



Northern Sonoma County Fire Protection District
Type 3 Staff Report
February 11, 2026 Special Board Meeting

Background

In September 2022, the District purchased two new BME 4x4 International Type 3 wildland fire engines. Both of those engines are paid for but remain unbuilt.

The 2024 Apparatus Plan presented at the March 2024 board meeting listed the Type 3 engines owned by the District at that time. During that meeting, the Board authorized the sale of 6265, our oldest (1993) Type 3 engine at the time. The remaining three Type 3 engines are as follows:

- 6171 - 1998 International
- 6172 - 1996 International
- 6173 - 1996 International

The two apparatus on order will replace 6172 and 6173, which are both thirty years old. All three of these engines are well past the twenty-year expected service life and the District can no longer get parts for them due to their age. Only one Type 3 engine remains fully functional, meaning there is no spare Type 3 engine when it breaks down. Because of this, the District has one reliable Type 3 engine, dependent upon the availability of parts.

Analysis

The age of the current Type 3 wildland fire engines and the delay in production for the replacement engines on order has created an uncomfortable situation for the upcoming wildland fire season. There is an opportunity to purchase a stock engine from Golden State Apparatus.

Details:

- One Pierce IHC BX3 Type 3 Engine – Stock Job 44592
- Total cost is \$682,796.78
- Cost includes Sourcewell Purchasing Consortium Discount
- Engine has been released to manufacturing with estimated completion date of September 2026

Though this Type 3 will not arrive in time for this wildland fire season, it will ensure that we are in a better position going into the Fall 2026 fire season and the following years.

Fiscal Impact

This expense would be part of FY 2026/2027. Payment is due upon completion (September 2026)

This purchase would be part of Sourcewell, a cooperative purchasing program for public employees. Sourcewell streamlines the procurement process by developing RFPs and IFBs for national, competitive solicitations that meet or exceed many local requirements.

Cooperative purchase contracts and intergovernmental procurement are exempt from competitive procurement. The District's Purchasing and Procurement Policy states the following:

When in the best interests of the District, the Fire Chief is authorized to join with other public jurisdictions in Cooperative Purchasing Contracts; buy directly from a vendor at a price established by a competitive procurement process by another public jurisdiction in compliance with applicable law...

Recommendation

1. Consider approving the purchase of a new Type 3 engine from Golden State Apparatus not to exceed \$700,000.