

## **Approved**

The Board Meeting of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board was held on Tuesday, October 17, 2023, in-person and virtually, beginning at 1:00 PM.

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

John Bellona, Secretary, District 1  
Barbara Griffin, Director, District 2, Attended Virtual  
Bernard Curtis, Director, District 3,  
Jacques Etchegoyhen, President, District 4  
Mike Sommers, Director, District 5

### **Staff present:**

Tod F. Carlini, District Fire Chief  
Larry Goss, Deputy Chief of/Training and Safety, Absent  
Amy Ray, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal  
Scott Gorgon, Deputy Chief/Operations  
Mark Forsberg, District Legal Counsel  
Lisa Owen, Director of Administrative Services  
Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance  
Tom Hein, Executive Program Manager  
Holly Megee, Clerk to the Board

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

Elaine Pace, East Fork Fire Volunteer Liaison  
Adam Wennhold, East Fork Fire Engineer  
Sky Dwinell, East Fork Fire Captain  
Kevin May, President for East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters

## **CALL TO ORDER**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen

## **INITIAL MEETING BUSINESS**

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Bernard Curtis 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 the Board President or other presiding officer 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 opened for public comment.**

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**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 Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

Niel Nelson, a Genoa resident, thanked East Fork Fire for the amazing service they provided to his dad. He then voiced his concerns about the plans for a cell tower being installed in Genoa because of health concerns and alleged issues with cell towers. He explained there are a few Genoa residents who have offered their land for the cell tower, instead of placing it in the middle of town. He is not opposed to it being installed somewhere else.

Martin Manning, a Genoa resident, and East Fork Fire volunteer expressed his concerns about plans for a cell tower to be installed in Genoa, because of decrease in property values, overall appearance of a cell tower and the health risks associated with them. He understands the ongoing service issues with radios and cell service but does not feel the cell tower should be installed at the proposed location.

Chad Smittkamp, a Genoa resident, suggested the Board review NRS 269. He addressed key points in NRS 269 and specifically NRS 269.127. He stated 900 letters were sent out to Genoa residents and they have started the process to obtain an attorney. He asked this be taken off the agenda and not moved forward to the Douglas County Commissioners.

Michelle Mayne, a Genoa resident, read a letter voicing her concerns about the plans for a cell tower being installed in Genoa and cited health concerns.

Board Clerk Holly Megee informed the speaker she reached the 3-minute allotted time.

Lacey Ludwig, a Genoa resident, voiced her concerns about plans for a cell tower to be installed in Genoa and explained visitors come to Genoa for beauty, not for good cell service. She is opposed but not just because of health concerns, but because there are other locations to place a cell tower. She doesn't mind progress but does not want it to be in the center of Genoa.

Steve Yochum, a Genoa resident, stated he is here to talk about "love". He recently had the East Fork Fire Protection District mission statement read to him and that's the reason respect is given to the men in blue. He opposes the 5G cell tower.

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Director Mike Sommers asked Board Clerk Megee if there is anyone attending virtually that would like to make public comment.

Board Clerk Megee stated no.

Kevin May, President for East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters stated this is not on today's agenda but because many are talking about it, he wanted to express his opinion. He was asked by the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to do research many months back regarding cell towers. Many years of research have been done and the IAFF has no health concerns for the firefighters in stations or stations near a cell tower. He doesn't have a problem supporting the towers. He and the Association don't have any visual opinion. Regarding safety, the Association does not have any concerns.

There was no further 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. (Jacques Etchegoyhen, President) 5 minutes.**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

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Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the meeting agenda for October 17, 2023.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Mike Sommers
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Griffin, Curtis, Etchegoyhen, 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 September 19, 2023, meeting of the East Fork Fire Protection District Board of Directors. (Jacques Etchegoyhen, President) 5 minutes.**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023, meeting.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOTION BY:</b>	Bernard Curtis
<b>SECOND BY:</b>	John Bellona
<b>AYES:</b>	Bellona, Griffin, Curtis, Etchegoyhen, Sommers
<b>NAYS:</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. (Jacques Etchegoyhen, President) 5 minutes.**

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President Jacques Etchegoyhen explained these items can be adopted with one motion, unless an item is pulled by a District Director, staff, or a member of the public.

- a. For Possible Action.** Discussion to accept the report on general ledger cash balances as of September 30, 2023. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)
- b. For Possible Action.** Discussion to approve the receipt and filing of the list of accounts payable checks issued and cash disbursements/automatic withdrawals in September 2023 per NRS 474.210. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)
- c. For Possible Action.** Discussion to approve payroll expense paid in September 2023 per NRS 474.210. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)
- d. For Possible Action.** Discussion to approve the Procurement Card Transactions paid in September 2023 per NRS 474.210. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)
- e. For Possible Action.** Discussion to approve the East Fork Fire Protection District’s ambulance billing bad debt write-offs for the period of August 2023 in the amount of \$60,630.79. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)
- f. For Possible Action.** Discussion and possible action to accept the report on state consolidated taxes collection and distribution as of July 2023. (Kathy Lewis, CPA, CFO/Director of Finance)

President Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

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

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

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**4. For Public Hearing. Public hearing on the intention of East Fork Fire Protection District to act upon a resolution authorizing the issuance of medium-term obligations, in one series or more, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for the purpose of financing the cost of purchasing fire-fighting equipment, including fire engines and other vehicles, and improving District owned property. (Tod F. Carlini, District Fire Chief) 15 minutes.**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen read the agenda item into record and turned the discussion over to District Fire Chief Tod Carlini.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated the District is following the process as outlined in law, by holding a public hearing on the intention of East Fork Fire Protection District to act upon a resolution authorizing the issuance of medium-term obligations, in one series or more, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for the purpose of financing the cost of purchasing fire-fighting equipment, including fire engines and other vehicles, and improving District owned property.

President Etchegoyhen opened public hearing.

East Fork Fire Engineer Adam Wennhold, representing the Association, stated the Association is in support of this initiative to purchase capital improvement items within the \$3,000,000. This will not cover all District long term needs, but this will help.

Director Mike Sommers asked for clarification on the public hearing process.

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg stated he will defer the question to Bond Counsel Ryan Henry, Sherman & Howard, because he is the retained expert on the subject and is directing the District through the process.

Bond Counsel Henry stated the public hearing is a statute requirement for medium-term obligations. It is the intention to authorize medium-term obligations. This is a requirement from the Department of Taxation during the approval process. This provides the public an opportunity to voice an opinion on medium-term obligations. He stated President Etchegoyhen conducted the public hearing correctly. It was also published, for public review, 10 days prior to the meeting.

There were no further public hearing comments.

Public hearing closed.

President Etchegoyhen stated state law requires a public hearing and the District is being as transparent as possible.

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President Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public hearing comments for a second time.

There were no additional public hearing comments.

Public hearing closed.

**5. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action on Resolution 2023R-008 authorizing the issuance of medium-term obligations, in one series or more, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for the purpose of financing the cost of purchasing fire-fighting equipment, including fire engines and other vehicles, and improving District-owned property; directing the District's Fire Chief to forward materials to the Department of Taxation of the State of Nevada; authorizing the District's Fire Chief and officers of the District to arrange for the sale of medium-term obligations; and providing the effective date. (Tod F. Carlini, District Fire Chief) 15 minutes.**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen read the agenda item into record and turned discussion over to District Fire Chief Tod Carlini.

District Fire Chief Carlini turned the discussion over to Director of Finance Kathy Lewis.

Director of Finance Lewis introduced Ryan Henry, Sherman & Howard, and Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting. They will outline the next steps.

Ryan Henry from Sherman & Howard stated he will be assisting with the issuance and turned the discussion over to Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting.

Marty Johnson, JNA Consulting, Financial Advisor stated this process is like the medium-term obligation process the District completed in 2018/2019. He outlined the process:

- Today's steps are part of the authorization process.
- If Resolution 2023R-008 is adopted this will move forward and materials will be sent to the Department of Taxation for their approval.
- After approval is received from the Department of Taxation there are 18 months to issue the obligations in one or more series, as funding may be required.
- The current plan is to place an item on the November agenda and discuss entering a \$3,000,000 loan.
- Medium-term obligations, notes, and bonds are all similar terms that can be used interchangeably. Medium-term obligations are limited to a 10-year repayment term and must be paid back within those 10 years. The

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District's plan is to hold lower payments for the first 2 years, while finishing paying off the outstanding 2019 loan. That loan is at 1.86%.

- The authorization documents that will be sent to the Department of Taxation have a maximum rate of 5.5%. He expects the rate will be 4.5% - 4.75% unless rates go up over the next few weeks during the bidding process.
- Documents are sent to roughly 25 banks for bids. The banks have varying costs, interest rates and pre-payment features.
- In November, bids will be discussed at the Board meeting to determine the best overall bid for the District.
- He believes the payments will be in the \$450,000 range.

Ryan Henry from Sherman & Howard stated this is the first couple of steps in the issuance process, following the Department of Taxation approval and then coming back to the Board for discussion and approval in November. By statute this must be adopted today by 2/3 of the Board. If approved today, it would come back to the Board after approved by the Department of Taxation.

Director Mike Sommers asked if the \$3,000,000 was based on the financial position of the District or an amount the District selected.

Marty Johnson stated it is an amount the District selected and after looking at the District's budget, he feels it is affordable.

Director Sommers asked what the benefit is to the District regarding reduction in rates.

Marty Johnson stated he is not sure he is following the question. If this was a taxable obligation, he feels the rate would be a 6.5% - 7% rate. If it is done tax exempt, the bank will benefit from the tax exemption and be in the 4.5% range. It is a substantial difference in the interest rate.

Director Sommers asked if there was a pledge of ad valorem tax towards the repayment, would that reduce the rate.

Marty Johnson explained the security for the financing is a promise to pay by the District from all legally available funds, which includes the revenues generated by the operating rate (tax override) that the District has. With the overlapping rate being at the cap, the rate can't be increased. If something was to be put on a ballot, he doesn't think it would change the interest rate and it would delay the process.

Director Sommers confirmed there is an 18-month window after it is approved by the Department of Taxation.



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Marty Johnson stated that is correct, there are 18-months to issue up to \$3,000,000.

Director Sommers asked after it goes out to the bank, what is the extended period to obtain a lock in rate but not trigger it.

Marty Johnson stated the plan will be to obtain bids from banks the morning of November 21, 2023, and take those bids to the Board meeting. Banks will generally lock the rate on that day and have 30-45 days before closing.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated the \$3,000,000 request by the District was an amount generated after looking at the District's capacity to fund the debt. Additionally, the cost of fire apparatus has gone up since the last time the District made purchases, and any time delays in getting apparatus will only increase those costs. With money in the bank the District will be able to act on opportunities as they come forward. After the funds are received and deposited, the funds are allowed to accrue interest at around 4.8%.

Director Sommers asked if there has ever been a position where another agency, who already has an order to purchase equipment, changed their mind and another agency takes over their order.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated he has heard of that happening and generally apparatus manufacturers will push it out to their salespeople.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated the other process is the HGAC buying service (Helping Governments Across the Country Buy). They are a company that put various products, that governments would generally buy, through a public bid process. The District has exercised this on a couple purchases.

Director Sommers asked about arbitrage implementation.

Director of Finance Lewis stated the District would not have to report to the IRS because this is considered a small issue at \$3,000,000.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated this process does not have to go through a debt management review.

Marty Johnson stated that is correct.

President Jacques Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

There was no public comment.

Public comment closed.

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MOTION to adopt Resolution 2023R-008 authorizing the issuance of medium-term obligations, in one series or more, in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$3,000,000 for the purpose of financing the cost of purchasing fire-fighting equipment, including fire engines and other vehicles, and improving District-owned property; directing the District's Fire Chief to forward materials to the Department of Taxation of the State of Nevada; authorizing the District's Fire Chief and officers of the District to arrange for the sale of medium-term obligations; and providing the effective date.

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

**6. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to allow the Board President to sign a letter to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in support of the NV Energy Disaster Protection Plan. (Tod F. Carlini, District Fire Chief) 10 minutes.**

District Fire Chief Tod Carlini stated he has drafted a letter regarding the Fire Fuels program funded by NV Energy. Recently, NV Energy has been challenged through the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada who is taking a hard look at the program in terms of cost and the impact on rate payers. There have been several hearings resulting in good and bad outcomes in terms of what can be recovered. This letter is in support of the program and offers NV Energy support as they go through the process with Public Utilities Commission of Nevada. The process allows for opposition or questions to be brought forward by rate payers. Those individuals are called interveners. The challenge has been from southern Nevada casinos as interveners. NV Energy has had success in the approval of their plans and saw an increase in the budget allocation. The process works like a card credit, they send the money and then need to pay the bill. In this case, they need to request the money to pay the bill after the bill has already been paid to the various fire agencies participating in the program. This is where some of the costs are running into challenges. This letter is amongst others from other agencies. He felt it would be best for the letter to come from the Board.

President Jacques Etchegoyhen confirmed he has no conflict because he owns stock in a company that owns NV Energy.

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg stated no conflict.

Director Mike Sommers stated the letter is coming from the Board president but feels it would be a stronger letter if it came from the Board.

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President Etchegoyhen agreed with Director Sommers.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated he can modify the letter to reflect the recommendations.

Director Sommers stated the recommendation would be to allow the Board (instead of President) to sign a letter to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in support of the NV Energy Disaster Protection Plan.

President Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

There was no further public comment.

Public comment closed.

MOTION to allow the Board to sign a letter to the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada in support of the NV Energy Disaster Protection Plan.

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

**7. For Possible Action. Discussion and possible action to conduct the annual performance evaluation of District Fire Chief Tod Carlini and take possible action based on the evaluation at the discretion of the Board. This evaluation process does not include any additional compensation offer other than the compensation previously approved by the Board of Directors which follows the Board approved pay plan. (Jacques Etchegoyhen, President) 30 minutes.**

President Jacques Etchegoyhen stated he feels East Fork Fire is in good hands with good leadership. District Fire Chief Carlini does an excellent job keeping the Board and public informed. It's wonderful to watch the District grow.

Director Bernad Curtis agreed with President Etchegoyhen. The District is in a good fiscal position, and he appreciates all the Chief's hard work.

Secretary John Bellona stated his main concern is who will replace District Fire Chief Carlini. The person needs to know the job and organization. The Operation Chief is the second person in command. This needs to be the focus over the next 12 months.

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Director Mike Sommers confirmed he understood Secretary Bellona's comment. He understood that the individual needs to be an employee and not a contractor providing a service.

Secretary Bellona stated that is correct.

Director Barbara Griffin stated she is having a difficult time hearing Secretary Bellona and Director Sommers.

Secretary Bellona stated District Fire Chief Carlini has done an amazing job. East Fork Fire has become a professional organization and that is because of what District Fire Chief Carlini has done and changed over the years. The fact the District has an open lateral recruitment and received a lot of interest, says a lot about individuals wanting to work for East Fork Fire over other agencies. He thanked him for all he's done and continues to do.

Director Sommers supports Secretary Bellona's position that the District needs a direct employee of the District taking the position of Deputy Chief of Operations and not a limited liability company providing the service.

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg reminded the Board this agenda item is District Fire Chief Carlini's evaluation, and it should have bearing on his evaluation.

Director Sommers stated in District Fire Chief Carlini's self-evaluation letter, it was discussed.

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg stated he wanted to make sure the merits of it were not being discussed.

Director Sommers stated just the concept and District Fire Chief Carlini's thoughts.

Director Griffin thanked District Fire Chief Carlini for another successful year. There have been many accomplishments and tremendous strides forward over the past 6 years. It is amazing to watch what District Fire Chief Carlini has done, and she is proud to serve on the Board. This is the most positive Board in the County, and a lot is contributed to District Fire Chief Carlini. It has been a great year and know a lot more will be accomplished this coming year.

President Etchegoyhen opened public comment.

East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters Secretary Sky Dwinell, on behalf of the Association, thanked District Fire Chief Carlini for his many years of service. There have been disagreements but overall, it has been a great working relationship. The Association agrees with many things stated in District Fire Chief Carlini's letter. The Labor Association looks forward to working with the

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District over the next few months discussing the long-term plan. Deputy Chief Gorgon has done a lot for the District, and it will take time to replace him with a District employee. The Association suggested extending his contract (not years) but enough time for the transition. He thanked District Fire Chief Carlini for his hard work and great leadership.

East Fork Fire Volunteer Liaison Elaine Pace, on behalf of the Volunteer Association, thanked District Fire Chief Carlini for the years he's forwarded the cause of the volunteers and will do whatever is necessary to aid in the transition.

There was no further public comment.

Public comment closed.

President Etchegoyhen stated he's worked with District Fire Chief Carlini for many years. Change is hard. He thanked District Fire Chief Carlini for all his hard work.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated he appreciates everyone's comments. All the accomplishments over the years have been a team effort. He will bring forward, at a future Board meeting, the request to extend Deputy Chief Gorgon's contract to allow additional time to fill the position. He feels it is appropriate to bring the group together to look at the organization and its future. There are three positions on the Board that are up for re-election in 2024. The Board has accomplished a lot since the establishment of the Board. There is an opportunity to strengthen the organization and push the organization further than where it's at today. He appreciates the support. He thanked everyone for all their efforts. During the opening public comment, even amongst a negative situation, the public recognized positive comments about the District and the services the District provides.

MOTION to adopt the annual performance evaluation of District Fire Chief Tod Carlini.

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

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

President for East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters Kevin May noted:

- Candy Dance was successful
- Approaching fundraising time with the holidays (fill the boot, turkey drive, etc.)

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

Volunteer Liaison, Elaine Pace noted:

- New class of volunteers going through initial training
- Genoa VFD had success at the Candy Dance
- 2 recruiting events took place in the last couple of months
- 12 new volunteer prospects working through the application process
- Food Drive will take place December 8, 2023, from 6 am – 6 pm

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

Deputy Chief/Operations Scott Gorgon noted:

- Working on improvements within the organization
- Working with Lisa Owen on the lateral process for the future
- Waiting to hear back on the SAFER grant
- There has been an increase in fires, and he thanked the crews for their amazing work and professionalism. The Battalion Chiefs have done a great job training the Captains to be even better. East Fork Fire is a well-oiled machine.
- Working with Lisa Owen in preparing for a couple of upcoming promotional exams (Captain and Battalion Chief)
- Working with various committees and the policies and procedures
- Light duty individuals are working on the policies and procedures

Director of Administrative Services Lisa Owen noted:

- Working on lateral recruitment. East Fork Fire has come a long way. Last year there was only 1 lateral applicant and this year there are 12

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applicants. HR and the Association went over the applications and 5 will be moving on to the next step

- Working on getting the general firefighter recruitment announcement out

Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal Amy Ray noted:

- Development is still moving forward
- Virtually attended a National Fire Academy class
- Chair of the Northern Nevada Fire Code Amendment Committee. Starting on the 2024 code
- Moving forward on the grants
- Working closely with the Building Department during their process on the amendment of Title 20

Executive Manager Tom Hein noted:

- Reviewing the contracts
- Crews continuing project work
- Working on facility storm repairs
- Completed pump testing

Director Mike Sommers noted:

- Attended the Verizon meeting regarding the potential cell tower. It was very informative. He feels Verizon needs to get better information out to the people in the District. A presentation is being held in Genoa tomorrow, Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm. He's had many residents approach him regarding the cell tower.

Director Sommers asked Deputy Chief Ray, due to the increase in structure fires, are there programs in the future the volunteers can assist with.

Deputy Chief Ray stated that fire prevention week was two weeks ago. The District enjoys educating schools and attending events regarding fire safety, when requested.

Director Bernard Curtis noted:

- Wished Director Barbara Griffin a Happy Birthday

President Jacques Etchegoyhen noted:

- No report.

Secretary John Bellona noted:

- No report.

Legal Counsel Mark Forsberg noted:

- Reviewing the NV Energy contract

CPA, CFO/Director of Finance Kathy Lewis noted:

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- Expect the audit to be brought forward at the November Board meeting

District Fire Chief Tod Carlini noted:

- Continuing to check on the grant's (SAFER and AFG) status
- Started to break ground on the Training Prop located behind Station 14. Hope to have a groundbreaking ceremony with the Board, Association, Volunteers, etc. soon
- Hope to have the Model 34 retrofit back in District sometime in October
- Finishing ARPA funds (\$250,000) through the County
- Ambulance returning soon to the District with a remount
- Working on grants with Deputy Chief Ray
- Accepted into a group that allows the District to apply for Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (SNPLMA)
- Thanked Director of Finance Lewis for all her hard work on the NV Energy billing process

Director Sommers asked if there is a final date for announcements on the SAFER grant.

District Fire Chief Carlini stated so far, there has been 1 Nevada entity awarded the SAFER grant.

Director Barbara Griffin noted:

- Requested an update on the website meeting between the 2-line staff employees and Elaine Pace

President for East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters May apologized for not getting back to Director Griffin. He stated he and District Fire Chief Carlini have talked and have a plan.

Director Griffin thanked President for East Fork Fire Professional Firefighters May for the update.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

MOTION to adjourn; carried.



**EAST FORK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD  
MEETING OF OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**RESULT:**           **APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]**  
**MOTION BY:**   Bernard Curtis  
**SECOND BY:**   Mike Sommers  
**AYES:**           Bellona, Griffin, Curtis, Etchegoyhen, Sommers  
**NAYS:**  
**ABSENT:**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25pm.

Respectfully submitted:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jacques Etchegoyhen, President  
East Fork Fire Protection District

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Holly Megee, Board Clerk  
East Fork Fire Protection District