OVERVIEW

July Leadership Truism
“Your Life Matters - Never Does It Not Matter.”

ADMINISTRATIVE & HR MATTERS

The LFRA Budget Sub-committee met with staff to review the first draft of the 2018 budget on July 11th. The core budget as well as decision packages (supplemental requests) were considered. Staff will revise as necessary and present the budget to the LFRA Board on August 30th, and then the Rural District Board on September 6th.

Other administrative matters include:

- Web design proposal – LFRA will be moving towards our own web site that is linked with the City of Loveland, but it will give us the ability to incorporate specific LFRA related issues and incident information to better communicate with our constituents.
- Policy/guideline updates
- On-boarding of new firefighter
- Preparing job description for new Admin Battalion Chief position
- Multiple admin projects, programs, and day-to-day duties that keep LFRA running smooth
- Badge Pinning and Swearing-In Ceremony for: Rory O'Farrell – Engineer; Matthew DeDecker – Lieutenant; Bryan Clark – Captain; New hire – Colton Wright. Congratulations!

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION

Due to the vacancy of the Administrative Director Position last May, Executive staff has been evaluating the administrative needs of the organization to determine the best course of action. Many administrative duties were re-allocated, and we are operating very efficiently, giving huge credit to Kristen, Cheryl and Bonnie. Areas of deficiency identified were; Accreditation management (high-level oversight, including a number of items identified in our Accreditation, including a number of items identified in our Accreditation assessment), IT Program management (including response criteria), Budget oversight, Special Project management, and IGA document review.

Given these deficiencies, LFRA determined it was in the best interest of the organization to create a new Administrative/Support Services Battalion Chief position (in lieu of the Admin Director Position). This accomplished several goals in addressing the aforementioned items. In addition, it allows for better succession development for those interested in promoting to Division Chief and/or Fire Chief. We expect to have the new position in place by mid to late September.

ACREDITED AGENCY AWARD!!

Perhaps the most celebrated/distinguished event in July was LFRA receiving Accreditation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International on July 28th! Five members of LFRA traveled to Charlotte NC, to go before the Commission and answer questions regarding our organization and issues that were identified when the peer assessment team was here in May. It was an intimidating process, but I am exceptionally proud of the LFRA committee, and the Commission on Fire Accreditation voted unanimously to award LFRA Accredited status. This is the culmination of 3-4 years of much focused work and involvement by all members of LFRA, either directly or indirectly.

Although the goal to become accredited really started many years ago, it just took the right timing and right organizational culture to bring it to fruition. I was asked by the media, “what does this say about your organization?” Simply stated, it says, we are an organization that is intentional about continuous improvement, in every aspect, from fireground operations, to policies and procedures, to response times, to external and internal relationships.

That is an understatement in many ways...perhaps what it really says is that our members ROCK, including the
FIRE ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION
by Fire Chief Mark Miller

ACCREDITED AGENCY AWARD!! (CONT.)

LFRA Board who has been remarkably supportive in their commitment to the Authority and making us better. Enduring Greatness...

Special recognition to Chief Ty Drage for sticking with this commitment to help us become Accredited despite him having a dozen other irons in the fire in his new position. Thank you Chief Drage and thank you Lt. Engelhardt for taking the ball and running with it!

COMMUNITY KUDOS

Thanks for the support... it’s an honor serving you all.

INCIDENT STATISTICS:

July Fire Incidents: 753
Year-to-Date Fire Incidents: 5,013
LFRA and Estes Valley Fire District swiftwater personnel rescued a llama that had become trapped on the south side of the Big Thompson River near Waltonia. Swiftwater personnel captured the llama and were able to walk it to a shallow spot in the river and with the assistance of the owner walk the animal across the river.

July 2, 2017

LFRA responded to a barn fire on East County Road 30, the fire destroyed a small barn that was used for storage. The fire was brought under control quickly, but crews were on scene for several hours completing overhaul. Fireworks was determined to the cause of the fire.

July 4, 2017

Engine 66 with a crew of three firefighters were deployed to the Keystone Fire near Albany Wyoming. The crew spend fourteen days on the fire-line assisting with containment efforts and protecting structures.

July 7, 2017

Eight patients were transported from a serious traffic accident on East Highway 34. Four LFRA Companies, one Front Range Fire Rescue Engine Company, four chief officers and multiple ambulances responded to the scene to handle this mass casualty incident.

July 13, 2017

LFRA and Estes Valley Fire District swiftwater personnel rescued a llama that had become trapped on the south side of the Big Thompson River near Waltonia. Swiftwater personnel captured the llama and were able to walk it to a shallow spot in the river and with the assistance of the owner walked the animal across the river.
An early morning garage fire was extinguished by the initial arriving crews on Mossycup Court in Station 5’s response area. The damage was limited to the contents of the garage.

Lightning is believed to have started a wildland fire in the Chimney Hollow area west of Carter Lake. LFRA, Berthoud Fire Protection District, Larimer County Emergency Services and the Lyons Fire District responded to the scene. A single engine air tanker and a heavy helicopter attacked the fire from the air while ground resources worked to access the scene and contain the fire. The fire burned under five acres of mostly grass and downed trees.

LFRA was dispatched to a wind driven wildland fire on Spring Glade Road, the fire started in LFRA’s response area and quickly burned into Poudre Fire Authority’s (PFA) District. The incident was turned over the Larimer County early on due to the need for multiple aircraft to fight the fire. The fire burned approximately 370 acres, no structures were lost. Multiple Northern Colorado agencies responded to assist with fighting the fire and protecting nearby structures. The fire cause was determined to be a mechanical failure from a mowing operation. LFRA and PFA crews remained on scene for three days.

A large barn was fully involved in fire when crews arrived on scene on Glade Road. Crews were able to protect a nearby structure and contain the fire quickly. Due to multiple incidents occurring at the same time, Berthoud Fire Protection District was automatically dispatched to assist with this fire. The fire cause is under investigation.
COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION
by Division Chief Ned Sparks

UPDATE / OVERVIEW

Fourth of July Fireworks Show – considerable time and funds spent to work with the Lake Loveland HOA to create a buoy line to prevent access into the fallout zone.

Special Event Site Inspections – Loveland Loves BBQ, Downtown Dist. Live, St Johns Feast Day, preparation for events in August.

Budget Request – Request to add a Fire Inspector / Pub Ed person to CSD for 2018. Continual building and request for pub ed events has significantly increased, as is the workload for the staff.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Parkway Products - CSD has been working with this company, which uses magnesium pellets in a thixomolding process to produce magnesium alloy products for military and health-care uses. The building has large quantities of magnesium, which is a combustible metal; combustible metal fires can produce an exothermic reaction, causing large explosions. A fire protection engineering firm completed its Fire Code analysis in July. The analysis provides several steps the business must complete to make the building and process safer for its employees, neighbors and emergency responders. CSD is working with Parkway Products to determine a timeline to complete the measures.

Larimer Humane Society: The humane society is close to being ready to open its new 37,000 SF building. Recently, the general contractor and engineering contractor realized that much less pressure is available from the water distribution system, than the information they relied upon from FCLWD during the design phase. This lower pressure affects the performance of both the domestic water system and fire-sprinkler system. CSD is working with the humane society, Larimer County and Ditesco Engineering to allow the humane society to meet their Labor Day deadline for occupancy, while ensuring minimum life safety can be met.

Dollar Tree - has corrected both IFC deficiencies (means of egress needing to be clear and clearing out excessive amounts of combustible materials). The store has undergone a complete turnaround: The merchandise aisles are no longer obstructed by boxes of product, and the storage room is almost entirely clear of boxes and is ready for new merchandise to be delivered (photos below). There’s a mobile storage trailer located to the west of the tenant space that can be used for overflow, if needed..

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

August 21st Solar Eclipse - The planning is on-going with multiple planning partners. The expectation for local impact will include a significant increase in the north-bound vehicle traffic along all major corridors, but especially I-25. The County will activate their EOC for consequence management and for supporting the local emergency responders. CDOT and CSP are planning to increase staffing levels and are building traffic management contingency plans. LFRA will be attending the planning meetings where the need for additional coordination between response agencies will be determined.

Young Women’s Xplore Fire Academy - Aims Community College sponsored the inaugural event held between July 18 and 20th at the Windsor emergency services campus. There were 10 participating students representing high schools from Thornton to Wellington, as well as Greeley, Loveland, and Fort Collins. LFRA provided 4 instructors and worked alongside firefighters from most of the surrounding fire departments to provide a wide variety of activities during the academy.

Public Information - PAO Pringle performed PIO duties for a number of events and incidents, including the bus donation from the Thompson School District, the Spring Glade Fire, the Chimney Hollow Fire, and many others.

Community Safety/Education - PAO Pringle conducted an “in-service” training session for approximately 30 staff members at the House of Neighborly Service facility in Loveland. Training provided included emergency action plans, facility fire protection systems, fire extinguisher training, and general fire safety. In addition, he is beginning the in-depth process of creating an application for IAEM Certified Emergency Manager (CEM). This application process will likely take about 2 years to develop before it is ready for submittal.