

# Scappoose Rural Fire District

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Board Members and Required Staff met in-person at  
Scappoose Fire District Main Station  
Also held electronically via GoToMeeting and telephone call-in number  
Thursday October 14, 2021 7:00 PM

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/692487701>

**You can also dial in using your phone.**

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212)

**Access Code:** 692-487-701

### Call to Order & Flag Salute

### Public Comment:

**“This is the time for public comment on agenda and non-agenda items. The Board will not take any immediate action but will document all comments and/or concerns. Any further action deemed appropriate will be taken promptly. We appreciate you keeping comments to 3 minutes per individual or 5 minutes if you are representing a group of patrons. Please note, personnel concerns will not be discussed in a public meeting. If you have any concerns with personnel, please schedule a meeting with the Fire Chief or Board President.”**

### Consent Agenda:

- Approve minutes from the September 16, 2021 Regular meeting
- Approve 9.30.21 Expense Account activity
- 9.30.21 Budget vs. Actual

### Statistical Data:

- Ambulance Activity Report
- Response Activity Report

### Staff Reports:

- Chief’s Report
- Fire Marshal Report
- Operations Report
- Training Report

- Chief Bautista Report
- Financial Report

#### **Old Business:**

1. Policy Manual Updates (*This will be ongoing over the next several months*)
2. Discussion on board policy 4.21 Residency Requirement
3. Discussion on Board Goals

#### **Committee Reports:**

- Management Team
- Long Range Planning Committee
- Awards & Incentives

#### **Miscellaneous:**

#### **New Business:**

- Approve Director Mark Gift to lead labor negotiations on behalf of the board.
- Purchase Request for radio upgrades
- Authorization to retain the services of an architect

#### **Communications**

- Oregonian Article about Ambulance service and lift assists

#### **Good of the Order**

#### **Adjourn**

Pursuant to ORS 192.640(1), the Board of Directors for the Scappoose Fire District reserves the right to consider and discuss, in either open session or Executive Session, additional subjects which may arise after the agenda is published.

# **PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

# Scappoose Rural Fire District

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Board Members and Required Staff met in-person at  
Scappoose Fire District Main Station  
Also held electronically via GoToMeeting and telephone call-in number  
Thursday, September 16, 2021

September Regular Board Meeting  
Thu, Sep 16, 2021 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM (PDT)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/362960293>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212)

Access Code: 362-960-293

In attendance – Director Sorenson, Director Graham, Director Reeves, Director Gift, Director Kriek, Fire Chief Pricher, DC Bautista, FD Tardif, LT Heuer, FF Gandara, Paramedic Curio, FF Dietz

**Call to Order & Flag Salute** – Meeting called to order at 19:06 by President Sorenson.

**Public Comment:** no public comment

**“This is the time for public comment on agenda and non-agenda items. The Board will not take any immediate action but will document all comments and/or concerns. Any further action deemed appropriate will be taken promptly. We appreciate you keeping comments to 3 minutes per individual or 5 minutes if you are representing a group of patrons. Please note, personnel concerns will not be discussed in a public meeting. If you have any concerns with personnel, please schedule a meeting with the Fire Chief or Board President.”**

**Consent Agenda:** Director Graham moved to approve the consent agenda. Director Reeves seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.**

- Approve minutes from the August 12, 2021 Regular meeting
- Approve 8.31.21 Expense Account activity
- 8.31.21 Budget vs. Actual

**Statistical Data:**

- Ambulance Activity Report – Discussion on EMS billing. What is the time frame for collection of EMS billing.

- Response Activity Report - Discussion on increase in call volume. Director Gift inquired about the 28 good intent calls. Discussion was held on what the “Good intent” category is and whether or not there is a way to minimize these calls. The Board inquired about hospital diversions due to capacity and covid calls. The Board held discussion on peak times and overlapping calls and a desire to correctly identify the districts peak times to ensure proper staffing levels.

### **Staff Reports:**

- Chief’s Report – Chief Pricher outlined the Districts participation on the 100-year celebration. The board inquired about the civil service commission. Chief Pricher informed the board civil service would meet the first week in October and would be developing a hiring list. Chief Pricher informed The Board the District was not successful in securing any of the previous grants. Chief Pricher led the board discussion on station renovations, including the HVAC system. Director Sorenson would like to see the boat house finished before starting any new projects at the main station. M. Gift would like to see multiple options before deciding. Chief Pricher explained that those concerns would be addressed as part of the planning committee process. The Board expressed excitement for the engine to be at the station and is eager to get it on the road. The Board held discussion on the CCOM 911 radio system, and the expense related to replacing the system. They expressed concern on certain components that are missing from the report and asked that the report be updated to reflect the missing data.
- Fire marshal report – Discussion on 2017 HB 2225 forest dwelling and the recent uptick in forest development. Discussion on recent unmanned aircraft missions to aid neighboring fire agencies.
- Operations Report – Chief Pricher informed the board that the tower engine is out of service and discussion was held on how to move forward with repairs. Director Kriek inquired about another truck from PDX that might be available. The Board asked for recommendations on the rescue. Chief Pricher informed the board about the water agreement with the Holbrook water system and the current maintenance that had been completed.
- Chief Bautista report – Discussion on training.
- Training Report – Chief Marks was at training and the board had no questions on his report
- Financial Report - Discussion on next year’s budget and how to empower the budget committee members to feel engaged.

### **Old Business:**

1. Policy Manual Updates (*This will be ongoing over the next several months*)
2. Discussion on board policy 4.21 Residency Requirement – Director Sorenson stated that due to current housing prices, he cannot see how The District could expect individuals to move here. He inquired about the possibility of incentivizing individuals to encourage them to move to the district. He also noted

that Technology has changed how we communicate and questioned whether this policy is still necessary. Director Kriek noted that to be in command you must be on scene. Director Gift inquired about rotation. Chief Pricher, informed The Board that the district is looking at it. Director Gift stated the Chief officer needs to be in the county when on duty officer shifts. He believes there should be a shift rotation so that District staff can continue to learn from each other. Director Gift has no concerns about eliminating the residency requirement. Director Gift noted that SDAO says it's hard to enforce a residency requirement less than 30 minutes. Director Gift suggested the district consider a 2 deep model where 1 officer is on duty and the next up duty officer must be mentally and physically fit and ready to come on, especially during minimum staffing. Director Sorenson believes that the residency requirement can be replaced. He asked that staff bring back what the options will be for that policy. Director Reeves inquired about the chief duty officer vehicles and how they are shared if at all. Chief Pricher informed the board that each Duty officer has their own vehicle, and it could be shared if necessary.

3. Discussion on Board Goals -tabled to next month.

**Committee Reports:**

- Management Team - met nothing to discuss.
- Long Range Planning Committee – Director Kriek would like to set a date for long range planning. This date has not been set.
- Awards & Incentives - Discussion on how this should operate. Director Gift brought forward that the volunteers do not feel respected or appreciated by the organization.

**Miscellaneous:** nothing

**New Business:** nothing

**Good of the Order – Is the board interested in pursuing an architect to look at how to redesign the building within Pricher's spending authority.** Yes (this was an inquiry and does not require a motion to approve)

**Adjourn** Director Reeves moved to adjourn the meeting. Director kriek seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 21:28

Pursuant to ORS 192.640(1), the Board of Directors for the Scappoose Fire District reserves the right to consider and discuss, in either open session or Executive Session, additional subjects which may arise after the agenda is published.

**SCAPPOOSE FIRE DISTRICT**  
**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date:** September 8, 2021 @ 1900 Hrs

Members Present: Dietz, Chief marks, Chief Greisen, Ahlers, Oberbarnsheidt, Laney, Dubois, Liebig, Stout, Lawrenson

August Minutes: Approved

Accident Reports: Trailer Incident, discussed trailering and hitch sizing (notes below)

Safety Action Generator: None submitted

Station Inspections: Complete for Q4 & assigned for Q1

Near Miss: Fire Investigation Near Miss, discussed heat related incident on a scene (notes below)

**Old Business:**

Covid-19 Oregon OSHA Rules are still in effect. Cleaning is still required per OSHA Rules. Refer to General Order dated 06/29/2021 regarding mask wearing and response.

Misc: Question about OSHA rules for working in heat.

Covid: State Mask Mandate: Chief Marks will continue to watch new and changing mandates from around the state. Keep an eye on emails with changing information. The organization has done well during this time. Continue to stay safe and wearing masks. Follow current mask and PPE guidelines. New masks are on order and should be here within a few weeks. They have the district logo on them. They also have a neck lanyard for easy on and off along with loss prevention.

**New Business:**

Near miss discussed about working strenuously in heat. Brought up in relation to heat related near miss while a member was working strenuously investigating a fire in a Tyvek protective suit. Don't work alone while on scene and make sure to use the buddy system. Note that wearing the Tyvek suits will increase the heat you are experiencing and they do not breathe well, easily causing elevated heat while working. Take breaks and set times for water consumption, it's easy to let time slip by and get behind on water intake. Take breaks at least every 45 min. Watch your buddy/partner and communicate, drink water often.

Incident discussed where the correct size trailer hitch ball was not used for the UTV trailer. Trailer came off the hitch when trailer was being loaded with the UTV. Make sure when hooking up trailers that the correct size ball is being used for that particular trailer. Ball size is usually stamped on the trailer tongue. Note that some small utility trailers use a 2" ball that is too small for the larger trailers. Trailer may not stay hitched to the ball when using an incorrect size.

Member brought up new uniform ideas. EMS and Fire personnel around nation have become targets, Ideas discussed to look less like LE. Ideas brought up about wearing ballistic vests. PFB purchasing approx. 250 vests for their members in Portland. More ideas to discuss about this in the future and input will be needed if current trends continue.

Starting annual physicals again in 2022, hopefully will help with keeping members healthy and fit.

Member brought up idea about having COVID kits at station.

Volunteer brought up wanting medical scenario training. All members are encouraged to talk with crews ahead of time to plan time(s) they can come in and make plans for specific training needs or wants.

Keep your Turnouts and gear cubby clean.

Bring up safety issues, don't be afraid to point out or alert others to a noted safety issue, W/O fear of reprisal.

Station inspections: Holbrook-Dietz, Chapman-Laney, Scappoose-Henry, Boat-Greisen

**Safety Message: WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN**

Adjourned –1845

# **EXPENSE ACCOUNT ACTIVITY**

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
Itemized Account Activity  
September 2021

Date	Name	Source Name	Memo	Paid Amount
1..GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES				
1...				
1.1 GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL SVCS				
550 Insurance				
09/02/2021	health insurance	Benefit Help Soluti...	Flex Savings reimb	314.26
09/14/2021	health insurance	Benefit Help Soluti...	Flex Savings reimb	542.00
09/14/2021	health insurance	Benefit Help Soluti...	Flex Savings reimb	50.00
09/16/2021	health insurance	Special Districts In...	Health Benefits	22,310.70
09/16/2021	life insurance	Standard Insurance	Life & LTD Insurance	1,483.15
09/20/2021	health insurance	Benefit Help Soluti...	Flex Savings reimb	75.00
09/27/2021	health insurance	Benefit Help Soluti...	Flex Savings reimb	250.41
09/30/2021	health insurance	Paychex Payroll	Flex spend health ins c...	10,096.84
09/30/2021	health insurance	HRA VEBA Trust	District contributions	8,066.64
09/30/2021	workers comp	Paychex - tax	ER Work Benefit	52.15
09/30/2021	audit & PR svcs	Paychex Invoice	September PR	185.80
Total 550 Insurance				43,426.95
560 Personnel Salaries				
09/12/2021	salaries	Quinn, Amy	Final paycheck 9/12/2...	2,622.03
09/14/2021	salaries	P.E.R.S.	Employee 6% IAP plus...	11,026.81
09/16/2021	salaries	American Heritage ...	Case # 84457 PR Ded...	136.90
09/16/2021	salaries	Special Districts In...	Sec 125 Deductions	1,488.55
09/16/2021	salaries	Standard Insurance	STD staff PR deductions	524.40
09/30/2021	other wages	Paychex Payroll	Deferred comp	3,959.00
09/30/2021	OT Salaries	Paychex Payroll	FLSA Overtime	4,208.28
09/30/2021	other wages	Paychex Payroll	FF incentives	1,839.63
09/30/2021	other wages	Paychex Payroll	Longevity	920.35
09/30/2021	data communicat...	Paychex Payroll	Phone Pay	100.00
09/30/2021	OT Salaries	Paychex Payroll	Overtime	17,891.42
09/30/2021	salaries	Paychex Payroll	Balance of net pay	70,945.01
09/30/2021	salaries	Paychex Payroll	Shift Diff	418.10
09/30/2021	salaries	Department of Just...	September PR deducti...	805.00
09/30/2021	salaries	Inroads Credit Union	Staff food fund-- Augu...	760.00
09/30/2021	Inroads Credit U...	Inroads Credit Union	Staff food fund-- Septe...	715.00
09/30/2021	salaries	HRA VEBA Trust	Employee PEHP contri...	2,682.00
09/30/2021	salaries	Voya-State of Oreg...	Oregon Savings & Gro...	9,671.80
09/30/2021	salaries	Tualatin Valley Fire...	Union Dues - PR dedu...	1,743.09
09/30/2021	salaries	Paychex - tax	Employee taxes withheld	43,352.26
Total 560 Personnel Salaries				175,809.63
570 SocSec/Medicare(FICA)				
09/30/2021	social security	Paychex - tax	Emplry FICA	13,980.63

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
 Itemized Account Activity  
 September 2021

Date	Name	Source Name	Memo	Paid Amount
Total 570 SocSec/Medicare(FICA)				13,980.63
580 Volunteer Services				
09/30/2021	volunteer services	Greenup, Cade	reimb cell phone Sept...	34.00
09/30/2021	volunteer services	Greenup, Cade	reimb cell phone Octo...	34.00
Total 580 Volunteer Services				68.00
590 Personnel Benefits				
09/14/2021	PERS	P.E.R.S.	Employer PERS	48,289.89
Total 590 Personnel Benefits				48,289.89
Total 1.1 GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL SVCS				281,575.10
1.2 GENERAL FUND MATERIAL & SVC				
670 Contract Services				
09/16/2021	Kleinberg Tech	Kleinberg Tech	August report	192.50
09/16/2021	Kleinberg Tech	Kleinberg Tech	July Report	192.50
Total 670 Contract Services				385.00
680 Communications Maintenance				
09/16/2021	data communicat...	Complete Wireless...	Shipping of radio parts	25.00
09/16/2021	data communicat...	Day Wireless Syst...	CM 300HD VHF 45W ...	1,026.24
Total 680 Communications Maintenance				1,051.24
730 Property & Liability Insur.				
09/16/2021	Special Districts I...	Special Districts In...	Property and Casualty ...	82.00
Total 730 Property & Liability Insur.				82.00
740 Uniforms				
09/16/2021	Curtis	Curtis	4.5oz Nomex short sle...	210.80
09/16/2021	Northwest Safety...	Northwest Safety C...	Turnout advanced clea...	696.50
09/16/2021	LaHaie's	LaHaie's	uniform patches and pl...	70.00
Total 740 Uniforms				977.30
750 Maintenance on Equipment				
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Fasteners, Cable ties, ...	23.60
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Screw pin shackle	17.58
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Screw pin shackle	8.40
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	PVC pipe, fasteners	34.36
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Fasteners	12.26
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Tie Downs 16inch and ...	147.93
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Bur cyl - u bolt,	38.76

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
 Itemized Account Activity  
 September 2021

Date	Name	Source Name	Memo	Paid Amount
09/16/2021	maintenance	Sunset Auto Parts	Butt connections and ...	25.24
09/16/2021	maintenance	Sunset Auto Parts	battery and core charges	166.26
09/16/2021	maintenance	Sunset Auto Parts	battery and core char...	238.33
09/16/2021	maintenance	Sunset Auto Parts	battery and core charges	415.96
09/16/2021	maintenance	True North Emerge...	Pierce engine repairs	505.33
09/16/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	0633650-in	1,050.92
09/16/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	Unleaded 300 gals @2...	999.85
09/16/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	Diesel 200 glas @2.45...	492.47
09/30/2021	maintenance	Curtis	Rechargeable battery	58.05
09/30/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	B5 Diesel 220 gals	546.14
09/30/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	Unleaded 290 gals @2...	942.63
09/30/2021	fuel	Wilcox & Flegel	Diesel 100 glas @2.59...	260.02
09/30/2021	maintenance	Pro Automotive & ...	2 fuel injector leaks re...	1,733.88
Total 750 Maintenance on Equipment				7,717.97
760 Administration				
09/01/2021	Admin Oper	Elavon Visa Proce...	August Visa processin...	102.36
09/12/2021			Service Charge	22.03
09/14/2021			Reimbursement for SVF...	-120.25
09/15/2021	US Bank	US Bank	September Service Ch...	15.95
09/16/2021	audit & PR svcs	Grove Mueller & S...	interim billing for annu...	5,000.00
09/16/2021	dues	International Assoc...	Dues 10/1/20 - 9/30/21	100.00
09/16/2021	legal notice	Pamplin Media - S...	subscription	37.00
09/16/2021	Waste Connectio...	Waste Connections	8/11/21 document shr...	205.00
09/30/2021	office supplies	Pacific Office Auto...	B&W billing	47.92
Total 760 Administration				5,410.01
765 Information Technology				
09/16/2021	IT Service Provid...	Centerlogic, Inc.	Network Consultant - n...	57.50
09/16/2021	IT Service Provid...	Centerlogic, Inc.	Monthly billing for sept...	670.50
09/16/2021	IT Service Provid...	Comcast	Acct#8778 10 202 016...	30.72
09/16/2021	IT Service Provid...	Comcast	Acct#8778 10 202 063...	243.35
09/16/2021	EMS Technology	EMS Technology S...	Operative IQ and asse...	270.00
09/16/2021	IT Service Provid...	CrewSense	10/01/2021-12/31/202...	770.22
09/16/2021	data communicat...	Verizon Wireless	ACCT 672550930-000...	7.72
09/16/2021	data communicat...	Verizon Wireless	ACCT 342023411-000...	574.85
09/30/2021	IT software	Softchoice Corpora...	45 licenses for Office 3...	11,021.40
09/30/2021	IT software	Softchoice Corpora...	4 Visio P2 Users	737.28
09/30/2021	Softchoice Corpo...	Softchoice Corpora...	4 Visio P2 User	737.28
09/30/2021	IT Service Provid...	AT&T Mobility	FirstNet Acct# 287287...	451.98
09/30/2021	IT Service Provid...	CenturyLink	Chapman phone charge	74.95
09/30/2021	data communicat...	City of Portland	800 MHz access Sept...	151.92
09/30/2021	IT software	TriTech Emergenc...	7/15/2021-7/14/2022 ...	250.00

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
Itemized Account Activity  
September 2021

Date	Name	Source Name	Memo	Paid Amount
09/30/2021	TriTech Emergen...	TriTech Emergen...	7/15/2021-7/14/2022 ...	250.00
Total 765 Information Technology				16,299.67
770 Operating Materials/Suppli				
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Simple green, hedge s...	71.05
09/16/2021	Ace Hardware - ...	Ace Hardware - Sc...	Single cut key	7.96
Total 770 Operating Materials/Suppli				79.01
780 Building & Grounds Maint.				
09/16/2021	grounds maint	Alonzo Yard Maint...	Holbrook fire station S...	200.00
09/16/2021	grounds maint	Alonzo Yard Maint...	Chapman fire station S...	200.00
09/16/2021	grounds maint	Columbia NW Heat...	Commercial Maintena...	1,350.00
09/16/2021	grounds maint	Crow Water Systems	water testing Holbrook ...	200.00
09/16/2021	Digital Graphiti P...	Digital Graphiti Prin...	trailer and UTV Decals	550.00
09/16/2021	grounds maint	Paramount Pest C...	Chapman Station pest ...	110.00
09/30/2021	grounds maint	Paramount Pest C...	Chapman Station pest ...	110.00
09/30/2021	wellness	AER Fitness Repair	work out equipment m...	206.50
Total 780 Building & Grounds Maint.				2,926.50
810 Utilities				
09/16/2021	telephone	Graybar Financial ...	VOIP phone rental	299.25
09/16/2021	electricity	P.G.E.	electricity for Holbrook ...	118.42
09/16/2021	garbage	Waste Manageme...	monthly Garbage/Recy...	127.45
09/30/2021	electricity	W.O.E.C.	Chapman electricity - ...	282.00
09/30/2021	electricity	CRPUD	boathouse electricity	54.14
09/30/2021	electricity	CRPUD	main station electricity	722.76
09/30/2021	telephone	CenturyLink	Main station fax & Cha...	124.40
09/30/2021	telephone	Spectrum VoIP	VOIP internet backup	27.06
Total 810 Utilities				1,755.48
870 EMS Operations				
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	medical Supplies - IN ...	196.49
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	140.75
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - In 9...	148.98
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	70.38
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	70.38
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	229.66
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	253.13
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	medical supplies IN 11...	31.52
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	389.12
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	200.15
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies in 11...	916.88

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
 Itemized Account Activity  
 September 2021

Date	Name	Source Name	Memo	Paid Amount
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	175.57
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	78.80
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	47.28
09/16/2021	EMS Technology	TriZetto Provider S...	EMS billing fee	106.10
09/16/2021	EMS Supplies	Skedco, inc	Spine Split, quick relea...	500.07
09/30/2021	EMS Contracts	Sasek, Dean MD	Physician Advisor - Se...	691.67
09/30/2021	EMS Contracts	Sasek, Dean MD	Physician Advisor - Oc...	691.67
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Teleflex	EZ-IO 25mm and 45mm	1,115.50
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	medical Supplies - IN ...	172.06
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	222.08
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Airgas - USA, LLC	Medical Supplies - IN ...	71.74
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Bound Tree Corp.	Life pack plus Defib B...	671.96
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	medical supplies IN 11...	200.15
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	789.36
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	8.30
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	189.20
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	147.40
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Life-Assist, Inc.	Medical Supplies IN 11...	72.59
09/30/2021	EMS Supplies	Environmental Co...	1 biohazard containers	50.00
Total 870 EMS Operations				8,648.94
Total 1.2 GENERAL FUND MATERIAL & SVC				45,333.12
Total 1...				326,908.22
Total 1..GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES				326,908.22
4. PERSONNEL SVC FUND EXPENSE				
Liability & Service				
09/30/2021	Paychex Payroll	Paychex Payroll	Vacation pay out	886.91
Total Liability & Service				886.91
Total 4. PERSONNEL SVC FUND EXPENSE				886.91
TOTAL				327,795.13

# **BUDGET VS ACTUAL**

10/06/21  
Cash Basis

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
Profit & Loss Budg et vs. Actual  
July through September 2021

	Jul - Sep 21	Budg et	\$ Over Bu d...	% of Bud get
<b>Income</b>				
<b>1. GENERAL FUND REVENUES</b>				
Begin Available Cash on Hand	1,882,876.16	1,625,103.00	257,773.16	115.9%
Conflagration	7.07	30,000.00	-29,992.93	0.0%
EMS Receipts	186,508.35	532,963.00	-346,454.65	35.0%
Fire Marshal	360.00	10,000.00	-9,640.00	3.6%
FireMed	150.00	36,000.00	-35,850.00	0.4%
G.E.M.T. (Medicaid)	0.00	30,000.00	-30,000.00	0.0%
Gas Royalties	38,715.82	15,000.00	23,715.82	258.1%
Grant Awards	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
Interest Earned on Investments	1,503.96	5,000.00	-3,496.04	30.1%
Miscellaneous Revenue	316.65	20,000.00	-19,683.35	1.6%
<b>Property Taxes</b>				
<b>Taxes - Current</b>				
Local Option Levy	17,186.89	2,779,127.00	-2,761,940.11	0.6%
Permanent Rate Levy	15,447.43	1,556,451.00	-1,541,003.57	1.0%
<b>Total Taxes - Current</b>	<b>32,634.32</b>	<b>4,335,578.00</b>	<b>-4,302,943.68</b>	<b>0.8%</b>
<b>Taxes - Prior Years</b>	<b>16,933.11</b>	<b>92,069.00</b>	<b>-75,135.89</b>	<b>18.4%</b>
<b>Total Property Taxes</b>	<b>49,567.43</b>	<b>4,427,647.00</b>	<b>-4,378,079.57</b>	<b>1.1%</b>
<b>Total 1. GENERAL FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>2,160,005.44</b>	<b>6,732,713.00</b>	<b>-4,572,707.56</b>	<b>32.1%</b>
<b>2. GRANT FUND REVENUE</b>				
Begin Available Cash on Hand	34,360.43	0.00	34,360.43	100.0%
Grant Award	0.00	100,000.00	-100,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 2. GRANT FUND REVENUE</b>	<b>34,360.43</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>-65,639.57</b>	<b>34.4%</b>
<b>3. PROPERTY FUND REVENUES</b>				
Begin Available Cash On Hand	161,205.57	154,668.00	6,537.57	104.2%
Interest Earned on Investments	145.26	0.00	145.26	100.0%
Transfers In	0.00	63,539.00	-63,539.00	0.0%
<b>Total 3. PROPERTY FUND REVENUES</b>	<b>161,350.83</b>	<b>218,207.00</b>	<b>-56,856.17</b>	<b>73.9%</b>
<b>4. PERSONNEL SVCS FUND REVEN</b>				
Begin Available Cash On Hand	88,208.84	58,128.00	30,080.84	151.7%
Interest Earned on Investments	83.94	0.00	83.94	100.0%
Transfers In	0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 4. PERSONNEL SVCS FUND REVEN</b>	<b>88,292.78</b>	<b>108,128.00</b>	<b>-19,835.22</b>	<b>81.7%</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,444,009.48</b>	<b>7,159,048.00</b>	<b>-4,715,038.52</b>	<b>34.1%</b>
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>2,444,009.48</b>	<b>7,159,048.00</b>	<b>-4,715,038.52</b>	<b>34.1%</b>
<b>Expense</b>				
<b>1..GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>1...</b>				
<b>1.1 GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL SVCS</b>				
550 Insurance	127,663.94	643,584.00	-515,920.06	19.8%
560 Personnel Salaries	557,245.17	2,460,425.00	-1,903,179.83	22.6%
570 SocSec/Medicare (FICA)	44,671.38	197,775.00	-153,103.62	22.6%
580 Volunteer Services	136.00	20,000.00	-19,864.00	0.7%
590 Personnel Benefits	154,501.98	751,740.00	-597,238.02	20.6%
<b>Total 1.1 GENERAL FUND PERSONNEL...</b>	<b>884,218.47</b>	<b>4,073,524.00</b>	<b>-3,189,305.53</b>	<b>21.7%</b>
<b>1.2 GENERAL FUND MATERIAL &amp; SVC</b>				
670 Contract Services	5,376.50	52,000.00	-46,623.50	10.3%

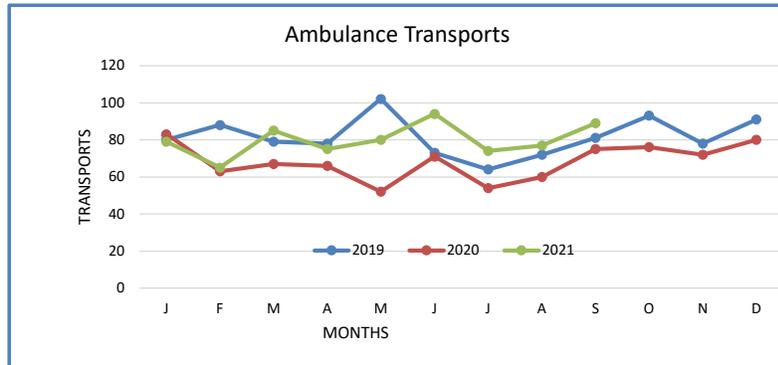
10/06/21  
Cash Basis

Scappoose Rural Fire District  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
July through September 2021

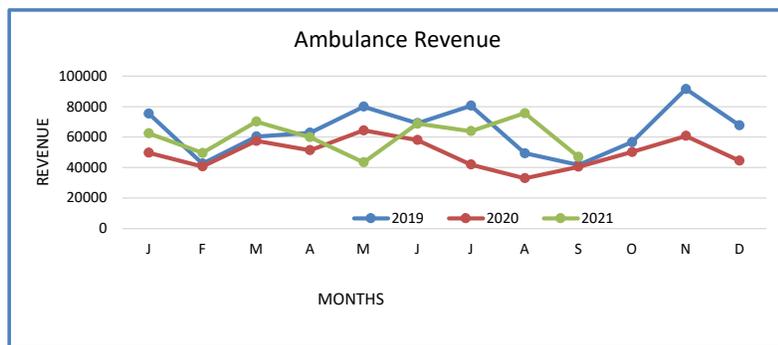
	Jul - Sep 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
680 Communications Maintenance	5,599.41	15,000.00	-9,400.59	37.3%
720 Public Fire Services	1,077.73	15,000.00	-13,922.27	7.2%
730 Property & Liability Insur.	82.00	63,000.00	-62,918.00	0.1%
740 Uniforms	5,622.81	15,000.00	-9,377.19	37.5%
750 Maintenance on Equipment	19,772.77	130,000.00	-110,227.23	15.2%
760 Administration	16,359.63	50,500.00	-34,140.37	32.4%
765 Information Technology	26,433.12	115,000.00	-88,566.88	23.0%
770 Operating Materials/Supplies	1,088.47	5,000.00	-3,911.53	21.8%
775 Emerg. Operating Supplies	11,014.48	65,000.00	-53,985.52	16.9%
780 Building & Grounds Maint.	6,866.11	94,000.00	-87,133.89	7.3%
790 Training	6,577.16	70,000.00	-63,422.84	9.4%
810 Utilities	7,809.22	36,150.00	-28,340.78	21.6%
870 EMS Operations	27,507.55	155,000.00	-127,492.45	17.7%
<b>Total 1.2 GENERAL FUND MATERIAL &amp;...</b>	<b>141,186.96</b>	<b>880,650.00</b>	<b>-739,463.04</b>	<b>16.0%</b>
<b>1.3 GENERAL FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>				
910 CO Equipment	0.00	200,000.00	-200,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 1.3 GENERAL FUND CAPITAL OUT...</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>200,000.00</b>	<b>-200,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>1.4 GENERAL FUND DEBT</b>				
930 Debt	0.00	65,000.00	-65,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 1.4 GENERAL FUND DEBT</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>65,000.00</b>	<b>-65,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Total 1...</b>	<b>1,025,405.43</b>	<b>5,219,174.00</b>	<b>-4,193,768.57</b>	<b>19.6%</b>
<b>1.5 GENERAL FUND TRANSFER OUT</b>				
Transfers to Personnel Services	0.00	50,000.00	-50,000.00	0.0%
Transfers to Property Fund	0.00	63,539.00	-63,539.00	0.0%
<b>Total 1.5 GENERAL FUND TRANSFER OUT</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>113,539.00</b>	<b>-113,539.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
1.6 GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY	0.00	400,000.00	-400,000.00	0.0%
1.7 GENERAL RESERVED FOR FUTURE	0.00	1,000,000.00	-1,000,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 1..GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1,025,405.43</b>	<b>6,732,713.00</b>	<b>-5,707,307.57</b>	<b>15.2%</b>
<b>2. GRANT FUND EXPENSE</b>				
2.3 MATERIALS & SERVICES	0.00	100,000.00	-100,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 2. GRANT FUND EXPENSE</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>100,000.00</b>	<b>-100,000.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>3. PROPERTY FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>				
EMS Apparatus & Equipment	0.00	87,000.00	-87,000.00	0.0%
Fire Apparatus & Equipment	0.00	126,207.00	-126,207.00	0.0%
Miscellaneous Real Property	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
<b>Total 3. PROPERTY FUND CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>218,207.00</b>	<b>-218,207.00</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>4. PERSONNEL SVC FUND EXPENSE</b>				
Liability & Service	10,978.51	100,000.00	-89,021.49	11.0%
Reserved for Future Expenses	0.00	8,128.00	-8,128.00	0.0%
<b>Total 4. PERSONNEL SVC FUND EXPENSE</b>	<b>10,978.51</b>	<b>108,128.00</b>	<b>-97,149.49</b>	<b>10.2%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,036,383.94</b>	<b>7,159,048.00</b>	<b>-6,122,664.06</b>	<b>14.5%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>1,407,625.54</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>1,407,625.54</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**AMBULANCE BILLING  
&  
TRANSPORT REPORT**

	2019	2020	2021
J	80	83	79
F	88	63	65
M	79	67	85
A	78	66	75
M	102	52	80
J	73	71	94
J	64	54	74
A	72	60	77
S	81	75	89
O	93	76	
N	78	72	
D	91	80	



	2019	2020	2021
J	75406	49,639	62,433
F	42641	40,764	49,564
M	60274	57,548	70,213
A	62786	51,391	59,929
M	80009	64,340	43,379
J	69047	58,014	68,789
J	80583	42,023	63,882
A	49376	33,007	75,612
S	41784	40,574	47,015
O	56713	50,250	
N	91565	60,727	
D	67635	44,503	



**MONTHLY RESPONSE  
&  
ACTIVITY PREPARED**

# MONTHLY REPORT

# SCAPPOOSE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



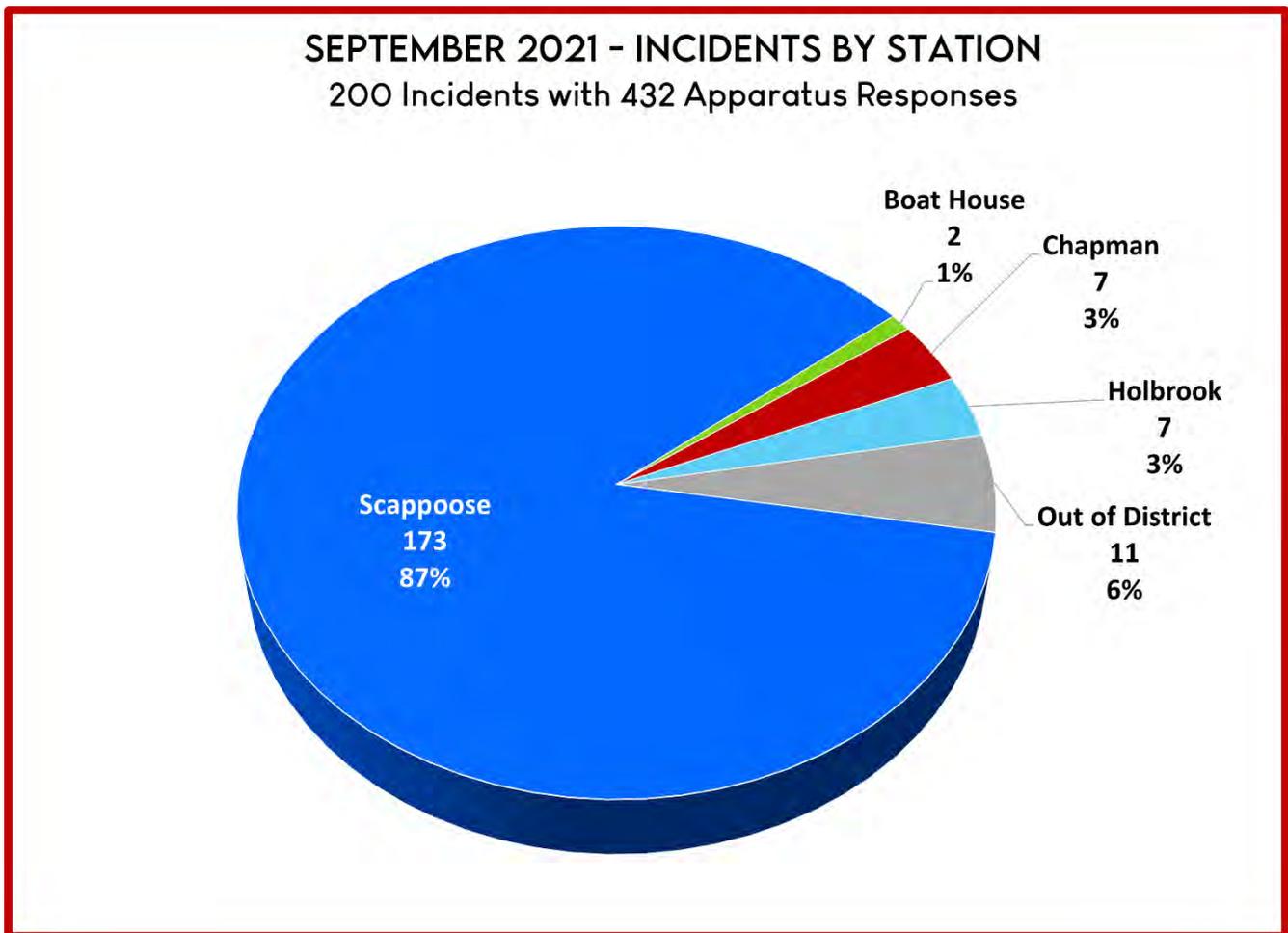
SEPTEMBER 2021

For the month of September, the ratio of EMS incidents to Fire incidents was 70% to 30% respectively. There were 140 EMS related calls for the month, where 153 patients were treated. COVID-19 was suspected or confirmed in 16 patients.

Approximately 49% of the total call volume (97 incidents) represents overlapping calls (at least one other call in progress). There was 1 incident where unit(s) were deployed for more than two days. Either of these situations could require units to respond to areas outside their base districts, which would result in increased response times as well as depleted available resources to respond to emergencies.

Total Fire & EMS calls for service during the month was 200, with a total of 432 apparatus responses spending 340 hours and 28 minutes of time.

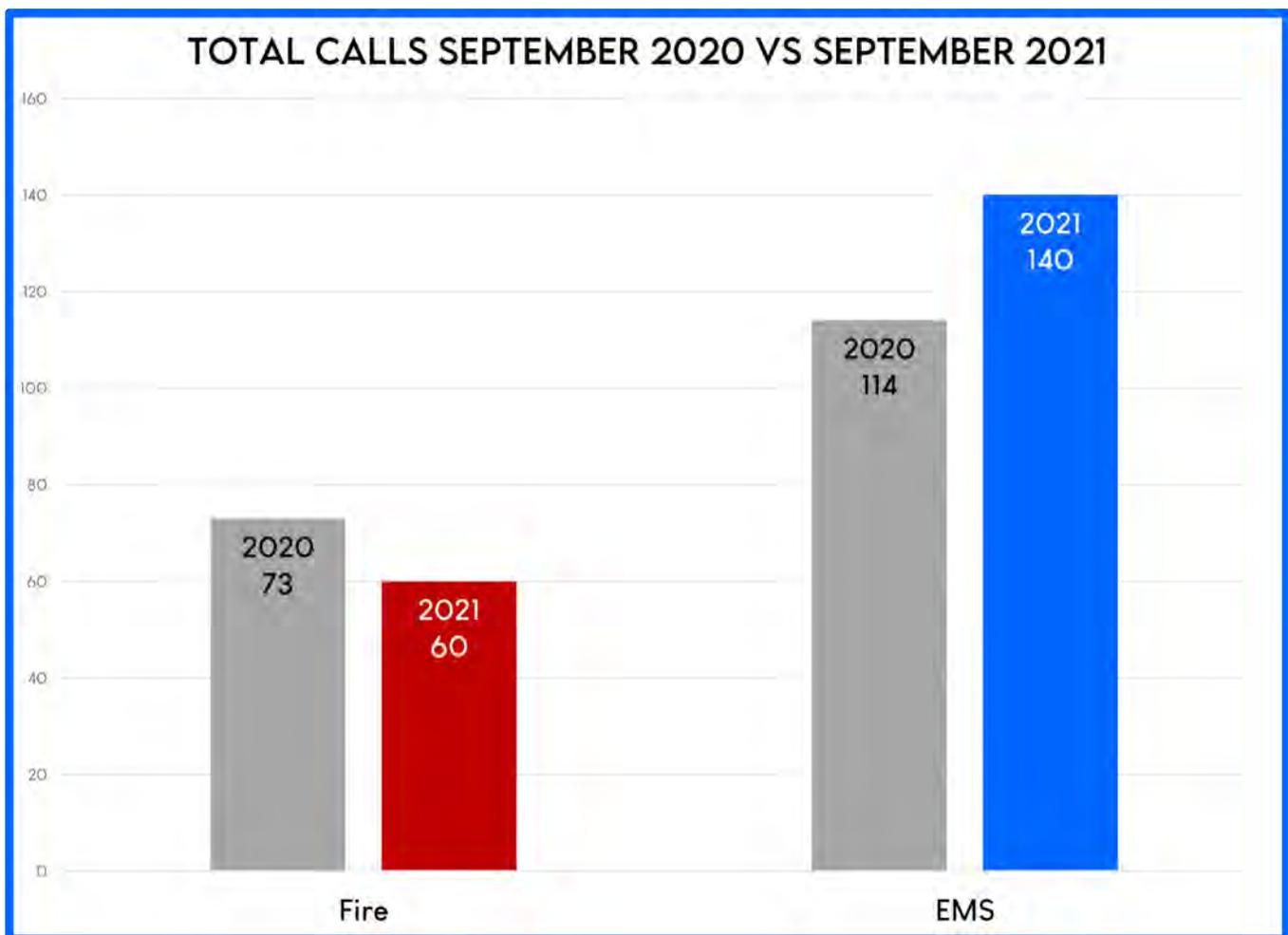
For the month of September, SRFD averaged 2.0 fire calls per day and 4.67 EMS calls per day for an overall daily average of 6.67 calls per day.



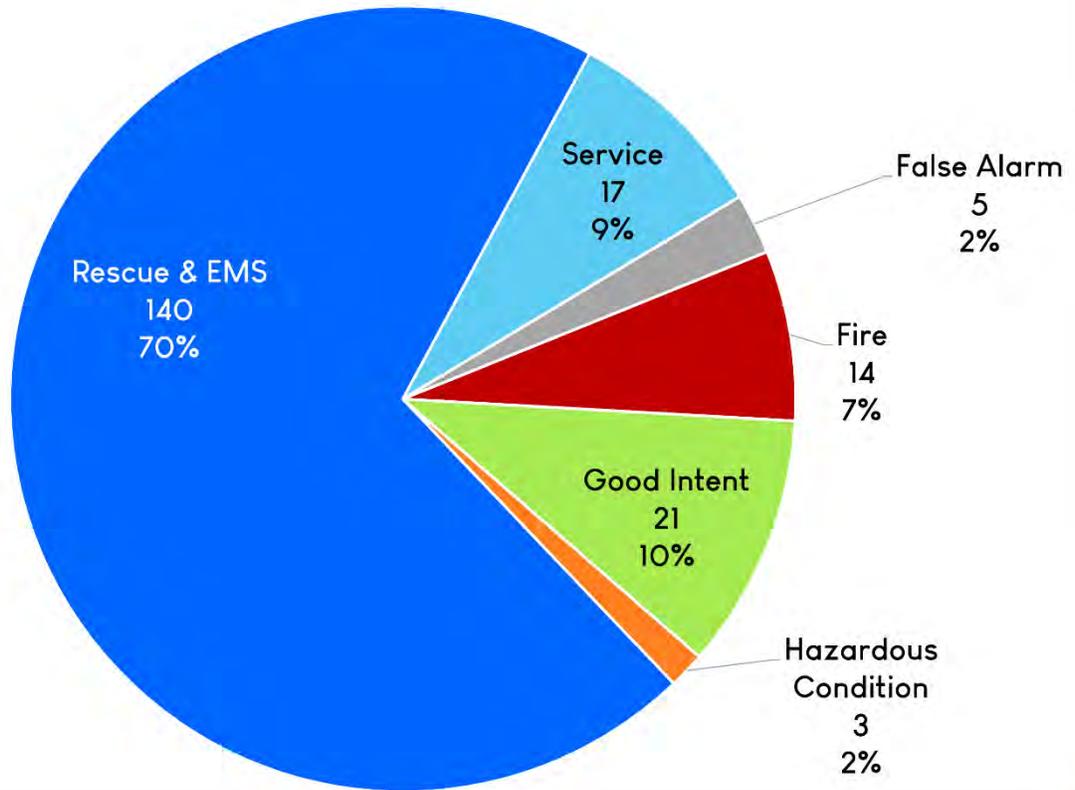
## FIRE AND EMS CALL BREAKDOWN FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Fires	15
Hazardous Condition	3
Service Call	17
Good Intent	20
Other Assistance	0
False Alarm	5
<b>FIRE CALLS TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>

ALS Provided	91
BLS Provided	45
Investigate	2
Cancelled	0
Other Assistance	2
<b>EMS CALLS TOTAL</b>	<b>140</b>

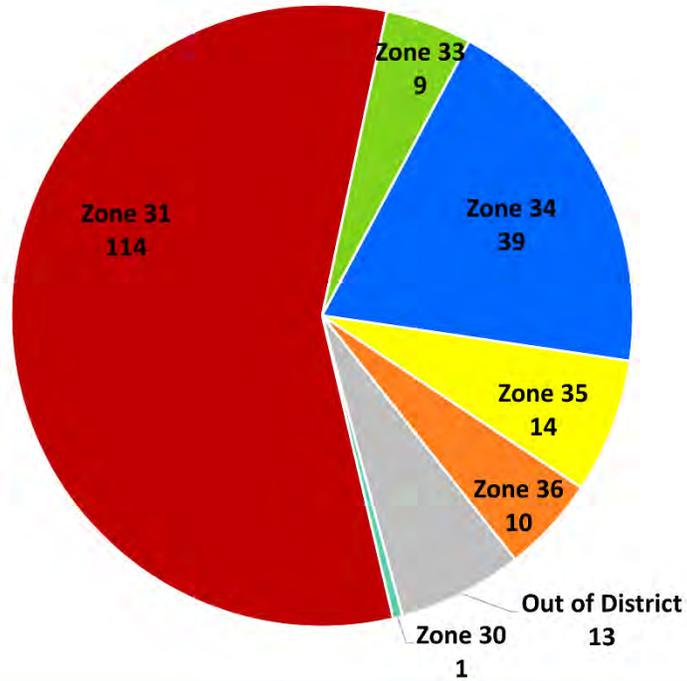


### SEPTEMBER 2021 - 200 CALLS BY TYPE

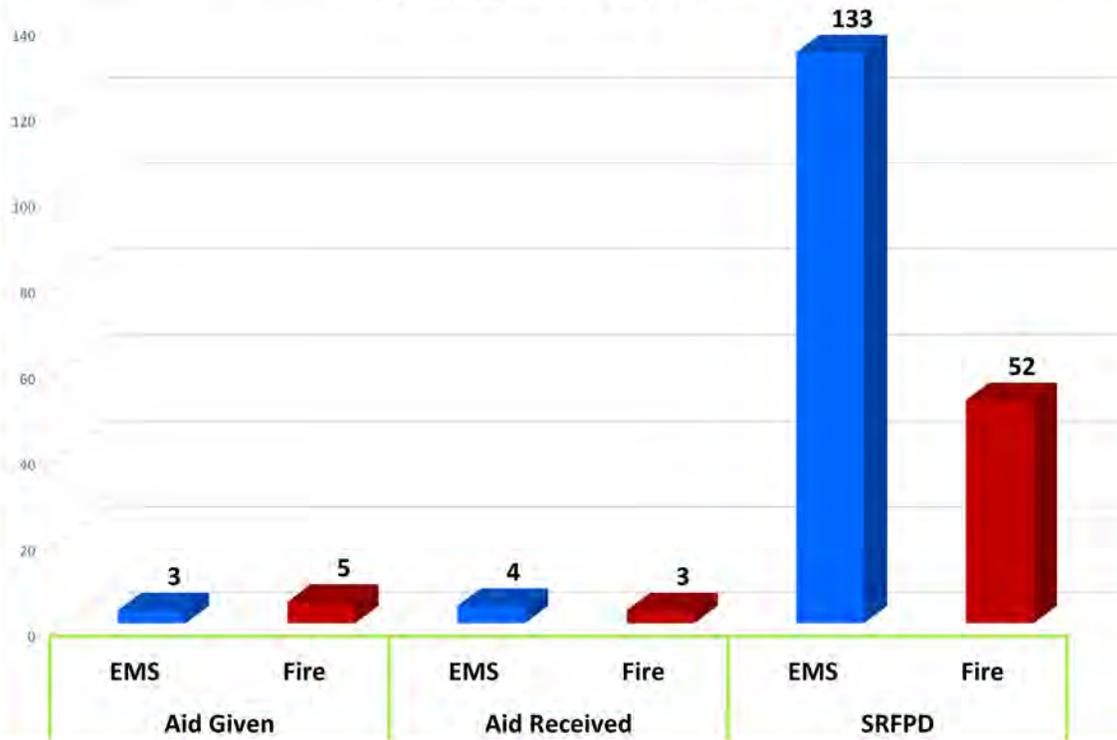


	Average Calls Per Day	Total Number of Calls	Percentage
Fire	2.00	60	30%
EMS	4.67	140	70%
TOTAL	6.67	200	100%

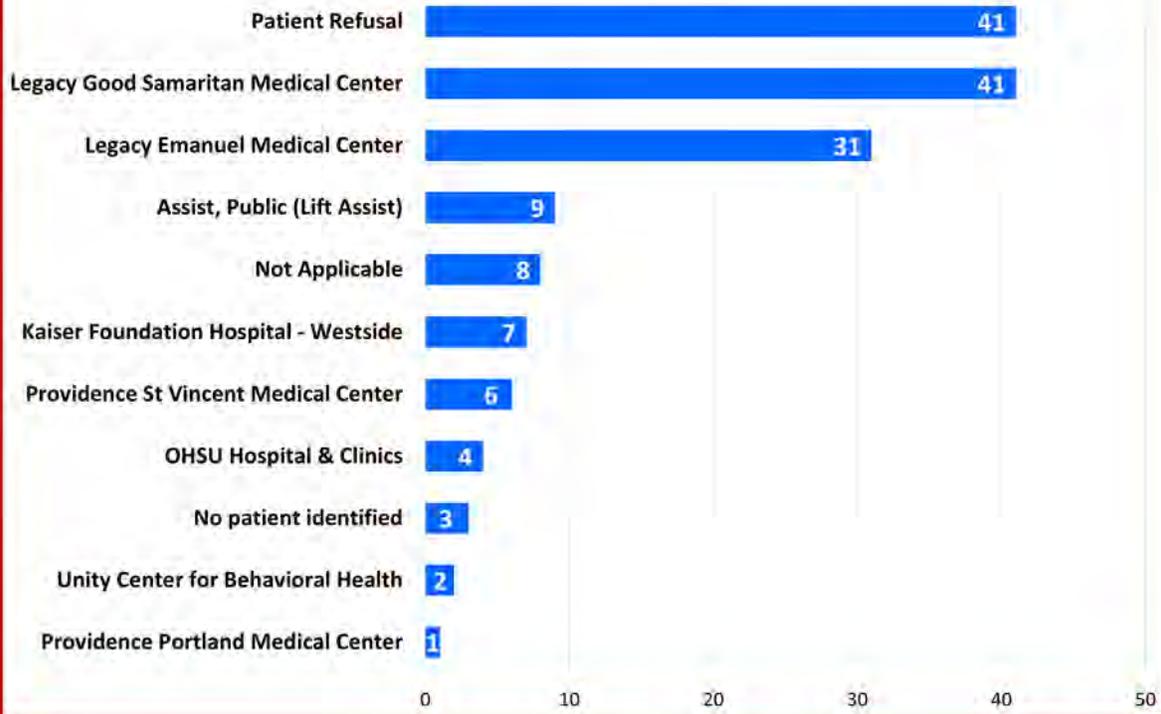
SEPTEMBER 2021 - INCIDENTS BY ZONE  
200 Incidents



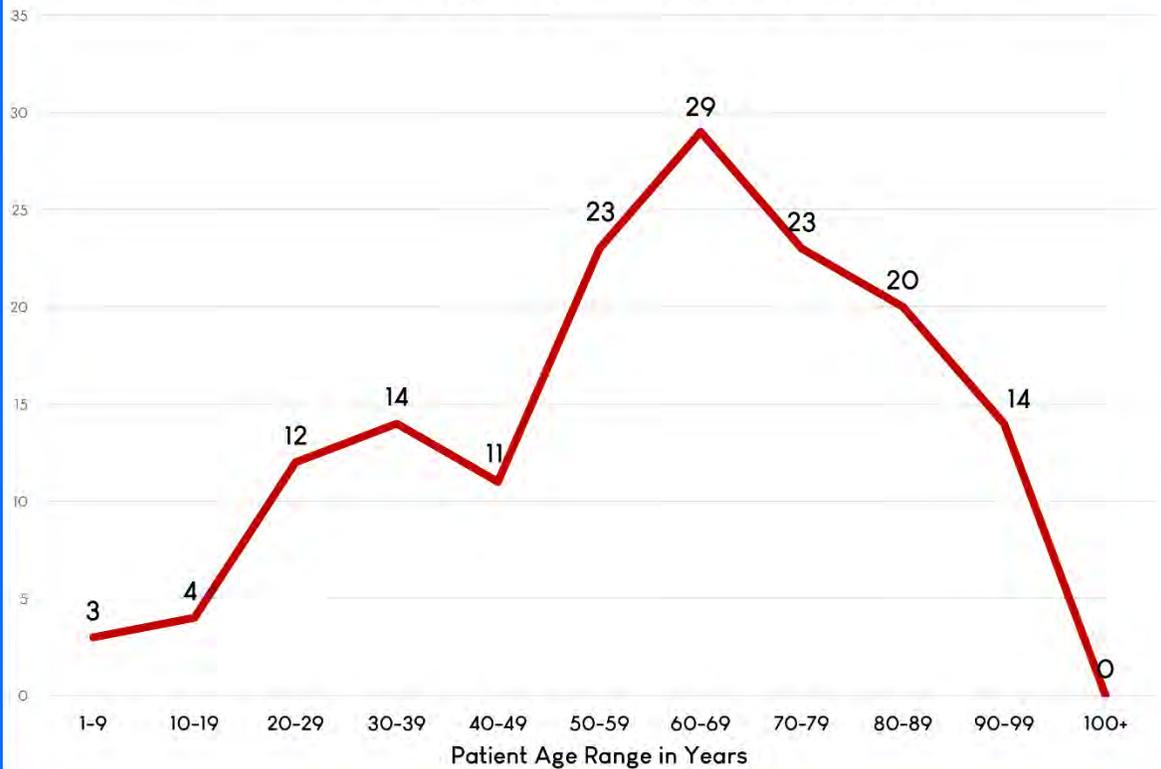
INCIDENTS BY RESPONDING JURISDICTION  
September 2021 - 200 Incidents



## SEPTEMBER 2021 - PATIENT DISPOSTION 153 Patients

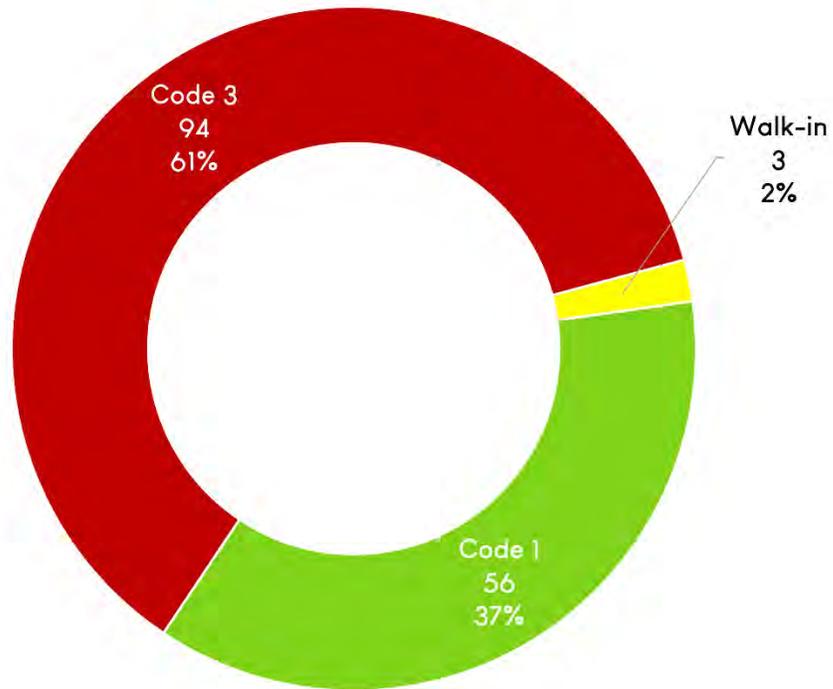


## SEPTEMBER 2021 AGE OF 153 PATIENTS TREATED



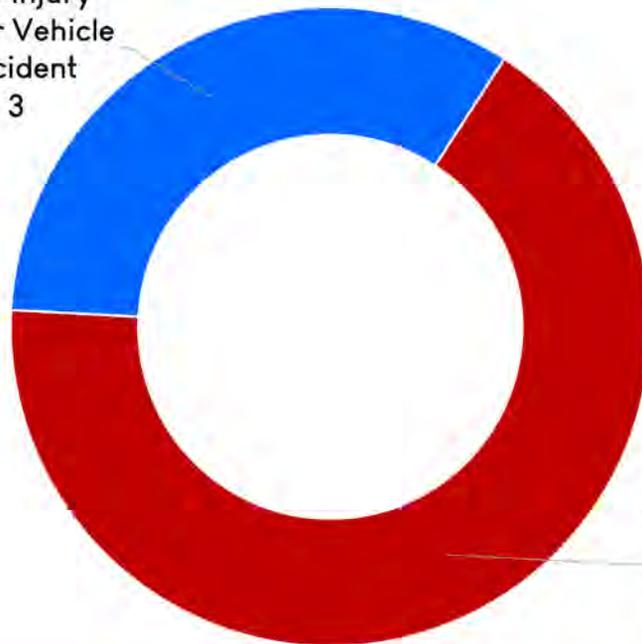
### SEPTEMBER 2021 - EMS RESPONSE MODE

153 Patients

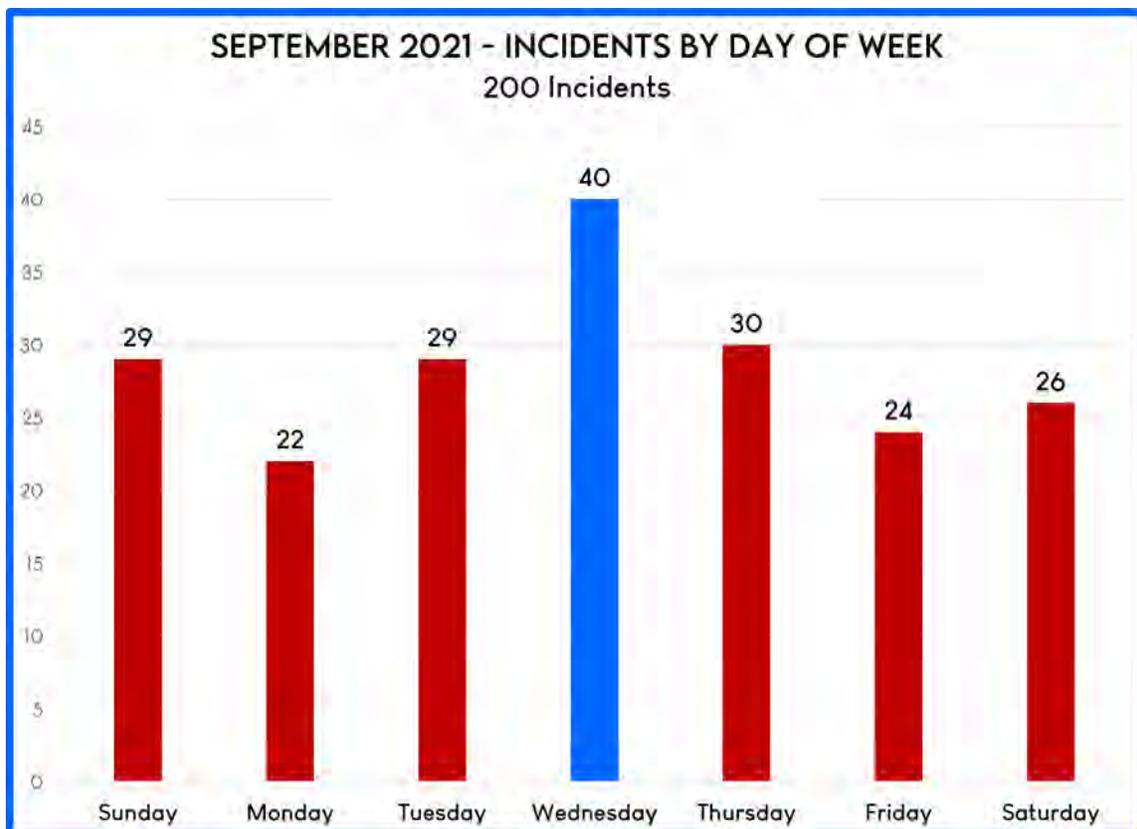
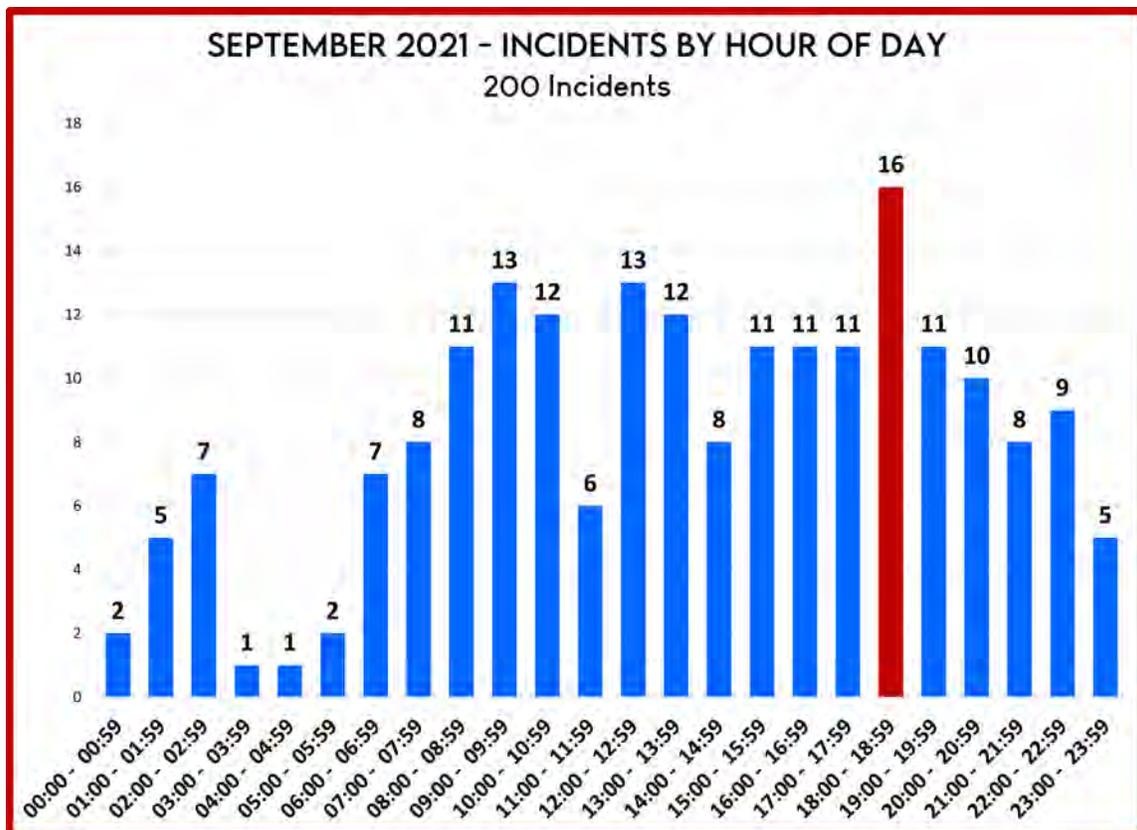


### SEPTEMBER 2021 - 9 MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Non-Injury  
Motor Vehicle  
Accident  
3

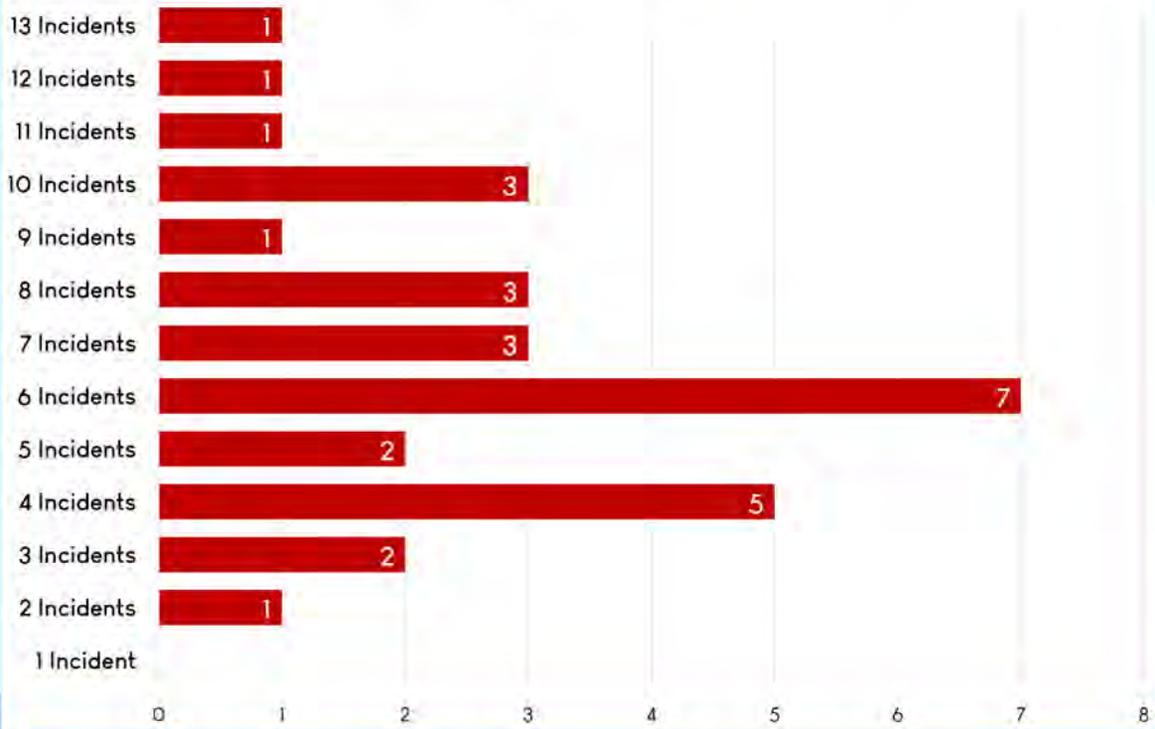


Injury Motor  
Vehicle  
Accident  
6



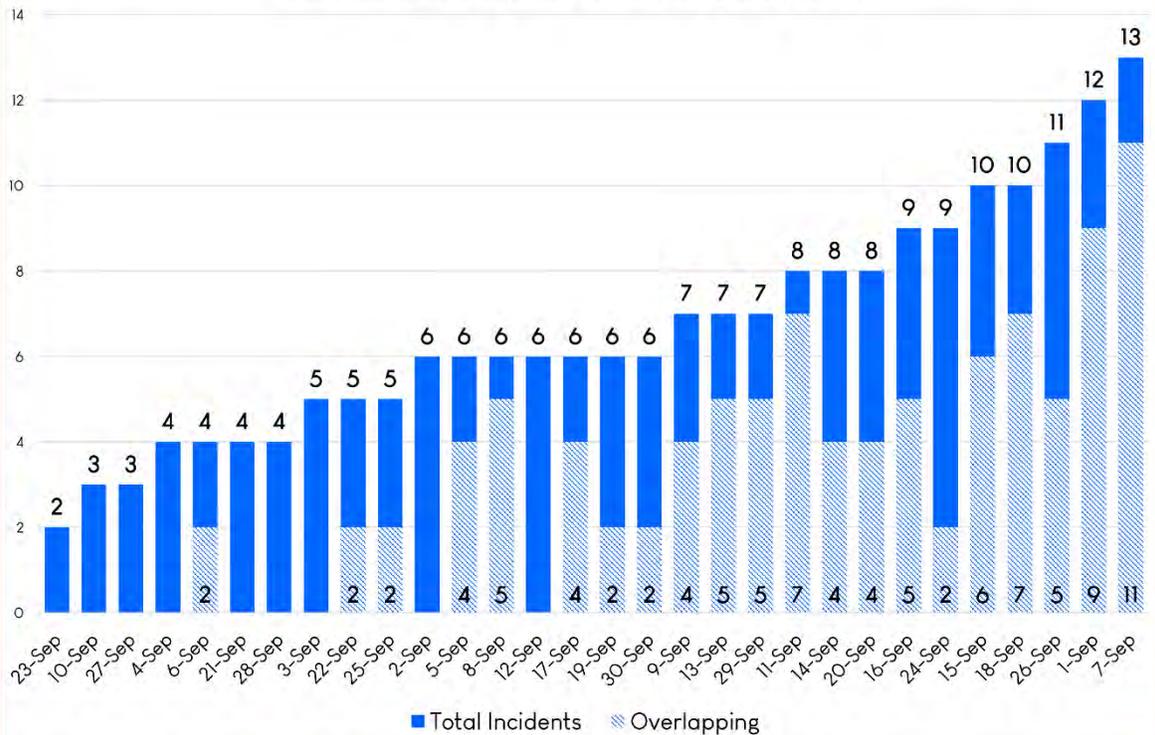
### SEPTEMBER 2021 - INCIDENT COUNT BY NUMBER OF DAYS

200 Incidents



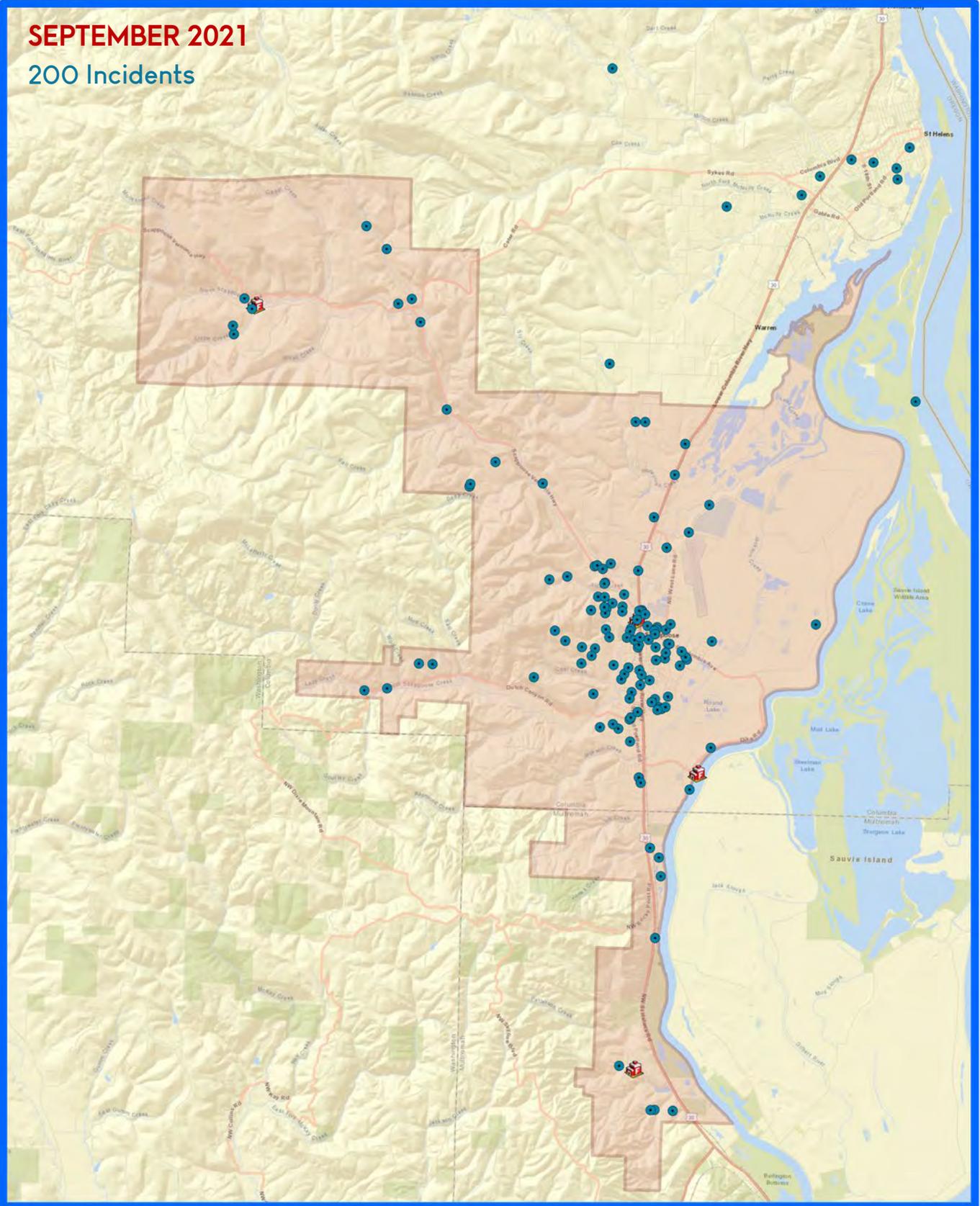
### SEPTEMBER 2021 - DATES AND OVERLAPPING INCIDENTS

200 Incidents with 97 Overlapping (49%)



# SEPTEMBER 2021

200 Incidents



# STAFF REPORTS

## Fire Chief Report October 2021

### Meetings Attended

Date	Topic	Date	Topic
9/1/21	Labor MGT Meeting	9/15/21	100 Year After Action Mtg (City)
9/1/21	Volunteer Association	9/16/21	River Safety Meeting
9/7/21	Drone Responder Conf	9/16/21	Meeting with Spring Lake Community
9/7/21	Admin Meeting	9/16/21	Board Meeting
9/8/21	Drone Responder Conf	9/20/21	Officers Meeting
9/8/21	CCOM Meeting	9/21/21	Time With Team A-Shift
9/9/21	Presented at the Drone Conf	9/21/21	Admin Meeting
9/9/21	UASI Meeting	9/21/21	Cougar Peak Inbreif
9/11/21	9/11 memorial	9/29/21	Maruska Retirement
9/11/21	Alder Creek Fire	9/30/21	REGIS Meeting
9/13/21	Fire Defense Board MTG		
9/13/21	Spring Lake Fire		
9/14/21	Planning Mtg		
9/14/21	FIT Meeting		
9/15/21	Chief Examiner Meeting		
9/15/21	Meet with new City Police Chief		

**On Call in September: 312 Hours (13 Days)**

**TOTAL HOURS: 382**

#### Training

Attended Drone Responder Conference

Presented our Drone Project at the Drone Responder Convention

#### Projects

Hiring – *In Progress*

EMS Boundaries Multnomah County – *In Progress*

Multnomah County CWPP Participation – *In Progress*

Draft Strategic Plan – *In Progress*

Operations Manual – *Draft to print next month*

SHSG – Aircraft (\$86,000) ~ *Not Awarded*

RDPO UAS Grant ~ *80% complete*

Jamf – *Managing over 40 devices*

Fire Code Guide Update - *Tabled*

Special Operations – *Tabled*

September included another deployment with Team 12. Thankfully, we were able to get a quick knockdown and over the two-week assignment, was able to complete all objectives outlined for my assigned division. A greater breakdown of fires in the last few years is also being included in this report.

September was very challenging with the volume of injects that admin staff was challenged with. We are facing a significant staffing shortage with injuries, scheduled medical leave and military duty. We are staffing all shifts with the required minimums, however, there will be a significant uptick in mandates for the career staff. Unfortunately, our staffing challenges are not looking to be resolved till after the new year. We were able to successfully reach an agreement with Local 1660 and now have an MOU in place to hire 8 part time positions. We are currently setting up a new agreement with the National Testing Network to streamline this process.

We have started a hiring process to fill a vacant NIFF Paramedic and EMT positions. We have selected a paramedic candidate and EMT candidate. Both have accepted our contingent / tentative job offer pending a background investigation and physical assessments.

We have set a future date of hiring the next three Firefighter Paramedics for the 4<sup>th</sup> of April. This is necessary as a result of the current challenge we are having filling the Chief Examiner position with civil service, the lag time that will create for certifying a list (November or December), interviews, physical, background investigation and other onboarding logistics. Plus, with the return of one of our members who has been out for more than a year, this will provide relief for Chief Marks with all of the required training that will have to occur during this period.

The draft Strategic Plan process experienced a bit of a slow down due to staff in training, on deployments and other district priorities that surfaced. We will be going through other examples of Strategic Plans in the coming weeks as we form the initial draft.

Training for the new engine is going well and we hope to have it in service somewhere between the first of November and the end of November.

A significant amount of time has been allocated for trying to find an architect as well as identifying costs to re-chassis the rescue. There is a staff report for the architect as part of this packet.

## Type 2 Interagency Incident Management Team (IMT) Deployments In The Last 5 Years

### 2017 – 19 Days on Fires

- **Ana** (5 Days) Oregon
- **Eagle Creek** (14 Days) Oregon

### 2018 – 34 Days on Fires

- **Hendrix** (14) Oregon
- **Snowy Mountain** (6 Days) Washington
- **Taylor-Klondike** (14 Days) Oregon

### 2019 - Alaska (14 Days)

### 2020 – 22 Days on Fires

- **Evans Canyon** (10 Days), Washington
- **Archie Creek** (12 Days) (22 Total) Oregon

### 2021 – 31 Days on Fires

- **RAC MOB Support** (5 Days) Oregon
- **Batterman Road** (5 Days) Washington
- **Whitmore** (9 Days) Washington
- **Cougar Peak** (12 Days) Oregon

## Education / Skills / Benefits learned & acquired during the 2021 Fire Season

- **24 /48 / 72 Hour planning.** Forecasting ordering needs, crew and equipment needs and demobilization glide path to coincide with other divisions and finance.
- **Politics of Communication and how communication impacts everything.**
- **BKR5000 radio programming.** Our team COML was able to develop and program our newest radio at no cost to the district.
- **Importance of the use of deputies for command and general staff.** Examples include Field Ops / Planning Ops. Additionally, our team is exploring and developing for submittal a new position of Field MEDL to the region and NWCG.
- **GIS / Mapping**
  - Collector / Survey 1, 2, 3
  - Avenza / PDF Maps
  - Understanding the systems of systems for databases
  - Workflows
- **UAS (Drones)**
  - PSD / Firing Operations
  - Operating with other Manned Aircraft
  - Mapping
- **Logistics**
  - How to set up a Base Of Operations (BOO)
  - Covid protocols for incident operations
- **Technology**
  - Effective and efficient use of technology during covid times
  - How to do remote / radio briefings for the public and responders
- **Briefings**
  - Effective operations briefings (Operations Section Chief) in the AM and PM for extended incidents
  - How to promote the sharing of resources
- **Tactics**
  - How to operate with limited resources

## **FIRE MARSHAL REPORT**

We have been continuing to experience a significant increase in Referrals from the county for property development. We are doing our best to stay on top of these.

Staff has been participating in the upcoming fire code changes and participating with the statewide code development committee.

There has been a significant increase in plan reviews for the month of October, which will be reflected next month.

Chief Bautista has been working on obtaining the National Fire Marshal Certification. When he completes this, we will have two in the department and we will be one of 12 Certified Fire Marshals (ICC) in the state to have this credential.

### **Plan Reviews**

3

### **Driveway Inspections**

3

### **System Tests**

0

### **General Inspections**

0

### **Fire Investigations**

2

### **UAS (Drone) Missions**

2

## OPERATIONS REPORT

New engine training is ongoing. Minor equipment has been ordered that is needed (Lights, fan, mounting hard ware) and we hope to complete the equipment mounting by the end of October.

The Rescue re-chassis is still in flux. We are waiting on a couple of quotes to have a good idea of the total cost of this project. We hope to bring a recommendation to the board at the next meeting for action.

Our ladder tower is back in service. There is still an intermittent issue with the control in the bucket. We hope to have this resolved soon.

Holbrook station: At this time, there are no outstanding deficiencies and is operating within limits.

Chapman station: At this time, there are no outstanding deficiencies and is operating within limits.

The boat House station: Chief Marks and I have completed our assessment on what is still outstanding for this project and chief Marks will be working to get this scheduled in the next couple weeks. We still need to make some adjustments to the chains that secure the structure to the dock.

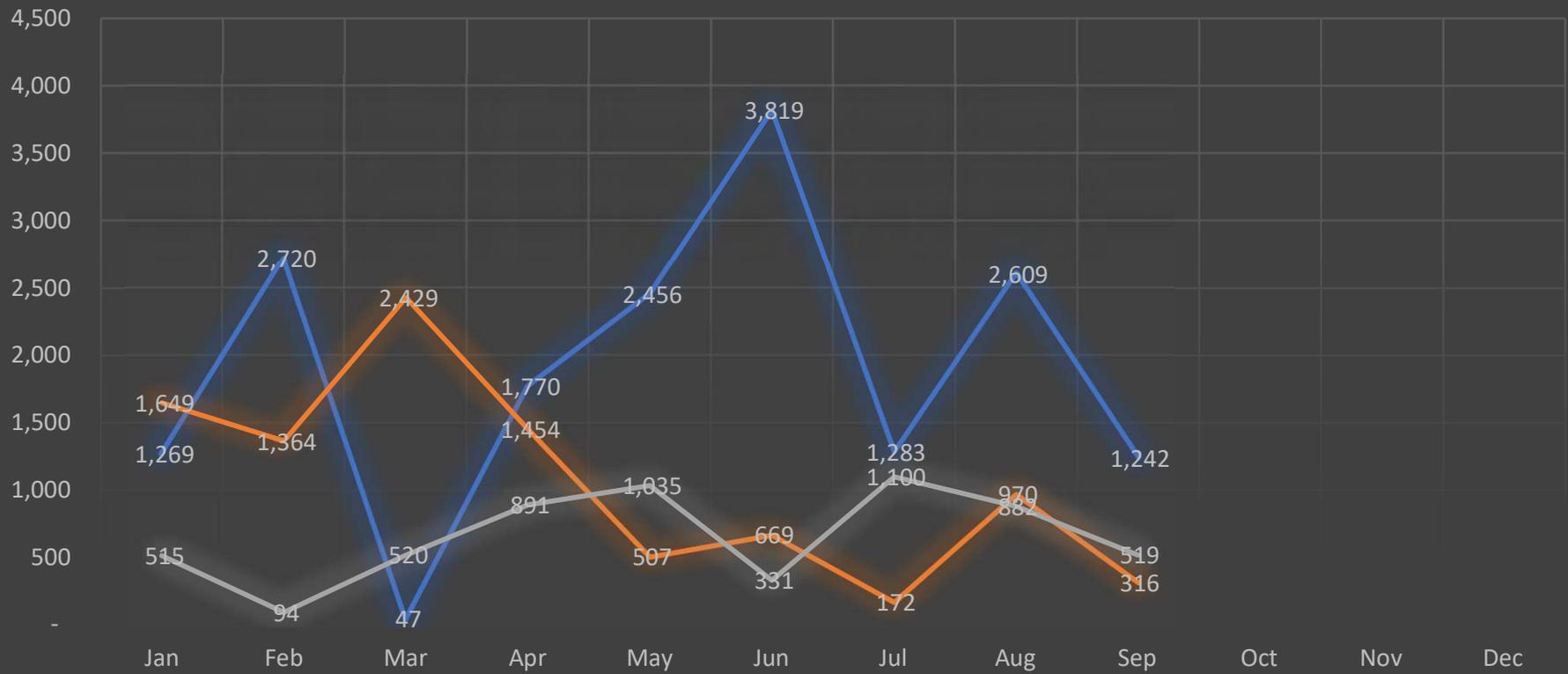
Scappoose station: As submitted as part of this board packet is a request for the ability to move forward with station designs. There is a potential for a station upgrade grant becoming available in the very near future. Projects will be successful if they are close to shovel ready.

Staffing continues to be our biggest challenge with several mandates. Staff is working with Local 1660 to identify potential resolutions to this issue.

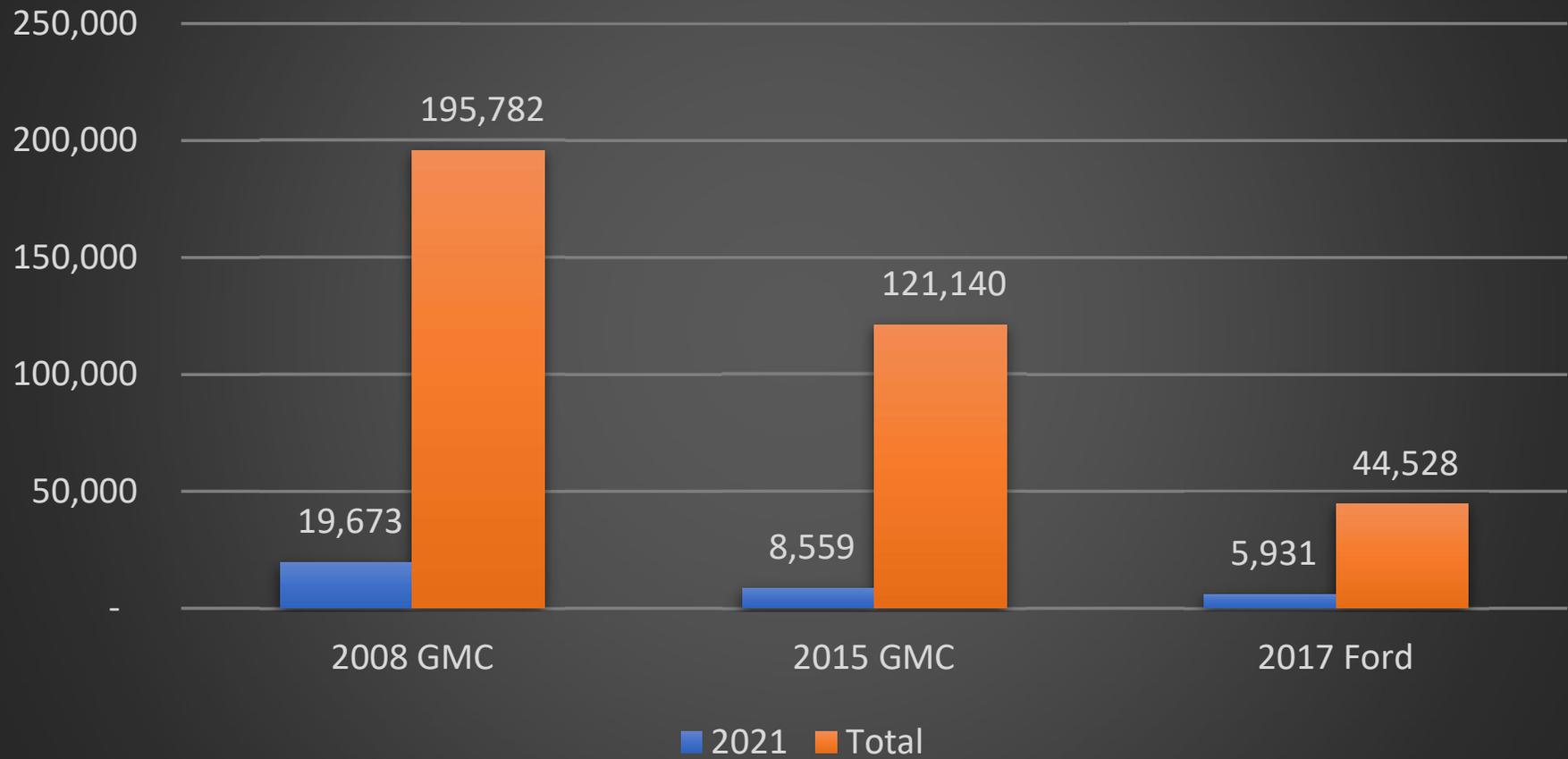
An all-hands meeting occurred on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup>. We held the meeting twice to accommodate the schedules of our Volunteers and Career staff.

# Miles per Month

— 2008 GMC — 2015 GMC — 2017 Ford



# Mileage Summary



**Training Report  
Chief Marks  
October 2021**

**September Projects:**

Duty Shifts

Probationary Test building

Task Performance Testing

Drills / Activities / Meetings in September included

Admin and Officers Meetings

Safety Meeting

Fire Training

During September I attended most of my regularly scheduled meetings. I was unable to attend LCRTOA and the Board Meeting due to attending a Safety Program Course at during that week. After receiving the new engine while I was away at class, we began training on the equipment. Members have completed the cone course in the apparatus, and it will soon be on the road with staff completing road courses.

During September I assisted with NIFF interviews. The initial interviews were completed, and the candidate pool was then forwarded to Chief Pricher. D/C Bautista, Lt. Heuer, NIFF Curio and F/A Tardiff all assisted with this.

We also said goodbye to one of our long-time volunteers in September. Ron Maruska retired on September 29, 2021. At his request, we had a small social gathering to say goodbye.

My Time Worked in September 2021	203.75 hours
Call Time in September 2021 office time)	204 Hours (call shifts minus 80 hours
<b>Total Hours</b>	407.75 Hours
Total August Training Hours	122 Hours
Total Volunteer Hours in August 2021	608.77 between 14 individuals

## Chief Bautista Report

October 2021

### September Projects:

#### District Facemask

- SRFD facemasks were completed and distributed to members. The remaining masks are in Chief Pricher office. These were purchased in an effort have our members uniform and comply with the COVID-19 mandates.

#### Uniform Project

- Working with FF Brandon Booth to review and revise our district uniforms.
  - Class A uniform specifications are being drafted by Lighthouse uniform and will be reviewed for approval. Currently, there are only Firefighter rank specs on file with the vendor.
  - District patch is being cleaned up; a demo of the patch is being provided in the next few weeks for approval. Previous orders have not performed well after uniform washes. We are currently out of uniform patches and wanted to address the quality and design prior to another large order. We are not changing the patch design.
  - Duty uniform item demos are being provided by Beyond Uniform for a wear tests and review of embroidery designs (at no cost to the district). Our goal is to have consistent a design, products and shorter turnaround times for all future uniform orders. Previous vendors estimated turn around was 6-8 weeks.

#### Exterior Station Painting

- Contacted seven (7) local and regional paint companies and only received two bids, need at least one more quote.

#### FM Global Fire Prevention Training Grant

- Completed the grant application by the 9/30/2021 deadline. Asking for \$30,000 or partial funding for a Marine Fire Investigation course. Based on funding, course registration seats would be offered to members of the Columbia County Fire Investigation Team (FIT). If funded, this would be the first time this course has been offered on the West Coast. Training would allow us to improve our fire investigations in a marine setting and inform the development of fire prevention programs for our marinas. Decisions on applications are expected 3-4 months from the deadline.

#### Fire Alarm Upgrade Security Grant Application

- Contacted Point Monitoring for a quote, appointment scheduled for 10/4/2021. Grant application is due November 17, 2021.

#### Fire Prevention and Investigation training courses:

- Youth Fire Setter Program Manager – Course costs received, waiting for funding to schedule

- Marine Fire Investigation Course – Course costs received, waiting for funding to schedule
- Wildland Fire Investigator – Meeting with primary instructor at the end of the wildfire season
- Advance Arson Investigation – Course costs received, on hold for now

**Meetings in September:**

Date	Topic
9/1/2021	Labor/Management Meeting
9/13/2021	Fire Defense Board Meeting
9/14/2021	LCRTOA Meeting – Virtually
9/14/2021	Columbia County Fire Investigation Team (FIT) Meeting
9/20/2021	IAAI Oregon Chapter Executive Board Meeting in Newport, OR
9/30/2021	Public Information Officer Columbia County Collaboration Meeting

The Oregon State Fire Marshal’s Office has appointed me to two (2) subcommittee work groups as part of the 2022 Oregon Fire Code development process. The Subcommittee Work Groups are 5 & 6, meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays and Fridays of the month.

Below is a breakdown of the fire code chapter being reviewed:

Subcommittee Work Group 5

- IFC Ch 20 Aviation Facilities
- IFC Ch 23 Motor Fuel-Dispensing Facilities and Repair Garages
- IFC Ch 24 Flammable Finishes
- IFC Ch 56 Explosives and Fireworks
- IFC Ch 61 Liquefied Petroleum Gases Appendix S - Tank Vehicle to Tank Vehicle Fuel Transfer At Airports (State of Oregon)

Subcommittee Work Group 6:

- IFC Ch 27 Semiconductor Fabrication Facilities
- IFC Ch 29 Manufacture of Organic Coatings
- IFC Ch 30 Industrial Ovens IFC Ch 32 High-Piled Combustible Storage
- IFC Ch 33 Fire Safety During Construction and Demolition
- IFC Ch 34 Tire Rebuilding and Tire Storage
- IFC Ch 35 Welding and Other Hot Work
- IFC Ch 36 Marinas
- IFC Ch 37 Combustible Fibers
- IFC Ch 38 Higher Education Laboratories

National Fire Protection Association has informed me of two recent appointment. On the Airport Fueling Services Committee (NFPA 407), I have been appointed as a Principal Member. I was also informed that I was appointment as the Chair of the Airport Maintenance Operations Committee (NFPA 410).

**September Activities:**

9/1/2021 – Brush rig pumper operations with duty crew

9/2/2021 – Logie Trail Road Fire Investigation

9/12/2021 – Alder Creek Rd. Wildfire Emergency Call Back for PIO duties and station staffing

9/13/2021 – Spring Lake Community Residential Fire

9/15/2021 – Cone course with new engine with duty crew members

9/16/2021 – Driveway Inspection – Old Portland Road

9/17/2021 – Spring Lake Community fire investigation

9/27/2021 – EMT Candidate Interview

9/28/2021 – Paramedic Candidate Interviews

9/28/2021 – Driveway Inspection at Bankston Road

I continue to work with Chief Pricher and Chief Marks on preparing for entering the duty officer rotation. I have also been responding to emergency calls throughout the month as part of my preparation. I responded to a few incidents in the last month and was the first arriving chief officer on scene and had the opportunity to provide initial size ups and establish command. I will continue to take opportunities that prepare me for the transition into the duty officer rotation.

**Training:**

Completed cone course for new fire engine

Continuing to through FTEP task book as time allows

Working on Rope Rescue Operations task books for myself and district members

Attended rope rescue drill in Port Orchard, WA to complete task evaluations for Rope Rescue Operations certification.

Working through Blue Card training program, at 50% completion

I will be attending the International Code Council (ICC) Legal/ Management training seminar in Vancouver, WA on 10/11/21 through 10/15/21. Both exams will be scheduled immediately after the seminar. These two exams are needed to obtain the ICC Certified Fire Marshal credential.

Immediately after this training on Saturday October 16, 2021 I will fly out to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD to attend the six-day course, Command and Control of Incident Operations. I return from this training late evening on Saturday, October 23, 2021.

**Total Hours Worked in September 2021 are 209.5**

#### A. Tardif Finance Director September 2021 Meeting

On September 30, the District completed the third month of the 21-22 fiscal year, or 25% of the year.

Personnel salaries and payroll taxes are at 21.7%. This fund is currently under budget. However, we will not have a clear picture of how this fund is doing until after 11/30, when contract obligations have been met and all positions are filled. The district has begun recruitment for 1 NIFF-EMT and 1 NIFF-Paramedic, those positions are expected to be filled by mid to late October.

Materials & Services overall is at 16%, of the budget. At this time 25% would be equal to 3 months, if allocated evenly. The district expects to spend more on materials and services in Q2, Q3, and Q4 based on when revenue is received. Two sub accounts are higher than 25%, they are Communications Maintenance at 37.3% of budgeted expense and Administration at 32.4%.

EMS receipts to date total \$186,508.35 or 35% of what was budgeted. The Monthly average for EMS receipts is \$62,169.45. To meet this year's budgeted revenue of \$532,963, the district needs to collect \$44,414 a month. Currently the district is on track to exceed this amount. In prior meetings the board has inquired about monthly billing. For the month of September, the district had 89 transports and billed \$144,022.80. Based on September's transports and billing the district averages \$1,618.23 per billing. Due to Medicaid, other insurance, and financial hardships part of this amount will be written off and the rest collected over the next year.

# OLD BUSINESS

## Section 4.21 Residency Requirements for Chief Officers

- A. Chief Officers are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the District, including supervision of personnel, emergency response, control and command, structure fires, wildland fires, motor vehicle accidents, medical and ambulance response, hazardous materials spills, disasters, and other requests for assistance in emergency and non-emergency situations.

Reducing response time to the Scappoose Fire Station is vital for Chief Officers employed by the District due to the District's In the event of emergency, Chief Officers are critical to the District's prompt response and can be subject to recall.

- B. This policy shall apply to all Chief Officer positions filled after the effective date of this policy October 13, 2021. The policy applies to positions filled by promotion and through a hiring process.

### Policy

1. All persons filling a Chief Officer position after the effective date of this policy shall, within six months of the date of hire or promotion, establish residency. Residency is:
  - a. Within the Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District boundaries, or
  - b. Within a 30 minute drive time of the Scappoose Fire district boundaries.
2. Chief Officers shall provide their residency address to the District. It is the responsibility of the Chief Officer to maintain a current residency address on file with the District.
3. Chief Officers who are filling the rotating role of "Duty Officer" shall:
  - a. Reside within the district boundaries during which time as they are normally scheduled as the "Duty Officer," or
  - b. Reside at the station during the scheduled "Duty Officer" shift, or
  - c. Within a 10-minute drive time in Emergency Operations.
4. Any later-in-time alteration of a Chief Officer's residency shall also comply with this policy.



## Section 4.21 Residency Requirements for Chief Officers

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Reducing response time to the Scappoose Fire Station is vital for Chief Officers employed by the District due to the District's responsibilities in responding to emergency incidents. Chief Officers are charged with directing the District's response and must be on-site to be effective. In the event of emergency, Chief Officers are critical to the District's prompt response.

- B. This policy shall apply to all Chief Officer positions filled after the effective date of this policy February 13, 2014. The policy applies to positions filled by promotion and through a hiring process.

### Policy

1. All persons filling a Chief Officer position after the effective date of this policy shall, within six months of the date of hire or promotion, establish residency. Residency is:
  - a. Within the Scappoose Rural Fire Protection District boundaries, or
  - b. Within a 6 air-mile radius of the Scappoose Fire Station in Columbia or Multnomah County, excluding Sauvie Island, and
  - c. The District shall maintain a map showing this residency boundary.
2. Chief Officers shall provide their residency address to the District. It is the responsibility of the Chief Officer to maintain a current residency address on file with the District.
3. Any later-in-time alteration of a Chief Officer's residency shall also comply with this policy.

Section 4.21 Residency Requirements for Chief Officers (continued)

Extensions

- C. For good cause shown, the six-month time period within which to establish residency may be extended once for up to an additional 4 months. Extensions must be requested in writing by the Chief Officer to the Board President. The request must be made before the expiration of the 6-month time period for establishing residency. Extension requests will be decided by the Board and answered in writing.

Violations

- D. Violations of this residency policy will subject the Chief Officer to immediate discipline, up to and including termination.

Definitions

- E. "Chief Officer" means the Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, Deputy Chief, Division Chief, Battalion Chief, Operations Chief, Training Chief, EMS Chief, and any other officer position specifically made applicable to this policy during the hiring process by the Fire Chief.

"Residency" means the Chief Officer's principal place of residence – the residence the Chief Officer declares for voter registration purposes and for the Chief Officer's driver's license. The principal place of residence is the residence that the Chief Officer intends to actually remain at permanently and on a full-time basis for a definite or indefinite length of time. Maintaining two households will be evidence that the Chief Officer has not established residency within the District if one of the households is not within the residency boundary. Simply maintaining a post-office box or other mailing address within the residency boundary is not sufficient to establish residency.

Approved:

President, Sandy Newman 

Secretary, David Sorenson 

Date: February 13, 2014

## SUBMITTED BOARD GOALS (Ideas)

10/12/2021

1. Maintain sufficient staffing levels and be fully staffed by June 2022. This includes career and office. The district should be a desired place to work and/or volunteer. Improve recruitment/retention by creating a 2-year plan that will increase volunteer staff to 20 total volunteers. This includes adding 4-5 new volunteers by June 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.
2. 2 year plan on building improvements / expansion. (Building maintenance/upgrades)
3. 5 year plan on fire apparatus replacement. identify unreliable vehicles and rotate out for new(er)
4. More (and better) interaction with other county entities. This includes but is not limited to county commissioners, CRF&R, city of Scappoose, city and county police. Improved Community outreach and partnerships.
5. Funding resources – Identify opportunities for additional funding. 5 year financial strategic plan to provide sustainability.

# NEW BUSINESS



# MEMORANDUM

TO: Scappoose Fire District Board

FROM: Fire Chief Pricher

SUBJECT: Purchase Radios per the capital outlay plan in the FY 20/21 budget process

DATE: October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Requested Action:** Authorize staff to purchase portable and mobile radios to replace our non-serviceable and outdated communication equipment.

**Critical date for action:** This should be completed in the next 30 days.

**Purpose:**

Replace portable radios, most of which were purchased in the 90's.

**Impact:**

This request is to purchase mobile and portable APCO P25 compliant radios and accessories to replace our current inventory of Motorola HT1000 purchased in 1998. Our current portable and mobile radios are non-serviceable and beyond useful life.

Newer technology allows for easier switching and setup of shared channels during a large operation. We experience the pitfalls of a poor communications system regularly. Our current radios do not have the ability to switch to some of the frequencies that were used by other agencies due to the limit on channels allowed on our current equipment. This exasperates efforts to effectively manage the many crews on scene. Increasing our current capabilities will eliminate this problem.

Without a reliable radio system, all that we do is potentially compromised.

We need to purchase the following:

Portable Radios - 136-174 MHz (VHF) portable radio APCO P25 5000 channels (\$2,562 each) to include the following: Bendix King radio with Blue Tooth interface for SCBA interface (\$1,828 each), Li-Ion 2300 MAH battery (2 per unit, \$150 each), Remote speaker, high impact (\$122 each), Charger, vehicle kit (62 kits, \$322 each).

Mobile Radios - 136-174 MHz (VHF) Mid Power Mobile APCO P25 5000 channels (\$2902 Each) to include the following: Bendix King radio, Control Head Dash Mount, Antenna (\$2,869), 15W water resistant speaker (\$33 each).

Communications are quite possibly the most important item to consider when we are conducting operations, whether they be fire or EMS related. The National Institute for Safety and Health (NIOSH) statistics nearly always list poor communications when considering causes for death or serious injury. The lack of effective communications can lead to confusion, misunderstanding, and loss of personnel accountability.

Purchasing the newer radios will allow us to meet updated standards (NFPA 1802, and USFA Voice Radio Communications Guide for the Fire Service) and to increase safety by taking advantage of newer technology.

**Availability of funding:**

We budgeted \$190,000 for the purchase of new radios. This funding has been allocated in the capitol outlay fund of the 20/21 budget.

Staff will optimize the best way to allocate these funds between Mobile and Portable Radios.

**Coordination:**

This project to be coordinated by finance and staff assigned to this project.

**Contact person(s):**

Jeff Pricher

Alex Tardif

Brandon Booth

**Attachments:** (None)

**Recommendations:**

1. Allow staff to start the purchase process for this sole source purchase.
2. Take no action.
3. Table this for another month.

**Conclusion:**

We cannot wait any longer kicking the can down the road with these vital communication devices. Knowing that delivery take 3-4 months, now is the time to place the order. While there is still significant discussion with the 911 district regarding which system they will be pursuing, there is no time frame for their project. In other words, waiting is not a reasonable stance. We have waited too long as it is to modernize our communication equipment. This purchase will be part one, of a two-to-three-year upgrade process. After this year, it is estimated that we will still need to spend between \$80-90,000 more to complete this project. We will still be pursuing grants in the interim to try to defray some of these costs.

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# MEMORANDUM

TO: Scappoose Fire District Board

FROM: Fire Chief Pricher

SUBJECT: Retaining the services of an architect

DATE: October 13<sup>th</sup> 2021

**Requested Action:** Allow staff to pursue and enter into an agreement with an architect to develop designs for the fire district for needed purchase of HVAC, upcoming station grant process and strategic planning process.

**Critical date for action:** This should be completed in the next 30 days.

**Purpose:**

Establish a guide and vision to help future expenditures and future plans.

**Impact:**

The current station has not had any modifications since the original construction in the late eighties. While there was a seismic upgrade completed, this never took into account the need for expansion. With limited storage space, living quarters, kitchen and office space, modernizing our building has become a necessity and priority.

We need to purchase three new HVAC units. Unfortunately, without knowing of what future plans would be for upgrades in the next five years, we should not purchase anything until we know how the building configuration may change. To do this we need plans / a vision of what things may look like.

We hope to be competitive with the upcoming station grants. Without plans that are close to shovel ready, we will not be successful.

We have an aggressive strategic planning process coming up. We will need station designs as we prepare this plan and obtain feedback from the community when we host our open house. Plans will be needed for this.

The process and collaborative input from the staff, planning committee and board for plans will take about 6-12 weeks. The longer we delay, the further behind we will be in completing our required target dates and goals.

**Availability of funding:**

Funding that was to be allocated for painting the fire station will be redirected to cover these costs. The painting of the fire station will be delayed till next year.

Staff is requesting a Not To Exceed (NTE) amount of \$25,000 for specific services.

**Coordination:**

This project be coordinated finance and staff assigned to this project.

**Contact person(s):**

Jeff Pricher

Alex Tardif

**Attachments:** (None)**Recommendations:**

1. Allow staff to enter into an agreement with a firm that represents the most reasonable cost for the services we need. This may not include the lowest cost for a contractor as in some instances, the lowest cost may not reflect everything that is required by the district.
2. Take no action and wait for 3 bids for the board members to choose from.
3. Table this for another month.

**Conclusion:**

As we prepare for upgrading our HVAC, prepare for the station grant process and establish a strategic plan, competing needs of station layout / design are imperative to our decision-making process and future expenses. Without creating a vision or image of what our building and future building would look like, we could potentially make a significant financial mistake unknowingly as a result of not planning carefully. Retaining the services of an architect firm that has experience with fire stations will be imperative for the forecasting and success of the board and admin staff as we continue to prepare for the future.

c file

r.f.

# Firefighters say they're swamped by calls for routine care from senior homes, setting off political battle

Updated: Oct. 03, 2021, 2:13 p.m. | Published: Oct. 03, 2021, 6:00 a.m.

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By [Jeff Manning | The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)

Senior care home operators all over Oregon are increasingly calling on emergency responders to handle routine tasks. A resident needs a bandage changed? An IV line inserted? A catheter replaced? A prescription refilled? Call 911.

And that won't end anytime soon, despite the protests of some fire department officials. In a sweeping victory over the summer, the industry secured a new state law that prohibits cities or fire districts from doing much of anything about it, at least for the next few years.

But across the state, firefighters, ambulance crews and hospital emergency room staff say they're being taken advantage of, and potentially taken out of action when a real disaster strikes.

"We are subsidizing their operations," said Ryan Gillespie, division chief of emergency operations at Portland Fire & Rescue. "These are private businesses. They should be providing that service."

The senior care calls are increasing just as local paramedics are already straining to deal with the pandemic and an exploding number of people seriously ill with other problems. [Hospital ERs are jammed to capacity](#), forcing ambulance crews to look elsewhere.

"Our crews have never been busier," said Steve Boughey, emergency services division chief at Tualatin Fire & Rescue. "The ERs are filling up. These calls from the senior living facilities just contribute to the overcrowding."

Clackamas Fire District #1, another of the state's largest fire departments, answered 2,110 calls to senior care centers in 2020, about 13% of the total. Josh Santos, Clackamas division chief of medical services, said the department has met repeatedly with assisted living managers to try to reduce the number. But the message never sticks, he said, in part because turnover in the assisted living operations is so high.

Phil Bentley, president and CEO of the Oregon Health Care Association, a care homes industry group, said senior care operators are only concerned with the safety of their residents. And, he said, it shouldn't surprise anyone that senior care centers make a disproportionate number of 911 calls: "Of course they do. The residents are 80-90 years old."

“The last thing I think anyone wants is a system that discourages a 911 call when a senior needs help,” he said.

Bentley also conceded that there must be a smarter, more efficient way. The newly passed state law creates a board to find that alternative. The bill, originally drafted by OHCA, specifies that a majority of the board members must be from the senior care industry or its allies.

But critics say the industry’s reliance on publicly funded emergency medical responders is about profit margins more than protecting residents.

“It’s just part of the business model,” said Fred Steele, Oregon’s long-term care ombudsman. “They don’t want to have to pay for the staff on hand to handle the basic needs.”

OHCA is a sophisticated operator in the Oregon Capitol, known for its deep pockets and encyclopedic knowledge of Medicaid, a key funder of senior care facilities. Bentley for years worked as Senate President Peter Courtney’s top lieutenant. He is married to Gina Zejdlik, Gov. Kate Brown’s chief of staff.

The political clash has taken place largely under the radar. The whole issue has been overshadowed by the pandemic, which poses an existential threat to the senior care industry. OHCA’s ability to drive public policy in this case is all the more impressive as it was a back-burner issue.

#### Power play

McMinnville Fire Chief Rich Leipfert thought he had seen it all. Local senior care centers routinely called his department for help with what he considered routine medical tasks. But refilling a prescription?

As Leipfert tells it, a center’s employees had forgotten about the needed refill and explained to McMinnville dispatchers that the pharmacy was now closed. The assisted living center’s solution: Call 911 and get their resident transported by ambulance to the nearest hospital, where the needed medicine would be in ample supply.

Leipfert and Jeff Towery, McMinnville city manager, decided enough was enough. There were 15 senior care centers in the city limits, housing about 3% of the city’s population. Yet, they were placing about 38% of the 911 calls, most of them nonemergency situations.

They determined those calls were costing the city \$750,000 a year.

They devised a new care home licensing system that would help defray the costs of the emergency calls. The new ordinance also allowed the city to levy fines against facilities deemed to be making frivolous or excessive emergency calls.

The same dynamic was unfolding all over the state as fire departments began demanding some compensation for their time.

In January 2018, Clackamas Fire District #1 adopted a “nonemergency facility response fee” to levy against senior care centers that repeatedly requested assistance for routine tasks.

Portland Fire & Rescue tackled the issue in 2019. It was getting 350-400 calls a year just for so-called “lift-assists.” As the name implies, lift-assists involve picking up a care home resident who has tripped or fallen. It is among the most common reasons senior living centers make 911 calls.

“These were not cases where a resident took a serious fall,” said Gillespie, the Portland Fire division chief of operations. “These were more like noninjury cases of a senior falling out of bed or tripping.”

Gillespie wanted to bill \$500 every time his crews were called out for a nonemergency lift-assist. Jim Carlson, Bentley’s predecessor as head of OHCA, intervened. He conceded the lift-assists have become a problem but he convinced Gillespie and the Portland City Council to adopt a graduated system of fines rather than the flat \$500.

When McMinnville lined up to do something similar, the industry vowed to stop it. Leipfert and Towery had no idea what was in store.

Feelings ran hot from the beginning. Negotiations were a nonstarter. Instead, the industry group hit the bricks of the Yamhill County wine town. The group hired signature gatherers and circulated a petition to repeal the care home ordinance that the city council had passed the year before. OHCA crafted an initiative that would amend the city charter not only to repeal the ordinance but also to forbid the city from ever trying a similar move in the future.

The group lobbied local leaders and convinced the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce to come out against what it called the “unfair senior tax.”

OHCA spent \$160,000 on the campaign, a huge amount of money for a small-town election.

Towery said the city was precluded by law from putting any money into the campaign.

“I’ve never seen a private-sector group come in and pre-empt the authority of a city government like that,” said Scott Winkels, lobbyist for the League of Oregon Cities.

The city got greedy, Bentley now says. Under its system, it could charge \$1,500 fines. The licensing fees could reach \$200 per bed.

“They were trying to print money for their budget,” Bentley said. “It was about raising revenue to fill a budget hole.”

Tragedy in Seattle

Oregon officials say their nightmare scenario unfolded 11 years ago in Seattle.

The city's trendy Fremont neighborhood, known for its quality craft brewers, is home to the Seattle Fire Department's Station 9. On a June night in 2010, Station 9's crew got the summons from dispatch. A resident of an assisted living center needed some routine medical assistance.

Seattle dispatch classified it as "aid response code yellow" — a non-life-threatening situation that doesn't require a response with lights and sirens. Firefighters were familiar with the place. Fire department records show the department was called to the assisted living center 133 times the year before.

Twenty minutes later, a fast-moving fire broke out at a nearby townhouse, trapping several members of an extended family of Ethiopian immigrants.

The townhouse was just three-tenths of a mile from Station 9 — about eight minutes away. Its crews should have been among the first at the scene. But they were busy attending to the code-yellow issue at the assisted living center, and the next engine on the scene — an older reserve truck — suffered an equipment malfunction.

Five people, including three children, died in the townhouse fire.

Dacia Grayber, a career firefighter and paramedic, is well aware of the Seattle disaster. It has become a cautionary tale about the risks of the growing assisted living burden.

Grayber works for Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, which is feeling the squeeze from the mounting number of assisted living calls. She is also a state legislator representing Southwest Portland. Last winter, she got a call from Rachel Prusak, one of her Democratic allies in the Oregon House, who said she had a bill on this very issue.

Prusak asked Grayber if she might be willing to serve as primary sponsor. One more thing, Prusak added: The measure had come from OHCA.

Grayber gulped. All she could think of was that awful night in Seattle.

But the more she read, the better she liked it. House Bill 2397 would create a task force to devise ways to improve the current system. The panel's job would be formidable — ensure emergency medical services are available to the growing populations of frail elderly in a way that is efficient and appropriate for paramedics. And it needs to reduce costs as well.

"I really wanted assurances," Grayber said. "I needed to know that everyone had skin in the game. I really want to see innovation."

The bill also contained a bombshell. It would prohibit any attempt by local government to regulate or impose fees on senior care facilities. Portland's lift-assist penalty will live on — the bill carved out lift-assists as a separate category that could be billed to the care homes.

But otherwise, it would require every city and fire department in the state to continue to answer the senior care industry's calls, no matter how minor, regardless of volume.

Grayber points out that the bill sunsets in 2027, which she views as some protection for cities and fire districts like hers.

Not a single fire department opposed the bill. The Oregon Department of Human Resources, which regulates the senior care industry, did not offer any testimony. The only opponents were the city of McMinnville and the League of Oregon Cities.

The measure was approved by the Legislature with just three no votes. Brown signed it into law on July 27.

Bentley vows to find a workable solution, even as he said the whole issue was overblown.

"There clearly are a percentage of calls to 911 that should be handled differently," he said, "but I'd be surprised if it's more than 10-15% of the total."

OHCA is a prodigious donor to Oregon lawmakers. It contributed \$3,500 to Grayber's campaign and \$14,000 to Prusak's over the years, as well as \$150,000 since 2018 to Brown.

Prusak bristled at the implication that there was a link between OHCA's money and her sponsorship of its emergency services bill. "The way I have survived in this place is to not focus on that," she said of the OHCA money. "I just try to focus on the well-being of seniors."

Steele, the industry ombudsman, said the industry's reliance on local fire department paramedics raises important questions about the adequacy of their services. Under Oregon administrative rules, assisted living centers and long-term care facilities "must have qualified awake direct care staff, sufficient in number to meet the 24-hour scheduled and unscheduled needs of each resident."

The rules go on to say the facilities "must assure an adequate number of nursing hours relevant to census and acuity of the resident population."

The position of state regulators on this topic is unclear. The Aging and People with Disabilities division of the Oregon Department of Human Services, the unit charged with protecting the elderly customers of the assisted living industry, has been almost entirely absent from the debate.

A division spokeswoman confirmed that no one in the agency is monitoring the issue of emergency calls. The one time the division has engaged with an emergency responder came when the division "facilitated" a meeting between OHCA and Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue about five years ago.

The new law will force the division to be involved through funding and staffing the effort to devise alternatives.

Officials at the division declined requests for interviews.

Firefighters and paramedics, meanwhile, will continue to answer the nonemergency calls. With these facilities charging thousands of dollars a month, you'd think they could afford some qualified medical personnel, said Merrill Gonterman, assistant fire chief in Roseburg.

"The people in these facilities are paying big money and expect someone to help," Gonterman said. "And they call us. The workers there, they tell us, 'Hey, I don't want to try to lift them. I might hurt my back. Then we have a workplace injury.' And we say, 'Yeah, what about us?'"