

Further QAV discussions and Recommendations GMCSD

Summery.

Further discussions on the application of new QAV consider costs and support profile. Wildland fire protection and GMCSD customer's impact.

Clearly the current QAV is no longer an effective vehicle due to its age and condition. New quick attack is therefore recommended, however current market pricing for these types of vehicles are high in costs due to lack of equipment and Supply chain issues affect the markets in General.

Also, we must consider a wider issue, which is support for the QAV, in terms of people and long-term recruitment to support part time /volunteer staff.

At this stage. I would therefore not Recommend purchasing equipment until we can redefine support/recruitment and a new strategy which support the fire/QAV situation.

It's also my recommendation that we set up a workshop to explore all avenues and build strategies that support QAV within the GMCSD.

QAV Specifications costs

The numbers are approximate and for these purposes informational:

Trying to maintain a solid costs for a new QAV has become somewhat problematic, as the current marketplace pricing, I would suggest changes on a week-to-week basis.

The basic QAV cost can be split into the following groups I have grouped them as Brush Trucks.

1. Truck without slider.
2. Truck with new slider.
3. Truck prebuilds with accessories and storage.
4. Truck fully outfitted.
5. Excess Fire Trucks from Cal fire.

Each of these groups (except item 4) are all trade ins/used equipment.
The base line for each Truck is the same, and again except for Item 5.

Base Spec: Cost 45K-70K

- V8 Diesel
- 4x4
- F550 1 Ton Truck
- 4 door Crew
- Tool Storage
- Winch
- Auto
- Road ready

Base Slider: 15k-30k

- 300-gal Poly Tank
- 6.5hp-13hp Davey Pumps
- 5-gal Foam Cell
- Electric reels Hose 50-100 feet
- All Aluminum construction
- Fits Bed of truck

Current marketplace pricing:

- 1-ton 4x4 with power 45k-70k
- Add slider/Box equipment 20k-40k
- Total cost low 65k
- High 110K
- Completed Truck build out used 70k-140k
- New custom build 150k+

Item5: Customized Ex fire equipment, although these vehicles look like a great deal, they tend not to be the engines while being serviced they are old, as is the equipment and have been well used. We can buy for around 10k, however long term they are not really a good deal with spare parts and maintained cost unknown I would be very reluctant to down this road. Plus, we would have to house them, they are slower and bigger to drive, than newer brush truck.

Recommendations:

We do need new equipment if we are to support a QAV, however while I have been investigating and gathering information other factors have come to light which play a far greater factor in purchasing and new truck.

People, we have difficulty staffing the current QAV and attracting new volunteers to be part of an active fire cadre, this conclusion has given me a dilemma and time to rethink the QAV activities. I therefore would make the following proposal to the board to now consider:

1. Delay procuring the QAV for two reasons, (a) Current market Values remain high, and this looks like stay that way in the foreseeable future. (b) Realign examine the fire cadre purpose, its support requirement and recruitment.
2. Set up a workshop for the board members to brainstorm and set strategies for wildland fire and community support, this would allow us to look at the whole wildland situation as it relates to GMCSD and the tax revenue which supports that. Further realign the fire cadre into a less focused fire first, but a softer engagement of community involvement over many different events.
3. These recommendations I would expect the board to approve or reject at the meeting on July 15th 2022, and no further delay.

Gordon Bennie.

