

HILDALE - COLORADO CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

August 31, 2021

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS: We have seen a sharp uptick of positive COVID-19 cases over the past month with several patients transported. Two known cases died at the hospital. Crews continue to take precautions with appropriate PPE used with every patient contact. The ozone machine has been effective in disinfecting the ambulances after any known case, prior to the next use.

Kevin was able to attend the International Association of Fire Chief's conference in Charlotte, North Carolina during the last week of July. There were great classes, many contacts, and a complete vendor show.

We received notice from the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) program of an award for a major radio system upgrade in the amount of \$372,643.32. Of this amount, \$17,744.92 (5%) is our required match. This includes eight VHF and eight 800 MHz mobile radios for each of the frontline fire apparatus and 54 Dual-Band portable radios. The portable radios are placed on fire apparatus in every riding position so each firefighter has their own communications, greatly increasing safety. There will also be two portable radios on all brush trucks, one on each ambulance, rescue, and command vehicle. We have invited vendors representing the two major radio manufactures to conduct presentations on their products and to submit quotes.

Kevin attended the Mohave County Fire Officers Association meeting on August 26 at the Pine Lake FD near Kingman. He continues as the President of the organization. That same day, he attended the Hazmat Subcommittee of the Mohave County LEPC to review and prioritize applications from agencies for the AZ DEQ Emergency Response Fund. Pending final approval, it appears that we will receive 8 five gallon pails of an encapsulating agent (like foam) that can be used on flammable liquids fires, tire fires, and lithium-ion battery fires. (Over \$1,220 worth.)

Kevin was at a SWRRT All-Hazards Committee in Kanab on August 9. A full day of Washington County LEPC meetings were held in St. George on August 12. Kevin also attended a virtual meeting of the Utah CISM executive committee on August 13.

Work on the Lexipol Policies and Procedures project continues.

TRAINING REPORT: The August ALS Inservice was held on August 17. Several critical patient cases were reviewed. Training was provided by Deputy Dave Wilkens of the Marshal's Office on self-defense. Dr. Wilson was excused. Dinner was provided.

Other monthly training included vehicles fires, back-to-basic company drills, and EMS skills.

Special Operations training was on structural collapse, focusing on setting up the Paratech Raker Shore system.

We participated in four separate active shooter response drills with the Marshal's Office and the Washington County Sheriff's Office. There were two drills each of two days at the Water Canyon

Elementary School in Hildale. It was great opportunity to learn the use of our ballistic PPE, to interface with law enforcement, to test the County-wide ASHER protocol, and to practice our command and MCI procedures. The majority of our department members participated in at least one of the four drills.

We are planning to run our own Recruit Academy beginning January of 2022. The fall UFRA academy in Washington is already full and we currently have five candidates. It will also allow two people taking the MCC fall EMT course to participate. We will still test and certify through URFA.

Fire Engineer / Paramedic Daniel S. Barlow completed a six-day long intense Structural Collapse Technician course meeting FEMA standards. The course, taught by Utah FEMA Task Force 1 members requires numerous prerequisites such as rope rescue, trench rescue, and confined space rescue courses. We will be reimbursed by the SWRRT for travel expenses.

On August 19, Kevin attended a one day training hosted in Kingman and put on by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation called "Taking Care of Our Own" with a focus on procedures following a major firefighter injury or line-of-duty death. Though we abhor the thought and do every to prevent such an occurrence, if the process is not followed correctly it could preclude a member or family from receiving the appropriate benefits.

Six more members have attended the Virtual Incident Command Center at Mesa Community College and received their Blue Card command certifications. Officers from Washington County and the Hurricane Valley Fire Department have also attended the same course.

MAINTENANCE REPORT: Delivery of the shell for the new paramedic rescue vehicle continues to be delayed. Other equipment, including the radio, is on order and should be in soon.

Repairs were made to electrical components of R1051 and BR1013. BR1013 also had the rear axle serviced.

A \$5,000 controller part for the L1031 turntable was purchased and will be installed in preparation for the annual aerial ladder certifications.

Routine services and other small repairs continue.

Staff and volunteers have been conducting hydrant maintenance. Rains have given the weeds a prolific boost and have obscured many hydrants.

FIRE PREVENTION: Several community CPR / First-Aid courses have been provided.

OTHER: A crew took our sump pumps and equipment to Cedar City in the aftermath of significant flooding of homes. They spent one night pumping out basements in Enoch.

A structure fire mutual aid response was made to Hurricane with our heavy rescue and rehab unit.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:



Kevin J. Barlow, Chief