

Mosier Fire District

Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year

2013 – 2014

BUDGET MESSAGE

The Budget Committee is meeting in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Board meeting, at 7PM on Thursday, May 9, 2013. The intent is to review and approve a budget for the Mosier Fire District for fiscal year 2013-2014 at this meeting. If absolutely necessary, we can fit one more meeting in before the next Board meeting in June, at which time the Board needs to adopt a budget.

Civilian volunteers on the Budget Committee are Jeanne Reeves, Susan Gabay, and Mark Cherniak. We were left short-handed by last-minute conflicts. Peggy Kinsey and David Povey have been asked to volunteer, but have not yet accepted.

The proposed budget assumes no change in the tax rate from fiscal year 2012 - 2013 -- \$1.65 per thousand. The overall budget keeps most of the priorities of the 2012-13 budget, with minor adjustments based on actuals to date, mainly under insurance and training.

I anticipate two federal grants: a request to FEMA for a vehicle at \$400,000, and a separate request to FEMA for capital equipment at \$100,000. These grants may change once the guidance documents are published, likely after this budget is adopted. Matching funds for these grants are included in the budget.

On page 1, line 8 of Form LB-10 Resources, I anticipate one State grant for roughly \$9,000, with a 50% match, for fire fighter supplies and protective equipment and a fixed radio at our upper station to cover areas currently outside our radio range. The matching funds for this grant are left in the General fund, distributed in the categories for each type of equipment, as we're going to purchase these items in any case, only sooner or in greater quantities with grant funds.

In the Capital Reserve Fund, \$145,500 transferred in is a projection of the maximum amount likely to be left over in the General Fund at the end of the current fiscal year. In prior years the amounts budgeted for transfer in to the Capital Reserve Fund were not in fact transferred in the next year's budget – hence a beginning balance of \$119,000 in Capital Reserve for 2013-2014, as compared to \$117,000 transferred in to the Capital Reserve Fund at the formation of the Fire District in 2010, Form LB-10, page two, line 5 under Resources. This is roughly corroborated by the current balance in our actual bank accounts, showing about \$260,000 in long-term savings ($119,000 + 145,000 = 264,000$).

Projections for expenses related to vehicle replacement are unchanged from the previous budget.

On form LB-30, line 13, Contracted Services, shows an increase of \$26,000. This is largely due to new expenses for station development.

The Board has asked me to move forward with a plan to acquire land in the County Road Operations yard at State Road and Carroll Road. We are still a long way from making a formal proposal to the County Commission, and nothing is certain yet. When we do make a proposal to the County, we will need to have a full set of plans and specs for the building, and a high degree of certainty as to how we're going to pay for the building. Projected expenses in the proposed budget reflect just the costs of developing the proposal, as well as fees for the building permit, property line adjustment, and Scenic Area review.

Thank you again for helping the Fire District!

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Jim Appleton, Mosier Fire Chief