



Financial Report Summary for the period ended August 31, 2025

Budget Spending Rationale: Sunshine Valley Volunteer Fire Department

The following summary outlines the rationale behind budget allocations and expenditures for the Sunshine Valley Volunteer Fire Department during the period ending 2025-08-31. This section provides a concise explanation of the decision-making process that guided financial activities, ensuring that funds were distributed in alignment with the department's operational priorities and community needs.

You will notice that some new categories were added and thus no revenue or expenses would be shown for the previous fiscal year. Some categories were also separated out such as the bottle depot income.

Income Overview

During the reporting period, fire due income remained relatively stable, with a slight decrease of 3% compared to the previous year. This change reflects minor fluctuations in the amounts collected from fire dues, but overall, this income stream continues to provide consistent support for the department's operations.

Fundraising Activities

Fundraising efforts saw significant growth, driven by successful community events such as music bingo, the annual car show, and the pig roast. These initiatives resulted in a 38% increase in fundraising revenue from the prior fiscal year. Of the total \$53,508 raised, a notable contribution of \$15,000 was received from The Lions Club. This donation was specifically allocated towards purchasing equipment and an SCBA (Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus) pack to enhance firefighter safety and operational readiness.

Grant Funding

Grant funding played a crucial role in supporting the department, with a total of \$57,906.76 received during the fiscal year. These funds contributed to both general operations and targeted purchases, helping the department meet its financial obligations and invest in necessary resources.

Other Income

Additional income was generated through the sale of items from the sprinkler trailer, which is reflected under the "Other Income" category. This one-time revenue source supplemented the department's overall income for the period.

Road Rescue Revenue

The department earned \$7,026.00 from road rescue operations. This income highlights the department's continued commitment to providing essential emergency services to the community, beyond traditional fire response activities.

Forestry Deployments and Government Payments

There were no forestry deployments during this fiscal year. However, the department received payment from the Government for deployments conducted in the previous fiscal year. These funds were disbursed as expenses once received, ensuring proper financial management and accountability for these activities.

Department Expenses

During the fiscal year, the department experienced a substantial reduction in expenses, with total expenditures decreasing by approximately 64% compared to the previous year. Several key factors contributed to this significant decline.

Spring Training Seminar Losses

A major contributor to last year's higher expenses was the loss of over \$22,000.00 incurred during the Spring Training Seminar. This event had a pronounced impact on the prior year's financial outcome, and its absence in the current period led to a marked reduction in overall costs.

Payroll Reductions

Another important factor was the decision by members to discontinue payment for services. This change resulted in payroll expenses being cut to half of what they were in the previous year, further easing the department's financial burden.

Training Costs Offset by Grants

Most of the training conducted during this fiscal year was funded through grant support, unlike the previous year when these costs were borne directly by the department. This shift played a significant role in reducing out-of-pocket training expenses.

Insurance and Equipment Sales

The sale of a truck and a side-by-side vehicle contributed to lower insurance costs for the period. However, these savings are expected to be offset in the upcoming year, now that a new truck has been acquired and added to the fleet.

Fuel Savings

Fuel expenditures were significantly reduced to one third of the previous year's total. The absence of member deployments, the need to fuel one less truck, and ceasing the use of the command vehicle for personal purposes resulted in savings of nearly \$10,000.00 in fuel costs for the department.

Fleet Maintenance

As the department's fleet continues to age, there has been a noticeable increase in repair costs. While some expenses have declined, ongoing and future maintenance needs are expected to rise as vehicles and equipment require more frequent servicing.

Accounting Costs

Following the resignation of the previous treasurer from the board, the Society Board made the decision to engage a professional accounting firm. The main objective was to re-do the financial statements for the past three years, which was a necessary step to secure financing for the acquisition of the new truck.

The initial phase of this process involved the accounting firm spending many hours to correct and reconcile the existing accounts, as they had not been properly maintained in prior years. Throughout the fiscal year, the accounting firm has continued to manage the department's bookkeeping and financial reporting.

Based on the positive results and the improvement in accuracy and record keeping, the Society Board has chosen to maintain the services of the accounting firm on an ongoing basis. This approach ensures proper reporting and reliable financial documentation for the department going forward.