

February – March 2024

## **CHIEF'S REPORT**

by Chief Jack Rosevear



Calls for Service: January 24-February 22

Medical Aid- 4

Vehicle Fire- 1 (False Call)

Lift Assist- 1

Public Assist- 4

Congratulations to our chili cook-off team, the Mosquito Bites, for their success at last Saturday's Battle of the Badges Competition at the Fairgrounds. Twenty Two teams competed for the best chili and most creative booth. Mosquito took first place for the best booth, third place for chili in the people's choice category and fifth place chili among the judges. Special thanks to Chef Cheryl Owen for always putting forward winning chili, Natasha Cutter, for creating a wonderful unique and creative space for everyone to come and enjoy, team members Mary Williams, Dustin Cutter, Trent Williams, Scott Reiman, Madeline Reiman and Don Stever. Thank you to DAX for your sponsorship of the team and Station. The event raised \$85,000 for Snowline Hospice.

We welcome new firefighter-trainee and EMT Tyler Carte to our staff. Tyler currently works for a private Ambulance Company and has a career goal to be a firefighter paramedic. Tyler resides in Folsom and will be staffing 24 hour shifts at the station on Wednesday and Thursday. He will be going through in-house training, participate in the wildland firefighting certification training and is scheduled to attend Firefighter 1 Academy in August. Tyler will make a great addition to the crew.

Training Tuesday has resumed and will happen every other Tuesday evening, with the next training night March 5th. Training will involve a number of topics relevant to the time of year and operations the District normally undertakes. Storm preparedness, structure fire, chimney fire, vehicle accidents and on-going medical training are the current priorities. Various topics will be covered for firefighters and Support Group. The public is invited to observe training, to ask questions and meet our staff.

We currently have four firefighters in Firefighter 1 academy at Sierra and American River Colleges. One firefighter is currently in EMT training with the Sacramento State University program, to be completed in March. The Firefighter 1 academy students will graduate in June. This is a very intense program, requiring the firefighters to attend academy and related training (or physical training), seven days a week. Both EMT and Firefighter 1 training are funded by our FEMA SAFER Grant.

Fifteen Support Personnel will participate in the Title 22 Public Safety First Aid training course, delivered to Station 75 by the El Dorado Hills Fire Department Training Center. The

instruction will happen Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>. This is the same curriculum delivered to Cal Fire firefighters and police officers, which is State Certified with certificates for successful completion. Personnel will learn the various aspects of first aid and patient assessment, including certification on the administration of Narcan, Epinephrine pens, Glucose monitoring and administration, advanced bleeding control. Attending personnel already have their current CPR/AED, which was taught by Chief Dwyer last summer. Successful completion of the course and follow-up training by our EMTs and Paramedics will form a basic Medical Response Group, which will assist duty firefighters as needed. The added personnel who have certified skills training will be a tremendous benefit to our community, to compensate for the long response times paramedics have to get to our incidents.

The Fire District was recently 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.