May 2015 overview -

May has been quite a month. Not only one of the wettest on record, with a lot of vacillation in regards to possible serious flooding, but also one of the most challenging as we all braced, and strategized for potential budget reductions due to the sales tax on food issue. Thankfully, there were no significant flooding incidents, although we were close several times through the month.

Budget reduction strategies were another matter. No doubt these types of issues cause angst and concern to all employees, but we will persevere, and I believe LFRA members are some of the most versatile I have ever met and we will continue to serve with the Three C’s (Commitment, Compassion, and Courage) , the Four R’s (Response, Resources, Readiness and Relationships), on our path to Enduring Greatness. I continue to be proud and honored to be a party of this incredible organization.

Highlights of the May report include; LFRA maturation update/City Council Study Session; sales tax on food budget reduction; Sale of Rossum Drive property; 2016 Budget development; Instructor Award; Chiefs Merit Award.

LFRA Maturation -

As mentioned last month, we are meeting twice a month with the LFRA workgroup consisting of representatives from legal (internal and external) HR, City Manager, LFRA Board Chairman, and LFRA management and three LFRA Captains, and Rural District. The main objective is conversion of all fire department employees to be under the Authority, Of course, this is a complex matter involving many details. The goal is to have the employee conversation process complete by October 2015.

As an example of just one of the many facets of this process, Renee coordinated a meeting to brainstorm strategies for processing payroll under various scenarios that could exist for the LFRA employee conversion (City Human Resources, IT, Accounting and Payroll).

On May 26th LFRA staff presented an update on the maturation process at a City Council study session. Several members of FRAC, LFRA Board and the Rural District Board attended. A history of how the Authority was implemented, advantages of the Authority, challenges, and next steps was presented to Council. Council had numerous questions, and is now much more informed as to the complexity of the process, as well as the overall advantages. There was support for continuing to move forward with maturation. LFRA staff will give periodic updates as the process moves forward.
Sales Tax on Food for Home Consumption –

As most everyone knows, the City Council considered several proposals/motions in regards to options to eliminate the sales tax on food for home consumption. LFRA was asked to reduce our budget by approximately $246,000 (not including the Rural District portion), accordingly, and have been going through the painful process of making program and line item budget reductions to comply with the directive. Our proposed reductions were vetted by a variety of different audiences. Although we believe our main mission (protecting life and property) will not be adversely affected, we will be forced to eliminate several important public education/safety programs if the tax is eliminated. The Council voted on May 19th not to eliminate the tax, so as of this writing, everything is status quo (for the most part), but, it is highly likely that we will see this this issue on the November ballot, to be finally decided by the citizens of Loveland.

I cannot overemphasize, if eliminated, there will be many substantial changes in the way we conduct business in the area of public education and child safety programs. Additionally, many line items will be reduced, and we will be forced to do more, with less.

Rossum Drive property sold -

As we have reported for the last few months, we have a contract on the Rossum Drive property, that was originally purchased in 2002 for a west side fire station. Obviously the growth and the City to the northwest drove the relocation of station 2 and the Rossum Drive property is longer a viable location for a west side station. The Council voted 7-2 on May 5th to sell the property to the perspective buyers. The buyers have much to do to make the property workable for their desired use, including re-zoning, which is a contingency in the finalization of the contract.

2016 Budget Development -

Budget development is in full swing. Several schedules have been updated for historical trend analysis: revenue collections, budget-to-actual variances by line item at the department level and the program level, phone line expenditures, fleet charges, city service allocations, cost recovery, and personnel projections. Renee has met with 18 of the 28 program managers to discuss program goals; equipment inventories and replacement planning for the next ten years; variances to the program resources needs, compared to the existing ten year plan; and historical spending comparisons to test the reasonableness of the projected expenditures. She attended the City’s Budget kick-off meetings and a meeting with Chief Lundquist to discuss addressing the Big Thompson Canyon department needs and the flow of money to ensure that the Rural District is paying 100% of those costs.

Unrelated to the budget, but as a matter of due diligence for our members, Renee provided information and a FPPA training video links to the Consolidated Fire Volunteer Pension Board in preparation for the actuarial report that should be received in June or July.

Additionally, LFRA worked with the City’s Strategic Planning Division providing information on: modeling the fire operations impact of future city development for the comprehensive master plan fiscal impact model and call volume by land use for the capital expansion fee study.
**Top Instructor Award –**

LFRA Captain Robert Carmosino, was recently recognized as the “Top Instructor” of the Aims, LFRA, and Front Range Fire Rescue firefighter academy. Captain Carmosino received a plaque and well deserved accolades from all the students. *Well Done, Captain Carmosino!*

**Chiefs Merit Award –**

At the May 27th LFRA Board meeting we recognized a very special young man. His name is Adam Rojas. Adam is 12 years old, and was nominated by Loveland Communications Specialist, Kristen Owen for his exceptional efforts in reporting a serious wildland fire. See the letter below from Kristen and join me in congratulating this young man. Well Done, Adam!

*To Whom It May Concern:*

On the afternoon of March 31, 2015, I received a 911 call from 12-year-old Adam Rojas of 4438 Thompson Parkway in Johnstown, CO. Adam called at 4:26 pm to report a grass fire that started along the Big Thompson River. Adam had been riding his bike through the neighborhood when he’d seen a cloud of smoke and went to investigate. He reacted quickly by first attempting to contact his parents, and then calling 911 when he could not reach them. I assigned the fire department to this incident at 4:26 pm, and they were en route at 4:28 pm. The next person to call 911 regarding this fire was at 4:32 pm, four minutes after the fire department was already on the way because of Adam’s quick thinking and ability to take immediate action in calling 911.

Adam gave important, detailed information to help give me an idea of where the fire was in relation to his house. He stayed calm and stayed on the line and gave constant updates on the fire behavior and the safety of the gathering crowd. He had maturity and intelligence that was beyond his years. Many adult callers struggle with giving detailed information and staying calm, and that made Adam such a good reporting party, that as the additional calls started coming in from other people over the next several minutes, we opted to keep Adam on the line for his valuable information as our primary contact.

Toward the end of the call, the fire started growing more rapidly and aggressively. I’m certain without Adam’s early call that got the fire department on scene minutes sooner than they would have without his call, this fire would have caused a lot more damage. He admitted to being scared and even “hesitated” to call 911 because he’d never “been in an emergency before and wasn’t sure how to handle it.” But, he acted calmly and with bravery and I think he deserves recognition for that. He should be proud of a job well done!

*Kristen Owen*

*Communications Specialist*

*Loveland Police Department*

*(970) 667-2151*
Significant Events / Training

- Lieutenant Clark and Engineer Drage attended a two day fire tactics training course in Cheyenne, the instructor Lars Agerstrand is a Battalion Chief from Sweden. This training was made possible through the great relationship that has been established with the Laramie County Fire District 2.
- Battalion Chief Starck attended the invitation only Kill the Flashover annual research training which included live fire burns in acquired structures. This research is helping change the tactics that are used for structural firefighting.
- The Special Operations Team conducted a full-team hazardous material training.
- Trench rescue training was conducted at Fire Station 2 for all companies.
- Lieutenant Hintzman and Engineer Engelhardt attended an 11 day technical rescue course at West Metro Fire Rescue.
- Several LFRA personnel coordinated and taught the pilot Fire Officer II certification course for the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control. Lieutenants Friedrichsen and Stuart attended the course completing the practical portion of the Fire Officer II certification.
- The LFRA - Canyon Battalion Firefighters Baker, Huffaker and Skidmore graduated from Firefighter I Academy.
- Crews continue to work on multi-agency response training to active assailant incidents.
- The auto-aid response with the Poudre Fire Authority is in the process of being updated.

Training Center Utilization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Front Range Fire Authority</th>
<th>Aims Community College Fire Academy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thompson Valley EMS</td>
<td>Loveland Police Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larimer County Sheriff’s Office</td>
<td>SVI Trucks</td>
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Significant Incidents

- Engine 5 was first to arrive on scene of an MVA with extrication at Donath Lake, the accident involved a cargo truck being towed by a large tow truck and a small car.
- A serious MVA occurred at Garfield Ave and 29th Street involving a small bus that rolled on its side after being struck by a van. Crews extricated and treated several victims.
- LFRA responded with LPD and TVEMS to Lake Loveland on a report of a car in the water. Prior to the arrival of emergency services, the victim was rescued from the car by civilians. Medical treatment was initiated and the patient was transported in critical condition. LFRA Special Operations personnel performed a search of the car and surrounding area to verify that there were no other victims.

Apparatus Updates

- The new Aircraft Fire Rescue Truck is in the final steps of production, the final inspection is scheduled for mid-August.
- SVI continues to work on the refurbishment of Ladder 6, they are making great progress toward the September completion date.
- Two new pickup trucks are on order, one is a replacement for a SUV that is at the end of its lifecycle and the other truck is for the added Lieutenant position in the Training Battalion. The pickup trucks will be assigned to a shift Battalion Chief and the Training Battalion Chief.
MVA w/ Extrication at Donath Lake

Vehicle in Lake Loveland

Fire Officer II Class

Fire Tactics Training w/ Laramie Co District 2

Kill the Flashover Research Burns
Update/overview of division, significant programs and projects (Ned):

- Discussion on budget issues caused by the food tax elimination and impact on CSD. This has been extremely stressful on the work group and DFM Pringle especially. I rolled out the plan to reorganize CSD and the impact on the staff and will go into effect in June 2015.
- Assisting new CBO learning about the DRT process and building a solid working relationship.
- The Lincoln Hotel is ahead of schedule and should be complete within the next two-three weeks.
- In the 4th month of the DRT training course, (this is significantly impacting our ability to review plans and inspections without forcing OT).
- Review of the Fire Safety Visit program and use of ETI continues to move forward. ETI is the records management system for the Fire Authority. We are trying to implement the full use of the software and move away from the use of personal spreadsheets for data management.
- FAB remodel continues with the DRT group.

Significant Building Plan Reviews, Special Events and Inspection (Carie and Ingrid):

- Highest amount of reviews and inspections in the last four years (and probably since 2008) for check-ins in one month. We were at almost 140 for building permit and planning project check-ins and 60 development-project inspections.
- Conducted numerous inspections for building, sprinkler, alarm and fire pump inspections at Value Plastics/Nordson Medical, in order for them to be able to start installing and calibrating equipment in their clean rooms.
- Started inspections at CarMax Superstore in order for the GC to meet their deadlines for getting employees in the store for setup.
- Reviewed several projects in the Rural District, both Johnstown and Berthoud, and organized a planning meeting with Berthoud to coordinate their two projects. This will need to have structured meetings with outside agencies to prevent problems for the developers and construction companies.
- Carie and Ty attended three days of National Fire Sprinkler Association training in Grand Junction.
- Continue with the 4th DRT monthly training.
- Violence in the workplace training for all employees.
- Discussions with Thompson school district and building dept. re: intake of plans to Bldg. / Fire’s continued performance on reviews, etc. (we had two school permit submittals).
- Loveland classical schools looking for a space for upper grades for next year. They are over quota for current building and the 16th St SW church location just fell through. courtesy inspection at new location next week.
- Legal meeting w/ Longview sub. Regarding previous planning approvals that are usurped by submittals with actual use (i.e.: two points of access needed, etc.)
- Colorado Dairy Services/ final inspection with a few minor corrections needed.
- Walked a few sites with potential clients wanting to be downtown – courtesy walk from fire to point out red flag items.
- Bass pro resubmittal - Came back in…they will still need to resubmit some items regarding hazmat review/ maqs, but third review should get them going.
- Arcadia continues to proceed with reconstruction - some tenant finish permits have been loaded into Innoprise for structural/ rough sprinklers and core and shell is proceeding.
- Origins downtown got signed off. Time for wine and wood fired pizza.
CRT committee meetings to make our delivery more efficient, consistent, and friendly to the customer
Milner Schwartz house courtesy walk through to assess what would be needed for public tours. Building and fire are not requiring anything over and above what they have since the occupant load will be small, tours will be guided w/ only 3-4 at a time, and the building is on national register therefore exempt from most requirements. Not a life safety concern for fire, and upstairs won’t be used.

Training & Public Education (Scott):
- 2 Safety Village presentations at Namaqua Elementary (67 contacts).
- 3 Career Day presentations at Monroe Elementary (63 contacts).
- 2 fire extinguisher and fire safety training sessions for staff members at Arête Surgical Center (13 contacts).
- 3 child passenger safety seat installations/inspections.
- 4 burn permits.
- Safe Kids meeting.
- FLSEC meetings.
- Meeting with representative from Silver Leaf I & II to review and discuss their Emergency Procedures Manual.
- Created and resource binders for “Fire Safety Programs Toolkit”, “Fire Safety Trailer Curriculum”, and “Public Fire Education Planning”.
- Worked event standby at the BEC.
- Inspected open flame use for FRCC candle ceremony at BEC.
- Workplace Violence Prevention training session at Council Chambers.
- Wildland Fire Investigations training (online).
- Numerous posts and updates to the LFRA Facebook page and website pages.
- Meeting with FF Schiffelbein to assist him with his class project based upon my Station Tours 101 program.
- Follow-up on a few outstanding inspection issues with 2 private schools was completed.

Accreditation, Fracking, (Ty):
- Developed spreadsheets for Renee showing 2014 and 2011-2015 incident types sorted by property use.
- Developed summary of officer risk assessment surveys.
- Completed NFSA Fire Sprinkler System Plan Review and Inspection course (3 days).
- Submitted application for Colorado fire suppression system inspector certification.
- Completed data input of 2014 and 2015 BTCVFD NFIRS response times and developed new incident report form.
- 17 new business inspections and work with Capt. Lyons on the ETI module.
- 5 haz-mat inspections and permits issued.
- Workplace Violence Prevention training.

Seasonal rains and initial snow melt contributed to increased Big Thompson river flows. Due to the diligence of Storm Water Maintenance Crews, the city saw no flooding, unlike several counties east of us. The EOC was put in standby mode but was not activated.

The RFPs for the Mitigation Strategy and Master Plan were posted during May, more than 90 vendors downloaded documents.

Operations and Maintenance
- Met with Renee for OEM budget planning
- ARES cabling project in EOC completed
- Collected damage information from multiple city depts. for state declaration

Planning and Documentation
- Lou continues to work on COOP document
- Lou continues to work with Jeremy Bell to develop GIS map layer for hazards
- Met with LPD Chief to formalize excessive force policy (required by HUD for grant)
- Attended Larimer County’s HAZMAT mutual aid agreement meeting

Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Co-developed Emergency Plan for the Loveland Police and Courts Building
- Facilitated ARES presentation of emergency communication redundancies to school reps
- Attended I-25 Traffic Incident Management Planning (TIMP) Incident Debriefing
- Attended LCEM meeting

Grants
- Emergency generator grant planning meeting held with P&R
- Worked with state grants specialist for RFP requirements
- Mitigation Master Plan RFP developed and posted on May 12th, closed on May 28th
- Fielded several calls from vendors on RFP
- Grant management meeting with Roy
- Met with Finance ref CDBG-DR grant
- Attended FEMA HMGP Procurement Training

Training Received
- Attended City’s Violence in the Workplace class
- Completed 2 Colorado University classes: The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009; Harassment Hurts: It's Personal

Other
- Attended the city picnic planning meeting
- Attended quarterly Division Managers' Meeting
March 15, 2015

To all the brave Fire Fighters who responded to the "fence fire" in our yard on April 3rd, we give you our huge appreciation.

My husband and I had just returned after 3 months away on the second. We had attended an Agri-Tourism conference all day on the third, and were absolutely exhausted.

When our renters pounded on our door at 4:30 am on Saturday, we were shocked to hear about the very dangerous fire, which could so easily have burned the "carriage house" apartment, the wooden stairs leading to it, and them!

"My heart is overflowing..." Psalm 45:1 NKJV

...are the Receivers.

I'm told your response time was within minutes - very few of them. We appreciate all you do for protection of our community.

And grateful, thank you so much!

We shudder to think of the tragedy this incident could have been, but wasn't, thanks to your swift, strategic and very professional response.

"Thank you" does not do our depth of gratitude justice. With sincere appreciation,

Linda and David Jessup
P.S. You might be interested to know that because of this near disaster, we have re-assessed our fire preparedness in the carriage-house apartment and in our house as well.

In the apartment, for example, both emergency exits relied on the stairs leading to them. It had never occurred to us that a fire might come from outside!

So now, in addition to regularly checked fire alarms, we have fire extinguishers in both units, as well as escape ladders and better thought-out escape plans.

We are very grateful to have had this second chance to "do over" our less-than-adequate original readiness.

Again our heartfelt thanks.

The Getups
Dear Homeland Fire Fighters,

Thank you for helping us with the fence fire... to Linda & David Son... We are so grateful to your fast response & leading us from the apartment to safety - so scary to think what could have happened - so we have put 4 fire extinguishers in & outside both residents along w/ escape ladder. We appreciate all you all.

Sincerely,

Residents of the "Carriage House" Apartment
U.S.A. 2.50
Canada 3.48
CEX 169-8
54155
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appreciative of what you did. God bless. Thank you.”

SAFETY FIRST

“Wednesday around noon, my grandson called.

His car had run out of gas at Wilson and First Street.

His grandma and I took him a can of gas, and before we can pull up behind him, a firetruck had stopped with their emergency lights on, and we pulled up behind it. The firemen were extremely friendly and did not leave until I had put gas in my grandson’s tank and had walked back and got into my own car to leave. Now, that’s safety. We as a community have to feel proud.”

MAKING IT RAIN

“I just wanted to say bravo to the
A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR PARTNERS WHO HELPED MAKE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE!