



Penn Valley Fire Protection District
10513 Spenceville Road
Penn Valley, CA 95946
(530) 432- 2630
www.pennvalleyfire.com



Nevada County Consolidated Fire
640 Coyote Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-4431
www.nccfire.com

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
Attention Chairman Scofield
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

From: NCCFD Board of Directors & PVFPD Board of Directors
Subject: Temporary Gap Funding to Operate Fire Station #59 During Reorganization Efforts
Date: July 5, 2023

Chairman Scofield,

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (NCCFD) and Penn Valley Fire Protection District (PVFPD) officially request funding to maintain operational effectiveness for Rough and Ready Fire Station 59. Rough & Ready Fire Protection District (RRFPD) has experienced a significant decline in revenues required to maintain minimum staffing of two firefighters on duty each day over the last several years. Despite all efforts, the Rough & Ready Fire Board of Directors' only option was to lay off all remaining employees and file for dissolution with the Nevada County LAFCo.

To avert a catastrophic gap in coverage, PVFPD and NCCFD have partnered to develop a short-term plan that would maintain critical staffing levels needed for the RRFPD community. When presented to the Nevada County LAFCo during their June 2023 commission meeting the plan received clear support. Cooperatively our two fire districts, along with county staff, have determined a distinct path forward. This plan makes certain that Station 59 is staffed with two firefighters twenty-four hours a day for response.

We request that the County of Nevada provide the necessary gap funding of \$500,000 per year for the next two years. This will allow PVFPD and NCCFD to conduct the necessary phases to reorganize the three organizations into one. We anticipate the merger of our organizations will eliminate costly redundancies while enhancing the overall efficiencies within our local government. The purpose of this gap funding will ensure that the services for the citizens of PVFPD and NCCFD will not be diluted by the fiscal demands of co-staffing the RRFPD fire station. We appreciate your continued support as we navigate through this process.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kindly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Stephenson".

Bruce Stephenson
Board President, PVFPD

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Keith Grueneberg".

Keith Grueneberg
Board President, NCCFPD

Cc: Allison Lehman
Nevada County CEO

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN COUNTY OF NEVADA, ROUGH & READY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, PENN VALLEY FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT, AND NEVADA COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT**

This Memorandum of Understanding (“Memorandum”), dated as of August 8, 2023, is by and between the County of Nevada, hereinafter referred to as the “County”, and Rough & Ready Fire Protection District (“RRFPD”), Penn Valley Fire Protection District (“PVFPD”), and Nevada County Consolidated Fire District (“NCCFD”), hereinafter referred to as the “Districts”.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, in Nevada County, California, under the Fire Protection District Law of 1987, the Districts provide the inhabitants within District boundaries with various services, including, but not limited to, fire protection services, rescue services, emergency medical services, hazardous material emergency response services, ambulance services, and other services relating to the protection of lives and property (“Services”); and

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2023, RRFPD filed a Resolution of Application for dissolution with the Local Agency Formation Committee of Nevada County (LAFCo) and notified the public that the Rough & Ready Station #59 would close by June 30, 2023, and all parties recognize that it is imperative that the Rough & Ready community has adequate fire protection services; and

WHEREAS, on April 11, 2023, PVFPD filed a Resolution of Application for Annexation of the RRFPD territory, once RRFPD was dissolved; and

WHEREAS, LAFCo has undertaken a countywide Municipal Services Review, which should be complete by the end of 2023; and

WHEREAS, at the June 22, 2023, LAFCo meeting, the Districts announced that they would explore reorganizing into one district to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of fire protection and other services delivery, by seeking, pursuant to the provisions of Government Code section 56000 et seq., a consolidation (“Reorganization”); and

WHEREAS, in recognition that independent fire protection districts in Nevada County are essential in ensuring public peace, health and safety, the County supports the Districts’ efforts to reorganize into one new district; and

WHEREAS, California Government Code section 26227 provides that the County Board of Supervisors may appropriate and expend money to finance programs deemed to be necessary to meet the social needs of the population of the county, including, but not limited to, the areas of health, law enforcement and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the Districts have requested funding from the County for temporary support of fire protection services at Rough & Ready Fire Station #59; which all parties acknowledge is in an important location to respond to the Rough & Ready community, to Penn Valley and other surrounding districts; and

whether the funds were utilized only for the purpose of fire protection services within RRFPD's boundaries.

- d. The Districts will develop and adopt a budget for the ongoing operation of Rough & Ready Fire Station #59 that does not assume County contributions in Fiscal Year 25-26 or beyond.
3. The Districts will initiate a Reorganization process with LAFCo. The Reorganization process will include the following actions:
 - a. The Districts will enter into an agreement regarding coordination of efforts for preparation of substantially similar resolutions of applications for the Reorganization pursuant to Government Code section 56853, for consideration for approval by each of their Boards of Directors, and if the Resolutions of Application are approved, for preparation, completion, and submission of an application and related documents to LAFCo for the Reorganization no later than February 1, 2024.

The agreement will define the level of service the newly reorganized district ("Reorganized District") will provide, and will address governance, administration, and operations for the Reorganized district.
 - b. The Districts agree to cause to be prepared a comprehensive financial analysis to support the Districts' Reorganization proposal.
 4. The County will make monthly payments to PVFPD based on the Districts meeting continued expectations and requirements towards the Districts' Reorganization, the Districts' operation of Rough & Ready Station #59 and tied to the "milestones" listed below.
 - a. Milestone 1: The Districts will provide fire protection and other services to the area formerly covered by the Rough & Ready Fire Protection District starting July 1, 2023.
 - b. Milestone 2: RRFPD, PVFPD, and NCCFD districts will bring the agreement regarding Reorganization for approval by each of their Boards of Directors by December 1, 2023.
 - c. Milestone 3: The Districts will apply to LAFCo for reorganization by submitting Resolutions of Application materials to LAFCo by February 1, 2024.
 - d. Milestone 4: The Districts will complete reorganization of the new district by July 1, 2024, if approved by LAFCo.
 - e. Milestone 5: The Districts will provide enhanced services to the newly formed district by December 31, 2024.

ATTN: Chief Don Wagner

To NCCPD:

Nevada County Consolidated Fire District
640 Coyote Street
Nevada City, CA 95959
ATTN: Chief Jason Robitaille

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, County and District, by their duly authorized representatives, have executed this Memorandum on the day and year first written above.

COUNTY OF NEVADA

Edward C. Scofield
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Date: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Katharine L. Elliott, County Counsel

ROUGH AND READY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Thomas Nelson

Date: 7-12-23

PENN VALLEY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Bruce Steple

Date: 7/11/2023

NEVADA COUNTY CONSOLIDATED FIRE DISTRICT

Don Greenly

Date: 7/20/23

**Penn Valley Fire Protection District
Nevada County Consolidated Fire District
Additional Costs to Staff Station 59**

Payroll Related Costs	900,000	Includes 90 days of Overtime for hiring per
Fuel	18,000	
Tablets	4,000	Update iPads
Dispatch Services	16,000	
Vehicle Maintenance	16,000	
Household Supplies	6,000	
Professional Services	22,000	
Office Expense	5,000	
Utilities	30,000	
Structure Maintenance	15,000	Deferred Maintenance
Engine Payment	36,000	
Liability Insurance	20,000	
Training/New Hire Expenses	60,000	Includes 3 new hire costs -> training, etc.
Total Additional Expenses	<u><u>1,148,000</u></u>	

3034

Step	Hourly Rate	ST Wages	Holiday	Overtime	Vacation Sell Back	Uniform Allowane	Medicare	Workers Comp	OT Workers Comp	SUI	Life Insurance	Health Insurance	PERS - PEPR	Cost			
Firefighter Operator 23/24 rates w. AA																	
5	24.38	73,982.88	2,414.08	10,534.15	1,072.92	930.00	1,289.54	5,989.52	550.94	112.00	276.00	20,322.96	10,504.58	127,979.56	3 annual	383,938.69	
Lieutenant BA (2.75% & 15 year longevity 2.5%)																	
5	31.06	94,236.04	3,074.94	13,417.92	1,366.64	930.00	1,638.87	7,629.18	701.76	112.00	276.00	20,322.96	13,380.26	157,086.57	3 annual	471,259.70	
															total annual	855,198.39	
Firefighter Overtime (720 hours)																	
	24.38	720		26,330.40			381.79		1,377.08					28,089.27	3 (90 days)	84,267.81	
																106,407.54	319,222.62
Lieutenant Overtime (720 hours)																	
	31.06			33,544.80			486.40		1,754.39					35,785.59	3 (90 days)	107,356.78	
																129,609.10	388,827.30
															23/24 fiscal year	899,674.51	