

Five Year Strategic Plan Update, 2018

Chief's top priorities are as follows.

1. Increase staffing model. Our current model is to staff one Paramedic/Firefighter and one EMT/Engineer, 24/365. Holidays we hire 1 to 3 additional staff. The number of personnel added for the holiday weekends is dependent on POC availability. This past summer showed a trend of less POC availability and an increase in Fire Danger/Red Flag conditions. This forced us to hire additional staff above the 2 budgeted for. Call volume continues to remain steady and we are starting to experience a slight increase in transports creating a void in coverage. We need to realize the impact call volume and transports are having on district coverage and prepare the budget for an additional Paramedic. By doing so, our Staffing Model would be 2 Paramedics and 1 Firefighter on shift. Holiday coverage and incentive pay will need to be explored as well.
2. Attract & Retain Paid On Call Resident Members. Recruitment of residents to become certified in emergency response for fire and medical calls continues. Our resident members who serve today remain committed to providing a high level of service for those in need. We currently have 2 Emergency Medical Technicians and 3 First Responders that are active. One First Responder is planning to attend EMT school in the fall. A discussion regarding reality of this segment of our department becoming robust is needed.
3. Refurbishment of Annex and continued maintenance of Apparatus and Equipment. We have to keep what we have in good working order. The new station is relatively maintenance free. The Annex will need attention. Annual maintenance costs and repairs of rolling stock may appear to be on the high end but they are reflective of our response area terrain which takes its toll on equipment.
4. Alternative revenue streams. Continue efforts with Grant submissions to replace aging equipment like Firehose, Rolling stock, Turnouts, Medical equipment and devices. Explore Subscription services for Fire and Medical coverage, Master Contract with Banner Health or American Medical Response. Expanding our Wildland Firefighting capabilities also has the potential to generate revenue.
5. Technology advancement/enhancements. Keeping up with today's fast changing Information Technology will be become more of a challenge for small rural fire districts like ours. We are in a fast changing technology world that will force us to look at advancements in Pre-Hospital health care processes, procedures and equipment. Office computers are being replaced in 2 and 3 year increments instead of the 5 to 8 year replacement cycle we are accustomed to.

Predictions are that we will see more change in the Fire and EMS industry in the next 10 years than we have seen in the last 50.