

EL DORADO LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

AGENDA OF APRIL 24, 2019

REGULAR MEETING

TO: Shiva Frentzen, Chair, and
Members of the El Dorado County Local Agency Formation
Commission

FROM: José C. Henríquez, Executive Officer

PREPARED BY: Erica Sanchez, Assistant Executive Officer

AGENDA ITEM #9: DISCUSSION REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF
JURISDICTION RELATING TO THE REORGANIZATION OF
NORTH TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT & MEEKS BAY
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

RECOMMENDATION

None. This item is informational only.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDED ACTION

Sections 56387 and 56388 of the Government Code relate to the exclusive jurisdiction and the transfer of jurisdiction for proposed changes of organization. If any district is, or would be as a result of a proposed change of organization, located in more than one county, the commission of the principal county shall have exclusive jurisdiction over matters relating to LAFCO. However, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act (CKH) allows the transfer of jurisdiction for proposals from the principal county to another county, if certain steps are taken.

BACKGROUND

Proposed Reorganization

In April 2014, Meeks Bay FPD and North Tahoe FPD entered into a contract for services. Per the terms of the agreement, the North Tahoe FPD Fire Chief serves both agencies; however, a full-time NTFPD Chief Officer is assigned to Meeks Bay FPD to oversee its daily operation and to act as a liaison to the Meeks Bay FPD Board. North Tahoe FPD provides management of Meeks Bay FPD firefighters and staff for fire protection, training and administrative duties.

In 2017, North Tahoe FPD and Meeks Bay FPD engaged the services of Emergency Services Consulting International (ESCI) to complete a comprehensive Standards of Coverage and Deployment Plan. The report serves to assist the two agencies in ensuring a safe and effective response force for fire suppression, emergency medical services, and specialty response situations. The North Tahoe and Meeks Bay FPD Boards of Directors held a joint meeting in August 2018 to consider this report and discuss alternative governance models, including reorganization.

The two FPDs are considering a joint reorganization proposal in which Meeks Bay FPD would be dissolved and the territory would be annexed into North Tahoe FPD. This proposal would require four separate actions: 1) a “zero sphere” amendment to the Meeks Bay FPD, 2) a dissolution of the Meeks Bay FPD, 3) a sphere of influence amendment adding the territory to the North Tahoe FPD, and 4) an annexation of the territory to the North Tahoe FPD.

Principal County

Meeks Bay FPD is entirely within El Dorado County, and North Tahoe FPD is entirely within Placer County. As the two existing districts are separate, and lie wholly within their respective counties, El Dorado is the principal county for Meeks Bay FPD and Placer is the principal county for North Tahoe FPD.

In CKH, "principal county" is defined as the county having the greater portion of the entire assessed value of all taxable property within a district or districts for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed. The total assessed value within North Tahoe FPD is approximately \$6.9 billion, and the total assessed value within Meeks Bay FPD is approximately \$1.1 billion. Based on the assessed valuations, Placer would be the principal county for the reorganization, with exception of the proposed Meeks Bay FPD sphere of influence amendment. If the reorganization is successful, Placer would remain the principal county for North Tahoe FPD, which would give Placer LAFCO exclusive jurisdiction over the District.

Transfer of Jurisdiction

As previously noted, CKH allows the transfer of jurisdiction for proposals from the principal county to another county, if certain steps are taken; however, spheres of influence must be acted on by the LAFCO of the principal county. Placer LAFCO considered several options for the transfer of jurisdiction at its March 13, 2019 meeting. Placer LAFCO did not vote on the item, but provided direction that its preference was for El Dorado LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the Meeks Bay FPD zero sphere designation and dissolution, and Placer LAFCO to be the principal LAFCO for the North Tahoe FPD sphere of influence amendment and annexation of territory.