

# East Fork Fire Protection District

## OFFICIAL PRESS RELEASE

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### East Fork Fire Protection District Places Two New Engines in Service

Minden – The East Fork Fire Protection District officially placed two new Type I fire engines in service on Monday, December 2, 2019. The two new engines will be assigned to Fire Station 14 in Minden and Fire Station 7 in the Gardnerville Ranchos. The 2019 Pierce Engines contain the latest in fire apparatus



On duty crews ceremonially push the new Engine into Station 14 on County Road

technology. The District was able to secure medium term bond funding for the purchase over a year ago and just recently secured additional funds at a lower interest rate to pay off the original debt for the engines. The price tag on the new engines was \$495,000 each or just under \$1,000,000 for both. The District had not purchased a new engine in just under ten years. Under the District Capital Improvement Plan, the front line in service time for engines of this type is 12 years and 5 years in reserve status for a total of 17 years.

The District held an official housing ceremony on Monday, braving the stormy weather. Board members, executive staff, IAFF 3726 members, and the on duty crews for the day all participated in an actual “push in” of one of the new engines at Station 14. The “push in” ceremony and tradition dates back to the time where apparatus literally had to be “pushed back” into the station. In time, the tradition grew into a ceremony for how a fire company received a new

piece of equipment.

The new engines sport 1500 GPM pumps, 750 gallon water tanks, and a new pump technology that relies on an electromagnetic field to drive the pump. District Chief Tod Carlini stated, “These new engines are truly state of the art and are magnificent machines which should serve the needs of the district for quite some time.” The engines contain a significant amount of compartment space and will easily accommodate the concept of a “clean cab” whereby a firefighter’s dirty gear is stored in outside compartments and not in the cab. Firefighters are exposed to a considerable amount of known and unknown carcinogens as byproducts of combustion. Stowing contaminated gear in outside compartments until they can be properly cleaned limits exposures. A



Board President Barbara Griffin and Director Bernie Curtis give the new engine a push into quarters at Station 14.

third engine of the same type has been ordered and should be delivered sometime in the fall of 2020. The district had to suspend its capital purchases for some time during the recession. While Chief Carlini noted he is not a fan of borrowing money, the cost of fire apparatus and other emergency response equipment outpaces the district's ability to fund purchases of this type especially. The District was able to negotiate a good interest rate (1.87%) as well as being able to pay off the debt early and without prepayment penalties if finances allows in future years. The term of the loan is for an eight year period.

East Fork is one the area's largest fire and emergency medical services providers, averaging 6600 calls for service each year and covering 675 square miles.