



Yamhill Fire Protection District

PO Box 249 – 275 South Olive St.

Yamhill, Oregon 97148-0249

Phone: (503) 662-4653

Fax: (503) 662-3740

<http://www.yamhillfpd.org>

Serving the people of the Yamhill Fire Protection District since 1896

Brian Jensen
Fire Chief / EMT
Yamhill Fire Protection District
PO Box 249
Yamhill, OR 97148
(503) 662-4653
brian@yamhillfire.org

The Yamhill Fire Protection District covers 72 square miles in the North end of Yamhill County. The District includes several square miles of the Coast Range. Over the last 28 years that I have been with the Yamhill Fire Protection District, I have personally been involved in hunting accidents, fire's, ATV accidents, and Aircraft crashes in these remote areas. By having the tools and trained personnel to respond quickly and safely to these events for not only the patients, but also the Responders is the difference in a positive or negative outcome. A quick response with proper equipment and trained Fire Fighters/EMT's can save an injured citizen from dismemberment, disability and even death.

I would like to encourage our state representatives and state senators to CO-Sponsor HB 3455 relating to the allocation of ATV grant funds derived from the sale of ATV permits for our EMT and Fire Districts. I want to urge the legislature to pass this legislation so our EMT and Fire Districts can receive the adequate funds to offer sufficient resources when accidents and fires occur. Concerns are greater due to the extreme nature of this recreational sport and the ever increasing size, weight, and carrying compactly of the OHV being produced and used. We encounter instances of severe injury and multiple patient situations. Due to the remote locations where these accidents occur, we need to be able to quickly and adequately traverse the difficult terrain to address the severity of the situation.

This HB would place EMT & Fire District representatives as voting members on the ATV Advisory Committee. Currently, we are inadequate in response time and resources for accidents and fires started in the wild terrain where ATV sport enthusiasts recreate. Having active representation on the board would help us acquire the funds necessary for protecting Oregon's ATV retreaters and forests. In addition, many rural fire districts have "mutual aid agreements" with areas that have Off-Highway funding for ATV recreation and routinely get called for assistance; they will also become eligible for grant proposals. We support HB 3455 because it's a common sense solution to keep Oregonians and our environment safe.

Thank you for your attention and feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Dedicated to the service of Oregon,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Jensen".

Brian Jensen
Fire Chief/EMT