

Contra Costa County



Fire Protection District

October 13, 2015

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

- The District continues to work with County Human Resources to fill vacant positions. We are currently recruiting dispatchers, a communications manager, fire mechanic, fleet manager, and fire investigator. We are pleased to announce the hiring of Wendy Riley, our new Facilities Manager; Chris Kwapnosky, Account Clerk, and Joejay Santos our new IT technician. We have also hired two new inspectors, Steven Rupnow and Todd Schiess. Lastly, we currently have 27 Firefighter Recruit candidates going through background checks in anticipation of starting Academy 49 in January 2016.
- The District was notified in September that we had been awarded a \$930,000 grant for a command vehicle. As you are aware, the County is very susceptible to both natural and manmade disasters, and this vehicle will give us the ability to effectively command those major incidents in the field over a long duration. The Sheriff's Office recently purchased a similar vehicle and our staff are working together to make sure we don't duplicate their efforts, but rather build a vehicle that complements theirs. In addition, we were successful in receiving a grant for \$55,000 to enhance security at our regional dispatch center and an additional \$105,000 to provide a cache of portable radios. We continue to pursue as many grant opportunities as possible.
- The District continues to participate in the East Contra Costa Emergency Services Task Force. The Task Force has been meeting for several months to determine ways to remedy the financial and public safety issues within the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District. The draft plan is scheduled to be released in the coming weeks.
- The apparatus doors at Fire Station 10 in Concord were recently painted a traditional red color courtesy of Payless Painting in Pleasant Hill. Kelly-Moore Paints in Pleasant Hill donated the paint. We appreciate the support of the communities we serve and specifically these two vendors.
- The District has begun negotiations with County EMS on the ambulance transport contract. The negotiations are proceeding very well and the contract should be

completed and ready for your review in November. Once the EMS agency contract is complete, the contract between the District and AMR will be completed and presented to the Board for approval.

- The District continues to make progress toward the implementation of the ambulance transport contract on January 1, 2016. We are currently working to make sure that policies are aligned, ambulance graphics and uniforms are agreed upon, and technology challenges are overcome. We have completed our review of the collections contractor and should announce our selection in the next week. At this point, we believe that full implementation can begin on January 1, 2016.