



# 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

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## Fire Chief's Report for May 18, 2021

1. EMS Calls=23
  - A. In District Calls=15
  - B. Out of District Calls= 8
  - C. Number of Patients Transported= 17
  - D. Number of Patients Flown Out= 1
  - E. Number of Patient Refusals =6
  - F. Number of Mutual Aid Given Calls= 1 (NCCH/Tucson)
  - G. Number of Mutual Aid Received Calls= 0
  - H. Number of Deceased at scene Calls=0
  
2. Fire, Service and Good intent Calls = 27
  - A. In District Calls= 13
  - B. Out of District Call= 14
  - C. Wildland Fires =5 - Adams, Turkey, Flag [Kingman], McDonald [San Carlos], Amerind.
  - D. Structure Fires=0
  - E. Car Fires= 0
  - F. Hazardous Materials= 1 (gas odor, Cochise)
  - G. Good Intent=5
  - H. Service Calls=15
  - I. Mutual Aid Given Calls=0
  - J. Mutual Aid Received Calls= 0
  - K. Prescribed burns=1
  - L. Motor Vehicle Crashes= 3 (Cochise Stronghold Rd, Sunizona, 191)

Total Fire and EMS Calls 2021 year to date are 247. Total calls since April 20, 2021 are 50.

### Training:

1. Fire training: On duty crews have been completing on shift training. These sessions included: service checks of apparatus and equipment, and physical fitness training. We had one firefighter complete confined space rescue training in Pima County.
  
2. EMS training: On duty crews completed on shift training. These activities included: regular checks of ambulances, EMS supplies, equipment, and medications; continued independent completion of on-line modules. We held

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one group EMS session with our staff and outreach representatives from Air Evac, covering pediatric cardiac arrest and resuscitation.

## **Wildland:**

1. We have no engine resources currently assigned out of area. We have had three local wildland fires and two out of area assignments since the last meeting. We have a total of \$23,947.45 in open bills with Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) submitted in May. We have received \$343,925.59 for bills submitted since July.

## **Out of District Services:**

1. We currently have a balance of \$58,969.37 for the outstanding services that have been provided outside of the district boundaries since 2013. Of the out of district services provided, eight incidents, with a total of \$20,401.43 are in collections. Total unpaid balance that is not in collections is \$38,567.94.

## **Emergency Medical Services:**

Total billings since July are \$368,160.69; total payments received are \$149,156.22. As of April 30, US Department of Treasury has re-directed \$77,492.42 of Medicare and VA payments towards our outstanding Noridian debt, as well as an additional \$15,700 from Customs and Border Protection.

## **Hazardous Materials:**

1. We had one hazmat technician participate in the County team drill with Union Pacific. The Boeing Starliner project for Willcox Playa has been delayed again to later in the fall.

## **Maintenance**

1. E306 had it gear shifter replaced at Elite Service.
2. M303 received a new steering gearbox.
3. C30 is at Elite Service for timing chain replacement.
4. M301 received its annual state inspection and registration renewal.

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## Communications:

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

Cochise County is still adding 1-7 new cases every day. It remains important for everyone who is not fully vaccinated to continue basic precautionary steps.

Cochise County has opened vaccinations to everyone 18 and older. Please use the AZDHS vaccine finder page to make an appointment or the 1-844-542-8201 hotline for those without internet access. As of May 17, Cochise County has vaccinated with at least one dose over 54,021 people.

We assisted Northern Cochise Community Hospital with a vaccination event at the Sunsites Medical Clinic on April 26.

2. Grants/ follow-up:

- Gary Sinise Foundation: This grant proposal to add a customized UTV to our back-country/ wildland medical program was approved at the November meeting. It is still in staff development prior to final submission.

- Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona: we submitted a new request for turnout extractor and cleaning equipment for \$23,000; this grant was awarded January 2021 and we are in the implementation stage. The wash unit has arrived and been installed; the drying system has arrived, but installation is not yet complete.

- Arizona Governor's Highway Safety Grant: March 2021, we submitted a grant proposal for \$30,000 in extrication equipment upgrades.

- Gila River Indian Community: March 2021, we submitted new grant for purchase of chassis and associated pumps and boxes for wildland engine replacement.

- we have sent a letter of interest application to 5-5-5 Firefighter Fitness Foundation for possible donation of physical fitness equipment for our firefighters' gym. (April 2021)

- we have sent a letter of interest application to Southwest Gas for possible donation of a surplus service truck for the 2022 donation cycle. (April 2021)

- Fort McDowell Indian Community: April 2021, we submitted a new grant for \$28,430.40 for UTV and trailer.

- Firehouse Subs 21.2- April 2021, we re-submitted a grant for \$28,430.40 for UTV and trailer.

- Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona: April 2021, we submitted new grant for \$1,884.35 for new medical bags.

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3. Treasurer's Office: We are continuing to receive assistance from the Treasurer's office regarding our line-of-credit and income shortfall. We did not finish last year out of our line of credit by June 30 and converted \$144,790.86 to a registered warrant account with Cochise County. Looking ahead, our success in paying off the registered warrant by June 30, 2021 will depend on the nature of a possible resolution with CMS regarding Noridian and other Treasury payments, the availability of additional wildland extended assignments, and continued reductions in payroll and maintenance. As of May 18, 2021, the registered warrant was at \$51,762.46, a decrease of \$28,850.03 since last meeting. We were briefly at "0" at the beginning of May but have added to our deficit since then due to ongoing payroll and accounts payable costs.
4. Medicare- On January 29, Mr. Matura filed our brief for the Administrative Law Judge hearing regarding communications between the Fire District and Noridian/CMS in 2017. CMS has filed its reply and requested an examination of the affidavit witnesses submitted. The cross-examination hearing has been scheduled for May 25, 2021.
5. Surplus equipment follow-up:  
Since last meeting we donated a surplus Powerhawk extrication toolset to Elfrida Fire District.
6. Staffing- We hired one additional wildland firefighter.
7. Community support- We assisted Riverview Dairy with a CPR class on April 28. We are planning to assist Northern Cochise Community Hospital with a pediatric trauma drill on May 28.
8. Policy review follow-up –Review of chapter 302 is not yet complete, so it is deferred to the June meeting.
9. Willcox Dispatch agreement- Renewal of our dispatch agreement is on the City of Willcox agenda at their meeting tonight. It will be on our agenda for the June meeting.
10. Budget process- We are continuing preparations for next year's budget. Our second budget work session occurred May 11th. The FY2022 Tentative Budget is on tonight's agenda.

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11. Introduce employees on shift. [Captain Terry Tingle and Firefighter Francisco Honne]  
[Also congratulations to reserve firefighter Austin Garner for his work as Incident Commander,  
Type 5 on the Turkey Fire; and congratulations to reserve firefighter Andres Escojido for his work  
on the CPR/First Aid project with Riverview Farms]

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