



# Cannon Beach

## Rural Fire Protection District

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It is my pleasure to formally introduce our new Division Chief of Operation, Jason Smith to the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District. Smith comes to us from Monterey, California. Smith began his career back in 2002 as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Felton Fire Protection District where he served for over 7 years. In 2007, a year after he was hired as a full-time Firefighter/Engineer with the FFPD, he was promoted to Captain and was an Acting Battalion Chief. In that same year, he was also hired at the Monterey Regional Airport District Fire Department as a full-time Engineer. While at the Monterey Regional Airport, he earned the rank and title of Lieutenant Training Officer in 2012. In 2014, the Monterey Airport Fire Department merged with the Monterey Fire Department. During the merge smith took a voluntary demotion to the rank of firefighter. Within a year, he tested and was promoted to Captain. In 2018, he became the Training Captain of Monterey Fire Department and shortly after became an Acting Division Chief.

Here are a few accomplishments during his career so far:

- Developed several new-hire training curriculums
- Coordinated and lead full-time and volunteer recruit academies
- Developed and oversaw firefighter probationary training
- Developed an officer development program
- Supervised engine and ladder truck companies
- Active member of the Monterey County Urban Search and Rescue Team
- President of the Monterey County Fire Training Officer's Association
- Current member of the International Society of Fire Service Instructors (ISFSI)

In the 3-months that Smith has been with us, he has shown a tremendous amount of passion and knowledge for training, the fire industry, and working with the volunteers. His dedicated, self-motivated drive is evident while he works to execute our vision and mission. He is an invaluable asset to the department and quickly has become part of the family.

In a recent technical rescue call located at Hug Point, involving multiple agencies and over 20 personnel, we saw first-hand his abilities as an incident commander on a complex scene to manage. He effectively and efficiently was able to manage the scene through his command presence and cool, calm, collected demeanor. This instilled a sense of confidence throughout the scene and personnel involved. His ability to be proactive, utilize agency resources, give clear and concise direction, and his trust in personnel made for a successful and organized rescue. His character and drive make him an effective member for the first responders of Clatsop County. I am proud to have him as part of our department and look forward to you meeting him.

We are extremely grateful to our Cannon Beach voters for their support during the 2020 May levies. This improves our operational readiness and high-quality care to the communities we serve.

Sincerely,

Marc Reckmann  
Fire Chief