



Fire Department Monthly Status Report

June 8, 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The world is still going through the COVID -19 Pandemic and it appears to have started to “normalize” for the Elk Creek Fire Protection District.

COVID calls are decreasing and we have changed our COVID ambulance back to normal service. We have pre-cut plastic to isolate the patient compartment if needed. The constant flow of protocol changes has slowed and we are getting back to business. The station is remaining closed to the public at this time.

The financial impact of the pandemic is going to be offset by several grants that we are finalizing.

The last weekend brought a rare wind event which had recorded wind speeds of 89 mph in the district. This event led to a record day for calls. The department answered 26 calls in 6 hours. Most of them were trees into power lines. The department did an excellent job covering the calls and there were no fires out the event. There were several times resources were trapped by down lines and had to wait or find another way around.

Call volume was back up to normal with just over 100 runs. The high visitations to our public lands have led to hike outs in the forest as well as Staunton. We have also had a few wildland fires. The fires have not had any containment problems and they were contained/ controlled in a few hours. Traffic volume is increasing on the corridor and Staunton Park has been at capacity every weekend.

The water supply for the hydrant has suffered a catastrophic failure. The system developed a leak which led to the building sinking. The pump started to run and boiled the water out of it which destroyed the pump and associated plumbing. The vendor who installed it is working on finding the failure which will determine who has to pay for the repairs.

Elk Creek participated in several public events including the Conifer High School Graduation Parade and some birthday “parades”.

We are gearing up for wildland fire season. This year things will be very different with COVID checklists, remote check in as well as many of the traditional processes shifting to digital in an effort to limit interactions. Resources are required to be self-sufficient for 3 days. Captain Yellin and Captain Sander have designed a kit that will keep our fire fighters fed and hydrated without resupply for 3 days. The module is has equipment to be self-sufficient for 14 days if needed.

Jacob N. Ware
Fire Chief

OPERATIONS

- Volunteer firefighters had 60 hours of staffing at Station 1.
- Elk Creek Averaged 3.3 members per call.
- 22.7% of the calls overlapped (23 Calls)
- Average Response Time 9:51

| May - Emergency Incidents | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. Fire | 4 | 0 | 3 |
| 2. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) & Rescue | 74 | 63 | 56 |
| 3. Hazardous Condition (No Fire) | 9 | 2 | 6 |
| 3. Service Call | 11 | 5 | 13 |
| 4. Good Intent Call | 18 | 17 | 16 |
| 5. False Alarm and False Call | 13 | 7 | 9 |
| 6. Special Incident | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 131 | 95 | 103 |

| May - Additional Emergency Incidents | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Automatic/Mutual Aid Emergency Responses provided to the Elk Creek by other Agencies | 1 | 1 | 1 |

| May Ambulance Transports | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 37 | 34 | 32 |

TRAINING

- May was a month to start to get back to in person trainings with less than 10 people and using social distance guidelines.
- Firefighters logged 660 hours of training for the month with 70 class hours. 10 Members completed the “Rigging for Rescue” class which is a week-long technical rope rescue class.
- The training committee is finalizing the training calendar for the rest of the year and including Inter Canyon.

PREVENTION

- Fire Marshal Parker completed 12 inspections for the month of May.
- The public meeting for the Conifer Commons development was a Zoom meeting with a large turnout of community members. The County should have the final decision for the rezoning soon.
- The wildland fire assessment program is being built. We did not receive any grant funding for the implementation but there are still several funding options Captain Yellin is exploring. We will be hiring a part time employee to do the assessing. The program should be up and running by mid-July.

WILDLAND

- Elk Creek responded to 2 wildland fires in May. Both were small and contained quickly.
- We will be standing up a Rapid Extraction Module this season. This is a technical rescue resource for wildland incidents. Captain Sander is heading up the program. The unit will be available in the next month.
- Elk Creek will be making resources available nationally this week.
- Fire season is getting a slow start with a national PL of 2. COVID is complicating things with COVID checklists and other added complexities.
- Elk Creek resources will be self-sufficient for 3 days and the module will be self-sufficient for 14 days as part of the COVID-19 precautions.

FLEET, EQUIPMENT, & FACILITIES

Station 1

- The water supply that was completed 5 months ago has failed. The vendor is currently looking at the reason for the failure and working on repairs. Depending on what failed will determine if who is responsible for the repairs.
- Light bars have been added to a command truck and the fire marshal truck.
- Rescue 480 is OOS for a turbo issue, a type 1 engine is OOS for an overheating issue.
- Hose and ladder testing is completed for the year.
- We have received bids for the bay door project and we are currently selecting a vendor.

Station 2

- 1 Conex will be added to the station to increase storage as well as a work area on the side of the unit.