April 2017 Overview -

April leadership truism: “Immerse yourself, beyond yourself, to redefine yourself”.

**Highlights** of the April report include; LFRA Administrative items; HR matters; 2018 Strategic Plan; Station 10 land donation; Accreditation.

**Administrative Matters -**

Renee and the admin team completed the 2016 Annual Report, which is available on our web site. As always, it is a tremendous amount of work and a collaborative effort, but I would like to give special recognition to the efforts of our Business Analyst, Cheryl Cabaruvas, who has done the lion’s share of the report. It is an extremely comprehensive report – great work Cheryl!

Other administrative matters include:

- Continuing work on implementing an LFRA impact fee for the City and the County, which included engaging a study with BBC Research and Consulting. BBC presented their findings to the LFRA Board at the April meeting. The direction was given to gather more information for the Board to determine if this would be beneficial to the Authority in the long term. More info to follow in the coming months.
- Renee began the base 2018 budget development, including salary projections, ten-year budget projections, and developing new capital improvement forms, inventory records for equipment replacement.
- Quarterly Budget Biz newsletter completed.
- Revised the Gallagher impact identified and provided to the Rural District. The residential assessment percentage has been officially reduced from 7.96% to 7.2%, as opposed to the 6.56% originally proposed in January, resulting in $204,728 more revenue than anticipated in the first residential assessment projection distributed in January. This is good news for the Rural District, at least for the short term, but they will still likely have to look at a mill levy increase in the Rural District at some point in the next couple of years.
- **Red Bandana Day** - LFRA is working with Chaplain Doug Overall from Good Samaritan on a first responder recognition for September 11, 2017. Our hope is that it will become an annual event (red bandanas will be distributed to all first responders). The intriguing story behind the Red Bandana will be shared in the next few months, but essentially, it is in honor of a firefighter that spent his last hours on earth saving others on 9/11. This will be a great event – stay tuned for more details!

**HR Administrative matters –**

- LFRA HR Manager, Andrea Wright, is full speed ahead, just completing her second month with LFRA and immersing herself in the many complicated facets of setting up a “new” HR department. A few examples include; Accreditation (HR Category), Flexible Spending accounts, Colorado Special District
Pool matters, complicated Leave issues (work comp, etc.), Flat rate Rec Passes for LFRA, health insurance, compliance trainings, policies and procedures, etc. It is great to have someone to focus 100% of their efforts in our most valuable asset – our employees.

**2018 Strategic Plan –**

- Revising and updating of the 2012 LFRA Strategic Plan is well underway! The soon to be 2018 Strategic Plan will set us up for another five to seven years relative to LFRA’s future. As I mentioned in last month’s report, LFRA hired former Fire Chief Randy Mirowski as a “Special Projects Manager”, to revise the plan, and work on a couple other special projects between now and the end of 2017. We are making outstanding progress, thanks to Randy and the re-engagement of the Fire and Rescue Advisory Commission. Great work!

**Station 10 land donation -**

- LFRA is moving forward with discussions with the McWhinney’s (Centerra) regarding their willingness to donate land for the future fire station 10. This is an incredibly gracious gesture and we are excited to begin working with their planning team. Even though the station is not projected to be built until 2022/2023, much needs to be done to ensure it is a win/win, and it fits well in the future planned development. We are looking forward to being a neighborhood fire station and may even have a fire museum/exhibit component in the plan. **Awesome news!**

**Accreditation –**

- After many, many months, we are ever so close to getting our peer evaluation for National Accreditation. In fact, the first week of May, the Accreditation peer assessors will be here for 5 days to look at every facet of LFRA, and the mountain of documents we have been preparing for this certification. This is a **HUGE** deal, and it has involved every division of the organization. Former Lieutenant, Ty Drage, was instrumental in facilitating the lion’s share of the work, and even though he is no longer with LFRA, he has agreed to return for a few days in May to help see us through the most critical time. We are well prepared and feel ready for the professional scrutiny from the assessors, confident we will fare well.

*Thanks for the support…it’s an honor serving you all.*
April 2017

RESPONSE

- **4-8-2017** – LFRA responded to a wildland fire in the area of West Highway 34 and Grouse Hollow Lane. The wind-driven fire was spreading to the south at a high rate of speed; however, no structures were immediately threatened. Crews from Station 1, Station 2, Station 3, Station 8, Station 9 and Estes Valley Fire District were able to control the fire in just under 45 minutes. Units remained on scene for several hours completing mop-up operations.

- **4-14-2017** – A first alarm assignment was dispatched to East 5th Street for a residential fire; Engine 1 arrived on scene of a detached garage with a second floor apartment approximately half engulfed in fire. The fire was significantly impinging on the main house on the property. Crews controlled the fire quickly utilizing two attack hose lines, crews were on scene for several hours completing overhaul and the fire cause investigation. The main house sustained minor exterior damage.

- **4-22-2017** – Engine 1 and Thompson Valley EMS responded to the Rosebud Motel for a medical emergency call, just as the patient was being transported to the hospital an explosion occurred in a separate unit. Following the explosion, the unit became engulfed in fire. The Engine 1 crew deployed hoselines to initiate the fire attack and called for additional resources. The fire traveled though the attic space before being brought under control. Thompson Valley EMS provided EMS evaluation and treatment to three occupants of the building. Loveland Police, Loveland Light and Power, American Red Cross and Xcel Energy assisted on scene.

READINESS

- LFRA and Thompson Valley EMS conducted multi-patient traffic accident scenarios for all fire and ambulance crews. The training focused on patient care, patient packaging and incident command.

- The Special Operations Team conducted large animal rescue training in the month of April. LFRA responds to several large animal rescue incidents each year.

- Situational Awareness and Tactical Decision Making under Stress video conference training was presented to each shift. Classroom setting training is often delivered through video conferencing to assist with maintaining system response coverage.

RESOURCES

- The type 3 wildland urban interface engine and three water tenders that are on order from Rosenbauer Trucks are in the final stages of design. Delivery is expected late in 2017.

RELATIONSHIPS

- Berthoud Fire District, Loveland Police SWAT, Loveland Police Canine, Colorado State Patrol and Larimer County Park Rangers utilized the Training Center during the month of April.

- LFRA honored the outstanding work of the Loveland Emergency Communication Center Dispatchers during the annual Dispatch Week.

- LFRA provided several lead instructors for a Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control Fire Officer 2 Certification Class hosted by the Front Range Fire Rescue Authority.

- Loveland Police, Thompson Valley EMS, Thompson School District and LFRA collaborated on an Every 15 Minutes event at Loveland High School that simulated a major traffic incident. The event highlighted the severe impacts of drinking or texting while driving.

- The Front Range Fire Consortium Spring Academy rotated through the Training Center in April, LFRA provided instructors for two live-fire training topics for the recruits.
West Highway 34 Wildland Fire

East 5th Street Structure Fire

Rosebud Motel Explosion and Fire

Honoring the LECC Dispatchers

Multi-Patient Traffic Accident Training w/ TVEMS
Every 15 Minutes Event at Loveland High School

Type 3 Wildland Urban Interface Engine Drawing – engine to be delivered in late 2017

Water Tender Drawing – three identical tenders to be delivered late in 2017
Update/overview of CSD & Special Events (Ned):

- Planning for the annual 4th of July fireworks show continues. Discussion with the HOA is still taking place to put a patrol boat on the lake to keep people out of the fallout zone. Looking into the purchase of 2000' feet of buoy line as a “hard barrier”.
- Finalize the 1st grade safety presentations, 2017 - total contact 922 children, 91 adults. Cost in overtime dollars.
- Working with Dan and Ty to ensure we are ready for the Accreditation site visit.
- Fire Investigation for the Estrella Dr. structure fire.
- Work on the Rosebud Fire and need to assist the tenants. Discussion and planning for a city emergency response team initiated by CMO.
- Passed the written NFPA Fire Inspector II testing.

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

- Participation as technical specialists on the Pulliam Building, the Brands, and the Foundry continue on the planning and review processes. CSD will provide the plan review and inspection capability for the projects, the need for additional staffing may be necessary.
- Discussed with PFA the need to improve communication between Fire Department reviewers and county planning projects, after there were challenges to two projects due to communications. The Division Chiefs will coordinate a meeting with county planners to help improve communication.
- Finished inspections for all building permits for approximately 200 “firehouses” at Firehouse Self-Storage. This was a challenging project as the owner had no approvals or permits prior to building and placing all the units and did not want to comply with standard Fire Code requirements for vehicle access.
- Created a spreadsheet to better track the numerous code compliance cases currently worked on through CSD and FITs. Current load is at about 25. This is a result of better code knowledge of crews doing safety assessments.
- Worked with Larimer County Building Department to resolve a permitting issue constructed last year as a private garage, used to store the owner’s commercial vehicles for their construction business. The county building official determined the owner must obtain a commercial building permit, which will require engineered drawings and modifications to the structure.

Accreditation, ISO, Code Enforcement- (Dan)

FIRE INVESTIGATION: Assisted with fire investigations for the Estrella Dr Fire and the explosion at the Rosebud.

ACCREDITATION: Continue to coordinate for the site visit. Worked with Kristen and Ty to finalize travel plans and set the schedule for the visit, May 7-12, 2017.

INSPECTIONS: Reviewed/approved 22 burn permits. Performed 4 code compliance inspections generated by either citizens or fire service personnel. Issued 5 Hazmat permits to assist the FITs. Tank Removal at Viestenz-Smith Park.

TRAINING: Participated in the Loveland High School CPR training event, Hosted the Peer Support monthly meeting.
Public Affairs – (Scott)
* Attended Larimer County Emergency Managers monthly meeting
* Attended 2017 Emergency Preparedness Expo planning meeting
* Attended Larimer County Public Information Officers monthly meeting
* Worked on Disaster Assistance Center plan document
* Research on potential web-based Emergency Management/Fire Safety interactive platforms
* Assisted with Fire Safety House presentations at 8 different elementary schools (4 days)
* Conducted 8 car seat inspections/installations
* Conducted 2 Knox key updates at local businesses
* Completed FEMA EMI IS-251 and IS-130 on-line courses
* Completed 1 hour webinar for WebEOC/Everbridge notifications
* Edits to Accreditation Performance Indicator 9C.4
* Numerous LFRA website updates & social media posts
* PIO duties/coordination with Reporter-Herald and other media outlets for a handful of incidents
* Press release for Rosebud incident
* Conducted 1 Youth Firesetter Intervention and completed associated paperwork and data entry
* Attended LCUAS meeting and training session

Emergency Management – (Pat)
The last of 4 basic ICS courses were delivered to the school staff of every school in the district with approx. 130 total attendees. These ICS classes given in advance of the tabletop exercise scheduled for May 2, 2017. This will be the first disaster exercise specifically held for and with the school district.

Flood Recovery
- Attended on-going city recovery planning meetings

Operations and Maintenance
- On-going EOC maintenance

Planning and Documentation
- Finalized the EM-related accreditation section – 5D
- Finalized and published the 2016 Airport Exercise AAR/IP
- Worked on AAR/IP for 2016 Blizzaster Functional Exercise
- Intern began working on supporting docs for OEM Strategic Plan development

Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Attended LCEHC meeting
- Participated in IAEM Executive Board conference call
- Attended LCEM meeting
- Facilitating the design and delivery of a 3-day young women’s “fire academy” sponsored by Aims CC to be held this summer

Grants
- Reached out to State reps for grant opportunity info for land purchase funding sources

Training and Public Outreach
- Facilitated the delivery of severe Weather Training for city employees and general public
- Conducted 4 ICS course deliveries for Thompson School District, approx. 130 students
- Attended 2 day course on Access and Functional Needs planning

Exercises
- Held final planning meetings for Thompson School District tabletop exercise
- Finalized and published the AAR for the 2016 Airport Exercise
I was able to procure a donation of 264 smoke alarms and 105 carbon monoxide alarms from Kidde, as a part of their “Operation Save-a-Life” program (in conjunction with ABC Denver7 News and the Home Depot). The combined retail value of these alarms is approximately $12,000, so this was a very generous donation to our agency.

I know that all of the fire stations have either been low or completely out of CO alarms, so I’ve placed a box (3 alarms) in the supplies cabinet at Fire Station 1 for each station. As needed, please let me know and I’ll get more smoke or CO alarms out for any station that needs them. If you are in need of smoke alarms, please let me know.

Please remember to log the distribution of any smoke and/or CO alarms in ETI. Also, because the CO alarms are expensive and usually hard to obtain through grants and donations, please limit distribution of CO alarms to only 1 per household in need. We typically can give 3 – 4 smoke alarms per household. As a reminder, our alarm distribution program is intended for low-income and high-risk citizens who otherwise may not be able to purchase alarms on their own.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Scott Pringle, CFEI, CVFI
Public Affairs Officer
Loveland Fire Rescue Authority

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“The greatest impact we can have on community safety is through preventative education.”
Loveland Firefighters,

Thank you so very much for such an engaging, informative presentation. Our students learned so much important information. So grateful for you all.

Rosa Martin