

History of the District - *Who We Are*

1951

A non-profit corporation, "Central Point Rural Fire Protection District, Inc." is formed to collect donations for creating a rural fire protection district.

1952

The County Court held a successful election and formed the Central Point Rural Fire Protection District (CPRFPD).

1953

Mr. Richard Krupp is hired as the first salaried Fire Chief.

The first fire station is built on Highway 99 in Central Point with donated funds.

As industry grows considerably, commercial and industrial businesses in the White City area donate materials and land to build a second fire station on Agate Road.



1955

The Board of Directors appoints former Volunteer Firefighter and Assistant Chief Mr. L. C. "Liz" Lisenbee as the new Fire Chief. The District experiences considerable residential, commercial and industrial growth, creating complex protection and service delivery issues.

1970

Mr. William H. Anson is hired to replace Chief Lisenbee. Chief Anson had extensive experience in southern California with departments that had experienced rapid growth and expansion and had worked with both paid and volunteer personnel.

The District was considerably under-equipped in apparatus and equipment to combat the increasing fire problems that existed. The Board of Directors recognized these deficiencies and undertook the task of bringing the District up to standard. The outcome was reduced fire insurance premiums and increased levels of fire protection.



1974

The Land of Many Oaks Rural Fire Protection District (LOMO RFPD), a one square mile fire district located in Sams Valley was annexed into the District.



The Board of Directors makes a determination to provide emergency medical services. A fundraising drive, led by Mr. Michael Burrill, General Manager of Eugene F. Burrill Lumber Co., was successful in raising approximately \$15,000 for the acquisition of a multi-purpose vehicle for emergency medical calls and for incident command situations.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

1975

CPRFPD officially becomes Jackson County Fire District No. 3 (JCFD3) to better describe the areas being protected. It is the third fire district formed within Jackson County protecting approximately 140 square miles.



1977



Funding from a Federal grant allows the District to construct a new White City station and Administrative Offices in White City across the street from the original station on Agate Road. The classroom is dedicated in the honor of Wes Claflin, a former Volunteer Fire Captain and school teacher.

1978



The Board of Directors send personnel to the University of Oregon Health Sciences Center in Portland to be trained as Firefighter/EMT 4 (Paramedics). JCFD3 was the first fire department in southern Oregon to provide Paramedic services.

1979



The third fire station (Dodge Bridge) is built by District personnel on land donated by Jim and Lois Wilson. This station, located at the intersection of Highway 234 and Rogue River Drive, is staffed by volunteers.

1983



The Central Point station is demolished and a new station is built at the same location. This station continues to service the southern and western regions of the District.

1985



The Sams Valley station is constructed to replace the existing Land of Many Oaks station and is staffed by volunteer personnel living on site in residential mobile homes.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

1986



A new maintenance facility is added to the White City station in 1986. The facility is officially named in honor of Mr. Rupert R. Wilson, former Chief Mechanic, who had recently retired from the District after an extensive length of service as a volunteer, Board Director, part-time employee, and full-time employee.

1989

Property is purchased on Access Road near the City of Gold Hill for a future fire station. The location is selected because of its strategic location for response to the Sams Valley area, Interstate 5, Blackwell Road, and Old Stage Road towards Central Point and Jacksonville.

1991

Fire Chief Anson retired in December of 1991 after 20 years of service with the District and over 35 years in the fire service. Assistant Chief/Fire Marshal Randall Iverson was hired as the new Fire Chief. He came to the District in 1980 with previous fire service experience in Oregon and California.



1994

The City of Gold Hill contracts with JCFD3 for fire protection. One year later the territory of the City is annexed to the District by a passing vote.

1995



The fifth District fire station is built near Agate Lake following the successful annexation of that area.

1996

The District enters into a five year contract with the City of Central Point to provide fire and EMS services for City residents.

Ballot Measure 50 is passed by Oregon voters, changing the way property taxes are computed. The District gets a permanent tax rate of \$3.1194 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

1999



The City of Eagle Point contracts with the District for fire and EMS response for city residents. The City's volunteer fire department merges with the District's volunteer firefighter association.

The sixth District fire station is constructed in Gold Hill on the Access Road land that the District purchased in 1989.

2001

The residents within the cities of Central Point and Eagle Point both pass a measure to annex into the Fire District for permanent fire and EMS protection. Funding now comes from property taxes and service contracts with the two cities terminate.

2002



The District purchases land on Loto Street in the City of Eagle Point and builds the seventh fire station.

The Veterans Administration Domiciliary in White City elects to close its fire department and transfers responsibility to JCFD3.

2003



The Central Point station is remodeled and expanded.

The District increased staffing by hiring 12 firefighters to meet increased service demands within the two cities.

The White City Urban Renewal Agency funds and constructs a training center complex for the District on adjacent property. This project includes a large training area, five story tower, confined space rescue prop, and a warehouse.

2004

The District purchases land on Table Rock Road between the White City and Central Point stations.

The volunteer program is enhanced and a Volunteer Program Coordinator is hired to support and promote the volunteers.

2005

Fire Chief Randall P. Iverson retires after 25 years with the District.

2006

Barry Hutchings is hired in May as the new Fire Chief.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

2007



Chief Hutchings resigns in March and David K. Hard is hired in November as Fire Chief.

The District secures funding and starts the construction of a new administrative office building on land donated by the White City Urban Renewal Agency adjacent to the White City station.

2008



The District completes construction of the new Administrative Office Building. Opening ceremonies are held on September 30, 2008.

2009

The remodel of the White City fire station gets underway. White City Urban Renewal Agency expires and the frozen assessed valuation from 1996-2008 comes back onto the District's tax rolls.

2010

Fire Chief David K. Hard leaves the District and former Fire Chief Randall P. Iverson is appointed as the Interim Fire Chief.

The Southern Oregon Regional Communications Center is consolidated with Rogue Valley Consolidated Communications to form Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO). Fire District 3 secures a position on the seven member Chief Executive Board. The center is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for all of Jackson County and dispatches all fire and law enforcement in the County.

Daniel V. Petersen is hired as the Fire Chief on October 11, 2010. The Strategic Plan is revised and focused on seven goals for the next 12 months. A new community based vision is adopted by the Board of Directors: "To reduce or eliminate risk from fire, rescue, and medical events in the communities we serve".

2011

The District purchases two initial attack tenders to haul 2,000 gallons of water to the fire and be able to effectively make an initial attack on a structure fire. This design also provides greater capacity during urban interface fires.



The District modifies the operational deployment method by responding with four engine companies, each lead by a Captain. This reinforces a crew response to emergency incidents and improves the ability of the firefighters to solve problems in the community.

Members of the community and the organization are invited to participate in the strategic planning process resulting in a new two year plan for 2012-2014. The Fire Chief begins making quarterly presentations to all cities inside the District on the progress of the plan.

Student Firefighter positions are added to nine of the career companies (three each day), providing four person engine companies. The District pays for the student firefighter's fire science education and book costs.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

2012

The District converts the Volunteer Coordinator position to a Rural Communities Chief to oversee the response in the rural areas and to assist the community members in the reduction of risk.

The District celebrates 60 years of service with a ceremony on September 19, 2012. Past members from each decade shared their memories and highlighted significant District achievements. The first Fire Chief, Richard Krupp, is a speaker and describes his involvement in purchasing the first fire engine.



The District hires three additional firefighters, ensuring that four three-person career engines and a Battalion Chief are on duty each day. This is supplemented by four volunteer stations in the rural community.

The District contracts out vehicle maintenance to the City of Medford and expands the agreement with Rogue Community College. RCC now houses their fire engine and equipment at the White City Training Facility and the majority of the hands on college training is occurring at this site.

The District experiences a 2.6 percent reduction in taxable assessed valuation on property due to the local economic recession. The District is able to sustain all services, the result of an increase in carryover and contingency established over the last few years in anticipation of this downturn.

2013

The District improves its Insurance Services Office (ISO) rating from PPC 4 to a PPC 3, saving the community thousands in fire insurance premiums. A live fire burn building using shipping containers is placed in service at the training facility.

The first two of six manufactured homes are placed at volunteer stations as part of an improved resident firefighter program. Student firefighters are placed at the Gold Hill station on a trial basis to improve response in that station area.

The District engages in formal discussions with the City of Medford for cooperative services and enters into an intergovernmental agreement with Jackson County Fire District 4 to provide fire chief services and chief officer response to the District. The Rural Communities Chief is assigned this responsibility.

The District see a rebound in the economy with a 2.7 percent increase in assessed value.

2014

The District purchases and places in service two new structural fire engines from Pierce Manufacturing. These new PUC style engines have a shorter wheel base and 30 percent more compartment storage space.

The District concludes the cooperative services study with the City of Medford. The District decides to remain a separate agency but improve cooperative service by responding the closest engine available, regardless of jurisdictional boundary. Additional training and fire rescue protocols will be developed to improve the performance.

The District initiates a strategic planning process that includes a District wide survey of community opinion. Over 475 responses are received and presented to a group of community members for analysis. A new strategic plan is adopted for 2015-2017.

History of the District - *Who We Are Continued*

2015



The District opened its eighth fire station and moved the second staffed engine company from the Central Point station to a temporary facility on Table Rock Road.

The District establishes its first Firewise community and receives access in cooperation with Oregon Department of Forestry for over \$300,000 in grant funds to help prevent the spread of fire into the urban interface.

The District began dispatching engines through the use of Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) technology as part of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) program. This change allows the closest District or Medford Fire-Rescue unit to be dispatched automatically.

The District receives a \$250,000 grant to construct a fire simulation house at the White City Training Facility. This project generates support from the State Legislature, Oregon State Fire Marshal, and the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST).

2016

The District began the planning stages of a classroom facility on the White City campus in collaboration with Rogue Community College to house the fire science program.

The District received a \$150,000 grant from Jackson County Title 3 Funds to promote Firewise Communities within the District.

Fire Chief Dan Petersen retires from the District in December and an aggressive search for a new Fire Chief begins.

2017

The District hired Robert B. Horton from Las Vegas Fire and Rescue to serve as the new Fire Chief commencing June 19, 2017.