

**TUOLUMNE FIRE DISTRICT**

18690 MAIN STREET

TUOLUMNE, CA 95379-9686

(209) 928-4505 - FAX (209) 928-9723

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Monday, September 10, 2024 @ 6:00p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Brian Bell, Chairman.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Brian Bell – Chairman, Adam Artzer - Vice Chairman, and Darlene Hutchins – Secretary.

Absent: Tony Kreig – Treasurer and Alexander Horat – Board Member.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Public visitors: Joe and Marie Horat

**APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES** June 11**, 2024**

Adam made a motion to approve the previous minutes as written.

Brian seconded the motion.

No public comment. Vote 3/0 with 2 absent – Motion carried.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Chief Santi was acknowledged for his continued impeccable organization of Tuolumne Fire department.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Repairs needed for E-732 (Motor/Repair Axle):**

During the fire that occurred in the Tuolumne river canyon known as the Canyon Fire on August 8, 2024

E-732 had a catastrophic engine breakdown. The discussion ensued of replace vs rebuild. A new Engine is excessively expensive and having one built will take over two years at this time.

Cordellia Fire Protection District that is being absorbed by Fairfield Fire Department was selling two Type 3 Engines ($65,000), one had been sold by the time of this meeting and a Type 1 Engine (which would not fit in our bays) ($130,000) which is an option.

After option presented to the board and recommended by Chief Santi was going with a company called Dyno that can send us a re-built engine with a cost of between $32,000 to $35,000 with a two-year unlimited warranty.

George Danicourt a mechanic with WC Malony will be doing the work to install the new engine.

Brian made a motion to accept the above proposal of purchasing a re-built engine for E-732 and authorizing Chief Santi to use $40,000 from reserves to get E-732 back on the road, Darlene seconded the motion. No public comment. Vote 3/0 with 2 absent – Motion carried.

**2. Canyon Fire Response:**

On August 8, 2024, at 11:30 p.m. a 911 report was made of a fire in the Tuolumne river canyon off of Old Buchanan Mine Road. Tuolumne City E-732 was the first fire engine on scene followed by E-811 and Tuolumne County/Cal Fire.

The fire started at the bottom of the river canyon but “spotted” over the road. The Mira Monte fuel break worked well to slow the fire and held it to 85 acres. Early evacuations in areas where there was only one way in and one way out so that equipment could move in quickly also worked well with the Sherrif’s Office Everbridge system.

**3. The Use Of Station Siren During TCSO Evacuation Orders:**

There has been some public concern since the August 8, 2024, Canyon Fire because the station siren was not sounded during isolated evacuations that were going on that night. The station does own the siren, but it is the Tuolumne County Sherrif, by law, is the only one who has the authority to make the decision when it is sounded.

**4. Staffing Concerns:**

We are having concerns about low staffing levels again, we have four (4) interns, two (2) of them are in medic school. Because of this, they have proposed their own schedule so that they can cover shifts and still able to make their classes. There is at least one (1) intern on each shift. We also have an intern who will be moving away in January.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Strategic Planning Committee:**

The Strategic Planning Committee, (Chief Santi, Brian Bell and Tony Kreig) The committee is working on:

**2. Department Report (the detailed report is attached to these minutes)** Chief Santi discussed what he had written in his attached report.

**3. Administration Report**

All reports were reviewed and approved this month.

**4. Approval of Warrants and Requisitions**

All warrants and requisitions were approved.

**ADJOURN**

7:09pm

**NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – October 8, 2024**