



## ***North Tahoe and Meeks Bay Fire Protection Districts***



Date: April 10, 2024  
To: Meeks Bay Fire Board of Directors  
From: Steve Leighton, Fire Chief  
Subject: April 2024

The main highlight of March weather wise was the blizzard that continued to bring heavy Sierra snowfall, strong winds and major travel impacts the first three days of the month. This blizzard hit the Tahoe region the hardest, with multi-day snowfall total of 4-6 feet down around the lake level, and 5-8 feet for higher elevations along the Sierra crest and Carson Range. This storm with the high winds and heavy snow also effected as many as 24,000 customers who were without power in the Reno-Carson City and Tahoe areas. The Sierra snowpack finally surpassed season-to-date normal after this storm. Even though dry and warm conditions arrived for several days after the storm, it brought just enough snowfall to keep the eastern Sierra basins slightly above average for the season. The March storm rally capped off the slow start to the winter snowpack.

It is with great respect and admiration that I was able to send a memo to staff to celebrate the remarkable career of Battalion Chief Sarah Lagano, who has officially retired from the District on March 16, 2024, after 19 years of dedicated service to our department and community. Some additional successes of our members are as follows: Firefighter/Paramedic Austin Vickers has completed all requirements of Phase 3 TAP and will move to TAP 4. Firefighter/Paramedic Ashley Turnbeaugh is now qualified to Work Out of Class (WOC) as an Engineer. Provisional Battalion Chief Jaime Sheppard has been appointed permanently to the position. Engineer/Paramedic Dustin Hollingsworth has been promoted to Captain/Paramedic. And finally, Firefighter/Paramedic Brian Hansen has accepted the promotion to Engineer/Paramedic. Congratulations to all of them for their commitment and dedication to service.

On the state legislative side, policy committees continue hearing and passing bills that will make their way to their respective Floor. Policy committees will need to hear all fiscal bills originating in their respective house before the April 26<sup>th</sup> deadline; non-fiscal bills will have an additional week to be heard in policy committees. Of note, is that the Governor's 2024-25 Budget plans to start a shift to a 66-hour workweek for CAL FIRE firefighters, with initial funding of \$199 million and 338 positions, expanding to \$770 million and 2,457 positions by 2028-29. This follows a 2022 agreement aiming to improve firefighters' health and welfare. And finally of interest is the Governor's budget proposal seeking to codify the inclusion of charter schools in ERAF allocations, prompting opposition from CSDA and other local government stakeholders. They argue that this would violate Proposition 1A's constitutional protections by reducing the share of property tax revenues allocated to local governments.

### **Meetings and Assignments:**

- North Tahoe, Meeks Bay, and Alpine Meadows Board Meetings
- Eastern Joint Powers Authority Fire Chiefs Meeting (EJPA)
- Lake Tahoe Regional Fire Chiefs Association Meeting (LTRFCA)
- Executive and Command Staff Meetings
- Labor Management L3729 Meeting



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- El Dorado County Fire Chiefs Association Meeting
- El Dorado County Board of Supervisors Meetings
- Placer County Board of Supervisors Meetings
- Breakfast Club Meeting
- El Dorado and Placer LAFCO Meetings
- Meetings with our District Attorneys regarding District business
- Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators Meeting
- Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team Multi-Agency Coordination Group Meeting
- Tahoe Basin Evacuation Workshop
- Captain and Engineer Interviews
- Fire Districts Association of California Board Member Planning Meeting
- Tahoe Area Managers Meeting
- North Tahoe Regional Advisory Committee Meeting (NTRAC)
- Alpine Springs Board Meeting
- CAL TRANS/FS (Forest Service) Evacuation Corridor Meeting
- Cabin Creek/Highway 89 Corridor Meeting
- Placer County Sheriff's Office Executive Staff Meeting
- Tahoe Basin Prescribed Fire Meeting
- Tahoe Truckee Airport District Meeting

### MBFPD RESPONSE CALLS - MONTHLY COMPARISON

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>2024</b>	8	14	10									
<b>2023</b>	6	12	7	14	21	25	37	23	23	15	7	11
<b>2022</b>	24	11	15	9	12	21	18	14	11	7	3	8
<b>2021</b>	12	31	18	17	15	38	52	44	19	27	20	30
<b>2020</b>	23	12	9	9	14	30	54	50	28	22	16	11

