



**MOSQUITO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**  
**8801 ROCK CREEK ROAD**  
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***Chief's Report***  
***November-December 2021***

Calls for Service: November 20-December 19

Escape Control Burn with Structure Loss: 1 (Dyer Way- Storage structures)

Oil Spill-Road Hazard- 1 (Mosquito Rd)

Medical: 2

Fire Alarm: 1 (residential-accidental)

Storm Response 12/13-14 Trees/Branches down-Clear Roads & Driveways- Power lines down

On Monday November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:39pm, we were dispatched to a reported vegetation fire on Dyer Way. Chief Hern and I arrived at the same time (10 min after dispatch). The fire was very visible near a residence with 50+ foot flame lengths in some very tall pine trees. It was obvious there were structures involved, which was later determined to be three storage buildings.

Engine 75 arrived approximately two minutes after we arrived. It was a moderately steep driveway approximately 300-400' in length. Firefighters extended hose lines and began to cool the fire down. Two sheds were fully involved, the fire was moving into a large shed with a lot of contents.

Water supply is an obvious major priority. A supply line was laid down the driveway to be connected to the water tender. There are no hydrants in this area. The water tender supplied the line shortly before the engine ran out of water. The water supply operations and use of water tenders at fire incidents are critical.

We had an excellent response by both firefighters and Support Group. Twelve firefighters responded and arrived in a constant stream after the engine and tender arrived. Engine 275 also responded to the scene with a crew of firefighters. Support Group responded to the scene and staffed the station with eleven personnel. All apparatus was staffed and responded to the incident.

Todd Hern was the designated Safety Officer and supervised the firefighters. There were quite a few hazards with fencing, burning sheds and their contents. A second water tender was called but cancelled after the fire was knocked down within 15 minutes of Engine 75's arrival. The fire was contained with no spread to the main residence and minimal spread to the wildland area.

It took 45 minutes for County Engine 25 and Cal Fire 2762 to arrive. Our personnel had the fire knocked down and contained well before mutual aid arrived, but we needed the two outside engines to assist with mop up of the large storage shed and contents. Cal Fire also has jurisdiction on the spread to the wildland. The fire cause was related to a burn pile escape.

The Support Group handled road closure, hydration (rehab) for firefighters, equipment clean-up and station staffing for community questions.

A special thanks to District staff for response to our recent major storm and first snow. Crews took care of downed trees, maintained safety with trees into power lines while waiting for PG&E to arrive, patrolled the District and Rock Creek Road for paramedic ambulance access. Support Group staffed the fire station to help answer phones and answer questions from residents. All of these efforts were done under cold, adverse and sometimes dangerous conditions. Our level of commitment to our Community by our volunteers is impressive.

Thank you to MVFA for the donation of a new stove (\$850) for the crew quarters. Fire crews, for many years have been using a donated used stove, which recently, was not working properly. Also thank you to the MVFA for hosting the Christmas dinner at the Fire Station. There was incredible attendance, including many children. Thank you to our staff for picking up Santa and his elves. Overall, it was a wonderful thing to see the community come together, after the past year of closure and separation. It is also encouraging to meet new families who have moved into the community.

A reminder that burn permits are required, obtained on-line only. The Fire District does not issue burn permits, which are under the jurisdiction of Cal Fire and El Dorado County Air Quality District. Burn piles 4'x 4' or smaller, obtain a burn permit at <https://burnpermit@fire.ca.gov>. For larger burn piles obtain a permit at <https://www.edcgov.us/government/airqualitymanagement/burn-permit-application>. Burn barrels are not allowed.

#### Training Update:

I'm pleased to announce that Ernest and Mitchell Keith have completed their Firefighter 1 academy through Sacramento Regional. Both young men are also EMTs and very capable individuals. They will continue working station shifts through the Spring. Ernest will continue on with us and deploy with the OES engine during fire season. Mitchell is in application for Cal Fire-AEU employment this fire season. The Keith Brothers come from a lineage of family members in both fire and law enforcement, including their father and sisters.

Walden Holmsky is a resident of the Hill for two years, and an Apparatus Engineer/EMT with Cal Fire TCU, being with them for the past eight years. Walden is a new District volunteer and due to his certifications and experience, will hold the rank of Fire Lieutenant. He will provide an extra level of supervision for us on emergency incidents. We are working on grant funding to send him to start Paramedic school in June, which will give us a future resident paramedic.

We are hoping to host an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course in early 2022. The 80-hour class would provide additional medical training and capability for our fire and support volunteers. The class would have 15-20 seats and is expensive to put on (instructor fees, materials, National Registration and County Accreditation). After our staff, open class seats would be opened to interested community members and our partner fire districts after that. We should have a firm price and draft contract to review very soon. It is our intention to fund our staff's participation with FEMA grant funding. We should have solid direction on this within the next two weeks.

We now have established dates from FEMA for the CERT Trainer Course (virtual) which Chief Todd Hern will attend in January. We can begin planning on dates for CERT Basic Training.

We continue to seek interest from the Community for those interesting in CERT training. CERT basic training consists of approximately 30 hours of basic disaster preparedness training delivered in a flexible format over 6-8 weeks. Those taking the training will be much better prepared for emergency and disaster situations at home and elsewhere. Additional training will be available for those who wish to expand their knowledge and become certified volunteer responders to emergency incidents. If this interests you and would like to learn more, please contact me or Fire Director Wayne Gregson ([wgregson@mfpd.us](mailto:wgregson@mfpd.us)).

Chief Hern will also receive his CPR training certification (American Heart Association) with a class he will attend on 12/27. This will give us the ability to teach CRP/AED for District staff and the Community.

#### Station 75- Digital LED Sign:

Staff has met with the sign vendor representatives and have agreed on a final format for the sign. Due to shipping delays, we expect the sign to be constructed and installed by early March. Meredith is handling the County permitting process and coordinating the installation schedule with the sign vendor. We have learned that the LED sign capabilities are substantial, with easy programing of multiple messages, the ability to add photos/graphics and automatic lighting adjustment, depending on time of day and outside light conditions. Staff will handle the demolition of the current sign and installation of additional electrical supply to the new sign.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. There is much to look forward to in 2022.

The District is seeking volunteers of all types. If you have the desire to contribute your skills and talents to help your community, we definitely have a place for you. Please visit our website, [www.mfpd.us](http://www.mfpd.us).

Fire District staff is fully committed to our Community. We stand ready to assist our residents with any needs they may have, to prepare, support and provide the most up to date information. Please call us at 626-9017 or stop by the station.

This concludes my report. I will continue to update our projects and report progress. We appreciate the great support we receive from the Community and its commitment to being prepared. If you have any questions or suggestions, please call me at the fire station (626-9017) or email me at [jrosevear@mfpd.us](mailto:jrosevear@mfpd.us).

Jack Rosevear, Chief