

May 1, 2024

A Report to the Residents of the **Mid-Valley Fire District**:

On November 3, 2020 the voters of the District approved the formation of the District with 84% of the vote, and elected Lance Skinner, Kevin Voyles, and Marti Halverson as the first Directors.

It's been a busy three years. We want to update you on what's happening with your volunteer fire suppression and emergency response District.

Last June, we took possession of a brand new, 47,000-pound, 2,000-gallon, 4WD Freightliner pumper truck. Fitted with the most up-to-date equipment, your District was able to pay \$379,000 cash for this equipment. Our new Engine #3 is stationed at the Emergency Response Center at Star Valley Ranch. Thank you to everyone who attended our push-in ceremonies and bar-b-que.

We spent these first years beginning the gradual replacement of old, dangerously worn-out bunker gear, wild land fire gear, pagers, air tanks and other safety equipment. This will be an ongoing effort. The District qualified for a \$20,000 matching grant from the Forestry Division of the Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investments which allowed us to buy 30 new radios.

We bought a set of new, state-of-the-art Hurst extraction tools – the “Jaws of Life” – that are battery operated and do not rely on a cord or an external power supply. The set includes a cutter, a spreader and a ram. This is a \$40,000 investment in our emergency response capabilities. Unlike our older set of Jaws of Life, his new set can also work under water.

Moving forward, the District will address maintenance issues with three older pieces of equipment, and increase funds for continuing professional training for our 29 volunteer fire fighters and cadets. Throughout Wyoming, rural fire, rescue, and ambulance services are struggling to recruit and retain personnel. The Mid-Valley Fire District is fortunate to have four new fire fighter cadets join the Department in 2023.

As Star Valley grows, we are committed to meeting the emergency needs this growth requires. The Directors have begun a conversation about the possibility of larger quarters to accommodate new apparatus and more personnel.

There are many housing developments planned for the mid-valley, and District leadership continues to work with the Lincoln County Planning & Development office on these proposals to ensure emergency access and safety.

With sincere thanks and appreciation for your support,

The Directors  
Chief Jenkins  
Assistant Chief Peterson

The Mid-Valley Fire District  
Etna, Freedom, Thayne, Star Valley Ranch, Bedford, Turnerville