

Medical Springs Rural Fire Protection District Budget Message 2020-21

The proposed budget for the General Fund is \$15,300. First, on the income side, we are repeating our subscriber discount of \$25 per house if they pay before August 1st. This has been very successful for the past two years. It rewards the on time payers and helps consolidate some of the bookwork. Our starting balance is considerably lower this year because we were unable to have our fundraiser last year. It is uncertain if we will be able to have it this year. We have applied for a VFA grant through the Oregon Department of Forestry for \$3,770 which is included in the budget but has not been awarded yet.

Last year we purchased technology equipment with a grant from the Wildhorse Foundation. We were able to use the new TV, computer, and WiFi all winter to view training videos online. The computer is in use and fire department business will be easier to hand off to a new person when the need arises. One thing we forgot to include was a new iPad for entering residential defensible space information into the State's Intterra program. It has been included in the VFA grant for this year. The State supports the program and is in the process of upgrading their grant criteria to include iPads.

Recently we signed up some new volunteers. New Personal Protective clothing and boots had to be purchased. This was paid this year, but if the VFA grant is awarded the funds will be reimbursed next year. Our trucks are all running well now, and there is no way to know what repairs they will need. A couple of them have very old batteries, so we have budgeted for some testing and possible replacement of batteries.

The rest of the budget is pretty standard, but quite a bit lower than before. Revenue from subscriptions and our annual fundraising picnic is our income. Insurance, truck maintenance, and utilities are the major expenses.

Thank you for serving on this budget committee and for your continued support. Due to the COVID19 virus, we are delivering the Budget to committee members and ask that you call Judy Whitley, Budget Officer, at 541-853-2313 to ask questions or make comments before May 18th at 7 PM when we will be voting. You may also send comments via email to medicalspringsruralfire@gmail.com.