

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE SUNSITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT,
AND NEIGHBORING COCHISE COUNTY

Mailing Address: PO Box 507, 105 Tracy Road Pearce, AZ 85625 Phone: (520) 826-3645 Fax: (520) 826-3586

Fire Chief's Report for April 2020

- **1.** EMS Calls= 34
 - A. In District Calls= 25
 - B. Out of District Calls= 9
 - C. Number of Patients Transported= 25
 - D. Number of Patients Flown Out= 2
 - E. Number of Patient Refusals =8
 - F. Number of Mutual Aid Given Calls= 2 (Willcox 911, NCCH IFT)
 - G. Number of Mutual Aid Received Calls= 0
 - H. Number of Dead on Arrival Calls= 1
- 2. Fire, Service and Good intent Calls = 19
 - A. In District Calls= 9
 - **B.** Out of District Call= 10
 - C. Wildland Fires = 0
 - **D.** Structure Fires= 1 (Druzella LN)
 - E. Car Fires= 0
 - F. Hazardous Materials= 0
 - G. Good Intent= 5
 - H. Service Calls= 13
 - I. Mutual Aid Given Calls=1 (HCI standby)
 - J. Mutual Aid Received Calls= 0; (Willcox, Elfrida, Benson assisted at Druzella)
 - **K.** Prescribed burns=2 (one completed within wildland refresher course)
 - L. Number of rollover or Motor Vehicle Accidents= 2

(*One incident is recorded as both a fire response and an EMS response)

Total Fire and EMS Calls year to date are 180. Total calls since 0800 March 17, 2020 is 52.

Training:

1. Fire training: On duty crews have been completing on shift training. These sessions included: regular service checks of apparatus and equipment; continued training for wildland fire response, including tactics, safety issues, initial attack organizer documentation, tactics adjustments based on likely decrease of state and federal resource availability; daily physical fitness training. We held one multi-shift drill addressing incident management command procedures and packaging and extraction of injured firefighter from backcountry location using stokes basket with big wheel. We held one make-

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up annual refresher for part-time employees to cover wildland entrapment avoidance and other wildland fire safety and tactical topics. We began orientation of one new part-time firefighter.

- 2. EMS training: On duty crews completed on shift training. These activities included: regular checks of ambulances, EMS supplies, equipment, and medications; continued review of standing orders and report writing best practices; ongoing updates for COVID-19 best practice; ongoing practice with Tempus monitor functions; held one multi-shift training focusing on wilderness medicine protocol and off-road access patient scenarios; continued rollout training of igel airways and airway HepA devices for better Covid mitigation.
- 3. We have suspended outside training due to pandemic response precautions and budget shortfall.
- 4. We have suspended controlled burn activity due to air quality concerns, fire safety concerns, and budget shortfall.

Wildland:

- 1. We have had 0 additional Wildland assignments since the last meeting. We have a total of \$ 0 in open bills with the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM).
- 2. We are working on a shared personnel MOU with Fry Fire District to increase the number of available wildland engines.
 - 3. We have begun discussion with DFFM regarding a rental use agreement of the Richland station facility for crew staging and isolation.
 - 4. We have signed an engine boss sharing agreement with St. David Fire District.

Out of District Services:

1. We currently have a balance of \$74,593.14 for the outstanding services that have been provided outside of the district boundaries since 2012. Of the out of district services

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provided, nine incidents, with a total of \$ 29,210.37 are in collections. Total unpaid balance that is not in collections is \$ 45,382.77.

Emergency Medical Services:

March total billings were \$37,083.97. April billings to date are \$15,064.14.

Hazardous Materials:

- 1. The CCHMRT quarterly training scheduled for May 5, 2020 in Douglas has been cancelled.
- 2. The HazMat technician class which was being hosting in multiple County locations including SPFD has been canceled due to pandemic response precautions.

Maintenance:

- 1. Engine 302 pump is leaking. The pump was inspected by WW Williams and the quote provided was \$4,152.73. We received a second opinion and quote of \$3,075 from Fry FD. We accepted that quote, and the repair is scheduled to begin on Monday, 4/27/20; the engine will be out of service for the rest of that week.
- 2. Tender 303 had a battery/charging issue. Starting has been normal since 2/16/20 so batteries replacement has been deferred.
- 3. Engine 302 had battery end of life failure. Four new batteries were installed (cost=\$594.12 installed in house)
- 4. Medic 302 received two new front tires (cost=\$670.57 at Cochise Farmers)
- 5. Medic 301 had rear step damage. A new bumper step was fabricated and installed. It had an ADHS inspection completed today 4/21/20.
- 6. NET 30 has not been scheduled to go to Tucson for wheelchair lift repairs. It has not had new tires ordered. Current budget situation indicates these maintenance needs will not have available funding in the foreseeable future.
- 7. Our annual pump, ladder, and SCBA cascade maintenance and inspection was completed 3/19/20 by W.W.Williams (cost = \$2085.64). No equipment failed

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testing. E302 was not tested at this session, but will be tested by Fry FD after the scheduled pump seal repair.

8. M303 experienced charging failure and had alternators replaced in house (cost=\$414.93).

Communication:

- 1. On site fuel tanks: This project has no funding available. Given foreseeable fuel prices, it does not appear to be a practical option.
- 2. The fire hydrant committee: Nothing new to report.
- 3. Cochise County Health Department: Please visit the County website for daily Covid-19 updates (https://covid-cochisehealth.hub.arcgis.com/).

As of this morning, 607 tests have been recorded in Cochise County, with 30 positive cases identified. Twenty-one (21) cases are still active, and nine (9) have recovered and been released from their isolation period. Five cases were hospitalized, including one ICU admission. Cochise County is not reporting any COVID-19 deaths to date. Positive cases have been identified in all areas of the county, and community transmission of the disease is still considered a risk in all county communities. Everyone should continue to take prudent steps to stay home as much as possible and maintain physical distancing when away from home. Other prudent steps include frequent handwashing, cleaning of doorknobs and other items frequently touched, avoiding touching of one's face, and covering one's face with a cloth mask or or covering when in public. Call your physician if you are sick. Continue to call 911 for any emergent symptoms.

- 4. We were scheduled to participate in the NCCH Health Fair on April 9th but that has been postponed to June 11, 2020.
- 5. We were scheduled to conduct and EMS/Ambulance standby at the Amerind foundation on April 4th, 2020. That event has been rescheduled to September 12, 2020.
- 6. We have been working with Cochise County and Boeing regarding the possible Starliner space craft landing at the Playa. That event may happen in November 2020.



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- 7. Enhancements for our Employee Assistance Program is not being considered at this time. Our current priority for our employees is first, position preservation, and second, payroll funding.
- 8. We have not received any follow-up concerning our prior discussions with Cochise County regarding sharing access to Archive Social. This platform will store all legally required metadata from social media sources used by the District.
- 9. Windsong dump site: Given current financial shortfall, we are not planning any expenditure of staff time or equipment use to burn piles.
- 10. Healthy Communities initiatives: No new report, and I have not assessed this program.

11. Grants:

Ak- Chin grant: Has been awarded for \$126,789.99. We have received the new cardiac monitors. The LS defibrillator module will possibly be available as soon as June 1. Phillips is developing video training to replace the in-person orientation originally planned. Invoice is currently due.

2019 AFG was submitted for a) \$450,000 for Type 3 engine, and b)\$225,000 for radio system replacement including repeaters, handhelds, and mobiles. (3/26/20)

100 club; Awarded \$4,706.93 for 15 replacement sets of structure firefighter boots (4/10/20). Requires fulfillment within 60 days.

Volunteer Fire Assistance; Submitted. Received notice that award decisions are delayed. This grant is a 50/50 grant and if awarded we most likely will not be able to accept it if it is required to be completed before June 30.

Americorp; will not be submitted due to funding shortfall and pandemic precautions.

Gila River Indian Tribe-communications equipment- \$44,682 submitted 3/23/20.



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- 12. Properties: In the past we had made promises regarding cleaning up the golf course. No funding currently exists for this or similar projects.
- 13. Local Emergency Planning Committee report, The LEPC's last meeting was February 20, 2020. The April meeting was canceled.
- 14. Cochise County Fire Association report: The March 25, 2020 was canceled as is the April 22 meeting.
- 15. Interim captain appointments have been made to Damian Austin for A shift and Terry Tingle for B shift.
- 16. Resignations have been accepted from Josh Steinberg and Amy Vinik. All parttime employees have been requested to either re-affirm their commitment to the District or submit a request for leave of absence or resignation.
- 17. Treasurers Office: We have requested assistance from the Treasurer's office for analysis regarding our line-of-credit and income shortfall.
- 18. Introduce the on-duty crew to the public.