



Sonoma Valley Fire District

Proudly Serving the communities of

Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, Glen Ellen, and Mayacamas

DATE: 7/9/2024
TO: Sonoma Valley and Kenwood Board of Directors
FROM: Chief Akre
SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report – June 2024

A. ADMINISTRATIVE:

1. SDC: We have been informed that we will be extended for one more (and final) year through 7/1/2025. We do not have a contract in hand yet and are still working with Command Staff and labor on how we will staff Station 10 for this next year. We will continue to staff as we currently do until we have the contract and an updated and agreed upon plan for staffing in place.
2. KWD: Staffing service continues to go very well. We are continuing to move forward with the process of exploring consolidation with both Boards and held another joint Consolidation subcommittee meeting this week. Both Boards are being presented with Concurrent resolutions at the July Board meetings, with consideration for approval. We are in the process of moving KWD employees, both career and volunteer, to Sonoma Valley effective July 8th. Chief Bellach has retired effective 6/30, was also his last shift. We congratulate and thank Daren for his 36 years of service to the KWD Community and to the Valley! We are excited that he will become a SON Volunteer and continue to serve.
3. REDCOM Update: AMR issued a 120-day termination notice to the REDCOM JPA with an effective termination date of 10/8. REDCOM Board is working hard to ensure continuity of service to our communities and first responders, and to ensure that all employees are kept whole as we transition to a new model of staffing for REDCOM. The REDCOM Board heard a report and recommendation from the Board's Ad-Hoc committees to have the JPA become the employing agency. The Board voted 7-0 to approve going in that direction. This will ensure the independence of the JPA and the equality of all member agencies. Our next special meeting will be on 7/11 at 2 pm, and we will meet every two weeks thereafter. Big thank you's to BCs Andreis and Lacy for their ongoing efforts with REDCOM, both on a daily basis and as we move into a transition.
4. Measure H update: The State Supreme Court ruled that the CBRT initiative will not be on the Nov 24 ballot! This eliminates that last remaining threat and uncertainty about Measure H funds. We continue to move forward with all of our implementation plans.
5. We held our monthly Command Staff meeting.



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6. I attended the monthly Cal Chiefs E-Board, Northern Area Directors and Leg Task Force meetings. We are deeply involved in a current fight with the CA Board of Pharmacy regarding the continued use of glutathione, which is the primary compound used in our cancer prevention detox program that 10 of our members have now completed with incredible results. We are committed to continue participation for our members into the future and are working hard to also explore other funding opportunities such as workers comp (FRMS), and advocating through Cal Chiefs and CPF.
7. FRMS update. We held our regular Board meeting on 6/10 in Sacramento.
8. BC Lacy and I attended the monthly SCFCA Meetings. This month will be at the Rancho Adobe Fire Station Cotati.

B. INCIDENTS:

1. Fire Season: Thank you to all who responded and backfilled for the Point and Sites Fire Deployments! We had a great response to the Point and it continued to the Sites. Obviously, we are in an early and strong start to the Fire Season. We continue to maintain our commitment to helping other communities and to our members safety!

C. BUDGET/FINANCE:

1. The City approved our contract and an additional replacement ambulance and EMS equipment at the June 19th Council meeting.
2. We are working on the Special Tax preparation for the 24/25 tax year.

D. PERSONNEL:

1. Our new hire Academy will Start July 8th. We are excited to have 6 people in the Academy: Hunter D., Sofia, Molly, Trevor P., Steve S., and Mike H. This equals the biggest Academy that we have had in our history. The previous one with 6 was when we hired the 6 apprentices back in 2017. The ability to staff 302 and 3386 at 3-0 will make a tremendous difference in our level of service and all of Your Safety! Thank you to TO Loftus and all those who are committed to instruct and help with this Academy.
2. Ezekiel, our new Fire Mechanic, has completed all of the pre-employment process and we are extremely excited to have him start on 7/22!



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E. TRAINING:

1. Companies will be participating in a Regional Trench Rescue drill in Petaluma in late July.
2. Volunteer drills are being split into two locations for better logistics and localized training.

F. EQUIPMENT:

1. Apparatus spec committee is currently working on developing specs for a "Rural" Type 1 engine. We need to have this sized engine to be able to best serve District 5 and 3.
2. City approved the purchase of a new ambulance. The Sister Cities have taken the donated ambulance and it is in the process of being transported to Ukraine.

G. BUILDINGS & LAND:

1. The New Station 2 project: we are in the final weeks of escrow on the two properties on Arnold. BC Norrbom is doing an amazing job in leading the process to finalize these transactions, coordinating numerous evaluations and reports, and get us ready to submit an application for annexation into the Sanitation district for sewer connections. This will be a LAFCO process, which we are very familiar with.
2. Station 2's upstairs remodel in anticipation of accommodating M302's crew is nearly completed. We are working on the last construction step, which is replacement windows and then finalizing the permit process.

H. PREVENTION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

1. See separate report

I. ASSOCIATION:

1. We have been gearing up for the 4th of July Celebration. It has been remarkable to see ALL of the help and support from throughout the Department! From Explorers, to new volunteers, career, retirees, and Board members. Thank You!!!
2. A huge "Thank You" to all of our leads for the 4th of July: Norrbom, Boldt, Keechler, Campbell/Lely, McCracken, Anna Norrbom, Maxwell and to everyone and their family members who have signed up to help out! This is truly an "All Hands" event