

Burbank Paradise Fire Protection District

1313 Beverly Dr. • Modesto Ca 95351

Office (209) 523-1129 • Fax (209) 523-0283

06/25/2018

RECEIVED
JUL 9 REC'D
Civil Grand Jury

Hon. Ricardo Cordova, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus
PO Box 3488
Modesto, Ca. 95353

Your Honor,

Thank you for the opportunity for us to respond to the Grand Jury's findings in regards to our district. We have outlined our responses below based upon the Recommendation Number (R.1, R.2 Etc.)

In regards to R.1, We feel this would be detrimental to our service area and surrounding agencies. Our district provides an exemplary level of service, comparable to a full time career fire department. Our firefighters being volunteer and per diem paid provide this at an incredible savings to the residents of our district. The members of our firefighting staff are highly trained, skilled personnel who staff our firehouse 24-7 365 saving our residents over 1 million dollars annually on career firefighters to respond to the over 1500 calls annually, While this may not seem like a significant amount in the grand spectrum. Our department is the busiest volunteer fire department in area and for its coverage area is one of the busiest fire departments in our county along with the career municipal departments. Our department brings applicants as far as Richmond, Sacramento, etc all for the experience our agency can afford their career endeavors.

In response to R.2-R.3 our legal counsel has assisted us in coming into compliance with your recommendations, and we now follow all policies and procedures outlined in the Brown Act, and conduct of public meetings.

Our board had previously implemented recommendations set forth in R.4 and R.5 all board members have current 700 Forms, as well as all Fire

CHIEF:

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Curtis King
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Department Command Staff. R.4 recommendation was implemented as of 10-2017.

Per recommendation R.6, our board is currently in process of completing ethics training, our fire chief has taken it one step further and required all command staff take ethics course as well. All training will be completed prior to August 1, 2018.

The bylaws for bi-annual training outlined in R.7 on the Brown Act will be completed and in effect prior to August 1 2018

The BPFDD website is already made corrections to include the recommended items set forth by R.8 R.9 and R.10 as of January 1018.

As of January 2018 all employee positions have detailed descriptions as well as grievance policies. They are available for viewing as outlined in R.11 and 12

In regards to R.13 our departments command staff currently attends meetings and trainings provided by the Fire Warden's Office and County Fire Authority.

For the final recommendation outlined in R.14 LAFCO has included our info on their website as of May 2018.

While we are not proud of our past dealings, we ensure you that we are meeting and exceeding the recommendations set forth in this document. We are diligently working to be a model for the special districts of rising from the ashes so to speak.

We do wish to mention, even though we may have had our shortcomings in the past, our fire department operations under Chief Golling is running seamlessly and is stronger than ever. We also feel it important for you to know that, we were actively attempting to get Stanislaus County involved with issues that stemmed from our previous fire chief and former board member. Board members, fire personnel and members of the public had all expressed concerns with the aforementioned husband and wife team.

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However our concerns were never addressed, and or followed up with by County counsel and B.O.S. Therefore we felt that they saw no wrong doing as the agency was being managed, due to county's disinterest.

Thank you for the opportunity to allow us to respond to your request, and know that the Burbank Paradise Fire District B.O.D. , and its firefighters are working diligently to ensure that these issues never come up again.

Respectfully.

Curtis King



Board Chair
B.P.F.D.

The Members of the
Burbank-Paradise Fire District

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