

**ROSS VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT
STAFF REPORT**

For the Special Meeting of July 19, 2023

TO: Ross Valley Fire Board

FROM: Dan Mahoney, Interim Fire Chief

SUBJECT: Approve Resolution OES-FPD-130: A Designation of Applicant's Agent Resolution for Non-State Agencies to Receive Federal Financial Assistance for Any Existing or Future Grant Programs with CalOES

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board approves resolution OES-FPD-130, as a universal resolution for up to three (3) years designating and authorizing the Fire Chief, or Battalion Chief, or Administrative Assistant to apply and file for federal financial assistance for any existing or future grant program with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES).

BACKGROUND & DISCUSSION:

The mission of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) Public Assistance (PA) Program is to provide assistance to State, local, Territorial, or Tribal, and local (SLTT) governments, and certain types of private nonprofit (PNP) organizations so that communities can quickly respond to and recover from major disasters or emergencies declared by the President. Through the PA Program, FEMA provides supplemental Federal grant assistance for debris removal, emergency protective measures, and the restoration of disaster-damaged, publicly owned facilities and specific facilities of certain PNP organizations. The PA Program also encourages protection of these damaged facilities from future incidents by providing assistance for hazard mitigation measures. FEMA provides this assistance based on authority in statutes, executive orders (EOs), regulations, and policies.

An atmospheric river struck the state of California starting on December 27, 2022, unleashing torrential rains, and setting off catastrophic landslides and mudslides. On January 4, 5, and 8, 2023 the Department took a proactive approach and hired additional overtime firefighters to staff reserve apparatus to supplement the regular on duty crews while responding to the high volume of calls due to storm activity. The additional staffing responded to power lines down, tree issues (blocking roads, into homes), mud slides, flooding issues (home and road), medical aid calls, and fire alarm activations.

On January 14, 2023, President Biden declared a "major disaster" declaration. The Department submitted an application seeking federal funding to cover the overtime cost for additional staffing.

On June 6, 2023, the Department was awarded a \$28,316.72 grant from CalOES which serves as a reimbursement to the overtime costs (includes personnel costs, administrative fee and equipment use). The funds will not be distributed until after the Department designates Agents as stated in the resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no associated fiscal impact with this item. If approved, the Department would receive a \$28,316.72 grant from CalOES.

Encl.: Resolution OES-FPD-130– **Attachment #1**