

FIRE CHIEF/CEO STATEMENT

The Ambulance issue in Colusa County seems to be making progress in finding a Revenue source to fund emergency ground ambulance for the County but, the solution is not a given.

There is still only one ambulance serving Colusa County, which at times has been very problematic.

The second phase of the consultant, AP Triton report was finally presented to the Colusa County Board of Supervisors on November 15, 2021, after many meetings with all stakeholders, County of Colusa, all Fire Agencies, Enloe Ambulance, and Sierra-Sacramento Valley EMS. The Consultants recommendation was to place a transaction/use tax on the ballot for the general election in 2022 with the goal of re-establishing two ALS Ambulances operating in Colusa County. It would now be placed into the hands of the voters.

After numerous additional meetings the Colusa County Fire Chiefs Association agreed to sponsor a Resolution requesting the Board of Supervisors to place a one-half cent transaction/use tax on the November 8th

2022 general election ballot. This was after the Board of Supervisors hired another consulting firm in February to gather information from the Board of Equalization to determine the amount of sales tax being collected within the county and what retail businesses it was being generated from. Supervisor Gary Evans had reservations regarding the transaction/use tax stating it would put a burden on the Agricultural Community and drive farmers to purchase equipment, fertilizer, chemicals, and other necessary commodities out of Colusa County.

The consultant's report on the sales tax Revenues took 90 days.

In May the Colusa County Fire Chiefs Association submitted their Resolution to the Board of Supervisors to place the transaction/use tax on the November 8th general election ballot.

There was uncertainty that the Supervisors had the votes to place the tax measure on the ballot taking into consideration that to place the tax measure on the ballot it takes a 4/5 vote of all Board members. The fact that one Supervisor would be absent for the Board

meeting where the tax measure would be voted on and Supervisor Evans view on the transaction/use tax.

On June 21st the Board of Supervisors voted 4-0 to place the transaction/use tax measure on the ballot for November 8th.

It was now up to the Fire Agencies within the county to educate the voters as to the crucial importance of having an ambulance service within Colusa County. The alternatives are not favorable to citizens or visitors experiencing a medical emergency. The Sacramento River Fire District Administration immediately went to work on planning on how to best educate the voters of the County. Some plans included sign boards, informational posters, flyers, newspaper articles, mail outs, and public meetings.

On November 8th we will see how the voters vote on the tax measure to provide emergency ground ambulance service. If it passes it will provide an essential and critical service to the County. If it does not pass it will be back to the drawing board to determine a solution to the problem. It is unknown what will happen until that occurs.

Again, as mentioned in last years report, the question will be how long will Enloe Ambulance, the present ambulance provider continues to operate at a large deficit even though they are a nonprofit organization, in Colusa County.

The Board of Supervisors EMS AD-HOC Committee (Corona & Smith) did begin working on Plan B in order to finance at least one ALS Ambulance. That plan involved the County, the City of Colusa and City of Williams providing general fund resources, 50% County, 25% each city, to subsidize Enloe Ambulance estimated operational deficit estimated at \$726,814 for the calendar year 2022. That, plan fell short when the City of Williams Council voted 3 -1 to not provide general fund revenue to ambulance service. The County learned they had a 1.5-million-dollar general fund deficit, and the Colusa Council took no action after learning of the County's deficit. It was anticipated the Colusa Council would have voted no. Presently there is no alternative plan to generate revenues for ambulance service.

There still has been no renewed talks to form a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Colusa Fire

Department. The talks that were occurring ended almost two years ago, September 2019. In the view of the Fire District's Administration the City of Colusa is placing their future on the marijuana industry within the city, although they are not receiving the revenues promised by the marijuana companies. The Administration has no idea if talks will resume, or when. Most likely when the marijuana industry fails in Colusa.

The modified re-instated automatic aid plan with Colusa Fire has for the most part come to a standstill. There were communication issues between the two fire agencies as well as operational problems that have not be resolved.

The total number of emergency incidents increased 21 from 388 to 409 from the previous year (5%). Although the total number of incidents increased the number of fire incidents decreased from 35 to 31 (11%). EMS Response increased from 208 in 2020-2021 to 225 in 2021-2022 (8%). Mutual Aid responses showed a noticeable increase from 37 the previous year to 52 this year (29%). The increase was attributed to the automatic aid agreement with the Colusa Fire Department

and Mutual Aid responses out of county, Investigations, and Public Assists showed a slight decrease, while Hazardous Materials and Activated alarms showed a slight increase.

The Fire District continues to support the Forest Agencies with Apparatus and personnel for wildland fires. In 2021-2022 the District responded to the Beckwork Incident in Plumas County, the Dixie Incident in Butte, Plumas, Lassen, Shasta and Tehama Counties, the Caldor Incident in El Dorado County and Lava Incident in Shasta County.

The District provided 4050 hours for these assignments during the year.

The District continues to maintain an excellent safety record thanks to all personnel who practice safety on a regular basis.

All emergency incidents during the year were mitigated safely, effectively, and efficiently with no firefighters' injuries or deaths. Personnel continue to be very conscious of safety.

Fire losses increased from \$32,215 in 2020-2021 to \$64,815 in 2021-2022 (49%). The largest loss fire

involved a large vegetation fire and caused \$34,300 damage, 55% of total losses for the year. There were two farm equipment fires involving farm tractors which caused \$14,850 in damage (24%) of total fire loss.

The decrease in fire incidents was primarily due to the decrease in vehicle fires from 3 the previous year to 1 in 2021-2022 and miscellaneous fires from 4 to 2.

EMS responses increased from 208 in 2020-2021 to 225 in 2021-2022 (8%).

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The District continues to maintain an excellent safety record thanks to all personnel who practice safety on a regular basis.

The volunteers continue to provide invaluable and very essential service to citizens and visitors of the Fire District. The volunteers continue to be the

backbone of the Fire District at a minimal cost to the taxpayers. Without volunteers it would be very difficult to provide emergency services to our citizens at the level presently provided.

The volunteers provided 7214 hours during the year. Emergency responses accounted for 5918 hours, and 1266 hours were provided for training. The number of total hours increased 2329.5. The increase in hours was attributed to training, and EMS and Mutual Aid responses.

Safety continues to be well embraced by the Administration and Personnel. Safety is a daily practice. All personnel are responsible for their safety first, safety of other personnel second, and safety of civilians third.

Average hours provided per person during the year was 2.5 hours. The District is working diligently to increase that average by 50% especially training hours. The volunteers deserve an enormous amount of praise for the service they provide during the year.

There was one reportable vehicle accident during the year. The District's Staff Vehicle was involved in

a minor accident when it drove into a drainage ditch on White Road causing minor damage during an emergency response.

The full time Captain's position continues to pay benefits to the district. Captain Trotter continues to take additional responsibilities very seriously and continues to grow in his position. Captain Trotter works well with the Administration and volunteers. Captain Trotter is very conscientious of the public and their needs. Captain Trotter continues to educate himself through outside training classes provided by State Fire Training and has recently earned his Chief Officer Certification and began working towards obtaining his Associate of Science degree in Fire Science.

Susie McCullough, Secretary, Antonio Trotter, part time Firefighter, Joseph Mahorney, Chris Azevedo and Martin Ramirez, Mechanics continue to serve the District with a high level of dedication. Ms. McCullough continues to administer the District's Incident reporting system, which is forwarded to the State Fire Marshall Office monthly. The reporting

program is vital information for the District when applying for Grant Funding. Ms McCullough is also responsible for the monthly claims and associated accounting records, which are required each year for the Districts Annual Audit.

The District continues to recruit new volunteers aggressively. The District lost one member during the 2020-2021 year. The District added six new members. The Volunteer Roster presently consists of 36 members. There are two volunteers presently on medical leave of absence.

The Board of Directors continued their high level of leadership of the District. The Directors commitment and dedication to provide out citizens and visitors with high level of emergency service is very commendable. The Directors insistence of spending within budget each year has resulted in an equitable cost to the taxpayers.

The Directors will continue to research new revenue sources in order to maintain that equitable cost. Insurance, fuel, utilities, and other general costs of doing business continue to rise noticeably.

In closing, I would like to thank the Directors, Firefighters, and Support Staff for their continued commitment and dedication during the year to provide the successful service that is provided. These are the people that make it all come together. It is always a pleasure and privilege to work with such a great group of people. I look forward to working with them in the future.

Respectfully,

Jeffrey J Winters
Fire Chief/CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Garner- Chairman

John Miller - Vice-Chairman

Patty Hicel - Secretary

Roger Moore - Director

Matthew Simmons- Director

Rande Brookins - Director

Johnny Kimbrell - Director

The Board of Directors are responsible for the Administration of the Fire District. Their responsibilities include, but not limited to, approving claims for payment,

hiring and dismissing full time personnel; providing and maintaining necessary insurance coverages, purchasing apparatus and equipment, approve agreements, adopt ordinances, and maintain sufficient revenues for District operations.

The Directors meet on the second Tuesday of the month at alternate stations to conduct general business. All meetings were held as scheduled. All meetings are conducted in accordance with the Brown Act.

Special meetings are held as necessary. Two special meetings were held during the year.

All meetings were conducted in person and continued to follow Center of Disease Control, State and Local mandates concerning the Covid-19 Pandemic.

The Directors continue to make conscientious decisions in providing a safe environment for the citizens and Fire District through proactive and educated decisions they make at each meeting and are held in high regards.

The Directors must be commended for their time, sincere concern, and dedication to provide a high level of emergency and non-emergency service to the citizens of the district at an equitable cost.

2022-2023 Goals Accomplished

- Placed six Volunteer Firefighters on the District Roster.
- Replaced north section and repaired south half of roof – Colusa Station.
- Receive and placed into service six new Bendix Kling portable radios.
- Install new interior and exterior lighting – Grand Island Station.

2022-2023 GOALS

- Grand Island Station maintenance project #2
CONTINUED- Install new ceiling fans in apparatus room, install personal protective clothing lockers.
- Colusa Station renovation project Stage #5-
Continued. Paint exterior of building, Decorative work front of building. Re-Seal parking lot.
- Continue to research new revenue sources.
- Receive Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant and purchase ten sets of wildland Protective Clothing.
- Purchase additional Thermal Imaging Camera.
- Up-date automated external Defibrillators (s).

5-10 Year Goals

- Replace Engine #146, 2002 Type III Engine, and Engine #143, a 1987 Type I Engine.
- Complete Colusa Station Renovation project.
- Complete Grand Island Station maintenance projects.
- Replace structural fire protective clothing.
- Replace self-contained breathing apparatus.
- Research new revenue sources.
- Hire Full-Time Firefighter.

BUDGET

The Board of Directors at their regular meeting on August 9, 2022 approved a balanced budget with estimated Revenue and Expenditures of \$775,737.00.

Actual Revenues for the 2021-2022 Fiscal year were \$864,677.00 and actual Expenditures of \$517,608.22 resulting in a \$347,069.00 carry over.

Revenue from property tax increased 23%. The largest increase was property unity tax from PGE which the District has never received in the past.

Revenues from interest earned decreased 81% from the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year. The County Tax Collector, in a less stable stock market, has again attributed this decrease to less aggressive investments, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and inflation rate. Interest income

will hopefully begin to increase as the state and national economy stabilizes.

Revenues from fire suppression increased noticeably from the previous year (17%) due to the increased participation in out of county responses to wildland fires. It must be recognized that a large percentage of fire suppression revenues are paid out for personnel salaries. So actual revenues to the District are the smaller amount of the total collected. It also must be remembered that the Fire District does not receive reimbursement for the OES Water Tender assigned to the District by the State when deployed, only for the personnel. Property Assessment increased noticeably from the previous year (14%) from \$153,499 to \$177,710. All other revenue accounts remained relatively the same.

The District will continue to experience increases in Expenditures to accounts that the District has no direct control of, such as fuel, health insurance, liability and property insurance, workers compensation insurance and utilities. Revenues will

remain relative flat with an anticipated 5 -8 % increase depending on the local economy.

The District will continue to expend Revenues in a cautious and responsible manner to the taxpayers, while continuing to research new revenue sources. Recent Research indicates that any Revenue increases will most likely have to be voter approved on a local level. State and Federal Funding, such as grants, are becoming more and more competitive, although the District continues to apply for grants when they open.

Revenue for the 2021-2022 year was as follows:

<u>Property Tax</u>	\$158,812
<u>Special Assessments</u>	\$177,710
<u>Interest</u>	\$3,258
<u>Fire Suppression</u>	\$127,242
<u>Homeowners Property Tax</u>	\$770.00
<u>Gifts and Donations</u>	\$900.00
<u>Carryover from 2021-2022 Budget</u>	\$347,069

<u>Development Impact Fees</u>	0.00
<u>Miscellaneous Other Revenue</u>	\$6,111
<u>Proposition 172 Funding</u>	\$70,177
<u>Workers Compensation Insurance</u> <u>Dividends</u>	\$7,332
<u>Employee paid Health Insurance</u>	\$7,712

Expenditures by Account for 2021-2022 were as follows:

Salaries and Benefits	\$298,379
Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$11,802
Liability and Property Insurance	\$17,512
Communications	\$10,324
Utilities	\$21,988
Fuel	\$10,628
Protective Clothing	\$1,697
Equipment Maintenance (Does not include all labor)	\$37,710

<u>Education and Training</u>	\$5124
Professional Services	\$3057
Special Departmental Expense	\$2603
Office Expense	\$3116
Maintenance of Structures	\$2347
Improvement to Structures	\$25,281
Health Insurance	\$14,055
Medical supplies	\$2189
Memberships	\$7825
Miscellaneous Equipment	\$3000
Rents & Leases ((New Engine)	\$96,141

Current Apparatus Inventory

The District owns all apparatus and equipment with exception of the 2020 Freightliner/Toyne 1250 GPM Type II Engine. The CAL-OES Tender is owned by the State of

California and is assigned to the District under an agreement.

Colusa STATION

2001 Freightliner-Westates Type III Engine

2020 Chevrolet 1500 HD 4x4 Staff Vehicle

2006 Freightliner-Westates 1250 GPM 850-gallon Type I Engine

2015 International HME 1250 GPM Type I Engine

2009 Ford F550 Air-Light Unit

2013 Ford F550 Light Rescue Unit

2005 Freightliner-Westates 750 GPM/3250-gallon Type I
Water Tender

GRAND ISLAND STATION

2020 Freightliner/Tyone 1250 GPM 630-gallon Type II/III
Engine

1999 Ford F450 Light Rescue Unit

2002 Freightliner- westates 500 GPM/2000 Gallon Type I Water
Tender (CAL-OES)

1994 Freightliner-Westates 1250 GPM 750-gallon Type
I Engine

SUMMARY OF EMERGENCY RESPONSES

	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	<u>2018-2019</u>	<u>2017-2018</u>
FIRES	31	35	27	33	40
MEDICAL EMERGENCY/RESCUE	225	208	187	224	221
PUBLIC SERVICE AGENCY ASSIST	31	37	29	22	42
INVESTIGATIONS	55	58	72	49	60
MUTUAL AID AUTOMATIC AID	52	37	49	47	52
ACTIVATED FIRE/EMS ALARM	12	11	23	16	10
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	2	1	0	0	2
SEARCH/RESCUE	0	1	3	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

PROPERTY FIRE LOSS BY MONTH

	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
JULY	250.00	100.00	9500.00	0.00
AUGUST	0.00	0	0.00	0.00
SEPTEMBER	0.00	0	9830.00	8214.00
OCTOBER	14,850.00	0	91,860.00	42,558.00
NOVEMBER	10,000.00	500.00	0.00	125.00
DECEMBER	0.00	0	250.00	3800.00
JANUARY	15.00	0	0.00	0.00
FEBRUARY	0.00	6590.00	250.00	0.00
MARCH	0.00	575.00	0.00	0.00
APRIL	0.00	20,550.00	581,498.00	860.00
MAY	34,300.00	3900.00	0.00	0.00
JUNE	3,400.00	0	50.00	0.00
TOTAL	62,815.00	32,215.00	693,138.00	55,557.00

SUMMARY OF FIRE LOSSES BY PROPERTY CLASSIFICATION

	2021-2022	2020-2021	2019-2020	2018-2019
<u>STRUCTURE:</u>	12,265.00	50.00	0.00	0.00
COMMERCIAL/ INDUSTRIAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
AGRICULTURAL	0.00	3000.00	580,748.00	125.00
RESIDENTIAL				
PUBLIC MAINTENANCE		0.00	0.00	0.00
OUTSIDE STORAGE	15.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Recreational				
VEGETATION	34,900	500.00	50.00	0.00
CROPS	0.00	0.00	0.00	1000.00
VEHICLE/trailer	2,800	7165.00	20,630.00	13,882.00

AIRCRAFT/ WATERCRAFT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
FARM EQUIPMENT	14,850.00	21,450.00	91,750.000	40,500.00
MISCELLANEOUS	0.00	50.00	0.00	50.00
TOTAL	62,815.00	32,215.00	693,178.00	55,607.00

Fire Loss Summary

Fire Loss for 2021-2022 increased from \$32,215 to \$62,815 (49%).

One large vegetation fire, "River Incident" attributed to 55% of the total fire loss for the year \$34,300.

Fire involving structures (3) caused an estimated \$10,265 in damages, 16% of total loss. Two fires involved residential dwellings and caused \$10,250 in damage. The third fire involved a Duck Club- Club House and caused very minimal damage, \$15,00.

The first residential fire occurred in a mobile home at Ward's Landing on Butte Slough Road. The mobile home was heavily damaged causing an estimated \$10,000 damage, including contents. Cause of the fire was electrical short circuit in a space heater.

The second residential fire occurred in a single family dwelling on Orange Avenue. The fire caused minimal damage to an exterior wall. Cause of this incident was determined to be suspicious by person (s) unknown.

The third structure fire a Club House at Colusa Shooting Club on Laux Road. The fire involved linen in a cabinet drawer next to the stove and caused very minimal damage, \$15.00 in linen, probable cause of this incident has been determined to be some type of hot material dropped into drawer.

Structure fires accounted for less than 1% of all incidents during the year.

The fires involved farm equipment, one wheel tractor with a mower attachment and one tree shaker.

The first fire involved a wheel tractor with mower implement on Butte Slough Road. The tractor was mostly destroyed with minor damage to mower. Estimated dollar loss \$11,250. Cause was determined some type of mechanical failure in engine compartment.

The second fire involved a fruit and nut tree shaker at the east end of Brown Road. The shaker was parked at the time of fire. The shaker was mostly destroyed and caused \$3600 damage. Cause was determined to be some type of mechanical failure in engine compartment, farm equipment attributed to 24% of total fire loss for the year.

Only one vehicle fire occurred in 2021-2022 and occurred at Wescott and Abel Roads. The vehicle was a total loss and caused an estimated \$2800 damages. Cause of the fire was mechanical due to a collision. The vehicle was stolen out of Colusa. Vehicle fires attributed to 4% of the total fire loss.

There were 23 vegetation fires that occurred during the year. Three fires occurred on agricultural property, five on residential property, five on public roadways, one on commercial property and three on wildland property, and three on the river levee. The largest fire was on wildland property, both private and state owned and burnt an estimated 612 acres and caused \$34,300 damage. The fire burnt in mostly river wildland between the river levees on both sides of the river from north of Brown

Road to Colusa Sacramento River State Park and Colusa Weir to the Colusa Bridge. Cause of this incident was a spark from a mowing operation on the river side of levee behind 3538 HWY 45. It took numerous fire agencies and private operators with Engines, Tenders, Dozers, Aircraft and personnel to control and confine the fire. The fire burnt within the fire lines for several days.

One other vegetation fire on a public roadway destroyed PGE Power Poles with damages estimated at \$600. Vegetation fires attributed to 56% of all fire loss.

There were two miscellaneous fires that occurred during the year, one a rubbish fire that caused no damage and one PGE power poles and caused no damage.

2021-2022

Automatic/ Mutual and Aid Responses

Automatic/Mutual Aid Provided

Arbuckle Fire	0
City of Colusa Fire	26
Glenn-Colusa Fire	8
Meridian Fire	1
Princeton Fire	1
Maxwell Fire	2
Williams Fire	2
Sutter County Fire	8
CAL-FIRE	2

U.S. Fish and wildlife Service	1
williams	3
Sutter County	1
Yuba City	1
	<u>Total</u>
	44

Apparatus Response by Incident

	Fire	EMS	Mut Aid	Invest	Haz Mat	Activated Alarm	Public Assist	Agency Assist	Search	Total
Engine	64	41	23	31	0	4	0	3	2	168
Tender	20	0	13	0	0	1	0	0	0	34
Rescue	1	371	8	17	1	5	13	0	1	417
Air/Light	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Staff	34	185	35	45	0	11	23	3	1	337
ATV	0	.0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DOZER	3									3
UTILITY/IPOV	0	41	2	9	0	1	3	2	1	59
AIR CRAFT	3								0	3
Total	125	638	82	122	1	22	39	8	5	1023

Summary of Apparatus Response

1023 Emergency apparatus responded to 409 incidents during the year.

Average number of apparatuses responding per incident 2.5 including mutual aid apparatus.

125 Emergency apparatus responded to 31 fire incidents. Average response per incident 4.0, including mutual aid apparatus. 11 apparatus responded to structure incidents. Average response per incident 3.7.

638 apparatus responded to 225 EMS responses including vehicle accidents.

Average response per incident 2.8

82 apparatus responded to 37 mutual aid responses. Average response 1.6.

102 Apparatus responded to 55 investigation incidents. Average response 1.9.

Apparatus responses to all incidents were adequate to safely and efficiently mitigate the incident with assistance from mutual aid response.

Apparatus Maintenance

Maintenance of all apparatus was primarily provided for in-house by the district's two part-time mechanics. Weekly, monthly and annual preventative maintenance was performed by paid personnel. Mechanics performed most minor repairs to apparatus and equipment in-house. Burton's Fire Mobile Maintenance from Modesto performed annual pump maintenance and tests. Riverview International in West Sacramento performed major repairs to apparatus chassis and pumps. The two Fire District Mechanics are Certified Diesel Mechanics.

Apparatus and equipment maintenance expenditures for 2021-2022 were \$37,710.00

2020-2021 Personnel Roster

Colusa Station

John Ascencion - F/F	Toby Reading - F/F
Derrick Ash-Asst.Chief/Safety	Dennis Richardson - F/F
Chris Azevedo - F/F, Mechanic	Kevin Richardson -F/F
Justin Bell - F/F	Chon Santana - F/F
Joe Bowers - F/F	Trotter, Antonio -F/f EMT/Custodian
Jeff Chambers - Lieut/EMT	Trotter, Patrick Capt/EMT
Blake, Davis - F/F	Vargas, Effie - Capt
Parley Fisher - Asst Chief/Safety	winters, Jerry Captain
Louis Franklin - F/F	winters, Jeff- Fire Chief
Jamie Garacia - F/f	CEO/EMT
T J Gomez - F/F	
Hayden Harter - F/F	
Doug Hanson - F/F	Susie McCullough/Secretary
Heath Krug - Lieut	
Israel Lopez - F/F	
Joseph Mahorney - F/F-Mechanic/EMT	
Bradley Morrow - F/F	
Daniel Munoz F/F	
Joey Phyl - F/F	

GRAND ISLAND STATION

Jason Bunino - F/F

Ryan Grimmer - F/F/ Mechanic

Jessica Linton - F/F

Evan Long F/F

Jeff Miller - F/F /EMT

Todd Miller - CAPT/EMT/Safety Officer

Martin Ramirez - CAPT/EMT/MECHANIC

Marc Sumner - F/F / EMT

Lance Swift - Capt/ EMT/Safety Officer

Zach Willoh - F/F

2021-2022

Personnel Hours by Month

	Fire	EMS	Mutual Aid	Invest	Training	Other	Total
July	94	159	1054	10	44	13	1374
August	7	139	1127.5	8	62	45	1388.5
Sept	36.5	118	504	39	82	7	786.5
Oct	31.5	151	15	31	75	12	315.5
Nov	39	52	15	28	103	8	245
Dec	4	75.5	20	15	129	13	259.5
Jan	16	192	4	12	233	8	465
Feb	9	126	20	11	153	0	319
March	14	110	47.5	15	141	15	342.5
April	0	83	6	14	77	24	224.5
<u>May</u>	834.5	166	41.5	35	83.5	8	342
<u>June</u>	51.5	101.5	41	56.5	83.5	8	342

<u>TOTAL</u>	1137	1473	2895.5	274.5	1266	165	7211
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2021-2022

Personnel Response by Incident Type

	Fire	EMS	Mut/Aid	Invest	Pub/Asst	Activated Alarm	Other	Total
July	52	149	81	10	13	0	0	305
Aug	7	110	26	8	35	10	0	196
Sept	24	118	15	39	7	0	0	203
Oct	27	133	15	31	7	2	3	218
Nov	13	50	8	28	3	5	0	107
Dec	4	71	20	15	5	8	0	123
Jan	8	186	4	12	8	0	0	518
Feb	6	120	20	11	0	0	0	157

March	10	109	36	15	13	0	0	183
April	0	82	6	14	3	11	21	138
May	114	166	26	35	0	0	20	361
June	38	82	23	56	4	4	0	207
Totals	303	1377	280	259	98	40	44	2408

PUBLIC EDUCATION

There were no civilian injuries or deaths from fires that were reported to the District in 2021-2022. The Fire District attributes this low injury/death rate to public education, and life safety inspection programs provided throughout the year.

Due to the continuing Covid-19 Pandemic during 2021-2022 no Public Fire Safety or Prevention Programs were conducted. These programs will continue in 2022-2023.

Fire Investigation

The District investigated all 31 fires that occurred during 2021-2022. The causes of those fires were determined to be as follows:

1. Vehicle collision - 1
2. Electrical short circuit/arcing - 1
3. Control burn - 4
4. Undetermined - 8
5. Suspicious (possible intentional) 1
6. Arcing Power Lines - 3
7. Sparks from Friction/Equipment - 3
8. Rekindle of previous fire -1
9. Fireworks - 1
10. Exposure -2

11.Sparks - Cutting Tool - 2

12.Discarded Ash - 1

13.Mechanical - 2

14.Camp fire - 1

Three of the fires that were of undetermined cause occurred on public roadways. Cause of those fires were probably discarded hot material from passing motor vehicles, which would include hot exhaust particles, smoking materials, or sparks.

For fires to be classified as undetermined no physical evidence as to the cause of the fire or witnesses to the ignition could be located.

Undetermined cause attributed for 26% of all fires during the year.

Fires (4) caused by control burns attributed to 13% of all fires during the year, which are all preventable. This was considerably less than last year (12).

Fires caused by friction from heat and mechanical issues attributed for 13% of all fires and, again, were preventable.

One fire was caused from mowing operations was considered negligent by the mower operator due to extreme weather conditions. Again, preventable.

The emphasis placed on escape control burns this year showed a reduction of 8 fires (67%).

Incendiary/ Suspicious Fires

Of the 31 fires investigated during the year one fire was determined to be suspicious in nature. No physical evidence was recovered and there were no witnesses to determine the exact cause of fire. The nature of this fire was obviously intentional for unknown reasons by person(s) unknown.

The fire involved a simple family residence and started on the exterior of the building late at night or very early in the Morning. No physical evidence as to the cause was located and there were no witnesses. The owner had been having issues with relatives over money and may have been a motive.

Suspicious fires caused an estimated \$250 damage.

Burn Permits

The Fire District under the authority of the 2019 California Fire Code, Section 105.8.01, issues burn permits only to residential occupancies beginning on January 1, 2022. Previously the district issued burn permits to all occupancies.

The Colusa County Air Pollution Control District now issues burn Permits to all agricultures, commercial, and industrial occupancies at their office – 100 Sunrise Blvd, Suite F. This change puts Colusa County in line with adjoining County's burn programs. Colusa County does charge a fee as the Fire District did not.

The general purpose of issuing burn permits is to allow the applicant notification of all burning rules and regulations of the Fire District, County Air Pollution Offices and State Air Resources Board prior to any burning. The information hopefully prevents any controlled burning from escaping and creating a out of control fire. Additional purposes of obtaining a burn permit are control over the amount and type of burnable material that is being burnt each day and location of burning being conducted each day.

The District issued 126 permits to burn during 2021-2022., This was a decline of 44% due to the Air Pollution Office issuing the Agricultural/Industrial and Commercial burn permits.

The District responded to four fires, all vegetation, attributed to escaped control burns compared to 12 the previous year, 1 67% decline. These fires occurred on residential property (1), agricultural property

(1) public road (1) and river levee (1). One fire caused an estimated \$600 damage to a PGE power pole.

SAFETY

The Fire District continues to experience an excellent safety record.

Most importantly there were no deaths or injuries during the year to Fire District personnel.

There was one minor accident reported during the year. Staff 100 drove off into a drainage ditch on White Road. There were no injuries and the accident caused minor damage.

The District continues to feel that the Safety Committee plays an important and distinct role in preventing accidents, injuries, or death to the Firefighters of the District.

All District personnel must be commended for their continued commitment to safety. As part of each weekly training session a safety topic is presented, discussed and practiced. This training and the work of the safety committee have significantly prevented accidents from occurring that may have resulted in injury or death. Members of the Safety Committee are as follows:

Chief Jeffrey J. Winters – Chairman

Asst. Chief - Derrick Ash – Injury and Accident Investigation, Driver training

Asst. Chief Parley Fisher – Safety Officer/Secretary

Captain Todd Miller – Station Safety

Captain Lance Swift – Safety Officer

Captain Effie Vargas – Safety Officer

Firefighter Kevin Richardson – Safety Officer

The committee attempts to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss specific safety topics or issues as needed.

Personnel Training

Safety meetings are conducted at the beginning of training sessions on all scheduled nights for training in order to fulfill the requirements of the District's Safety Program. The Fifth Wednesday training drill is usually utilized for the training of new firefighters and as a make-up training for personnel. Subjects included are structure and wildland firefighting/EMS/Rescue/Hazmat/Electrical power and gas distribution safety training/alternative energy vehicles safety/Etc.

Fire District personnel are strongly encouraged to attend training classes outside of the District. This usually involves traveling to another jurisdiction or educational facility to obtain the training. The training usually requires a weekend or full week to complete. This year firefighters participated with other fire districts within the county in confined space rescue training and live fire burn trailer simulator.

To offset the inability of personnel to travel the District has in the past few years continued to bring certification training in house with certified instructors from out of the area. We have had some success in this area. Some classes are being offered on a regional basis and the District may offer some of those training courses. Training courses the District offered this year were wildland firefighting RT-130-Annual Refresher Training, which is a requirement for strike team/task force assignments to assist other counties during wildland fire incidents. In addition, EMS training and Pacific Gas and Electric Safety Program, which has become an annual program. We are continuing to seek new training opportunities for our personnel. Again, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic not much training was offered by outside resources.

Total training hours attained by personnel for the year 2021-2022 was 1266 hours by 433 attendees which is up from 1143.5 hours in 2020-2021 which represents an increase of 10% increase in overall hours.

Training ensures that Firefighters will perform fire suppression, EMS, Rescue, Hazardous Materials, and other related duties in a safe and efficient manner.

Firefighters are trained to protect themselves first, fellow Firefighters second, and Civilians third at emergency incidents.

Training also provides personnel with the knowledge and manipulative skills to perform their duties under the most severe and stressful situations. There are times when personnel will only have seconds to decide on how to mitigate a situation Training enables personnel the skills and ability to do this.

Most personnel take safety and training very seriously, and it has paid benefits in that personnel injuries have been few and minor in nature. There were no reportable injuries during the year.

Personnel lacking in training attendance are counseled by their company Officer and encouraged to attend.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

The Fire Prevention Bureau is a function of the Fire District responsible for the prevention of fires. In preventing fire, the prevention of death, injury, and damage to property and the environment will be achieved.

Primary functions of the bureau are preventing fires, life safety, and hazard reduction within all occupancies in the District and public education for all citizens.

All commercial and public assembly occupancies are regularly inspected for hazards. High hazard occupancies, occupancies that present a high potential for fire and life safety, are inspected annually by District personnel.

Twelve High Hazard occupancies were inspected during the year. Three re-inspections were conducted for compliance of violations of the 2019 California Fire Code. All occupancies corrected all violations noted by the Fire District.

Twenty-Four medium and light hazard occupancies were inspected with eight re-inspections being conducted for compliance. All occupancies corrected noted violations.

An important segment of the Fire Prevention Bureau is fire investigations. All fires that cause damage, or are incendiary or suspicious in nature, require an investigation by the Fire District as to the origin and cause. From time to time, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (State Fire Marshals Office) and the Colusa County Sheriff's Department are requested to assist in an investigation.

The fire district conducted investigations into the origin and cause of 17 incidents during the year.

When fire occurs in a residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, or public facility occupancy, the cause of the fire is important so that it may be addressed in the District's Fire inspection program as target areas.

There was one fire reported in commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and public facility occupancies during the year. The fire occurred at a local Duck Club in the club house. The fire was very small in nature and caused very minimal damage. The cause of the fire was undetermined, but was considered accidental.

Residential fire inspections are only conducted at the request of the owner or occupant. Therefore, the District conducts very few residential inspections during the year. All new residential occupancies are inspected upon completion for fire code requirements prior to occupancy. One occupied dwelling was inspected during the year. No re-inspections were conducted for code violation corrections. Most violations dealt with smoke detectors, fire extinguishers, electrical extension cords, and combustibles around heating units and hot water heaters.

There were two residential structure fires during the year and caused \$10,250 in damage. One fire was determined to be suspicious and the other electrical short circuit.

WEED ABATEMENT

The District's weed abatement program is conducted annually in accordance with Sacramento River Fire Protection Ordinance #2011-01. The ordinance was adopted in order to have a tool to reduce the vegetation density near or in close proximity to occupied structures, out buildings, utility poles, fences, etc., with the goal of reducing property loss by preventing the rapid spread of fire once the vegetation is dead. The ordinance also addresses brush, overgrown vegetation and trash.

The district strongly feels that the ordinance has more substance relating both to vegetation and waste matter and not just weeds as did the county ordinance.

Five of the twenty-three vegetation fires occurred on state and county roadways a decrease from the previous year. Although the district does not issue weed abatement notice for public roadways, CAL-TRANS and Colusa County Public Works have an aggressive mowing and spraying program, which tremendously helps with reducing roadside fires.

Four of the twenty-three vegetation fires were caused by control burns escaping control. Four were on agricultural properties, one on residential properties, 1 on commercial properties, 1 on wildland properties, and 1 on the river levee.

No vegetation fires occurred on properties that had been abated.

The District issued 92 abatement notices during 2021-2022. Six properties were abated by the district.

The weed abatement program will continue to be an important prevention tool in the future.

The District was very aggressive in its weed abatement program this year due to the extreme drought conditions.

SENIOR CITIZEN AND HANDICAPPED
SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM

The Sacramento River Fire District continues to provide senior citizens and the handicapped with smoke detectors and maintenance at no cost. When a smoke detector is installed in a residence, the occupants are educated in escape plans, fire prevention, and maintenance.

Two new smoke detectors were installed, and five smoke detectors were provided with maintenance checks during the 5year.

Smoke detectors have undoubtedly saved many lives throughout the years, but better educations must be provided to citizens to better maintain the detectors. As in many areas during emergencies the fire district has found smoke detectors with the batteries disconnected or removed or the detector removed all together.

Many lives have been lost due to these ACTIONS!

