## **Contra Costa County**



## Fire Protection District

June 14, 2016

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Jeff Carman, Fire Chief

RE: Fire Chief's Report

The District continues to work with the City of Pinole and the Rodeo Hercules Fire District on a proposal for CCCFPD to provide administrative oversight to both agencies. The intended goal is alignment of the three agencies which should bring about safer and more efficient operations. Both agencies have appointed special committees, we have met with them separately and jointly, and our next meeting is scheduled for June 13. At the next meeting, the viability of the concept should be determined.

- On May 16, the District placed six (6) mechanical compression devices on apparatus in the field in an effort to improve the quality of CPR and increase the number of lives saved. The mechanical compression devices provide consistent, uninterrupted cardiac compressions to patients requiring CPR which, in turn, frees personnel to perform other medical treatment and provides for a safer environment. Since we deployed the devices, five (5) cardiac arrest victims have experienced a return of spontaneous pulse and blood pressure.
- The Fire District is already feeling the effects of summer. Call volume has increased along with call complexity. In the last month, there have been multiple structure fires in the District, many of which required a second alarm or greater. These fires have resulted in numerous injuries to civilians and firefighters, and one civilian fatality. In addition, we have utilized our fire boat and the Sheriff's helicopter to rescue multiple victims from otherwise inaccessible areas of the delta/bay and open space near Mt. Diablo.
- The ambulance transport program continues to meet and exceed our projections. Field personnel are working well together, our communications center consolidation is improving daily, and response times continue to improve. The relationship between the EMS agency and the Fire District is strong, and communications between all agencies is the best I have ever seen. We are working on additional opportunities to be more efficient and provide even better pre-hospital care, including opportunities at major social events throughout the county and emergency inter-facility transportation.

Board of Directors June 14, 2016 Page 2

- Fire season is here. The rain we received this winter did help with the drought and the ongoing fire danger, but it also produced numerous thick, tall fuels which have already begun to dry out and burn. As the Fourth of July approaches, we will undoubtedly see a significant increase in wildfires and fireworks-related injuries. We urge all of our citizens to be careful; clear dry fuels away from buildings; refrain from using fireworks; and, rather than using fireworks, enjoy the public displays located throughout the county.
- Last month, the Fire District and the City of Lafayette held a public meeting to discuss the design of Fire Station 16 in Lafayette. There was good public turnout, and the input was mostly positive. We continue to move forward on this project and anticipate the station will be operational in 18-24 months.
- Fire Station 70 plans continue to progress. The site is currently under a variety of reviews by local agencies and legal counsel. After we receive all of the necessary information, we will begin to work on a design concept that will comply with the lot requirements. As a reminder, the City of San Pablo has agreed to pay up to \$2.5 million dollars for the construction of this new fire station.