

Olivehurst Public Utility District



Staff Report

Meeting Date: November 19, 2020

Item description/summary:

COVID-19 Virus /Infections Disease SOG: Through the Collaborations of the Valley Fire Departments we have completed an SOG on how to handle a Regional Response to a pandemic outbreak.

Fiscal Analysis:

Employee Feedback

Sample Motion:

Board to see final plan. No action needed from the board.

Prepared by:

Chief Randy York



Regional Fire Operations

Standard Operation Guideline

(COVID RESPONSE PLAN)



LR/LF

Last Reviewed: 10/01/2020

PURPOSE

To develop a plan to support a Yuba County Agency that experiences a shortage of resources due to the COVID-19. Any agency within the Valley Floor sphere of influence could be affected and enable an emergency response for a day(s). This plan will address the protocols to follow when an agency affected notifies the Yuba Valley Chiefs that they have an inability to respond to emergencies due to lack of staffing related to COVID-19.

SCOPE

Responsibility: Each Agency Administrator should support this concept during the COVID-19 crisis and direct rank and file personnel to implement this plan to the best of their ability to support neighboring jurisdictions. Communication shall occur between the Administrators and Department Staff to address issues or concerns during the implementation of this plan. Any expenditures including overtime, vehicle mileage, expenses related to the implementation of the plan shall be documented for possible reimbursement by the State or Federal funding.

TimeLine: This contingency plan should remain in effect until the COVID-19 crisis passes, at which time this plan will be available for use in the future should another pandemic occur. The plan would be utilized on an as needed basis based on the staffing difficulties experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.

There are four general categories of concern regarding call types:

Simple Call- General illness medical aid

Traumatic Call- Advance medical call including vehicle accidents

Fire- Vegetation and structure fires

Other- Any other type of call involving a fire department response including fire alarm, carbon monoxide, down power line, gas leak, etc.

Boundary Drop

Closest resource would respond to calls for service. Jurisdictional boundaries would be ignored during this crisis. Closest Resource Response would be implemented

Closest resource to the address responds to the call regardless of department. Means for identifying closest resource may include, CAD, GPS or Company officer identifying there location and covering the appropriate areas.

Move Up and Cover

Resources may be requested to move up and cover an area while another resource is out of position. This is generally a temporary period of time based on the commitment of a resource to return to its original cover area.

Greater Alarm

On occasion, an incident may require additional resources such as vegetation fire, structure fire or MCI. Multiple closest resources would be dispatched to the location to assist in containing the incident.

Dispatching

At any point during the COVID-19 pandemic, any one or more agency could be unable to respond to calls for service due to lack of staffing affected by the pandemic. The two main dispatch centers in Yuba County would have the biggest responsibility in determining the resources to respond to an area. They include the Yuba County Sheriff Dispatch Center and Marysville Police Department Dispatching Center. A representative of the affected agency would have the option of sitting in the appropriate Dispatch to assist with dispatching changes.

If an agency not affected has the ability to staff a second unit in quarters, this would assist in responding out of the normal response area while having an engine available to cover an area. Overtime cost associated with staffing are reimbursable due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Most agencies agreed that putting personnel in another station that may have been infected by COVID-19 is not a viable situation. Rather, resources responding from stations where COVID-19 symptoms are not present are more desirable.

Coverage for a station may include any number of days based on sickness, quarantine and decontamination of facilities.

Bi-County Ambulance may play a role in coverage with the possibility of staffing an ambulance near or closer to the affected area. This could allow them to handle the Simple Call. Other considerations include possible staffing an engine in Linda Fire Station 3 or a Wheatland Station if Wheatland are affected. Wheatland is the most southern coverage area with the longest response time from Linda or Olivehurst Fire departments.