

TO: Sonoma County Fire Districts Association

FROM: Carol Pigoni, Cloverdale Fire Protection District

DATE: July 28, 2022

SUBJECT: FASIS/FDAC EBA UPDATE

The FASIS and EBA Boards have continued to meet jointly and the most recent Board of Directors Meeting was held on June 23rd in Sacramento. A summary of the major Board discussion items are as follows:

1. Updated Workers' Compensation Actuarial Report and Proposed Rates for 2022-23 Program Year. The Board received the updated/final actuarial report. It was noted by the Actuarial Consultant that 12,000 claims had been miscoded by category (safety vs. non-safety) which has been corrected resulted in an overall slight decrease in rates.
2. FASIS and EBA Memorandum of Understanding and Letter of Intent. The FASIS FDAC and EBA Boards were presented the MOU and Letter of Intent to *"establish a relationship to jointly and cooperatively develop, operate, manage and administer their respective programs which may take the form of a new single Joint Powers Authority which will consolidate the existing membership and coverage programs currently conducted by FDAC EBA and FASIS."* Approved unanimously by both Boards.
3. FASIS EBA & FDAC Consolidation Roadmap & Project Plan. Staff presented a comprehensive "Roadmap" which identifies certain benchmarks necessary to be fulfilled with the goal of obtaining consolidation of the agencies by July 2023. This will require a focused effort by staff, consultants, both Boards and the Joint Advisory Committee (Chiefs Wood, Kovacs, Akre, Butz and Director Pigoni). The Roadmap is structured in three phases over a 12-month period beginning June 2022: 1) Define Operational Structure, 2) Implementation, 3) Completion. A copy of the Roadmap is included with this report.
4. Wellness Stipend Program. * [NOTE: this is an action by the EBA Board; provided in this report as informational]. At their April 8, 2022 FDAC EBA Board meeting the Board elected to eliminate the Individual Fire Fighter Wellness Stipend Program and replace it with the Fire District Wellness Stipend Program effective July 1, 2022. For 2022, the utilization will be 50% of all eligible fire personnel (as voted upon at the June 23, 2022 meeting). This stipend amounts to \$250 for each eligible fire personnel per Fire District. Districts will invoice for the stipends. If funds remain unused at yearend, they do not rollover to the following year.

5. First Responder Resiliency Training Pilot Program. FASIS and LAWCX have entered into a partnership to offer the services of the First Responder Resiliency Training Program. Resiliency was founded in 2018 by a former first responder who experienced serious medical issues and trauma after years of working as a paramedic. The benefits of Resiliency to the FASIS member districts are as follows:
 - Expansion of mental health wellness components as a part of the program's services
 - Aids in removing the stigma amongst first responders in seeking wellness tools to protect their mental health
 - Resiliency trainings may reduce workers' compensation claims
 - Possible positive impact to general liability claims by helping to reduce poor decision making due to exposure to trauma and stress.

The Board unanimously approved the Pilot Program.

6. Board Member Election and Election of Officers for the 2022/23 Program Year. Elections were conducted to fill three expiring positions on the FASIS Board. Results are as follows: Chief Howard Wood (Vacaville), Chief Steve Akre (Sonoma Valley), Chief Jim Cominsky (South Placer). Election of FASIS Officers: President: Chief Wood; Vice President Chief Akre.
7. Presentation and Approval of FASIS Operating Budget. Staff presented a review of the Operating Budget. The final Budget was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION {FASIS E-BRIEF}

Firestrong: All member districts have access to an online resource offering anonymous mental, emotional, and physical support. Visit www.firestrong.org and select "FASIS" from the drop-down menu to access services. Username: FASIS; Password: FASIS1750