



## **Fire Chiefs Report March 14, 2019**

### **I. The Department:**

As the storms continue to impact the community our personnel have worked as proactively as possible, checking culverts, natural drainage, evaluating hillsides for stability. They have committed to early arrival during storm periods to ensure that Rock Creek and Mosquito roads are open and safe. Our personnel have worked diligently through the storms, medical calls, electrical hazards and unstable and dynamic earthen conditions and auto accidents and at times have had to deal with derogatory and hostile remarks coming from some residents of community. We almost lost a member when he stopped to clear a tree from Rock Creek Road, 5 other trees fell within feet of where he was working.

**To the community, we do not close roads unilaterally. The decision to close Rock Creek or Mosquito Road is done in association with CHP and El Dorado County DOT.**

As is known, the tax initiative has failed. We will be looking hard and at every angle and will do all that is necessary to bring the District expenditures into alignment with income. The Fire District has been in deficit spending for many years prior to my tenure, and that of the current Board and more recent previous Board. All options will have to be considered. Should a staffing cut be needed I believe the first focus should be the Chiefs position. Cutting back the Chiefs position to a half or part time position will go a long way to maintain Emergency Response Staffing. We will have to seek to identify funding streams beyond property tax, assessments and fees. I will be meeting with the Deputy CAO Sue Hennike this coming week, to discuss potential County Assistance to maintain what minimal staffing we currently have. It must be understood that this assistance if received will require a specific and sustainable staffing plan. Should the County agree to assist, there will be a great push from the CAO's for consolidation, so I will need to meet with the Board to identify what their thoughts are, to move forward.

### **II. Personnel:**

Our personnel continue to do well with their training at the Divide Fire Academy and EMT Training.

### **III. Information.**

1. As it is known, I spend a lot of time at meetings with other Chiefs and County entities. Starting this month, I will now be including minutes and agendas from the JPA Board Meeting and the El Dorado County Fire Chief's Association. It is during these two meeting policies and resolutions are passed that have the greatest potential for impacting the Mosquito Fire District.



3. Due to the ongoing weather impacts my schedule has been greatly out of alignment with my scheduled work hours. We are doing all we can to reduce fiscal impacts, however with the transition of Volunteer Personnel heading to work and paid staff coming on duty, in association with predicted weather patterns, we have had to make multiple adjustments to all emergency staff schedules, to ensure District coverage.

3. **The IMT**

We have completed the Salary Survey for the OES IMT Contract. With our current admin fees, we should see some increase in income. It is difficult to predict what level that income will be.

4. **The JPA**

The JPA Finance Committee has decided to forward a recommendation that in the current economic situation, the EMS Stipends provided to Fire for EMS Supplies and training, should be stopped. I made a vigorous argument and stated that I believe this is a function of the JPA as they are the Emergency Services Authority for the County. It was 4-1 for stopping the stipend. There was a great lack of representation by the other rural districts. Should it pass at the Board Meeting it will have a significant impact on our EMS Operations.

#### **IV. The Station**

1. The insurance company has agreed to the cost of the station repairs. Construction should occur next week sometime.
2. Air Exchange will have a Project Coordinator in the Fire Station, to identify location of the infrastructure for the installation of the Emissions Exhaust System.
3. Our personnel continue to work on projects around the Fire Station, some will be aesthetic, others are necessary repairs.
4. We are now programming the front foyer door lock to remain unlocked during business hours 08:00- to 17:00 (5pm) Monday through Friday. The doors will be locked by the off going Company officer.

#### **V. Equipment.**

- a. E 275 Repairs have been completed
- b. WT 75 No reported issues.
- c. E 75 No reported problems.
- d. SG 75 No reported issues
- e. E 75 No reported issues.
- f. U 75 No reported issues
- g. SQ 75 No reported issues.
- h. C7500 No reported issues



## **VI. Calls for Service:**

We are still having issues with getting call data from Active 911. But I do want to take this time to express my gratitude and pride in all our staff. Families in the community have experienced great tragedy with the loss of loved ones. Our personnel have been on scene providing care to the medical patient and as it recognized that no further care would provide for recovery, our personnel with great care transitioned from the patient who was no longer in need, to the family who now have become our new patients.