

RE: Status of Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District Annexation

BACKGROUND:

January 23, 2024 – Annexation Committee met with Plumas LAFCo and Eastern Plumas Rural FPD (EPRFPD) to open discussion about the annexation of EPRFPD into Beckwourth Peak FPD/BPFPD.

January 29, 2024 – Annexation Committee met with EPRFPD representatives to discuss a path forward and immediate steps to accomplish to bring a similar resolution of both districts for review and approval by the respective district board of directors.

April 15, 2024 – Rep from Annexation Committee and President of EPRFPD board visited with county department heads to ensure there is knowledge of the potential annexation and to gain their input on next steps and tasks to complete.

May 2, 2024 – A complete inventory of all Eastern Pluma Rural FPD stations and equipment was conducted by Beckwourth FPD.

May 28, 2024 – Plumas LAFCo Executive Officer provided edits to the drafted resolution of annexation

June 13, 2024 – Beckwourth Peak FPD legal counsel provided review and edits to the resolution

July 3, 2024 – Beckwourth Peak FPD held a Public Hearing and then unanimously approved Resolution of Annexation of Eastern Plumas Rural FPD number 2024.05.

July 12, 2024 – Eastern Plumas Rural FPD board of directors held a Public Hearing followed by a unanimous approval of Resolution of Annexation to Beckwourth Peak FPD, Resolution number 2024-01.

July 29, 2024 – A filing packet to the Plumas County Tax Collector was obtained to begin the process of transferring all EPRFPD financial assets to Beckwourth Peak FPD. As part of the packet, there is a requirement for EPRFPD to approve a resolution of “Intent to Withdrawal” to the Plumas County Tax Collector.

August 23, 2024 – Received Tax Sharing analysis and recommendations from PlanWest Partners.

September 3, 2024 – Delivery of EPRFPD resolution to County Tax Collector/Treasurer to initiate full transfer of EPRFPD monies to BPFPD.

October 21, 2024 – Plumas LAFCo Public Hearing regarding annexation and approval. Once LAFCo approves, the board of EPRFPD is dissolved.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Chief and Cary attended the August 19, 2024, EPRFPD board meeting and requested immediate transfer of EPRFPD bulk of monies to BPPFD as supported by the adopted resolution of annexation. The EPRFPD board was a bit resistant to this request even though the resolution is specific to the immediate transfer of monies and that BPPFD upon adoption of the resolution becomes the sole financial manager of EPRFPD funds, liabilities and assets.

It was discussed that BPPFD submit an invoice for the requested amount to EPRFPD so that the County Treasurer has the detail needed to issue a warrant. Additionally, the EPRFPD board stated that the transfer of bills and invoices to BPPFD would occur on Oct. 1, 2024. BPPFD will need the bulk of EPRFPD monies to take on the transfer of bill and invoice payments.

Chief Rosevear and our administrative staff will create an invoice based on services rendered by BPPFD and for expenses incurred by BPPFD on behalf of EPRFPD.

Tax Exchange

PlanWest Partners has provided a Tax Sharing Report and recommendations for the BPPFD board to present to the County Administrative Officer for consideration by the Board of Supervisors. The analysis uncovered that of the 10 TRA's in the EPRFPD service area, only five receive any sort of tax sharing from the county. Based on this finding, we will request both a basis and incremental increase for the parcels within the five unaccounted for TRA's. We will request a transfer of all other tax exchange benefits that are currently in place for Eastern Plumas Rural FPD.

A handout of the Tax Exchange document and analysis will be provided at the board meeting.

Executive Officer of Plumas LAFCo will spearhead the Tax Exchange agreement with the county CAO and Board of Supervisors.

Next Steps

Annexation Task List

<u>Task</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Status</u>
Compile LAFCo Application Documents	Both	Complete
Meet with County Administrator to provide update and introduce Tax Exchange proposal	BPPFD	In Process
Submit Package to LAFCo	Eastern Plumas	Complete
LAFCo to amend BPPFD SOI	LAFCo	Oct. 21 meeting

LAFCo to consider approving the application for annexation	LAFCo	Oct 21 meeting
EPRFPD to hold meeting to approve resolution to Plumas County Tax Collector and Auditor for “Intent to Withdraw” financial assets and support from the county		Complete. Resolution approved. Will meet with County Treasurer on 9/3
Negotiate Tax Sharing w/County	Beckwourth Peak/LAFCo	Prior to Oct. 21 LAFCo meeting
Tax Exchange Agreement Considered by board of Sups.	County/BoS	Sept./Oct.
File with BOE	LAFCo	11/1/24
Annexation Complete		December 31, 2024

RECOMMENDATIONS:

None at this time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

BPPFD has incurred expenses related to repair and maintenance of BPPFD vehicles and facilities and is in the process to invoice EPRFPD for these expenses.

Long term, a thorough financial review of the annexation fiscal impacts to BPPFD needs to be done and understood as it relates to post annexation.