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Comments:

Proposal to close La Madera VFD – additional notes
Sustainable?

Can anyone explain Chief Masterson's concept of sustainability? As I see it, the most

UN-sustainable person in this entire equation is that of the County Fire Chief. During the lifetime of our district, which is older than the Sandoval County Fire Department by several years, we have seen multiple County Chiefs (Speakman, Tibbets, Maxon, and Masterson, as I recall). Several of our members have been around longer than all of them combined. That would seem the very definition of "sustainable".

After stirring the pot and disrupting everything in pursuit of his vision, he will move on; we will not. If anyone is un-sustainable, it is Chief Masterson.

Wildfire implications

What are the implications of Chief Masterson's proposal for the wildland fire potential. The La Madera district is surrounded by public lands of all sorts (National Forest, BLM, State Lands, City of Albuquerque Open Spaces).

Chief Masterson emphasizes the paramedic aspect of his proposal, and EMS is a large part of his budget, but a far greater threat to our community is that a wildland fire.

How well will the 4 or 5 firefighter/EMTs from BCFD cope with a rapidly expanding wildland fire without the aid of a dozen or more experienced volunteers? His plan to dismiss the areas most experienced firefighters is simply dangerous. Does anybody remember the Camp and Woolsey Fires of 2018 in California, costing scores of lives and thousands of homes?

Guaranteed, we will lose residents to medical situations, but we could lose the entire community to wildfire. That won't be Chief Masterson's problem; it will be ours.

How does his proposal benefit the community?

Jerry Carroll

Captain, La Madera VFD