



Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District

8481 East Road
P.O. Box 385
Redwood Valley, CA 95470
phone 707-485-8121 fax 707-485-1587
e-mail rvcfd@comcast.net
Don Dale, Fire Chief

May 6, 2021

Board of Supervisors:

I want to apologize for the technical difficulties during my time with you during the May 4, 2021 BOS Meeting. Believe me no one was more frustrated than me.

That being said, I want to remind you that Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District, encompasses approximately 60 square miles and was the center of the major destruction caused by the 2017 Fire Storm. So many lost homes and loved ones. We need to be prepared in the event of another Fire Storm.

Many of the items we have concerns with were addressed by others during the May 4, 2021, Zoom BOS Meeting. Therefore, I will just list them here and hope they will be addressed and hopefully funded from some of the sources that were cited.

MAJOR CONCERNS:

Safe Evacuation Routes for our residents, Tomki and Road B both need to be passable all year long and with some type of bridges (perhaps flat-bed rail car bridges), to enable people to ford the creek beds. Two-way bridges would be nice. If the roads cannot be widened to accommodate two-way traffic...several turn-outs would be helpful to keep traffic moving safely in an emergency.

Brush and grass removal along-side the county roads.

Redwood Valley Residents deserve a guaranteed water supply. Fire Hydrants every 1,000 feet on the main roads would be ideal. The fire hydrants need to be secured with metered locks to prevent water theft.

The Water System needs to provide enough water pressure to be able to fill the Water Tenders or to attach a fire hoses in order to fight fires at all times.

There is a need for Prescribed Burns and Fire Access roads.

We also support an Upgrade of Emergency Microwave System Needed for all County Emergencies.

Board Chair Linda Talso

Attachment

REDWOOD VALLEY-CALPELLA FIRE DISTRICT NEEDS:

Our #1 priority is a Siren System, which will alert as much of the District as possible. We have been working with CTC Electrical Contracting, Inc. for 2 years. We have purchased the first siren, pole and electronics to run the entire system. This first siren (WPS29)9A Nine Cell, Nine Omni – Directional Speaker Cells with a vertical column), should be installed by the end of May. Then various sound waves test will determine the best placement for the next 2 sirens. After those 2 are in, again tests will determine the need and placement of any additional sirens and placement if needed. The sound waves feed off each other and become louder and stronger and cover more distance with the addition of each siren. The System is Solar powered. It can be operated with one siren or any combination as needed in a specific area depending on the Sheriff's evacuation orders. Verbal messages can also be transmitted through the siren system. The public will be advised of test days, and informed about what the sirens mean and what actions they need to take when the siren is activated.

The District has already paid for the first siren and the electronic system to run the system:

We would appreciate being reimbursed for our out-put	\$ 64,000
The remaining Sirens with installation will be approximately	\$ 135,000

Our #2 Priority is to Replace 2 of our Fire Trucks.

Our Type 3 Wildland Truck (1992) does not have 4-wheel drive, which is Needed to reach many areas in our district.

A new Type 3 Fire Truck (diesel, 4-wheel drive fully equipped is approx.	\$ 500,000
--	------------

Our Type 1 Structure Fire Engine (1997), is out dated.

A new Type 1 Engine fully equipped would be approx.	\$ 1,000,000
---	--------------

Both have had many costly repairs the last couple years for parts and labor (\$10,000 to \$20,000) a huge drain on our budget.

We purchased a new Water Tender in 2019 spending much of our Reserve. It would greatly help our financial needs if we could be reimbursed for its purchase.

\$ 197,639

Our Firehouse is in need of some costly repairs:

The Septic System is antiquated and often problematic.

Replacement tank and labor:	\$ 38,000
-----------------------------	-----------

Repairs and replacing Pavement around the Firehouse	\$ 50,000
---	-----------

Updating Computers and Office Equipment	\$ 10,000
---	-----------

Modular 2 bedroom to accommodate staff during 24-hour shifts	\$ <u>100,000</u>
--	-------------------

TOTAL	\$ 2,094,639
--------------	---------------------

We would be overjoyed to have these expenses paid for with the PG & E Settlement Funds.

Sincerely,

Linda Talso Board Chair
Redwood Valley-Calpella Fire District