



El Dorado County Fire Protection District

Fire Chief's Monthly Report
April 17, 2025

City of Placerville

- ◆ **Annual Wildfire Preparedness Event – April 26**

We're gearing up for the **Annual Wildfire Preparedness Public Event**, hosted by the **Placerville Fire Safe Council**.

📍 **Location:** Mid-Town Mall

🕒 **Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

The El Dorado County Fire and Diamond Springs Fire Districts will be participating with several fire apparatus and crews. This is a great opportunity to connect with the community and promote fire safety awareness ahead of fire season.

Joint Powers Authority (JPA)

- ◆ **Master Contract Status**

The **draft master contract** remains under review with **County Counsel**. An additional follow-up meeting may be necessary before a finalized version can be presented to the **JPA Board** for consideration.

- ◆ **Transporting Agency Contract Discussions**

We've held the first meeting regarding the **transporting agency contracts**, which formalize agreements between the JPA and participating fire agencies. Once finalized, the contract for ECF will require formal review and approval by our Board.

District Updates

- ◆ **New Administrative Support Staff**

We are pleased to welcome **Hannah Saitman**, who will begin her Administrative Support role on **April 22nd**. She will start training with our team immediately.

- ◆ **Captain Poganski Transitioning to Fire Prevention**

Effective **April 21st**, **Captain Poganski** will begin transitioning into the **Fire Prevention Bureau**. Many thanks to **Chief Daniels** for leading this process and ensuring a smooth handoff.

- ◆ **Diamond Springs Administrative Transitions**

Preparations continue for the **pending retirement of Lori Tuthill**.

- **Kathleen** has been cross-training with Lori to take over bill payments and Board Clerk responsibilities.
- **Gina** is preparing to assume additional Fire Prevention and CFD-related duties.
- We are coordinating with **SCI Consulting** for CFD reporting to the County.

◆ **SCBA Grant Update**

Chief Daniels has submitted a reimbursement request to **AFG** for the new **Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)** units, which are expected to arrive this month.

An amendment to the original grant will be submitted to account for equipment changes while remaining within the original funding amount.

◆ **Loss of TOT Funding**

At its **April 8th meeting**, the **Board of Supervisors** voted to eliminate **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) funding** for fire agencies. While the decision was not unanimous, it is a disappointing setback in recognizing the service demands placed on agencies by tourism-related incidents.

◆ **Division Chief Testing Progress**

We have completed the first phases of the **Division Chief testing process**. **Chief Gallagher** and I will be conducting final interviews with the candidates in the coming weeks.

◆ **Upcoming Training: Wildland & Swift Water**

- **RT-130 Wildland Fire Refresher**: May 6, 8 & 10 (led by **Engineer Land**)
- **Swift Water Rescue Drills**: May 12, 14 & 16 at **Henningsen Park** (coordinated by **Captains Morgan, Rose, and Vermillion**)

◆ **Honoring Chief Shepard**

We are incredibly proud of the dedication and professionalism shown by our members in honoring **Division Chief Lucas “Shep” Shepard**. The **candlelight vigil** and **memorial service** were conducted with the utmost dignity—**Shep would be proud**.

We are currently compiling a list of acknowledgments and thanks to our **partner agencies** whose assistance was deeply appreciated.