Fire-Rescue Administrative Division

Chief Mark Miller and Public Safety Administrative Director Renee Wheeler

March 2015 overview –

Well, Spring is upon us, and so is the Wildfire season. However, in reality, there really is no “season” anymore. Unfortunately, it seems we are have wildfires occur throughout the year, regardless of the season. As such, we are busy preparing; completing our wildland refresher training, physical ability testing, fire shelter deployment training, and red card certification.

Highlights of the March report include; Elks Firefighter of the Year Award; grant submission; LFRA maturation update; Twitter; carry over/roll over processing; Council agenda items (FRAC/Appeals Board); part-time position for Emergency Management; development of a strategy for a Rural Mill Levy election process.

Elks Firefighter of the Year Award –

Lieutenant Vance Stolz received the Elks Firefighter of the Year award at their recent ceremony on March 22nd. Lt. Stolz was chosen due to his tireless work as project manager and committee leader for the design and construction of the new LFRA Tower 6, a 100 foot aerial ladder platform that we took delivery of in February. It is a beautiful piece of apparatus, but more importantly, it will significantly improve our abilities to operate at high rise structures, perform roof ventilation, specialty rescue, etc. We are quite proud of it and the work of the entire committee in their year-long efforts to bring this project to fruition. Congratulations, Vance!

Grants Submitted –

Business Services Coordinator Roylene Sterkel, and Deputy Fire Marshal Scott Pringle prepared and submitted a $3,978 foundation grant to buy smoke detectors to give out to those in need within the community. Our smoke alarm program has proven to be extremely successful and we have been able to distribute free smoke alarms to those on need for several years. As such, we are nearing the end of our current supply, so we are hopeful this grant will be approved.

LFRA Maturation -

In our on-going process to bring the LFRA to full maturation, we have entered into an engagement agreement with outside legal representation to assist with some of the more complex matters. Dino Ross, of Ireland Stapleton, will be assisting in special circumstances, and we have assigned a workgroup to work with Dino in dealing with complicated matters such as converting all current fire department employees’ to work directly under the Authority. Additionally, we will be moving all apparatus and facilities under the Authority as well, as the maturation progresses. This process is arduous and time consuming, yet we hope to bring it completion by late fall of 2015.
**LFRA Twitter -**

LFRA has created a Twitter account as part of our plan to ramp up our social media presence. We already have many followers and plan to be active Tweeters! Follow us on Twitter; @LovelandFRA.

**Carryover/Rollover Supplemental Budget Processing –**

We have presented our carryover/rollover supplemental to the LFRA Board and the Rural Fire Protection District Board and both entities have approved as submitted. It was presented as a resolution to approve the LFRA supplemental budget per our IGA, at the March 17th City Council meeting and will be included with the entire City carry over/rollover ordinance in April. Renee Wheeler has put together a detailed justification as to why we had carryover funds and how we will use these funds once final approval is received. Excellent job Renee!

**City Council Agenda Items –**

Two items went before City Council on March 17 for first reading; one, regarding an Ordinance amending the City Code to appoint the current members of the Loveland Fire Rescue Advisory Commission to the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority and Dissolve the City Commission. And the second, an administrative action to consider an ordinance to recommend to City Council that a new fire code board of appeals be established with LFRA Board members. The Fire Rescue Advisory Commission currently serves in this capacity (per Loveland Municipal Code 15.04.150). The Fire Authority Board recommends that Appeals Board be comprised of at least three LFRA Board members, provided that one of the members present is from the Rural District. City Council approved this action on first reading March 17, 2015, and both items are up for second reading at the April 7, 2015 Council meeting.

**Part-time Emergency Management position –**

LFRA is finalizing the job description and scope to hire a part-time emergency management position to focus specifically on researching, organizing, and writing a variety of emergency plans and procedures. This position will be temporary, and funded through an emergency management grant. Additionally, the position will assist in the development, design, conduct, and evaluation of emergency and disaster exercises.

**Rural Fire District Mil Levy election –**

Staff has begun working to develop a strategy for the possibility of holding a Mill Levy election in 2016 to increase the funding stream into the Rural Fire Protection District. Renee Wheeler has updated the Rural District Financial Plan for determining the mill levy that will be required and special meetings are beginning to bring a proposed process back to the Rural Board for consideration.
March 2015

Significant Events / Training
  o Completed hiring / promotional processes - congratulations to,
    Nate Will – Engineer
    Bryan Clark – Training Lieutenant (rotational position)
  o LFRA hosted a weekend with Dr. Richard Gasaway, who spoke to responders from Northern Colorado and Southern Wyoming about situational awareness in stressful emergency response situations. Over 40 LFRA personnel attended the course!
  o West Metro (Lakewood, Colorado) Fire Rescue conducted a day of training for the Tower 6 Captains and Engineers, the training was based on the experience that West Metro has had operating apparatus with similar capabilities to LFRA’s new Tower 6. The relationship with West Metro was built through the Blue Card Command Certification Program, LFRA was instrumental in getting West Metro started into the program.

Training Center Utilization
  Front Range Fire Authority        Aims Community College Fire Academy
  Thompson Valley EMS

Significant Incidents
  o LFRA responded to a detached garage fire on East 4th Street, the garage had been converted to a small apartment. First arriving Engine 1 found the building fully involved in fire upon arriving on scene. The fire was contained to the building of origin.
  o Engine 1 arrived first due at a residential duplex fire on Birkley Court. The fire was contained to the kitchen area of one unit. One occupant of the duplex was evaluated by TVEMS for smoke inhalation, he was not transported for further evaluation. The damage to the unit was significant enough that the occupants could not return to the home, the American Red Cross assisted with temporary housing.
  o Crews responded to a wind driven wildland fire on North County Road 27, the incident was upgraded to a 2nd alarm due to the potential of fire spread, the fire was contained to approximately 1.5 acres. Most of the 2nd alarm resources were cancelled before arriving on scene. LFRA, LFRA Canyon Battalion, Larimer County Emergency Services and the Poudre Fire Authority assisted with fighting the fire.

Apparatus Updates
  o Ladder 6 refurbishment project, the aerial ladder has been removed by Smeal Fire Apparatus (Snyder, Nebraska) and is in the process of being updated and repainted, while the truck is in Denver having the suspension replaced. The target for completion of the entire project is late August/early September.
Loveland Representatives:
Michael Cerovski, Battalion Chief - LFRA
Eric Klaas, Captain - LFRA
Mike Larson, Captain - TVEMS
Brent Newbanks, Lieutenant - LPD
Phil Metzler, Sergeant - LPD

Participating Agencies – Invitation Only
Loveland PD and FIRE – Loveland, CO
Montclair PD - Montclair, NJ
Denver PD and Health – Denver, CO
London Fire Brigade – London, UK
New York PD and FIRE – New York, NY
Philadelphia PD and FIRE - Philadelphia, PA
Arlington PD and FIRE – Arlington, VA
Charlotte PD and FIRE – Charlotte, NC
Texas State University – Texas
Las Vegas PD and FIRE – Las Vegas, NV
Seattle PD and FIRE – Seattle Washington
Los Angeles PD and FIRE – Los Angeles, CA
IAB Special Project Group – Maryland

What:
The IAB was founded in 1998 by the Department of Defense's Consequence Management Program Integration Office and the Department of Justice’s Federal Bureau of Investigation Weapons of Mass Destruction Countermeasures. One area of focus for the IAB is the coordinated efforts of multi-agency / discipline response to a variety of complex incidents such as active shooter incidents.

Summary:
Personnel from the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority and Loveland Police Department were invited to participate with the IAB Special Project Group assigned to the development of standardized procedures and coordinated action to an ‘active shooter’ event in the United States. This group is largely made of very large metropolitan cities across the United States. Loveland was invited to participate in these discussions because of the demonstrated interagency coordination between police, fire and EMS response agencies. Loveland was the smallest group of agencies in the room last week.

Loveland Police Department, Loveland Fire Rescue Authority and Thompson Valley EMS presented an overview of the Loveland Communities multi-agency response to active assailant incidents; as well as the integration of Fire / Rescue and EMS resources assigned to assist LPD in tactical response to hostage rescue, barricade, and warrant service response with the LPD SWAT Team. Many organizations across the United States do not share the unique, integrated and collaborative relationship that exists in the Loveland Community. Loveland showcased the following key concepts with the IAB Active Shooter Summit:

• Active Shooter incidents are identified in the Loveland Community as Active Assailant Incidents – due to the variety of weapons and strategies employed by the individual or individuals intending harm on innocent civilians. This concept allows emergency response agencies to be better prepared for ANY kind of actively involved assailant activity.
• The Active Assailant Memorandum of Understanding was presented at the IAB Summit to illustrate a strategic focus of how agencies will interact; and what is required for successful integration of varied disciplines for a response to an active assailant incident. We are aware this document is still processing through signatures / final approvals.

• The deployment, training and readiness of street fire resources and personnel with ballistic armor specifically designed for rescue of injured civilians in an active assailant incident of any size to a casualty collection point for triage, care and transport by ALS partners.

• Use of Fire / Rescue resources and personnel in a tactical environment supporting law enforcement tactical response; at this IAB Summit; we could not identify any organization that was as organized or embedded in tactical fire operations for any kind of law enforcement tactical response. LFRA TVEMS and LPD enjoy a strong tactical working relationship with TACFIRE since 2006 – approaching 10 years.

• Integration of regular training between LPD, TVEMS and LFRA for tactical training as well as defensive tactics training.

The IAB executive leadership identified the work done in Loveland as a potential hallmark for collaboration and integration in average size / small communities. We may be asked to continue to interact with the IAB in the continued development of standardized procedures and model behaviors for active assailant type incidents as well as tactical fire resources and personnel in support of law enforcement tactical response.
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.
- Ned - Assisted with the assessment process to replace the vacant CBO position. The position should be filled by mid-April.
- Review of the fees charged in the Rural Fire Protection District and verified that the Larimer County Commissioners do not have ratify the fees. The 2006 Fire Code allows the Rural District to set its fees.
- Working with Lincoln Hotel to make sure the targets are completed timely and on track for completion with in the contract stipulations – both contractors and owner.
- Attended IFC code 2015 update class- Carie, Ingrid, Ty, and Ned.

ISO and Accreditation (Ty):

- **ISO EVALUATION** - Updated info for Manny on BTCVFD organization, area, officers, training, etc. Waiting for information from Manny. Mike’s anticipated score is 82.18 (up from 62.12 at last evaluation)
- **DATA ANALYSIS/ACCREDITATION** - Entered info from completed officer surveys (11 received so far)
  Lots of work on Community Risk & Emergency Service Assessment document (141 pages so far)
- **INSPECTIONS**
  Helping Carie to resolve old permits that never received final inspections from LFRA
  Received assignment to work on updating alarm panel graphic maps at City facilities
  Coordinated March inspections for liquor license renewal

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

- Ingrid obtained and Carie renewed state fire-suppression inspector certification
- Began sprinkler and standpipe inspections on several large projects, such as Strategic Behavioral Hospital in Johnstown, and ArtSpace and Value Plastics in CoL
- Issued fire-sprinkler permit for Lincoln Hotel, and created partnership with Economic Development to assist the owner in meeting agreements with the City
- DRT consultant workshop for team building.
- Attended a meeting in Fort Collins with all area water districts and PFA and LFRA fire representatives
- Helped assist Loveland Classical Schools with finding an alternate location for 55 of their students and a handful of staff. They have outgrown their facility, and need an emergency placement for a year. Been helping assess different places; met last week with state officials and architect to evaluate potential building to rent.
- Almost through planning approval for Van De Water shopping center buildings, just north of Lowes, south of Eisenhower. Two buildings...some restaurants, maybe furniture store, etc.
- Bronze services has resubmitted site plan for their addition to foundry. Slightly different layout/ with breezeway connection to building.
- Map storage signed off and in business for self-storage, up Eisenhower before canyon
- Sprouts site plan is just about through approval
- Bass pro came for first round of building permit; corrections needed with a resubmittal to review.
- Proposed projects over by airport area/ centerra area (landscape businesses, hotels, storage facilities, etc)
- Finished the Edge permit….series of apartments, one for veterans (Loveland housing authority)
- Assisting Arcadia opera house, lots of surprise conditions, physical limitations in building
- Assist with Building plan reviewer interview process
- Assisting architects with fire code corrections; why they have to do them...explaining requirements.

**Training & Public Education (Scott):**
- 2 new general business fire safety inspections
- 2 new hazmat fire safety inspections
- 7 school and business follow-up (compliance) visits
- 5 hazmat permit renewals
- 3 car seat inspection/installations
- 10 burn permits
- 1 pyrotechnics permit
- 6 Safety Lessons Activity Book presentations
- Book reading for kids at The Egg & I
- Fire extinguishers and fire safety training for LHS Robotics Club
- Attended FLSEC meeting in Parker
- Attended Colorado Children’s Day planning committee meeting
- Distributed street closure letters to 3rd St residents about CCD
- Safety Sam and assistance with Fire Safety Trailer at Colorado Children’s Day event
- Conducted 2 BEC event standbys
- Completed 1 CoL University training session
- BEC event standby scheduling (and re-scheduled of dropped shifts)
- Completed 2 EMT CEU webinars
- Annual fitness assessment at CSU HPL

Thursday Children’s Day – March 19th, excellent work Deputy Fire Marshal Scott Pringle as “Safety Sam”
Captain Mialy making contact with several hundred people about 911 cell sign up for emergency notification
Big T Canyon Firefighters at the Safety Trailer - Mark Svoboda, Matt Svoboda and John Miller (PTFF) over 100 children and adults went through the prop. Each demo takes about 15 minutes in three stages. Thank you all for your work at the event and the lives you touched!
Office of Emergency Management – March 2015 Activities Report

Flood Recovery
- On-going city recovery planning meetings
- Attended LTRG meeting

Operations and Maintenance
- Forwarded MCV user guide program to Lt. Willson
- Met with Lt. Willson and conducted pass down of MCV operations (1 of 2)
- Met with John Burns & Shane Adamson ref digital switcher for EOC
- Attended EOC communications upgrade meeting with Gilbert & Wheeler
- Facilitated discussion (on behalf of Gilbert) for the move of Storm Water and Colt equipment from the FAB tower to the LPD tower
- Meeting scheduled with volunteer Sam to assign him several planning tasks
- Met with vendor for EOC network infrastructure planning

Planning and Documentation
- Met with Tom & Lisa for emergency communications & public info plan (ESF 15)
- Attended command staff meeting
- Met with Mike Hickerson of ARES ref Skywarn Network notification procedure development for fast moving events
- Attended county-wide communications meeting for 800 MHz system
- Participated in State of Colorado resource mobilization/resource ordering workshop
- Attended US Pro Cycle Challenge planning meeting
- Met with counterparts in FC and Larimer Co to develop OEM strategies
- Attended Larimer County Emergency Manager’s meeting
- Working with Tree to get the DERA document revised with Larimer County

Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Assisted with creating MCR’s & MMC’s HVA documents
- Met with MMC chief operations officer for OEM relationship
- Worked with Howard at BOR & Chief Smith for Penstock inspection pre-planning
- Facilitated the entry of GPS points in CAD notes for BOR sites
- Appointed as interim chair for NEAHR executive board (was Co-chair)

Grants
- Provided document to Renee for OEM mandates & activities by Feds & State as requested by Finance Dept.
- Met with McDaniel & Newbanks ref SHSG and local needs

Training and Public Outreach
- Participated in Children’s day at OEM booth and other duties
- Provided Severe Weather Safety class for P&R
Training Received
- Attended final LEAD Loveland class and graduated
- Attended telephone & voicemail training for Avaya system
- Completed 1 CoL University class

Exercises
- Participated in MMC's 96 hour sustainability exercise

Other
- Created job description for contract labor position (EM planner)
- Created OEM qualification & Training Matrix
- Attended the city picnic planning meeting
- Created EOC activation triggers for LFRA for Capt. Lyons