

April – May 2024

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: March 25-April 21

Medical Aid- 4

Public Assist- 2

I would like to introduce and welcome EMT Asa Deitch, to our firefighter staff. Asa lives off hill in the Shingle Springs area and is starting his orientation with 24-hour shifts on Tuesdays. Also joining us as wildland firefighters in training are Stanley Simons and Randy Campo. Both Randy and Stanley are community residents. All three new personnel will be participating in mandatory wildland training, both in class and hands-on training drills. This includes regular physical training. We continue to recruit for additional firefighters and part-time supervisors for the upcoming fire season.

Austin Eby will be graduating Firefighter 1 academy on May 17 from American River College. Tony Christensen, Trevor Dillender and Angel Rosevear will be graduating from Sierra College Firefighter 1 & 2 Academy on June 2. We are proud of these four men, who will embark on a great career in the fire service. Firefighter academy training is funded by our FEMA SAFER grant.

I would also like to welcome new Administrative Volunteer, Kristopher Buihner, who will be helping to manage our new SAFER grant and will also be writing new grants, as he finds opportunities. Kristopher is a talented person with grant writing and teaching experience, who lives in the Community. We are fortunate to have him on board.

We have submitted grant applications to FEMA Assistance to Firefighters (AFG) program, which we have had past success for training and equipment. The new applications request a replacement Type 6 Fire Engine (\$327,380), updated portable radios (\$60,569), breathing air compressor (\$76,213). Awards will be announced beginning April 30. We have submitted the application for the FEMA SAFER staffing program to request three full time positions to staff the Station (\$1,241,460). We are currently being considered for a grant extension of residual funding from our previous volunteer Recruitment and Retention Grant (\$120,000).

This will purchase a number of items and services for marketing to recruit new volunteers.

We have completed purchasing for the Cal Fire 50/50 grant (\$20,000). Items purchased include 5 Bendix King portable radios, training fire shelters, forceable entry tools, wildland hose, nozzles and fittings. We have applied again for the next open application period in May for 2025 purchasing.

In the Fall of 2023, our District was awarded \$666,320 from the FEMA SAFER (Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response) program. The grant was applied for in February 2023 and we were successful in the first round of awards. This gives us another four years of grant funding for our productive volunteer program, which has resulted in the fire station being staffed 24/7 for over two years. The funding covers volunteers' stipend pay for shift coverage and response to emergencies, training classes, new volunteer expenses including physicals, background checks, uniforms and safety gear, support of the Explorer program, salary and benefits for a volunteer coordinator (Fire Captain), and more. Residual money from the current grant ending in December 2023 can be used for enhanced marketing and other volunteer support needs. Many thanks for grant writing efforts by Meredith Blain and Didi Everhart (Gatchell Grant Resources-Canton, OH). We are currently awaiting the results of a parallel SAFER grant application for full time station staffing (3 positions- 1 firefighter/supervisor 24/7/365). I have posted a success story about our grant experiences, on the US Congressional website for SAFER and AFG staffing. The District has also been awarded \$10,000 from Cal Fire for wildland PPE and equipment to be spent in the Spring 2024 (50/50 grant- \$10,000 matching from District- \$20,000 purchase total).

Our Fire District staff is fully committed to our Community. We stand ready to assist our residents with any needs they may have, to prepare, support and provide the most up to date information. We are happy to conduct an interior or exterior fire safety inspection upon your request. Please call us at 530-626-9017 or stop by the station.

This concludes my report. I will continue to update our projects and report progress. We 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 [jrosevear@mfpd.us](mailto:jrosevear@mfpd.us).