

OES Approves Pre-Position During Heat Wave

September 5, as we experienced a significant heat wave across the region, locally we submitted a request to pre-position two water tenders within the County through CalOES. The request requires the local Op area coordinator to complete several OES “score” sheets, outlining the current conditions, weather, available resources, and drawdown. Based on our scoring and needs CalOES may approve the request and provide the funding to cover the increased resource(s). We were able to staff Water Tender 21 under the approved funding from September 5 thru September 13th. Thank you to all who volunteered to staff the water tender during this pre-position. The addition of a staffed water tender to augment our local firefighting resources was a significant benefit.

Pre-positioning of personnel and equipment can be requested for a multitude of reasons, for approval by CalOES. The requests must meet their criteria for approval. One area lacking within their criteria, which we have brought to CalOES for consideration, is snowstorms.



During last years “snow-mageddon” we did reach out to our OES Chief to discuss a potential pre-position of additional resources to assist locally with the impacts from the storm. Unfortunately, CalOES does not have any criteria for snow, they do have floods, mud flows, etc but not snowstorms...yet.



El Dorado County Firefighters Honor Firefighter Hustrei

On September 17, 2022, El Dorado County Professional Firefighters Local 3556 President Jacob Poganski, Vice-President Jamie Preston, Honor Guard Member Josh Land, Captain Lucas Shepard, and Fire Chief Cordero attended the IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial to honor our own Firefighter Branden Hustrei. FF Hustrei passed from occupational cancer in 2019. It was a solemn honor to be part of the ceremony, recognizing our fallen firefighter. The family of firefighter Hustrei was personally escorted to the ceremony by Captain Preston, who definitely made it his personal mission to insure all the needs of Carly and the family were met during the weekend.

If you have not had the opportunity to visit the IAFF Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Colorado Springs, I would encourage all of you to put it on your list, whether you visit during the annual ceremony or anytime you happen to be in the area. The site is kept in immaculate condition, through a lot of effort from Colorado Springs Local 5., and it puts into perspective that we are all part of a larger family of firefighters and those who have come before us and the sacrifices they made.

Firefighter Hustrei is joined on the Memorial Wall by our own, Captain Smelser, Captain Ross and Captain Keck.

County Fire Crews continue to operate Medic 28 from Station 48

The JPA continues to work towards a solution to replace Medic 49 and return the 8th medic unit back to our system. Since the closure of Medic 49, County Fire has relocated Medic 28 to Diamond Springs Fire Station 48 on Missouri Flat Rd. The move of Medic 28 was done to assist in the call volume associated in the core. While this movement has clearly displaced some of our personnel, I truly appreciate everyone's patience and understanding as we work with the JPA to bring back the much-needed additional unit to our system. The loss of Medic 49, due to staffing shortages, has increased the workload across all of our medic units. We are looking at other adjustments to the system, such as the movement of medic 28, to provide temporary relief to the system during this shortage. If you are working medic 28 and have any operational or logistical needs, please send them through the chain so we can meet your needs.



County Fire Probationary Firefighters Put to The Test

September 13th, Station 23. The County Fire Training Division held our quarterly manipulative evaluations for our probationary firefighters at Station 23. These quarterly evaluations take place during the first year of a firefighter coming online, providing an opportunity for each firefighter to demonstrate their proficiency and skillset. The 3, 6, 9 & 12 month evaluations are designed to build upon the previous evaluations and provide a foundation for all our firefighters beginning their careers. While these evaluations put our new firefighters through the training paces, without our training cadre, personnel – both on and off duty and Chief Officer participation, we wouldn't be able to complete these evaluations. There is a tremendous amount of planning and coordination that is necessary for these evaluations, however, the investment in our new firefighters makes it all worth while. To all of our personnel that came out to assist our new firefighters and the training cadre during these evaluations – Thank You! We also recognize that the evals are just a small representation of the hours of training provided by our crews daily in preparing these probationary firefighters for these evaluations.

To our probationary firefighters, keep up the hard work, your attention to detail and dedication to your profession.

Work Hard, Train Harder and Earn Your Seat Everyday!

County Fire Welcomes New Firefighter Paramedic



On September 30, 2022, El Dorado County Fire welcomed our Firefighter Paramedic Traci Kroll at our Board of Directors meeting where she was sworn in. Firefighter Kroll previously worked for Cal Fire, Humboldt Bay Fire and Novato Fire, before choosing to join County Fire.

Firefighter Kroll is currently assigned to Station 28 A shift.

We also have 3 additional Firefighter / Paramedics coming online later this month.



Joint Public Safety Building Update...

The Placerville City Police Department and El Dorado County Fire have been exploring the feasibility of a Joint Public Safety Building, combining the Police Department, Station 25 and Fire Admin Office into a common facility, for some time now. Last year, we entered into an agreement with Dewberry Consulting for a feasibility study and needs assessment for both organizations. After quite a bit of work by both agencies and some challenges with getting the report completed, we are reaching the point where a presentation to

both the Placerville City Council and The El Dorado County Fire District Board of Directors is being scheduled. Both governing bodies will be presented the findings of the study and provide direction to group. The endeavor of a new Joint Public Safety Building is a large undertaking, however, both current facilities are beyond their service life and the needs of our communities have outgrown these buildings. If the project is to move forward, we will need to identify a location and the biggie...funding. Thank you to everyone who has provided information and accommodated the impromptu “hey I need of picture of...”

More to follow-



RMS System Upgrade to Image Trend

Our current RMS, Firehouse has reached its end of support through ESO. As a result, the District has been looking into different RMS platforms to provide a modern and more efficient reporting system for our District. After evaluating several options, the recommendation was to utilize Image Trend. Our Board of Directors approved the transition at the August Board meeting, the contract with Image Trend has been signed and Captain Lindberg is our lead for the project. Included in the project is CAD integration, which is a significant enhancement and time saver from Firehouse.



Update on the Shared Services Discussion with Diamond Springs Fire

Since my last update on Diamond Springs - El Dorado Fire Department and El Dorado County Fire District beginning discussions regarding entering into a shared services agreement, there have been several meetings with the Chiefs’ and the Local E-Boards from both departments. During these meetings we openly discussed the challenges met by previous attempts, as well as the potential advantages to enhance our operations and service delivery to our communities.

Both our Chief Officers and Local E-Board support the concept of entering into a shared service agreement. Our recommendation and support will be taken to both the Diamond Springs - El Dorado Fire Department and County Fire Board of Directors for approval this month. If approved by both Boards, we are ready and committed to exploring the opportunities with working with Diamond Springs Fire. Entering into a shared service agreement, will allow for some efficiencies of operations between the Departments, and create an avenue to look at additional opportunities to increase our cooperation and operations. This item will be presented to the Diamond Springs Fire Board on October 11th and the El Dorado County Board of Directors on October 20th.