

## Indian Valley Fire Department

### Fire Chiefs Report, June 2023

Bob Orange

Continued to hold training meetings every Tuesday alternating between Taylorsville and Greenville Stations. Additionally, there has been training every Saturday too.

On June 2, 3, 4, 9, 10 & 11<sup>th</sup> six personnel from IVFD attended an Emergency Driver Training 1A Class at Chester Airport. This was to receive firefighter endorsements to their California Drivers Licenses. This was held through Lassen Community College. Four IVFD Engines were used during this extensive training which focused on maintenance & liability just as much as the driving itself. The new to us OES Engine was included in this familiarization & training.

New structure turnouts were issued to nine volunteers that were ordered back in February and arrived. These were replacements for those lost during the Dixie Fire. Several of our meetings focused on personal protective gear to make sure all of the IVFD personnel are properly equipped to fight fires and respond to incidents. Has been a long road to reach this point due to supply chain issues. Volunteers are supplied with both structure and wildland personal protective clothing. Several more wildland boots and helmets have been ordered for new volunteers.

Chest radio harnesses and fire packs have also been issued. This will greatly improve the monitoring of radio communications and also having emergency fire shelters being worn during wildland fires.

One more person joined the IVFD bringing the personnel level to eighteen (18). This person is a certified paramedic and works on the PDH ambulance. This brings to five of our volunteers who also work on an ambulance crew. Another application has been received.

Electric engine bay door openers were installed in North Arm Station. This completes the security of the station in prohibiting unauthorized access to the station and being able to completely lock it. This will also prohibit the door from lowering down accidentally or being too low for when apparatuses leave/enter the station. It is a constant exercise to keep the doors at their highest peak due to weakening springs to prevent mishaps which have occurred damaging equipment. The plan is to equip the doors with electric openers in Taylorsville and Genesee Stations also.

Repairs on Engines continue. This is an ongoing issue. The rear pump throttle on #7673 was repaired as well as the rear electronic engine display. That Engine also received an annual service/safety inspection. Water leaks are being repaired on #7621. #7672 needs to have all the water discharge ball valves overhauled because of leaks. Because of the air leaks we are

unable to draft with the Engine. A portable pump is used to refill the tank. Training on #7672 was done on Lights Creek. More repairs were identified during the comprehensive inspections done during the driver training class.

Over the past nine (9) weekends, eight (8) of those have involved recognized formal fire training with the Quincy Fire Academy and the Driver Training Class. The ninth Saturday was training with a wildland Engine #7672 on Lights Creek. Combined with the weekday trainings and meetings the IVFD volunteers have been very active and there is literally two training days a week.

I have responded to IVCSO legal staff in regards to public records requests regarding incidents.

The next training night will be held with California Highway Patrol officers to review protocol and procedures in handling traffic accident scenes. Obviously, they have their job to do as the IVFD does also. Coordination and working together at an accident scene will be the focal point.

Preventative maintenance on extrication gear such as the jaws of life has also been done in changing oil and spark plugs.

The Taylorsville Engine responded for a call of mutual aid to a structure fire on Chandler Road in Quincy. Three personnel went with the Engine. The two story home was a total loss with one fatality.