



Chief's Report

Board Report for January 16, 2024

To: Truckee Fire Protection District Board of Directors
From: Kevin McKechnie, Fire Chief

Facilities:

Mitigation of the plumbing leak at Station 92 is nearing completion. Paul Davis Restoration removed and properly disposed of the contaminated material. The area has been disinfected and ventilated. Post removal mold testing has been completed and the area is certified as being free of any toxic mold. Fleet and Facilities Director Baker is working on getting the insulation and drywall repaired, which will likely occur next week.

The crews have expressed an interest in having extractors at the outlying stations. The extractor is the washing machine that is used to clean firefighting turnouts which can become heavily soiled during firefighting operations. Currently, we only have one extractor in the fire district at station 92. It is important to separate the washing of turnouts from the normal household laundry of uniforms, linens and towels to avoid cross contamination. When turnouts are being laundered, crews utilize their second set of turnouts to respond to emergencies. Frequently, the second set is old and can be out dated. Along with the consideration for extractors, crews have also asked that we revisit the replacement cycle of turnouts. Changing the turnout replacement cycle from 10 years to 5 years would provide a second set of turnouts that are not out dated. Chief Parkhurst will address these needs with the equipment committee.

Fleet:

During a routine service, it was found that Engine 97 had extensive metal in the transfer case oil, and it is likely that a bearing has failed. On Tuesday, the engine was shipped via lowbed transport to Hitech in Oakdale. Engine 98, the four-wheel drive fire engine, has been put into service at Station 97.

On Thursday, January 4, Medic 297 went out of service during a patient transport to Sutter Roseville Medical Center. The crew exited the freeway at Weimar Crossroads and stopped at Placer Hills Fire District Station 86. Dispatch was notified of the equipment failure and AMR met with Medic 97 and completed the transport. Medic 297 was towed to Future Ford and was diagnosed with a serpentine belt failure which caused an engine oil seal to fail. Chief Ochoa reported the equipment failure to SSV-EMS as required in their policy manual. Future Ford indicated they can repair the medic unit and we hope to have it back in service in a week or two.

We still have a medic unit that is out of service at Capital Ford in Carson City. This is a newer medic unit that is still under warranty. The unit was operating as Medic 92 when oil was noticed in the cooling system. The vehicle was towed to Capital Ford and initially diagnosed with a failure of the oil cooler. Subsequent diagnosis indicates that it may be a failure of the engine block. Capital Ford is having trouble obtaining parts to complete the repair and the completion timeline is unknown. For that reason, we have removed the equipment and soft goods and are placing our new medic unit in service.

Staff:

We are starting to think about negotiations for the next MOU with the Employees Association. The current MOU expires at the end of 2024. I have contacted Bryce Consulting, the firm that performed our last two compensation studies, and they are available to perform a new study. The quote for a new study is around \$13,000 and it will take about 10 weeks to gather the data and prepare the report so we have plenty of time to complete the process and agree on a MOU before the end of the year. The compensation study compares our pay and benefits with other similar organizations. In the past we have compared ourselves with 13 other agencies. The goal of the study is to inform our salary and benefits to ensure we are able to recruit and retain employees. We plan to work with the Employees Association on the parameters of the study to ensure it is functional and representative for all parties. More to come on this item.

Captain Doc Holoday has announced his intention to retire this coming summer. This will create an opening at the Captain rank. We are planning to offer a promotional assessment for Captain this spring.