November 2015 overview -

November...already! As the saying goes, “the days are long, but the years are short”, certainly applies here. I have been at LFRA for a little over a year and continually impressed, actually overwhelmed, at the quality, depth, professionalism, and commitment of LFRA members. They continually amaze me at their willingness to step outside the box with unending desire to “make us better” – enduringly great. What a privilege to be a part of it all.

Highlights of the November report include; Training Center Architect selection; Radio Tower; Leadership Retreat for Captains; The Leadership Journey conclusion; Station Alerting; Supplemental budget; Fee Waivers; LFRA Appreciation Event; Technology update; and the new LFRA Logo.

Firm Selected for Training Center Design -

After interviewing three Architectural Teams that submitted RFP’s of the design work and engineering of the LFRA Training Center, we are pleased to announce that Belford Watkins Group Architects has been chosen. Although the other two firms presented a very comprehensive plan and approach, it was a unanimous choice to move forward with Belford Watkins. We have a DRAFT design schedule proposed, which initiates the planning process immediately, with tentative construction documents by early spring 2016. Ken Cooper, City Facilities Manager, has been coordinating the process, with several members of LFRA engaged.

Station 1 Radio Communications Tower -

As previously reported, over the course of the last several months we have conducted an analysis of the radio tower on top of station 1. The tower is the primary 800 MHz communications tower for all Loveland public safety agencies as well and many other departments, including Public Works, Water and Power, Parks and Recreation, etc. These departments, including Thompson Valley EMS have identified funds in their current budgets to use for this project and each department contributed their proportional share based on the number of radios they utilize. Through an engineering analysis, it’s been determined that the tower is in urgent need of replacement. We have concluded that it cannot remain in its current location and experts have told us a free-standing 120 foot tall tower will need to be erected on the south side station one, adjacent to the parking lot. A soils analysis has been conducted and we are awaiting the engineer report, then we will proceed immediately in getting a building permit and fast tracking the project through to completion.

Leadership Retreat for Captains -

On December 3rd and 4th all LFRA Captains as well as Chief Miller will participate in a two-day Leadership Retreat designed to identify each person’s core values, strengths, purpose and calling, as part of our continued
Leadership Journey. A similar retreat was held for The Command Staff early this year, with excellent results. In order to maintain an Excellent, Ethical, Enduring organization, it is important to be intentional relative to self-awareness with these types of experiences.

The Leadership Journey-

On September 2nd, we started another Leadership Journey Class. We finished the eleven week series on November 12th and were honored to have a guest speaker by the name of Mel Engeman. Mel is a WWII veteran and served as a bombardier pilot/co-pilot. Mel shared his experiences, insight, and humor with the class. At 95 years old, Mel is sharp as ever and we were delighted to have the opportunity to meet a real American hero! Of great importance from the class we learned about the three essentials of Leadership – Character, Competence and Vision, which embody Trustworthiness.

Station Alerting System -

A sealed, competitive bid was opened on November 19 for the installation of the station alerting system. Only one company responded: Global Cabling. They submitted a bid of $30,750. The bid information is being validated and then contracts will be issued so that the work can begin. This system will greatly enhance our response effectiveness once installed.

Supplemental Budget Request -

Supplemental budgets have been processed. A 2015 supplemental budget was completed related to adjusting the employee benefit insurance budget and for transferring existing budgeted funds from a variety of City departments to the Capital Replacement Fund for the radio communications tower replacement. A 2016 supplemental budget is in process for workers compensation and property liability coverage to the Colorado Special Districts Property Liability Pool. It creates the reserves for workers compensation and property claims. The supplemental also included the realignment of legal services fees and city service fees for setting up the separate payroll system.

Fee Waivers -

A municipal code revision has been submitted for City Council consideration that would ensure fire construction projects within the City limits would retain the building permit fee waivers currently granted to City departments.

LFRA Appreciation Event -

The LFRA appreciation event has been changed to January 16 to avoid the hectic holiday schedules. Planning for that event is well underway. It will be held at the Ellis Ranch and the caterer selection is expected by month end.

Technology -

A significant project is near completion related to automating much of the timesheet and payroll process. The Telestaff/Innoprise (timekeeping and payroll system) project codes have been completely revamped and will be implemented on December 5. The objective is to shift efforts from data entry to quality control. The evaluation of overtime eligibility and proper benefit accruals usage is important for shift personnel.

Additionally, incident reporting improvements are in process to assist with evaluating performance against our current standards. In collaboration with Engineer Ty Drage, new monthly reports are being developed for Division and Battalion Chiefs to assist with the evaluation of turnout time and incident management. This is all extremely important relative to the Accreditation process, and ensuring efficient resource utilization.
A few weeks ago, the Command Staff made a significant decision related to the future logo for LFRA. As a matter of background; a committee was formed several months ago, tasked with designing a new logo for LFRA uniforms. Options were presented, and the majority of the department voted on the favorite design that most appropriately represented LFRA. Although the new logo was initially designed for uniforms, we felt compelled to take it a step further, with the goal of being consistent and professional in our visual identity.

As such, we approved moving to the newly designed logo not only for uniforms, but for ALL LFRA apparatus, letterhead, business cards, electronic communication, etc.

As we get closer to the “official” January 1, 2016 date of being fully under the under the Authority, we feel it is important to make a firm statement as to who we are. One of the best ways to accomplish this visually, is through our identification – in other words our LFRA Logo. This signifies who we are, and establishes a firm “key visual anchor” for the department. The Command Officers determined now was an appropriate time to make a course adjustment. As Fire Chief, I have learned from experience, the importance of visual integrity, in how we are perceived.

The LFRA Board has approved this change and a phased-in approach. We will begin with letterhead, e-mails, business cards, etc., first; then the new logo will be placed on uniforms and apparatus, phased-in as budget allows, over the next three to four years. This is BIG step for this department and one that will forever change our visual identity.
November 2015

RESPONSE

- Crews extinguished a residential structure fire just west of Drake on West Highway 34, LFRA Canyon Battalion Engine 8 was first to arrive on scene. The fire was located in the wall and attic space near the chimney. Engine 2, Rescue 2, Engine 3, Tender 1 and Battalion 1 responded with the Canyon Volunteer Firefighters.
- Battalion 1, Engine 1, Engine 3, and Tower 6 responded to a fire involving two trailers and a metal storage unit between 6th and 7th Streets near the railroad tracks in downtown. The fire was extinguished quickly using two attack lines, however crews remained on scene for several hours overhauling the scene.
- LFRA Engine 6, Tower 6, Engine 1 and Battalion 1 responded with Front Range Fire Authority to a kitchen fire at Johnson’s Corner. The crew from Engine 6 extinguished a fire that was being held in check by the built-in fire protection system.
- LFRA covered 24 aircraft rescue stand bys at the Fort Collins-Loveland Airport.

READINESS

- LFRA crews completed multi-company extrication training drills at the training center. The scenarios included vehicles on their side with limited working space.
- Leadership Instructor Paul Callan completed a 40 hour course for eight LFRA Lieutenants, the target is to get all Lieutenants through this course by the end of 2016.
- The Tactical Fire Team completed structural live fire training with the Loveland Police SWAT Team.
- Two firefighters participated in a week long engineer practical skills academy in preparation for promotion to engineer.

RESOURCES

- Completed promotional testing for Firefighter Level 1 and Engineer. The promotions will replace Engineer Tim Morrison, who is moving to Cody Wyoming and fill the newly created ARFF Engineer position in 2016.
  - Engineer Promotions – Adam Baukol & Mark Hernandez
  - Firefighter Promotions – Alex Chapin & Paul Duran
- The refurbished ladder truck is still in the process of getting the final details completed before returning to service.

RELATIONSHIPS

- Members of LFRA attended the memorial service for fallen Colorado State Patrol Trooper Jamie Jursevics.
- The Aims Community College Fire Science Program and the Larimer County Sheriff’s Department utilized the Training Center in November.
- Captain Eric Klaas along with the team leader of Loveland Police SWAT Team presented a class regarding the use of firefighters in tactical situations at the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Conference in San Marcos Texas.
House fire just west of Drake on Highway 34

Fire at between 6th and 7th Streets near the Railroad Tracks

Kitchen fire at Johnson’s Corner
Engineer Academy pumping drill

Extrication Training

Tactical Fire Team Training with LPD SWAT

LFRA & LPD paying respects to Trooper Jursevics
Update/overview of CSD, Special Events (Ned):

- Fire sprinklers installation at Meadowsweet Circle by the builder is completed and the permit was signed off, allowing for the release of a certificate of occupancy.
- Version 1 of the Community Risk Assessment has been developed. CSD staff will be meeting on December 9th to review the evaluation of the Public Education program. We are also in discussion with LPD and TVEMS to ensure we do not have duplication of effort.
- In the 10th month of the DRT training course (Chief, Carie, Ingrid and me) and beginning the Strategic Plan Development portion of the training. Working on the Empowerment committee to evaluate the training of DRT staff, review areas of where policy can be a choke point for reviewers. Also perform after action review of high profile projects that have created concerns between the DRT and Administration.
- Developing Car Seat Curriculum for internal training and delivery. Survey was created for regional fire service partners to look at their programs. Working with Tree from legal to make sure forms are being created to release the organization from liability.
- Preparing for NFPA Inspection class in January with an intent to develop a course and certification within the State for Colorado for Firefighters. This would not be the traditional ICC certification and would be more specific to firefighters and business inspections.

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

- Johnstown: Finished all final inspections for CO for Clear View Behavioral Health and began fire-sprinkler inspections at Liberty Firearms
- City of Loveland: Provided significant extra assistance to the GC and fire-alarm contractor for Drywall Supply Warehouse, so they could occupy their new building in a timely manner
- Larimer County: Assisted code compliance inspector with two inspections
- FCLWD to map out their 10 confined space locations and then met with Rescue 2 crew, who had requested the information. Rescue 2 will follow up with 200 to get premises information and also plan to do joint training with FCLWD to simulate confined space rescue.
- Firehouse Storage has a new structure with no permits or approval from the Larimer County or LFRA for construction or occupancy.
- Millennium Mixed Use Village Center drive aisles and access in discussion – maneuverability of fire apparatus within the site is a significant point of concern for the Fire review team.

Building/Fire project review:

- Bronze services addition review and discussion
- New banner healthcare addition onto skyline
- UPS modular issues working with construction
- Verboten brewery downtown 5th street
- Fat pastor distillery review and discussion
- Drywall supply review and inspection
- Dutch brothers coffee
- My place hotel
OEM Monthly Report (Pat):
The prep work for the upcoming audits was the priority this month. EMPG and HMP grants will be the two grants managed in LFRA that will be looked at along with many other grants in other departments. The auditors will be here Dec 1-3, 2015.

The State returned the fully executed contract for the Mitigation Strategy and Master Plan (MSMP). Alicia in Legal is making the final edits to the city contract with the vendor. As soon as that is signed, the vendor will begin work immediately.

FM is finalizing the engineering and OEM is working on getting CDPHE permits for the Chilson Generator. A change will be made on the scope of work to extend the period of performance and to adjust the percentages within our budget to reflect true expenditures. The State has given an initial nod to the requested changes.

The FAB communications tower is now a priority permit project and the city has agreed to commit the funds necessary to decommission the old tower and install its replacement.

Flood Recovery
- On-going city recovery planning meetings

Operations and Maintenance
- Temporary location for the EOC is in the PWB upstairs conference rooms (LPD, LFRA, TVEMS, and ARES workstations will remain in the EOC)
- Met with Dennis Dyer and Lt. Willson ref: 1610AM and flashing signs issues

Planning and Documentation
- Continued to work on COOP final draft
- Worked on Pringle’s 6 month evaluation

Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Attended EPC at MCR
- Met with LCEHC chair regarding upcoming exercises
- Served on FF interview panel
- Met with Jodi Lessman and began OEM – PW short and long-term planning

Grants
- Continued to prep for EMPG audit
- Audits scheduled for Dec 1-3, 2015
- Submitted application for SimTable under CDBG-DR round 3
- Met with FM and Risk for Generator discussion and planning
Training and Public Outreach
- Began discussions with Larimer County and LTRG to revive Buddy Program
- Provided OEM 101 training for new hire task books

Training Received
- Attended multiple presentations at week-long IAEM Conference
- Completed Leadership Journey
- Attended quarterly dept. managers meeting

Exercises
- Served as evaluator for State TTX at SEOC

PIO, Website & Public Education (Scott):
- Finished the preliminary Public Education Programs Community Risk Assessment document
- Completed 7 new inspections
- Completed 16 re-inspections
- Meetings with 7 school principals about new code requirements and specific inspection issues
- EMS training
- USFA online webinar training
- CPS online webinar training
- Follow-up and scheduling for YFS cases (2 family intervention sessions are scheduled for tomorrow)
- List of vital documents for Title VI / ADA project
- Numerous LFRA social media posts
- Moved supplies and file cabinets to basemen to accommodate remodel project

Accreditation, Fracking, Inspections, Investigations (Ty):
1. Accreditation:
   c. Lots of work on validating what's in FireView Advanced Reporting Module.
   d. Working with Karen and Roylene to review incomplete NFIRS reports going back to 2010.
   e. Working with Cheryl, Roy and Renee to develop new plan for monthly report of response performance.
   f. Review Public Education program appraisal document
   g. Completed response performance analysis for four (4) Operations Division officers who are working on their Fire Officer II JPRs.

2. ISO PPC:
   a. Made several calls to ISO to inquire about status of our results. Told it would be end of December. Referred to Chief Miller for additional follow-up.

3. Inspections:
   a. HazMat permit renewals – 5
b. Existing Construction Inspections –
c. New Construction Inspections – 5
d. Specialty Inspections – Pyro permit inspection @ BEC, Tent inspection @ The Ranch, planning meeting with Facilities and Risk Mgmt re new emergency generator at Chilson Center
e. Burn Permits – 21

4. CSD Operations:
   a. Attended two (2) CRTs, one with Ingrid and one solo.
   b. Observed fire drill at New Vision Charter School w/ E6
   c. Updated checklist for tent permit inspections.
   d. Update Open Burning policy documents.
   e. Developed standardized wording for burn permit approval.
   f. Developed template for reorganization of V: drive. Working with Carie and BC Cerovski on details.

5. Fire Investigation Program:
   a. Began working on annual program appraisal document
   b. No fires so far…

6. Received a JFS referral from Captain Gilbert on 10/23. Session completed 10/26.

7. Assist Operations:
   a. Acting Lt on E1 10/21 for 3 hrs
   b. 11/3: responded to structure fire @ 2020 Manitou Ct
   c. Provided orientation for newly promoted Engineers
   d. Transported guest speaker for Leadership Journey
   e. Picklist Availability: 18 days for 2nd half of shift, 6 days for 24 hour availability

8. Training:
   a. Working with Lt Macias on plan for ETI/NFIRS Basics training course
   b. 10/20: Helped teach Flashover/Flow Path class for FRFC Academy
   c. 10/24: Helped as instructor for FRFR live fire scenarios
   d. 10/27: EMS training w/ E3
   e. 11/6: Completed Blue Card continuing education
   f. 11/9: Helped teach Flashover for WSFR volunteer academy
   g. 11/17: Peer Support Team meeting/training
   h. 11/18: TacFire full team training
   i. 11/19: CPSE webinar on 9th edition changes
   j. 11/23: Completed IS-120.a for upcoming Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program training
To: Loveland Fire Dept & Rescue 10-16-15

About ten years ago I was traveling from my home in Wisconsin to Colorado. My destination was to see the Glenwood Canyon Highway, after seeing a TV show about its construction.

I recall coming into CO on Interstate 25 from Wyoming, then heading west when I hit Hwy 24. Driving through Loveland I encountered a Loveland fireman stopping traffic & so I stopped. I looked at him, he looked at me but nothing was said. I didn't exactly know what he wanted & there was traffic behind me, so I continued past him.

It occurred to me much later that they must have been collecting money for a fund-raiser. I've not seen this type of fund raising here (stop & traffic) so at all seemed very odd at the time. Plus I was more focused on traffic signs & finding my way through Loveland. I imagine the fireman thought I was an ungrateful tourist invading your beautiful state.

My mother was from Akron, CO, & we visited CO many times as children.
Our Wisconsin family has a deep love and respect for the people of Colorado. I've been back many times in my adult life, but now I'll never begin to know all that Co has to offer. I'm approaching retirement age. I hope to make a few more trips back, to get up into the mountains.

It's bothered me all these years that I didn't know what "he" wanted. He probably thought it was obvious, I didn't have a clue until later.

I'm not even 100% sure it was Loveland. It could have been Fort Collins or Longmont or Boulder. But, because I have cousins in Loveland, I'm choosing to donate to Loveland today. Please use it for whatever seems most appropriate, or add to your next fundraiser.

Sincerely, Morris Bye