

This brief is being provided to inform the Board, staff, and public of the details of a Board agenda. Director Curtis will provide board members, staff, and the public the opportunity to ask questions about this topic when this agenda item is announced.

Date: November 6, 2024

Originator: Cary Curtis, Director

Purpose: Eastern Plumas Rural Fire Protection District (EPRFPD) - Annexation Update

Desired Action by the Board: None

Supporting Documents Included: No

Background: The annexation of Eastern Plumas Rural FPD has continued to progress, however, a few recent missteps have placed the Dec. 31, 2024, completion date for the annexation in a bit of question and we are quickly running out of time to complete the necessary critical steps. This set back is outside the control of BPPFD and we are working closely with LAFCo and Plumas County CAO to finalize all details as scheduled to ensure completion,

Status:

These critical milestones must occur prior to early December -

- Early – Mid November 2024 – Date by which the Board of Supervisors agenda must include the BPPFD Tax Sharing proposal for discussion and decision. Directors Smith and Curtis met with the County CAO and impacted department heads on September 10, 2024, to request for the item to be placed on the Supervisor’s agenda.
- Prior to LAFCo approval – EPRFPD will hold a Special Meeting to approve the transfer of all EPRFPD monies to BPPFD. This action is to expedite this transfer versus, the county completing this transfer after, which may take 6-8 weeks for BPPFD to receive the funds. Director Curtis and EPRFPD Board President, Sutcliffe are in contact and working with Julie White, Plumas County Treasurer.
- Nov. 15, 2024 - A new LAFCo public hearing and approval will be held on Nov. 15. LAFCo previously held the public hearing on Oct. 21, 2024, however, due to a typo of the start time of the hearing it must be redone. LAFCo may choose to approve the annexation at this meeting or hold a later Special Meeting to approve. LAFCo must approve the annexation when presented by resolutions by both agencies.
- If all steps are completed in a timely manner, the annexation will be filed with the Board of Equalization with a completion date of no later than December 31, 2024. EPRFPD will then be dissolved.

Updates:

- October 10, 2024, BPPFD received partial release of EPRFPD funds in the amount of \$17,106.33. This is the amount EPRFPD was able to remit of the \$61,252.00 Peak invoice for services rendered.

- BPFDP now managing Peak had begun all EPRFPD facilities and apparatus and is in the process to release excess unneeded equipment.
- Beckwourth Peak FPD has assumed the responsibility for paying new EPRFD bills directly to facilitate the smooth transition of finances.
- Chief Rosevear has worked to ensure insurance for EPRFPD facilities is transferred to Peak. There is still work underway to determine if BPFDP can obtain some or all relief of the remaining insurance contract held by Eastern Plumas. It is anticipated that there will be costs associated with exiting the Eastern Plumas contract.
- We had delivered the approved annexation resolutions to the County Tax Collector/Treasurer to initiate transfer of EPRFPD monies to Peak. Based on the most recent EPRFPD accounting, it is anticipated that the remaining monies to be transferred to Peak to be in the \$10,000 - \$20,000 range.
- We should still expect to see a cleanup payment from the County on EPRFPD's 23/24 property taxes in the amount of \$6-8k.

No Board Action Required at This Time: Right now, the final annexation, payments of monies to Peak, and property tax sharing are all in the hands of the LAFCo and the County.