**Fire Chief’s Monthly Report to the Board of Directors**

**July 12th, 2023**

**Statistics on Activity for June 2023**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Situation** | **Monthly** | **2023 totals** |
| Fires | 32 | 137 |
| Over-pressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire) | 0 | 2 |
| Rescue & Emergency Medical Service | 458 | 2548 |
| Hazardous Condition (no fire) | 4 | 22 |
| Service Call | 15 | 140 |
| Good Intent Call | 41 | 207 |
| False Alarm & False Call | 8 | 77 |
| Severe Weather & Natural Disaster | 0 | 0 |
| Special Incident Type | 0 | 1 |
| **TOTALS June 2022= 490 14.08% increase** | **558** | **3134** |

**Operations report:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **EMS Response by Shift** | | **A-135 B-115 C-141 D-156 Single Role = %** | | | | |
| **Transports Turned Down – 5** | | | | | |
| Short = 24 | Long = 2 | | Umatilla = 73 | | Echo = 7 |
| **HAZMAT Team** | | | | | |
| **Calls of Service:** 1- Umatilla  **Outreach:** none  **New Invoices**: none  **Outstanding Invoices**: none    **Payments: none**  **Meetings:** . none  **Equipment: none**  **Training:.** | | | | | |
| **Delays in Response** | | | | | |
| **Delays: A-,B- C- D-0 Total:** | | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| Average: 8.47 | Days at Full: 10/10 = 3 | | Days at Minimum: 8/10 = 20 | Min. Staff Cost: $5,492.61 | |
| **Personnel**  Dylan Spence resigned effective August  Academy for 3 new hires Starts July 17th | | | | | |
| **Property Damage/Repairs:** | | | | | |
| M-22 minor damage due to backing accident  Br-22 significant damage from ember in air cleaner on Hat Rock Fire  St21-Baydoor damaged by medic unit- OOS for about 6 weeks for parts | | | | | |
| **Community Paramedic** | | | | | |
| 7 home visits, 6 in-hospital patient interviews, 7 payable visits $2,225 | | | | | |
| **Logistics** | | | | | |
| Campbell- 32 Repairs, 3 LOF, Continued work on Heavy Brush Trucks  Cleaned out 12-A Building- Will become better training supply storage, Logistic supply storage | | | | | |

**Training Report**: Total UCFD1 hours = 617.57

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Total Training Hours** |  |
| Career | 395.36 |
| Paid on Call | 128.83 |
| EMS Only | 93.38 |
| **Applications for Certification** |  |
| NFPA Instructor I | 1 |
| NWCG Single Resource Boss Engine | 1 |
| NFPA Aerial Apparatus Operator | 2 |
| **POC/RI Activities** |  |
| Applications for membership | 0 |
| New POC’s added to department | 0 |
| Members Resigned or Discharged | 0 |

**Other:**

**Fire Marshal’s report –**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PREVENTION |  |
| Business Inspections | 3 |
| Hood installation Inspections | 0 |
| Fire Cause Investigations | 4 |
| Sprinkler, Fire Alarm, Fire Protection Inspections | 1 |
| Plans Reviews | 4 |
| State Inspections/consultations | 0 |
| Fire Code Consultations | 10 |
| Smoke Alarms installed | 0 |
| Planning Committee hours | 3 |
| New Construction – consultations | 5 |
| Juvenile Fire Setter Interventions | 0 |
| SAFETY EDUCATION |  |
| School Presentations / Students | 2 |
| Station Tours | 3 |
| Fire Extinguisher Prop Trainings | 4 |
| Inflatable safety house | 0 |

**Prevention Other:**

School programs are complete for the 22-23 School year.

**Fire Investigations:**

06/01/2023, Grass/Brush Fire, at Umatilla River behind County Shops in Stanfield. Cause determined to be from transient activities. This fire burned approximately .5 acres.

06/04/2023, Grass/Brush Fire, Off Highway 37 South of Highway 730. Cause determined to be faulty insulator in the top of a power pole. This was confirmed by Umatilla Electric Cooperative and repaired. This fire burned approximately 60 acres.

06/13/2023, Grass/Brush Fire, Highway 730 East of Hat Rock Road. Cause determined to be from a failed wheel bearing on a stock trailer being towed. There were two separate fires initially burning on the North and South sides of Highway 730. This fire was also the first State Conflagration declared for the 2023 fire season. The fire burned approximately 17,000 acres and burned into the State of Washington.

06/28/2023, Grass/Brush Fire, Behind a residence on Cooney Lane adjacent to the irrigation ditch access road. Cause was from heavy equipment being utilized in the area by Hermiston Irrigation District. This fire burned approximately 100 acres.

**OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST:** OMD contract is signed.

**Outstanding invoices:**

**Meetings/Classes:** Stanton and Cearns attended OFCA professional development committee meeting, Design team and OAC, Dispatch meeting, Bond sale meetings, EOFCA Assoc mtg, Stanton and Mike Bozeman were name readers for the states Fallen Firefighters Ceremony, Hazmat team contract meetings, Insurance/workers comp meeting, AAR for Hat Rock fire, and County Fire Symposium. Several other chiefs were also involved in some of these meetings.

**OFCA: Legislative summery**

HB 2484 was introduced by Representative Nancy Nathanson at the request of OFCA. This bill would formalize the Urban Search and Rescue program, USAR, and establish USAR as a program within the Department of the Oregon State Fire Marshal. USAR has existed previously in Oregon but without formal authority. This bill requires the DOSFM to report on recommendations for USAR by September 15, 2024. This bill has passed both Chambers and is awaiting signature by the Governor. This bill has an implementation date of 91 days post Sine Die.

SB 728 was introduced Chief Co-Sponsored by Senator Gird, Findley, Manning and Sollman. This bill would create a volunteer fire fighter tax credit to help offset the tremendous amount of time, energy and often financial resources volunteer firefighters give to their communities. The bill would have established an income tax credit of up to 41,000 per tax year yet set criteria to qualify. While there were two successful hearings on the bill, due to the walkout, there was not time to move this legislation forward. OFCA will work with legislators on options for the future.

HB 3426 was originally introduced at the request of Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue and Chief Sponsored by Representative Dacia Grayber. This bill would add required training by the 9-8-8 suicide prevention line to meet the needs of first responders including fire fighters who would potentially utilize this resource in a time of distress. The OFCA Board of Directors endorsed this bill with their formal support. First responders, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control, are at an elevated risk for suicide due to the high level of workplace stress and trauma.

HB 3426 will add firefighters and first responders as a high risk and specialized population for training and policies. This bill has passed and is awaiting signature by the Governor. This bill has an implementation date of 91 days post Sine Die.

SB 82 was introduced at the request of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery. This bill would make revisions in homeowners insurance coverages and policies related to the risk of wildfire. Insurers would be required to send a notice to homeowners in the event of policy cancellation, decisions not to renew or premium increases related to wildfire risk. Insurers would be required to publicly post information on whether and how wildfire risk mitigation efforts may impact underwriting and rates. The bill would prohibit an insurance company from using a state map that identifies areas of wildfire risk or exposure as a basis for cancelling, declining to renew or increases rates for a homeowners insurance policy. OFCA worked closely with stakeholders including state agencies and insurers to bring a final bill forward that ultimately passed both Chambers. This bill has an implementation date of 91 days post Sine Die.

SB 80 was introduced at the request of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery. This bill was the “SB 762 fix” bill. The bill makes several changes to the provisions of SB 762 which passed in 2021 relating to wildfire. Modifications to the state wildfire map, risk classes, community preparedness, community engagement and the Wildfire Programs Advisory Council are all a part of this package. OFCA engaged in the conversation about this bill and reviewed potential revisions and amendments to conform with the goals of Oregon’s fire service related to wildfire. This bill has passed both Chambers and is awaiting signature by the Governor. This bill has an emergency clause and has an implementation date of July 1, 2023.

HB 2296, known as Work After Retirement (WAR), was introduced by Representative Dacia Grayber. This bill extends provisions allowing members of PERS (Public Employee Retirement System) to be reemployed by participating employers for unlimited hours without a reductio in pension benefits through 2034.

SB 847 was introduced by Senator Kayse Jama. The goal of this bill was to be an omnibus bill on housing policy related to commercial use properties within urban growth boundaries. While housing policy is outside of the work for OFCA, the bill contained provisions that would override current fire and life safety requirements in building. OFCA worked closely with leadership on this bill. While this bill did not move forward, HB 3395 was introduced and did move forward with language from SB 847. OFCA was able to negotiate provisions in the bill that would protect fire and life safety. This bill has been signed by the Governor and has an immediate implementation timeline.

HB 3485 was introduced at the request of the Department of the Oregon State Fire Marshal and made technical corrections and adjustments needed as this office moves to it’s own independent state agency. OFCA provided testimony in support of this bill. This bill has passed both Chambers and has an implementation date of 91 days post Sine Die.

SB 1068 was introduced by Senator Lew Frederick at the request of Douglas County Fire District #2. This bill authorizes a fire district to annex to district, with certain provisions, unprotected lands within the coverage area of the district. Douglas Fire #2 asked for Chiefs from around the state to support this bill via testimony on the bill. This bill has passed and has an implementation date of 92 days post Sine Die.

HB 2522 was originally introduced by Representative Pam Marsh and Representative Lily Morgan at the request of Rural Metro Fire in Josephine County. The original intent of the bill was amended to establish a Rural Fire Protection Review Committee to conduct a comprehensive review of statutes related to structural fire protection. The review must include recommendation to modernize and improve rural fire protection district operations and present to Legislative Committees by September 15, 2024. This bill has passed both Chambers and is awaiting signature by the Governor. This bill has an emergency clause and takes effect immediately upon final signature.

**SDAO**: HB 2009 Extends the Enterprise Zone and Long-term Rural Enterprise Zone programs through June 30, 2032, excluding fulfillment centers. Requires zone sponsors to post the terms of agreements on their website for 21 days prior to their effective date. Requires OBDD to provide technical assistance to zone sponsors and to submit a report on enterprise zone program transparency to the Legislative Assembly by September 15, 2024. Requires zone sponsor intending to enter into an agreement that may increase infrastructure use outside zone boundaries to provide such notice to adjacent local governments. Establishes a school support fee that ranges between 15% and 30% of property taxes that would otherwise have been due, but for the property tax exemption. Requires each zone sponsor to negotiate the rate with their respective school districts. The fee applies to years four and five for the EZ program and to years six and later for the LTREZ program. Clarifies that active agreements may continue should the EZ program sunset; applies the same policy to the LTREZ program. Changes apply to agreements made on or after the effective date of the Act.

Whether fire districts are getting a fair shake I think depends on your perspective.  My thinking is that Sections 23 through 26 might be helpful (bill is attached) but does not require any financial reimbursement – only notification and transparency.

I will say that they also extended the Strategic Investment Program (SIP) in the bill and will note that Section 38(7)B has interesting new language.  It basically says that the fees charged must be agreed to by local governments – **including those special districts providing public safety functions.**  So that is certainly an improvement for this particular program.

Schools definitely benefited from the changes to Enterprise Zone and Long Term Rural Enterprise Zones.  They will now be eligible to receive from 15 to 30 percent of their lost property tax revenue under the reauthorized programs.  This will make both programs less financially attractive but still leaves the special districts outside of the negotiations.

**Station 26:** They have a draft MOU no further discussions.