Services Holly Megee noted:

- The lateral firefighter recruitment is open with approximately 80 applications received so far
- Thanked Conway IT staff for their time and dedication in getting the new Owl speaker and video system set up for the Board meeting

Deputy Chief of Business Operations, Larry Goss, noted:

- Fleet reduction plan is in progress
- Buyers have been found for the two Type 3 Engines and the Type 1 Engine

Secretary Mike Sommers noted:

- Attended the Father's Day Pancake Breakfast at Station 6; there were about 170 people there

Director Bernard Curtis noted:

- No report

Director Barbara Griffin noted:

- Invited everyone to stay for cake to celebrate Director Leising and Chief Ernst's birthdays, Elaine Pace's retirement and the approval of the Budget for FY 25/26

Director Nathan Leising noted:

- Attended a meeting with Chief Ernst at Station 3; it was very informative
- Went to the aftermath of the structure fire in Genoa

President John Bellona noted:

- No report

Chief Ernst added the District will be staffing Station 3 with our full time Fuels Crew members. This will bring permanent staffing to Genoa. The Fuels Crew will still be assigned to project work, but they will now have a presence in the community. Also, in the works is putting seasonal fuels crew members at Station 6 and NDF crews will help manage Station 15. This will allow more overall coverage in the District at Stations 3, 6 and 15.

**CLOSING PUBLIC COMMENT** (No Action)

President John Bellona opened public comment.

Chris Lang, Volunteer President thanked Elaine Pace and Jesse Hale for their service to the District. He commended everything they have done and all that has been completed during their combined years of service to the District. He will miss them tremendously.

Public comment closed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

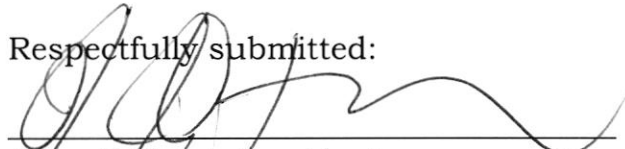
**14. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to adjourn the East Fork Fire Protection District Board Meeting. (John Bellona, President) 5 minutes.**

MOTION to adjourn; carried.

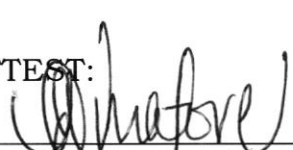
<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Nathan Leising
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Mike Sommers
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Curtis, Griffin, Leising, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</b>	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	

There being no further business to come before the Board, at 2:31 PM the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

  
John Bellona, President  
East Fork Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

  
Erica Amatore, Clerk to the Board  
East Fork Fire Protection District