

Response to El Dorado County Grand Jury 2019-2020 West Slope Fire Protection Update

Honorable Suzanne N. Kingsbury Presiding Judge of the El Dorado County Superior Court 1354 Johnson Blvd, Suite 2 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

(Submitted via email to court-admin@eldoradocourt.org)

Dear Judge Kingsbury,

During the July regular Board of Director's meeting the Cameron Park Community Services District's Board of Directors had the opportunity to review the Grand Jury's West Slope Fire Protection Update (Case 19-06 – June 8, 2020).

Below, the Findings and Recommendation have been restated and a response follows.

Findings

F1. Long term fiscal sustainability of fire protection on the West Slope of the County is highly questionable.

Agreed.

F2. County citizens on the West Slope experience a wide disparity in fire protection services often masked by Automatic Aid, based on their location and their specific fire district.

Agreed.

F3. Efforts to improve fire protection on the West Slope of the County have been ongoing for many years with limited success.

Agreed.

F4. Cal Fire has the infrastructure, staffing and expertise to be a major component of a solution to the County's fire district disparities.

Agreed.

2502 Country Club Drive Cameron Park, CA 95682 (530) 677-2231 / (530) 677-2201 (f) www.cameronpark.org F5. Improvements in the existing fire protection model for the West Slope requires all fire protection districts to take a holistic view of fire protection and the political will to embrace change. Agreed.

F6. Fire protection districts on the West Slope have not displayed the ability to take a holistic view of fire protection or the political will to embrace change, to the determent of all County citizens. Agreed.

Recommendation

R1. Fire Protection Districts, Cal Fire, BOS and LAFCO should continue discussing ways to improve County fire protection services.

Recommendation requires further analysis or study noting a timeframe not to exceed six months from date Grand Jury Report was issued.

Respectfully,

Monique Scobey, President

Board of Directors

MS/ng