



Plumas Eureka Fire Department Fire Chief's Report

For January 4, 2017

By Tom Forster

Personnel: No Changes.

Plumas County Fire Chiefs Association: Tom is working on finding an alternate web-based platform for both the Fire Chiefs Association and our joint training program. We are in the process of updating our 3-year strategic plan, rolling it forward to 2017-2019.

Fire Apparatus & Equipment: Multiple maintenance needs are being worked on, but all apparatus and most equipment is operational and prepared for the winter season.

Training Being Coordinated: Tom and Ed Ward are working on planning 'the big picture' for joint training for 2017, in alignment with the new State Firefighter I program.

Online EMS Training: This was mentioned verbally at the last board meeting but too late for the Chief's Report. Thanks to Jenni McGuire for developing a free online program through "Canvas" learning management system in use by community colleges for the entry-level training in EMS for Firefighters, called Emergency Medical Responder (formerly "First Responder"). Jeff, Ryan, and Lew need this entry level training, and have enrolled in the online program that will cover the classroom portions.

In addition, they will need to complete hands-on skills training and testing to complete the roughly 64-hour program. They should be complete in the spring. Luke Scott

is enrolling in the FRC EMT program in the spring semester taught by Ed Ward, which is a higher level of certification than EMR, more than twice as many hours, 160+, and a higher level of skills.

Sledding Days and Longboards Races EMS

Coverage: Three public Sledding Days were scheduled at the Johnsville Ski Hill December 26, 27, 28. They were cancelled the week prior due to lack of snow, and then the snow came just before the holiday. They were opened back up, but we were unable to find volunteer EMS



coverage for Monday the 26th and it was again cancelled that morning.

Tom reached out county-wide and found coverage for Tuesday and Wednesday 10am-4pm. Luke Scott from our department covered Tuesday, and Pete Sears from Eastern Plumas Rural FPD covered Wednesday. All went well with about 75-100 people sledding each day according to organizer Glenn Bardet, and there were no injuries or incidents.

Assuming there is enough snow, the Longboards Ski Races will be held the third Sundays of January, February, and March. If they are held, there will also be Sledding Days the Saturday prior to the race Sunday, and the Monday after each Sunday. EMS coverage is required by State Parks for all of these events. PEFD coordinates since it is in our response area.

CSFA Volunteer Committee: Tom will be serving as Chairman of the California State Firefighters Association Committee for Volunteers in 2017. This is a volunteer position, and the committee seeks to help volunteer FD's in California through grants, regional training programs, and general communication of resources available.

FD and CSD Insurance: Tom and Ed Ward held an introductory meeting December 27 with a possible insurance provider for our agency needs. Golden State Risk Management (GSRMA) is a risk-sharing insurance pool that offers a full line of programs to public entities in California. They have been "Accredited with Excellence" through the California Association of Joint Powers Authorities since 1992.

<http://gsrma.org>

The meeting went well, and I'd now like to proceed to the next step of looping in John Rowden and Heather for further exploration before possibly bringing a proposal and recommendation to the board. The goal is to maintain or improve our coverage and safety training resources, and to reduce our costs.

