



## MOSQUITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

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### *Chief's Report March-April 2021*

Calls for Service: March 23-April 18

Fires: 5 (Water Tender Mutual aid to County Fire & Cal Fire/Georgetown)

Medical: 3

Electrical Hazard: 1

Fire Season 2021 is approaching rapidly. There have been a series of control burn escapes around the County. We have posted advisory warnings on social media and our website. On Wednesday April 4, District personnel responded to three wildland fires. Two occurred at the same time on Maidu Dr. and a short distance away on Ponderosa Grove Dr. The spot fire on Maidu was contained by a resident and District firefighters quickly contained the quarter acre roadside fire on Ponderosa Grove. These fires would have had a different result a month or two from now, with the drying vegetation. The fire on Ponderosa Grove started along the road and travelled slowly up the embankment. There was a large residence uphill from the fire on Log Cabin Ln., which would have been impacted by the fire had the grass been completely dry. The cause of the two fires are under investigation.

The third fire of day on 4/4/21 was on Rock Creek Rd. in the forest area (outside the District). A resident was burning vegetation, which escaped control. The area burned was small and was reported by dirt bike riders. The resident was issued a warning notice by Cal Fire.

On Saturday May 15 at 10:30am, the Mosquito Fire Safe Council will host a Town Hall discussion (at Fire Station 75) with representatives of Cal Fire and the Sheriff's Office on wildfire issues, evacuation plans and the 2021 Fire Season. Lunch will be served by firefighters after the meeting. The meeting notice can be found on our website: [town-hall.png \(1242x1238\) \(mfpd.us\)](#). The Sheriff and Cal Fire encourage residents to sign up for the Code Red program (phone application but also for hard-wire phones, email, and other devices), to receive emergency information about fires or other emergencies to be aware of and possibly evacuate from. You can find sign-up information at: [EDSO Alert Notification](#). We will be expanding this sign-up information through our website and social media platforms. Sign-ups for the Code Red program will be available at the Town Hall event.

On Saturday June 19, there will be a fire safety event at Dyer Lake, sponsored by SCPOA, Mosquito Fire Safe Council and the Mosquito Firefighters Association. There will be lunch and plenty of information about fire safety, preparedness and evacuation awareness for residents and guests. There will also be a firefighting demonstration by Fire District personnel, fire equipment displays, a visit by Smokey Bear and things to do for kids.

The Fire District website [www.mfpd.us](http://www.mfpd.us) is improving each week, with more content and information being added. We are currently building the member portal of the site, for personnel to access a variety of training, scheduling, and time sheet/payroll platforms. Please check it out the new site and let me know if there are any questions or suggestions.

The Joseph Case has been resolved with no further action for the District. The settlement statement is included on the front page of our website.

The response to Southfork/LAFCO for the Financial section of the draft MFPD Municipal Service Chapter has been completed and sent to the Board of Directors to review. It was sent to the consulting firm Monday afternoon. I will keep the Board updated if additional response is required.

#### Personnel Update:

We continue to add and bring on new volunteers. Captain Baker is coordinating a schedule which adds an additional daily firefighter for coverage and response. The Divide Fire Academy is currently going through wildland fire training, studying fire behavior, weather, building fire line with tools, performing wildland hose lays, using chain saws to remove brush and hazard trees. In addition to our three personnel in the academy, two new MFPD volunteers were added to the group, to attain their wildland fire certifications.

Captain Baker will soon be launching a recruitment to find firefighters who have their fire academy certification and EMT training. The best qualified applicants will be determined and invited to an interview. This is a part of an over volunteer marketing plan that Captain Baker is working on. Our focus and priority is community based volunteers, of which we have been successful so far in attracting. We currently have thirteen (yes-13!!) **community-based** volunteers, with four in basic training. We currently have an additional six (6) firefighters who are not community based and will work shifts at the station. Of the six, four are currently in basic training. These growth numbers are very encouraging, and we will continue to strive for more.

The careers and lives of Assistant Chief Todd Hern and Captain Chris Dillender are both featured on our website. We greatly appreciate their long-time service to the Community and continue to be valuable resources for us. On many occasions they have literally saved the day and made a significant difference in the outcome of an incident or saving of a life. We are in their debt.

#### Grant Update:

On 3/12/21 we submitted our grant request to FEMA for the SAFER program funding for staffing. If awarded, which we are hopeful, the grant would provide the ability for us to fund six full time positions for round the clock staffing for the next 3-4 years. Awards will be announced in September 2021.

Our Cal Fire 50-50 grant is currently active (\$20,000) for the purchase of wildland safety equipment. We have placed an initial order for gear (\$8,500) which will arrive next week. We will be reimbursed for half the amount we spend. According to grant requirements we must purchase the approved equipment prior to June 30, 2021. We will apply for next year's round of 50-50 grant within the next week.

We have also submitted three additional grants (2 regional, 1 District) to FEMA for various equipment. Regional grants have been requested with our sister districts for the purchase of new, state of the art

breathing apparatus and updated mobile radios, portable radios and pagers. District equipment includes vehicle extrication equipment, a washing machine for contaminated safety gear and a replacement breathing air compressor.

SSD/Strike Team Invoice Update:

Attached is the latest update of invoices, breakdown of expenses and revenue generated by fire engine and SSD out of District fire deployments. We have recently received a payment for \$214,879 for nine incidents. The payment for the fire engine deployments is all paid now (4 incidents). Fire engine personnel will receive their payroll next week for the North Complex and Loyaltown Incidents. I will continue to keep the Board updated each month as payments arrive. I do not anticipate all invoices to be paid until June or July.

The District is seeking volunteers of all types. If you have the desire to contribute your skills and talents to help your community, we have a place for you.

This concludes my report. I will continue to update our projects and report progress. There are some exciting months ahead as we develop these programs and attract new people to the District. I appreciate the great support we receive from the Community and its commitment to being prepared. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me at the fire station (626-9017) or email me at [jrosevear@mfpd.us](mailto:jrosevear@mfpd.us).

Jack Rosevear, Chief