

Smoke Signals

Measure M & Paid Staffing

The passing of Measure M in November of 2008, added half a cent to the sales tax to support paid firefighters in Amador County. Funds are allocated to each fire agency in Amador County according to population and call volume; Lockwood's portion is 3.120 % of the total Measure M funds. Disbursement began in January 2010, and since then Lockwood has received \$103,262.

The original plan was to hire one career firefighter to staff Lockwood for forty hours per week during week days, when most Lockwood volunteers are working out of the District. However, the downturn in the economy resulted in a significant decrease in sales tax revenue, and because of the uncertainty of future income from sales taxes, a stipend program was deemed more financially prudent for now.

Under the stipend program two qualified volunteers sign up to work for each week day. Volunteers qualified as engineer/EMTs or firefighter/EMTs earn \$100 per day, whereas probationary volunteers may work shifts under the supervision of a senior volunteer for \$75 per day. Lockwood's Chief may also work under the stipend staffing plan, either as one of the two staffers or in addition to them, to carry out administrative duties. While the details of the stipend program are still being worked out, results thus far have been quite positive.

Auxiliary News - The May 21 Flea Market grossed over \$5000 this year, more than taken in during last year's two-day event. Congratulations and thanks to the participants for their hard work.

We are sad to announce that Theresa Coleman has resigned as Auxiliary President after leading the group for four years. Many thanks for your dedicated service to our District, Theresa.

Regular LFPD Meetings Please join us!

Firefighter training, 1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays of each month, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Station 1

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Board of Directors meetings, 4th Monday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Station 1

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Auxiliary meetings, 1st Monday of each month, 10:00 a.m., phone 296-8830 for meeting location

Thanks to Jackie Vaughn for developing and managing our new and improved website: www.Lockwoodfire.org

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Cellular Tower Installation

Lockwood has been approached to host a cellular tower at Station #2, at Hale and Shake Ridge. The plan would benefit the Lockwood Fire Protection District in two ways: First, it would earn revenue in rent for LFPD, and second, it would greatly improve our District's negligible cellular service.

Any tower agreement would require approval by the County offices as well as contract negotiation by the LFPD Board of Directors. Discussions will proceed on the understanding that the tower, if approved, would be disguised as a tree.

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Board of Director Positions

Three LFPD Board of Directors are scheduled to be selected in the November 8, 2011, General District Election; two of the positions are for four-year terms and one for a two-year term.

July 18, 2011, will be the first day for candidates to file nomination papers at the County office. If three or fewer submit papers, those who file will automatically fill the available positions. If more than three nominees submit papers, a vote will be held in the General Elections.

The new Board members will begin their terms in December 2011. Their responsibilities will include participating in monthly Board meetings and occasional special meetings, serving on standing and ad hoc committees, and assisting with District decision making, research, and management.

Candidates for the Board should be familiar with Robert’s Rules of Order and the Brown Act and with Amador County’s emergency services and associations. Since Board members share documents via email, it would be helpful for candidates to have email and Internet access and be able to use Excel. The commitment of time required of Board members varies, depending on the position held on the Board and the issues being deliberated. However, on average, 10 to 20 hours per month suffice.

If you have any questions about serving on the Board, please call Andrea Jones at 209-207-8955 during business hours, or email her at andrea.jones@volcano.net. You may also contact Daryl Ann Dutton at 209-296-2514 or ddutton@volcano.net. ☆ ☆

LFPD District Board of Directors
Lockwood Fire Protection District Auxiliary
PO Box 221
Volcano, CA 95689

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Volcano, CA
Permit 2

Postal Patron
Volcano, CA 95689

Avoid heavy fines for escaped brush-pile burns.
In 2010, 23% of California’s wild land fires began as control burns. Take care that your brush-pile burn doesn’t contribute to this year’s statistics.
