



Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs Association

**March 19, 2020 @ 0930
VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bureau of Land Management | ✓ Nevada Division of Forestry | ✓ Truckee Fire |
| ✓ Cal Fire - AEU | Nevada State Fire Marshal | ✓ Truckee Meadows Fire |
| Cal Fire - NEU | ✓ North Lake Tahoe Fire | ✓ US Forest Service - HTF |
| Carson City Fire | North Lyon County Fire | US Forest Service - LTBMU |
| ✓ Central Lyon County Fire | ✓ Northstar Fire | Antelope Valley Fire |
| East Fork Fire | ✓ Reno Fire | Bear Valley Fire |
| Eastern Alpine Co. Fire | South Lake Tahoe Fire | ✓ Cal OES |
| ✓ Fallen Leaf Fire | ✓ Sparks Fire | ✓ Care Flight |
| ✓ Lake Valley Fire | ✓ Squaw Valley Fire | Kirkwood Fire |
| ✓ Meeks Bay/North Tahoe Fire | Storey County Fire | ✓ Living With Fire |
| ✓ Nevada Dept. of Public Safety | Tahoe Douglas Fire | ✓ National Weather Service |

1. **Call to Order & Flag Salute**

The meeting was called to order at 9:33pm by Mike Schwartz.

The flag salute was led by Steve Leighton

2. **Host Housekeeping Items**

Lanita Magee requested that all participants mute their telephones unless talking to the group, and do not place their phone on hold if they need to leave the call for a few minutes. Either leave their phone muted or hang up and call back in.

3. **Approval of Agenda & Minutes**

It was moved by Allen Riley and seconded by Jim Reid to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

It was moved by Bill Seline and seconded by Allen Riley to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Roll Call & Agency Updates**

- a. NTF - Sarah Lagano & Scott Sedgwick are the most recent promotions to Battalion Chief, Brent Armstrong was promoted to Captain, and three new lateral firefighter/medics have been hired but have not yet started working;
- b. TFPD - they have two open positions waiting to fill after COVID-19 and received a fuels grant;
- c. AEU - pre-attack plans for South Lake Tahoe and Heavenly are done and working on Tahoe Douglas Fire and North Lake Tahoe Fire;
- d. Fallen Leaf - plans to open May 1st for operations;
- e. NDF - Ron Bollier and Marc Titus have filled two open positions;
- f. NEU - all operations are normal;
- g. LVF - Brad Zlendick has been named as Interim Fire Chief, following Tim Alameda's retirement;
- h. SFD - are hiring three firefighters and have one promotion



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- i. Cal OES - an email is being sent to coordinators regarding a refresher which will be done remotely - details early next week
- j. DEM - training is scheduled for 7/27-31 - to fill two type 3 IMTs

5. **Next Meeting Date(s)**

- a. April 16th - Joint meeting with M.A.C. - Virtual
~~North Lake Tahoe Fire - Stn 11~~
~~875 Tanager Street, Incline Village, NV~~

6. **Committee Reports**

a. Finance

- have transferred finance to Chief Baker at Tahoe Douglas Fire and moving the account from Bank of the West to a bank with locations in both states.

b. Training

- Northern Nevada Training Committee - Interagency training planned for May 30 was canceled due to COVID-19
- training flyers can be sent to Erin Holland and Shawn Crawford to be sent out and posted on website
- Northern California Training Committee - no report

c. State Fire Marshal

- no report

d. Fire Prevention

- no report, although there are a lot of changes in fire code in California

e. Behavioral Health

- no report

f. PIO

- COVID-19 information is being posted, including safety measures, precautions, EDD

7. **Reports**

a. National Weather Service

- Tony Fuentes - two people on staff at a minimum. Began new fire weather zones on March 3rd; they will be providing more impact-based notifications; snowpack has increased since last month - need more of those storms to improve conditions;

b. Living With Fire

- “Wildfire Knows No Boundaries,” the slogan for Nevada’s Fire Awareness campaign, scheduled in May is being canceled; the baseball game is being postponed to 6/27; the Tahoe Basin’s Fire Awareness slogan scheduled for July is “Fight Fire With a Plan.”



8. **Old Business**

a. **Operations Area Coordinator**

- accepting peer review applications right now
- REMS refresher is only for leaders this year

9. **New Business**

a. **COVID-19 Discussion and Best Practices Update**

- NTF - closed all stations to public; critical work force; social distancing and expanded cleaning; each station is remaining separated (no joint training); staff is not to come in sick, if they are sick they will be sent home; outside prevention duties have completely stopped; Tahoe Forest Hospital has a COVID hotline;
- RFD - reducing meetings to no more than ten people; use of PPE is biggest challenge; addresses are being flagged for response if they are presumed to have COVID-19 cases
- Chief Schwartz indicated that some agencies are willing to share resources if some agencies are hit worse than others
- SVF - similar precautions to everyone else; would like information regarding accessing supplies; if wearing appropriate PPE they are not considered exposed;
- TFPD - posted an online daily staff health report; need to define what types of exposure requires quarantine; pass-down by telephone for shift changes which requires incoming staff to wait outside until outgoing staff sanitize and depart the station;
- AEU - has three stations designated if isolation is needed;
- NEU- a known, confirmed exposure is not allowed to continue to work; modified dispatch questions to provide for PPE alerts; anticipates EOC to increase staffing levels;
- CLCF - same as others;
- FLF - Currently closed, will re-assess in April; have a large number of walk-ins due to proximity to Desolation Wilderness and will be addressing that when they open;
- NDF - all facilities closed to public; 95% staff reduction - working remotely;
- EFF - same as others;
- LVF - same as others;
- NFD - same as others;
- USFS - fire resources are tele-commuting; reduced dispatch center to one; burning has ceased since Monday;
- Careflight - still flying; all REMSA classes have been canceled, limiting number of bases people are reporting to, to limit exposure;
- American Heart Association has extended certifications; working on return-to-work criteria for people who have not been tested; will look at PALS and ACLS extensions;
- California Paramedic licensing has been extended for 90 days
- Cal OES - state operations center is activated; limited access to offices; system chiefs are tele-working; deployed San Diego and Asilomar as detention sites; if you have PPE needs, place your order as usual;



LTRFCA

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- NV DEM - partial activation of state EOC; closed to visitors; IAP in place - willing to share; follow process if running out of resources; encourage blood donations and help American Red Cross get the word out;
- If your PPE supply is getting low, send a message to Shawn at Crawford@NTFire.net to get the word out.
- Nevada Network of Fire Adapted Communities - Marc Titus, Coordinator
 - the Basin has an existing network of communities;
 - wants to build network throughout the state of Nevada;
- **Good of the Order**
 - One Tahoe unable to present today, will schedule for the future;
 - CalChiefs and IAFC are requesting daily updates regarding exposures - currently 67 firefighters have tested positive for COVID-19;
 - IROC training is ongoing but limited, virtually-provided training being looked at, program and interface is fairly user-friendly, data transfer was the biggest challenge, still a work in progress, will go live on Monday;
- **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**
 - One Tahoe presentation (?)
 - COVID-19
- **Adjournment**

It was move by Seth Williams and seconded by Sean Bailey to adjourn the meeting.

Attendees:

Cal OES: Kit Bailey

CalFire AEU: Mike Deacon

Care Flight: Vanessa Coyle

Central Lyon Fire: Ryan McIntosh

Fallen Leaf Fire: Gary Gerren

Lake Valley Fire: Brad Zlendick

National Weather Service: Tony Fuentes

Nevada Dept. Of Public Safety: Lanita Magee

Nevada Division of Forestry: Ron Bollier, Marc Titus

North Lake Tahoe Fire: Russ Barnum

North Tahoe Fire: Mike Schwartz, Steve Leighton, Scott Sedgwick, Shawn Crawford

Northstar Fire: Sean Bailey

Reno Fire: John McNamara, Seth Williams

Sparks Fire: Jim Reid, Jim Kindness

Squaw Valley Fire: Allen Riley

Truckee Fire: Bill Seline

Truckee Meadows Fire: Derek Reid

UNR/Living With Fire: Jamie Roice

US Forest Service HTF: Mike Wilde