Fire-Rescue Administrative Division

Chief Mark Miller and Public Safety Administrative Director Renee Wheeler

June 2016 Overview -

June leadership truism: “The only way to make life easier is to admit, it’s not easy”.

Highlights of the June report include: Training Center Master Plan; LFRA Administrative items; ARES Team; KTF event; Station 9 Open House

Training Center Master Plan/Design -

As previously reported, we are moving forward with the Training Center Master Plan and have had several productive meetings. Currently we are working with an engineer in the burn building design process and it’s proving to be a worthwhile effort in putting together a very functional, unique burn prop tower. Additionally, we are working to eliminate the current retention pond at the Training Center to mitigate environmental issues, and, due to the relocation, we will be redesigning the entire drainage system on the property. On June 30th we will be attending a Conceptual Review Team meeting to more fully understand what we need to do to keep the project on track and meeting City requirements.

Administrative Matters -

Renee Wheeler and our admin team, including Roylene Sterkel and Cheryl Cabaruvias continued with 2017 budget development work, including meeting with program coordinators to refine inventories and equipment replacement plans, identified 2017 requests, projected revenue, identified variances between requests and current year budgets, identified total budget targets, revised the ten year plan, and worked on 2017 supplemental requests...busy indeed!

On-going maturation items included, contract management, revising Administrative Regulations (gifts, meals, travel, purchasing, capital assets, firearms), etc. Admin staff completed all the format and position reference changes in the all the City Administrative Regulations adopted by the Authority toward the end of last year, which became effective January 1 of this year.

Renee has worked tirelessly developing strategies for a sustainable LFRA Fleet Replacement Fund, 2017 and beyond, to include refining the schedule that identifies the annual savings required for each vehicle/apparatus in the fleet and the schedule that identified the total replacement costs for all vehicle/apparatus in each year to create a plan through 2030 for the new LFRA Fleet Replacement Fund. This is a significant undertaking and something we hope will carry us well into the future relative to fleet replacement.

Lastly, LFRA was fortunate to receive three grants, two from the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, for Canyon bunker gear and a second set of selective gear to aid in our efforts to support cancer prevention, and the third grant from the Department of Homeland Security, for EOC communication equipment. Admin work included grant expenditure compliance work and the preparation of the supplemental request for the recent grant awards...good stuff!
**Amateur Radio Emergency Services Team** -

June 25th and 26th, our Amateur Radio Emergency Services team (ARES) will be competing in a national event known as the ARRL Field Day. Our team has competed in this event many times in the past and has done quite well by placing in the top 5 more than once.

When we have large emergencies and local disasters, our ARES Team provides the EOC and our crews in the field with redundant emergency voice and digital communication systems. The ARRL Field Day event is designed to test that capacity in a friendly competition with other ARES teams around the country.

**Kill the Flashover (KTF) –**

LFRA hosted the KTF event on June 7, 8, and 9. If you are wondering what KTF is all about, basically, it’s scientific based research that is looking at ways to attack fires in structures in a safer more effective manner. A learning foundation of sorts which is based on the discovery of change and its impact.  Project Kill the Flashover creates an environment of testing and challenging the fences of our learning. Kill the Flashover, began in 2011, by a group of firefighters that wanted to explore the tactical causes to fire behavior that were causing interior fire suppression/search crews thermal injuries or death.  It had historically been hosted on the East coast, but due to some key networking and relationship building by LFRA members, we were asked to host a KTF West event.  It’s important to mention that this event was the only one like it in the Western US.

This was a HUGE deal for LFRA and the Loveland Community. Individuals from nine states and three different countries participated. Check out the pictures and explanations in the Ops Section report that follows this report.

An important element of the event was a Firefighter Cancer Awareness segment that educated firefighters on best practices for preventing firefighter cancer, which is seven times more prevalent in firefighters than the normal population. Part of the awareness education was the introduction to a cancer sniffing dog (yes, you read that correctly).  Voluntarily, firefighters spent a brief time with the dog (accompanied by his canine behaviorist handler) to analyze them (by using his profound sense of smell), to determine if cancer or a similar disease was prevalent in their bodies. It was an extraordinary experience for those that were able to take part.

**Big Thompson Canyon Station 9 Open House –**

On June 25th, we officially dedicated the Big Thompson Canyon Station 9, which was built primarily by Canyon Volunteer Captain Dave Legits. Dave had some help along the way, but for the most part, he built the station from the ground up. It is a three bay station located near Storm Mountain Drive up the Canyon and north of Drake. The station was built from donations, as well as funds from the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District. The land was donated by Erlean and Ray Berg. This is of significant benefit to LFRA and the west Loveland community and will house several pieces of fire apparatus applicable to that response area. Thank you for your tireless efforts and commitment Captain Legits, and thanks to the Rural District Board for all their support!
June 2016

RESPONSE

- 5/28/16 – LFRA was dispatched to the Northern Colorado Regional Airport for a large fuel spill from a fuel service truck. Haz Mat crews from LFRA, Poudre Fire Authority, Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue and the Colorado State Patrol worked for several hours to control and contain the spill. Approximately 400 gallons of fuel leaked from the truck before the balance of the fuel could be transferred to another tanker truck.
- 5/29/16 – Estes Valley Fire District requested LFRA’s assistance on an early morning residential fire. Engine 2, Engine 3, Engine 8 (Canyon Battalion) and Battalion 1 responded to the scene and assisted with controlling the fire.
- 5/30/16 – Battalion 1, Engine 1 and Rescue 2 responded to a house fire in north Berthoud, the fire originated in the garage and extended to the attic above the kitchen before being brought under control.
- 6/16/16 – Crews responded to a hazardous material spill at 999 North Van Buren Avenue. Crews initiated decontamination procedures for several workers that had been exposed to the leak, they were all evaluated by Thompson Valley EMS. LFRA Haz Mat crews wearing fully encapsulating haz mat suits with the assistance of the Poudre Fire Authority on duty Haz Mat Company controlled the leaking cylinder and ventilated the structure.
- 6/17/16 – A lightning sparked wildland fire grew to just under three acres in the Bobcat Ridge area, LFRA, Poudre Fire Authority and US Forest Service personnel worked for several hours to contain the fire. Two water dropping helicopters assisting with establishing a containment line around the fire. The following day crews from LFRA, Berthoud Fire District, Front Range Fire Rescue Authority and City of Fort Collins Rangers returned to the scene to finish controlling and extinguishing the fire.
- 6/17/16 – A residential fire was reported on East Eisenhower Boulevard, Engine 6 and Tower 6 arrived on scene and reported a working fire in a single story house. Crews deployed a smoke curtain to limit the amount of air the fire was getting while the fire attack was initiated. The fire was controlled quickly, crews remained on scene for several hours overhauling the fire area and completing the fire investigation.
- 6/21/16 – A vehicle vs. guardrail accident occurred on I-25 at the Johnstown Exit that required a highly technical patient extrication operations. The guardrail penetrated the passenger compartment and pinned the driver inside. The guardrail was under tension which required multiple hydraulic rescue tools to be in operation at the same time to stabilize the guardrail and remove the vehicle from around the driver. Crews from LFRA, Berthoud Fire District, Front Range Fire Rescue Authority and Thompson Valley EMS completed the rescue in approximately 25 minutes.
- 6/21/16 – A grass and debris fire extended to a detached garage on East 1st Street, the exterior fire was being controlled by a resident with a garden hose when Battalion 1 arrived on scene. Crews initiated a fire attack operation to control the fire in the garage, the damage was limited to one corner of the structure.

READINESS

- As the water in the Big Thompson River started to rise, crews completed the annual swiftwater rescue training in various river locations around the district.
- Thompson Valley EMS trained LFRA personnel on ambulance operations, LFRA personnel frequently assist the paramedics with critical patients during patient transport to the hospital.
- LFRA along with several partner agencies hosted the Kill the Flashover West training and research event.
- Plans are being initiated for emergency response in the Big Thompson Canyon during the highway construction project that will kick off in July. LFRA is working with the construction managers, Thompson Valley EMS, Larimer County Emergency Services and Estes Valley Fire District on developing the response plan.
- LFRA’s Training Center includes a railroad spur which allows for the Burlington Northern – Santa Fe Railroad haz mat training cars to be brought in for on-site training. LFRA is hosting a statewide haz mat training utilizing the training cars this month.

**RESOURCES**
- LFRA is evaluating a wildland urban interface planning system that the Castle Rock Fire Department developed. This program appears to be a low cost, high value system for establishing pre-incident plans for these areas.
- A part-time firefighter hiring process is in progress to fill one vacant position and to establish a candidate list for the balance of the year.
- LFRA Station 9 on Storm Mountain officially opened on June 25th, the new three bay firehouse houses a brush engine, tender and rescue UTV for the Canyon Battalion volunteers.

**RELATIONSHIPS**
- Engine 6 provided station coverage at Front Range Fire Rescue Authority Station 1 during the funeral service of a long time Johnstown Firefighter.
Update/overview of CSD, Special Events (Ned):

- Evaluation of the Lovelander Hotel safety evaluation completed by Building and Fire. The list of code violations is being compiled and a meeting will be set with the owner in July.
- 4th of July Fireworks show; fireworks, security, fencing and lighting are done. One member of the Lake Loveland RC is concerned that the closed area on the lake is private and Fire cannot exclude them from access. As an alternative, I asked City Legal (Moses) to draft a hold harmless agreement stating the area would be policed by the homeowners. The pyro-technician for the show, the rep for the LLRC and I met to review the code requirements and the LLRC was presented the draft agreement for the HOA to review. **LLRC declined to sign the agreement and will be self-policing the fallout zone.**
- We will be working with them to buoy the area and monitor the area for compliance.
- LFRA continues to work with partner organizations creating a program. The group is calling itself Thompson School Education Coalition – TSEC. Review of the standards specific to the elementary grades to ensure each discipline is in alignment with the requirements. R2J is taking on the scheduling of the resources for agencies.
- Training class scheduled for DDA/LDP for Building and Fire to discuss the DRT/CRT process in July.
- Problematic repetitive issues with both the contractor and architect on Alternatives to Violence. Discussions with Building are ongoing to determine what can be done to prevent further problems to include suspending licenses.

Significant Building Plan Reviews, and Inspections (Carie, Ingrid and Allen):

**City Building/Fire project review:**

- High Plains School - Began final inspections for general construction, fire sprinkler and fire alarm systems.
- Resolved issues for anechoic chamber fire protection for the Hach expansion (met with general contractor, FM Global, etc.)
- Orthopedic Center of the Rockies expansion - The proposed two-story expansion for the surgery and surgery rehab center at the west side took out our full hose coverage for the south of existing building, and for the proposed new footprint. The design team repeatedly did accommodate our 2nd access requirement, Fire access road requirements (for hose coverage and etc.). Planning needed multiple revisions because of a landscape easement along the Eisenhower corridor...our fire access road, while not infringing upon it, limited landscape at a pinch point. LFRA has had to explain to McWhinney group and planners several times that it is not practical to operate off of the side of Eisenhower (there is landscaping, berming, foot-distance, ditches, and other features that would cause hardship from operations point of view).
- Alternatives to Violence (Safehouse) - With advice on door hardware, LFRA did a site visit and found that the internal layout of walls, etc, deviated GREATLY from what was permitted. LFRA returned for inspection with building dept. and Bldg. Dept. red-tagged the building to stop all work until the permit drawings reflect all changes already made. There have been multiple meetings with the Contractor, Architect, Building Dept, Owner’s rep, and LFRA. The permit drawings will be fully updated and submitted by early next week. ATV would like a TCO as soon as possible, but they will not be allowed a TCO until all site and access improvements are installed. LFRA will determine, upon final inspections, as to whether some of the deviations from plans actually were built in code compliance.
- LFRA did site inspection at National Lease / A&E tire on Ward Ave. A&E has rented indoor and outdoor space from National Lease, and had conditions of use given by LFRA. We provided minimum setbacks that the container has to be from building, to be in compliance w/ not having fire rated assembly on the walls. A&E proposes to hardware electrical in a new container being delivered soon. A permit will be required.
County project review:

- Collinswood Designs – continuing process of working through the Larimer County Building Dept. and LFRA to meet wood working and spray booth requirements.
- Received Firehouse Storage submittal for wooden structures from Larimer County – multiple code corrections required.

Johnstown

- Two projects were allowed through the Johnstown review process that did not meet code compliance – attempts to work with the project owner and Johnstown CBO are in process.

Emergency Management

Significant events:

- Several governing documents and IGAs were in play this month for approval, adoption, or finalization. The City of Loveland – Continuity of Operations Plan was finalized and approved by the City and LFRA. This document contains “plans B & C” on how best to maintain the delivery of critical and essential services when there is a significant impact on the City’s capacity, facilities, or personnel.

- The Larimer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) was finalized and is scheduled for adoption through a resolution by City Council and also goes to the Fire Board for approval. This document contains a Loveland-specific Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) that helps us to map our risks; define mitigation projects that avoid, divert, lessen, or eliminate a threat or hazard; and, identify the resources needed to accomplish those tasks.

- A State Homeland Security Grant of up to $20,000 was awarded to the City for EOC technology upgrades, planning, and exercises and will go to Council, to the Fire Board, and to the Rural Board to accept the award and appropriate the money within our budget. Larimer County is the acting fiscal agent for this award and the equipment purchases have already been identified which include an upgrade to the EOC 800 MHz radios, wireless bases, and wireless headsets.

Flood Recovery

- Attended on-going city recovery planning meetings
- Mitigation Master Plan under development
- Disaster Recovery Plan under development

Operations and Maintenance

- Collaborated with IT Dept for installation of digital matrix in EOC, project is 95% completed
- Collaborated with IT Dept for EOC laptop configuration improvements, project is done
- Populated the EOC email groups for personnel who normally work 1st operational period
- Placed orders for repairs to EOC equipment damaged during move to new tower
- ARES emergency communications equipment tested via ARRL Field Day competition
- EOC / Station 1 emergency generator tested during ARES radio tests

Planning and Documentation

- The updated county-wide all hazards mitigation plan (HMP) is finalized and goes to CC and the Fire Board for adoption
- The finalized Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) was approved by LFRA and the City; document was distributed to M-Team.
The first draft of the Mitigation Master Plan (MMP) is nearly completed.
Continued to work on several IGAs and MAs
Made 2017 budget and an explanation document
CDOT has given preliminary approval to move I-25 alternate traffic route out of downtown
Met with vendor for purchasing Loveland-specific emergency guides, decision to purchase is pending
Attended VIP visit planning meeting with county partners

Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Attended United Way 211 - State of the Community Luncheon
- Assisted House of Neighborly Services with emergency and BCOOP planning
- Met with PIO from Canyon Fire Dept.

Grants
- Began processing 2015 SHSG and purchases for EOC radio upgrades and headsets
- Had several brief grant meetings w/Cheryl
- Met with state field manager ref: EMPG rules & regulations
- Submitted request for weather radios from NEAHR; this is 2015 SHSG and has no match requirement
- Worked with Finance dept. to craft a reply to the state regarding the findings from the 2015 site monitoring visit for EMPG

Training and Public Outreach
- BCOOP Outreach Program development underway and should be ready for launch in July

Training Received
- Viewed CMA presentation for Retirement Readiness
- Attended IT training on new EOC laptop configuration for use during EOC activations
- Attended Everbridge administrators refresher training
- Attended accreditation presentation & training given by Ty
- Attended Kronos training given by Chief Cerovski
- Attended 2 day course on Disaster Management for Electric Power Systems at Rawhide

Exercises
- Attended 2016 Airport exercise development meetings
- Participated in MCR’s TTX for active shooter

PIO, Website & Public Education (Scott):
- Press release for KTF
- Photos and PIO duties at KTF West (all 3 days)
- PIO duties for MVA with injured CDOT worker
- Numerous LFRA social media posts and website updates
- BNSF First Responder Express appreciation event coordination and press release
- NOCO Communicators (PIO) meeting
- Thompson Safety Education Coalition meeting
- Site visit at Canyon Bakehouse for safety planning and COOP discussion
- Everbridge training at IT Lab
- Revised MSEL for upcoming Airport Exercise
- Attended Emergency Management Academy in Centennial (24 hours)
- EMS training (2 hours)
- FEMA social media for public safety training webinar (1 hour)
- 1 car seat inspection/installations
- 1 youth firesetting family intervention session

**ISO, Accreditation, Fracking, Inspections, Investigations (Ty):**

**Accreditation:**
- Updated CRESA-SOC document with 2015 annual report info
- Update self-assessment tracking tools
- Train authors of self-assessment manual: 20 of 24 trainings completed as of 6/20/16
- May response performance analysis for BTCVFD
- May response performance analysis for TVEMS
- May month-end/response performance analysis for LFRA
- Write Performance Indicators for Criterion 2A
- Review Performance Indicators for Category 5C
- Update ETI NFIRS reports for missing Lat/Long for 4 reports
- Analyze times for dispatch call handling processes
- Turnout time analysis by shift for BCs
- Incident analysis for DC Ward (MVAs, fire alarms, EMS, service calls)
- Review guideline for aerial device maintenance

**Inspections:**
- HazMat permit inspections x4
- General facility inspections x5
- Knox box updates x3
- Review and approve 8 burn permits, deny 3 burn permits
- Fix numerous hazmat permit issues in ETI
- Update special events and tent permits policy
- LPG permit application review for Ranchway Feeds Arena
- Hach Chemical submittal meeting with Ingrid
- Set up new HazMat permit for 1215 S Grant Ave
- Meet w/ Karen and Carie re changes to ETI Inspections module for tracking non-City new construction projects

**Investigations:**
- 5/20: Mutual aid to Front Range Fire Rescue for fire investigation @ 348 Wyss Street, Johnstown
- Follow-up w/ private investigator re 348 Wyss Street structure fire
- Meet w/ Berthoud FPD re planning for August 3-day Fire Investigation 101 class
- 5/29: Mutual aid to Estes Valley FPD for fire investigation @ 910 Rockwood Lane
- Case review for 1048 Oak Dr, Berthoud
- Case review for 5400 N Garfield Ave
- Investigate structure fire @ 3256 E Eisenhower Blvd

**Assist Operations:**
- 5/25: Extrication MVA at Taft & Carlisle (assigned to Rescue Group)
- 5/25: Structure fire @ Mountain View High School
- 5/27: Help Ron pick up E236 from Greeley repair shop
- 5/28: Respond to recall, assigned to guide WSFR Engine 3 out of Station 6
- 6/9: Fire alarm at NoCo LTAC w/ BC Smith
- 6/10: Dumpster fire at Chilson Center
- 6/14: Charlie medical at Chick Fil-A
- 6/14: OHW as Acting Lt on E3 (1930-0730)
- 6/16: HazMat incident @ 999 N VanBuren (decon team leader)
- 6/17: Structure Fire @ 3256 E Eisenhower Blvd
- 6/20: Grass fire @ CR 18 and CR 1
Training: 42 hrs

- Train Carie & Allen on using ETI for new Premise Inventory information
- FireView ARM updates webinar
- View UL Fire Behavior/Flow Path video
- Attend Executive Chief’s presentation @ Station 6
- CPSE webinar
- View UL PPA study video
- Data analysis webinar by Intterra
- 6/6 thru 6/9: Assist with Kill the Flashover West