

## Indian Valley Fire Department

### Fire Chiefs Report, July-August 2023

#### Bob Orange

Continued to hold training meetings every Tuesday alternating between Taylorsville, North Arm and Greenville Stations. Additional work days were also scheduled during the week and on weekends. Continued to respond to emergency medical calls and accidents including a fatal where CPR was performed.

On June 20 CHP attended our regular evening meeting in Taylorsville. We discussed vehicle accident scene management & emergency situation protocols. Dissected past vehicle accidents & situations.

On Monday, June 26 we had a work day and cleanup at Taylorsville Station. Using a trailer & truck we hauled rubbish, recyclables & garbage to the Greenville Transfer Site.

On July 18 there will be a joint daytime training with USFS Engine 20 & 22 personnel based out of Greenville. We will meet at Greenville USFS and train doing progressive hoselays. IVFD will bring hose and utilizing the USFS wash rack will wash & clean our fire hose. IVFD has no wash rack for hose as it was burned up in the Dixie Fire. Will do progressive hose lays and make hose packs to replenish IVFD Engines with wildland hose.

North Arm Fire Station exterior was repainted in the same colors as before. The interior was repainted this past winter. Exterior was last repainted approx. 10 years ago.

Asphalt driveway at North Arm Station had numerous potholes in it and needed to be resealed. The potholes were repaired and a slurry coat applied for protection.

Genesee Fire Station's exterior was stained and the doors repainted. A dark brown stain was used and the Engine Bay door & side door painted red. Same color scheme as before. Was last stained approx. 20 years ago. Rubbish was removed from the station also. A new exterior light mount fixture has been ordered to replace the old inoperable one. New pipe/hose fittings for the 2,500 gallon water storage tank there has also been ordered to better match the plumbing on our Engines.

Several trips have been made to DMV in Quincy in getting registration paperwork transferred & completed on Engines. Is an ongoing process. CHP Officer Goings has done inspections/sign offs on Engines to accomplish this.

For the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade in Taylorsville we had our Support Unit (#7681), two Type 3 Engines (#7672 & 7673) and one Type 1 Engine (#7625) in the event which was well attended.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup> using the Water Tender #7632 IVFD washed down the bleachers for the Indian Valley Rodeo being held the next day. We continue to do ongoing maintenance on the Engines and updating the equipment complement.

A hose storage rack accommodating 2,100' of fire hose was assembled and placed into North Arm Station. Previously there was no rack or storage shelves for the fire hose and it was simply stacked on the floor.

An exact hose rack for Genesee Station has also been obtained which will be assembled and placed into service there. That Station also had no provisions for storage of fire hose.

A SCBA air tank storage rack was obtained for Taylorsville Station. It was assembled and accommodates 28 air tanks. Previously we had one small home-made rack and the tanks were just laying around on the floor stacked up on each other.

The storage systems for the SCBA's & fire hose have helped to greatly organize & tidy up the stations.

On August 1 we are having a company come in and hydrostatically test our SCBA tanks to make sure they meet tank pressure levels. These range from 2,600 PSI to 4,500 PSI, Tanks are required to be inspected every 5 years. Air samples will also be taken from our cascade refilling system and tanks to ensure they do not have contaminants & are clean. This will be the last inspections of these tanks as they will all be out of date and require replacement for the next mandated inspection date. Service life is 15 years. Our tanks will expire in 2-5 years.

The two main Engine bays at Taylorsville Station were installed with electric door openers.

July 13 was an exceptional medical response day. Three patients from three different incidents were flown out of Indian Valley to trauma centers. These incidents were from a traffic accident, falling off a ladder and a stroke.

#### **AUGUST 2023 UPDATE:**

Meetings continued on Tuesday evenings.

Our SCBA composite tanks were pressure tested by Precision Hydro Services of Sacramento. SCBA tanks must be inspected every 5 years. Received information that on campaign fires this year OSHA is showing up at fire camps and inspecting Engines. If out of date SCBA cylinders are found fines of \$10k for each tank are being levied. Our steel SCBA tanks were removed from service and discarded by precision Hydro.

Curtis & Sons inspected and recertified our SCBA air cascade refilling system. New air filter installed. This is to be done annually.

Storage hose rack was taken to Genesee Station and assembled. Hose added. Two additional electric door openers were installed at Taylorsville Station.

Insect foggers were placed in North Arm, Taylorsville and Genesee to kill black widows and other insects that we were finding in the stations.

Two sets of new turnout gear were received. Engine 7622 was serviced and minor repair work performed. Engine 7622 had a water pump solenoid replaced that was defective. The water valves were also serviced to eliminate leaks.

A travel trailer on Standart Mine Road that was being used as a residence by a PG&E contractor caught fire. It was a total loss. Fire was at 1am and we responded with two Engines.

Medical calls are continuing to be responded to and are increasing.