PIONEER FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE • RESCUE • EMS

P.O. Box 128
7061 Mt. Aukum Road
Somerset, California 95684
Phone (530) 620-4444 • Fax (530) 620-4317
www.pioneerfire.org

PPFD/AFPD JOINT STAFFING FIDDLETOWN

On July 3rd, 2020 Pioneer Fire Protection District in a joint collaborate effort with Amador County Fire Protection District re-opened the Fiddletown Fire Station 123 with on duty stand-by personnel. Amador and Pioneer entered into a JOA (Joint Operation Agreement) in June of 2020 for shared resources. The station is open with staffing on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 0800 to 2000 hours with one Volunteer from Pioneer and one Volunteer from Amador. During the off hours it is an on call volunteer station (minimal staffing).

The purpose of this joint collaborate effort is to provide more efficient service to the south areas of Pioneers district and the Fiddletown area for Amador. In addition, this will provide the following type of service to both districts:

- Move up and cover Pioneer Station 34 or 38 when Pioneer paid staff is committed to a call
- Move up and cover Amador Station 122 when Amador paid staff is committed to a call
- Cover Pioneer station 38 when station 38 is doing joint training with Station 19 (Pleasant Valley Station) or Station 122 (Plymouth Station) and the same for station 122
- Response to calls as the primary unit into the Mt. Aukum area, Coyoteville and Omo Ranch area and as a second support unit to the same areas as well as Fairplay, Outingdale, and Somerset areas. Same for Fiddletown and Plymouth areas.

Frequently asked questions:

How much does this cost the district?

Shift Volunteers receive a $50.00 stipend per 12-hours shift, the district provides two Shift Volunteer per 24 hour day (when staffing is available). Currently we utilize one of the SV per shift to cover station 123 (Fiddletown). Amador provides the other position. Fuel cost on the apparatus is shared by both districts; Amador provides the station, equipment, facilities and apparatus.

Why the Fiddletown station?

Both districts looked into utilizing current stations in the area, Pioneer Station 34 (Mt. Aukum at Omo Ranch) is not available for use and does not provide state and federal standards for daily living (no office, restrooms or living space), upgrading cost at this time is expensive and cost that we cannot afford. Current request to possibly share or utilize station 30 (River Pines Cal Fire station), have not been responded to by Cal Fire Administration.

Station 123 Fiddletown has the facilities to utilize during the day. It boarders a portion of Pioneers south county district and is only 5-7 minutes away from our E16 area boarder and 2.5 to 3 minutes away from our Coyoteville and Tyler Road areas (Pioneers district).

When does station 123 move up and cover Pioneer?

When Pioneer receives a call in Grizzly Flats, Leoni Meadows, Omo Ranch and Happy Valley areas our paid staff unit (St. 38) is normally tied up and unavailable to respond for a minimum of 1 to 1 ½ hour in most situations. Fiddletown will immediately move up and vover station 38 (unless tied up on a call) this
allows us to maintain coverage in our district (allowing the district to have efficient response time to second call incidents), normally we have to wait for units from Placerville, Diamond Springs and Pollock Pines area if they are available or if our volunteers are available to respond from home. If it appears the paid staff engine (St. 38) is going to be dedicated to any incident for more than 30 minutes (such as a MVA, cardiac arrest, severe trauma patient, fire call or any such type of incident or moved up to cover Pleasant Valley station 19) the station 123 unit will move up and Pioneers District for calls.

Where does station 123 respond (calls)?

St. 123 will respond as a primary unit for service in Mt. Aukum Coyoteville (St. 34), and Omo Ranch (St. 37) areas west and south to the county line.

Types of incidents they would respond to, include in areas listed above:
- Motor vehicle accidents (MVA), car fires, structure fires, vegetation fires, cardiac arrest, severe trauma, water, special rescues and other type of events

St. 123 will respond as a second or third unit in the areas of Fairplay, Somerset & Outingdale (St. 38) and Fiddletown, River Pines (St. 123) and a portion of Plymouth (St. 122).

Types of calls or incidents they would respond to, included in all areas above:
- Motor vehicle accidents (MVA), car fires, structure fires, vegetation fires, cardiac arrest, severe trauma, water, special rescues and special request

St. 123 will respond to the same type of calls in Fiddletown (St. 123) the same as listed above as well as a secondary unit response to areas of Plymouth (St. 122)

By staffing 123 it frees up engine/St. 38 from responding auto aid or mutual aid into Fiddletown and Plymouth allowing St. 38 to stay available in Pioneers district core area.

Who provides the Uniforms, Training and Protective Clothing?

Each agency provides their staff and personnel with their district’s uniforms, protective gear/clothing and the training is a collaborated effort between both agencies and ongoing. This is why you can see one person wearing a Pioneer Fire Protection District uniform and the other a Amador County Fire Protection District uniform on calls and at perspective stations.

Why do we see 2 Pioneer Fire Protection District personnel on the Amador apparatus and no Amador Personnel?

Pioneer and Amador have agreed to fund one position each. In the event that one district can’t fill its coverage obligation, the other district can fill the open spot. In the event that two personnel are working from the same district, then the other district will reimburse for the position they could not cover.

Are you just going to staff St. 123 on the weekends?

No, we are starting with our high peak days and times for staffing and plan to reevaluate in two months.

Mark Matthews, Fire Chief