

2023-24 Mosier Fire District Budget Message

Expenses:

Mosier Fire's budget priorities remain the same from last year: Personnel: specifically a full time Chief Position; day to day operations Materials and Services needs; the Joint Use Facility; and an Apparatus Replacement Plan.

Personnel: The Mosier Fire (MFD) General Fund Personnel budget for 2023-24 is \$107,200. This amount will pay salary, payroll taxes, PERS, and some benefits including up to \$5000 in moving expenses. Volunteers and the community have stated that they value a dedicated full time Chief. We continue to rely on volunteers for all other positions, though we still lack a Board Recorder, a position that has been paid in the past.

Materials and Services (M&S): The Mosier Fire (MFD) General Fund M&S budget for 2023-24 is \$154,000. These funds pay for our day to day operational needs. These expenses are everything from fire hoses to audit expenses to station repairs.

Joint Use Facility (JUF): The Board has previously approved spending \$1,715,000 for the JUF. This year, the budget allocates that entire amount to construction. This money comes from a combination of Union Pacific donated funds, Mosier Fire savings, and the Business Oregon loan which will be repaid over the next thirty years with future tax revenue. All revenues and expenses for the JUF will be in the Mosier Center Fund.

Apparatus: Keeping our Volunteers and Chief in safe apparatus remains a top priority. Mosier Fire was fortunate to update our fleet by making strategic purchases using the UP Equipment funds. All remaining UP funds are allocated to the JUF. We have developed and will update an apparatus replacement plan that dictates how much money Mosier Fire needs to save in order to replace apparatus when needed. This year, we are once again allocating the money from last year's \$0.35/\$1000 tax increase, \$57,000, to an allocated apparatus line item in the Capital Reserve Fund, in addition to the \$53,000 we allocated last year. We will also transfer an additional \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve fund to be allocated for equipment replacement.

Revenues:

We expect to maintain the tax rate of \$2.00/\$1000 that we set last year; at this rate we expect our total tax revenues to be approximately \$332,000 in 2023-24. Tax revenues remain our most reliable source of revenue. Given the size of Mosier Fire District, tax revenues are not sufficient to fund all of the operational expenses in our district. Thus, Mosier Fire will continue to seek grants and other additional funding sources. In 2023-24, we expect to draw on the \$800,000 Business Oregon loan. This 2.16% (CHECK) loan is dedicated to building the new Fire Hall in the Joint Use Facility; we expect to begin repayment in December of 2024. Although we anticipate seeking grant funding for both special projects and wildland fire fighting, we have not yet acquired any additional grant funding (Grant Fund). We intend to seek grants for specialized fire equipment for the JUF.