



## Plumas Eureka Fire Department Fire Chief's Report

For October 11, 2017

*By Tom Forster*

**Personnel:** Craig Fox is heading south to Arizona for the winter, bringing us down to 10 active members.

**PECAUX:** Recruiting continues for new members, and for someone to serve as Treasurer.

**Fire Apparatus & Equipment:** While Engine 9122's cab lift hydraulic pump was repaired and is now fully functional, the Engine 9121 lift pump is broken. Jenni and John have been working on repair options, through a service in Reno and the Graeagle Chevron mechanic. Both engines are roughly 30 years old, so extra maintenance and repair challenges are to be expected.

Still on the electrical to-do list is wiring our thermal imaging camera truck charging mounts in both engine cabs, and reinstalling the camera on 9122 following the safety reflective decal application in the rear.

**Training:** The Driver Operator 1A State course started Friday evening, September 15, with 33 students, including Ryan Nowling from PEFD. This 40-hour course continues with driver practice this month, and concludes the weekend of October 20-21-22 with skills and written testing. This is for DMV Firefighter Endorsement driving qualifications of the large/heavy fire engines.



The course is hosted through the Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association at Quincy's training room, with Tom and Quincy Chief Robbie Cassou volunteering to instruct. A second course for pumping operations is being planned. When Ryan receives his endorsement, we'll have seven firefighters with endorsements to drive all our apparatus – Rich, Craig, John, Bill, Tom, Jeff, and Ryan.

**CSFA Protective Clothing Grant:** We have received a roughly \$3,600 reimbursement for the PPE. PECAUX had already funded all our structural PPE replacements so far, and this new funding will be used to complete the final four firefighters in need. Instead, we'll be using the funds and the Cal Fire grant in the next item to complete this project, along with PECAUX support.

**Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant:** Tom applied for some additional Cal-Fire coordinated Volunteer Fire Assistance grant funds for our structural PPE. This would be at a 50%

match, with PECAUX meeting the match.

### **Firewise Community & Cal Fire Inspections:**

A complete and thorough 4291 Inspection process has been completed for our entire community by Cal-Fire, with very good feedback overall. They reported that properties needing work were responsive, including a bank-owned property on Poplar Valley.



**FD and CSD Insurance:** No recent progress, but we intend to work on this over the next few months. We have not made any decisions, and are in the process of studying the pros and cons of changes with future help from Michael Peters.

**Plumas Sierra County Fair Firefighter's Muster:** Tom is coordinating some duplicate plaques, so that the teams each have one in the events where there were ties.

**Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association:** Tom is managing a federally grant-funded off-campus National Fire Academy weekend course on October 14-15, to be held in Quincy. Tom and Bill will be attending.

Course FO610 covers Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting for Company Officers, those in charge of single or multiple resources at an incident where fire threatens or is involved in a mix of

A poster for a National Fire Academy course. The top section is orange with white text: "NATIONAL FIRE ACADEMY 2-DAY, WEEKEND OFF-CAMPUS COURSE WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE FIREFIGHTING FOR THE STRUCTURAL COMPANY OFFICER FO610 QUINCY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 1005 LAWRENCE ST QUINCY, CA 95971". Below this, it says "Saturday, October 14 and Sunday, October 15, 2017 0800-1700 hours". There are three small images: a fire, a firefighter, and a fire truck. Below the images is a caption: "Air attack at Minerva Incident, Quincy, CA July 30 Quincy Captain John Gay, Strike Team Leader at Minerva. Photos by Kim Elson, QFPD Support Team". The main text describes the course: "This two-day course identifies operational activities and safety concerns for structural Company Officers (COs) assigned to a wildland/wildland urban interface (WUI) incident. Topics covered include introduction to wildland/WUI firefighting, interface environment, wildland fire behavior, command and control issues of wildland/WUI firefighting, and tactics." It also lists the target audience, prerequisites, instructor, and registration information.

structures and vegetation, such as the recent Minerva 5 Incident in Quincy. There is no cost for the course.

**Minerva 5 Incident, Quincy:** Tom is working on the accounting, billing, and payments for the coverage we provided. He met with Chester Chief Joe Waterman, PCFCA Mutual Aid Coordinator, regarding the proper process. It will include some upcoming board resolutions.

**Lost Sierra Hoedown Music Festival:** Bill coordinated EMS coverage for this 4-day event, with volunteers from PEFD, Graeagle, and Quincy. The fund-raising event for the ski hill sold out, with 500 tickets processed. There were another several hundred volunteers over the course of the four days. All went well, with only minor injuries.

