

# **PENINSULA FIRE DISTRICT**

## Fire Chief's Monthly Report

Prepared for the Board of Directors, Staff and Public of the Peninsula Fire District

April 15, 2026

Prepared by: Fire Chief Bob Gray



Peninsula line personnel in attendance. Last season Peninsula Fire received \$239,000.00 in Admin fees for the deployment of support services.

- I discussed with the Fire Sirens the possibility of creating a sponsorship program for putting current full time employees through the paramedic program. This would be a sustainable way to recruit and retain employees to fill the firefighter paramedic program. With fewer applicants nationwide, we must come up with new ways to attract potential employees. Creating a pathway for existing employees that are firefighter qualified but not paramedic qualified is a great way to fill the needs of the district. The Sirens agreed and they are currently sponsoring Firefighter/ EMT Taylor Liebe to begin this fall. Upon successful completion, Taylor will fill one of the firefighter paramedic positions in Chester.
- **Certifications Earned:** Captain Tim Johnson received his Chief Fire Officer ~~2~~E from a training he attended in Oakdale Ca. Firefighter Paramedic Lane Gomes completed his Fireline Paramedic certification and Dante Norris completed his Intermediate wildland fire behavior certification.

### 3 Equipment and Infrastructure

- **Maintenance Updates:** 7123, the engine bought from Truckee Meadows in 2022 was having some mechanical issues and was placed out of service. When the mechanics began to diagnose the problems, they found that there was a substantial amount of metal in the oil filters as well as contamination in the fuel system. It appears that there has been some sort of failure in the engine allowing oil into the fuel and cooling system.
- **Acquisitions:** We took delivery of 3 cardiac monitors, 8 EMS bags, 3 powered suction units, 5 traction splints, 3 spine boards, and 2 stair chair patient moving devices all paid by the fire sirens as part of the Riggs liquidation sale following the loss of the Merced EMS contract. This will allow us to have the proper EMS equipment in all vehicles and limit the moving around of inventory between units.
- **Updates:** facility maintenance – The Fire Sirens have committed funding to replace all of the flooring in the fire hall, both bathrooms, and captains’ office at station 2. We are currently in the process of soliciting bids for the work and will bring it back to the Sirens at their next meeting.

### 4 Community Engagement

- **Events and Outreach:** Peninsula Crews attended an easter egg hunt hosted by the Fire Belles in Hamilton Branch. I attended the first Fire Sirens meeting of 2026. At this meeting the Fire Sirens approved the purchase of \$10,000 worth of EMS equipment from SEMSA as part of the Riggs liquidation sale. Sirens also approved replacement of (2) recliners for each station for a total of (6)
- **Public Education:** CPR and First aid training provided to Seneca Hospital staff and a second group of Chester High School students

### 5 Budget and Financial Overview

- **Grants and Funding:** No update on SAFER grant, we will apply again this year if offered. The requested grant assistance for the Chester gap funding from Kevin Kileys office was denied. There was no reason given but I would guess it was because of the high dollar request. CAL Fire rural fire capacity grant has opened for 2026 and I will be requesting wildfire safety equipment and communication equipment. If awarded this would be a 50/50 matching grant with a max out of pocket for the district of \$10,000.00. Chief Songsteng and I will be approaching our PG&E rep to explore funding for year-round water rescue capabilities on their lake.