

HILDALE - COLORADO CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

February 25, 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS:

Chief Porter and myself met with Fredonia Fire Chief Don Johnson to discuss possible mutual aid agreement updates and upcoming training opportunities.

Mathew Zitting has taken on the project of understanding and updating the financials for the Relief and Pension Fund. We have received some help from previous employees Mary Barlow and Lily Barlow. This project is one of our priorities due to approaching deadlines for reporting and audits.

Chief Porter has been working to catch us up to date on our NFIRS reporting to the state. We were able to submit 5 months' worth of reports and expect to be clear caught up within the month.

I have received an updated MOU from the State of Utah informing us that we have been awarded an additional 2,371.00 of funds that can be used toward Hildale EMS operations. These funds will be processed directly through Hildale City and are not reflected in our books.

Chief Porter is working on an application to the 100's Club of Arizona for a grant that could provide much needed firefighting gear and equipment.

TRAINING REPORT:

The February ALS Inservice training was focused on Behavioral Emergencies, we have seen an increase in these types of calls. H-CCPD Officers helped provide training in self-defense and appropriate patient restraint. This was well attended with over 70 participants present. This training included some case reviews from violent patient encounters we have responded to recently. A catered meal was provided.

We have conducted the first of two New Employee Orientation classes. These Orientation trainings have not been done since early 2022 so we have over 30 new members that were needing this training. This training covers the expected conduct of each member as well as the procedures related to emergency calls.

Our Peer Support group put on a training for department members and their families. The training topic was First Responder Relationships.

We are in the process of recertifying all of our wildland firefighters. This recertification requires annual refresher training as well as a rigorous physical fitness test. We have to have these applications submitted before the start of wildland season in April.

MAINTENANCE REPORT:

Lots of time has been spent these last few months doing the vehicle data entry into the Maintenance Pro Software. We now do our Tuesday evening truck check-offs on the app which will report any deficiencies directly to our maintenance staff. We are now working to build our EMS supply check lists in this same program for our weekly check-offs which will be audited by the state going forward.

All turbo repair has been completed as well as an oil leak that was found while doing maintenance. Daniel Roy has taken a couple of the ambulances into the dealer for warranty recall work. We now have all ambulances back in service.

Daniel Roy will be working this next week on our annual Pump Testing which will be followed by our annual aerial ladder and ground ladder testing. The pump testing we do in-house while ladder testing is done by a third-party contractor.

Staff with the help of volunteers have removed all the old strobe lights from SQ1031 and have replaced them with newer LED lights that were removed from ambulances and vehicles that we have removed from service. This was a very cost-effective way to significantly update the lighting on that truck.

Due to the cold temperatures, we have had to replace batteries on multiple apparatus including BR1012, SQ1032, A109, TRT1031, and R1011.

FIRE PREVENTION:

The CPR Training Center has trained and certified 6 community members in CPR/First Aid as well as 14 provider level CPR classes.

Chief Porter conducted 4 commercial fire inspections with a few more upcoming. He also conducted multiple plan reviews.

Chief Porter put on a fire extinguisher operations class for 47 staff members from Creek Valley Clinic.

OTHER:

We continue to see a significant amount of ATV and dirt bike accidents with some involving vehicles. There was an article in Saint George News that covered this issue in the communities.

I spent an evening with new Board Member Helen Barlow doing orientation to our staff functions, equipment, facilities, and operations.

Sincerely,

Jesse Barlow, Chief