



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 5/21/2019
Agenda Placement: 9C
Set Time: 9:30 AM
Estimated Report Time: 20 Minutes

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Kerry Whitney for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office
REPORT BY: Kerry Whitney, Risk & Emergency Services Manager - 253-4821
SUBJECT: Emergency Preparedness

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer, Risk/Emergency Services Manager, Sheriff and County Fire Chief will provide an update on emergency preparedness for upcoming fire season and PG&E's planned Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Since August 2014 Napa County has been impacted by seven (7) Federally declared disasters. The County's Emergency Services division has responded to each of these events and also focuses on enhancing preparedness and planning for future events, including threats of wildland fires and PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS).

PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS

No Action Required

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of

Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Since August 2014 Napa County has been impacted by seven (7) Federally declared disasters;

1. August 24, 2014 West Napa Earthquake
2. September 2015 Lake County Fire - Calistoga Shelter Response
3. January 3-12, 2017 Winter Storms
4. January 18-23, 2017 Winter Storms
5. February 1-23, 2017 Winter Storms
6. October 2017 Napa Fires Complex
7. January - March 2019 Storms

The County's Emergency Services division has responded to each of these events starting with the initial emergency response, damage assessments, requesting the local disaster proclamation, communicating and coordinating with Cal OES and FEMA for State and Federal Declarations, managing the creation and presentation of Public Damage Project Worksheets to FEMA (and in the 2014 earthquake, County OES staff managed the Individual Assistance justification resulting in FEMA damage reimbursement exceeding \$30.8 million for individuals in our community). Recognizing the increasing importance of emergency response and preparedness, the Board approved the addition of one position on January 8, 2019. The division now consists of 2.5 employees in addition to part time administrative support. With additional resources the division could - secure generators and accessory equipment for PSPS response and creation of resilience zones, add resources for standing up Emergency Shelters, create a Satellite Communications system, including Satellite Data Terminals and Mobile solutions, and provide additional budget to retain consultants to assist staff on Plans updates.

Following each event, staff focuses on enhancing preparedness and planning for future events, including threats of wildland fires and PG&E's Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS). PG&E is implementing additional precautionary measures to help reduce the risk of wildfire including turning off all electric lines that pass through high fire-threat areas - both distribution and transmission. The PSPS will require a community based response. Staff provided the Board with an update on activities that occurred after the 2017 Napa Fire Complex on October 8, 2018. Some of the activities mentioned at that meeting included: EOC Video Conferencing Equipment, Live IPAWS Test, Hi-Low Sirens and Evacuations Tags, Expansion of ALERT Wildfire Camera Network, Working with COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disaster), Report on One Year Anniversary of the October 2017 Fires, Status of Earthquake Recovery, Floods Recovery, Fiscal Impacts of Recent Disasters.

Supporting Emergency Services, the Napa County Fire Department continues a long standing working relationship with the Napa County Firewise Foundation (NCFF) and the various individual Fire Safe Councils(FSC) within the County. Additionally, the Board has approved in the County Fire budget \$100,000 annually to NCFF to assist with financial support for vegetation management projects with in the various individual FSC.

County Fire has recognized that with the increased focus on vegetation management and public education/information that there is a need for increased presence with NCFF and is recommending it the Fiscal Year 19-20 budget the addition of a Code Compliance Officer I position to increase both business inspections and hazard abatement inspections, this addition will allow the restructuring of current staff duties to assign a full time County Fire staff position to be a liaison with both NCFF and individual FSC, providing increased "on the ground" assistance with vegetation management projects and public outreach/education. Last year, with Board direction and support the County Fire Department added a second chipping crew, which resulted in the completion of approximately 930 completed chipping requests, a 40% increase over the previous year. Earlier this month

County Fire personnel completed hazard abatement inspections in the Berryessa Highlands and Berryessa Estates communities and will be adding an additional temporary Defensible Space Inspector position this summer to facilitate increased hazard abatement inspections through out the County this Summer.

Finally, we are excited to invite the public to join us on June 4, 2019 from 4:00pm - 7:00pm for a Community Open House & Emergency Preparedness Fair at the County Administration Building.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi