



IDYLLWILD FIRE

**Idyllwild Fire Protection District
54160 Maranatha Drive
Idyllwild, CA 92549**

Board Meeting

AGENDA

Tuesday January 28th, 2025

Regular Session 3:00 (15:00)

Meeting to be held physically at the Idyllwild Fire Protection District conference/training room at 54160 Maranatha Drive, Idyllwild, CA.

Public access to this meeting can be made physically at the above address (Please note that there may be limited physical occupancy due to social distancing regulations)

Call to Order: 15:00 Please silence cell phones and/or pagers.

Roll call: Commissioners; President Messina; Vice President Sawicki; Secretary Andrewson; Yost; Fogle.
Staff; Fire Chief Mark LaMont, Legal Counsel Steven Graham and Executive Assistant Rachel Teeguarden.

Pledge of Allegiance: Please join us in Honoring our great Country.

Invocation: Commissioner D. Fogle

Citizens' Comments:

Citizens may comment on district related matters at this time or may wait to comment on an item that is on the agenda at the time an action item is being discussed. Each person is asked to keep their comment to a three (3) minute time maximum. The Board reserves the right to limit the time that each individual may speak as well as the total time per subject matter (Board Policy 5030.4.1) Comments and questions will be directed to the Board Chair.

Citizens making public comments: You are not required to state your name and address; however, it is appreciated for the minutes.

Reports:

- IFPD Fire Chief M. LaMont
- Admin. BC J. LaMont
- Ops. BC A. Rodriguez
- ADHOC Committee.
- Other. (Special Reports)

Action Items:

The Board may approve or act on any item(s) contained under "Action Items". Action Items may be taken out of order at the discretion of the Board.

ITEM:

Staff Recommendation(s):

1. **Oath of Office:**
Dennis Fogle: Fire Commissioner
Henry Sawicki: Fire Commissioner
2. **Nominate/Vote/Appoint IFPD Board of Commissioner Officers:** *Nominations/Vote/Appoint*
 - *President –*
 - *Vice President –*
 - *Secretary –*
3. **Ratification of Promotional Positions:** *Ratify / Accept / Promotions*
 - *Fire Captain- Paramedic - J. LaMont promotion to Battalion Chief/Paramedic.*
 - *Fire Captain- Paramedic - A. Rodriguez promotion to Battalion Chief/Paramedic.*
 - *Intern Reserve – EMT - T. Ohm New Hire to Probationary Firefighter EMT.*
 - *Firefighter- EMT - J. Leih promotion to Engineer Paramedic.*
 - *Firefighter – EMT - J. Steward promotion to Firefighter Paramedic.*
4. **Approve Meeting Minutes from 11/12/24 Regular Board Meeting:** *Approve as presented.*
5. **Accept Nov. & Dec. Incident Statistic / Ambulance Reports:** *Accept as presented.*
6. **Review / Discuss / Approve: Nov. / Dec. 2024 Financials:** *Approve as submitted.*
7. **Review / Discuss / Approve: Nov. / Dec. 2024: Bill Payments:** *Approve as submitted.*
8. **Review / Discuss: General Discussion / Misc items / Items for next Board meeting.**
9. **Review / Discuss: Correspondence: See attached.**

Adjournment:

Next regularly scheduled meeting: March, 25th 2025, at 3:00 pm.

*IFPD Regular Board Meeting Schedule for 2025:
January 28th / March 25th / May 27th / July 22nd / September 23rd / November 18th
@ 3:00 pm.*

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to IFPD Administrations Office at (951) 659-2153 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting.





Chiefs Report

M. LaMont

January 28th, 2025

Highlights for NOV. DEC. 2024

NOV. 2024

- Commissioner Henry Sawicki went unchallenged in the November election and will begin his next term as IFPD Commissioner (Oath of Office will take place at the Jan. 28th 2025 Board Meeting).
- Commissioner Dennis Fogle went unchallenged in the November election and will begin his next term as IFPD Commissioner (Oath of Office will take place at the Jan. 28th 2025 Board Meeting).
- Meeting with USFS regarding local fuels projects.
- IFPD Assisted with the Malibu area Mountain Fire BR625
- IFPD Completed the Communications site trench for SCE Electrical run.
- IFPD Completed the BC Examination.
- IFPD was present for B. Sandborg funeral, (William Sandborg was the 1st Superintendent for the Fulton Hotshot crew. Bill Jr. is an IFPD BC on team 11 as Operations Section Chief.

DEC. 2024 –

- SCE at IFPD Communications site for trench and conduit inspection.
- M. LaMont attended NAFRI S520 Advanced Fire Management Tucson AZ.
- IFPD Christmas Party was held at the Creek Stone Inn.
- Tyler Ohm received the Reserve Firefighter of the Year.
- IFPD Completed the Career Firefighter exam (Tyler Ohm awarded the IFPD Prob. Firefighter position beginning 12/1/2024).
- Fire Captain Robert Clark received the 2024 Chiefs Excellence Award.
- Firefighter Paramedic Jackson Steward received the 2024 Firefighter of the year award, and completed Paramedic School.
- Jim LaMont completed the IFPD BC Exam Process. Promotion to BC January 1, 2025.
- Adam Rodriguez completed the IFPD BC Exam Process. Promotion to BC January 1, 2025.
- Josh Leih Completed the IFPD Engineers exam and Paramedic School.

IFPD Promotional Announcements:

Battalion Chief Positions,

- ❖ Fire Captain ***James LaMont*** successfully completed the 2024 Battalion Chiefs examination process. Fire Captain J. LaMont will begin his Battalion Chief position on January 1st, 2025. Jim received the : **Administrative BC position (B621)** and will initially focus on the following items;
- Assist with the update and development of IFPD policies/rules and regulations/guidelines.
 - Enhance/Develop/ Improve IFPD position descriptions (PD's).
 - Public abatement codes and ordinances.
 - Building review (permit process review and approvals)
 - IFPD Fee schedule update/maintenance and implementation.
- Assist with the development and implementation of ambulance service billing.
 - Work with IFPD Executive Assistant to ensure timely and accurate billing for Ambulance services.
 - Work on budget and resource needs which pertain to your areas of responsibility.
 - Identify necessary equipment and vehicles required to effectively carry out the responsibilities within your program purview.
- Develop Administrative Knowledge and proficiencies in:
 - Scheduling
 - Payroll
 - Budgeting
 - Ambulance Service Billing
 - Mutual Aid Billing
 - Grants
 - Training
 - Fire Prevention
 - Human Resources
 - Stats
- Cooperative Agency Relationships:
 - Work to build on cooperative relationships with agency partners,
 - United States Forest Service (Cooperative agreement in place)
 - Cal Fire / Riverside County (Auto/Mutual Aid agreement in place)
 - Hemet Fire (Auto/Mutual Aid agreement in place)
 - Murrieta Fire (Auto/Mutual Aid agreement in place)
 - Calimesa Fire (Auto/Mutual Aid agreement in place)
 - Canyon Lake Fire (Auto/Mutual Aid agreement in place)
 - REMSA (Ambulance Permit process/Image Trend)
 - RivCo EMD (Emergency management Dept.)
 - MAST (Mountain Area Safety Taskforce)
 - Guns and Hoses

- Special Meetings: (As directed by IFPD Fire Chief)
 - Riv. County Fire Chiefs
 - San Bernardino County Fire Chiefs
 - State Fire Chiefs

Interface/Interact with:

- Riverside County Auditor Controllers Office:
 - Tax Revenue cycle.
 - Parcel Fee
 - Constitutional advance
- IFPD Board of Commissioners / Community Interface:
 - BC Reports for each meeting.
 - Rotary, Library and other civic presentations.

Special Events planning.

❖ Fire Captain **Adam Rodriguez** successfully completed the 2024 Battalion Chiefs examination process. Fire Captain A. Rodriguez will begin his Battalion Chief position on January 1st, 2025. Adam received the: **Operations BC position (B622)** and will initially focus on the following items:

- Work to ensure that all personnel meet and or exceed the training requirements of the IFPD.
 - Develop a new tracking device to capture and track all training completions.
 - Create a “written” and “Video Library” for the Training Division.
- Assist with the development of IFPD “Fuels/Hand Crew(s).
 - Develop position descriptions.
 - Recruit and retain personnel. (6 leadership and 36 basic cwn min.)
 - Train crew members for effective and efficient work product.
 - Train, Develop and Certify crew supervisors.
 - Identify necessary equipment and vehicles required to effectively carry out this program.
 - Work with USFS and other agencies to ensure work product is understood and completed.
- Assist with the development and implementation of ambulance services for the Mountain Plateau.
 - Develop Position descriptions: Ambulance Operator – EMT and EMTP.
 - Work on budget and resource needs which pertain to your areas of responsibility.
 - Identify necessary equipment and vehicles required to effectively carry out this program.
- Develop Administrative Knowledge and proficiencies in:
 - Scheduling
 - Payroll
 - Budgeting

- Ambulance Service Billing
- Mutual Aid Billing
- Grants
- Training
- Fire Prevention
- Human Resources
- Stats

- Cooperative Agency Relationships:
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 - REMSA (Ambulance Permit process/Image Trend)
 - RivCo EMD (Emergency management Dept.)
 - MAST (Mountain Area Safety Taskforce)
 - Guns and Hoses

- Special Meetings:
 - Riv. County Ops Section
 - County Fire Chiefs (As directed by IFPD Fire Chief)
 - State Fire Chiefs (As directed by IFPD Fire Chief)

 - Interface with:
 - Riverside County Auditor Controllers Office:
 - Tax Revenue cycle.
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 - Constitutional advance

- IFPD Board of Commissioners / Community Interface:
 - BC Reports for each meeting.
 - Rotary, Library and other civic presentations.
 - Special Events planning.

We are looking forward to working with BC LaMont and BC Rodriguez throughout their BC Probationary year and the many productive and successful years ahead.

Other Promotions at IFPD:

- ❖ Firefighter/EMT **Josh Leih** successfully completed the IFPD Engineers exam, and Josh also completed Paramedic school at the end of 2024. Josh will be moving to the position of: Probationary **Engineer Paramedic** as of January 1st, 2025.

Congratulations Josh! We look forward to working with you through to your successful completion of your probationary period, and on into the many years ahead.

- ❖ Firefighter/EMT **Jackson Steward** successfully completed Paramedic school at the end of 2024. Jackson will be moving to the position of: **Firefighter Paramedic** as of January 1st, 2025.

Congratulations Jackson! We look forward to working with you in your new position, and on into the many years ahead.

- ❖ Intern Reserve Firefighter/EMT **Tyler Ohm** successfully completed the IFPD Firefighter EMT testing process at the end of 2024. Tyler accepted a position as Probationary **Firefighter EMT** and moved into this position as of December 1st, 2024.

- ❖ ***Congratulations Tyler!*** We look forward to working with you through to your successful completion of your probationary period, and on into the many years ahead.



The following Update was distributed on January 13th 2025 During the Wind Driven Fire Storms of January 2025

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District remains Fully Staffed and is currently operating at 400% its daily operating norm. I know this sounds impossible; however, this large increase is possible through the callback of our Fire Crew members and additional full-time and reserve staff.



Last Monday (January 6th, 2025) we “staffed up for the impending and predicted wind event, and as predicted these winds showed up. On Monday the 6th the Idyllwild Fire Protection District “staffed up” to manage these winds and ensure continuous and effective emergency services without a lapse in constant coverage levels. This staffing also included staffing up and providing Mutual Aid assistance offering two (2) of our Type 3 Brush Engines and Crews to join up for a prepositioning posture with other engines from local government fire departments throughout the greater Riverside County Area. These engines were strategically located throughout the county to remain in a state of readiness in the event a fire would have broken out in the county or surrounding area.

On January 7th, 2025, the Palisades Fire started at 10:30 a.m., as many are aware this Fire immediately threatened communities in the Los Angeles area and was swept by unprecedented hurricane force winds, as of the time of this writing the Palisades Fire is 23,715 acres and 14% contained with thousands of structures destroyed and unfortunately losses of civilian lives. The cause of this fire remains under investigation.



On the evening of January 7th 2025, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District began receiving calls of trees down which impacted and brought down power, communications and data lines which crossed numerous roadways and highways throughout the Idyllwild Community and the San Jacinto Mountain Plateau. The IFPD answered those calls with several crews which split up the workload appropriately and mitigated the threat of cut off road routes to ensure that ingress and egress for possible future evacuations were secured and we also cleared numerous trees from structures and outbuildings all while answering our normal incident call volume as well. The IFPD worked nearly 30 hours straight in an effort to clear these downed trees and mitigate the ongoing threats of downed power lines throughout the Community as well as the surrounding areas.



While the Idyllwild Fire Protection District was working to ensure the safety of our community the LA City Fire Department and LA County Fire Department were battling the fast-growing Palisades Fire which grew drastically in size and scope and structures were being destroyed as these Fire Departments quickly reached out for assistance through our States very capable and robust Mutual Aid system. Then, at 18:18 the Eaton Fire erupted in the Altadena / Pasadena

Area which immediately posed a threat to those communities and quickly overwhelmed emergency resources due to the massive resource draw of the already devastating Palisades Fire in Los Angeles.

The Eaton Fire is currently 14,117 acres and 33% contained, with thousands of destroyed structures and outbuildings and unfortunate loss of civilian life.

At 22:29 on the same evening (January 7th 2025) the Hurst Fire broke out near Sylmar Ca. This fire was an immediate threat and already strained resources moved strategically to mitigate yet another fast-moving wildfire. At this time, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District was well involved in mitigating threats throughout our community here at home, we had two (2) of our type three (3) engines assigned to mutual aid and we received yet another call for assistance. The IFPD quickly mobilized a Type 1 Fire engine and crew to immediately join up with XRI Strike Team 6050A and start toward the Hurst fire to assist other resources already battling the blaze. The Hurst Fire is currently 95% contained at 799 acres and thankfully no reported loss of life.

The IFPD Type 3 engines which were deployed originally for pre-position have also been assigned to the fires in the LA Area and these IFPD crews and resources will remain committed to this mission until the work is done. Please Note that the IFPD, the USFS and the Riverside County Fire Department remain fully staffed and capable of answering emergency service calls here at home.

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District is committed to mitigating the threat of emergencies to the Community of Idyllwild and assisting our cooperators and partners in their time of need under ***“Mutual Aid”*** Assistance.

So just what is ***“MUTUAL AID”***?

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District responds to a wide range of emergency incidents including Structure Fires, Wildland Fires, Medical Aid Incidents and much-much more. Whatever the emergency incident is, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District is responsible for sending an appropriate level of response to the type of incident that is reported. In the case of a reported structure fire, a standard response consists of a minimum of 2 engine companies, an ambulance, and a chief officer. This response level requires personnel who are trained, experienced and capable of managing incidents ranging from a small residential structure fire to a fire that is much larger and more involved. On occasion additional resources may be requested from other fire agencies— this is referred to as ***“mutual aid.”***



The Idyllwild Fire Protection District participates with numerous other fire agencies in the California Master Mutual Aid System. These types of agreements are very common throughout the United States. ***Every fire service provider understands that no Fire Agency, no matter its size can manage its largest incident or incidents on its busiest day.*** For this reason, fire agencies cooperate and provide ***“mutual aid”*** to help each other when situations dictate the need.

Your Idyllwild Fire Protection District personnel and equipment are proud providers of ***“mutual aid”*** and honorably serve throughout the State of California as part of the “Master Mutual Aid System”. The California Master Mutual Aid agreement provides for complete cost reimbursement for agencies which cooperate in the system. Likewise, a fire department requesting ***“mutual aid”*** assistance can ask for assistance without jeopardizing the safety of the community.

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District also participates in “Automatic Aid” response agreements with our neighboring fire departments, all of which are ready to reciprocate by sending a fire engine and other emergency response equipment and personnel to an incident within Idyllwild without regard to jurisdictional boundaries. This type of “Automatic Aid” policy is not unique to Idyllwild, in fact it is found

in nearly all fire agency response procedures, providing an incredible and lifesaving asset to all those utilizing such an assistance program. The overall cost savings to the Annual Budgets and funds available for additional personnel and equipment benefit all cooperating agencies as they each gain the benefit of personnel depth and additional coverage around the clock.

As our beautiful community continues to grow, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District remains committed to ensuring that your emergency response needs are met. Over our nearly 80-year history, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District has grown from an all-volunteer based department to a fully professional and full-time fully staffed organization with 365/24/7 fire and EMS service coverage including ALS Ambulance service and transportation. The IFPD responds to more than 1500 requests for service annually.

The cost of providing **“Mutual Aid”** is fully reimbursed, including all salaries, overtime and equipment use. Your local Fire Agency and the overall Fire Service Community have partnered together to provide you with professional, and uninterrupted emergency services.

Please note that the Idyllwild Fire Protection District and the United States Forest Service have a Fire Restriction Order which has remained in place since June of 2024. This restriction prohibits the use of outdoor fires of any type. Also, No Charcoal or wood fired BBQs are allowed in the Idyllwild Community at any time. Please contact us for more information on Fire Safety and Safe (gas fired only) BBQ usage.

As always, we would like to Thank our community for helping us to “Keep Idyllwild Fire Safe” by your consistent and mandatory property abatement efforts.

Our thoughts and prayers are with our brothers and sisters which are out on the front lines of these destructive fires, and our hearts and prayers are with those effected by them as well.

Please tune in to WNKI 1610 am radio (WNKI578) for emergency updates and information.

Should you have any questions, or need additional information please be sure to call us at (951) 659-2153. Or go to www.idyllwildfire for more information.

We are Honored at the Opportunity to serve.

Respectfully,

Mark LaMont
Fire Chief
Idyllwild Fire Protection District



Please note the following updated information pertaining to the **Palisades** and **Eaton** fires as of January 23, 2025:

Eaton Fire: Los Angeles County, Altadena California:

Start Date: January 7th 2025
Acres Burned: 14,021
Structures Destroyed: 9418
Fatalities: 17
Containment: 90%
IFPD Providing Mutual Aid: YES

Palisades Fire: Los Angeles County, Palisades California:

Start Date: January 7th 2025
Acres Burned: 23,713
Structures Destroyed: 6380
Fatalities: 11
Containment: 65%
IFPD Providing Mutual Aid: YES

In addition to the Assistance IFPD Provided for the Los Angeles Fire Storm Incidents, the IFPD mandated a call back of ALL uniformed and part time personnel.

IFPD Provided Preposition resources for local (Riverside County ongoing wind events from January 7th through January 23rd. This includes Personnel, Engines, IFPD Crew 621 and Overhead positions.

Throughout this destructive event the IFPD maintained a fully staffed response capability and posture here at home to ensure timely, effective, efficient and critical emergency services to the community of Idyllwild and the overall Mountain Plateau of the San Jacinto Mountains.

We would also like to Thank our cooperative partners for their assistance in ensuring these critical services. United States Forest Service, San Bernardino National Forest, Riverside County Fire, Riverside County Sheriff, Cal Trans, Cal Highway Patrol, San Bernardino County Fire Department, Fern Valley Water District.

A Summary of California's Historic and Catastrophic Wildfires

This beautiful, fire prone place we call "HOME":

California is well known for its incredibly temperate climate, beautiful weather, incredible coastlines and mountain ranges. We are also well known for very dry, windy, and often extremely hot weather conditions that can set us up for some incredibly severe wildfires. Pre-1800, when California was much more forested and much less inhabited the ecology was likely much more resilient, It is estimated that pre 1800 somewhere between 4 and 5 million acres of forest and shrubland burned annually. With California land area total of nearly 100 million acres that estimate is 4 to 5 percent of our landmass total. Since 2000, the area which has burned annually averaged between 100,000 acres, .01%, and 2 million acres, or 2% of the total land mass of California. The standout was the 2020 wildfire season when over 8,000 fires contributed to the burning of nearly 4.5 million acres of land throughout California.

It is estimated that more than 500,000 people throughout California live in communities which fall into zones deemed to be at "very high risk of fire".

Moreover, with California's population expected to hit an all-time high of 42.5 million by the end of 2025 and over 3 million of those residents residing in "high fire hazard severity zones", What are we doing to reduce the risk?

The majority of Californias wildfire ignitions since 1980 have been caused by humans. The four most common ignition sources for wildfires in California are: equipment use, powerlines, arson, and lightning. This causes me to ponder, "what are we actually doing to increase the risk of fire"? Our misuse of equipment, neglect of power infrastructure maintenance, "mental health crisis" (arsonists) are the top three causes of fire on our landscape. So, lets unpack:

1. *How did we get here?* (January meeting 2025)
2. *What are we doing currently?* (March meeting 2025)
3. *How can we make things better?* (May meeting 2025)

It is also important to note, that in addition to the catastrophic loss of human life, structural devastation and financial impacts, recent studies have also found that wildfires greatly affect the California ecosystem and disrupt habitats.

How did we get here?

California is certainly no stranger to fire on her landscape. In fact, fire without doubt predates our historical documentation.

Population and proximity to the (WUI) Wildland Urban Interface:

The wildland–urban interface (WUI) is a zone of transition between wilderness (unoccupied land) and land developed by human activity – an area where a built environment meets or intermingles with a natural environment.

In the United States, the wildland–urban interface (WUI) has two definitions. The US Forest Service defines the wildland–urban interface as a place where "humans and their development meet or intermix with wildland fuel." Communities that are within 0.5 miles of the zone are included. A quantitative definition is provided by the Federal Register, which defines WUI areas as those containing at least one housing unit per 40 acres



For Idyllwild Residents living in the Jurisdictional boundaries of the Idyllwild Fire Protection District, YES, you reside in the “Wildland Urban Interface”.



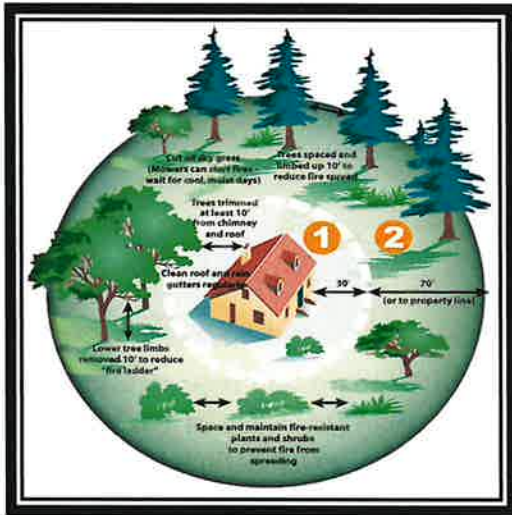
The WUI has consistently been the fastest-growing land use type in the United States since 1990. Factors include geographic population shifts, expansion of cities and suburbs into wildlands, and vegetative growth into formerly unvegetated land. The primary cause has been migration. Of new WUI areas, 97% were the result

of new housing. In the United States there are population shifts towards the WUIs in the West and South; increasing nationally by 18 percent per decade, covering 6 million additional homes between 1990 and 2000 which in 2013 was 32 percent of habitable structures.

With a shift of population to the WUI, we have an even greater challenge and responsibility as society to commit to ensuring our communities remain fire safe:

IFPD 2023 Property Abatement Results:

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District inspects 3829 properties each year.



- As Per IFPD Ord. 19-01 we have begun performing our annual abatement inspections on ALL properties within IFPD jurisdiction. IFPD crews completed the first round of inspections on **April 30th** and failed inspection notices were mailed out to 623 property owners (Last year we mailed out over 705 fails on the first round of inspections).
- Second inspections will begin May 15th, After the second inspection notices are mailed out, then a three week interval is given to complete the work prior to the final inspections being performed.
- We anticipate final inspections in June. Last year **81** citations were mailed out on those properties which remained out of compliance.

➤ Overall 2023 abatement results: **97% compliance and 3% noncompliance**. We continue to work with those who have not come into compliance to ensure all have met / will meet the minimum abatement requirements.

Ongoing Property Abatement 2024:

As with previous years the Idyllwild Fire Protection District will continue inspecting ALL (3829) properties for compliance with ORD 19-01. This local ordinance is in addition to the CA State abatement regulations: (IFPD abatement Inspections begin late spring generally Mid to Late April – Early May each year). ***This year's 1st inspections have been conducted with 623 1st inspection fail notices being mailed out.*** IFPD has re-inspected the **623** parcels with final fail notices being mailed out to **248** property owners. ***Citation notices have been mailed out to any property owner not found in compliance.***



Items which top the “Failed” inspection list each year are:

- Address Numbers – These must be 4” or greater in size and must be visible from the street in a contrasting color.
- Clearance around Propane Tanks – Must have a minimum of 10’ clearance around LP tanks.
- Roof clear of flammable debris – Your roof must be free from pine needles, leaves, and other flammable debris.
- Thirty (30’) ft. clearance of all vegetation around your home.

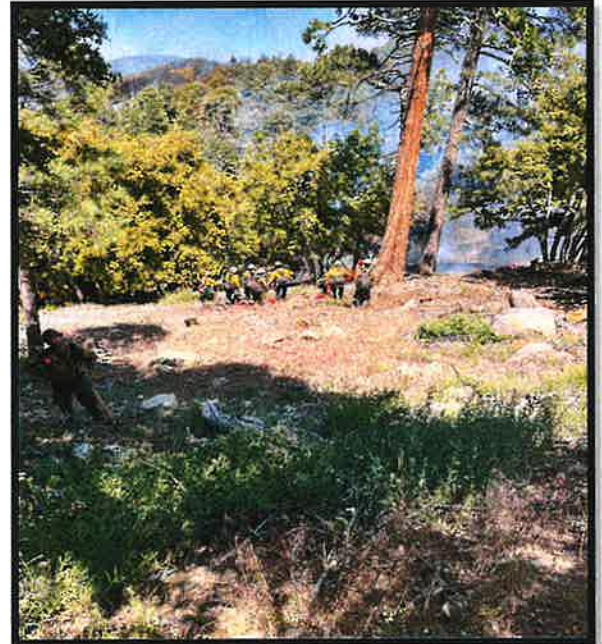
Please check our website or contact our office with any questions you may have regarding Property Abatement, the IFPD will be happy to assist you! Property Abatement is an ongoing responsibility.

Ongoing Fuels Projects: The Idyllwild Fire Protection District continues to work with our Cooperative Partners on fuels reduction and community resiliency projects: Thomas Mountain, Westridge, South Ridge, Strawberry, and other local fuels projects. The IFPD has also had the opportunity to assist with fuels projects in the Cleveland National Forest.

Update: (Partnership agreement with the USFS is completed)

Bear Trap Fuel Reductions:

IFPD continues working on this critical fuel reduction project with the private property owners to reduce fuels on a ridgeline west of Idyllwild and east of Bear Trap Canyon. These fuels reductions will greatly strengthen our fire prevention efforts along with the other ongoing fuels reductions projects on west ridge, south ridge, and strawberry fuel reductions. We anticipate an RX treatment in early 2024 on this project.



Update: The Bear Trap fuel project is ready for an RX (firing) treatment. We will likely need to do a "re-entry" on this project early 2025 and then apply the Rx treatment.

Communications Site:

The IFPD completed improvements to our communications site. The IFPD plans to relocate WNKI (1610 am emergency radio) to the site which will greatly enhance our overall emergency communications network and provide a larger coverage area for the community. This relocation is anticipated to take place early 2024. Thank you to all those who participated in making this project a huge success! (We are currently working with SCE on providing permanent power to this site) Currently we have LP generator power and solar energy providing power to the site.

Update: We have worked through the project planning process with SCE and anticipate having final "site plan" approvals soon, this will provide permanent power to the site.

IFPD will again provide 100% property inspections in 2025: Please visit us on line for important abatement information, estimated inspection dates and other fire safety formation. Or contact us with any questions you may have.

Individual and ongoing Community CPR Classes:

IFPD delivers several CPR classes each year. In 2023 we provided five (5) CPR classes for the USFS, two (2) local tree company classes, two (2) local camp employees courses and two (2) community CPR classes. **We provided six (6) CPR class in 2024**, one for the local water districts one for MCFSC, one for Tree Companies, one for the local medical clinic, one for local camps and a community “citizen” CPR class. (Persons interested in attending a CPR class should contact our office and speak with Rachel for details and schedule)



CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)

IFPD held a full CERT Course in October of 2023. We also conducted 1 refresher course in June of 2023. IFPD sponsors MDP (Mountain Disaster Preparedness) and partners with them in the training of new CERT members. Twenty-two new CERT members took the October 2023 training course.



- ***The IFPD anticipates putting on one (1) new CERT course and one (1) refresher course in 2025. Check our website or call our office for details regarding upcoming classes. Thanks to all who assisted and participated in these training classes.***

2024/25 FY Mutual Aid Fires:

IFPD is a proud contributor to the greater Mutual Aid effort. IFPD has served on numerous fires to date during the 2024/25 FY including but not limited to:

2024/25FY Mutual Aid Fire assignments:

BASIN FIRE	Team 11	June 27 th – July 14 th
White Fire	T6 Strike Team	July 16 – July 20 th
Ridge Fire	T6 Strike Team	July 20 th – July 24 th
Gold Fire	T3 Strike Team	July 25 th – July 28 th
Park Fire	T3 Strike Team	July 28 th – Aug 11 th
SQF Lightning	Team 11	July 26 th – July 30 th
BOREL	Team 11	July 28 th – Aug 10 th
BOISE Fire	Team 11	Aug 22 nd – Sep. 8 th
Line Fire	Task Force 621	Sept. 6 th – 21st
LINE Fire	Team 11	Sept. 26th – Oct. 11 th



Mountain Fire T3 Strike Team BR625

Palisades Fire T 3 Strike Team BR621

Palisades Fire T 1 Strike Team E622

Hurst Fire T 1 Strike Team E622

Eaton Fire T 3 Strike Team BR625

Numerous Pre-Position Mutual Aid Assistance: Ongoing



2024 Fires Invoiced to Date: \$ 3,800,000.00

(Received YTD FY24/25 \$ 1,189,500.00)

In **2023** IFPD invoiced: \$ 1,353,000.00 in mutual aid reimbursement.

In **2022** IFPD invoiced: \$ 2,010,000.00 in mutual aid reimbursement.

In **2021** IFPD invoiced: \$ 1,205,000.00 in mutual aid reimbursement.

In **2020** IFPD invoiced: \$ 500,000.00 in mutual aid reimbursement.

Grants:

Awarded: AFG Grant 2023 – 25,000.00 PPE Gear.

Awarded: VFA Grant 2023 – 15,000.00 Radio and Communications Equipment.

Awarded: FEMA 2023: \$ 50,000.00 Medical Equipment, gurneys, stair-chairs, laryngoscopes, and more.



- Previously Awarded items:
 - Firehouse Subs SCBA Grant(s)
 - Previously Awarded items: Striker Life Pac Cardiac Monitors and Gurneys.
- Pending Grants:
 - \$ 25,000.00 Rope rescue gear, misc. rescue equipment.
(Submitted)



- **2024: \$ 1m California Investments in Wildfire Prevention. (Awarded)**

UPDATE: IFPD was awarded the \$1m Investment in Wildfire Prevention Grant, stay tuned for more information as this grant and the dollars associated come available (est. early 2025)

Statistics:

Incident Volume:	NOV: 2024	DEC: 2024
Medical:	49	51
Fires:	10	7
Hazardous Cond:	6	9
Public Service:	12	14
False Alarm:	4	3
Other:	8	7
Total number of Incidents:	89	91
Medical:		299
Fires:		64
Hazardous Cond:		32
Public Service:		99
False Alarm:		25
Other:		59
Running total: FY24/25		578 (as of Dec.. 31, 2024)





Ambulance Transactions:

	NOV. 24	DEC. 24	YTD
Transports:	38	30	185
Charges:	\$ 134,068.00	\$ 74,151.00	\$ 567,021.02
Payments:	\$ 16,821.00	\$ 16,823.29	\$ 120,672.53
Current A/R:	\$ 342,156.00	\$ 328,203.00	\$ 356,121.00

Equipment Update:

Suppression Equipment:

Unit	Mileage	Condition	Notes
T-621	29980	Good	2023 Ladder test completed.
E-621	37350	Good	Repairs completed.
RE-622	64252	Good	Front line
BR-621	64766	Fair	PM Completed
BR-622	132950	Good	PM Complete
BR-625	36005	Excellent	NA
OES-6608	24430	Excellent	NA
WT-621	30065	Fair	See CIP needs replacement.

Ambulances:

Medic Unit One 1	63386	Excellent	NA
Medic Unit Two 2	46780	Excellent	NA
Medic Unit Five 5	43739	Excellent	NA
Medic Unit 626	64450	Good	NA

Administrative/Other Units

		Condition	Notes
C-6200	75340	Excellent	NA
B-6201	34860	Excellent	NA
B-6202	18080	Excellent	NA
S-621	50910	Good	NA
U-621	130625	Good	NA
A-621	72989	Excellent	NA

IFPD CREW621:

Members of Crew 621 received an “in Service” training on May 19th 2024

Crew 621 has a greater than 80% return of last year’s members which will allow crew 621 to reclassify as a type II IA crew (upgrading from last year’s classification of Type II) All members have received a full in service “red card” training and the crew is in service and has already been assisting the USFS (BDF) San Jacinto Ranger District with the continued prescribed burn project at Thomas Mountain, and has also provided Mutual Aid to the Sierra National Forest from June 29th through July 12th 2024. Great Job CREW 621!!!



IFPD Crew 621 was instrumental on mitigating the fire threat to the Communities of Angelus Oaks, Big Bear, Arrowhead and Running Springs during the 2024 Line Fire Incident.

Training:

All IFPD members continue to complete and exceed all minimum fire training requirements. 30 hours of minimum training per month for all career staff members and, 20 hours of continuous training for all reserve/intern and crew members. Annual EMS education (continuing education was completed in January and February of 2024 for all IFPD employees/admin staff and intern reserves). All IFPD suppression personnel have completed the annual “red card” training.

IFPD was extremely busy throughout the 2023/24FY, and continue to be busy throughout the 24/25 FY. In addition to our regular call volume and automatic - mutual aid services that we provide, the IFPD also:

- hosts several school visits and fieldtrip to the Fire Station, Participates in Fire Prevention Month by visiting the Idyllwild School and educating our Kids on Fire Safety, visiting the Idyllwild Library for “Storytime” reading with the Kids, Visiting Awana at the Idyllwild Bible Church for fire prevention week, we had a Great visit with Senator Kelly Seyarto to discuss fire safe communities. We consistently Participate in the annual Fourth of July Parade, the Idyllwild Halloween Parade and Carnival and the Annual Idyllwild Christmas Tree Lighting. We met with Congressman Ken Calvert and his staff, we have had the opportunity to speak with numerous local membership groups (Rotary, Idy Elders, Water Districts) IFPD assisted the USFS with their “C” FAL1 certification program, and also put on our own “C” Faller1 certification class this year.
- Please see our five-year list of accomplishments for additional information.



Please remind your family, friends, and neighbors that Fire Prevention and Abatement efforts are a year-round commitment.

Thank you for your efforts in helping to keep Idyllwild Fire Safe!

Emergency Siren Testing

3rd Saturday of each month @
1:00pm.



IFPD Response Time Averages: (time of dispatch to time of arrival)

Medical Aid Incidents. 3.01 minutes

Fire Related Incidents. 4.25 Minutes

Overlapping Incidents 31.62%

*From our Family to Yours,
“You are our Mission.”*

Chiefs Report January 28th, 2025.

This Certificate is Awarded to

Mark LaMont

For Successful Course Completion of

S-520

ADVANCED INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

Jackel Abel
S-520 Steering Chair

Stewart Richter
Stewart Richter, NAFRI Director



December 3 - 8, 2024

Date



OFFICE OF THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL

California Incident Command Certification System



To: Diane Radford State Fire Training

January 21, 2025

From: Javier Lara Chair PACE V Committee

Subject: PACE V recognition

Diane, Idyllwild Fire Protection District, Mark LaMont has been qualified by the PACE V Committee as a OSC I. I am requesting a CICC Certificate be sent to Mark LaMont. He was qualified on January 21, 2025

Thank you.

Javier Lara

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Javier Lara".

Operations Section Chief Type I

Address:

Mark LaMont

54160 Maranatha Drive

Idyllwild CA 92549

CC: Kris Rose, Scott Vail



IDYLLWILD FIRE

54160 Maranatha Drive
Idyllwild, CA 92549
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes – November 12, 2024

IFPD Regular meeting was held at 54160 Maranatha Dr. Idyllwild CA.

Call to Order: 15:00

Roll call: Commissioners: President Messina; Vice President Sawicki; Secretary Andrewson; Commissioner Yost, Commissioner Fogle; Chief Mark LaMont, and Executive Assistant Rachel Teeguarden, District Council Steven Graham

Pledge of Allegiance: President Messina

Invocation: Commissioner Fogle

Citizens' Comments: - None at this time

Reports

- President Messina – *Had the honor to serve on Team 11 Four (4) different times this last summer. Has a much better understanding having seen what goes on behind the scenes to get the job done.*
 - Vice President Sawicki – *Joined the volunteers at the School BBQ this last month and had a great experience and will continue to attend the BBQ's. Also working on something for the spaghetti dinner.*
 - Secretary Andrewson – *Would like to thank the crew for their hard work on the current Mtn. fire. Would like to thank our veterans and our volunteers for all their hard work on the spaghetti dinner.*
 - Commissioner Yost – *Tree Lighting will be the Saturday the 30th. Booths will begin at 2pm and entertainment will begin at 4pm. Thank you to the crew for their help at the Halloween carnival. Would also like to thank the crews for their hard work this fire season.*
 - Commissioner Fogle – *Would like to thank the crew for their hard work this fire season.*
- IVFC – *The volunteers are looking forward to the spaghetti dinner on November 23rd.*

- Chief Mark LaMont. – *(Please see Chief LaMont's written report). Would also like to thank all of our folks, volunteers, career staff, reserves for all that they do. Most recently for their part in the Mtn. fire for their hard work up there. We are currently very busy ensuring that our codes and ordinances are up to date. We understand that these can seem to be overbarring and restrictive however they are necessary. We need to take the responsibility as a society to ensure that our homes and communities are safe. We continue with ongoing fuels projects. We have currently invoiced \$3.6m in Mutual Aid. The grants that we have worked on have been approved and we are waiting for the go ahead to begin. The Priority Landscape grant we received if for just under \$ 1m. Currently in Riverside county IFPD and Cathedral City are the only local government Fire Departments that still offer ambulance services. Thank you to the IFPD board's of the past, and our current Board for ensuring ambulance service for our community.*

Action Items

1. Approve meeting minutes from 9/24/24 Regular Board Meeting:
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to approve the 9/24/24 Regular Board Meeting Minutes as amended, Commissioner Yost 2nd. Motion passed 5-0

2. Accept Sept. & Oct. 2024: Incident Statistic / Ambulance Reports:
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to accept the Sept. & Oct. 2024 Incident statistic/Ambulance Report: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
3. Review / Discuss / Approve Sept. & Oct. 2024 Financials:
Vice President Sawicki made a motion to approve the Sept. & Oct. 2024 Financials: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
4. Review / Discuss / Approve Sept. & Oct. 2024 Bill Payments:
Commissioner Yost made a motion to approve the Sept. & Oct. 2024 Bill Payments: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
5. Review / Discuss / Approve Employee Performance Bonus 2024:
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to approve the Employee Performance Bonus 2024: Vice President Sawicki 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
6. Review / Discuss / Approve Board Policies: (3121 / 4005 / 4010 / 4015 / 4020 / 4025 / 4097 / 5060)
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to approve Board Policy 3121: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Commissioner Fogle made a motion to approve Board Policy 4005: Secretary Andrewson 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Vice President Sawicki made a motion to approve Board Policy 4010: Secretary Andrewson 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Commissioner Yost made a motion to approve Board Policy 4015: Secretary Andrewson 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Vice President Sawicki made a motion to approve Board Policy 4020: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Vice President Sawicki made a motion to approve Board Policy 4025: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Commissioner Yost made a motion to approve Board Policy 4097: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
Vice President Sawicki made a motion to approve Board Policy 5060: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
7. Review / Discuss / Approve Resolution 542 Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to approve Resolution 542: Commissioner Yost 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
8. Review / Discuss / Approve 2025 Regular Board Meeting Dates:
Secretary Andrewson made a motion to approve the 2025 Regular Board meeting dates: Commissioner Fogle 2nd. Motion passed 5-0
9. Review / Discuss / Approve General Discussion / Misc Items for next Board Meeting
Board officer positions
10. Review / Discuss **Correspondence – Included in Board Packet**

Announcement of Closed Session Agenda

- Pursuant to Government code 54957: Evaluation – Fire Chief

Regular Meeting Recessed 16:35 non-board members excused.

Closed Session Called to Order: 16:48

Closed Session Item(s):

- Employee Evaluation – Fire Chief

Closed Session Adjourned: 18:18

Reconvened to Regular Meeting: 18:18

- Commissioner Sawicki reported out on the actions taken during closed session as follows.

The Fire Chief received an excellent Annual Review.

Commissioner Sawicki made a motion to adjourn; Secretary Andrewson 2nd Motion passed 5-0

Adjournment: 18:19

Respectfully submitted,
Rachel Teegarden, Executive Assistant
Clerk of the Board

Approved:

Dan Messina, President

Date

Attest.

Clerk of the Board

Date



November-24				
<u>Call Type (description)</u>	<u># of Incidents</u>	<u>% of total</u>	<u>Non Transport</u>	<u>Transported</u>
Emergency Medical Service	49	55.06%	11	38
Fires	10	11.24%	22.45%	77.55%
Hazardous Condition (non fire)	6	6.74%		
Public Service	12	13.48%		
False Alarm	4	4.49%		
Special Incident type	8	8.99%		
TOTALS	89	100.00%		

Call Type	Percentage
1 EMS	54.90%
2 Fire	11.24%
3 Hazardous Cond	6.74%
4 Public Service	13.48%
5 False Alarm	4.49%
6 Special Inc.	8.99%

Running Totals (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)				
<u>Call Type (description)</u>	<u># of Incidents</u>	<u>% of total</u>	<u>Non Transport</u>	<u>Transported</u>
Emergency Medical Service	248	50.92%	93	155
Fires	57	11.70%	37.50%	62.50%
Hazardous Condition (non fire)	23	4.72%		
Public Service	85	17.45%		
False Alarm	22	4.52%		
Special Incident type	52	10.68%		
TOTALS	487	100.00%		

Call Type	Percentage
1 EMS	58.56%
2 Fire	11.70%
3 Hazardous Cond	4.72%
4 Public Service	17.45%
5 False Alarm	4.52%
6 Special Inc.	10.68%

Idyllwild Fire Protection District (Incident Average Statistics)				
Daily Incident Avg. :	3.25			
Daily Transport Average :	1.03			
Percentage of Overlapping Calls:	28.77%			
Mutual Aid Given	33			
Mutual Aid Received	1			

<u>Transport Destinations</u>				
<u>EMC</u>	<u>HVMC</u>	<u>San G</u>	<u>DRMC</u>	<u>Other</u>
18	5	3	6	6
47.37%	13.16%	7.89%	15.79%	15.79%
78	33	6	22	16
50.32%	21.29%	3.87%	14.19%	10.32%

<u>Average Response times:</u>			
Dispatch to Arrival :	EMS	3.01	Fire / Other 4.025

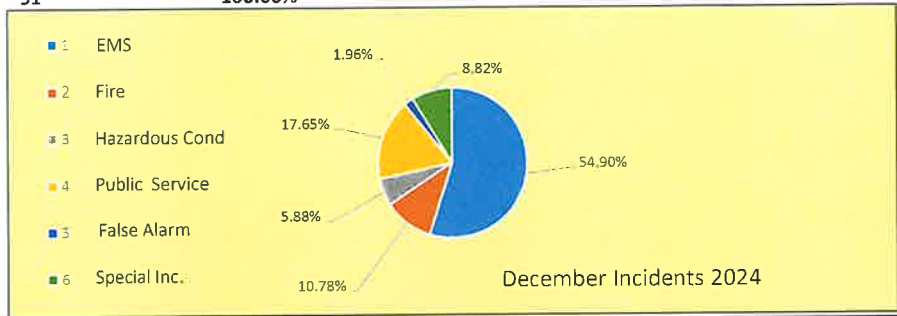
M. Calmont 12/18/2024

**Idyllwild Fire Protection District
Incident Recap 2024/2025**



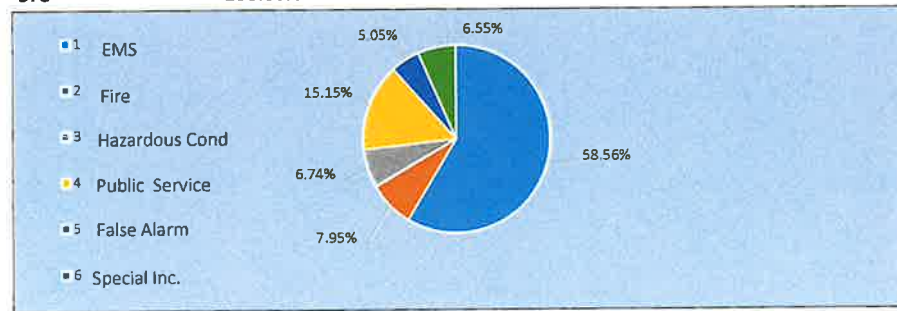
December-24

Call Type (description)	# of Incidents	% of total	Non Transport	Transported
Emergency Medical Service	51	56.04%	21	30
Fires	7	7.69%	41.18%	58.82%
Hazardous Condition (non fire)	9	9.89%		
Public Service	14	15.38%		
False Alarm	3	3.30%		
Special Incident type	7	7.69%		
TOTALS	91	100.00%		



Running Totals (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

Call Type (description)	# of Incidents	% of total	Non Transport	Transported
Emergency Medical Service	299	51.73%	114	185
Fires	64	11.07%	38.13%	61.87%
Hazardous Condition (non fire)	32	5.54%		
Public Service	99	17.13%		
False Alarm	25	4.33%		
Special Incident type	59	10.21%		
TOTALS	578	100.00%		



Idyllwild Fire Protection District (Incident Average Statistics)

Daily Incident Avg. :	3.21
Daily Transport Average :	1.03
Percentage of Overlapping Calls:	31.62%
Mutual Aid Given	47
Mutual Aid Received	1

Transport Destinations

EMC	HVMC	San G	DRMC	Other
12	11	2	3	2
40.00%	36.67%	6.67%	10.00%	6.67%
90	44	8	25	18
48.65%	23.78%	4.32%	13.51%	9.73%

Average Response times:

Dispatch to Arrival :	EMS	3.01	Fire / Other	4.025
-----------------------	-----	------	--------------	-------



	Revenue	Taxes	Ambulance	Mutual Aid	Other Misc.	Expenditures	Payroll	Cal PERS	Equipment /Supplies/Vendors	Utilities	Insurance / Misc./ Other
Budget 2024/2025	\$3,593,300.00	\$1,742,925.00	\$588,000.00	\$1,225,000.00	\$37,375.00	\$3,563,300.00	\$2,167,755.00	\$566,220.00	\$456,260.00	\$36,950.00	\$336,115.00
YTD Actuals as of 8/31/24	\$3,059,522.81	\$655,448.87	\$120,672.53	\$2,272,496.24	\$10,905.17	\$2,906,912.57	\$2,030,250.00	\$346,482.42	\$189,914.37	\$10,396.12	\$329,869.66
	85.15%	37.61%	20.52%	185.51%	29.18%	81.58%	93.66%	61.19%	41.62%	28.14%	98.14%
Balance Est. on Budget	\$533,777.19	\$1,087,476.13	\$467,327.47	-\$1,047,496.24	\$26,469.83	\$656,387.43	\$137,505.00	\$219,737.58	\$266,345.63	\$26,553.88	\$6,245.34
Estimated (FY/25) Year End Actuals / Est. Remaining	\$6,464,390.00	\$1,921,655.00	\$302,650.00	\$4,207,585.00	\$32,500.00	\$5,026,685.00	\$3,105,685.00	\$701,250.00	\$760,000.00	\$41,000.00	\$418,750.00
	179.90%	110.25%	51.47%	343.48%	86.96%	141.07%	143.27%	123.85%	166.57%	110.96%	124.59%
Anticipated Difference: (EST +/-)	\$2,871,090.00	\$178,730.00	(\$285,350.00)	\$2,982,585.00	(\$4,875.00)	(\$1,463,385.00)	(\$937,930.00)	(\$135,030.00)	(\$303,740.00)	(\$4,050.00)	(\$82,635.00)

IFPD Nov 2024 Bill Payments



Line Item #	Payment to:	Description	
(111) Fire (121) EMS (131) MA			
(111)(121) - 4911	Southern California Edison	Electricity	\$ 636.49
(111)(121) - 4921	Idyllwild Water	Water	\$ 308.72
(111)(121) - 4941	CR&R	Trash Service	\$ 299.45
(111)(121) - 3911	Wex Bank - Chevron	Vehicle Fuel	\$ 91.82
(111)(121) - 3911	County Transportation - Fuel	Fuel - June	\$ 4,277.34
(111)(121)(131)-3911/4772/4301	US Bank - Cal Card	Cal Card - Equipment - Supplies - Grants - MA	\$ 19,096.28
(111)(121) - 4611	Canon	Copier Lease	\$ 401.50
(111)(121) - 4111	Spectrum	Internet - Phone	\$ 585.33
(111)(121) - 4304	Forest Lumber	Station repairs	\$ 2,245.15
(111)(121) - 3611	Village Hardware	Station Supplies	\$ 212.34
(121) - 4121	Verizon	iPads Service (EPCR)	\$ 348.09
(111)(121) - 4303	Napa Auto Parts	Auto Parts	\$ 52.82
(111)(121) -	Fulton Distributing	Station Supplies	\$ 481.51
(111)(121) - 3491	Nationwide Medical	Medical Supplies	\$ 688.00
(111)(121) - 4522	Cole Huber	Legal Services	\$ 556.55
(111)(121) - 4761	Riverside County - Dispatch	Dispatch - FY23/24 Q2	\$ 5,460.50
(111)(121) - 4303	Goldwyn Estrella	Vehicle Decals	\$ 2,890.00
(111)(121) - 4121	Vadim Municipal Software	Asyst - Accounting Software	\$ 859.07
(111)(121) - 4772	GNW Construction	Station Improvement - BC / Cpt Office	\$ 7,021.32

IFPD Dec 2024 Bill Payments



Line Item #	Payment to:	Description	
(111) Fire (121) EMS (131) MA			
(111)(121) - 4911	Southern California Edison	Electricity	\$ 603.68
(111)(121) - 4921	Idyllwild Water	Water	\$ 304.68
(111)(121) - 4941	CR&R	Trash Service	\$ 299.45
(111)(121) - 3911	Wex Bank - Chevron	Vehicle Fuel	\$ 95.51
(111)(121)(131)-3911/4772/4301	US Bank - Cal Card	Cal Card - Equipment - Supplies - Grants - MA	\$ 19,415.97
(111)(121) - 4611	Canon	Copier Lease	\$ 401.50
(121) - 4121	Verizon	iPads Service (EPCR)	\$ 348.09
(111)(121) - 3491	McKesson	Medical Supplies	\$ 1,528.82
(111)(121) - 4201	SDRMA	Property - Liability - Workers Comp	\$ 10,420.08

From: Weiser, Bill@CALFIRE <Bill.Weiser@fire.ca.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 27, 2025 3:25 PM
To: Lamont, Mark @Idyllwild Fire
Subject: RE: OSC1

Flag Status: Flagged

Mark,

I read this last Wednesday, this is a awesome accomplishment!! I know how hard you have worked at getting this certification. OSC1 is a journey, it takes many years and hard assignments. You and I have worked side by side with each other for decades. I remember all the fires you mentioned below. The Cranston is the one that stands out in my mind. You and I worked together so very hard to evacuate Idyllwild in an orderly fashion and get a strong FMAG through the system. I'm proud of our friendship, our collaborations, and our STRONG partnership. I know that we are better standing together than standing apart. I know I can count on Mark LaMont to do the "Right Thing for the Right Reason". My friend I look forward to us helping others, lets try not to have another fire on the mountain for years and years.

Your brother,
Bill



Bill Weiser

Fire Chief
Riverside County Fire Department
210 W. San Jacinto, Perris, CA 92570
(951) 940-6917- Office



From: marklamont@idyllwildfire.com <marklamont@idyllwildfire.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2025 10:18 PM
To: Weiser, Bill@CALFIRE <Bill.Weiser@fire.ca.gov>
Subject: OSC1

Warning: this message is from an external user and should be treated with caution.

Bill,

Just wanted to share this milestone with you.

2025 marks my 25th year with Idyllwild Fire, and my 15th year anniversary on So Cal IIMT1 (now IIMT Team 11) , (6 years as a DIVS, 2 years as OSC2 trainee, 2 years OSC2 Qualified, 2 years as OSCC (Ops section Chief Complex) and 3 years working to finalize my OSC1.

It has been an incredible journey and opportunity to serve here at the Idyllwild Fire Protection District, and also to work as a member of Team 11 all these years. I remember the old "67" hour academy and training burns with you at BCTC, Wildland drills at Bogart Park and Bear Trap Canyon, RX Burns and fuels treatments at the State and County Parks, RX Burns, fuels treatment reductions and wildland training drills with our USFS brothers of the BDF on Strawberry fuel break, Westridge, Southridge, May Valley, Thomas Mountain and many more. I also will likely never forget working together on the Mountain and Cranston Fires to mitigate the threat of Fire to the Communities of the Mountain Plateau. I also wanted to say Thank You for being such a Trustworthy and Consistent friend and partner as we have worked together in our past and current roles in the Fire Service. It means a lot to know that I can count on Bill Weiser, looking forward to serving together with you in the years ahead.

Thanks for all you do,

Sincerely,

*Mark LaMont
Fire Chief
Idyllwild Fire Protection District*

marklamont@idyllwildfire.com

(951) 659-2153 Office

(951) 659-5571 Fax

(805) 377-3754 Mobile





Erik & Delanne Marcussen

P.O. Box 1962
25700 Double Tree Dr.
Idyllwild, CA 92549-1962
951-468-4559

PNC Bank
54355 Ridgeview Dr.
Idyllwild, CA 92549

1371

DATE 12/31/2024

PAY Idyllwild Fire Protection District

\$ **300.00

Three Hundred and 00/100

DOLLARS

TO THE Idyllwild Fire Protection District
ORDER
OF



[Signature]

Memo

HUASMS03

SAUNDERS MEADOW INC
PO BOX 390
IDYLLWILD, CA 92549-0390

DATE 12/14/24 71-906/830

PAY TO THE
ORDER OF

Idyllwild Fire

\$ 400 -

for hundred and 00/100

DOLLARS

PNC Bank, National Association
Indiana
CANYON LAKE 05604

MEMO

Donation

For

Donation

AOL BIT 12/01/03/88

BANK OF AMERICA

Pay To The
Order of Idyllwild Fire Protection District
I have hundred Dollars only

IFPD

GISELA M STEARNS
MARIA B WILLIAMS
270 GOLD CANYON DR
PALM DESERT CA 92211-8998

(760) 200-9315

11/7/24

\$400.00

Dollars

Gisela H. Stearns

KARRIE MORLAN
BRUCE MORLAN
PO BOX 9
54299 STRAWBERRY VALLEY
IDYLLWILD CA 92549
951-659-3590

1/21/25 Date

\$ 50.00

Order of

Idyllwild Fire Department

fifty dollars & 00/100

Dollars

1040
71-906/830
5616



PNC BANK
PNC Bank, N.A. 054

For Donation

Karrie Morlan

D C GOGERTY
24768 FERN VALLEY RD
IDYLLWILD, CA 92549

19 December 2024 Date

\$ 100.00

Pay to the
Order of

Idyllwild Fire Protection District

one hundred and 00/100

Dollars

SCHOOLS FIRST
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

(800) 462-8328 - schoolsfirstfcu.org

For

2024 contribution

850
30 820/1227
01





To our heroes
much love for the
happiest of holidays
Thank

Thank you
very much
Frank Keller

We just wanted to offer a heartfelt
THANK YOU for the AED unit
supplied to IBC. Praying a
situation never arises that we
would need to use it, we are
grateful to have it so close at
hand. Once again you have
demonstrated a true concern
for the community and our guests.

God Bless.

Idylldal
Bible
Church

group of people that makes all the difference. Marlin just started on the swim team and Gus (Soren) started his own business (wow.roygbivbaits.com) selling hand made swimbaits. Both continue to get straight A's, we couldn't be prouder!

As for me, I am enjoying semi-retirement still doing a little science research on the side but mostly being a mom.

I hope things in Idylwild are going well. And you and your family are filled with love.

Merry Christmas & enjoy the cookies, Michelle



Dear Mark -

Hope this note finds you doing

well I am sorry I didn't send any goodies last year. Moving across

country was a bit crazy!

But we are all settled in AZ!

Now and leaving our new town. We

live across the street from a lake

and the large fish derby. In the

summer, the dog and I kayak & paddle

boarded as much as we can.

Now we settled in working on

planes again. He works with a great

Bright NEW YEAR



HAPPY 2025

Shadrach, Sarah, Hannah (18), Eliana (16), Moriah (16), Malachi (14), Nathan (12), Isaiah (10), Elijah (8), and Jeremiah (6)



City of Hemet

FIRE & LIFE SAFETY AGENCY | *Chief Eddie Sell*

November 11, 2024

Idyllwild Fire Department
54160 Maranatha Drive
Idyllwild-Pine Cove, CA 92549

On behalf of the Hemet Fire Department, we would like to extend a gracious "Thank You" for allowing your personnel to participate in the first inaugural Hemet Fire Department Girls Empowerment Camp. We appreciate you allowing them to attend, and for your contribution to their professionalism, expertise, and desire to "pay-it-forward" to the next generation of firefighters.

This Camp was an amazing success to impact the lives of thirty young women from our community. With the help of your agency, we were able to inspire these "Campers" to strive for goals regardless of their current circumstances. We feel programs such as this are important to the success of the next generation of the fire service.

The contribution from your agency is a large part of the success of this event and we are so grateful for your participation.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eddie Sell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eddie" and last name "Sell" clearly distinguishable.

Eddie Sell
Fire Chief/Agency Director
Hemet Fire and Life Safety Agency



Idyllwild Town Crier

By David Jerome

Conversations on social media have pitted those whose only source of heat during a power outage is a wood stove or fireplace against those who plead with them to bundle up until the Red Flag Warning is over. Idyllwild Fire Protection District Chief Mark LaMont has asked residents and visitors to refrain from heating with wood fires until the emergency is over.

LaMont had this to say: "We put out a statement on our website and WNKI. We urge people not to use fireplaces for heat. We are sorry for the inconvenience, but the risk of embers escaping and starting fires would be devastating.."

LaMont noted that Idyllwild Fire crews were, as of Wednesday January 8, assisting at three major fires: Palisades, Eaton and Hurst. These first two were being called the two largest January fires in California history. LaMont noticed that staffing on the Hill had been tripled during the wind event, and crews had been out all night cutting up downed trees to provide ingress and egress, essential for emergency service and potential evacuation. Daily response calls for medical and fire continue during emergencies like this. The men in the yard agreed that there had not been much time for sleep in the last 30 hours.

LaMont told of a couple of locals in their 80s who were returning from a shopping trip when they hit a 32-inch-diameter tree blocking highway 74 near McCall Park Road. Idyllwild Fire responded before other agencies could be notified, and LaMont himself took the pair home with their groceries.

Other calls for downed trees soon followed. IFPD cut up and removed trees on Fern Valley Road, Howland, Encino, Country Club and Tollgate, and at two local trailer parks, Royal Pines and Idyllwild Pines. Both of the trees in trailer parks affected multiple trailers, and the one in Royal Pines also destroyed a parked car.. Several people were trapped when their units were cut in half by the trees. The Red Cross was also there to provide for the immediate needs of the displaced.

Returning to one of his favorite themes, the importance of the mutual aid system, LaMont said "There is not a single agency that can handle it's worst day by itself. This is why the Mutual Aid system needs to be as robust as it is in California across the nation." LaMont added that IFPD would work with SCE to "ensure effective and efficient re-energizing" once the winds had passed.

chimney and fireplace to make sure it's ready for use.



Idyllwild Fire Protection District

I want to thank each of you for partnering with the Idyllwild Fire Protection District in our ongoing fire prevention efforts. You put in some incredible abatement work that helps to keep our beautiful mountain community "fire safe".

Each of us has chosen to live in this incredibly beautiful place, and as we are all too aware that comes with the responsibility of year-round fire abatement. As we move into hopefully the wetter and colder days of winter, please remember to exercise fire safe practices. Many of us find the winter holidays a favorite time of year; colorful decorations, warming our feet by the fire, and those special times with friends and family. We hope you've already had your chimney inspected this year. If you have not had your chimney inspected, we highly recommend getting that done.

Here are a few fire prevention tips we'd like to pass along to help you enjoy a "fire safe winter season".

CHIMNEY CLEANING

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) recommends getting your chimney cleaned and inspected every year. A chimney inspection and cleaning can eliminate hazardous soot and glazing that could be in your chimney. A thorough inspection will also ensure the integrity of your

1. Be sure that you are only burning the appropriate fuel product(s) in your fireplace or wood stove, ensure that you are burning seasoned wood. The less moisture there is in the wood, the less soot buildup will happen. Never burn trash or other inappropriate items in your fireplace.

2. Always properly dispose of ashes from the fireplace and wood stove with care. Hot coals can still be found in the ashes. Make sure to wear gloves, and don't use a plastic bucket or cardboard box for disposal, these can melt or catch fire from the hot coals, only use an approved metal can with a lid for proper removal of ashes.

3. Never Burn Your Christmas Tree
In several parts of our country, it is not uncommon for folks to dispose of their Christmas tree by chopping them up and burning them. This is not legal in Idyllwild and is a bad idea.

4. Smoke and Carbon Dioxide Detector Check
Please make sure all of your smoke alarms and carbon dioxide detectors are in working order. We recommend changing your batteries annually.

5. Always Keep An "Operating" Fire Extinguisher On Hand
It is extremely important to maintain working fire extinguisher(s) for your home. Fires can happen unexpectedly, and it is always recommended to keep fire extinguisher(s) close by to put fires out before they can grow. **(FIRE Cont. pg. 8)**

FIRE continued from pg. 4.

We are honored at the opportunity to serve, and we are always here to help. If you have questions or concerns about fireplace and woodstove and carbon dioxide detectors, fire extinguishers or other fire prevention items, please contact us with your questions.

Have a happy, and fire safe holiday season!

Mark LaMont
Fire Chief



Idyllwild Fire Protection District

Thank you for your inquiry on the status and an update on the Idyllwild Fire Protection District during these historic wind events.

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District remains Fully Staffed and is currently operating at 400% its daily operating norm. I know this sounds impossible; however, this large increase is possible through the callback of our Fire Crew members and additional full-time and reserve staff.

Monday (January 6th, 2025) we “staffed up for the impending and predicted wind event, and as predicted these winds showed up. On Monday the 6th the Idyllwild Fire Protection District “staffed up” to manage these winds and ensure continuous and effective emergency services without a lapse in constant coverage levels. This staffing also included staffing up and providing Mutual Aid assistance offering two (2) of our Type 3 Brush Engines and Crews to join up for a repositioning posture with other engines from local government fire departments throughout the greater Riverside County Area. These engines were strategically located throughout the county to remain in a state of readiness in the event a fire would have broken out in the county or surrounding area.

On January 7th, 2025, the Palisades Fire started at 10:30 a.m., as many are aware this Fire immediately threatened communities in the Los Angeles area and was swept by unprecedented hurricane force winds, as of the time of this writing the Palisades Fire is 23,715 acres and 14% contained with thousands of structures destroyed and unfortunately losses of civilian lives. The cause of this fire remains under investigation.

On the evening of January 7th, 2025, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District began receiving calls of tress down which impacted and brought down power, communications and data lines which crossed numerous roadways and highways throughout the Idyllwild Community and the San Jacinto Mountain Plateau. The IFPD answered those calls with several crews which split up the workload appropriately and mitigated the threat of cut off road routes to ensure that ingress and egress for possible future evacuations were secured and we also cleared numerous trees from structures and outbuildings all while answering our normal incident call volume as well. The IFPD worked nearly 30 hours straight in an effort to clear these downed trees and mitigate the ongoing threats of downed power lines throughout the Community as well as the surrounding areas.

While the Idyllwild Fire Protection District was working to ensure the safety of our community the LA City Fire Department and LA County Fire Department were battling the fast-growing Palisades Fire which grew drastically in size and scope and structures were being destroyed as these Fire Departments quickly reached out for assistance through our States very capable and robust Mutual Aid system. Then, at 18:18 the Eaton Fire erupted in the Altadena / Pasadena Area which immediately posed a threat to those communities and quickly overwhelmed emergency resources due to the massive resource draw of the already devastating Palisades Fire in Los Angeles. The Eaton Fire is currently 14,117 acres and 33% contained, with thousands of destroyed structures and outbuildings and unfortunate loss of civilian life.

At 22:29 on the same evening (January 7th 2025) the Hurst Fire broke out near Sylmar Ca. This fire was an immediate threat and already strained resources moved strategically to mitigate yet another fast-moving wildfire. At this time, the Idyllwild Fire Protection District was well involved in mitigating threats throughout our community here at home, we had two (2) of our type three (3) engines assigned to mutual aid and we received yet another call for assistance. The IFPD quickly mobilized a Type 1 Fire engine and crew to immediately join up with XRI Strike Team 6050A and start toward the Hurst fire to assist other resources already battling the blaze. The Hurst Fire is currently 95% contained at 799 acres and thankfully no reported loss of life.

The IFPD Type 3 engines which were deployed originally for pre-position have also been assigned to the fires in the LA Area and these IFPD crews and resources will remain committed to this mission until the work is done. Please Note that the IFPD, the USFS and the Riverside County Fire Department remain fully staffed and capable of answering emergency service calls here at home.

The Idyllwild Fire Protection District is committed to mitigating the threat of emergencies to the Community of Idyllwild and assisting our cooperators and partners in their time of need under “Mutual Aid” Assistance.

Thank you Fire Chief Mark LaMont for this community report and taking the time to bring Idyllwild up to date on our fire department's participation in the recent fires.

The Star will be bringing the next report from Chief LaMont as he will be defining "Mutual Aid" and what it means and how it works for Idyllwild and the Riverside County. The Star