
Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board Meeting



**Command Training Center, 100 Fire Engine Road
Loveland, Colorado 80537
Thursday, July 19, 2012
1:30 PM**



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board Meeting Agenda
410 East 5th Street
Loveland, Colorado 80537
Thursday, July 19, 2012
1:30 PM

THE LOVELAND FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF DISABILITY, RACE, CREED, COLOR, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RELIGION, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR ANCESTRY IN THE PROVISION OF SERVICES.FOR DISABLED PERSONS NEEDING REASONABLE ACCOMODATIONS TO ATTEND OR PARTICIPATE IN A CITY SERVICE OR PROGRAM, CALL 970-962-2497 AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

AWARDS AND PRESENTATIONS

- **Recognition of Fire Staff involved in Successful Grant Applications**

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT AGENDA

Anyone in the audience will be given time to speak to any item on the Consent Agenda. Please ask for that item to be removed from the Consent Agenda. Items pulled will be heard at the beginning of the Regular Agenda. You will be given an opportunity to speak to the item before the Board acts upon it.

Public hearings remaining on the Consent Agenda are considered to have been opened and closed, with the information furnished in connection with these items considered as the only evidence presented. Adoption of the items remaining on the Consent Agenda is considered as adoption of the staff recommendation for those items.

Anyone making a comment during any portion of today’s meeting should come forward state your name and address for the record before being recognized by the Chair. Please do not interrupt other speakers. Side conversations should be moved outside the meeting room. Please limit your comments to no more than five minutes.

1. Approve the Minutes from the June 14, 2012 Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board Meeting

End of Consent Agenda

REGULAR AGENDA

Anyone who wishes to address the Board on any item on this part of the agenda may do so when the Chair calls for public comment. All public hearings are conducted in accordance with Board By-Laws. When Board is considering approval, the Authority’s By-laws only requires that a majority of the Board quorum be present to vote in favor of the item.

2. Presentation on Reliable and Sustainable Emergency Response for the Future
3. Demonstration of the Blue Card Training System



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4. Demonstration of New Engine and Type 6 Engine
5. Review Briefing Papers and Correspondence
 - a. Chief's Report
 - b. May Statistics
 - c. Rist Canyon Resident Appreciation Letter
 - d. Other Wildfire Appreciation Letters
6. Board Member New Business/Feedback
7. Any Other Business for Board Consideration

ADJOURN



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 1

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

TITLE

Approve the Minutes from the June 14, 2012 Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA) Board Meeting

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached document, prepared by Roylene Sterkel, is a record of the June 14, 2012 LFRA meeting. It is a record of the discussions including the Lifesaving Award; an overview of the Strategic Plan; the Rural District mill levy election outcome; revision to the Basic Services Model; and the Chief's report.

BACKGROUND

Standard meeting protocol

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve as written

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

N/A

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOALS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Minutes



Loveland Rural
Fire Protection
District

Fire & Rescue Authority Board Meeting Minutes Thursday, June 14, 2012

Members Present:

Board Chair Jeff Swanty
Rural Board Secretary Greg White
Asst. City Attorney Teresa Ablao
City Councilor John Fogle
Public Safety Admin. Dir. Renee Wheeler
Division Chief Ned Sparks

City Manager Bill Cahill
Rural Board President Dave Legits
Fire Chief Randy Mirowski
Division Chief Merlin Green
BSC Roylene Sterkel

Absent Members:

Mayor Cecil Gutierrez

Visitors:

Ashlee Taylor
Bridie Smock & Family
Dr. Tom Kasenberg & Family
Battalion Chief Tim Smith

Call to Order:

Chairman Swanty called the Fire & Rescue Authority Board meeting to order on the above date at 1:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance:

The Board participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Secretary Sterkel conducted roll call.

Awards and Presentations:

Chief Mirowski presented the Fire Chief's Life Saving award to Ashlee Taylor, Bridie Smock and Dr. Tom Kasenberg for their efforts on an incident at the Chilson Center on

May 23rd. Ashlee gave the Board an overview of what happened during the incident. Dr. Kasenberg praised the staff at the Chilson Center for their quick response and knowledge of what needed to be done.

Miscellaneous Information:

Chief Mirowski gave an update on the High Park Fire. The three current objectives he mentioned were to not loose anymore structures, keep the fire on the north side from crossing the Poudre River and keep the fire north of Buckhorn Road. He said that LFRA has staff stationed at Masonville on standby for any hot spots that might show up in the area.

Chairman Swanty commended the Battalion and Division Chiefs for their hard work and time away from their families to attend to the fire event.

Consent Agenda:

City Manager Cahill moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Fogle seconded the motion and it carried.

Regular Agenda: Items were talked about in a different order than Agenda

3. Discuss the Proposed Strategic Plan –

Chief Mirowski shared a Power Point presentation and overview on the proposed Strategic Plan. He said that a lot of fire departments write a strategic plan and then it sits on the shelf and doesn't get used and/or updated through time. Our Plan will be used and updated as necessary and he intends to make sure every member and significant city officials and rural district board members have their own copy with their name on it. He said that our Plan will be our guiding document for the future, and as such that it won't matter if a new Chief and/or other staffing changes occur, it will help guide the organization in the agreed upon manner in the future.

Chief Mirowski asked if there were any questions, concerns or recommended changes from the Board. City Manager Cahill said that he likes the Plan and would like to see Strategic Plans put in place city-wide. Rural Board President Legits said he thinks the Plan is very good.

Chairman Swanty said that the Board will vote on the Plan at their July Board meeting.

5. Discuss LRFPD Mill Levy Election Outcome –

Rural Board President Legits read a letter from the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District reaffirming their commitment to meeting the Rural District's financial obligations pursuant to the terms and conditions of the IGA and the future financial

needs projected in Model 1. (copy attached)

Rural Board Secretary reviewed the results from the mill levy election indicating that there were 1,377 “yes” votes and 1,668 “no” votes. He said that they hope to bring the mil levy back to the voters in November, 2013. There is a special Rural Board meeting scheduled for June 18th to start that process.

The Board discussed different things that they felt needed to be changed or enhanced for that election process. Items mentioned were:

- The sunset provision
- Educating the public
- Letting the rural residents know what will be lost if the vote fails
- Need outside people (not fire department related) to campaign
- The request may need to be modified
- The design of the ballot may need to be changed
- Hire professionals to help with the process

City Manager Cahill felt like there was no organized opposition against the mil levy.. Chairman Swanty said he felt like we were too passive on the May election and need to be very aggressive on the next one.

4. **Discussion of Proposed Revision to the Basic Services Model –**

Chief Mirowski said that after the election a modified Basic Services Plan for Phase I (2013) was presented to the Rural Board. The objectives of the model revisions were to proceed with minimum staffing and reduce the first year costs.

Fire station 6 is moving forward with the remodel and should be completed by November or December. The discussions about moving station 2 are on-going. Councilman Fogle asked if station 10 can be built without a Rural Mil Levy being passed and the answer is no. Chief Mirowski said that it will cost between 2.5 and 3 million to build and equip station 10 and CEF’s are not enough. He will bring a presentation before the Board next month indicating current service levels and costs.

Some discussion took place about moving the CSD Lt. position back a year. Chief Mirowski indicated that he thinks it’s very important to create a partnership with the community and one way to do that is to have our people visiting businesses and letting business owners know that we are here to help them and support their needs. Chief Green said that the big fires in Estes and Heritage Ford were both caused by simple safety issues that might have been found if fire safety inspections had been done.

Chairman Swanty said the Rural Board fully supports Model 1 of the Basic Services Plan and we should move forward without any cuts or changes. Secretary White said that the Rural has reserves through 2013, but will need to have a different plan of action after that. The board gave verbal approval for moving ahead with all of the Phase I expansion plans originally set in Model 1, with the understanding that the Rural district will be

utilizing their reserves for the District's portion of the 18% of the revenue allocation formula.

6. Review Briefing Papers and Correspondence – Chief's Report

- Chief Mirowski touched on six highlighted items in his monthly report as summarized in the packet agenda:

Fire Station Six Update
 Fire Station Two Update
 IGA with Thompson Valley EMS
 Wildland Incident Management
 Resource Allocation and Deployment in the Rural District
 July Fire Authority Meeting to be Held at the CTC

8. Board Member New Business/Feedback –

None

With no further business at hand, Chairman Swanty moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Sterkel



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 2

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

TITLE

Reliable, Sustainable Emergency Response for the Future

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chief Mirowski will make a presentation based on a case study of a recent fire incident in the Rural District to demonstrate what is involved in an emergency response and the impact on the LFRA system as a whole. The objective is to help board members understand what resources are necessary from a systems perspective to provide adequate protection for the community.

BACKGROUND

There has been a significant investment in mapping the future of the fire rescue service in our community over the last three years. As the organization proceeds to the implementation phase of this planning effort, it is important that all elected and appointed officials involved in our partnership have a full understanding of the current status of emergency response and the target for more effective emergency response to enable them to field questions from constituents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

N/A

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOALS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

ISSUE PAPER

TO: Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board of Directors
FROM: Randy Mirowski, Fire Chief, LFRA *rm*
SUBJECT: Issue Paper- Reliability and Sustainability for Fire-Rescue Response
DATE: July 19, 2012

ISSUE:

The impact of low levels of staffing and having too few in number of fire companies on shift to adequately address the reliability and sustainability of the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority response model for overall community safety. Past, present and future efforts to address this issue are central to the concern.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this issue paper and associated presentation to the Fire Authority Board and the Rural District Board is to focus on the impact of low firefighter staffing levels on the sustainability and reliability of the emergency response for our community citizens. The issue paper will provide a background for board members to review; the presentation will provide additional information and a recent case study showing the impacts and deficiencies of the current fire protection model and the steps we are taking to address the problem. A final portion of the presentation will focus on cost factors and today's fire-rescue response model- in particular, relating to a rural response and what resources would be available and considered "normal" for a certain funding level. This last bit of information is intended to provide an empirical look at what would/should be expected in an urban/rural response with a financial support level at 1.2-1.4 million dollars per year. This information may prove valuable in the future to both boards should a reduction in fire-rescue services be considered in the rural fire protection district.

HISTORY and BACKGROUND:

Loveland Fire rescue Authority (LFRA) currently operates with unacceptably low staffing levels and too few fire companies that make the current system problematic for providing the needed sustainability and reliability for communitywide fire-rescue protection. The real problem can be identified as having low numbers of firefighters on existing crews (minimum staffing levels) **and** not having enough crews available for the number of citizens and size of area being protected. In essence, the concept of "doing more with less" reached a point of critical concern for the department's leadership in 2009. This problem

has been well-researched and documented in numerous papers and presentations for the various governing bodies within the LFRA structure over the last 3 ½ years. Countermeasures have been discussed, processed and melded into the department's soon to be published *2012 Strategic Plan*. The problems being addressed are strategic in nature, yet clearly have an impact in operations today and will be a concern for the organization that will need to be monitored for years to come. The problems addressed herein are a culmination of years of neglect and inadequate planning for acceptable fire-rescue services for the Loveland Community. Some history of the department is important to better understand the problem.

The Loveland Volunteer Fire Department, during the 1960's through the 1980's enjoyed the benefit of high numbers of volunteers for emergency response. During those years, for structure fires or significant emergency calls, the department used a strategic model where there was a single focus on the one incident being responded to; with little thought being given to a subsequent or second emergency incident. This model was "normal" for small departments and smaller communities. Functionally, Loveland managed that model by deploying as many resources as possible to deal with the emergency. Typically, this would result in 25-30 volunteers responding to and operating at a residential house fire. Again, little thought was given to system coverage or preparing for the next emergency call while the first major incident was working. This model worked because the community was smaller and responses to fires much fewer than today. In reality, the real chances of a second incident occurring was slight. Thus, the focus stayed mainly on the one incident at hand. This model also worked because of sizeable number of volunteers (workforce) that the department had.

When the fire department moved from a volunteer/combo model to more of an emphasis on a full-time paid/ volunteer combination model, the number of available volunteers diminished significantly, and the number of paid staff required to maintain needed minimum staffing levels did not keep pace. In addition, as the community grew in numbers (both in the city and the rural district) call loads increased placing more demands on fewer available resources and staffing. Couple this with the stress of covering a sizeable geographic area (194 square miles) and the results were predictable; an understaffed system attempting to provide high levels of service to a growing and spread out

community would eventually be stressed and be unable to provide a reliable and sustainable response to the Loveland Community.

CURRENT SITUATION:

In 2008 LFR operated out of six fire stations and six fire companies; two of those companies operated with three firefighters and the other four operated with two. Minimum shift staffing was at fifteen, which included the shift Battalion Chief (BC). A working residential house fire (single family residence) would essentially use up all available resources. Backfilling stations and resources were totally dependent on mutual aid from adjoining departments and shift recalls for off-duty personnel.

Today, (2012) LFRA operates five fire stations and six companies. Four of these companies operate with a minimum of three firefighters; while only two companies operate with two firefighters as their minimum staffing level. Minimum shift staffing is at 17. A working residential house fire in this model would get two engines, a truck, a squad and one BC (12-14 firefighters). Today's model would leave two engines available for other calls in the system. Today's model is still very dependent on mutual aid coverage for LFRA stations and off-duty recalls for coverage. Today, significant emergency events, which require mutual aid coverage and shift recalls for station backfills, takes place between 25-30 times each year. The time it takes to summon resources to adequately cover LFRA stations and apparatus for other emergency calls is normally between 40-60 minutes.

Things have improved, and we currently have a much more reliable and sustainable system than we did three years ago. However, as the community grows there is a corresponding growing risk of two simultaneous significant emergencies occurring, leaving the community under protected and underserved. Clearly, there is more to do, both at the policy level and at the operational level.

ACTIONS:

Policy level actions should mainly be focused on staying committed to and attentive to accomplishing the key points for expansion in the 2012 Strategic Plan in their approved timelines. This plan was developed with the intent of addressing the sustainability and reliability of the LFRA emergency response for the future. Timelines for accomplishment is important as they are linked to both current

needs and forecasted needs based on community growth and an increase in demand for services. The strategic plan calls for minimum staffing levels of 3 firefighters per company and expanding the number of fire companies by two between the years of 2013-2017. Those goals should be carefully monitored and managed by policy makers to ensure that the emergency response model is achieving and maintaining a sustainable and reliable level for emergency services to the Loveland Community.

From an operational standpoint, an improved commitment to managing available resources and developing an expanded approach to system status management must take place. In addition, continued improvements in strategic and tactical operations, geared toward maximizing the resources available, will be critical to organizational success. The efforts that have been achieved in the Blue Card Hazard Zone Management and the ongoing efforts in Positive Pressure Attack (PPA) are just two examples of ongoing efforts that must continue within LFRA operationally to address the staffing and deployment concerns, which ultimately impact sustainability and reliability of the emergency response.

Even with the policy level and operations level efforts to improve the department's sustainability and reliability of emergency response, the department will continue to be reliant on mutual aid and off duty recalls for significant fires and other significant emergency calls throughout the operating period of the current strategic plan. However, by adding personnel and resources ascribed in the plan, the use of mutual aid and shift recalls for system coverage should be fewer in the future, with overall less community risk for shorter periods of time due to inadequate levels of fire-rescue resources being available.

OUTCOME:

Funding is obviously a key component of both the policy level and operational levels of actions within LFRA. Funding streams from both the City of Loveland and the Rural Fire Protection District must be identified and secured throughout the operating period of the strategic plan. Currently, the lack of available future funding is more critical for the Rural District than it is for the City of Loveland. However, as the plan expands and matures, both entities will have funding issues to content with. These funding issues are critical to a positive outcome to a sustainable and reliable emergency response for LFRA.

The Rural District is currently evaluating its options after the loss of the May 2012 mill levy election. Options include timelines for the election and the amount that should be sought from a funding increase. A common and very important question that emerged from the electorate in last Rural District election was; “what will happen if the mill levy election fails?” Unfortunately, there was no really good answer to this question. Neither the Rural District Board, nor the Fire Authority Board had the ability to adequately process or have an answer for this question. Time has progressed and there is now time to consider this issue from an empirical, rather than an anecdotal or emotional, perspective.

The power point presentation that is connected with this issue paper will conclude with a look at what kind of an emergency response would be considered for what the Rural District would likely be able to afford if the next mill levy election fails. The type of response portrayed in the presentation is based on research and surveys from Colorado fire departments operating with a budget commensurate with what are assumed would be available from the Rural District to the Fire Authority if the next election fails. This information should prove valuable to both boards as policy makers should the unenviable option of cutting services to the Rural District become a reality. As stated earlier, funding has a direct impact on meeting the goals and timelines of the 2012 Strategic Plan, and a direct impact on the sustainability and reliability of the LFRA emergency response.

CONCLUSION:

The sustainability and reliability for the LFRA emergency response and the overall safety of the Loveland Community is a significant concern for the organization’s leadership. The prescribed answer to the problem is due diligence in the implementation and managing of the 2012 Strategic Plan at the policy level and at the operations level. Reducing services in the Rural District is not a primary strategy or a desired outcome for this effort. Rather, this is a far less desirable strategy that should only be considered if funding shortfalls dictate that another option to implementing the strategic plan be considered. If an option for reduction in services is pursued, it should be done only after careful analysis and an empirical approach is used. Funding from the City of Loveland and the Rural District is the most critical component to accomplishing the stated goals and objectives in 2012 Strategic Plan. Likewise, the sustainability and reliability of the LFRA emergency response, and the citizen safety within the Loveland Community are integrally linked to future funding.



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 3

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

TITLE

Demonstrate Blue Card Training System

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Chief Mirowski, Chief Sparks and Chief Ward will provide a brief tour the Command Training Center and demonstration of the Blue Card Training System. City support, significant donations and sweat equity have made this unique, experiential command training possible. The success of the program has far exceeded our expectations for internal command staff development and extending the opportunities to other regional departments has been instrumental for improving the performance of incident command in the field for mutual aid response.

BACKGROUND

The Blue Card Training System was developed by Chief Alan Brunacini and Captain John Brunacini, leaders in the leadership development at the national level for the Fire Service. The program was brought to LFRA command staff to improve emergency scene operations at the strategic, tactical and task level, with an emphasis on improving command and control of operations for LFRA and for improving firefighter safety.

This program is progressive in its approach and is unique in that few departments are taking the comprehensive, in-depth effort to improve situational awareness and tactical decision making for their personnel. The overall goal is to improve LFRA proficiency of operations, however reducing the possibility for line of duty injury and death for our personnel is at the forefront of the motivation for this program.

Blue Card Training began in 2009 when it was expected that the City would invest \$30,000 over three years. Since then retired computers were brought back into service, table donations, the ambulance cab donation, sign donation from SVI, and many LFRA family hours have been invested to create the most "true to life" training experience possible. Registration fees are charged, \$100 per participant for neighboring jurisdictions and \$200 per participant for all other jurisdictions. LFRA received \$26,362 in 2011 for Blue Card and training academies during the year.

It has been well received and the successes in the field have already been demonstrated. LFRA has put 42 through the training program and 84 from other departments in the area. 5 LFRA members have been trained to be trainers and 17 others from area departments have been trained to be trainers. The leadership development has taken our region to a whole new level of excellence.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION/FINANCIAL IMPACTS/STRATEGIC GOALS/ATTACHMENTS

Implement a skilled response



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 4

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

TITLE

Demonstrate New Engine and Type 6 Engine

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The new engine and a Type 6 engine will be available for viewing, and there will be a discussion about how the apparatus is used for service delivery.

BACKGROUND

In June LFRA took delivery on the new engine built by SVI. Chief Ward will have both the new engine and the Type 6 engine available for the Board to view and will outline how they are used in service. The attached document is intended to provide you an overview of apparatus classification.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

The following table highlights the budget status of the new engine.

Description of Engine and Components	Amount
Budget Amount	515,000
Fire Engine with Cummins 450 HP Engine	436,592
800 Mhz Radio Wiring System	5,934
Headset System	4,265
MDT dock and power supply	829
Hoses	11,432
Thermal Imaging, charger and spare battery	10,485
Wild land Equipment	4,775
Hydraulic Combi-tool (Pump Bt30, tool Slcc30, 30 ft hose)	9,825
Spanner wrenches and brackets	461
Budget Amount Remaining	30,402



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 4

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

A Type 6 engine with the related equipment has been submitted as a supplemental request in the 2013 Budget for \$110,000. It was listed as an unfunded priority in the Strategic Plan.

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOALS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

Apparatus Type Table

Apparatus Type | 2012

Picture	Apparatus Type	Pump Rating	Tank Capacity	Hose
	Type One Engine	1,000+ Gallons Per Minute (GPM) @ 150 Pound per square inch of pressure (PSI)	400+ gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,220 ft of 2.5 inch • 400 ft of 1.5 inch • 0 ft of 1.0 inch
	Type Two Engine	250+ GPM @ 150 PSI	400+ gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 ft of 2.5 inch • 500 ft of 1.5 inch • 500 ft of 1.0 inch
	Type Three Engine	150+ GPM @ 250 PSI	750+ gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500 ft of 1.5 inch • 500 ft of 1.0 inch
	Type Four Engine	50+ GPM @ 100 PSI	750+ gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 ft of 1.5 inch • 300 ft of 1.0 inch
	Type Five Engine	50+ GPM @ 100 PSI	400-700 gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 ft 1.5 inch • 300 ft of 1.0
	Type Six Engine	30+GPM @100 PSI	150-400 gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 ft of 1.5 inch • 300 ft of 1.0 inch
	Type Seven Engine	10+ GPM @ 100 PSI	50-200 gallons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 ft of 1 inch



Agenda Item Cover

Item No.: 5

Meeting Date: July 19, 2012

Prepared By: Renee Wheeler, Public Safety Administrative Director

TITLE

Review Briefing Papers and Correspondence

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Chief's report includes a variety of general updates including:

- Fire Station Six
- Fire Station Two
- IGA with Thompson Valley EMS
- New Engine
- Major Incidents
- High Park and Other Wildland Deployments
- Wildland Strategy for Extreme Conditions
- 2013 Budget
- **This Meeting at the Training Center**

BACKGROUND

This section of the agenda is intended to provide general information to keep board members apprised of project status.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

N/A

FINANCIAL/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

N/A

ASSOCIATED STRATEGIC GOALS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

- Fire Chief's Monthly Report
- Wildland Strategy and Response Issue Paper
- May Statistics
- Rist Canyon Resident Appreciation Letter
- Other Wildland Fire Appreciation Letters



Loveland Fire Rescue Authority Board Fire Chief's Monthly Report



July Board Meeting, 2012

This monthly report is intended as an update to the fire authority board on important information that impacts the organization and the authority board.

Fire Station Six Update- Construction on the remodel and expansion for station six is imminent. The building permit was received during the week of July 09; thus, all obligations have been met and construction can begin. The target date for completion is still mid-November. This project has moved along exceptionally well with very few delays, so we are right on schedule. A great deal of the credit for this goes to Ken Cooper in Facilities and Chief Sparks and Chief Green for their work as project managers. Belford-Watkins Group, our architects, has also been instrumental in keeping this project on its timelines.

Fire Station Two Update- Chief Green, Chief Mirowski and Renee are meeting with the Maheffys on July 18, where we will be moving forward with more specific timelines and planning to get the land survey completed, a legal contract made and the purchase done this year. We are also hoping to get the project into the building plan review process (Conceptual Review) before the end of the year.

IGA With Thompson Valley EMS (Thompson Valley Health Services District)- Tree has the first draft of this IGA completed and we will be working this month and next to get the details worked out. We are hoping to have an approved and signed agreement with TVEMS in place before the end of this year.

New Engine Update- The new engine went into service on July 4th and was in at least one neighborhood parade on that day. All reports are that the engine is working out extremely well and is every bit as functional and, thus far, as reliable as our first designed unit, Engine 1. This engine represents the second of our standard engine design purchases. It is clear that the work of the apparatus committee and our firefighters has been hugely successful in building an extraordinary firefighting piece of equipment that is functional, safe and cost-effective for our operations. The new Engine 6 will be on display for our fire authority board members at the July meeting.

Major Incidents- We have had several major incidents in the last thirty days in our area and in our cooperators' areas that we have responded to. Obviously, the High Park Fire was the most significant (see paragraph below), but there were other important calls as well. One call in particular was the dive rescue call at the pond on Railroad Avenue. One person was saved on this incident, but unfortunately, two others were drowning victims. Our firefighters did an outstanding job in the recovery process for this incident. There were also major fires we responded to in Estes Park (23 homes lost) and a second alarm business fire in Berthoud.

High Park Fire and Other Wildland Deployments- The High Park Fire turned out to be one of the most costly and damaging fires in Colorado's history. The fire burned more than 87,000 acres, 257 homes were destroyed or severely damaged, and one fatality was reported during the three-week long firefight. The total costs for firefighting operations are still being tabulated but estimates now are over 40 million dollars. Our department had resources assigned to this fire from day one, and LFRA firefighters served until demobilization. Even after that LFRA crews assisted on four other fires as part of a Colorado Area Wide Command. Near our district, the Masonville Task force was in service for approximately two weeks providing fire coverage and reconnaissance in an area directly threatened by the High Park Fire. This has been a season to remember for our firefighting forces, and we are really just on the front end of the wildland season. The good news is that with the help of various fire bans and restrictions, the 4th of July holiday ended without any significant outdoor fire related or fireworks related event occurring. We will be working with our local fire-rescue colleagues and our political leaders to find a better way to manage fire restrictions and bans in the future.

Wildland Strategy for Extreme Conditions and the Consequences- The three weeks of extreme fire danger that went on during the High Park Fire resulted in a shifting of the LFRA strategy in the local Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) area. The Masonville Task Force and a heavy front-end loading to fires and reports of fires in the WUI was a result of that strategy. One of the unintended consequences of that strategy was a potential blurring of the lines of the LFRA response area and responding to fires in areas outside of and adjacent to the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District's area. An issue paper was submitted to the Rural District Board, with a subsequent discussion on this and other issues during the July Rural Board Meeting. That Issue paper is attached to this monthly update.

2013 City/ LFRA Budget- The 2013 City/ LFRA Budget has been submitted to the City Manager. The review of that budget with the City Manager and his finance team is scheduled for July 31st. Any adjustments to the budget or recommendations for change will occur at this meeting. In August, our staff will provide a more detailed presentation to the fire authority board on the budget and its impacts for LFRA for the year 2013. Renee will be available at the July meeting to answer any process questions that the board has.

July Fire Authority Meeting Held at CTC- A reminder to the fire authority board that the July meeting will be held at the LFRA Command Training Center (CTC). We will have the normal agenda and meeting followed by a brief demonstration of the Blue Card Hazard Zone Management skills assessment process. The Blue Card certification involves successful completion of 50 hours of interactive learning at an individual computer terminal, (exams and quizzes included), that test for knowledge and cognition of incident management at the Type V and Type IV level. This is followed by 3 days of intense training and skills demonstration in the command simulator in various roles on numerous simulated structure fires. Successful completion of all functional positions, including first due officer and overall Incident Commander (IC) is required for a Blue Card certification.

ISSUE PAPER

TO: Loveland Rural Fire District Board
FROM: Randy Mirowski, Fire Chief, LFRA *rm*
SUBJECT: Issue Paper- WUI Strategy and Response- Consequences
DATE: July 11, 2012

ISSUE:

LFRA Response Outside of the Rural District during Recent Weeks and Potential Unintended Consequences

HISTORY and BACKGROUND:

During the last several weeks, since the outbreak of the High Park Fire, LFRA units, including units from Big Thompson Canyon, have been making reconnaissance patrols, responding to fire calls and spending time in the areas that are outside of our rural fire district. Most of this time has been spent in the areas west of the district along a pathway west of Pinewood all the way north past Masonville and the Buckskin Heights area.

In addition we have responded to at least two actual fires in this area; one near the Fletcher Hill area and the other in Quillan Gulch. These actual fires, and other responses that have been made into this area, were done with an accompanying response from Larimer County Emergency Services (the actual agency responsible for fire protection in the area); and with some additional resources from other services (i.e., State Forest Service). The strategy that was (and still is) being utilized is to send a heavy response from multiple agencies to quell the small fires before they get large and beyond our control- at times this has even included air resources. This strategy makes sense given the high fire danger that we are currently experiencing. From the Rural District's side, we have been responding to areas outside our fire district, but if we keep the fire small, it won't spread into our district. That is the thought and basic goal behind our strategy

Based on feedback that some of our firefighters have received, and some other communication from residents in the area, many residents believe that LFRA is their fire department and that we will be responding to future calls in their area. Other issues that have developed are discussions from those in the Quillan Gulch area for forming a volunteer fire department. We have discovered that residents in this area are fairly well connected (via e-mail and other sources) and they

communicate regularly with one another. A meeting in this area was held on 07-02 for further discussion on what neighbors could do to better organize and protect themselves, collectively, during times of high fire danger. LFRA personnel were not invited to attend this meeting.

CURRENT SITUATION:

There is concern among our staff that an unintended consequence of our attempt to better protect the rural district residents may have resulted in creating some confusion, and even some false expectations, among residents in the area adjacent to, but just outside the rural fire protection district. It is clear that many of these residents in the past have not understood where their fire protection comes from; now, many believe that it comes from LFRA.

ACTIONS:

This item has been placed on the agenda for the July 11 Rural Board Meeting. We are asking for some discussion among board members to see what, if any, actions should be taken by the board regarding our strategy during the last several weeks and the potential for enhanced confusion and misunderstanding that may now exist among residents outside of our fire district.

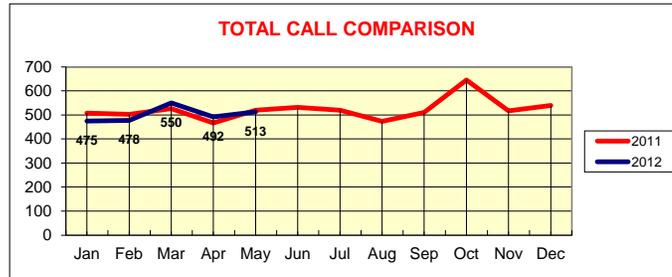
OUTCOME:

Our staff is seeking some direction from the board in how to respond to this issue.

LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY
 Month-End Statistics
 May, 2012



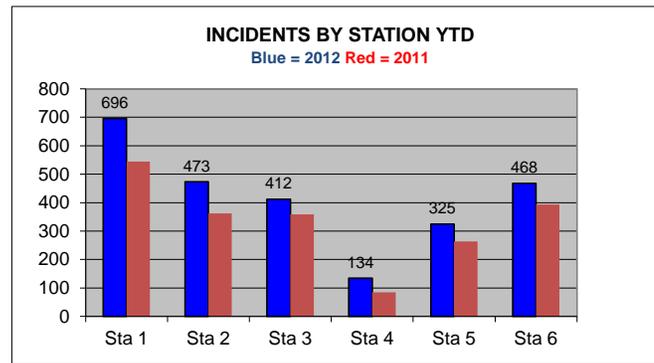
CALL INFORMATION				
INCIDENT TYPE	CITY	RURAL	MO. TOTAL	YTD %
Structure Fire (Residential)	0	2	2	7
Structure Fire (Commercial)	0	0	0	0
Vehicle Fire	2	1	3	15
Grass/Wildland Fire	2	3	5	22
Smoke/Odor Investigation	12	2	14	61
Fire Alarm	44	4	48	189
Other Fire	14	8	22	111
Total Fire Related	74	20	94	405 16%
Total Medical (EMS)	196	33	229	1,278 51%
Motor Vehicle Accident	33	20	53	233
Hazmat	5	1	6	34
Water/Ice Rescue	0	1	1	3
Carbon Monoxide	12	1	13	53
Public Asst. (Service)	14	10	24	118
Cancelled Enroute	24	35	59	236
No Incident Found	3	3	6	14
Airport Standby	28	0	28	134
Airport Emergency	0	0	0	0
Total Miscellaneous	119	71	190	825 33%
Month-End Total	389	124	513	
Year Cumulative	1,959	549		2,508
Percentage YTD	78%	22%		



AUTO & MUTUAL AID YTD						
	Ft. Collins	Hrs.	BT Canyon	Hrs.	Windsor	Hrs.
AA/MA Received	22	10	2	2	13	7.5
AA/MA Given	65	34	25	23	11	12.5
Totals	87	44	27	25	24	20

Average Response Times YTD
 Call to Tone Out 2 :29 Minute
 Dispatch to Enroute 1.02 Minutes
 Enroute to 1st Arrival 3.23 Minutes
 Average on Scene 18.63 Minutes

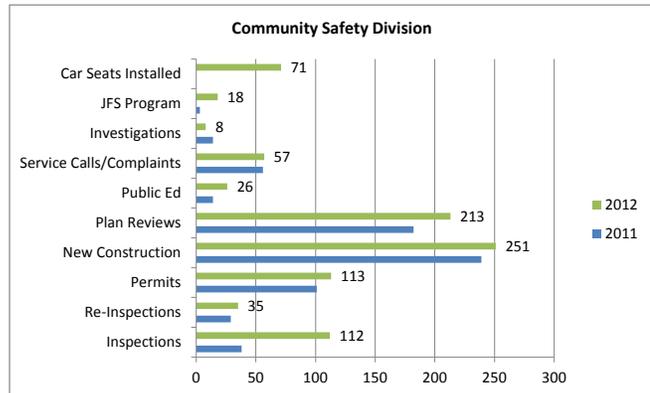
Fire Confined to Room of Origin 72%



LOSS/SAVE INFORMATION				
Type of Fire	City		Rural	
	Loss	Save	Loss	Save
Residential Structure	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,000	\$ 30,000
Commercial Structure	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Fires	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ -
Month Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,150	\$ 30,000
Year Cumulative	\$ 169,264	\$ 325,440	\$ 17,752	\$ 330,157

COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION				
Activity	City	Rural	Total Hrs.	YTD No.
Business Inspections	5	1	6	37
Development Inspections	14	0	9	75
Re-Inspections	4	0	1.5	35
Conceptual Design Review	19	1	30	139
Building Plan Reviews	15	0	20	86
System Plan Reviews	5	0	3	71
P & Z Plan Reviews	7	3	12	25
Permits	17	0	12	113
Public Education	7	1	17	26
Service Calls/Complaints	12	3	13.5	57
Investigations	0	1	20	8
Car Seats Installed	14	0	7	71
Juvenile Firesetter Program	0	0	0	18
Month-End Total	119	10	151	
Year Cumulative	805	58	661.0	761

1,665 Public Education Contacts YTD



TRAINING NEWS		
	Hrs/Month	Hrs. YTD
Shift	1,446.00	7,603.00
Volunteer	73.50	493.50
Admin.	41.50	483.50
Total	1,561.00	8,580.00
Volunteer Shift Hours		727.75
Yr Cumulative Volunteer Shift Hours		4,496.75

Specialized Disciplines	YTD Courses	YTD Hours	OT Hrs.	OT \$'s
Collapse	8	9.5		
Rope	77	89.5		
Confined Space	3	2.25		
Trench	3	14		
Search/Rescue	5	4.5		
Water	30	60.5		
TAC	10	54		
Hazmat	64	94		
Wildland	182	498		
YTD	826	361	361	\$11,218.00

July 8, 2012

City of Loveland

Re: Loveland Fire Department-High Park Fire

It was June 10th 3:00 p.m. at 12880 R1st Canyon Rd., we had watched the fire grow from Paradise Park on Saturday the 9th down Flowers Rd. By Saturday night it had crossed Stove Prairie Rd. and rapidly headed eastward. We live 5 miles from Stove Prairie School and at 12:00 p.m. The Larimer County Sheriff was going from home to home telling everyone to evacuate. By 5:00 p.m. the sky to the west was glowing red with thick smoke while the sun looked red. We watched the mountain ridges grow red Saturday night. We watched trees and homes burn as the fire grew.

Our neighbor called at 4:30 a.m. Sunday to say "It was time to get ready", the fire was totally out of control. I am enclosing some pictures as we readied to leave.

It was 3:00 p.m. Sunday when we saw the fires coming down the mountain and heard the loud Roar (like a tornado), coming down the pasture.

We were ready to say "goodbye to our home", but then 2 red fire trucks appeared at our home.

It was Loveland Fire Department. I didn't get their names I know it was Firefighter Lyons crew.

Men and women jumped out of the trucks with picks and shovels and headed out to save our home.

When we were allowed to return our home, barn and out buildings were all standing.

The pasture that burned will grow back.

You truly have HEROES in your fire department. Thank you isn't enough. We will keep them forever in our hearts and prayers.

Lynda and Tom Knab

Cc: Reporter Herald-Letter to the editor.

ORIGINALS to follow

Loveland Fire Dept ,

Thank you for your bravery
and dedication in saving
our homes. May God bless
you and yours !

Estes Park

Chief Randy -

The Fire Exhibit Committee
wishes to thank you
for your time - that you
give to us. It is greatly
appreciated!

The information given on
the High Park Fire really
helped us all to have a
better understanding of
what is being done.

You also, make us feel
appreciated !!!

Thank you for your
contribution to the
Loveland Fire Exhibit
at the Loveland
Museum & Gallery

Thanks for
all you do.
Lela Bonser,
Secretary