Fire-Rescue Administrative Division

Chief Mark Miller and Public Safety Administrative Director Renee Wheeler

Employee Conversion

All governing partners have approved and signed all the legal documents for the employee conversion to be effective January 1, 2016. Staff has been working on the mechanics of financial and administrative process modifications that are required to implement the conversion, including:

- Health Trust
- Amendment of the equipment and station lease intergovernmental agreement
- Pension plan documents
- Converting workers compensation and property liability insurance coverages
- 2016 Supplemental Budget appropriation to align resources with the implementation
- Purchasing cards
- Payroll
- Sales tax exemption certificate
- Email address changes
- Policy revisions (for example: since the probation period for employees hired after the effective date changes to 12 months, the serious discipline administrative regulation needs to be changed to be consistent.)
- Identifying the impact that more organizational autonomy has on the many internal activities that the City sponsors
- Posted a Request for Proposal for LFRA Legal Services in 2016 – responses due back November 6

There have been some administrative decisions made to retain a consolidated financial system in an effort to ensure that whenever possible the duplication of effort and the cost to the tax payer for fire rescue services is minimized. For instance, we will not be setting up a completely separate financial system for LFRA because of the number of integrated modules and the additional costs to process all the same functions twice (once for the city and once for LFRA). All vendor payments will be made on City checks and 1099’s for those payments will be issued as City documents. We are still working on setting up a separate payroll system to assist with all the required benefit and tax reporting that is required. The city has given us a proposal for the additional cost to operate in this “separate” environment that is under review by both parties.

LFRA Leadership Teaching Sessions at the Colorado State Fire Chief’s Conference in Keystone

Chief Miller was invited to teach a class on Leadership Transitions and also participate on a panel with three other Chiefs regarding “Valuing the Individual”. Battalion Chief Jason Stark and Captain Eric Klaas were invited to teach a class on a scientific approach to transitional fire attack. The conference is always a great networking opportunity with many excellent learning opportunities. We had great feedback from around the State regarding the great things LFRA is doing.
Request for Proposals for Fire Training Center Design Work

There have been meetings to begin to formalize a vision for how to best utilize the property purchased in 2014 adjacent on the west to the existing training center to advance the LFRA Strategic Plan. Ken Cooper, City Facilities Manager, has been coordinating the requests for proposals on the design work and engineering at the Training Center to develop the property. $295,000 was appropriated in the Fire Capital Expansion Fee Fund in 2015 for the annexation and design work. There is a good chance this money will need to be carried forward into 2016. The construction will not occur until 2017.

Development in the Rural District and Property Value Increases

The Rural District received estimates related to the potential impact of the 2534 development on the assessed values in the district. The 2015 assessed values for property tax collection in 2016 increased 21% and the outlook based on the projected estimates received, is very positive. Based on the ten year financial plan, there is a good chance that no mill levy increase will be necessary for the Rural District to fund their share of the LFRA operations. However, there may still need to be a mill levy dedicated to apparatus replacement and Station 10.

Station 1 Radio Communications Tower

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. 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. The total cost could be in excess of $200,000. This was not a budgeted item, and we are in the process of identifying funding sources with the objective to begin construction of the new tower as soon as possible.

LFRA Employees Recognized at the October Recognition Event

A committee of City employees was formed to select candidates from applications submitted by anyone in the City for an overall employee of the year and an employee of the year for each of the eight values based categories: Exceptional Service, Accountability, Collaboration, Kindness & Courtesy, Most Innovative, Integrity, Safety Excellence and Team of the Year. LFRA employees were amongst those recognized. Captain Eric Klaas was given the Collaboration Award for his role in the interdepartmental team that would respond to active assailants in the community. Battalion Chief Michael Cerovski was one of the three leaders of the Active Assailant Incident Response Team recognized as the Team of the Year award. There were several service year recognitions as well.

Service Awards:
Five Years: Firefighter Paul Brown, Engineer Derek Correa, Engineer Chris Fischer, Engineer Robbie Popp, Engineer Nate Will
Ten Years: Captain Eric Klaas
Fifteen Years: Battalion Chief Jason Starck
Twenty Years: Engineer Janet Probst, Engineer John Sanfilippo, Division Chief Greg Ward

Congratulations to all! This is yet another example of how LFRA members are exemplifying commitment, compassion, and courage as well as the four R’s (Response, Readiness, Resources and Relationships) in our quest to build an Excellent, Ethical, Enduring organization.

THANK YOU!
October 2015

RESPONSE

- On October 6th LFRA responded to a residential structure fire on McKinley Ave, crews located a small fire in the garage. The fire was quickly controlled with the initial hoseline put in service by the crew of Engine 3.
- Battalion 1, Engine 3, Engine 236, Engine 216 and Tender 1 assisted Berthoud Firefighters with a fast moving wildland fire in the area of County Road 8 and County Road 23 on October 17th. No structures were damaged, but several were threatened prior to the fire being brought under control.

READINESS

- LFRA Crews attended a weapons security class designed specifically for fire and EMS responders at Thompson Valley EMS.
- Three LFRA Special Operations Team members attended a 40 hour rope rescue technician course hosted by Larimer County Search and Rescue.
- LFRA hosted an 80 hour Hazardous Material Technician Course at the Training Center, three members of LFRA completed the program and are now certified Hazardous Materials Technicians.
- Mutual aid live fire training was conducted at the Training Center with the Berthoud Fire Department, Estes Valley Fire District, Front Range Fire Rescue Authority and Windsor-Severance Fire Rescue.
- LFRA’s Big Thompson Canyon Firefighters attended four live fire training sessions with the LFRA Crews.
- Four LFRA personnel attended the Auto-X course which is the premier auto extrication training in the region hosted by the Arvada Fire Protection District.

RESOURCES

- A diesel exhaust system (Plymovent) was installed in the apparatus room of Station 5, this is an important step in helping to ensure the health of our firefighters. Three Stations now utilize this system, while the other two have air filtration systems installed.
- SVI Trucks completed the refurbishment of the fifteen year old ladder truck, this truck was replaced by Tower 6 earlier this year. The refurbished ladder truck will be placed into reserve status and is expected to remain in service for another ten years.
- LFRA is working with the Highway 34 re-construction contractors to potentially place a couple dry hydrants along the roadway in the Big Thompson Canyon. The dry hydrants would provide much needed firefighting water supply locations in the Canyon.

RELATIONSHIPS

- LFRA Crews participated in numerous public education and community events throughout the month. October is generally the busiest public education month due to the Fire Prevention Week activities.
- The Training Center was utilized by SVI Trucks, Larimer County Sheriff’s Office, Front Range Fire Rescue Authority, Army Reserve Engineering Company and the Front Range Fire Consortium Academy.
- The Colorado Wildfire Incident Management Academy utilized the training room at Station 6 for a two day course.
- LFRA hosted and provided the majority of Instruction for a Colorado State Fire Officer II Certification Course. This 40 hour course is designed to prepare officers for the leadership challenges of the Fire Officer II level.
Mutual Aid Live Fire Training – LFRA, Berthoud, Estes Valley, Front Range, Windsor-Severance and the Canyon Battalion
Auto-X Extrication Training at Arvada Fire Training Facility
Update/overview of CSD, Special Events (Ned):

- Fire sprinklers are being installed at Meadowsweet Circle by the builder in compliance with the Notice and Order.
- Community Risk Assessment is being developed and the evaluation of the Public Education program. The purpose is to verify the services we are providing meet the needs of the community. This will eventually lead to the development of a Public Education team.
- In the 9th month of the DRT training course and beginning the Strategic Plan Development portion of the training.
- FIT academy in planning phase to increase FIT on-deck positions. Ty Drage is the coordinator and lead instructor of the 3-day Fire Code 101 class January 6, 7 & 8 and the 3-day Fire Investigation class including a burn site January 13, 14 & 15.
- Haunted House at 170 N Cleveland – problems with the process for getting the building prepared prior to the event organizers creating the maze.
- Creepy Walk on Savage Rd. – problem solving fire code issues to ensure the event would open on time.
- Developing Car Seat Curriculum for internal training and delivery. Working with Tree from legal to make sure forms are being created to release the organization from liability.

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

- Final inspections for building and fire-protection systems at Clear View Behavioral Health (Johnstown 2534)
- Three staffers participated in either Leadership Journey I or II (Ingrid, Bonnie and Carie)
- Began final building and fire-protection system inspections at Ashley Estates (city Affordable multi-family dwellings)
- Collaborative site planning meetings with Larimer Humane Society and Scion (Larimer County)
- Quarterly FIT program meetings
- Assisted City Building and E.D. with Pulliam Building redevelopment planning
- Haunted House on 617 E. Eisenhower
- Everbridge meeting/ Team C and Empowerment meetings
- Building dept. meeting with contractors and developers - Q&A to CBO re: reviews, permits, etc. Ingrid assisted the new Building Plan Reviewer with orientation to Innoprise and DRT processes.
- UPS temp. modular building…..LOTS of issues, finally going to be resolved and permitted
- Res. Christian modular classroom building- Lots of inadequate permit material, finally building permit was given…waiting on alarm permit information
- Escape from Q. An escape room at basement of 333 E 4th street. The basement is sprinklered, some minor remodel for life safety. Waiting on alarm permit for the modification of the existing fire sprinkler system.
• Meeting w/ Scheels development team – outstanding! We will be at this project a lot and should consider additional making the part-time inspector full time. We will need the help in CSD to complete inspections for the Fire Authority.
• Firehouse Storage development in the Rural – Design for access and structures is in negotiation with property owner and Larimer County Planning and Building.
• Ellis Ranch is near completion of fire sprinkler installation
• Provide Customer Service site visits to help identify code requirements for future permit submittals.

OEM Monthly Report (Pat):

Significant events:
The City Council accepted the request to accept and sign the grant contract for the Mitigation Strategy and Master Plan (MSMP). We are waiting for the State to return the fully executed contract. A contract negotiation meeting was held with the contractors Baker / Logan Simpson earlier this month and Alicia in Legal is drawing up the City contract.

A State grant rep held a grant kickoff meeting with Finance, Legal, FM, and OEM for the Chilson Generator. FM is finalizing the engineering and OEM is working on getting CDPHE permits. FM will be posting the RFP as soon as the paperwork is in order. A second kick off meeting was held for the MSMP.

The update of the Northern Colorado Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is nearing the last planning stage. Several Loveland small group planning meetings were held and the vendor facilitated the final large group meeting.

The multi-jurisdictional emergency management program white paper was completed and submitted to Rod and Bill. Next, this white paper will be presented to the Fire Board for consideration.

The FAB communications tower will be replaced by a monopole in the south parking lot, next to the building. Capt. Gilbert is working with NCRCN, LFRA, and the City to develop the replacement plan and identify the funding source(s).

Flood Recovery
- On-going city recovery planning meetings

Operations and Maintenance
- Temporary location for the EOC will be in the Library I-Learn Lab
- EOC’s Digital Matrix Switching System was purchased and ready for installation when EOC becomes available during the FAB remodel
- Attended ARES’s state radio test exercise

Planning and Documentation
- Continued to work on COOP final draft
- Met with several PW groups in separate HMP planning meetings to develop mit project worksheets
- Attended final large group meeting for HMP update
- Completed and submitted multi-jurisdictional EM program white paper
- Met with OEM volunteer Cheri Clymer
- Continued to work on draft DAC plan
- Assisted with review process for FNL’s EOP
Emergency Preparedness Relationships
- Attended EPC at MCR
- Attended Officers meeting
- Attended LCEHC meeting
- Met with ARES for on-going program management
- Completed multiple surveys (HMP update, EMPG, LC’s vulnerability planning)

Grants
- Attended grant kick off mtg with the State for the MSMP
- Attended grant kick off mtg with the State for emergency generator project
- Mitigation Strategy and Master Plan grant contract signing approved by CC
- Met with the State ref EMPG grant and 2015 contract issues
- Met with Roy & Renee for audit prep
- Continued to prep for EMPG audit

Training and Public Outreach
- Facilitated AAR for 2015 Expo
- Attended Leadership Journey classes
- Attended supervisor’s training class
- Provided Severe Weather Safety class for W&P
- Served as evaluator for State TTX at SEOC

PIO, Website & Public Education (Scott):
- 16 new fire safety inspections at schools
- 2 Knox key updates
- Continued research and work on community risk assessment
- Study and test for Fire Inspector II certification (passed the test, well done Scott)!
- Updates to LFRA website
- Numerous LFRA social media posts
- PIO duties for fire incident on McKinley and a handful of phone call info requests from R-H
- Climbing wall site inspection with State at BRMS
- Expo event AAR meeting
- CPS program data entry
- 3rd quarter car seat program recap for State CPS coordinator
- 3rd quarter recap of school inspections for State DFPC

Accreditation, Fracking, Inspections, Investigations (Ty):
- Training for Cheryl on accreditation and Omega FireView
- Attended 3-day Auto X class in Arvada
- Developed draft template for monthly response performance (for BCs and DCs)
- Put together plan for reorganizing CSD folders in V: drive
- Responded to structure fire @ 5625 McKinley (helped DeDecker w/ investigation)
- Researched hazmat by rail for BC Smith
- Completed Blue Card CE #8 (Big Box #2)
- Lots of work on Community Risk and Emergency Services Assessment – Standards of Cover document
- Planning for next FIT academy in January
Dear Chiefs,

I want to share my appreciation for the Police, Fire and EMS teams who provided such professional public safety services at the southwest corner of East Fourth and Cleveland Avenue last evening through early this morning.

While I did not witness the two car accident that thankfully did not cause injury, but did, unfortunately, take out a window at Gold Star Realty in the so very nicely just redeveloped Loveland Opera House, I can say that I witnessed strong cross team support and incident management.

The weather condition was wet and miserable; however, it was clear our public safety teams were undaunted at their jobs. It is not every night, thankfully, that a councilor is in the comfort of her home to observe such a well trained group of people conduct their highly valuable service.

Please share my appreciation with the crew members and your staff.

Thank you,
Joan

Joan Shaffer
Loveland City Councilor, Ward II
September 23, 2015

Chief Miller
Loveland Fire Rescue Authority
410 East 5th Street
Loveland, CO 80537

Dear Chief Miller,

I cannot thank you enough for the efforts put forth by Loveland Fire during the 2015 Fill the Boot drive. All of the hours that Dustin invested to improve the program will make a life-saving difference for families living with the challenges of a neuromuscular disease.

The excitement and dedication that was expressed by your department was truly amazing. The 2015 Fill the Boot campaign was an incredible success in Colorado, and your department’s contribution was significant, raising $8,600. Firefighters have been heroes to MDA families for years and the commitment of your department solidifies that fact.

Firefighters have fueled MDA’s mission to provide support for local families & fund research to find treatments and cures for over 40 neuromuscular diseases. In 1954, when MDA’s partnership with firefighters began, a commitment was made that we will battle muscle disease together until a cure is found. I have no doubt when that day arrives, we will all be able to rejoice in the fact that together we made it happen.

Thank you again for all you have done and are continuing to do to help MDA. It is because of people like you that local families affected by muscle disease have hope and the support they need. Your leadership and support of MDA mean so much.

Sincerely,

Amanda Cole
Fundraising Coordinator
MDA Rocky Mountain
303-691-3331 – acole@mdausa.org