



SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE SUNSTITES-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 June 16, 2020

1. **EMS Calls= 34**
 - A. In District Calls= 21
 - B. Out of District Calls= 13
 - C. Number of Patients Transported= 24
 - D. Number of Patients Flown Out= 0
 - E. Number of Patient Refusals =10
 - F. Number of Mutual Aid Given Calls= 0
 - G. Number of Mutual Aid Received Calls= 0
 - H. Number of Dead on Arrival Calls= 0

2. **Fire, Service and Good intent Calls = 30**
 - A. In District Calls= 15
 - B. Out of District Call= 15
 - C. Wildland Fires = 7 (Thing, Emigrant, Bighorn x 2, Canoa, Pinery, 0669 FA)
 - D. Structure Fires= 1 (Rath Ave)
 - E. Car Fires= 0
 - F. Hazardous Materials= 0
 - G. Good Intent= 3
 - H. Service Calls=19
 - I. Mutual Aid Given Calls=0
 - J. Mutual Aid Received Calls= 1 (Elfrida and Willcox helped on Rath Fire; Benson and Mescal responded but cancelled enroute)
 - K. Prescribed burns=0
 - L. Number of rollover or Motor Vehicle Accidents= 0

Total Fire and EMS Calls year to date are 278. Total calls since 0800 May 19, 2020 are 64.

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 participated in one Hazardous Materials Rail 101 webinar with Union Pacific.

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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
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 2 apparatus currently assigned to the Bighorn Fire. We have had a total of 7 wildland assignments since the last meeting.
We have a total of \$ 10,474.18 in open bills with Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM).
2. We have kept open discussion with DFFM regarding a rental use agreement of the Richland station facility for crew staging and isolation, but due to COVID19 concerns, no crews are currently deployed in our area.

Out of District Services:

1. We currently have a balance of \$80,266.80 for the outstanding services that have been provided outside of the district boundaries since 2012. Of the out of district services provided, twelve incidents, with a total of \$ 33,652.66 are in collections. Total unpaid balance that is not in collections is \$ 46,614.14.

Emergency Medical Services:

May total billings were \$23,614.32. June billings to date are \$20,554.24.

Hazardous Materials:

1. The CCHMRT next meeting will be a virtual training, planning and response review on June 18, 2020.

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Maintenance:

1. Engine 302 is returned from Fry FD after its pump repair. It still has some issues we need to address, and will handle in-house. It performed well on the Rath Avenue house fire last week.
2. Lone Mountain communications has replaced an antenna at our dispatch console in Willcox, and is continuing to troubleshoot ongoing reception quality issues we are having. Link is donating his time as a community service to the fire district.

Communication:

1. Cochise County Health Department: Please visit the County website for daily Covid-19 updates (<https://covid-cochisehealth.hub.arcgis.com/>).

As of this morning, over 7100 tests have been recorded in Cochise County, with 240 positive cases identified. 133 cases are still active, and 107 have recovered and been released from their isolation period. Twenty-eight (28) cases were hospitalized, including eleven (11) ICU admissions. Cochise County is reporting five (5) 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 covering when in public. Call your physician if you are sick. Continue to call 911 for any emergent symptoms.

2. 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; \$40,000 has been paid, and \$86,789.99 is outstanding.

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)

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100 club; Awarded \$4,706.93 for 15 replacement sets of structure firefighter boots (4/10/20). Due to price changes, we are able to order 13 pairs. Those boots arrived last night, and we have requested reimbursement.

Volunteer Fire Assistance; Submitted. Received notice that we have been awarded \$3,223. This grant is a 50/50 grant. We will be re-assessing our needs and using this grant in the late June-early July timeframe.

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

Walmart: Received award for \$500.00 for firefighter PPE.

Pascua Yaqui: A 100% grant for a commercial turnout/ PPE washer/extractor, in amount of \$8,849.57 was submitted on 5/20/2020.

3. Local Emergency Planning Committee report: The LEPC's last meeting was February 20, 2020. The April/May meeting was canceled. A virtual meeting is planned for June 18, 2020.
4. Cochise County Fire Association report: A virtual meeting was held on May 27,2020. The next meeting will be June 24 either at Benson FD or virtual meeting.
5. Treasurer's Office: We are continuing to receive assistance from the Treasurer's office for analysis regarding our line-of-credit and income shortfall. We anticipate not being out of our line of credit by June 30, and will need to convert the entire \$150,000 line to a registered warrant with Cochise County. Additionally, not all of our April, May, and June accounts payable will be paid by June 30, and we will have to use the 2020/2021 line-of-credit immediately in July to make those accounts up-to-date.
6. Payroll reduction; We have reached a payroll reduction agreement with operations staff that remains in effect. The June 26 payroll will be considerably higher than average due to overtime related to wildland fire assignments; it will also be the last pay period for the PTO payout for the prior Chief.
7. FEMA/ AZ DEMA: We have submitted RFP to FEMA for reimbursement for COVID-19 response related expenses, including the mobile triage shelter set up at the Northern Cochise Community Hospital. Captain Garner, Ms. Allen and Chief Hershey have attended webinars related to the application. We have met by webinar with the

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DEMA assigned technical advisor. We anticipate filing for expenses from the first two quarters in July 2020.

8. Medicare- we received the first application back to correct certain clerical errors and to update a banking account letter. The amended application was re-submitted today.

9. A noticeable number of community residents have recognized our financial plight, and undertaken various fundraising efforts great and small. I humbly recognize their kindness to us all.

10. July 4th Parade- We have received a right-of-way permit for the July 4th parade on the Frontage Road, and the Cochise County Sheriff volunteers have tentatively agreed to help us with traffic control. Today, however, I received an email making the permit tentative. Because of the dramatic increase in COVID19 cases in Cochise County, we may see a return of restrictions on public activities. Tomorrow, I am planning to assist the Sunsites Community Association with their pickup of fireworks for July 4th.

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