



LYON FIRE

Nevada

FIRE CHIEF

\$150,000 - \$205,000

Plus Excellent Benefits

Apply by

July 20, 2025

(First Review, Open Until Filled.)

PROTHMAN



THE COMMUNITY



Lyon County, located in northern Nevada, is a region rich in history and full of opportunity. Rooted in the Comstock mining era and supported by agricultural traditions along the Carson River valley, the area offers a rural, hometown atmosphere that continues to attract

families and professionals seeking affordability, quality of life, and outdoor recreation. Communities including Dayton, Silver Springs, Stagecoach, and Mound House combine historic character with modern development, making the region one of the fastest growing in Nevada and the United States, with an 8.5 percent population increase over the past five years.

U.S. Highway 50, once the Pony Express route and famously dubbed the Loneliest Highway in America, runs through the county. Today it serves as a key commuter corridor, with more than 30,000 people traveling daily to nearby Carson City, Reno, and the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center, the largest industrial park in the world. This connectivity has supported economic growth while preserving the region's scenic high desert landscapes and small-town appeal.

The town of Dayton is the largest and fastest-growing community in Lyon County, with a population of approximately 15,000 residents. Dayton features a blend of historic neighborhoods, newer subdivisions, and locally owned businesses. The area offers one golf course, walking trails, and landmarks such as Dayton State Park and the Rock Point Mill ruins. The Carson River runs through the town, providing opportunities for fishing, kayaking, and bird watching. Residents enjoy open space, views of the Sierra Nevada, and convenient access to recreation in the nearby foothills and Lake Tahoe. With a strong sense of community, natural beauty, and proximity to major employment centers, the region continues to grow as a desirable place to live, work, and raise a family.

Silver City, just 10 minutes northwest of Dayton, is a small, culturally rich community with deep roots in Nevada's mining history. Silver City is home to artists, historians, and long-time residents who value its unique character and quiet charm. Residents enjoy scenic views and close proximity to Virginia City and Carson City, making Silver City a distinctive and valued part of Lyon County.

THE DISTRICT

Central Lyon Fire District is an all-risk agency providing full-service emergency response, including advanced life support (ALS) EMS transport. The District serves more than 30,000 residents, businesses, and industrial facilities across a 640-square-mile area. For fiscal year 2025/2026, the District operates with a General Fund budget of nearly \$10 million and an Ambulance Enterprise Fund budget just under \$2 million. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected to staggered four-year terms. Board members represent the communities that make up the Central Lyon Fire District and play a vital role in shaping its strategic direction.

In 2024, the District responded to 4,248 calls for service. Of those, 3,459 were EMS calls categorized under the "3 series," with 2,013 resulting in patient transport and 1,446 classified as non-transports. An additional 184 calls were fire or hazard-related, and 605 were aid or community emergency response (CER) incidents.

The District's operational staff includes 45 line personnel made up of 9 Captains, 30 Firefighter/Paramedics, 3 Single Role Paramedics, and 3 Battalion Chiefs who operate on a 48/96 schedule. The District also has several volunteers. The Fire Prevention Division includes a Fire Marshal and two Inspectors, while the Fuels Reduction Division (focused on fuels and wildland fire) is led by a Chief Officer and supported by eight crew members. Administrative support is provided by a staff of four, along with a Fleet Manager, Mechanic, Assistant Chief, and the Fire Chief.

Central Lyon Fire operates out of four career fire stations, two volunteer fire stations, a dedicated shop and fire station for the Risk Reduction Crew, and a central Administrative Office. The District maintains a comprehensive, large, and diverse fleet that includes one ladder truck, one quint, five Type 1 engines, five Type 3 engines, two Type 5 engines, four water tenders, and six ambulances.

Central Lyon Fire District enjoys strong public and community support, which is reflected in recent ballot measures passing by 66% and 80%. With steady leadership, each of the last two Fire Chiefs served approximately a decade, and the District continues to serve as a cornerstone of safety in one of Nevada's most vibrant and evolving regions.

THE POSITION

Reporting to the District Board of Directors, the Fire Chief provides administrative direction for all Fire District functions, operations, and personnel through the supervision of subordinate staff and review of their activities.

Responsibilities include reviewing the general operation of the department to determine efficiency, providing direction on major projects or problem areas, developing and implementing policies and procedures, administration of the labor relations program; and providing policy guidance. The Fire Chief is also responsible, through study and consultation with elected officials, for developing recommendations for the protection of life and property in the District.



The Fire Chief will exercise strategic and visionary thinking that will have long-term and organizational-wide application and impact. The strategic planning should include the development and implementation of critical programs and supervision of multi-functional assignments, divisions, and significant resources.

The Fire Chief receives general supervision from the Board of Directors, who reviews work based on overall results achieved. The Fire Chief may consult with the Board of Directors on problems relating to policy planning but works independently in supervising the global operations and is responsible for the proper administration of all affairs of the Fire District.

Residency within reasonable proximity of the Central Lyon Fire District is required.

For a full job description, please view the attachment found [here](#).



OPPORTUNITIES & CHALLENGES

- Central Lyon Fire District enjoys strong community support, demonstrated by the successful passage of a fire levy and the renewal of an EMS levy within the past three years. In 2023, this support enabled the agency to double its staffing and convert two existing fire stations - Stations 39 and 32 - into fully staffed career stations, significantly improving response times.
- The incoming Fire Chief will continue to be an advocate for firefighter safety, supporting current health and wellness programs that address mental, physical, and overall well-being.
- The District provides advanced life support (ALS) paramedic care and EMS transport services to both residents and visitors, contributing to the agency's integral role in community health and emergency response.



- Capital planning is needed to address both fleet and facility issues. While some new apparatus have been purchased and received recently, the District still has aging apparatus that need to be replaced. A few of the District's fire stations need minor upgrades along with the facility that houses the Fuels Reduction Division and fleet mechanic shop. Funding opportunities may exist through growth, GMET, and wildland fire billing, but achieving these improvements will require strategic and financial acumen.

- **Facilities:** With the opening of Stations 39 and 32, the District facilitated temporary living quarters for assigned crews. Station 39 required a modular structure due to the lack of space for living quarters. Station 32 utilized temporary dorms within the existing structure. These are short-term solutions, and permanent crew quarters will need to be constructed.

- **Fleet:** In the past three years, the District has added two new Type 1 engines, two new ambulances, one Type 5 engine, and several utility trucks. However, the rest of the fleet varies in age and condition and will need phased replacement.

- To address a past shortage of paramedics, Central Lyon Fire introduced three single-role paramedics to strength EMS staffing - the first of their kind in the region. Each is assigned to a 48/96 shift and partnered with an all-risk provider. In addition to responding to EMS calls, they support EMS training for both staff and the community. The incoming Fire Chief will be expected to collaborate with the labor association to further develop this evolving program.



- Currently the District has a mentorship program for Firefighters to learn the necessary skills and certifications to promote to Captain. Upon the successful completion of the program, Firefighters are allowed to function as an Acting Captain. The District would like to see this same process continue at the Battalion and Operations Chief level to address future needs and succession planning for its internal members.

- The District has a robust Fuels Risk Reduction (FRR) program that is grant funded. The program has several members who are active in fuels reduction and fire prevention activities and the program has been an entry point for suppression and rescue positions for several members of the Central Lyon Fire District.

- The District's policies and procedures require comprehensive review and updating to reflect current practices and evolving operational needs.

- Central Lyon Fire District remains highly active in wildland deployments and is committed to maintaining its role in these regional and state-level responses.

- The communities within the Central Lyon Fire District are growing and therefore affecting the District's Fire Prevention Division dramatically. The District has an interlocal agreement with the Nevada State Fire Marshal's Office to provide all fire prevention services such as plan reviews, new construction inspections, annual fire and life safety inspections, origin and cause investigations, and public education. With increased growth, eight schools within the District, and limited staffing, providing all services throughout the District has become challenging.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

Education & Experience:

- A bachelor's degree from an accredited university with a major in fire science, business administration, public administration, or a closely related field is desired. A combination of education, training and experience can satisfy the education requirement.
- A minimum rank of Battalion Chief with extensive experience (5+ years) and progressive responsibility, including administrative, supervisory, and budgetary experience in fire prevention and suppression work, preferably with a municipal, county, or state fire department or district.

Certifications:

- Designation as CFO or EFO is desired.
- Professional affiliations reflecting a commitment to continuous learning and self-improvement.
- Certifications in firefighting, emergency medical services (EMS), leadership, and other aspects of the fire service that illustrate the level of experience and rank.
- Must obtain and maintain a Nevada Class C driver's license at the time of employment. Class C with F Endorsement must be obtained within one year of employment.
- An equivalent combination of training and/or experience as determined by the District Board of Directors to be satisfactory will be considered.



Necessary Knowledge, Skills & Abilities:

- The ideal candidate will be a present, visible, and engaged leader, actively involved with both the organization and the broader community.
- A strong background in fire service leadership from a combination or larger agency is essential, including experience working with elected officials, organized labor, and a unionized workforce.
- The ability to effectively navigate a wide range of responsibilities, including volunteer coordination, labor negotiations, strategic and succession planning, EMS and transport operations, wildland and structural suppression, fire prevention, budgeting, grants, and capital projects.
- Knowledge of ALS transport systems, including billing, contracts, and operational oversight of ambulance services.
- A proven track record of building positive labor relations and engaging in collaborative problem-solving with union leadership before implementing key changes.
- The ability to foster an inclusive, respectful, and welcoming culture that values all members of the organization.
- Leadership characterized by humility, trust, compassion, and accountability, with the ability to empower others without micromanaging.
- Demonstrated success in building strong teams through mentoring, clear expectations, conflict resolution, and a focus on performance and results.
- Strong interpersonal and emotional intelligence skills, with the capacity to engage staff through honest dialogue, personal connection, and recognition of contributions.
- The ability to assess and support organizational change at a sustainable pace while remaining open to staff-driven ideas and innovative approaches.
- Exceptional verbal and written communication skills, with a communication style that is direct, timely, transparent, and inclusive.
- The ability to explain decisions clearly, share rationale with staff and stakeholders, and encourage constructive feedback.
- A visible commitment to accountability through consistent follow-through, modeling department values, and creating a learning-focused environment that allows space for mistakes and growth.

- The ability to build and sustain regional partnerships with neighboring fire agencies to enhance service delivery across Central Lyon County.
- Experience managing administrative operations, including budgeting, levy planning, tax structure, asset stewardship, and understanding or quickly learning [NRS 474](#), [NRS 288](#), and [NRS 354](#).
- Operational readiness and a background rising through the ranks, with a strong foundation in structural and wildland response, training, and equipment acquisition.
- Willingness to respond after-hours, support on-duty crews, and serve as liaison with the Board during critical incidents.
- Proficiency in key administrative tools and systems, including Microsoft Word, Excel, grant writing, and social media communication.



COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

- **\$150,000 - \$205,000 DOQ**
- Eligible for the Nevada Public Employees Retirement System (PERS).
- 100% District-paid employee and dependent health care premiums, including Dental and Vision.
- Up to 100% District-paid employee post-retirement health care premiums.
- Longevity Pay.
- 13 Paid Holidays.
- Uniform Allowance.
- Competitive leave accruals and buyouts.
- Work out (PT) period.
- Take Home Agency Vehicle.
- Life Insurance.
- District paid annual contribution up to \$3,000 into an Employees Health Savings Account (HSA).
- District paid Care Flight membership and ambulance subscription for household members.

**To learn more about the
Central Lyon Fire, please visit:**

www.centrallyonfire.org

The Central Lyon Fire District is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by **July 20, 2025** (first review, open until filled). Applications, resumes, cover letters, and supplemental questions will only be accepted electronically. To **apply online**, go to **www.prothman.com** and click on "Open Recruitments", select "Central Lyon Fire District, NV – Fire Chief", and click "Apply Online", or click [here](#). Resumes, cover letters and supplemental questions can be uploaded once you have logged in.

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