



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 September 21, 2021

1. EMS Calls=35
 - A. In District Calls=22
 - B. Out of District Calls= 13
 - C. Number of Patients Transported= 25
 - D. Number of Patients Flown Out= 1
 - E. Number of Patient Refusals =9
 - F. Number of Mutual Aid Given Calls= 1 (transport for EFD)
 - G. Number of Mutual Aid Received Calls=1 (transport by EFD)
 - H. Number of Deceased at scene Calls=0

2. Fire, Service and Good intent Calls = 21
 - A. In District Calls= 8
 - B. Out of District Call= 13
 - C. Wildland Fires =0
 - D. Structure Fires=2 (Richland, EFD)
 - E. Car Fires= 0
 - F. Hazardous Materials= 0
 - G. Good Intent/ false alarm=7
 - H. Service Calls=11
 - I. Rescue/extrication=0
 - J. Mutual Aid Given Calls=3 (EFD -2/ fire and cancel, HCI-1 standby)
 - K. Mutual Aid Received Calls= 1 (Willcox FD-fire)
 - L. Prescribed burns=1
 - M. Motor Vehicle Crashes= 0

Total Fire and EMS Calls 2021 year to date are 480. Total calls since August 17, 2021 are 56.

Training:

1. Fire training: We are planning a joint program with Bowie FD and San Simon FD for basic wildland training. On September 15, two of our employees participated in a regional TRT training with Pima County agencies.

2. EMS training: We were invited to participate in an Arizona Department of Health Services grant-funded paramedic course hosted by Health Care Innovations in Benson; two of our employees were accepted into the program, which began September 13. We held one group EMS session with our staff

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and outreach representatives from Air Evac, reviewing obstetric and neonatal emergency treatment.

Wildland:

1. We have no resources assigned out of area. We have missed several possible deployments due to staffing shortage. We have a total of \$69,694.59 in open bills with Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management (DFFM) submitted in August.
2. We have been notified by Department of Forestry and Fire Management of planned wildland billing/ compensation changes that will take place by April 1, 2022. These changes will replace current hourly rates with daily and daily-fraction rates, and will merge personnel costs into all-inclusive equipment rates.

Out of District Services:

1. We currently have a balance of \$59,788.07 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 \$38,185.16.

Emergency Medical Services:

Total billings since July 1 are \$90,202.92, with \$21,916.55 received. Total billings for year ending June 30 were \$426,973.28.

Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue:

1. No new incidents.

Maintenance

1. M301 is back from Elite Service and in service after its rear axle repairs; we have also added new rear brakes and a new windshield.
2. M302 passed its state inspection on August 31. It has been assessed at Elite for faulty emissions sensors, and we are waiting on back-ordered parts.
3. The crew quarters AC unit was repaired by Monument Heating and Cooling.
4. Staff did additional patch work on the station roof, which has slowed down the rate of roof leakage into the offices.

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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 up to 240 new cases every week.

Cochise County has opened vaccinations to everyone 12 years 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. Many providers also accept walk-ins. As of September 20, Cochise County has vaccinated with at least one dose 70,368 people, about 53% of the population.

2. Grants/ follow-up.

Changes since the last meeting include:

- Received award from Pascua Yaqui Tribe for wildland firefighting packs (\$4,000); some packs have been received and some are on back-order.
- Received award from Legacy Foundation of Southeast Arizona for Responsive Grant for EMS packs (\$1,885); packs have been purchased and put into service.
- Received award from Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation for wildland/ medical response UTV and trailer (\$28,430.40); purchase order has been placed with delivery around January 1.
- Submitted letter of intent for Legacy Foundation Innovative Grant for ambulance gurney (\$32,000); this proposal was not funded.
- Submitted letter of intent to Leary Firefighter Foundation for new vehicle extrication equipment (\$14,500); this letter was accepted and we have been approved to submit the full application by October 8, with decisions planned for November.
- On September 12, Cochise County Board of Supervisors accepted on our behalf a grant from the Gila River Indian Community in the amount of \$88,919.00 for purchase of a new Type 6 wildland engine.

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 FYE 2020 out of our line of credit by June 30 and converted \$144,790.86 to a registered warrant account with Cochise County. As of June 30, 2021 that registered warrant was down to \$57,159.14. As of August 31, the registered warrant was at \$41,709.88.

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4. Medicare- Mr. Matura has advised us that Noridian was reporting a debt amount on September 07, 2021, of \$124,437.45. We have requested clarification of that amount with itemized details regarding debt, confirmation of credits, and interest assessed, as well as appropriate Noridian contact information.

5. Surplus equipment follow-up:
No changes from last report.

6. Staffing- We have one full-time paramedic opening and have posted for that position, along with a supplemental posting for a reserve paramedic or EMT; we also have openings for local residents who are willing to volunteer for basic wildland firefighting training and response.

7. Community support- We participated in a regional public safety job fair on August 27 at the Sierra Vista Mall. On September 18 we attended the opening ceremony for the new Sunsites Dog Park and we assisted the Amerind Foundation with medical standby services for their fall mountain bike race event.

We have begun planning for our fall fire prevention, stop-the-bleed and safety programs in the local schools.

8. Policy review follow-up –Chapter 302 Recruitment and Selection is on tonight’s agenda.

9. Cash flow projection summary (estimated September)–

Payable: \$102,200

Receivable: \$97,700

Current (today) registered warrants and outstanding warrants: \$88,000

End of September registered warrants projected: \$46,500.

Receivables are higher due to expected wildland payments for August billings. Payables are higher due to payroll costs related to a third payroll at month end and pending maintenance costs.

Looking ahead to October, we can predict increased payroll due to PTO use, typical amounts for ambulance billing, a large grant distribution, and the bulk of the fall tax collection. Wildland revenue will be limited because of no September assignments. The amount of taxes collected should exceed the amount of the remaining registered warrants.

Looking to last year, on 9/30/20 the registered warrant was at \$218,606, and on 10/31/2020 it was \$153,657.

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11. Pension Board: The Pension board met on August 23 to approve the financial reports and documents related to one retirement. Laurin Richey was added as a member to fill one vacancy. We still have one vacancy for a community member who is not an employee or board member.

12. Audit- Walker & Armstrong Staff conducted a site visit September 16 & 17, as part of this year's ongoing audit process.

13. Insurance refund- Crest and EMI have notified us of a pending refund of health insurance premiums. Like last year, next month's agenda will include an item for board approval of future premium reductions to eligible employees for employee contributions towards family coverage.

14. Introduce employees on shift.