

## **AUTOMATIC/MUTUAL AID**

**Relative Information:** Fire District 3 is a signatory to the Jackson/Josephine Counties Automatic/Mutual Aid Agreement. This agreement has been signed by all the fire departments in Jackson and Josephine Counties. The purpose of the agreement is to establish a predetermined method of sharing apparatus and staffing as needed to deal with situations that require more resources than can be provided by any single agency.

Mutual aid is a system in which any one agency may call for assistance from other agencies on an incident-by-incident basis. Automatic aid differs from mutual aid in that the dispatching of fire equipment is pre-determined and programmed for response by each participating fire department.

Each agency is responsible for its own resources and no agency is required to provide resources that may reduce the level of protection in its own jurisdiction. The Agreement also provides for the move-up or distribution of backup resources throughout the two counties to maintain coverage for subsequent alarms. This system allows for the maximum utilization of available manpower and equipment by disregarding political boundaries and using area-wide resources.

**Policy Statement:** It is the policy of the Board of Directors to endorse and participate in the Jackson/Josephine Counties Automatic/Mutual Aid Agreement.