



Mosquito Fire Protection District

Monthly Progress

Meeting Date:

January 16, 2025

To The Community

Chief's Monthly Report

Agenda Topic: Department Monthly Progress Report
Prepared By: Chief Eddie Dwyer
Date Prepared: January 16, 2025

The primary purpose of this report is to keep the community informed as to the activities and progress on major programs or objectives.

Personnel:

Per our current roster, we have 39 active members, 18 Support Group, of which 13 are in the medical cadre. We currently have 21 rostered Firefighters which include, one Chief/Paramedic of the Department, one Assistant Chief, one Division Chief of Special Operations, one Battalion Chief, two part-time Captain Paramedic, one Lieutenant.

Of our fire personnel, we have 15 members that can drive and operate all equipment.

Operations: Nothing to report

Incidents: From 01/17/2025 through 2/27/2025

Total 8

Incident Type:	Month	Type
Fire	0	
EMS	18	Medical
Hazardous Condition	0	
Service Call	1	Agency Assist
Good Intent	0	
False Alarm	0	
Auto Accident	1	

My Interview

Over the last few months there has been great contention regarding my position and promotion to Fire Chief. So, I felt it necessary to provide the residents of the Fire District with my background and experience. In an essence; to conduct an interview with the community.

Previous History and how I came to the Mosquito Fire Protection District.

In 1979, after completing high school early, I joined the California Department of Forestry now CALFIRE, served two years in the fledging Helitak program, assigned to Boggs Mountain, I also completed my EMT 1-A training.

On completion of my first season in September 1979, (the Fire Seasons were considerably shorter), I entered a six-month Paramedic Training program at Stanford University. I completed my training in March 1980, passed the 9 Bay Area County Test (ABAG), Certifying as a Paramedic in April 1980, I was hired by East Contra Costa Ambulance Service District in April 1980, then returned to CALFIRE in May of that year.

During the Fire Season of 1980 after several Fire Attack Insertions, I took the test, interviewed and was hired by the then San Leandro Fire Department, San Leandro Fire was a plank in the development of the Alameda County Fire Department.

I entered the Fire Academy in October 1980 remaining until my retirement.

In July 2012. After a long active career with ACFD working in one of the most dynamic emergency service systems in the state of California, a department recognized nationwide as an Elite Fire Agency, I was diagnosed with cancer, with direct correlation to hazardous exposures from a lifetime of doing the job. I underwent radiation, surgery and chemotherapy. I returned to the line in January 2013, not knowing the unseen damage caused by chemotherapy. In November of 2013, while working in extreme fire conditions advancing a 2-1/2" line under pressure to fight fire in a five-story center hallway apartment building with near 30 percent involvement of the 5th floor, I felt both my knees tear.

What was unknown to me was that over the months following my return to the job, the connective tissue in my knees slowly disintegrated.

Following 36 years of Service. Promoting through the ranks from Recruit Firefighter/Paramedic to Fire Captain/Paramedic, then to District Captain in charge of 5 stations. Having passed the Battalion Chiefs Test multiple times over 15 years, choosing to work overtime and occasionally perform upper-rank duties. I truly never had any great desire to promote up from Engine Boss. I loved being a Dirty Shirt Captain, riding the front right seat of the Engine with my crew. I enjoyed the camaraderie of the kitchen table with my guys.

In June of 2015, following complications related to my bout with cancer, after a 36-year career responding to some of the most iconic emergencies in the State of California, across the country and globally with FEMA/USAR Taskforce 4 out of Oakland I was retired from the Alameda County Fire Department.

August of 2016, I was recruited by then Chief Mike Hazelet, to assist him in rebuilding a Fire District in decline. I was hired as the Fire Captain.

In my first week I was tasked to review and provide a readiness report regarding the Fire Districts ability to respond to emergencies. What I found was shocking. My report basically recommended shutting down operations of the Fire District. I then devised an operational plan to borrow Fire Engines and equipment from partner agencies to keep the doors open. We had to buy new turnouts and protective equipment for our members.

Two weeks following my report, Chief Hazelet resigned, recommending to the Board of Directors that I become Fire Chief.

After two years of hard work, we were fully OSHA Compliant, we had a robust training program and running near daily Paramedic operations. The Paramedic service provided at the time only cost the Community \$7,500 annually. Things were far from perfect but were considerably better. In June of 2019, I had a reoccurrence cancer and underwent intensive treatment, returning to work 45 days later. After my wife was diagnosed with breast cancer in late 2019, I separated from the Fire District in February 2020.

During my first tenure as Fire Chief, our Paramedic Program had four cardiac saves with numerous other rescues.

A cardiac save is the resuscitation of a patient whose heart and breathing ceased. Reviving each community member, where all four recovered and returned home. It was the presence of professional personnel, strong EMT capable Firefighters with an experienced Firefighter Paramedic, in conjunction with solid near immediate CPR, medication and electrical therapies that created the environment for successful resuscitation.

Following my separation from the MFPD, I assisted many other small rural fire districts in the development of Special Operations Programs, including Technical Rescue, Community Paramedicine, HAZMAT, Swift Water Teams.

In June of 2023, Chief Rosevear asked that I comeback and assist with the recruitment and retention of Volunteer Personnel. Since then we were able to bring on a tremendous workforce of well trained and skilled personnel, then also recruit back former members and two part-time Paramedic Captains to the Fire District. While serving with Chief Rosevear, a new fire was lit, with a desire to complete work left undone.

Though I had absolutely no intent on staying past Chief Rosevears need for assistance, I had no intent to ever return as Fire Chief, when Chief Rosevear gave word that he was retiring it was then and only then, I had asked his blessing on seeking the Chiefs position. It was his recommendation to the board that I succeeded him.

The Board chose to utilize district policy to promote from within. In January, I signed an 18-month contract, which at completion will not be renewed, as I have plans to retire from the Fire Service on August 1, 2026.

What do I get from being hired.

I have no need to build a resume, I am not seeking to become Fire Chief of any other Fire Department, the MFPD is my career end. Primarily what I get is the chance to complete work left undone from my first tenure. My goal is to develop Fire District Special Teams, which on deployment can not only serve the Fire District and the Community of Mosquito and Swansboro, it has great potential to draw in younger well trained personnel who will in the future take part as volunteers to be eligible to deploy seasonally. The special teams will earn new money for the Fire District while also reducing the impact of deploying Fire Apparatus. This also has the great

potential of providing a near full year income to our members, with limited impact on our budget.

My Contract.

When we wrote my contract, it was done to reduce my fiscal impact on the district budget as much as possible. I chose not to accept medical or retirement benefits saving the district nearly \$19,000 over the course of my 18-month commitment. All accumulated unused leave is considered use or lose on separation to prevent any unfunded liability.

So why do what I do.

I am a professional Firefighter and have been my whole adult life, my career has spanned nearly 75% of my lifetime. My life is to be of service, never self-serving, to deliver the absolute best to the community for which I am employed. As I did in Alameda County, so now in Mosquito.

There isn't a life in the Fire District that doesn't deserve the best Emergency Service that can be provided. We have made a difference.

My only goal is to provide the best emergency service to this community. Then to leave a resilient Fire Department, that is no longer dependent on a single person, building the Fire District to be self-reliant and self-supporting.

Compensation:

My compensation is \$82,000 annually, for a 24/7/365 job.

Comparable Compensation for Fire Personnel in El Dorado County.

In El Dorado County, the position of Fire Chief pays in range from \$180,000 to \$236,000.

The average Firefighter compensation package ranges from \$136,000 to \$198,000. This compensation does include benefits.

So why am I the best candidate, and what have I done to prepare myself for this position?

Out of any candidate group, I believe I have the greatest knowledge regarding the service needs of this community, I understand the nuances necessary and the commitment this community requires, more so than any other who would apply for this position.

My Resume.

Edward M Dwyer

RESUME

OBJECTIVE: Informational only

Experience:

Fire Chief

Mosquito Fire Protection District

8801 Rock Creek Road, Placerville, CA 95667

Phone: (530)626-9017

Fire Chief, June 30, 2024 through present.

- All Hazards Emergency Preparedness.
- All Hazards Emergency Operations.
- Incident and Fire Investigation.
- Budget development, analysis, and management.
- District Management.
- Personnel/HR Management.
- Incident and Resource Management Operations.
- Strike Team Leader, Taskforce Leader (Red Card Qualifications).
- Type III Incident Commander, Branch Director and Division Leader.
- Safety Officer.
- Paramedic.
- Fire Line Paramedic.
- REMS Engine Boss.
- Ignition Ops.

Wilton Fire Protection District

Special Operations, All Hazards Command Duty Chief Officer

September 12, 2020, through May 22, 2022

- Develop and direct specialized operational teams.
- Develop policy and procedures, including standing orders for EMS Command Operations.
- HAZMAT
- Rescue
- Tactical EMS

- Flood Water Team
- Swift Water Team
- Rapid Extraction Module Support Team (REMS Team)
- Duty Officer
- Staffing
- Grant Writing

Mosquito Fire Protection District
8801 Rock Creek Road, Placerville, CA 95667
Phone: (530)626-9017

Fire Chief, August 22, 2016-February 13, 2020

- All Hazards Emergency Preparedness
- All Hazards Emergency Operations
- Incident and Fire Investigation
- Budget development, analysis, and management
- District Management
- Personnel/HR Management
- Incident and Resource Management Operations
- Strike Team Leader (Red Card Qualifications)
- Safety Officer
- Paramedic
- Fire Line Paramedic
- Ignition Ops

The Mosquito Fire Protection District is a small rural Special Fire District located in the Sierra Foothills, on the western Slope of the Georgetown Divide. The district is an extreme technical Wildland Interface Community requiring considerable tactical knowledge as it is bordered by the South Fork of the American River Canyon, BLM property to the south, the El Dorado National Forest to the north and east. The Fire District is situated on the ridge just above the South Fork of the American River with a 15 mile south facing aspect of considerable slope and contiguous fuel loads of 15 (USFS Fuel modeling) or heavier. The Community is located atop of a series of drainages, chimneys, draws with a prevailing upslope westerly wind pattern.

The location of the Fire District requires quarterly evaluation to carefully plan for changes regarding disaster management. These evaluations provide information for the development of pre-emergency response matrices designed for changing fuel loads and weather events from extreme Fire Weather to heavy rain and snow, which affects the access to the community for external emergency resources.

These evaluations and preplans also identify access and egress, actions and resources required for pre incident mitigation needs required to protect homes and structures that would be in immediate threat during wildland fire incidents.

Due to the isolated location of this community, Emergency Medical Services creates an extreme technical problem. Requiring constant evaluation of response routes, availability of external resources and partner agencies. In 2016, I was able to establish Paramedic Services on a consistent daily operation. Planning and budgeting had allowed the Fire District to provide and maintain Advanced Life Support Services, which was long denied to this community. The pre-planning for the Fire District also established Safe Refuge Areas, and evacuation routes for community residents, identifying when and how air assets are utilized for EMS Transport. As chief, I am responsible for the all-facets management of a 68-member agency which includes a 30-person Community Emergency Response Team, and 38 active paid and Volunteer Firefighters. I am the primary liaison establishing combined services agreements including working relationships with internal and external County, State and Federal Fire agencies and County Fire Safe Councils.

Other duties included:

Grant Writing

El Dorado County Fire Chief's Association

Development of post disaster infrastructure resiliency and recovery planning.

District liaison, El Dorado County EMSA, Medical Advisory Committee.

Associate Director, El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority (El Dorado County Ambulance Services).

Committees include,

- **JPA Board Member**
- **Finance**
- **Deployment**
- **Training/Education**
- **Equipment**

The El Dorado County Emergency Services Authority, is a conglomerated operational special district which provides oversight for 911 System emergency ambulance response. As an associate director, I am part of that governing body.

I have served on finance, grant, training, operations, equipment and response committees. writing and submitting reports to the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, the El Dorado County EMSA and as well as the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority.

Reports written, identify compliance with local, state and federal laws and regulations. Working with NHTSA Office of EMS. Safety regulatory bodies such as FEDOSH, CALOSH, NFPA, ANSI and FEMA, to establish policy consistent with local, State and Federal laws and regulations.

Alameda County Fire Department

Firefighter/Engineer/Company Officer, District Captain, October 10, 1980 – July 1, 2015
(Retired in good standing)

- Firefighter Paramedic, Engineer Paramedic, Company Officer Paramedic, District Captain/Acting Battalion Chief.
Incident Commander, Branch and Division Leader for the LLNL Site 300 Annual Vegetative Control Burn.
- Q Level Security Clearance, Department of Energy (former).
- HAZMAT Specialist Team Member.
- 12 Lead Qualified Paramedic/Instructor.
- EMSQI Committee/Instructor Cadre.
- CPR, ACLS, PALS Instructor, and Instructor trainer.
- AHA Regional Faculty for ACLS.
- EMD QA (Review Emergency Medical Dispatch for Quality Assurance), Stewardship of NAED Accreditation.
- USAR California Task Force 4 Oakland HAZMAT Specialist, Rescue Specialist, Medical Specialist, Nuclear and Radiological Materials Specialist. Air Monitoring Specialist.
- Emergency Exercise and Drill Controller, Observer (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory).

CALFIRE (Formerly CDF)

Two Seasons, 1979 & 1980, Boggs Mountain Helitak.

Stanford University 1996-Present.

Adjunct Instructor of Basic Cardiology, Emergency Resuscitation.

National Fire Administration/National Fire Academy

Emmitsburg Maryland

April 2015-Present

Contract Instructor and Controller

Emergency Medical Services Special Operations

Emergency Medical Incident Operations

Large Incident Command and Control

Complex Fire Management and Incident Control

HAZMAT Response and Command Management

Response and Incident Command for Natural Disaster

American Health Education

Facility Faculty 05/03-Present

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS), CPR, Basic EKG, 12 Lead Instructor and Instructor Trainer, AHA Regional Faculty for ACLS, Course Development and Paramedic Educator.

Stockton Fire Department

EMDQA/Dispatch Quality Assurance Consultant 08/07-04/10

Directed NAED (National Academy of Emergency Dispatchers) Accreditation Process, conducted EMDQA review.

AMR Alameda County/ Contra Costa County Operations (Part Time)

Senior Paramedic 11/84-12/96

Paramedic Preceptor

Benicia Fire Department

Volunteer Firefighter, Lieutenant. Volunteer Training Officer 10/80-11/90

EDUCATION AND TRAINING:**Solano Community College**

Emergency Medical Technician I-A

Fire Ops 101

Associate of Science Degree, Fire Service Operations

Cogswell College,

Bachelors of Science, Emergency Management

Stanford University, Palo Alto California

Advanced Life Support Paramedic

November 1979-April 1980

Solano Community College

Skyline Community, College/Western Prehospital Institute, Advanced Life Support

Paramedic 1989-1990 (Renewal)

Palo Verde Community College, Blythe, California**California State Board of Fire Service Certifications:**

- Firefighter I
- Firefighter II
- Driver Operator
- Fire Officer I (State Fire Officer Certification requires the following seven advanced training courses prior to issuance of the certificate.)
 - a) Command 1-A
 - b) Command 1-B
 - c) Command 1-C HAZMAT
 - d) Fire Investigations 1-A
 - e) Fire Investigations 1-B
 - f) Management
 - g) Instructor 1-A
 - h) Instructor 1-B

- Rescue Systems
- Confined Space Rescue
- HAZMAT Technician/Specialist
HAZMAT Incident Commander

OSFM Chief Officer

- 3-A. Human Resources
- 3-B. Budget and Fiscal Responsibilities
- 3-C. General Administrative Functions
- 3-D. Emergency Service Delivery Responsibilities

Executive Chief Officer

- 4-A Human Resource Management for the Chief Executive Fire Officer.
- 4-B Community and Government Relations for the Executive Chief Fire Officer.
- 4-C Administration for the Executive Chief Fire Officer.
- 4-D Health and Safety for the Executive Chief Fire Officer.

California State Board of Fire Service certifications:

- Fire Service Instructor 2-A
- Fire Service Instructor 2-B
- ICS 200
- ICS 300
- ICS 400

CSFM and NWCG Courses

NWCG	S-130	Basic Firefighter
NWCG	S-131	Advanced Fire Fighter
NWCG	S-134	Engine Boss
NWCG	S-190	Basic Fire Behavior
NWCG	S-234	Ignition Operations
NWCG	S-290	Advanced Fire Behavior
NWCG	S-270	Air Operations
NWCG	S-404	Fire Line Safety
FEMA	L-954	All Hazards Safety Officer
NWCG	AH-330	All Hazards Strike Team/Taskforce Leader
NWCG		Division Leader
NWCG		Branch Director

NWCG Type III Incident Commander
NWCG Command Team Evaluator and Signatory

National Fire Academy Courses:

- Executive Fire Officer
- Emergency Response to Terrorism
- EMS Special Operations
- ALS Emergency Response for HAZMAT
- Management of Emergency Medical Services
- Fire Service Course Design
- Advanced Leadership in Emergency Medical Services
- Advanced Safety Operations
- Interpersonal Dynamics
- New Fire Chief
- EMS Incident Operations
- NIMS 100
- NIMS 200
- NIMS 700
- NIMS 800

California Paramedic License P-05629 expires January 31, 2025

AHA ACLS Provider/Instructor, expires March 31, 2026. In process of renewal.

AHA PALS Provider/Instructor, expires March 31, 2026. In process of renewal.

AHA BLS Provider/Instructor, expires March 31, 2026. In process of renewal.

PHTLS Provider, expires October 2028.

Ambulance Strike Team Leader, Sacramento Valley EMS.

Accolades and Awards:

CALFIRE: 1979 Commendation for actions taken during Firefighting Operations,
Twin Sisters Fire, Solano County California.
1980 Commendation HELETAC Chesbro Fire, Morgan Hills California.
1980 Awarded Red Ribbon for actions above and beyond, rescue of
multiple trapped residents during evacuation Panorama Fire, San
Bernadino, California.

Benicia Fire
Department

Commendation for dedication to duty 1980.
1980 Commendation for actions taken during medical aide calls.
1982 Commendation for Rescue of entrapped residents during Structure Fire 512 West H Street, Benicia, California
1986 Commendation for Rescue of entrapped motorist, caused by molten sulfur tanker accident with rollover and spill Benicia Bridge January 1985.
1988 Awarded Firefighter of the Year.
1990 Awarded Fire Officer of the Year

Alameda County
Fire Department

1982 Commendation/Award Probationary Firefighter Paramedic of the year 1981.
1983 Paramedic Firefighter of the Year
1985 Alameda County EMS Paramedic of the Year.
1986 Awarded Red Ribbon with Commendation for actions above and Beyond the Call of Duty
1990 Commendation with recognition for valor, HWY 880 Oakland California, Cyprus Structure Collapse following Loma Prieta earthquake.
1990 Awarded California State Firefighter Medal of Valor, for actions affecting rescue of entrapped persons during secondary collapse, Highway 880, Cypress Structure collapse, Oakland California.
1992 Oak Leaf Cluster, for actions taken on Broadway Terrace rescuing 7 entrapped residents during the Oakland Hills Fire 1991
1993 Alameda County Firefighter of the year/Medal of Valor Recipient For actions taken during armed attack on personnel and residents, South Central Los Angeles April 30, 1992.
1995, Commendation for actions taken during search and recovery deceased victims, Northridge Hospital Parking Structure January 19, 1994
1996, Commendation, Deployment to Oklahoma City, Murrah Building Bombing, April 21, 1995.
2002 Commendation, FEMA Civil Service Award, for Deployment, following September 11, 2001.
2002 Commendation, Commissioner's Citation Fire Department of City of New York.
2002 Awarded WTC Campaign Ribbon.
2004, For Actions above and beyond in attempt to rescue Novato Fire Crew during the Cedar Fire, following burn over October 29, 2003.
2006 Governors Award for airborne rescue of trapped residents of New Orleans, Louisiana. Following Hurican Katrina September 5, 2005.

2009, Award of White and Red Ribbon, for accumulation of actions leading to the rescue of nine entrapped residents, following response to multiple structure fires, throughout the year of 2008.

2015, California Firefighter Purple Heart, cancer survivor.

End of Resume, Conclusion of the Interview.

Interlocal: Nothing to report at this time

Legislative: Upcoming CALOSHA regulations

Grants: We submitted a FEMA SAFER Grant Proposal for hiring of personnel. Two FEMA AFG Grants, one for the purchase of a Type 6 Fire Engine, one AFG Regional Grant for the purchase of a breathing air compressor. We are in constant search for all grant opportunities.

Apparatus:

All Fire Apparatus were inspected by Jason Warden of Stretchfab Truck Repairs. All of our Firefighting assets are capable of operating as necessary in the event of emergency for which they are designed. Over the years, the apparatus have fallen into serious neglect, now requiring considerable maintenance repairs.

Engine 75- Currently undergoing motor power plant Turbo Repair

Engine 275-will be transported to Stretchfab, this week on completion of Engine 75, turbo repairs.

Expedition 7500, Repairs completed under budget

Expedition Vin/Lic# 1417356 Repairs completed under budget.

Explorer Vin/Lic #2ZB74411 Removed from service.

Public Safety and Training:

Please remember to clean your chimney, be prepared for any type of emergency and evacuation.

Support Group Training:

Monthly Training on the first Saturday of each month.

**Ongoing Community Events:
Pancake Breakfast March 15, 2025**