

# Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District

## 2023 Annual Report



*MEDIC UNIT 771 ENROUTE TO A LANDING ZONE TO TRANSFER A PATIENT*



[www.sistersfire.com](http://www.sistersfire.com)

## Contents

<b>Words from the Fire Chief</b> .....	4
<b>Governance</b> .....	6
<b>Organization Chart</b> .....	9
<b>Personnel</b> .....	10
<b>Our Awesome Volunteers</b> .....	11
<b>In Memoriam Captain Dave Moyer!</b> .....	12
<b>Resident Volunteer Program</b> .....	13
Resident Volunteers.....	14
Where are they now? .....	14
<b>Fire Corps</b> .....	15
<b>General Fund Financial Overview</b> .....	16
<b>Annual Financial Comparisons</b> .....	18
<b>2023 Emergency Call Response</b> .....	19
<b>Training</b> .....	20
<b>Ambulance Service Area</b> .....	23
<b>Emergency Medical Services</b> .....	24
<b>Wildfires</b> .....	27
<b>2023 Accomplishments</b> .....	29
<b>Annual Awards Banquet</b> .....	35
<b>Interagency Coordination</b> .....	36
<b>International Exchange</b> .....	37
<b>Community Risk &amp; Fire Safety</b> .....	38
<b>Fire Corps &amp; Prevention/Education</b> .....	39
<b>Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire &amp; Ambulance Association</b> .....	44



*Firefighters cooling a tree during a live fire training exercise at the USFS complex in Sisters.*

# Words from the Fire Chief



It is an honor to present the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District's (District) 2023 Annual Report. This report provides an overview of how the District is governed, current staffing levels, services provided, annual budget information, and significant accomplishments for the year. The report is also designed to recognize the incredible people who dedicate their lives to serving the residents of our community.

2023 was a busy year for the District as continued community growth and a busy tourist season resulted in a record number of 911 calls for assistance. The District responded to 1,564 emergency incidents in 2023, which was a 10% increase from the previous year. The majority of 911 calls received were for medical emergencies (73%), while fire responses accounted for 3% of the total emergency calls. The District transported 673 patients to local hospitals in 2023 which was a 13% increase from the previous year. Most patients transported by ambulance are taken to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend Oregon. Four patients were flown to the hospital utilizing air ambulances due to their location and the severity of their injuries.

The District has a long history of significant wildfires threatening the community. 2023 was a great year for wildfires locally and across the state. There were no large fires near the District last year and only 119,000 acres burned statewide. The District did send personnel and equipment to three statewide conflagrations in 2023 as part of the Oregon Mobilization Plan. District personnel responded to the Golden Fire, Lookout Fire, and the Tye Ridge Complex.

While there were many things to celebrate in 2023, the District suffered a tremendous loss when Volunteer Captain Dave Moyer passed away of natural causes. Dave began volunteering for the District in 1973 and was recognized at the annual awards banquet for 50 years of continuous volunteer service. Dave

was also recognized for his distinguished volunteer service with three other deserving members of the District. Chuck Newport, Tom Haynes and Rita Hodge were recognized for their volunteer service to the District and had their names added to a new bronze plaque installed at Station 701. The four volunteers recognized on the station plaque had a combined 170 years of volunteer service to the District!

The District received several grants in 2023 that allowed the organization to enhance services to the community. The Oregon State Fire Marshal grant programs provided seasonal wildland firefighting staffing capacity as well as a new firefighter/community risk position. The District also received grants for a new type three fire engine and station backup generator. In addition to federal and state grants, the District received several private donations that supported operations and volunteer association programs.

While the District experienced significant increases in service demand in 2023, the District continues to provide an exceptional level of service to the community. The District continues to work closely with our emergency response partners and community members to deliver emergency and non-emergency services. I would like to recognize the incredible people who make the District such a special place to work or volunteer. The District maintains a friendly and inclusive work environment for employees and volunteers who all contribute in unique ways. From the Board of Directors, appointed committees, career firefighters/paramedics, volunteer firefighters/EMTs, Fire Corps members, and administrative staff, everyone is dedicated to serving the Sisters community with the highest level of dedication and professionalism.

*Roger Johnson*

Fire Chief



*Chief Johnson and his wife Susie at the 2023 District Awards Banquet*

# Governance

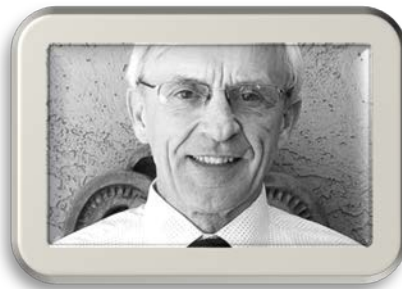
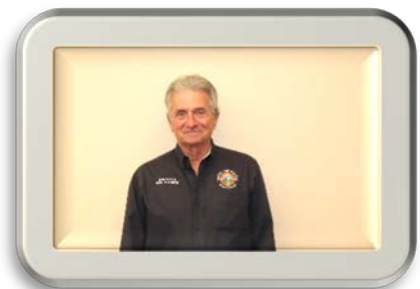
## Board of Directors

	Term Expires
Position 1: Kristie Miller, President	June 30, 2025
Position 2: Rodney Cooper, Director	June 30, 2025
Position 3: Jack McGowan, Secretary/Treasurer	June 30, 2025
Position 4: Tom Herrmann, Director	June 30, 2027
Position 5: Robert Schulz, Vice President	June 30, 2027

The Board of Directors is comprised of five elected community members. The primary duty and function of the Board of Directors is to establish policies for the governance of the District. It is the policy of the Board to delegate to the Fire Chief and staff the responsibility for the day-to-day administration of the District, in a manner consistent with the policies and directions of the Board.

Directors Cooper (Position 2) and Herrmann (Position 4) were appointed in Spring 2023 after one Director resigned and Director Newport retired.

The Board holds its regularly scheduled meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. Traditionally, meetings are held at Fire Station No. 701, located at 301 South Elm Street in Sisters. Virtual options are available for all public meetings. The community is invited to attend and participate in the Board meetings. Public comments are accepted at the beginning of each meeting.



*Pictured: top left  
President Miller, Vice  
President Schulz,  
Secretary/Treasurer  
McGowan. Bottom left  
Director Cooper and  
Director Herrmann.*

## Budget Committee

Eric Miller  
Daly Haasch  
Bret Campbell  
Joel Palanuk  
Jeff Tryens

## Term Expires

June 30, 2026  
June 30, 2024  
June 30, 2026  
June 30, 2026  
June 30, 2024

The Budget Committee consists of the Board of Directors and five (5) citizen members. The Budget Committee is responsible for approval of the annual budget document.



The annual budget for the Fire District is created by an internal budget team. The team is comprised of administrative staff including the Fire Chief, Deputy Chief, Finance Manager/Executive Assistant, a Board Member representative and any other interested staff and volunteers.

The committee reviews historical data from previous budgets, forecasts from local taxing authorities and insurance carriers, reports from PERS, as well as other external factors affecting the District's fiscal environment. Once the proposed budget has been reviewed and balanced by the internal team, it is presented to the Budget Committee. The Budget Committee reviews the document, makes any necessary changes, and then approves the document to go before the Board at a Budget Hearing.

One Budget Committee Meeting was held in 2023 to approve the proposed budget.

## Civil Service Commission

Bret Campbell  
Russ Morrison  
Ken Jones

## Term Expires

June 30, 2027  
June 30, 2026  
June 30, 2026

Civil Service for Firefighters is covered by Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 242.702-242.824. The Civil Service Commission is made up of three citizens of the District who are not members of the Board or employees of the District. They are independent individuals appointed by the Board for an uncompensated term of four (4) years. Bret Campbell was appointed in June 2023 to replace Sheryl McLaughlin who retired after several years on the Commission.

Primary responsibilities include working cooperatively with the Board of Directors and Fire Chief to maintain a current list of all classifications and grades of Civil Service positions within the District, overseeing proper administration of all Civil Service exams, and maintaining a current database of all employees holding Civil Service positions within the District. Commissioners also adopt and oversee the proper administration of the Rules relating to conducting Civil Service exams, appointments, promotions, demotions, transfers, reinstatements, suspensions, and discharges for Civil Service positions.

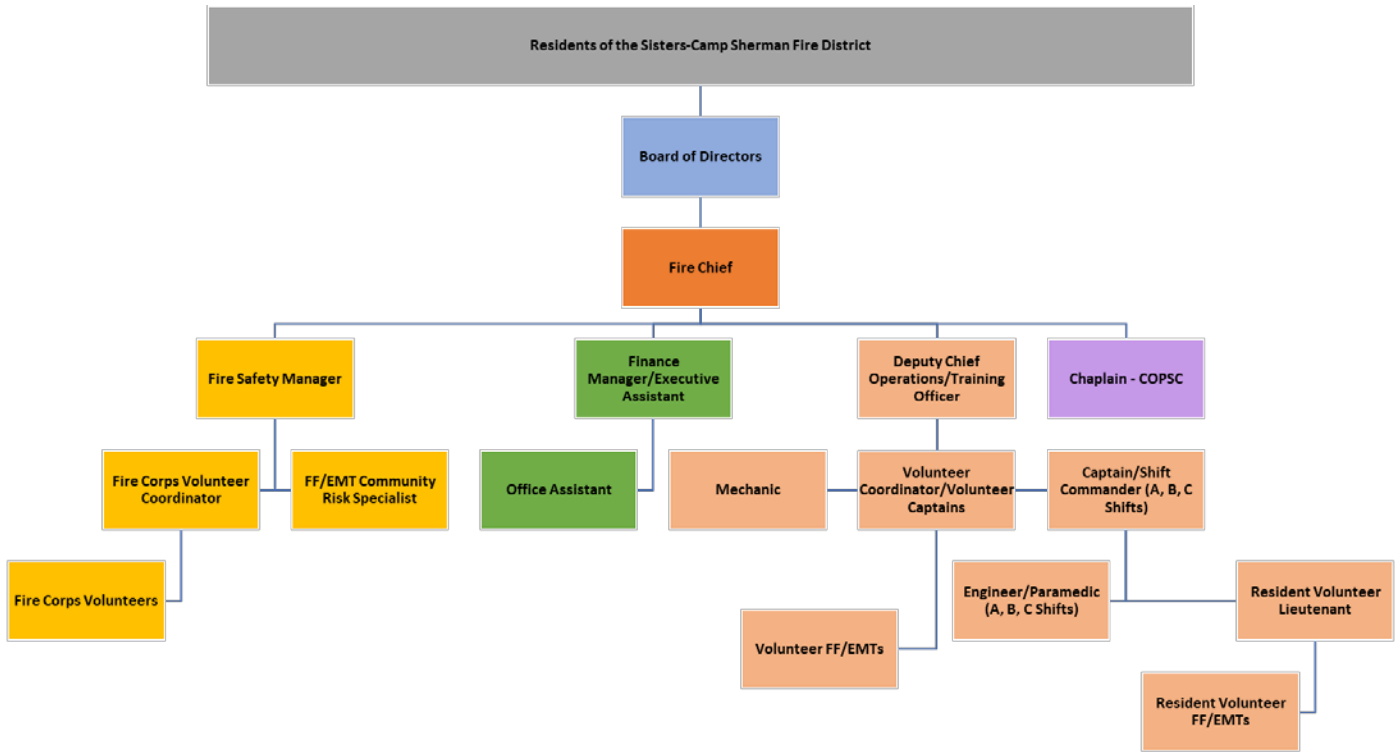
One meeting was held in 2023: to certify the Firefighter/EMT/Community Risk and Fire Safety Specialist Entrance Register and update Classification Lists.



*Firefighter 1 Academy  
students and  
instructors.*



# Organization Chart



*Sisters Country deer family make their way through the crosswalk in downtown Sisters. P.C. Cody Rheault*

# Personnel

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District is a combination career and volunteer fire department that blends a 24-hour career staff with volunteers who are ready 24/7 to assist in any emergency.

## Administrative Staff

Fire Chief	Roger Johnson
Deputy Chief of Operations	Tim Craig
Fire Safety Manager (P/T)	Jeff Puller
Finance Manager/Executive Asst	Julie Spor
Office Assistant (P/T)	Angela Linker
FF/EMT Community Risk Specialist	Steven Lord



*Angela Linker was hired in May 2023 as a part-time office assistant. She's pictured here with Winston.*

## Career Staff

### 'A' Shift

Cody Meredith	Shift Commander
Pat Burke	Engineer/Paramedic
Rachelle Otasu	Engineer/Paramedic

### 'B' Shift

Rob Harrison	Shift Commander
Matt Millar	Engineer/Paramedic
Jack Wales	Firefighter/Paramedic

### 'C' Shift

Jeremy Ast	Shift Commander
Damon Frutos	Engineer/Paramedic
Rachel Ulm	Engineer/Paramedic

## Other Personnel

James Schwartz	Mechanic (P/T)
Trevor Stratton	Mechanic (P/T)
Jeff Liming	Volunteer Coordinator
Beverly Halcon	Fire Corps Volunteer Coordinator

# Our Awesome Volunteers!

The District relies heavily on its volunteers including Resident Volunteers and Fire Corps members. Traditional (Fire & EMS) volunteers provide firefighting and/or emergency medical services, vehicle extrication, and specialized rescue and fire prevention services to a 55 square mile area including the City of Sisters and the Camp Sherman community from three fire stations. In addition, the District provides advanced life support emergency medical and ambulance transport services to an area of over 800 square miles. The following is a list of volunteers as of December 31, 2023.

## Firefighting & EMS Volunteers

Brianna Arrington

Travis Bootes, Lt.

Rodney Brown

Thornton Brown

Angel Cisneros-Thorsvold

Kevin Cramer

Christi Davis

Roy Dean

Ben Duda, Captain

John Failla

Abraham Gonzalez-Reyes

Brad Harbert

Bill Hayes

Tom Haynes

Kaden Henkle

Jeremy Hereford

Derek Hill

Jeff Lake

Chris Lamaita

Zachary Lekas

Jeff Liming, Captain

Brian Maxson

Francesca McLean

Doug Myers, Captain

Brynn Nelson

William Oliver

Daniel Orbidan

Casey Ray

Peter Renggli

Grace Rosenbohm

Brian Schultz

Alan Smoke

Derrick Snow

Jessica Spivey

Teddy Symonds

Mike Terwilliger

Tracy Trotter

Steve Ward, Captain

Anna Westburg

## EMS Only Volunteers

Jessica Greger

Kelly Morris

## Resident Volunteers

Solomon Byles

Grant Dickenson, Lt.

Jessa Hocker

Cruz Jones

Brayden Klosterman

Tyler Wallace

*For information about  
Volunteer Opportunities  
please visit  
[www.sistersfire.com](http://www.sistersfire.com), or  
scan this QR code with  
your smart phone.*



# In Memoriam Captain Dave Moyer!



Captain Dave Moyer began volunteering with the District in 1973. He spent a career working for the US Forest Service where he continued serving until his passing in 2023.

It was a family affair for the Moyer family. Dave and all three sons at one time volunteered for the District.

Dave holds the record for the shortest volunteer response times to the station. He was well-respected as an equipment operator and driver of ambulances and

other apparatus. Dave even served as a driving trainer for the organization.

Dave was well-known as the Chief gravy-maker for the Community Christmas dinner.



We celebrated Dave's 50 years of service at the 2022 awards banquet. Sadly, he passed away in July 2023.



# Resident Volunteer Program

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District offers individuals 18 years and older the opportunity to apply for the Fire/EMS Resident Volunteer Program. The program is designed to promote knowledge of the basic operating principles of fire and emergency medical services through day-to-day operations, hands-on experience, and actual classroom time. Resident Volunteers are trained on the principles of firefighting, fire prevention, fire control, rescue, and emergency medical services.



Pictured above: Lieutenant Dickenson

In addition to in-house training, Resident Volunteers are enrolled in the Fire Science and Paramedic programs at Central Oregon Community College, are assigned to a shift, and perform activities with that shift. Resident volunteers will benefit from learning the actual conditions that may be encountered in the job market.

In 2023, the program included three returning resident volunteers and one resident volunteer lieutenant. During the year, one resident volunteer lieutenant completed the program and accepted a job at another agency. In addition, three new resident volunteers joined the program. One of the three later resigned from the program.

Resident Volunteer Grant Dickenson was promoted to Lieutenant after Lt. Clarke accepted a job at Portland Fire. The Resident Volunteer Lieutenant position is offered to an existing resident based on budget conditions and allows them to remain in the program for one additional year and earn a bachelor's degree in Fire Service Administration or EMS Administration from Eastern Oregon University. While working under the direct supervision of the Deputy Chief of Operations, the Lieutenant is responsible for many administrative functions within the Resident Volunteer Program. The Resident Volunteer Lieutenant may also be delegated incident management functions under the direct supervision and mentorship of the shift commander.



*Lt. Dickenson (left) RV Hocker (center) and Lt. Clarke (right)*

## Resident Volunteers Where are they now?

### **JAKE VAN LIEU** *(pictured right)*

Jake became a Resident Volunteer with the District in June 2021. Jake completed his degree in Fire Science, earned his EMT certification, completed the prerequisites for Paramedic school, and became an Engineer while a RV for the District. Jake was hired temporarily as an FF/EMT for the District to fill a vacancy before getting hired as a full-time Firefighter/EMT at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue in August 2023. He is currently working to complete his probationary period at TVFR while living with his wife Brooklynn in their home in Donald.



### **CAMPBELL CLARKE** *(pictured below)*



Campbell became a Resident Volunteer with the District in September 2020. Campbell completed degrees in both Fire Science and Paramedicine while at the District. Campbell was promoted to Resident Volunteer Lieutenant in 2022 and served in that role until he was hired by the City of Portland in August 2023. He is currently focused on finishing his recruit academy while living at home in Portland.

# Fire Corps

Since its start in 2004, Fire Corps has helped fire and EMS departments in 49 states to build more capacity by engaging community volunteers to assist in a variety of non-emergency roles. Fire Corps Volunteers provide compassionate support to victims of emergencies and support the firefighters by providing food and drinks during extended fire operations. Fire Corps Volunteers also provide fire prevention, public education, and community service programs within the communities of Sisters and Camp Sherman. The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District's Fire Corps started in 2010. The following is a list of our Fire Corps/Prevention Volunteers as of December 31, 2023:

## Fire Corps/Prevention Volunteers

Trine Benson  
Sarah Bialous  
Gail Butler  
Philip Drew  
Stephony Duda  
Sally Fairchild  
Mary Fry  
David Gentry, Spec. Projects  
Rick Gillaspie  
Beverly Halcon  
Ernie Halcon  
Barbara Haynes  
Stacey Henderson  
Barbara Holm  
Stephen Huffman

Joan Kizziar  
Dennis Kizziar  
Retha Lange  
Charlene Leep  
Pat Lenahan  
Roxanne Lenahan  
Marjorie Lombardo  
Marcel Luz  
Marsha Marr  
Craig Matthews  
Monica Matthews  
Kirk Metzger, Spec. Projects  
Scott Michalek  
Nick Newport  
Dave Parman

Donna Pieper  
Joan Ramey  
Rick Retzman  
Jeannie Sandecki  
Ralph Salisbury  
Les Schell  
Phil Spor  
Larry Stuker  
Martha Stuker  
Craig Waters  
Phyllis Williamson  
Tom Williamson  
Katie Yates



*Pictured left from left to right: Fire Corps Members Ernie Halcon and Marcel Luz. Pictured right Barb Haynes.*



# General Fund Financial Overview

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District is a special district operating under Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 478 as a separate municipal corporation overseen by a Board of Directors composed of a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, and two members at large. The Board employs the Fire Chief to manage the day-to-day operations of the District.

The District receives over 71% of its annual revenue through assessed property taxes with a permanent tax rate of \$2.7317 per thousand of taxable assessed value. Additional funding sources include fees for services including ambulance revenues.

## 2022/23 Actual Revenue Summary

Property Taxes	\$3,440,367
Fees for Service	\$ 602,921
Interest Income	\$ 116,500
Grants	\$ 604,628
Other	<u>\$ 58,033</u>
<b>Total 2022/23 Actual Revenue</b>	<b>\$4,822,449</b>

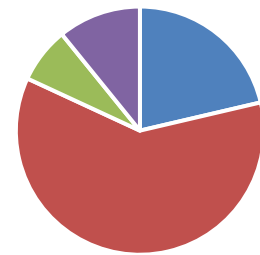
## 2022/23 Actual Expenditures Summary

Administration	\$ 771,647
Operations	\$2,189,248
Maintenance	\$ 262,520
Volunteers	<u>\$ 391,711</u>
<b>Total 2022/23 Actual Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,615,126</b>

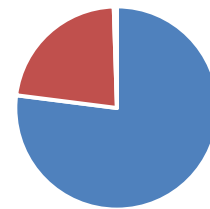
## 2022/23 Actual Expenditure Breakdown

Personnel Services	\$2,576,624
Materials and Services	\$1,005,185
Capital Outlay	<u>\$ 33,317</u>
<b>Total 2022/23 Actual Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,615,126</b>

Actual Expenditures by Department



Actual Expenditure Breakdown





The District has a fundamental philosophy of funding its programs, including capital outlay programs, through the use of General Fund dollars whenever possible. In keeping with that philosophy, the District has set aside Reserve Funds and created equipment replacement and building maintenance plans to ensure the future financial stability of the District. Also, because tax funding arrives during November, the District must have a beginning fund balance to cover operating costs from July through October.



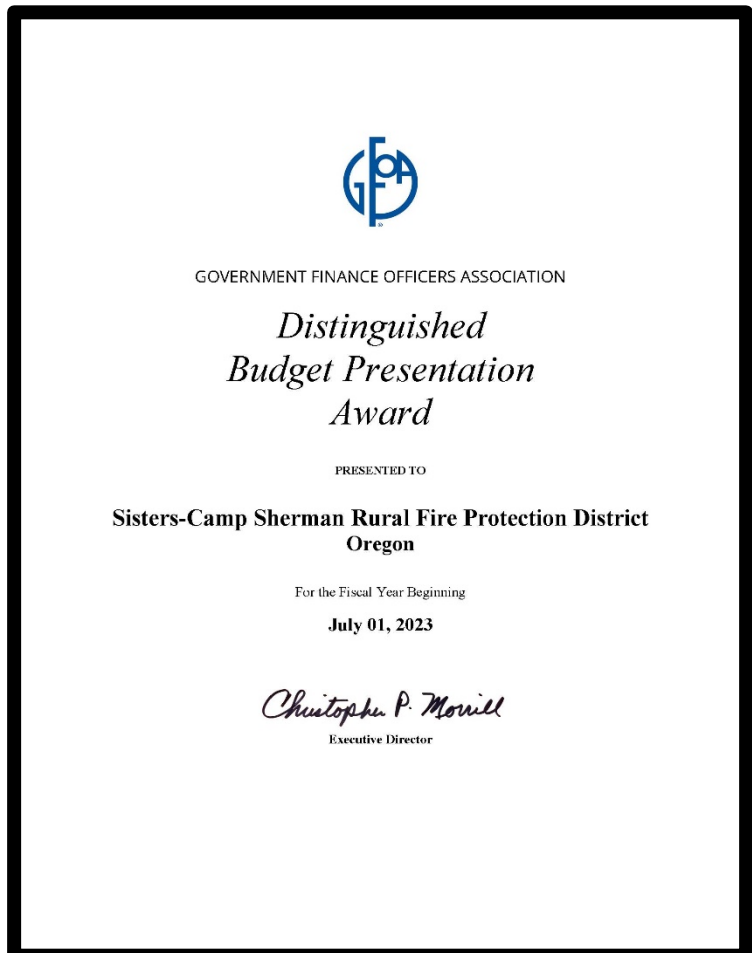
**Ending Fund Balances – June 30, 2023**

General Fund	\$2,722,303
Employment Reserve Fund	\$ 417,730
Equipment Reserve Fund	\$1,082,336
Building Reserve Fund	\$ 199,791
Debt Service Fund	\$ <u>80,426</u>

**Total Fund Balances 6/30/23 \$4,502,586**

The District received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for its ninth year in a row. The Distinguished Budget Presentation Award is the highest award in governmental budgeting. Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District is one of only a handful of fire districts in Oregon that have received the award in 2023.

In order to receive the budget award, the District had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines are designed to assess how well the District's budget serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. The budget document must be rated "proficient" in all four categories and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories to receive the award.



# Annual Financial Comparisons

<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Property Taxes	2,851,868	2,934,699	3,125,463	3,653,664
Charges for Service	465,692	628,268	542,206	602,921
Interest	54,602	20,840	17,874	119,680
Grants	80,874	322,991	166,382	915,007
Other	81,337	37,670	119,201	58,033
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>3,534,373</b>	<b>3,944,468</b>	<b>3,971,126</b>	<b>5,349,305</b>

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Personnel	2,217,652	2,315,789	2,443,350	2,576,624
Materials/Services	668,305	708,081	713,478	1,119,774
Capital Outlay	34,388	219,001	15,998	421,825
Contingency	207,951	0	0	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>3,128,296</b>	<b>3,242,871</b>	<b>3,172,826</b>	<b>4,118,223</b>

	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
Change in Fund Bal	36,686	104,880	228,055	692,067
Beg Fund Balance	1,610,191	1,646,877	1,751,757	1,980,328
<b>End Fund Balance</b>	<b>1,646,877</b>	<b>1,751,757</b>	<b>1,979,812</b>	<b>2,672,395</b>

	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
General Fund	1,646,877	1,751,757	1,979,812	2,672,395
Employment Reserve	0	161,471	295,107	417,730
Equipment Reserve	557,251	674,013	848,282	1,082,336
Building Reserve	162,623	194,856	233,921	199,781
Technology Reserve	0	0	0	0
<b>End Fund Balance</b>	<b>2,366,751</b>	<b>2,782,097</b>	<b>3,357,122</b>	<b>4,372,242</b>

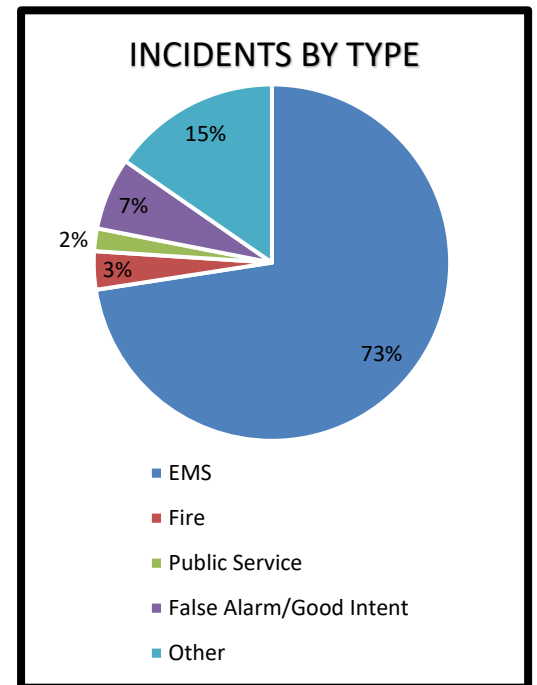
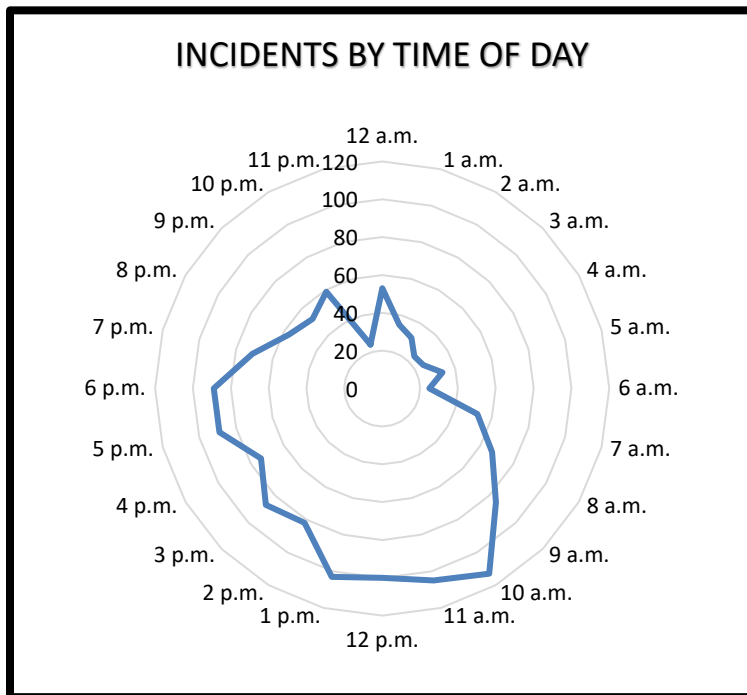
# 2023 Emergency Call Response

Three work shifts are staffed by a Shift Commander/Paramedic and two career Engineer/Paramedics. Resident volunteers work 48-hour shifts with 96 hours off. Additional staffing needs are met by District volunteers.



*Crews responded to a fully-engulfed recreational vehicle fire on 10/31/22.*

During 2023, the District responded to 1,564 emergencies including 54 fire-related calls, 1,129 EMS-related calls, 32 public service calls, 102 false alarm/good intent calls and 247 other calls. Emergency call volume increased about 10% from last year. Patients who sought treatment at the main fire station totaled 97 for 2023. The District responded to 318 back-to-back incidents. Back-to-back incidents occur when a second incident is dispatched before the completion of the first incident.



# Training

Training is an important component to our Fire District and the safety of our employees and volunteers. Volunteer drills are held on Tuesday nights at 7 pm every week. The District completed the maintenance recertification process through the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training. This process needs to be completed every two years and requires a lot of work from each of our members who hold certifications. All of our operational personnel need to complete at least 120 hours of training during the recertification period. Members holding advanced certifications need to complete additional hours of specialized training to recertify. The District's accomplishment of recertification marks the culmination of a significant amount of work put in by all of its members.

## TRAINING HOURS

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Volunteer	5549	3366	3927	4065	5241
Career	2081	1485	1694	2420	2237

## FIREFIGHTER 1 RECRUIT ACADEMY

Captain Jeff Liming continues to serve as the District's volunteer recruit academy coordinator. Under Captain Liming's direction, the District completed two recruit academies supported by several of our career and volunteer staff. To complete the academy, recruits are required to complete about 100 hours of classroom work in addition to an equal amount of hands-on training.

Instructors, who are fully qualified firefighters, invest a significant amount of time in preparation and training delivery to ensure that recruits receive the best possible foundation. Academy recruits came from the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District, Black Butte Ranch, and Cloverdale Fire District.



*Night one of academy recruits receiving personal protective gear.*

## OTHER TRAINING



Through SAFER grant funding, the District was able to offer a NFPA Apparatus Equipment with an Aerial Device class in April. This was a hybrid course with both class work and hands-on training at Station 701 and the surrounding area. The lead instructor was retired Battalion Chief Scott Carmony from Clackamas County Fire District #1. Ten students from NW Fire agencies attended the class.

Several of the District's staff and volunteers participated in a one-day training program "It's All About Leadership" presented by Fire Chief Bruce Varner and Fire Chief Dennis Rubin.



Two of the District's volunteers, Roy Dean and Angel Cisneros-Thorsvold (pictured left) attended the NFPA Public Information Officer course that included classroom and field-day scenario training.

The entire department attended human resources training focused on respectful workplaces.

The Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) provided training in December on safely extinguishing car fires. A propane-based car prop was used for the training.

Other training the District offered or participated in last year includes Instructor 1 training, pumper operator, and insurance services office training.



## PEER SUPPORT GROUP

The NW Fire (NWF) agencies of Black Butte Ranch, Cloverdale, and Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Districts formed an NWF Peer Support Team. The team is available for any member of the three agencies to reach out to if they need to talk to someone confidentially about any issues they may need to work through. A survey sent out to members of the three agencies helped to identify individuals who would make up the team. Current members include Captain Duda, Captain Meredith, Fire Medic Frutos, Chief Ellison, Fire Medic Millar, Fire Medic Ulm, Lieutenant Bootes, Captain Kriek, and Fire Medic Otasu. Team members attended two trainings in 2023. One was Assisting Individuals in Crisis and the other Group Crisis Intervention.

## EMS TRAINING

2023 EMS training included: Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) recertification, shock management, protocol revision review, environmental emergencies, cardiac arrest management, case reviews with Physician Advisor Dr. Rosenberg, Zoll cardiac monitor in-service training, and joint EMS equipment orientation training with Cloverdale Fire District.



# Ambulance Service Area

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District provides ambulance transport services to a state-approved Ambulance Service Area (ASA). The District's ASA includes franchise agreements with Deschutes, Jefferson, Lane, and Linn Counties.

ASA franchise agreements are awarded for a minimum 5-year timeframe and only one franchisee may serve in an ASA area. Franchise agreements outline standards that providers are required to follow throughout the duration of the plan.



# Emergency Medical Services

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District is similar to most modern fire departments in that the majority of 911 emergency calls are for a medical emergency. In 2023, 73% of all emergency 911 calls received were medical. All Sisters-Camp Sherman career firefighters are also paramedics. Many volunteer firefighters and administrative staff are also certified as paramedics or emergency medical technicians.

**The following is a breakdown of emergency response personnel and level of certification in 2023:**

Paramedic	14
Emergency Medical Technician	27
Emergency Medical Responder	2
CPR/AED only	<u>20</u>
Total Emergency Response Personnel	63

All District emergency medical personnel provide medical care within the framework of standard medical protocols. District personnel also work under the direction of a licensed emergency physician called the Physician Advisor. Dr. Rosenberg is the District's Physician Advisor for 2023. Dr. Rosenberg is also an Emergency Room Physician for St. Charles Medical Center in Bend.

Emergency medical personnel receive annual training to maintain certification levels and also receive specialized training in high-risk/low-frequency interventions. In 2023 all District paramedics completed Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) training.



*Pictured right: Physician Advisor Dr. David Rosenberg*



Below is a list of the most frequent types of medical calls and the number of calls received in 2023. Many of these calls result in transport to St. Charles Medical Center in Bend or Redmond.

### 2023 Emergency Medical Calls

<u>Call Type</u>	<u># of Calls</u>
Chest Pain	97
Shortness of Breath	68
Abdominal Pain	53
Altered Mental Status	44
Weakness	42

Cardiac arrest is not listed as one of the most frequently occurring types of medical calls but it often is the most catastrophic. If CPR is not initiated shortly after the heart stops beating, the chances of survival diminish greatly. Also important to the chances of survival is having access to an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) and rapid advanced life support ambulance response. The District actively promotes the installation of AEDs within the community and provides low-cost community CPR training. The following chart shows the number of cardiac arrests in the greater Sisters area for the past four years.

#### Cardiac Arrests in Sisters:

2020	2021	2022	2023
7	9	5	8



*Motorcycle crash on the Santiam Pass*

**Membership programs:**

The District participates in the FireMed ambulance membership program which provides coverage if residents are transported to the hospital by ground ambulance. Membership provides coverage in over 64,500 square miles of Oregon. In addition to ground transport membership programs, two air ambulance companies provide transport by rotary or fixed-wing aircraft for critically injured or sick patients. Life Flight Air Ambulance and Air Link Air Ambulance both operate within Deschutes and Jefferson Counties and offer membership programs. The vast majority of medical patients are transported by ground ambulance.

**Ambulance Transports by Type:**

Transport Type	2020	2021	2022	2023
Ground Ambulance	441	509	594	673
Air Ambulance	10	6	4	4
Total Transports	451	515	598	677



*Crews rendezvous with AirLink to transfer a patient.*



# Wildfires

Sisters was once again spared from any major wildfires in 2023. The Oregon Department of Forestry credits investments in Oregon's wildland firefighting system, less lightning and the timely arrival of soaking rains in making the 2023 wildfire season one of the mildest in recent years. Total acres burned statewide were 119,526 in 2023.



The four largest fires in Oregon during the 2023 wildfire season were:

- The Flat Fire at 34,242 acres near Gold Beach
- The Bedrock Fire at 31,590 acres near Springfield
- The Lookout Fire at 25,754 acres near McKenzie Bridge
- The Anvil Fire at 22,170 acres near Port Orford

The Emergency Conflagration Act will be declared by the Governor of Oregon at the request of the Oregon State Fire Marshal. This Act provides structural protection through task forces mobilized from firefighting forces around the state when the ability to fight a fire exceeds local capabilities and a threat to life and structure exists. The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District sent personnel and equipment to three emergency conflagrations: The Golden Fire in July 2023, the Lookout Fire, and the Tye Ridge Complex both in August 2023. The State of Oregon reimburses local firefighting forces for expenses when mobilized under a conflagration declaration.

To boost capacity within the Oregon Fire Service, the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM) awarded nearly \$6 million in grants to the structural fire service to hire firefighting staff during the 2023 wildfire season. Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District was awarded \$35,000 in grant funding to support staffing through the 2023 wildfire season. As a result, the District added two firefighters/EMTs to each of its three shifts to help supplement regular career and volunteer staffing during peak demand hours of 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. The District retained the additional staffing through October 2023.

The District responded to a total of 16 small brushfires throughout the District in 2023, and 6 bark dust fires.



# 2023 Accomplishments

## 1. Facilities

- The Board of Directors adopted a new Distinguished Volunteer Service policy, which established a volunteer recognition bronze plaque that was installed on the outside of each of the District's fire stations. The names of volunteers who have served 25 years or more with the District will have their names installed on the plaque and they will remain on the plaque as long as they remain good citizens. In October the District held a dedication ceremony to unveil the new plaques and introduce the first honorees and their families. The first names included: Volunteer Tom Haynes who has served for 48 years (and still serving), Volunteer Rita Hodge who retired after 32 years of service, Captain Dave Moyer who had served for 50 years (passed away in July 2023), and Director Chuck Newport who retired from the Board after 40 years of service to the District.



*Chief Johnson (left) and Board Secretary/Treasurer McGowan unveiled the new Distinguished Volunteer Service Plaque at Station 701.*



*Distinguished Volunteer Service Honorees pictured from left to right: Donna Moyer (late Captain Dave Moyer's wife), Rita Hodge, Tom Haynes, and Chuck Newport.*

- Station 701 received new interior paint throughout the building.
- New tables were purchased for the Community Hall to replace the old bulky, heavy tables. The new tables are more compact and easier for groups to set up and take down.
- The bid for door security upgrades to all stations was awarded and equipment will be installed in early 2024.

## 2. Equipment

- The District was awarded the Oregon State Fire Marshal's (OSFM) Engine Program Grant. This program allows OSFM to procure fire apparatus to be strategically placed around the state with recipient structure fire agencies. The District was awarded a Type 3 fire engine with an approximate value of \$390,000. The engine is intended to assist the District with keeping fires small and away from our community. The engine is expected to be delivered in early 2024.
- A new treadmill was added to the gym at Station 701 to replace an older unit. In addition, a commercial stair climber unit was purchased and will be delivered in early 2024.
- Medicine-infusion pumps were purchased and added to the District's three ambulances in early 2024. This equipment assists with re-dosing meds continuously and helps with the accuracy of medicine administration.



*A pair of peacocks were regular visitors to Station 701 last summer.*



- The District supported the construction of a new 800-MHz radio tower site (pictured left) on its property at the Camp Sherman fire station. This tower, built and maintained by Deschutes County 911, will provide significantly improved emergency radio coverage to the Metolius Basin.

### 3. Resident Volunteers

- We welcomed three new Resident Volunteers in 2023 at Station 701: Jessa Hocker, Cody Martin, and Tyler Wallace joined the team. The new resident volunteers attended an advanced EMT course in Tempe, Arizona, and two earned their EMT certifications during the year. One resident volunteer left the program in late 2023.
- Resident Volunteers Campbell Clarke and Jake Van Lieu completed their resident volunteer program during the year. Campbell accepted a job as an EMT/FF at Portland Fire and Jake moved to accept a job as an EMT/FF at Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue.
- Grant Dickenson was promoted to Resident Volunteer Lieutenant.



*Pictured above left to right: Cody Martin, Jessa Hocker, Tyler Wallace, and Steven Lord. Each passed their EMT certification course in Tempe, Arizona in August 2023.*

*Pictured far right from left to right: Resident Volunteers Tyler Wallace, Jessa Hocker, and Cody Martin.*

*Pictured right: Lieutenant Dickenson with his Dad at his badge-pinning ceremony.*



#### 4. Staffing Changes & Accomplishments



- Resident Volunteer Lieutenant Rachel Ulm was hired temporarily to fill a vacant position on the line while the District completed a testing process for the position. Rachel earned her Paramedic certification in 2023 and was hired as a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic filling a vacancy.

*Pictured left: Fire Medic Rachel Ulm with her Dad and Mom during her badge-pinning ceremony.*

- A-Shift Engineer/Paramedic John Cunningham accepted a job at Clackamas Fire. Former resident Volunteer Lieutenant Rachelle Otasu was hired full-time to fill the vacancy on A-Shift. Rachelle was a former Resident Volunteer Lieutenant with the District.

*Pictured right: Fire Medic Rachelle Otasu with her husband Nic during her badge-pinning ceremony.*



- C-Shift Engineer/Paramedic David Ward accepted a job at Clackamas Fire and District volunteer Firefighter/EMT Jack Wales was hired to fill that vacancy. He earned his Paramedic certification in 2023.

*Pictured left: Fire Medic Jack with his wife at his badge pinning ceremony.*



- Jeff Puller was hired in January 2023 to replace Karla Cross as the Recruitment and Retention Coordinator when she resigned to start her own business. This position was grant-funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The grant ended in May 2023.



*Chief Puller and his wife Wendy at the Fire District Awards Banquet.*

- Jeff Puller transitioned from the Recruitment and Retention Coordinator after the SAFER grant period ended to take over the position of the District's Division Chief of Community Risk and Fire Safety. He replaced Doug Green after he retired from the District.

- Trevor Stratton was hired as a part-time mechanic for the District in 2023.



*Office Assistant Angela Linker (above) was hired in May 2023.*

- Office Assistant Sarah Bialous retired after five years at the District in April 2023. Angela Linker (pictured right) was hired to fill that vacancy in May 2023. Sarah joined the Fire Corps group and continues to serve the District in that capacity.



*Staff and volunteers gathered to celebrate Sarah Bialous's retirement. Sarah is pictured far left with Captain Meredith and Fire Medic Burke*





*FF/EMT Lord with his wife at his badge pinning ceremony.*

- The District was awarded a \$255,361 grant from the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office in May 2023. The purpose of the grant is to augment firefighting and fire prevention staffing. The grant is a three-year grant that requires a tiered local match and is expected to be 100% funded through the District beginning in year four. As a result of the grant funding the District was able to hire Steven Lord as the District's full-time Firefighter/EMT/Community Risk Specialist. Steven is a cross-trained responder capable of supporting the line staff on emergency fire and medical incidents as well as supporting Chief Puller in the Community Risk and Fire Safety Division.

- The District was awarded \$35,000 from the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Office through the Wildfire Season Staffing Grant. This is the second year the District has received this grant. Grant funds were used to hire additional staff during the peak fire

season. The following personnel were hired to help cover emergency calls from June through October 2023: Cole Pyne, Jack Wales, Ben White, Francesca McLean, Chris LaMaita, Justin Spelatz, and Alan Smoke. They worked over 1,200 hours during peak call times for the District.

- Chief Johnson was awarded the Oregon Fire Chief's Association 2023 President's Award for his outstanding work and unwavering dedication to bringing updated legislation to the State of Oregon and the Oregon Fire Service.



*Pictured right: Board President Kristie Miller and Fire Chief Roger Johnson at the OFCA Awards Banquet*

# Annual Awards Banquet

2022 awards were handed out at the Annual Awards Banquet for the Fire District on March 21, 2023, held at Five Pine Conference Center.

## YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

- **5 Years of Service:** Rick Retzman, Char Leep, Retha Lange, Robin Holm, Phil Drew, Jack McGowan, and Margie Lombardo
- **10 Years of Service:** John Failla, Cody Meredith, and Roger Johnson
- **15 Years of Service:** Nick Newport, Kirk Metzger, and Rob Harrison
- **50 Years of Service:** Dave Moyer



## OTHER AWARDS

- **Volunteer of the Year:** Ben Duda
- **Resident Volunteer of the Year:** Campbell Clarke
- **Rookie of the Year:** Jake Van Lieu
- **Fire Corps Volunteer of the Year:** Phil Drew
- **EMT of the Year:** Rachel Ulm
- **Firefighter of the Year:** Jake Van Lieu
- **Chief's Award for Excellence:** Damon Frutos
- **Distinguished Service Cross:** Matt Millar
- **Meritorious Service:** Anna Westburg
- **Special Projects Award:** Thornton Brown and Gary Lovegren
- **Fire Corps Significant Contributions:** Mary Fry
- **Distinguished Volunteer Service:** Chuck Newport, Dave Moyer, Tom Haynes, and Rita Hodge



# Interagency Coordination

The Interagency Coordination Committee was created in September 2017 to identify ways in which the three Districts can work together in a coordinated effort. Four areas of concentration were established:

- Chief Officer Coverage
- Fire & EMS Equipment
- Finance Management
- Training Enhancement



*Cloverdale Fire District Chief Thad Olsen with Chief Johnson at a Live Fire Training Exercise.*

Shared chief officer coverage has been in place since 2018. The Equipment, Training, and Chief Officer groups continue to meet regularly to share resources and standardize training and deployment of equipment to ensure an efficient response to incidents. The Finance committee meets periodically and is working on ways to help create additional capacity and resilience in financial management.



*NW Fire agencies conducted a live fire training exercise on the old US Forest Service District office on Pine Street on 12/30/23*

# International Exchange

In 2015, the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District (SCSFD) entered into an international exchange program with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire Rescue Service (HIOWFRS) in the southern United Kingdom. In 2015, HIOWFRS sent five firefighters to Central Oregon to learn about American wildland firefighting. In the years since the program began, SCSFD has sent multiple firefighters, including several resident volunteers, to Hampshire to see a different way to fight fire and serve the community. It has been a career-altering experience for all who have been a part of it.

In July, the District welcomed four firefighters from HIOWFRS to Sisters for a two-week educational exchange. As in years past, the focus for the visiting team is Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) firefighting tactics and strategies as well as home risk assessments. As a result, HIOWFRS staff (Andy Weeks, Mark Woods, Andy Gussman, and Chris Sellick) came to Sisters to learn more about WUI fires where we have been working in the WUI environment for years.



*Pictured from left to right: HIOWFRS firefighters Mark Woods, Andy Gussman, Chris Sellick, Andy Weeks and SCSRFPD resident volunteers Grant Dickenson and Cruz Jones.*

# Community Risk & Fire Safety

Jeff Puller is the District’s Community Risk and Fire Safety Manager and oversees the Fire Prevention and Fire Corps programs. Services to the community from these divisions include:

- Plan review for new construction to meet requirements of the Oregon Fire Code.
- City of Sisters Business License Inspections.
- Commercial and Industrial Fire Safety Inspections conducted by a certified Inspector.
- Fire Cause and Origin Investigations in concert with the Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office.
- Wildfire Safety such as NFPA Firewise, Local FireFree & IAFC Ready, Set, Go Programs.
- Engine Company Fire & Life Safety Evaluations for low-hazard businesses.
- Home fire safety consultations.
- Fire Corps Program.
- Fire safety education and public awareness programs for all ages, school, home & business.
- Fire station tours.
- Regularly scheduled CPR and First Aid classes by certified instructors.
- Child safety car seat clinics.
- Residential smoke alarm program.
- Address sign program.
- Senior Safety Program.
- Blood Pressure Clinics.



**In 2023 there were a total of:**

<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	
81	68	72	Commercial Plans Reviewed
19	23	33	Public Event Plans Reviewed
59	52	11	Business License Inspections
38	42	7	Final Commercial Occupancy Inspections
66	59	46	Annual Inspections
14	12	0	Engine Company Inspections

# Fire Corps & Prevention/Education



Beverly Halcon (pictured left) is the Chair of the Fire Corps Division of the Fire District. Beverly is responsible for organizing 43 Fire Corps Volunteers and assists with Fire Corps-specific projects as well as supports the Fire Prevention/Education Divisions. The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District's Fire Corps Program is the largest in the State of Oregon!

## STATION TOURS & SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Volunteers and staff hosted six school tours at Station 701 last year. Firebusters continued as in previous years with 256 students participating throughout three schools in the Sisters and Black Butte School Districts. Fire Corps Chair Beverly Halcon led the program for the first time this year. Topics for Firebusters included: cooking safety, bicycle safety, 911 safety, seat belt safety, and wildfire evacuation. The District celebrated the participation of the schools with a pizza party for classes with the best turnout of participants. Firefighters/paramedics brought a fire truck and ambulance to the party, which was a big hit for the children. Black Butte School in Camp Sherman won the grand prize in 2023.

**2,890**  
Volunteer  
Hours Logged  
by Fire Corps  
Volunteers in  
2023!



## SMOKE ALARMS

The District received 19 requests for service of smoke and/or carbon monoxide alarms in the community. Volunteers and staff installed 24 battery-powered smoke alarms and provided 37 batteries.

*Pictured left (from left to right): Fire Corps members Mary Fry and Margie Lombardo provided educational materials at the Sisters Elementary School Back to School night.*

## SENIOR SAFETY PROGRAMS

- **Home Safety & Senior Resource Guide**

The home safety program and senior resource guide were developed to bring awareness to residents of fire and fall hazards in the home. While the District has trained volunteers, who can visit homes to check for working smoke alarms and walk through the home with the occupant to look for fire and fall hazards, no home visits were requested in 2023. Home Safety and Senior Resource Guides are available to pick up at the District's Administration Offices as well as handed out during special events throughout the year.

- **File of Life**

The file of life program was developed to assist responders with obtaining a patient's medical history. The form is filled out by a person before needing emergency medical attention, where it may be easier to recall information in a non-stressful situation. The packets are intended to be placed in an obvious location, such as a refrigerator, where responders can easily access them. These packets are available at many medical offices in Sisters, as well as the Administration Office for the District.

## WILDFIRE HOME SAFETY ASSESSMENTS

Trained Fire Corps Volunteers accept requests from residents in Sisters interested in having their homes and property assessed to determine how defensible they would be during a wildfire. In 2023, volunteers assessed 30 homes.

## COMMUNITY PARTNER IN HEALTH – Vaccine Clinics

Fire Corps members and RNs Katie Yates and Marti Stuker assisted with County-sponsored COVID-19 and flu vaccine clinics throughout Central Oregon in 2023. In addition to administering vaccines, duties include gathering historical information regarding adverse effects, recent COVID-19 illness, information sharing regarding proper vaccine spacing of primary and booster series, side effects, and measures of comfort.

For the past several years, the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District has partnered with local clinics to provide vaccination clinics to Sisters residents. In 2023, the District hosted one flu vaccination clinic in the District's community hall.

## ADDRESS SIGN INSTALLATION

Fire Corps volunteers install address signs to help crews quickly locate addresses within the fire district. A total of 70 address signs were made and installed in 2023.



## **YOUTH FIRE INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

The District has two trained interventionists who evaluate youth who misuse fire and establish a plan for them. The District had one intervention program with a juvenile in 2023.

## **CPR/FIRST AID CLASSES**

Seven Fire Corps Volunteers are trained to teach American Heart Association's Heartsaver CPR/AED and First Aid classes. 155 students were certified in 2023. These include community members and Heart of Oregon students.

## **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING**

Blood pressure screenings occur on the first Tuesday of each month during the Council on Aging's Senior Luncheon. Two of our Fire Corps members attend those events to provide screenings for seniors.

## **CAR SEAT SAFETY CHECKS**

One volunteer is certified to check child car seat safety. Regularly scheduled regional car seat clinics are held at Bend Fire. In Sisters, Beverly Halcon performed 30-seat checks in 2023.

## **AED GRANTS**

The District set aside grant funds to encourage more businesses in the community to purchase Automated External Defibrillators. Fire Corps member Larry Stuker leads this program. Three new AEDs were added to our community! Studies have shown that public AED use increases the survivability of a heart attack.

## **DISTRICT AWARENESS PROGRAM**

New residents within the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District are sent a "Welcome to Sisters Country" brochure that provides a brief description of services, programs, community activities, and volunteer opportunities. In 2023, Fire Corps volunteers sent out 43 brochures.



*Larry Stuker pictured above (right) delivers an AED to Metolius River Lodges*

## INCIDENT SUPPORT UNIT

The Fire Corps received the District's retired ambulance in 2021 to create an incident support unit (ISU) that Fire Corps members will be able to staff during large-scale incidents or large training events. In 2023, the ISU crews assisted in multiple training exercises and responded to their first wildfire where they provided rehab and cooling for crews on scene. ISU also assisted with two days of support for the Joint Recruitment Testing process for incoming resident volunteers.



## BIKE SAFETY EVENT

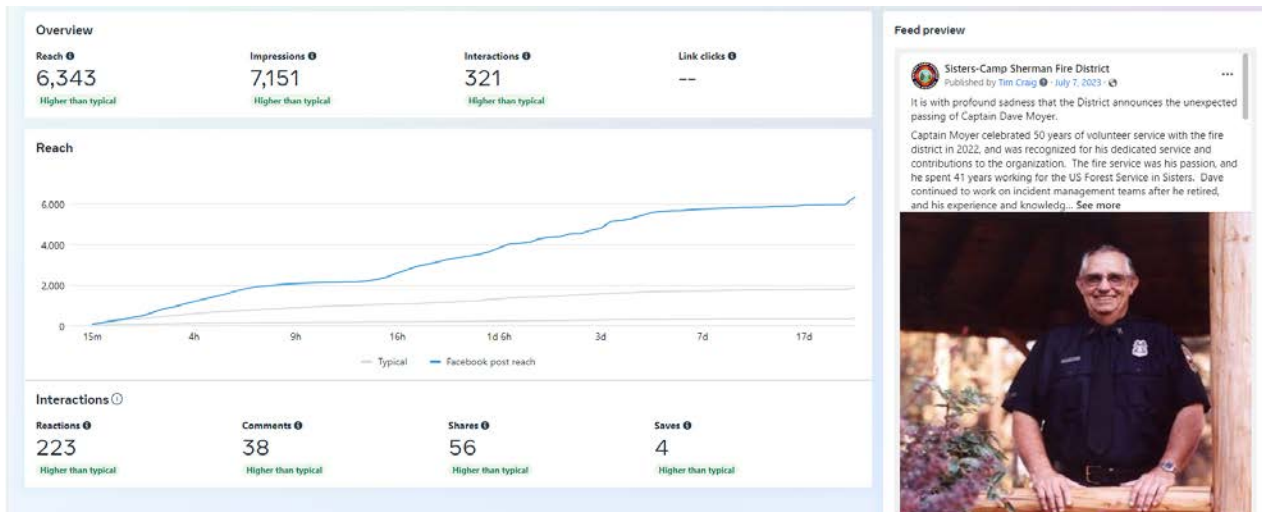
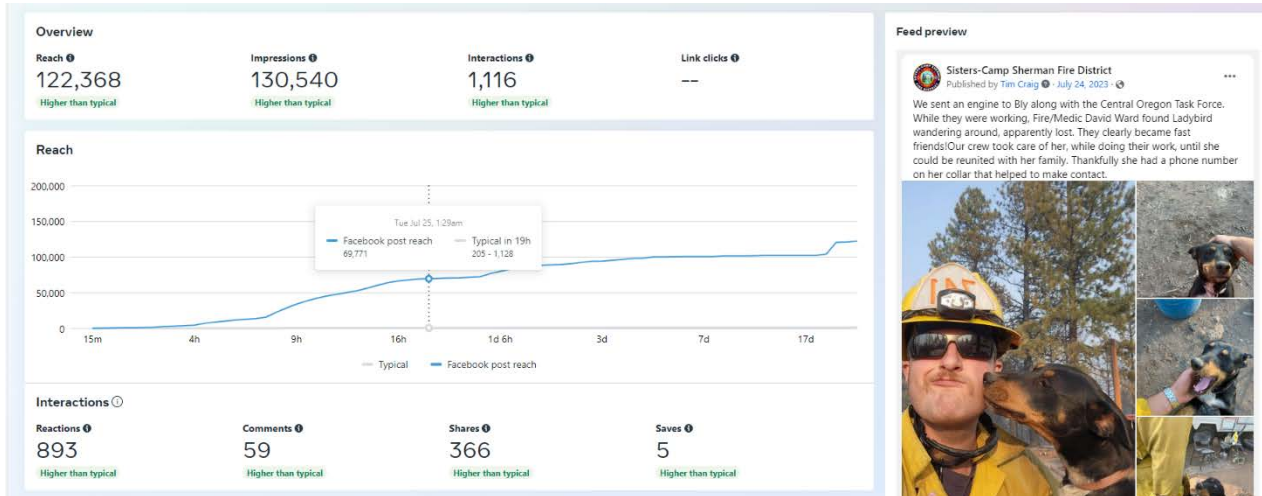
The Fire Corps held a Bike Safety Event held in conjunction with Sisters Park and Recreation District's carnival. Participants were able to visit various stations to have their bikes checked, have a helmet fitting, and ride through a bike rodeo. The event was a huge success.



*Pictured from left to right: Fire Corps Volunteers Katie Yates, Jeannie Sandecki, Sally Fairchild, Joan Kizziar, and Chris Drew assist at the bike safety event. Pictured bottom right Fire Corps member Phil Drew assists with the bike rodeo.*

## SOCIAL MEDIA

Julie Spor manages the social media for the District through the District’s website ([www.sistersfire.com](http://www.sistersfire.com)), Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. The District’s Facebook page increased its followers last year over 7% to 6,900 followers. Twitter followers decreased 1.3% to 587 Twitter followers. The District’s Instagram account was started in August 2019. Instagram account followers increased 11% to 1,432 followers. Social media provides a quick way to disseminate information to the public in real time and the public appreciates it. There were over 175 Facebook, Twitter and Instagram posts in 2023. The top two social media posts by reach for 2023 include:



# Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association (Association) is the social, civic, and charitable group of career and non-career District members.

The goals of the Association are:

1. Provide opportunities for fellowship between Association members and their families.
2. Support and enhance fire service traditions through community events, educational programs, and activities.
3. Raise funds in support of the Jim Gentry Memorial Scholarship Fund, Association-designated charities, District-sanctioned events, and special projects.

The Association is governed by a Board consisting of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Member at large. For 2023 your Association Officers are: President Kevin Cramer, Vice President Jeff Lake, Secretary Mary Fry, Treasurer Angela Linker, and Member at Large Ernie Halcon. Monthly meetings of the Association take place on the third Tuesday of each month.



*Association President Kevin Cramer with his wife Heather.*



*Cloverdale and Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire Districts attend an end-of-year event each year in June when area schools let out for the summer spraying the kids with water from the fire trucks.*

Following are some of the Association's District-sanctioned events and special projects for 2023:

### **EASTER EGG HUNT**

Hundreds of eager egg hunters from infant to 11 years old turned out for the 45<sup>th</sup> annual community Easter Egg Hunt. Over 6,000 plastic eggs were scattered throughout Creekside and Three Creeks Overnight parks for hundreds of children to gather. Volunteers were on hand to provide tours of emergency apparatus and to hand out prevention materials and candy. The Easter Bunny also made an appearance.

### **RODEO STANDBY & PARADE**

District staff and volunteers staffed a dedicated ambulance with a paramedic, EMT, and driver for 5 days during the Sisters Rodeo. Members and their families also participated in the Rodeo Parade (Sisters largest parade annually).



### **QUILT SHOW**

The entire town of Sisters was wrapped up in walls of bright colors for the 48<sup>th</sup> annual Sisters Outdoor Quilt Show. District staff and volunteers provide help in hanging and taking down quilts throughout the entire town and also staff a First Aid booth located centrally within the City during the event.



## COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE FUND

This fund was established to help members of the community who would endure further hardship without financial assistance. Under this program, employees are allowed to spend up to \$100 to assist in basic fire suppression and EMS. The fund has been created from non-public funds, including donations made to the District and employee/volunteer contributions. In 2023, a total of 34 requests for assistance were filled with a total of over \$965 in gas/food vouchers and bus tickets. The Association increased the amount of the vouchers during 2023 to account for increased fuel and food costs.

## HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS STANDBY & SUPPORT

District volunteers and resident volunteers stand by as backup EMS personnel and provide an on-site ambulance for the Sisters High School varsity and junior varsity home football games. Six home games were staffed in 2023. In addition, District staff and volunteers escorted several Sisters High School teams on a parade through downtown Sisters on their way to State Championship events.



## STAIRCLIMB FUNDRAISER

A team of Sisters-Camp Sherman, Black Butte, and Cloverdale Fire District staff and volunteers raised funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to help find a cure for blood cancers. The team raised approximately \$16,300 in 2023. Participants (firefighters) climb 69 flights of stairs covering 788 vertical feet of distance.



The 2023 team included Lieutenant Travis Bootes, Lieutenant Campbell Clarke, Deputy Chief Tim Craig, Captain Ben Duda, Firefighter Madison Eno, Captain Rob Harrison, Firefighter Matt Maupin, Firefighter Max Sucher, Fire-Medic Rachel Ulm and Firefighter Jake Van Lieu.



## HALLOWEEN EVENTS

The District hosts an annual Halloween event including a haunted house and several games for children and their families. The event included Many District volunteers helped to make this event a success. Approximately 200 people attended the event.

In addition to the Halloween Safety Fair, volunteers in the Camp Sherman area participated in a local Halloween parade in Camp Sherman. Station 704 Resident and Volunteer Christi Davis were on hand to pass out candy to trick-or-treaters.

District personnel and their families carved pumpkins ahead of the community Halloween event.



*"Luigi" Tye Boskovich playing ring toss at the Halloween Safety Fair*

## JIM GENTRY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Association participates in the Sisters Graduate Resource Organization (Sisters GRO) supporting community efforts aimed at helping Sisters High School students obtain their post-secondary dreams by awarding grants through donated funds to the Association. In 2023, the Association funded \$3,000 in Scholarships to Anna Landon, Brody Duey, and Taine Martin.



## CHRISTMAS PARADE

Staff and volunteers participated in the annual Sisters Park and Recreation District Holiday Palooza parade. Santa Claus joined the crews this year down the parade route.

## SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

With a lot of hard work from staff, volunteers, and event partners, the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association was able to continue a long-standing tradition of providing Christmas gifts to families in need in Sisters Country over the holiday season. In 2023, over 147 applications for assistance were processed with 67 families requesting gifts for 160 children. Total gift donations are estimated at a value of over \$10,000. In addition, the Association received more than \$8,795 in cash donations for this program.



*Fire Corps Volunteers Craig Waters (above left) and Marsha Marr dressed up to greet families during the Spirit of Christmas distribution day. Pictured right: Margie Lombardo Program Lead, Resident Volunteers Jessa Hocker and Sol Byles place tags on the Spirit of Christmas trees at Bi-Mart.*



## ASSOCIATION BOWLING & UGLY SWEATER CONTEST

The District and Association sponsored a bowling evening at Sun Mountain Fun Center in Bend for members and their families in December. Fire Corps member Ernie Halcon was awarded a prize for the ugliest Christmas sweater. Chief Johnson's bowling team earned the high score for the night.

Members of Chief Johnson's team claimed they were unaware that the gutter guards used for the younger kids on their team could be taken down for the adult bowlers. Everyone had a great evening!



## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire & Ambulance Association prepared and served a traditional Christmas dinner to the Community on Christmas Day. The cooking crew started early under Captain Liming's leadership. The crew prepared an amazing meal serving over 100 people in the Fire District's Community Hall. In addition to those served in person, staff and volunteers prepared many to-go dinners. The Association also received \$782 in monetary donations during the dinner. It takes many volunteer hours to shop for the food, prepare it, serve it, and clean it up afterward.



This year the community had a special treat with Fire Medics Otasu and Frutos playing music during the event and attendees burst into song with a robust version of jingle bells!





# EVERY VOLUNTEER HAS A STORY. START YOURS WITH US!



For information about Volunteer Opportunities please visit [www.sistersfire.com](http://www.sistersfire.com), or scan this QR code with your smart phone.



*“Protecting Life and Property through Quality Service”*

*We Value: Community, Service, Excellence, Wellness, Respect, Stewardship, Compassion,  
Integrity, Innovation, Inclusiveness*