

Bill Dekker

From: Bill Dekker [bdekker@gardenvalleyfire.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2011 11:31 AM
To: 'Bill Dekker'
Cc: 'Thomas Keating'
Subject: FW: Dry Period Funding Request (Pioneer)

The Garden Valley Fire Protection Districted voted unanimously this morning to present this e-mail thread to all 5 El Dorado County Board Of Supervisors at their meeting on Tuesday, June 14, 2011.

Respectfully,

Bill Dekker, Fire Chief

Garden Valley Fire Protection District
PO Box 408
4860 Marshall Road
Garden Valley, CA. 95633
(530) 333-1240

From: Richard Smith [mailto:Frogman@internet49.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 6:40 PM
To: Bill Dekker
Subject: Re: Dry Period Funding Request (Pioneer)

Bill: Karen and I think this is a good letter as is. R Smith

— Original Message —

From: Bill Dekker
To: Richard Smith
Cc: 'Rick Nelson' ; 'souza ranch' ; 'Karen Smith' ; icleaver@gardenvalleyfire.org ; 'Thomas Keating'
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:16 AM
Subject: FW: Dry Period Funding Request (Pioneer)

Dear Chairman Smith,

I think that we should address this issue also. I would like us to prepare a draft letter to be sent to Mr. Briggs and the other Supervisors on the consequences of their vote to eliminate the aid to fire funding. Immediate issues that come to mind are:

Emanate layoff of a minimum of 2 full time career staff members (out of 6 total) resulting in only 1 person available to staff the Engine 24/7 in violation of NFPA minimum staffing standards. As a result of this reduction in staff we will be forced to take the following measures: Greatly increased and highly unreliable response time to life threatening medical emergencies, rescues and fires due to having to wait for volunteer response (if any are available), elimination of the District's Advanced Life Support/Paramedic program , inability or at the least major reductions on our ability to provide out of District response (mutual aid) to our neighboring Districts, Elimination of any replacement of our Structural Fire Engines (the newest one being built in 1989 and purchased by the District as surplus from the State of California) , Reduced maintenance of vehicles, equipment and facilities, Elimination of all mandated State Fire Marshal certification training for staff, Elimination of business office staffing (done already), prevention/education programs, Volunteer Fire Academy and shut down of the Greenwood and Kelsey Fire Stations. Elimination of plan checking, inspections and building review.

The staff of the Garden Valley Fire Protection District are the lowest paid in the County. They have very little to give. Nobody here is getting rich or building up a big retirement account. Operational expenses' have been cut to the bone

and there is little or no place to cut further in order to maintain the minimal level of service expected by the community and what is safe for the responders. The taxpayers in the past have passed two special assessments to support the department and they have no more to give, but seem to get little of the services that the other .92 cents of their tax dollar goes to (GVFD gets .09 cents)

It is ironic that the amount of funding that was provided and then cut by Mr. Briggs, Knight and Sweeny to the Garden Valley Fire Protection District by the Aid to Fire Parity program is very close to being the same amount as the shortfall we can expect by the end of the year. It is no coincidence that the only departments that are facing financial issues are the departments that received the aid to fire parity funds. It is no coincidence that the departments that have JPA subsidized employees (EDC-28, GEO-6, CMP-6, DSP-6, EDH-6) are more financially stable. It's pretty easy to do when you get 1 to 4 million dollars a year per department from outside sources. It is pretty easy when you can charge the JPA administrative fees on top of the wages, benefits, equipment, facilities etc. The non-ambulance providers do not have the luxury of having staff paid by others all the while being expected to provide EMS services that they are not funded for. It is no coincidence that the only departments that are facing severe financial issues are rural, low paid, with little businesses base, large residential/agricultural parcels, demographically elderly with all land use and general funds dictated by the Board of Supervisors.

\$100,000 was spent by the Board of Supervisors to commission a study of the Emergency Services of El Dorado County. The recommendations and findings in the Citygate report are largely being ignored. The predictions noted in the Citygate study are becoming a reality.....

I ask for your input and advise. I would be happy to sit down with any of you before Tuesday to draft a letter which includes your concerns. As Chief Keating suggest, the time has come.

Respectfully

Bill Dekker, Fire Chief

Garden Valley Fire Protection District
PO Box 408
4860 Marshall Road
Garden Valley, CA. 95633
(530) 333-1240

From: Thomas Keating [mailto:chief@rescuefiredepartment.org]

Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 4:21 PM

To: Bill Dekker; Bill Holmes; Bob Bement (E-mail); Bob Gill; Brian Veerkamp; Bruce Lacher; Chris Couper; Cima, Rob; Combs, Rob; Couper - C9100, Chris; Davis, Bob; Erik Peterson; Gary Gerren; Greg Schwab ; James O'Camb; Jeff Michael; Jody Gossner; Joe; John Pang; Keating, Thomas; Kelly Keenan; Linda Sneeze; Lorenzo Gigliotti; Marty Hackett; Michael Hardy; Mike Kaslin; Sam Huffman; Todd Cunningham

Subject: Dry Period Funding Request (Pioneer)

Chiefs..

Pioneer's request of "Dry Period" funding is going in front of the BOS on Tuesday. Ray Nutting is requesting, through Pioneer FPD, that any Fire Agency that will also need "Dry Period" funding contact their respective Board of Supervisor(s).

The reason for the request is to let each Supervisors know that Pioneer's funding request is not isolated (If you have had to have the County fund you in the past you most likely will need it again this year). This will make it less likely that any individual Board member would vote against the proposal if they know it will have an effect on a Fire District in their own Supervisorial District.

Chief Gill and his Board appreciate your support as they work through this issue.

If you have any questions please let me know..

TK

Thomas M. Keating, Fire Chief
Rescue Fire Protection District
P.O. Box 201
Rescue, CA 95672
530-677-1868
www.rescuefiredepartment.org

_____ NOD32 6193 (20110609) Information _____

This message was checked by NOD32 antivirus system.
<http://www.eset.com>

_____ NOD32 6194 (20110609) Information _____

This message was checked by NOD32 antivirus system.
<http://www.eset.com>