



# Loveland Fire Rescue Authority January 2015 Month-End Report

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## Fire-Rescue Administrative Division

### Chief Mark Miller and Public Safety Administrative Director Renee Wheeler

#### January 2015 Overview

The New Year is off to a busy start and we have much to accomplish in 2015! As communicated previously, the information in this report will be sent to the LFRA Board, FRAC, Rural District Board and City Council at the beginning of each month as a matter of consistency. It will be available on each of the board's February meeting agendas to field any questions.

*Highlights* of the January report include; two grant submissions; reserve and part-time firefighter accident and sickness policy renewal; Heart and Circulatory benefits premium paid; census data certification confirmed; Council workshop information; LFRA maturation update; refurbishment of Smeal ladder truck contract; new Training center property off of Railroad Avenue; Loveland Rural Fire Protection District Development Fee Table; Year-end work update.

#### Grants Submitted

Two grants were submitted to the Colorado Firefighter Safety and Disease Prevention Grant Program: a \$22,525 LFRA grant for the Plymovent Diesel Exhaust System for Station 5 and a \$16,087 Big Thompson Canyon Volunteer Fire Department grant to replace the existing bunker gear extractor and dryer for Station 8. These grants do not require a match. They expect to have the awards out by the March/April timeframe.

#### Reserve and Part-Time Firefighter Policies

The VFIS reserves and part timer firefighter accident and sickness policy was renewed. VFIS has assured LFRA that the intent is to include the increase in benefits for the Heart and Circulatory legislation even though that is not mandatory coverage for us, with the exception of paying a firefighter more than he/she would have earned on duty. The renewal premium was actually less than the prior year, \$6,507 in 2015 compared to \$6,676 in 2014. 2015 is the first year of a three year commitment, so the price is locked in through 2017.

#### Heart and Circulatory Benefit

The Heart and Circulatory Benefits premium paid in December was submitted January 6 to the State Division of Local Affairs for a 100% reimbursement. We have received notification that the reimbursement has been approved and it should be received soon.

#### Census Data Certification

Submitted the Census Data Certification required to conduct actuarial reports for both the Consolidated Volunteer Fire Pension Fund and the Old Hire Pension Fund. FPPA has also been provided the signed resolution that closes the Consolidated Volunteer Pension Fund to any new participants.

## **Council Workshop**

Material has been provided for the City Council workshop on January 24<sup>th</sup> related to achievements, goals and challenges in 2015. The material covered in the December 18 LFRA Board planning meeting was used as the basis for the submittal.

## **LFRA Maturation**

- We have been researching the legal challenges associated with the definition of “employee” in the benefit plan. HR legal representatives are suggesting that the City cannot provide a plan, however, there is a provision in the State Statute that would allow for a joint health trust.
- Outside Legal Representation
  - Sample engagement letters have been submitted so that the Board can consider the scope of services for hire (general counsel or special counsel).
- FRAC - Preliminary discussion has taken place on dissolving the Fire Rescue Advisory Commission as a City Council commission and reinstating it as an advisory commission to the Loveland Fire Rescue Board.
- Other Separate Entity Designations
  - LFRA in 2012 applied for and received a tax identification number. However, Federal grants have continued to be submitted under the City’s (**DUNS Number** - Dun and Bradstreet organization identification number and **SAM’s Number** – System for Award Management). Application has been submitted for both numbers and the DUNS number has been received. We expect to hear on the SAM’s number within the week.
  - Fuel Tax Exemption Certificate – there is legislation that allows for the City to purchase fuel for other government related entities however, tax has to be collected unless that organization has a fuel tax exemption certificate. An application has been completed that files for a LFRA fuel tax exemption certificate so that it is available prior to the time when all City and Rural District vehicles/apparatus become LFRA vehicles/apparatus.

## **2000 Smeal Ladder Truck Refurbishment**

The extensive paperwork and contract routing procedure has been completed for the refurbish of the 2000 Smeal Ladder Truck for \$485,203 and a wide variety of annual maintenance contracts for equipment and software.

## **New Training Center Property off of Railroad Avenue**

Regarding the newly acquired training center property off of Railroad Avenue, the tenants have been provided notice that they need to vacate the property by July 31, 2015. It is our hope that savings from the Station 2 construction can be re-appropriated in 2015 for the design of improvements to the property, namely the new training tower.

## **Loveland Rural Fire Protection District Fees**

There has been considerable collaboration with CSD to modify the basis for development review construction permit fees and creating the fees table. The fees will be modified from a square foot basis to a valuation basis.

The plan check fee will be 65% of the permit fee and the fire sprinkler per head inspection fees will be eliminated, because the inspection is considered to be part of the service to issue a permit. CSD will work with Front Range Fire Authority (Johnstown/Milliken), who also has a need to revise fees. It is our hope that our fee structure will meet their needs so that fees will be the same for both organizations. This will also require working with Larimer County, if the Rural District Board approves the fees for all projects in our response area outside of the City Limits of Loveland.

### **Year-End Work in Process**

Work is underway to close purchase orders, ensure that expenditures and revenue are recorded to the appropriate year. Audited merit based pay raise implementation to ensure the correct raises have been entered in the payroll system. The 2014 budget to actual variances are being evaluated in preparation for identifying those projects that did not get completed by year end and become candidates for carryover appropriation in 2015.

### **Mandatory Drug Testing began in January**

All sworn members of LFRA will fall under the City of Loveland's Random Drug testing requirement, beginning January 1. The City of Loveland Human Resources Department will administer the program. The vendors the City uses for the process are: Oikos perform tests and WPCI reads the results. 30% of sworn members are tested annually (calendar year) for drugs and 10% are tested annually (calendar year) for alcohol. Roughly 32 members will be selected in 2015 at \$50.50 for each test, resulting in a total estimated cost for LFRA of \$1,616.

## **Fire-Rescue Operations Division** **Division Chief Greg Ward**

### **Multi-Agency Training**

- LFRA certified sawyers trained with the Larimer County Emergency Services Wildland Mitigation Squad.
- Tac Fire Team training with the Loveland Police SWAT and Thompson Valley TEMS Teams
- The LFRA – Front Range Fire Authority Fire Academy started in January, the Academy includes two members of the Big Thompson Canyon Battalion.
- Captain Gilbert continues to work with the Colorado State Patrol to develop the teaching curriculum for the Traffic Incident Management Training. Captain Gilbert will be presenting the fire rescue instruction for numerous training events around the State.
- LFRA attended the kick off meeting for the Honoring Tradition, Leading Change Conference that will be held in June in Cheyenne. LFRA is one of several fire agencies that will be assisting with this year's conference.
- LFRA's Tac Fire Team Leader, Captain Klaas has been requested to attend a Department of Homeland Security Conference in Charlotte North Carolina. Captain Klaas will be presenting information about our Tac Fire Team, which is the only such team in the United States.
- Loveland Police provided defensive tactics training to LFRA personnel.

### **Training Center Utilization**

Front Range Fire Authority  
City of Loveland Public Works  
SVI Trucks

Aims Community College Fire Academy  
Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue  
Army Reserve 409<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion

### **Significant Incidents**

- Engine 6 responded to assist the Front Range Fire Authority with a wildland fire between the towns of Milliken and Johnstown. LFRA responded along with FRFA, Platteville-Gilcrest, Berthoud and LaSalle Fire Agencies.
- A first alarm assignment responded to SW23rd Street on a reported structure fire with a burn victim. Units arrived on scene to find debris and shrubs burning in the front yard as well as a victim with significant burns to his legs. The fire and injury was a result of a vehicle repair project that the victim was working on.
- Engine 6 and Ladder 7 responded to the Loveland Sports Park on a four year old that had fallen through the ice, LFRA personnel arrived on scene, the victim had been removed from the pond, personnel provided basic life support until the arrival of TVEMS. Tragically the child did not survive the incident.

### **Apparatus Updates**

- The new Tower 6 arrived in Colorado and is in the process of having the equipment mounted. The Tower is scheduled to enter service in mid-February.
- The Apparatus Committee met with SVI Trucks to finalize the schedule and scope of work for the refurbishment of Ladder 6. This work is scheduled to begin at the very end of February and will take approximately six months to complete.

### **Apparatus Profile**

**Command 1**  
**2013 Chevrolet 2500**  
**On Duty Battalion Chief Response Vehicle**



## **Equipment Enhancements**

Tactical vests and helmets have been added to the first response apparatus, this equipment will be used to enhance LFRA's rescue capability in support of law enforcement incidents. Each tactical vest contains a small rapid trauma kit that carries supplies for bleeding control and a victim litter used for rapidly moving patients to a collection point for treatment and transport to a medical facility.



## **Community Safety Division** **Division Chief Ned Sparks**

### **Update/Overview of Division, Significant Programs and Projects (Ned)**

- The City of Loveland permitting center continues to be discussed with a draft operational plan that was reviewed with the City of Loveland Executive Leadership. Belford-Watkins has developed concepts for funding to alter the building in 2015.
- The Building Department and Fire Authority continue to collaborate on plan review to ensure reviews are receiving quick turnaround and minimum delays for development.
- Assisting with the assessment process to replace the vacant CBO position. The first round of potential candidates did not meet with favorable review and
- Review of the fees charged in the Rural Fire Protection District and evaluating the possibility of changing the current fee structure is moving forward.
- Liquor Licensing Inspections
- Meeting with Anadarko operations team about Hazmat Mitigation Plan and site inspection for wells in LFRA

### **ISO and Accreditation (Ty)**

- Completed site visit with the ISO evaluator on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. We anticipate tremendous improvement from our previous rating.
- Completed about 60 pages of our Community Risk & Emergency Services Assessment, developing training materials to get our self-assessment rolling. Distributed a survey to all Lieutenants and Captains to help assess risks in each station planning area.

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

- Provided training to City Facilities personnel to assist them in the permitting process for building and fire-protection systems
- Met with Economic Development and Transportation Development to discuss access requirements for development of the property near Scion Industries north of the airport

- Conducted final inspections for the sixth and seventh buildings on the Mirasol Green House campus
- Along with Larimer County building, health and code compliance, met with the owners of the Ellis Ranch Events Center to bring their buildings up to code and improve the safety for occupants
- Conducted site visit at Clearview Behavioral Hospital (Johnstown) to ensure the contractor will be prepared for final inspections
- Worked with building department and will meet with large owner/design/ build team to sort out Artspace issues (7 submittals, but not coordinated by design team)
- Finished input as a committee on future DRC concept design (will attend city council in January).
- Continue to train new Building plan reviewer on planning and CRT submittals
- Working with Building dept. to change output for more clarity for contractors. (going more industry standard, ensuring red-marks are distributed all the time to applicant, and cutting out redundant and cumbersome review/ stamping process of plans when not necessary).
- Attended FMAC training on NFPA 25

### **Training & Public Education (Scott)**

- 13 school and business initial fire safety inspections
- 11 school and business follow-up (compliance) visits
- 2 Eng. Co. safety visit follow-up (compliance) visits
- 7 Hazmat business inspections
- 9 Hazmat permit renewals
- 3 service calls
- 3 car seat inspection/installation
- 8 burn permits
- 1 tent permit
- 5 Safety Village presentations
- Attended FLSEC meeting
- Attended Safe Kids meeting
- Attended SRTS meeting
- Attended ICMA training session
- EMS training
- BEC scheduling
- Input 2013 fire investigations into ETI
- Arson fire investigation (Nick, Scott, Ty, Dustin)



## **Office of Emergency Management**

### **Emergency Manager Pat Mialy**

#### **Flood Recovery**

- On-going city recovery planning meetings

#### **Operations and Maintenance**

- Continued with making modifications for new EOC layout
- Began update of MCV user guide

#### **Planning and Documentation**

- On-going EM planning with Larimer Co. & CoL staff for Police & Courts Bldg.

- On-going planning meeting for emergency public info
- Finalized plan for City Closures
- Facilitated planning meeting for water surge emergency events

#### **Emergency Preparedness Relationships**

- Attended in NEAHR executive special meeting
- Met with Fran Lyons for historical documentation
- Attended Larimer County Emergency Managers group meeting

#### **Grants**

- Provided 2<sup>nd</sup> round of supplemental information for HMGP grant application
- Submitted 2 grant applications to CBDG-DR (Mitigation Master Plan, Recovery Plan)

#### **Training and Public Outreach**

- Task book meeting with Vinny Knicklebein for OEM section
- Facilitated executive team OEM multi-jurisdiction training with FC & Lo. Co.

#### **Training Received**

- Attended LEAD Loveland class
- Participated in CBDG-DR (grant) webinar
- Attended G317 training course
- Participated in ARES quarterly training in EOC & MCV

#### **Exercises**

- Participated in Larimer County DART tabletop exercise