

KAUKAUNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



FIRE/RESCUE



EMS



PREVENTION



TRAINING



MAINTENANCE

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Kaukauna, WI 54130

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www.cityofkaukauna.com/departments/fire-rescue/



KAKAUNA FIRE DEPARTMENT

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Fire Chief Jacob Carrel

On behalf of the Kaukauna Fire Department, I am pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report. The Kaukauna Fire Department responded to 1,558 incidents in 2021. This included 24 fires, and through the efforts of our firefighters, saved nearly 10 million dollars in property value.



The year began with our firefighter/paramedics continuing to serve on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. I am very proud to say that they fearlessly met this challenge. In an effort to help quickly rollout vaccines in early 2021 we took the necessary steps to become an official vaccination site. In total, we administered 350 doses of the vaccine. Several of our paramedics volunteered many hours of their off-duty time to help make this a success.

In March we took possession of two Lucas devices that allow our paramedics to provide hands-free, high-quality CPR. This tool makes our job safer, but most importantly it will improve our survival rates of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest events. I cannot express enough thanks to Aurora BayCare Clinic and Firehouse Subs for their generous donations.

In our effort of continuous improvement, this year we entered into a Service Sharing study with several other fire departments in the Fox Valley. The intent of this study is to examine ways that fire departments can collectively leverage existing resources to maximize effectiveness. It will also explore possible new initiatives that could benefit all of the departments and communities involved. We anticipate the results of this study to be released in mid-2022.

In closing, I am grateful to the dedicated staff of the fire department who continue to serve the city of Kaukauna heroically day in and day out. They remain fully committed after enduring a tiresome couple of years due to the pandemic. I am also sincerely thankful for the support given to public safety by our elected officials and community at-large. Together, we continue to make Kaukauna a safe and friendly place to call home.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob Carrel". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned below the "Best Regards," text.

CITY OFFICIALS & COMMISSIONERS

MAYOR

- ANTHONY PENTERMAN

COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS

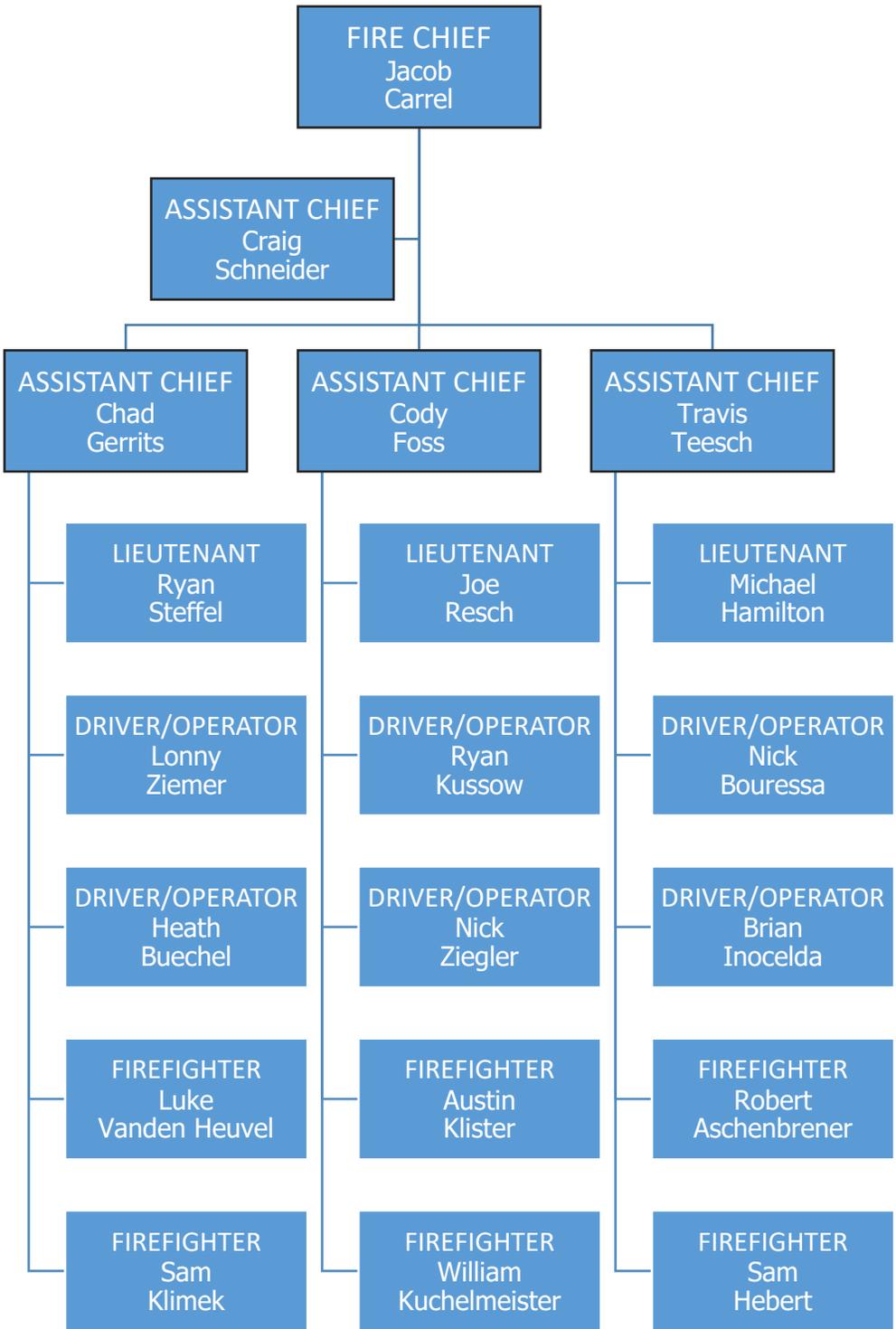
- MARTY DECOSTER
- JENNIE EGGLESTON
- KELLI ANTOINE
- JOHN MOORE
- BRIAN SCHELL
- MARY JO KILGAS
- PENNIE THIELE
- MIKE COENEN

POLICE & FIRE COMMISSIONERS

- SHANNON YOUNG
- BETH JASIAK
- PAUL VAN BERKEL
- JOHN VERKUILEN
- CARLA ZACHARIAS

DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Organizational Chart



DEPARTMENT STAFFING

Anniversary Dates

Full-time Staff	Date of Hire	Years of Service
Ziemer, Lonny	11/4/1997	24.17
Schneider, Craig	1/2/1998	24.01
Tesch, Travis	8/23/1999	22.37
Hamilton, Mike	4/10/2000	21.74
Gerrits, Chad	4/8/2003	18.75
Kussow, Ryan	7/7/2005	16.50
Buechel, Heath	1/13/2007	14.98
Resch, Joe	6/16/2008	13.55
Foss, Cody	1/3/2009	13.00
Steffel, Ryan	6/22/2010	11.53
Bouressa, Nick	5/21/2012	9.62
Inocelda, Brian	11/4/2013	8.16
Ziegler, Nick	11/7/2013	8.15
Vanden Heuvel, Lucas	10/28/2015	6.18
Klister, Austin	9/4/2016	5.33
Aschenbrener, Robert	8/27/2017	4.35
Carrel, Jacob	5/28/2019	2.60
Klimek, Samuel	11/14/2019	2.13
Kuchelmeister, William	8/2/2021	0.41
Hebert, Sam	12/1/2021	0.08
Paid-On-Call Staff	Date of Hire	Years of Service
Scot Vandenheuvel	3/16/1994	27.81
Jeff Moericke	6/1/1997	24.60
Michael Prock	10/12/2005	16.23
Alex Bain	2/3/2010	11.92
Brad Van Asten	2/3/2010	11.92
Kurt Vanderloop	7/1/2013	8.51
Justin Uitenbroek	2/3/2014	7.91
John Novak	2/3/2014	7.91
Jeremy Uitenbroek	7/1/2014	7.51
Joe Vanhoof	7/1/2015	6.51
Keith Romenesko	1/2/2019	3.00
Shawn Simon	1/6/2020	1.99

FIRE REPORT



The Kaukauna Fire Department is a combination fire department that consists of 20 full-time paid staff, and 12 active paid-on-call members. All full-time staff are cross-trained as firefighters and licensed paramedics. Each shift is comprised of 6 firefighters that include the ranks of Assistant Chief, Lieutenant, two Driver/Operators, and two Firefighter/Paramedics. Administrative day staff includes the Fire Chief and Assistant Chief of Emergency Medical Services.

In addition to fire suppression and emergency medical services, we provide swift water rescue, ice rescue, confined space entry, trench rescue, and extrication services. The fire department actively pursues fire prevention through regular inspections and public education activities.

The Kaukauna Fire Department is committed to providing a safe and healthy community for both citizens and businesses by minimizing fire loss through sound prevention efforts, competent suppression techniques and efficient medical care.

FIRE REPORT

2021 FIRE STATISTICS

Incident Type - Summary	2019	2020	2021	% of Total
Fire	18	27	24	1.5%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Services	1,295	1,192	1,317	84.5%
Hazardous Condition	103	45	45	2.9%
Service Call	70	40	45	2.9%
Good Intent		56	67	4.3%
False Alarm & False Call	76	60	52	3.3%
Special Incident	13	10	8	0.5%
Total Incidents	1,575	1,430	1,558	100%

Property Loss - Summary	2019	2020	2021
Pre-incident Property Values	1,676,300	1,355,302	9,977,800
Total Value Lost	329,600	277,002	124,550
Total Value Saved	1,346,700	1,078,300	9,853,250

Casualty – Summary	2019	2020	2021
Civilian Injuries	1	2	1
Civilian Deaths	0	0	0
Firefighter Injuries	0	1	0
Firefighter Deaths	0	0	0

AMBULANCE REPORT

SUMMARY

Our paramedics continue to provide the highest level of pre-hospital care available. To maintain this high level of service, our staff regularly trains to keep up with the latest advancements in patient care and keep their skills sharp. In 2021 more than 600 hours of staff time was dedicated to improving our knowledge and skills.

One area of patient care critical to positive outcomes is airway management. Using donated funds, we purchased a life-like manikin that realistically simulates human anatomy, tissue, and skin. This training manikin has proven to be a valuable tool in our toolbox.

In early 2021, we took delivery of two automated CPR devices. These purchases were made possible with generous grants from Aurora BayCare Clinic Foundation and Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation. We are happy to report that we have had several success stories this year of patients that required this device and are now back home and doing well.

The Fire Department Ambulance Service again received funding from the State of Wisconsin Funding Assistance Program. This program provides funding to assist EMS organizations in equipment purchases and continued training. A formula-based algorithm is used to distribute monies to transporting EMS agencies throughout the state of Wisconsin. Kaukauna received \$4,786.90 for FY2021.



Firefighters had the chance to meet with a cardiac arrest survivor that was resuscitated by our crew.

AMBULANCE REPORT

2021 EMS STATISTICS

Incident Location	2019	2020	2021	% of Total
City of Kaukauna	1,099	1,043	1,149	84.4%
Village of Little Chute	51	41	57	4.2%
Town of Kaukauna	48	49	46	3.4%
Town of Vandebroek	34	36	34	2.5%
Town of Buchanan	32	34	37	2.7%
Town of Holland	8	10	17	1.2%
City of Appleton	7	3	8	0.6%
Village of Combined Locks	12	10	5	0.4%
Town of Greenleaf	0	1	2	0.1%
Village of Ashwaubenon	0	0	3	0.2%
Town of Grand Chute	0	1	1	0.1%
Village of Wrightstown	0	0	1	0.1%
Town of Morrison	0	0	1	0.1%
Village of Kimberly	0	1	0	0.1%
Town of Freedom	1	1	0	0.1%
City of Neenah	2	0	0	0.1%
Total	1,294	1,230	1,361	100%

Response Disposition	# of Runs	% of Runs
Patient Treated, Transported by KKFD	960	70.5%
Patient Treated, Released	168	12.3%
Patient Evaluated, No Treatment/Transport Required	75	5.5%
Patient Refused Evaluation/Care (No Transport)	47	3.5%
Canceled (Prior to Arrival)	36	2.7%
Patient Dead at Scene- No Resuscitation Attempted	26	1.9%
Canceled on Scene (No Patient Contact)	11	0.8%
Canceled on Scene (No Patient Found)	9	0.7%
Patient Dead at Scene- Resuscitation Attempted (No Transport)	8	0.6%
Patient Treated, Transferred Care to Another EMS Unit	7	0.5%
Canceled (Request Transferred to Another Provider)	6	0.4%
Standby- No Services or Support Provided	6	0.4%
Standby- Public Safety, Fire, or EMS Operation Support Provided	2	0.2%
	1,361	100%

AMBULANCE REPORT

2021 EMS STATISTICS

Emergency Response Times 911 Call > On Scene	# of Runs	% of Runs
0:00 – 4:29 Minutes	222	35.6%
4:30 – 8:59 Minutes	383	61.5%
> 09:00 Minutes	18	2.9%

Incident Location Type	# of Runs	% of Runs
Residence - Single Family Home	633	46.5%
Residence - Apartment or Townhouse	218	16.0%
Nursing Home (SNIF, LTCF, Etc.)	207	15.2%
Street or Highway	85	6.2%
Health Facility - Medical Office	36	2.6%
Public Building - Commercial Establishment	29	2.1%
Not Applicable/Not Recorded	25	1.8%
Factory	21	1.5%
Health Facility - Free-Standing ED/Urgent Care Center	21	1.5%
Public Building - Restaurant/Café	19	1.4%
Recreation Area - Public Park	10	0.7%
Public Building - Government	9	0.7%
Public Building - Not Otherwise Listed	8	0.6%
School - High School	7	0.5%
School - Elementary	6	0.4%
Health Facility - Not Otherwise Listed	5	0.4%
Recreation Area - Not Otherwise Listed	4	0.3%
Religious Facility (not school)	3	0.2%
Sport Facility - Not Otherwise Listed	3	0.2%
Other Paved Road	2	0.1%
Residence - Not Otherwise Listed	2	0.1%
Residential Institution - Not Otherwise Listed	2	0.1%
Farm	1	0.1%
Health Facility - Ambulatory Surgery Center	1	0.1%
School - College or Trade School	1	0.1%
School - Middle School	1	0.1%
Sport Facility - Field	1	0.1%
Wilderness Area	1	0.1%

AMBULANCE REPORT

2021 Financial Report

Billing Charge Summary	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total Charges	\$1,066,112	\$1,144,483	\$1,103,514	\$1,033,601	\$1,133,796
Gross Revenue	\$522,849	\$515,464	\$559,307	\$521,903	\$512,668
Service Revenue	\$491,254	\$484,315	\$523,85	\$487,828	\$479,900

Payor Mix	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Commercial Insurance	21.4%	18.8%	19.0%	16.3%	17.8%
Medicaid	11.9%	13.6%	10.9%	13.0%	13.2%
Medicare	50.0%	52.4%	55.9%	55.0%	55.7%
Private	16.7%	15.2%	12.4%	13.3%	10.5%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%	2.4%	2.8%

Collection Rate by Payor	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Commercial Insurance	87.1%	78.8%	80.1%	83.2%	73.1%
Medicaid	27.6%	23.3%	25.8%	26.6%	21.7%
Medicare	40.0%	40.7%	41.3%	40.1%	38.4%
Private	39.4%	30.6%	59.8%	77.2%	67.3%
Other	N/A	N/A	74.3%	90.2%	57.0%
Overall Collection Rate	49.0%	45.0%	50.7%	50.5%	45.3%

FIRE PREVENTION

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Assistant Chief Cody Foss continues to lead and direct our Fire Prevention Division. A/C Foss spends countless hours working with our software systems to customize and streamline the fire inspection process. These new processes have resulted in greater efficiency, saving many staff hours and ensuring we maintain an accurate and up-to-date record of inspectable occupancies within the city of Kaukauna.

In 2021 we saw the return of routine fire inspections after they were temporarily paused during 2020 due to the pandemic. Wis. Stat. § 101.14 requires us to inspect over 600 commercial and industrial buildings twice per year. We perform these inspections with our on-duty firefighters in between emergency calls, training, public education, physical fitness, and other maintenance tasks. In 2021 our firefighters performed 1,223 fire inspections and identified 261 fire code violations. Many of these violations required one or more re-checks to ensure the violation has been corrected.



Firefighter/Paramedic Kuchelmeister performing a routine fire inspection.

To help facilitate and track inspections to fire protection systems, we partner with a third-party service that works directly with private fire protection companies and individual businesses.

The highlight of the year was the ability to conduct in-person fire prevention classes in the schools. We provided 45 individual classes throughout the city to spread the message of *Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety*. We delivered this class to over 2,160 Kaukauna students.

We continue to provide free CO detectors to citizens upon request. We also take every opportunity to provide one to a citizen if we recognize the absence of a CO detector in their home.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS & TRAINING

Assistant Chief Chad Gerrits leads our Special Operations and Training Division. Our job is inherently dangerous, so training our personnel is a critical function of our department. Our firefighters are trained to the highest level to provide our citizens with a wide range of services. A/C Gerrits continually works to research and develop training programs for our department. Various mandates, regulations, and consensus standards are utilized to develop our training programs.

This past year, A/C Gerrits teamed up with other training chiefs in the area to improve the training of our firefighters. This joint effort between the training chiefs allows departments to work together to increase training opportunities in our region. This collaboration has resulted in several cross-departmental training exercises. Some of the sessions have included: high-rise training, wide-area search, and active shooter training. Participating fire departments include Kaukauna, Appleton, Grand Chute, Neenah/Menasha, and Oshkosh.



Firefighters from Kaukauna, Oshkosh, Appleton, and Fond Du Lac attend ammonia training in our training room.

Also new this year was training with the lock system. With the locks operational again, our firefighters conducted training on how to operate the system in case of emergency. This was one of several training sessions that were filmed and developed for use on our video-based training system. This software system allows courses to be developed, complete with lesson plans, videos, and quizzes. This allows firefighters to train on an individual basis during times that we are not able to train as a full crew.



Firefighter Vanden Heuvel, Lt. Steffel, and D/O Buechel operating the locks.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS & TRAINING



Firefighters from several Fox Valley fire departments participate in joint high-rise training.



Our paid-on-call staff training with our ladder truck.



Vehicle extrication training with several of our neighboring departments.



If there is a need, water from the river and canals can be utilized to fight fire.

APPARATUS & EQUIPMENT

Assistant Chief Travis Teesch leads our Apparatus and Equipment Division. In order for our firefighters to provide effective emergency services, we must maintain a reliable fleet of apparatus and equipment. Each morning our equipment is checked to ensure readiness so that our firefighters can safely provide our services to the community.

We are fortunate to have skilled staff that can perform most of our routine maintenance in-house. Completing these tasks regularly helps identify problems early and prevents costly repairs and downtime in the future. This results in a significant cost savings to the taxpayers by having our firefighters perform these labor-intensive tasks.

In 2021, the department operated and maintained a fleet of 11 pieces of apparatus.

Type	Year	Make	Model	Anticipated Replacement Year
Ladder	1995	Pierce	Arrow	2024
Engine	2003	Pierce	Enforcer	2027
Rescue	2007	Pierce	Freightliner	2027
Support	2009	Chevrolet	Silverado	2024
Ambulance	2009	Ford	E450	2028
Engine	2014	Seagrave	Marauder	2038
Command Car	2015	Chevrolet	Impala	2027
Boat	2015	Zodiac	Futura Mark II	2027
UTV	2016	Polaris	Ranger 6x6	2031
Ambulance	2018	Ford	E450	2034
Boat	Unknown	Alumacraft	F9-15	N/A