



 **Fire Chiefs Report**
 *February 18, 2021*

JPA Updates

- Formation of a new sub-committee focused on system enhancements to review call volume, locations, medic unit placement, etc. First meeting is pending scheduling.
 - Review of JPA policies and procedures underway, with initial focus on controlled substances policy and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI).
 - Exploring an Instructional Service Agreement (ISA) with local colleges to establish training partnerships and reimbursement opportunities, possibly creating a West Slope group under the JPA.
 - Chief Dutch and I have a meeting scheduled with Chiefs Blankenheim and Morantz regarding JPA legacy costs. This follows up on previous discussions with Chiefs Ransdell and Brown. A meeting with Chief Johnson (El Dorado Hills) will also be scheduled soon.
-

CARES Act Funds

- All purchases funded by CARES Act are complete, and equipment is now in stations. Chief Williams recently closed out with the County CAO's office. A few minor adjustments were made, but all documentation has been submitted.
-

Hiring Update

- Two newly hired Firefighter Paramedics have completed orientation and accreditation; currently assigned to Stations 28C and 19A.
 - Our recruit at the Sacramento Fire Academy sustained an injury, with a minimum recovery period of three months. Captain Adams remains at the academy as a Drill Instructor.
 - Interview and testing processes for Firefighter Paramedics and Firefighter EMTs are scheduled for March.
-

COVID-19 Update

- Crews continue to strictly follow COVID-19 protocols.
 - The County Emergency Operations Center completed its first public vaccination clinic at Red Hawk Casino last Thursday. Clinics will continue weekly on Thursdays by appointment only. Chief Lohan remains Operations Chief for the event, coordinating with EOC staff. El Dorado County Fire maintains a presence in various capacities.
 - The second round of vaccinations for first responders was completed during the first week of February.
-

City of Placerville

- Continued engagement with City staff, including attendance at staff meetings and City Council sessions.
 - Prevention personnel and I attended a meeting with the City Building Department to review procedures related to building plans and approvals.
 - Requests for Proposals (RFPs) are being submitted to the City for the joint public safety facility. The City is developing criteria for proposal review.
-

Countywide Fire Prevention Update

- Fire Prevention Officers (FPOs) are revising the Fire Water Supply Without a Purveyor Residential and Commercial Standard. This update aligns with changes to the California Fire Code, NFPA, and other standards.
 - Primary revisions address tank storage sizes and outlet requirements. This updated standard will apply county-wide as part of the El Dorado County Regional Fire Protection Standards.
-

District Information

- Engine 17 construction at Pierce is underway, with expected completion by May 2021.
- Recruitment flyer for Fire Prevention Bureau positions remains open, closing February 26th. Captain Stirling continues to lead the bureau with assistance from Diamond Springs and qualified line personnel via overtime.
- Annual audit with Craig Fecter & Company nears completion. A close-out presentation to the Board is anticipated in March or April, pending final scheduling.
- Regarding Station 28 retaining wall compaction issues, Chief Williams is consulting additional engineering contacts; no further update at this time.

- The AFG grant period is open. Captain Snyder is preparing a SAFER grant application to address staffing needs at Station 72, supported by additional personnel as needed. Submission is due mid-March.
 - LAFCO has scheduled our island annexation for their February 24th meeting. The agenda includes opening a public hearing, approving environmental review, and approving the annexation.
 - Live Fire Drills will be held next week at Station 23 utilizing new conex box training props. This joint training includes Diamond Springs Personnel, Cal Fire, and others as part of the training cadre and ground school.
 - Strategic Planning efforts are ongoing, awaiting participant names from a few Fire Service Councils (FSCs). Once confirmed, dates and formats (in-person or virtual) will be established in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines.
-

Safety Incident

- A near-miss occurred involving a Large Diameter Hose (LDH) failure from one of the engines. Chief Lohan, as District Safety Officer, will prepare a “green sheet” report. The affected hose generation has been removed from service and is undergoing re-testing. Manufacturer consultation is underway to determine if known issues exist.
- During the failure, the hose struck an employee, knocking him to the ground. Fortunately, no reportable injuries resulted.