



Big Walnut Joint Fire District

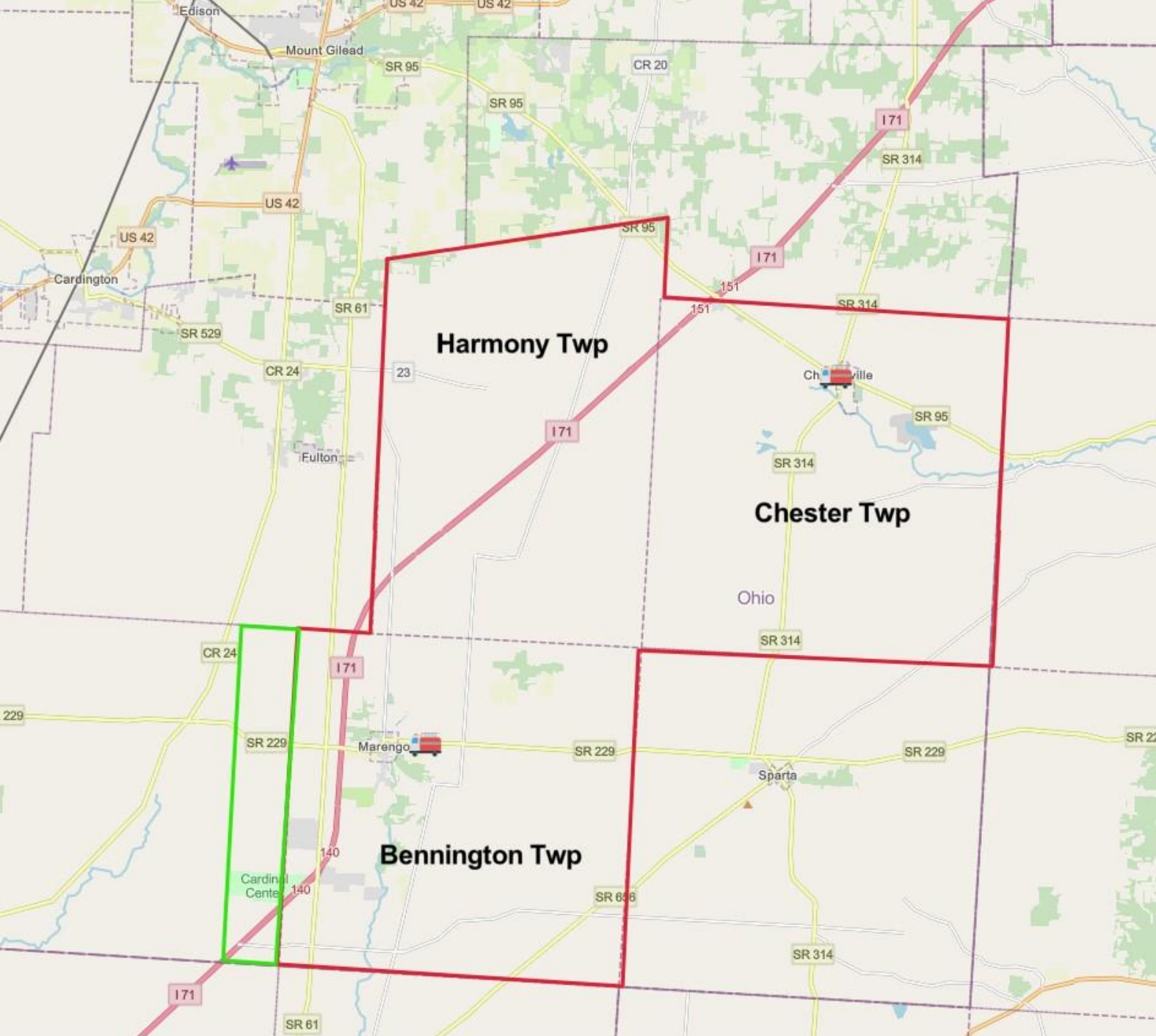
STATE OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
UPDATED JUNE 2024



State of the FD Presentation:

- ▶ Updating the community about your fire department
- ▶ Rapid growth in the next 3-5 years due to the Silicon Heartland
- ▶ Seeking a community driven strategic plan





Who we protect and serve:

- ▶ Bennington Township
- ▶ Chester Township
- ▶ Harmony Township
- ▶ Marengo Village
- ▶ Chesterville Village
- ▶ Interstate 71
(Morrow/Delaware Co line to the St Rt 95 NB exit ramp)



Our Beginnings

- ▶ Marengo Fire Department announced on June 27, 1883.
- ▶ Fire District formed on June 25, 1971, between Village of Marengo and the Township of Bennington.
- ▶ Townships of Harmony, Chester, Peru, and South Bloomfield contracted at varying

MARENGO is preparing to defend herself against the fire fiend. She has organized a fire company, with George Ralston as captain. The village isn't at present prepared to invest in a fire engine, but with a company of able-bodied citizens the flames will find it difficult to conquer the bucket brigade.

MORROW COUNTY UNION REGISTER JUNE 27, 1883

Courtesy Stan Sipe and Morrow County Historical Society

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CREATION OF A JOINT FIRE DISTRICT
505.371 OHIO REVISED CODE

The Board of Township Trustees for Bennington Township, Morrow County, Ohio, met in special session on the 25 day of June, 1971, with the following members present:

Chris Covert

Elmer Temple

Enoch Adkins.

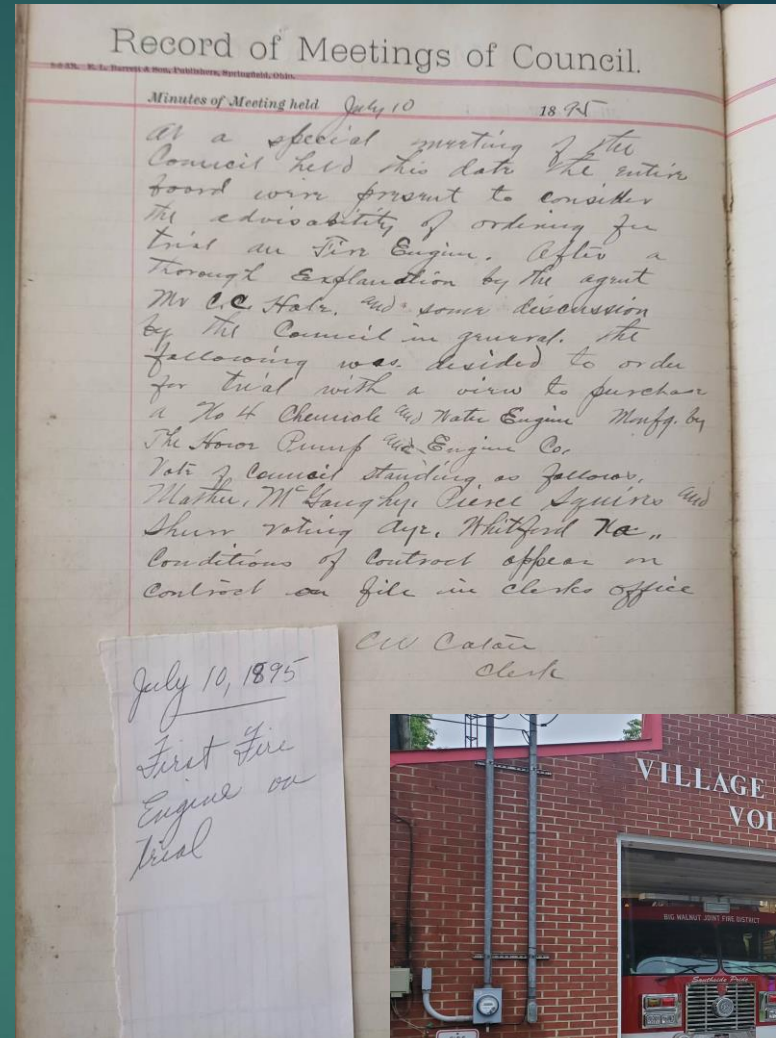


Big Walnut Joint Fire District
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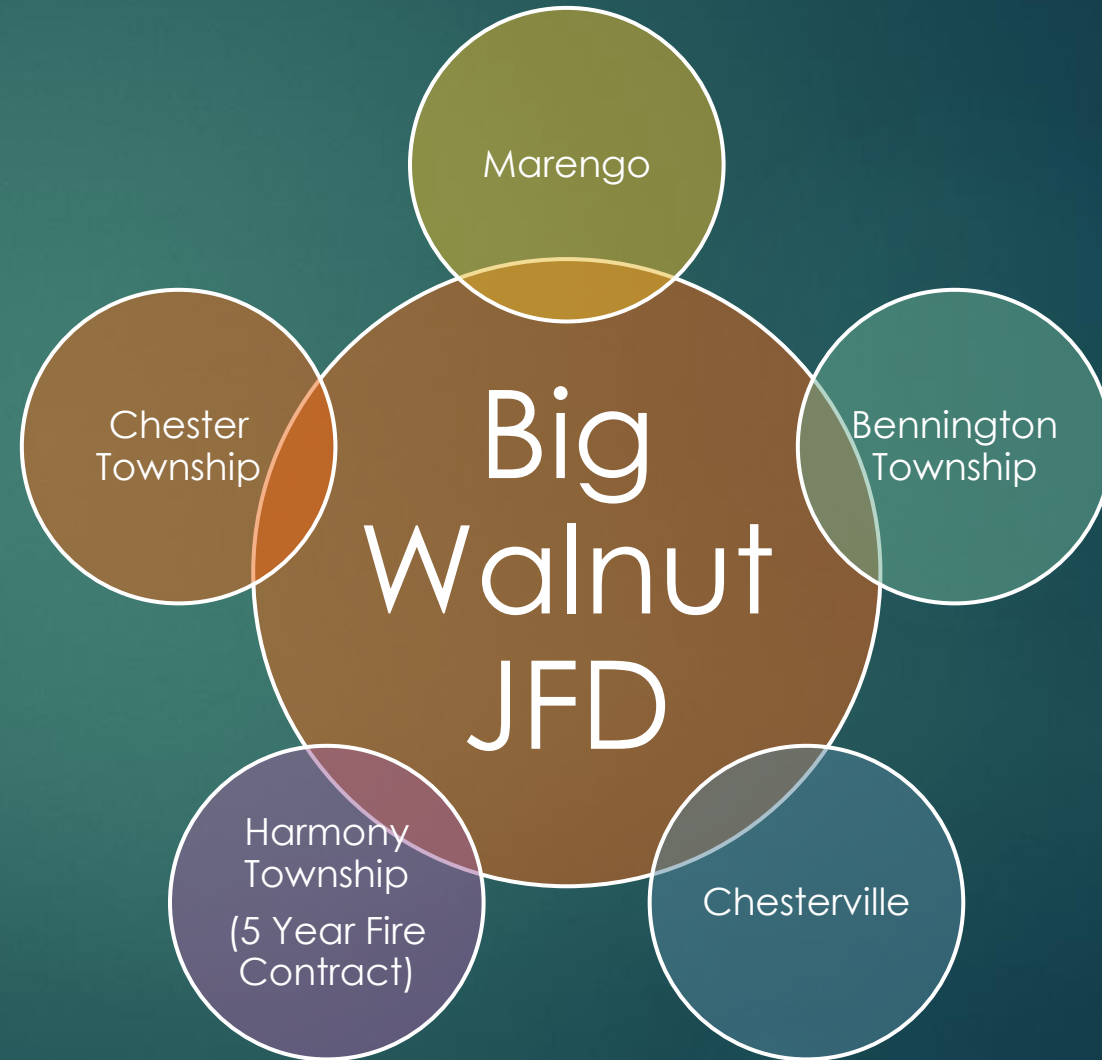
Our Beginnings

- ▶ Chesterville bought a soda fire cart on July 10, 1895. The old firehouse is located on the east side of Short Street near the north end of the Town Hall.
- ▶ Chesterville suffered several devastating fires in the early 1900s
- ▶ Contracted for fire protection from the Fredericktown Community Fire District until 2000.



What is a Joint Fire District?

- Organized under the Ohio Revised Code 505.371
- Made up of multiple political subdivisions
- 5 elected officials attend a monthly meeting
- 1 fiscal officer, hired by Fire Board



Organization- Chief Officers

▶ Chief Lauri Lovell

- ▶ Fire Chief for Marengo fire station
- ▶ 34 year resident of Morrow County
- ▶ 24 year veteran of BWJFD
- ▶ Firefighter, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief
- ▶ Promoted to Chief in 2015
- ▶ Associates Degree in Fire/EMS
- ▶ Career Washington Township-Dublin firefighter/paramedic for 20 years
- ▶ CPR/first aid instructor
- ▶ Fire Investigator
- ▶ Member of Bennington Township/Marengo JED Board



Organization- Chief Officers

▶ Chief Ben Lovell

- ▶ Fire Chief for Chesterville fire station
- ▶ 28-year fire service veteran
- ▶ Bachelor of Science in Fire Administration
- ▶ Credentialed as Fire Chief by Ohio Fire Chief's Association
- ▶ Credentialed as Fire Officer by Center for Public Safety Excellence
- ▶ Career battalion chief with Liberty Township/Powell FD
- ▶ Morrow County Regional Planning Commission for 12 years
- ▶ Morrow County Local Emergency Planning Committee
- ▶ Fire Instructor with Delaware Area Career Center
- ▶ Retired Master Sergeant E-8, U.S. Army and Ohio Army National Guard; 22 years service (1991-2012), deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom



Organization - Captains



Capt.
Goodman-
Station
maintenance



Capt. Burson-
Training



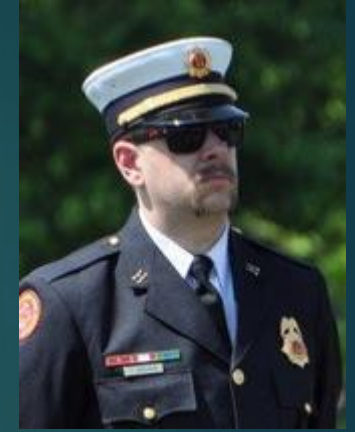
Capt.
Sinclair-
Fire
prevention
and hazmat



Capt.
Whitt-
EMS and
safety



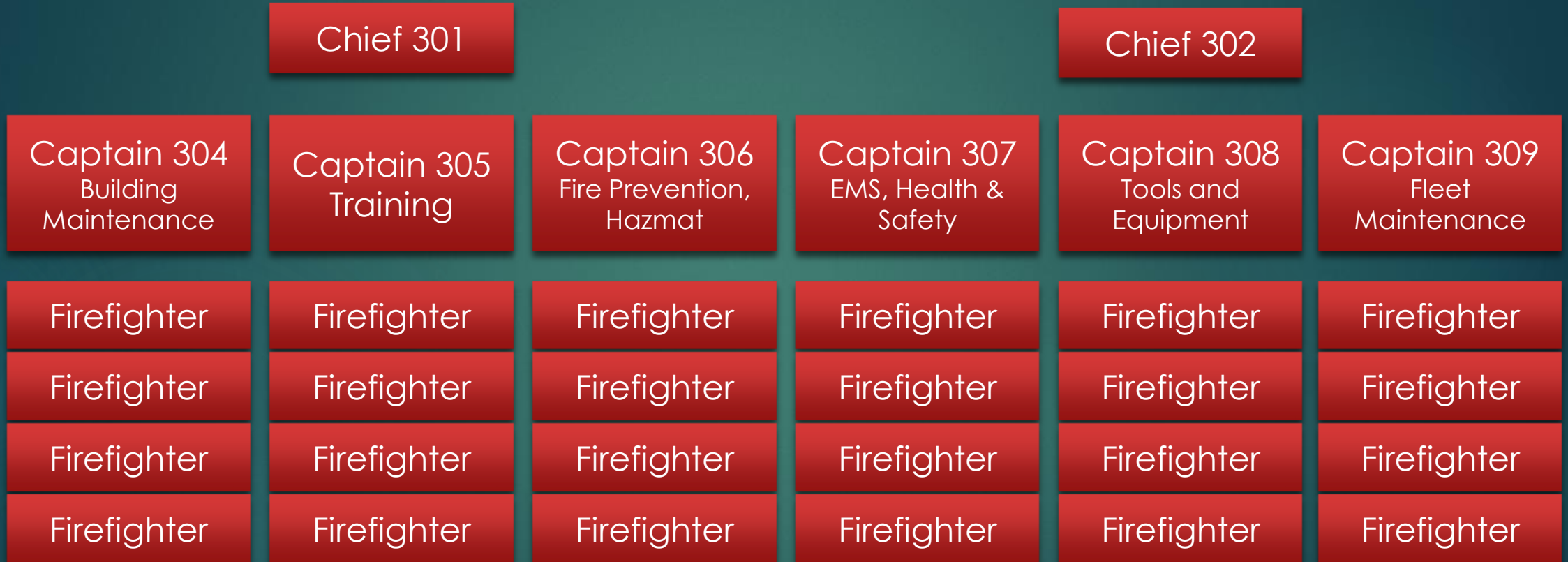
Capt. Park-
Small tools
and
equipment
maintenance



Capt.
Gerlach-
Fleet
maintenance

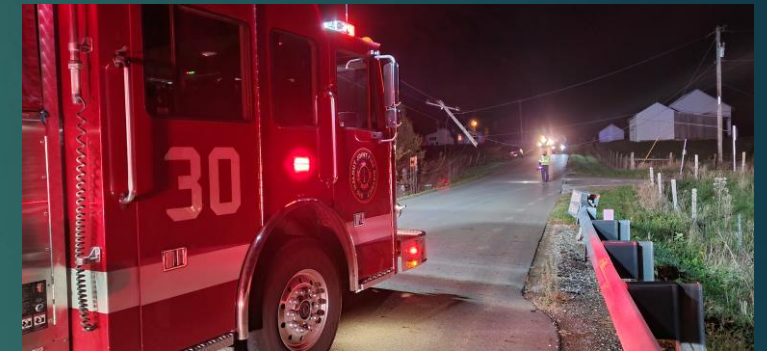


Organization- Span of Control



What services do we provide

- ▶ Fire suppression
- ▶ Hazardous material response
- ▶ Traffic control for law enforcement
- ▶ Road clearing after storms
- ▶ Safety talks
- ▶ Home inspections for adoption
- ▶ New business life safety inspections
- ▶ Car seat installations



What services do we provide

- Rescue (people, vehicle, animals)
- Fire investigations
- Assist/supplement Morrow County EMS
- CPR and first aid classes
- Public relations talks



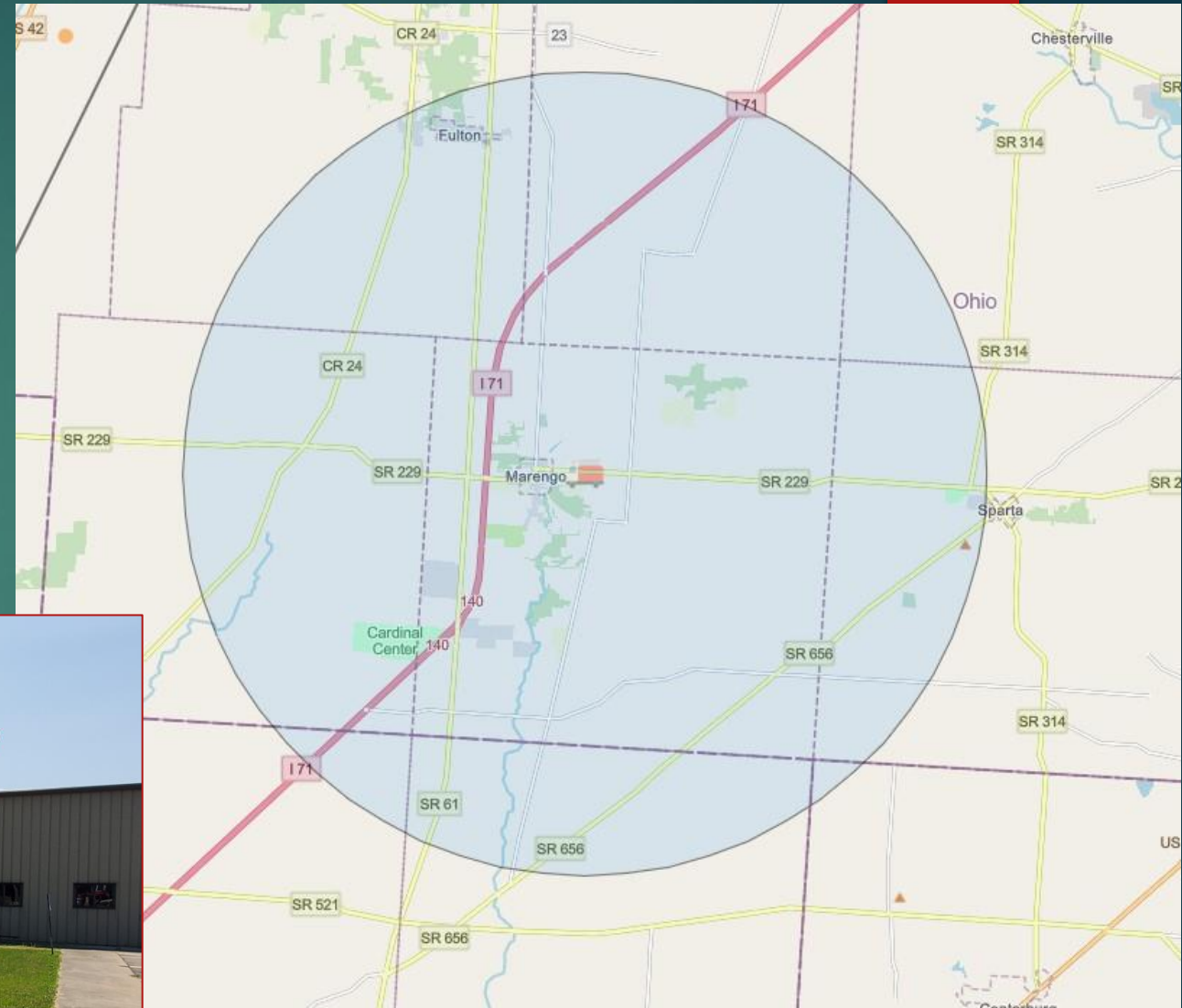
What We Don't Do

- ▶ Fill Swimming Pools
- ▶ Maintain Fire Hydrants
- ▶ Pest removal



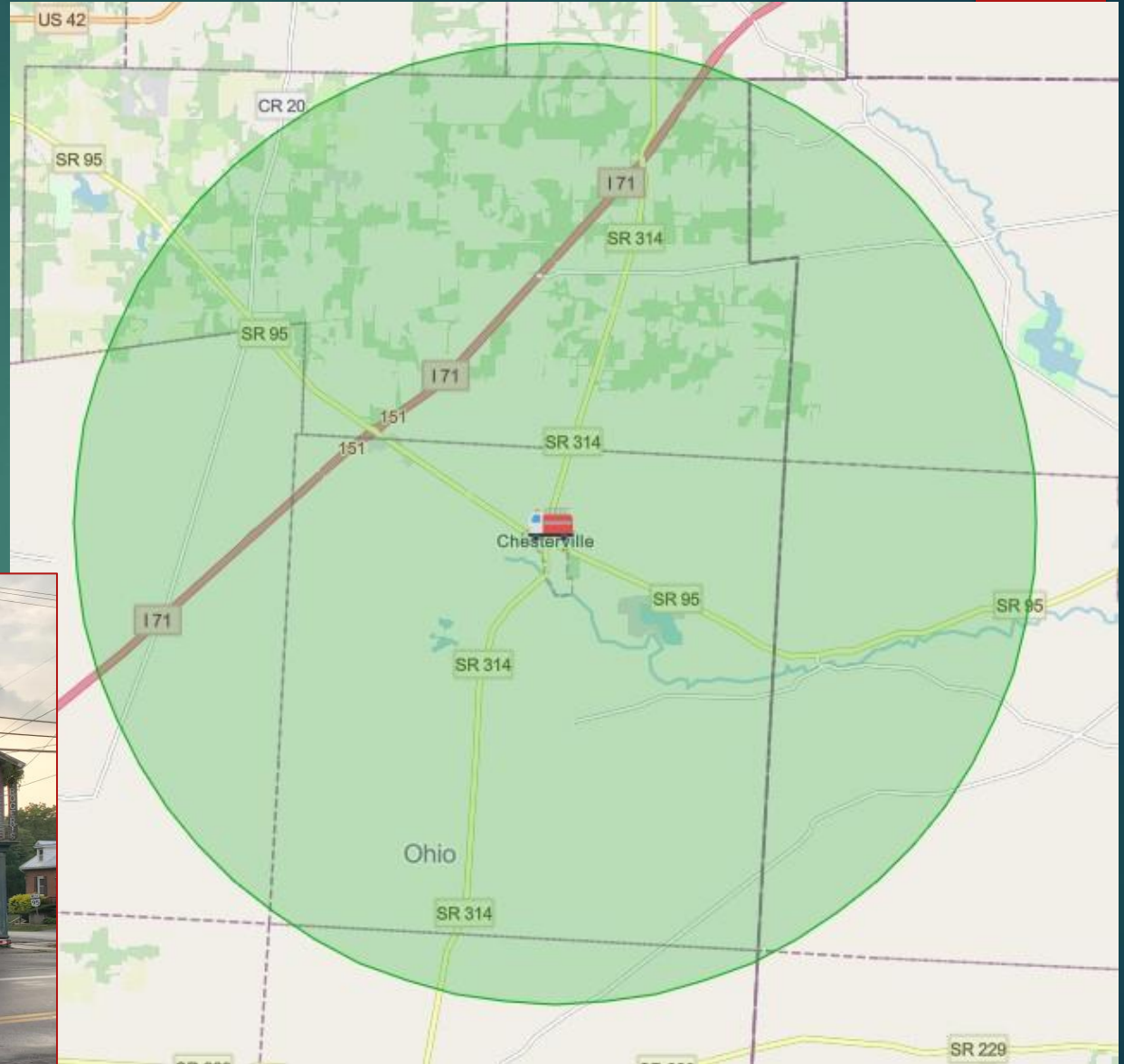
Our Firehouses

- ▶ Station 39-1 – 4600 St Rt 229, Marengo
- ▶ Built in 2000



Our Firehouses

- ▶ Station 39-2
 - ▶ 26 S. Portland St, Chesterville
 - ▶ Built in early 1930's



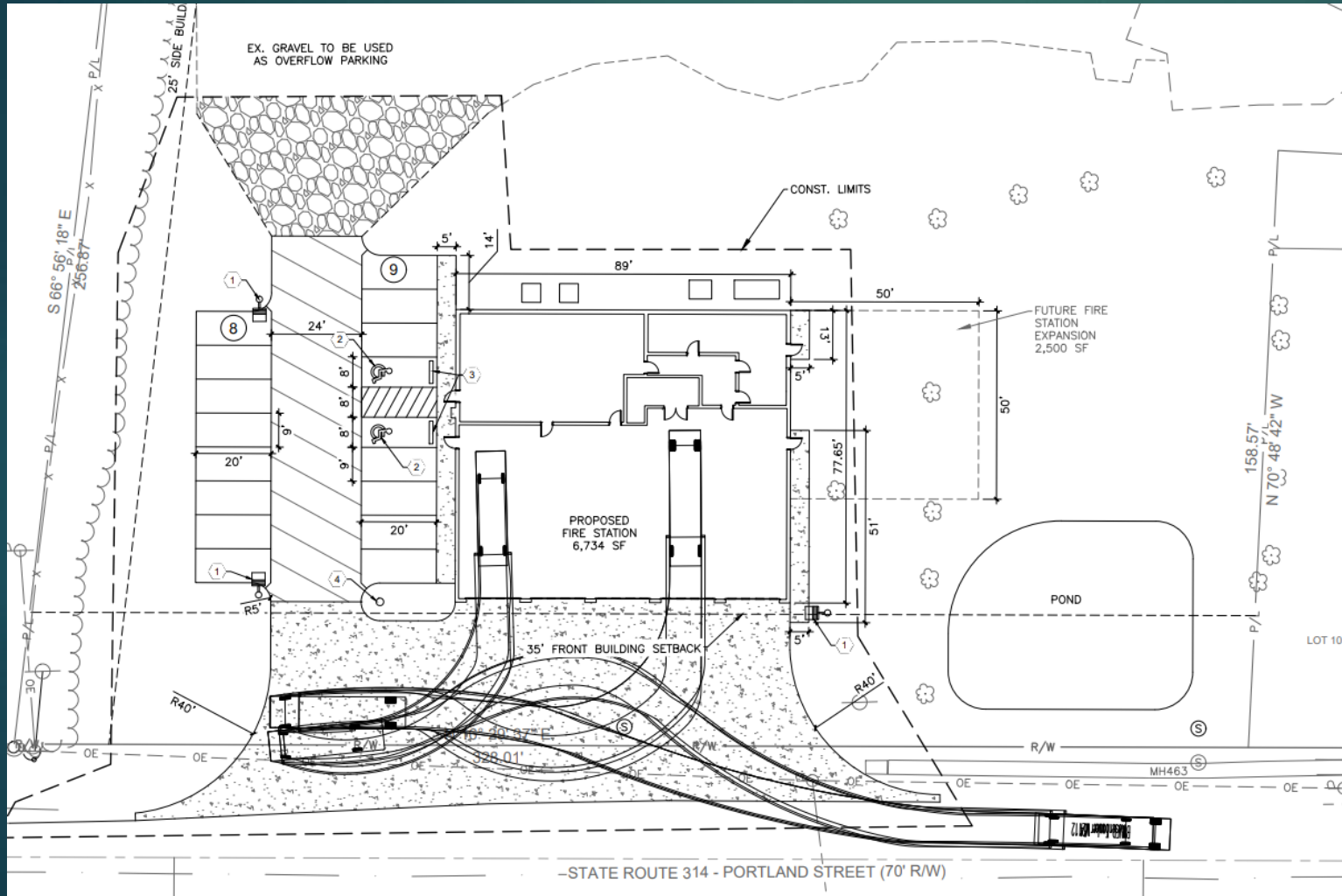
New Chesterville Fire Station



- Cost to build 2.4 million
- Received a Congressional Directed Spending Grant for 1.3 million
- Cost to BWJFD taxpayers: 1.1 million
- Estimated completion January 2025



New Chesterville Fire Station



Photos courtesy W. Huddleston



Interstate 71

- ▶ Protect 12 miles of the freeway, or 72 lane miles
- ▶ “High Priority Corridor” of the National Highway System as designated by Congress
- ▶ 55,000 vehicles average annual daily traffic, 25%-28% commercial vehicles
- ▶ Will be part of the semiconductor supply chain when the “Silicon Heartland” is completed



Our Fleet

- ▶ Engine 30- 2016 engine/rescue
- ▶ Brush 32- 1996 pickup
- ▶ Engine 33- 2021 engine/rescue/tanker
- ▶ Brush 37- 2016 brush/quick attack
- ▶ Squad 39- 2014 ambulance
- ▶ Trailer 39- hazmat and water rescue response



Photos courtesy W. Huddleston



New Tanker 36



New Tanker 36

- 2012 KME Predator refurbished, with new fire body, tank, 2300 gallon water tank
- Total cost \$351,692.00. Estimated cost of new equivalent- \$650,000
- Purchased to replace 3 fire apparatus that were all over 25 years old, all 3 failed safety inspections
- Will be quartered in Marengo



Staffing

- ▶ Currently 3 firefighter/EMTs from 9am to 5pm at the Marengo fire station. Can call in additional personnel if needed.
- ▶ Chesterville station is currently unmanned
- ▶ Calls after 5pm are answered by firefighters from home



Staffing Fire/Rescue Certifications

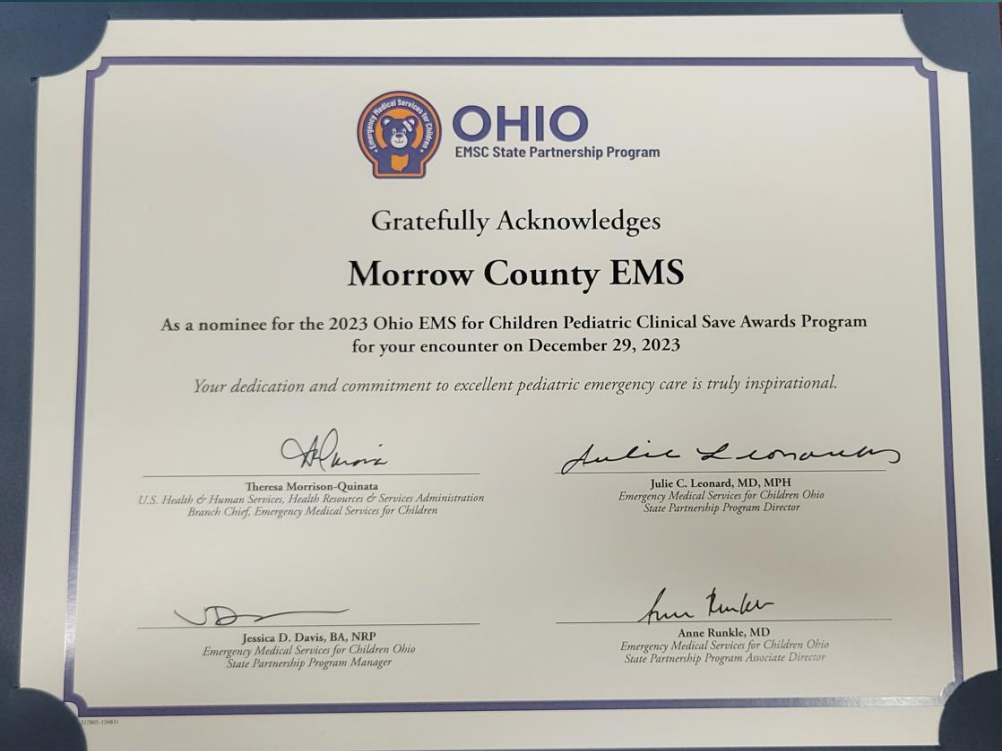
- On our active roster, all members but 1 have Firefighter Level 2 certification, the highest Ohio has to offer
- Many of our members have technical rescue certifications, including ice, heavy, vehicle and machinery, rope and swift water



Staffing EMS Certifications

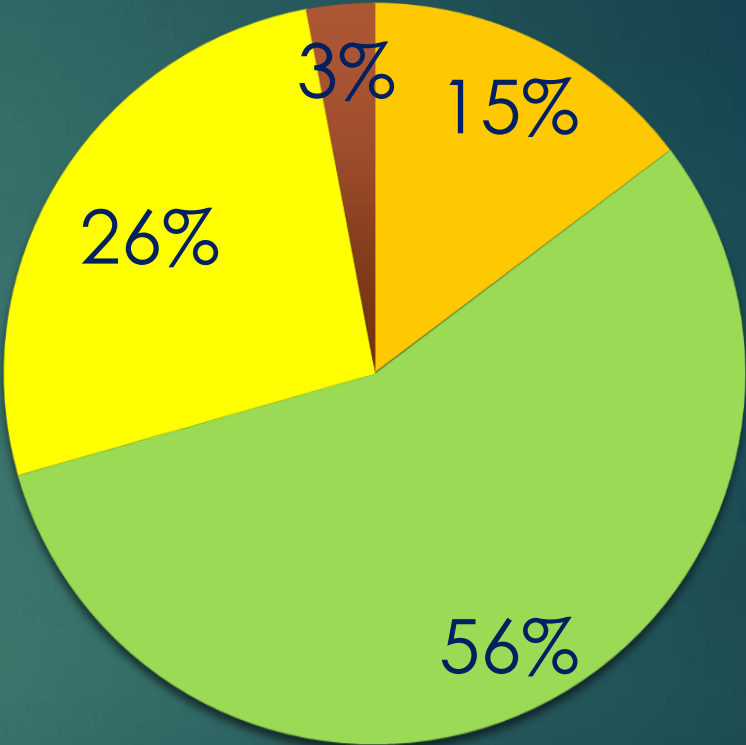
Most of our members are state certified
Emergency Medical Technicians

- EMT-Basic
- EMT-Paramedic



2 BWJFD Firefighters are being nominated for a state award for working with MCEMS on a trauma patient

Certifications



- 5 Firefighters
- 19 Firefighter/EMTs
- 9 Firefighter/Paramedics
- 1 Paramedic




BWJFD EMS Program

- ▶ Our EMS program started in 2020 when we received funding from the CARES Act that was subcontracted by the townships and villages we protect.




BWJFD EMS Program

- We have a stand-alone EMS program that is equal but separate from MCFSA (same equipment)
- The greatest strength of this program is reciprocity. Our paramedics can operate on MCFSA ambulances, and their personnel can utilize our ambulance.
- This has become a force multiplier for not just BWJFD, but Morrow County.

	MEMORANDUM		Issued by: Erika Kube, MD, FACEP, BWJFD Medical Director	Issue Date: July 10, 2022
	Subject: MoU of EMS Service Reciprocity		Page 1 of 1	
	Special Notes:			

- I. This Memorandum of Understanding is to define the interoperability of EMS service agencies in Morrow County to ensure the best possible emergency services is delivered to those in need, and to ensure stop gap measures are applied that may hinder this service delivery.
- II. The purpose of EMS transport services of the BWJFD is to supplement and compliment the Morrow County Firefighter's and Squadmans Association EMS service, aka Morrow County EMS (MCEMS). The BWJFD shall adopt and follow MCEMS most current and approved medical protocol for use in the emergency pre-hospital setting. The BWJFD is only equipped to deliver EMT-Basic (Basic Life Support) level of service in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 4765.37.
- III. Due to the labor shortage of qualified EMT Basics and Paramedics as recognized by the Ohio EMS Board, all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure service delivery is uninterrupted. In the interest of delivering the best care for the residents of our fire district, as well as the residents of Morrow County, the following is understood and agreed upon by all parties:
 - A. The BWJFD recognizes that MCEMS is the primary EMS service for Morrow County.
 - B. Due to the interoperability of both agencies' medical protocol, BWJFD current state certified paramedics may, when requested by MCEMS, perform EMT-Paramedic (advanced life support) functions utilizing MCEMS medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, and vehicles, while utilizing the current approved medical protocol.
 - C. MCEMS members may, when requested by BWJFD, perform EMT-Paramedic functions on board BWJFD vehicles (specifically Squad/Medic 39) and take charge of an ALS run with cross-loaded ALS EMS equipment and supervise patient transports. It is preferred that a BWJFD employee drive the vehicle.
- IV. This MoU serves as a pledge from both BWJFD and MCEMS to ensure the best service is delivered to the citizens of Morrow County.



Erika Kube, MD, FACEP
BWJFD / MCEMS Medical Director

7-18-22
Date



Benjamin Lovell, Fire Chief, OFC
BWJFD, EMS Liason

7-18-2022
Date



Jeff Sparks, EMS Chief
MCEMS EMS Manager

7-19-2022
Date



Run Statistics

2023 Run zones

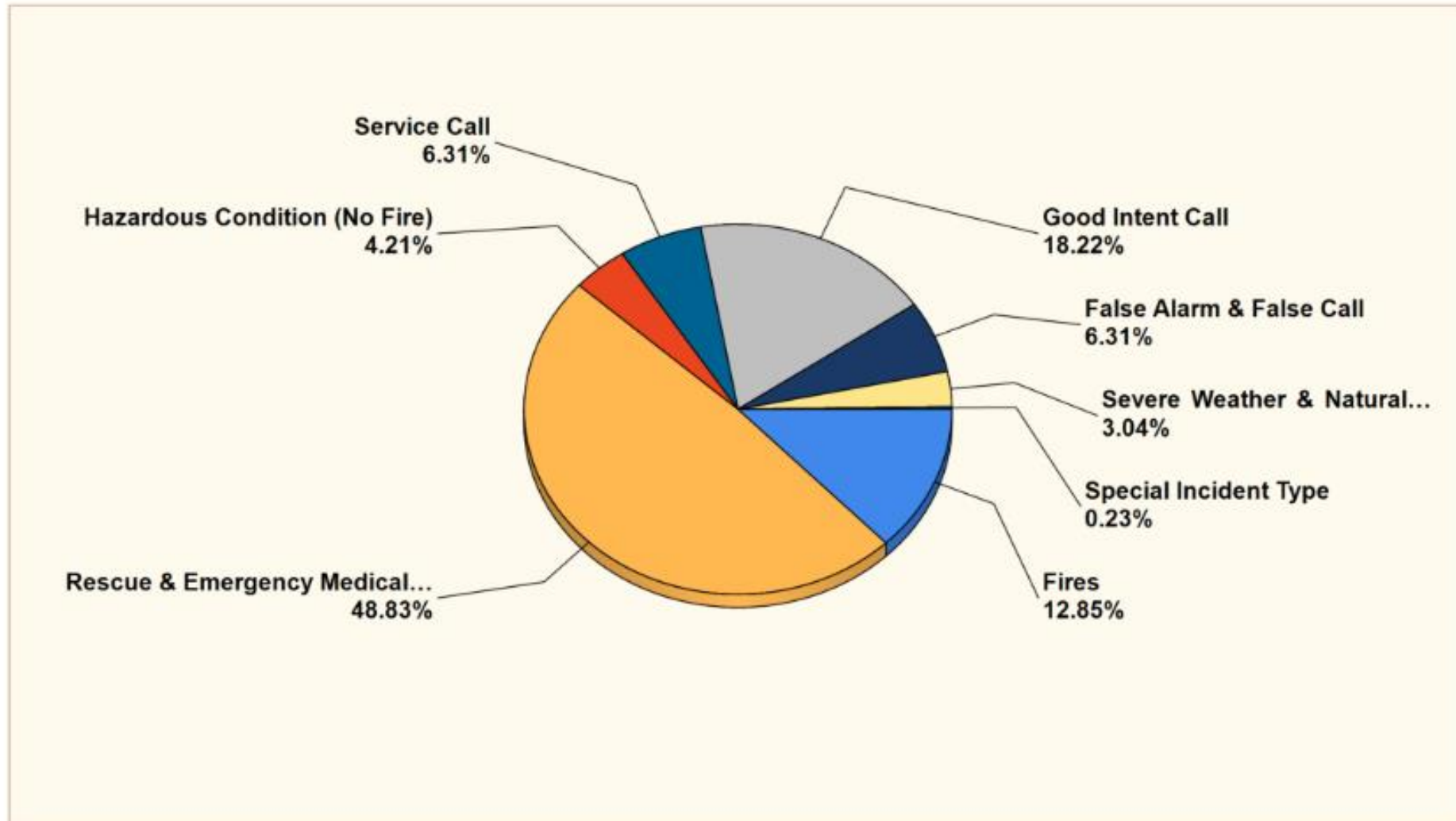
ZONE	Incidents
Status:Reviewed	
BEN - Bennington Township	162
BEN-71 - Bennington Township, I-71	23
CAR - Cardington FD	2
CENT - Central Ohio JFD	5
CHE - Chester Township	52
CHE-71 - Chester Township, I-71	12
CHES - Chesterville Village	8
ELM - Elm Valley JFD	9
FCVD - Fredricktown	1
HAR - Harmony Township	91
HAR-71 - Harmony Township, I-71	29
JNSVLE - Perry-Congress JFD	1
MAR - Marengo Village	12
MTGD - Mount Gilead FD	11
PERU-71 - Peru Township I71	4
PK - Porter Kingston JFD	1
SB - South Bloomfield	5
TOTAL Reviewed:	428
TOTAL:	428



Run Statistics- 2023

Breakdown by Major Incident Types for Date Range

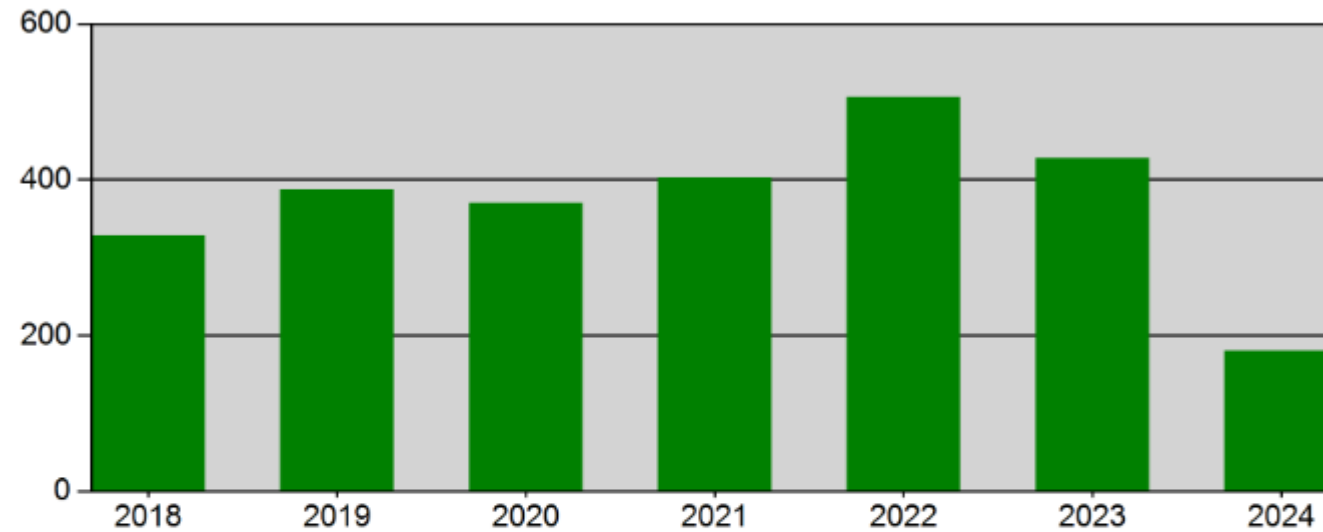
Zone(s): All Zones | Start Date: 01/01/2023 | End Date: 12/31/2023



Run Statistics- Last 5 Years

Incidents by Year for Year Range

StartYear: 2018 | EndYear: 2024

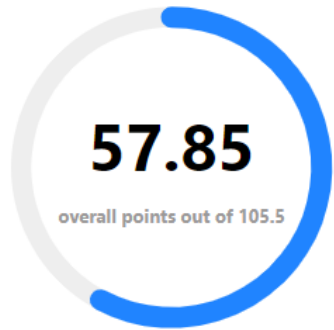


YEAR	INCIDENTS
2018	329
2019	387
2020	370
2021	402
2022	506
2023	428
2024	181

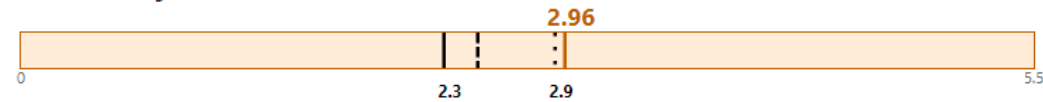


Our ISO Rating

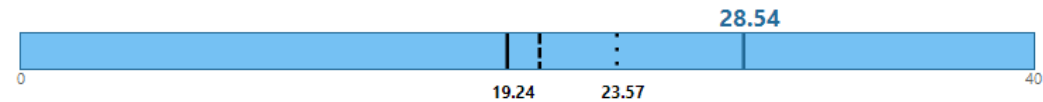
These points represent the summary of the major categories of the PPC evaluation.



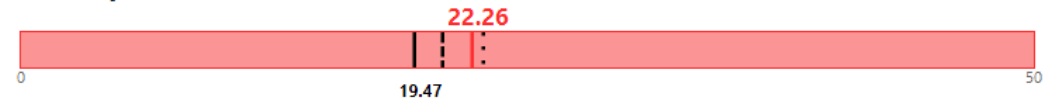
Community Risk Reduction Points (CRR)



Water Points



Fire Department Points



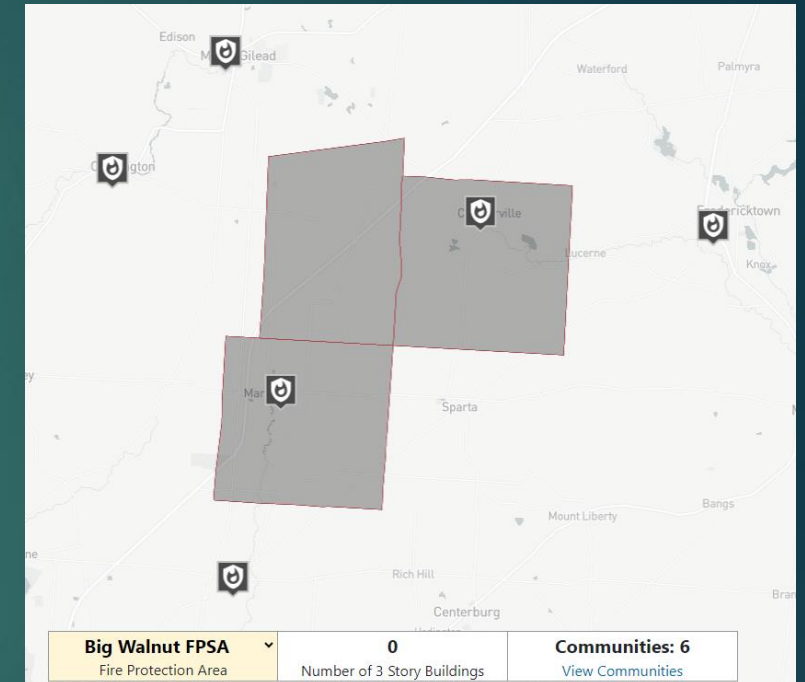
Emergency Communication Center Points (ECC)



Overall PPC Value: **05/5Y**

Effective Date: **2/1/2023**

2.96	+	28.54	+	22.26	+	9.46	-	5.37	=	57.85
CRR		Water		Fire		ECC		Divergence		Total
Points		Points		Points		Points		Points		Points



Compare the following: Peer Group State Group Nationwide

Big Walnut FPSA Fire Protection Area	0 Number of 3 Story Buildings	Communities: 6 View Communities
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How We Are Funded by the Taxpayer

- ▶ Big Walnut fire levies
 - ▶ 2.0 millage permanent levy; replaced in 2022= \$292,627
 - ▶ 2.5 millage 5-year levy- replaced in 2019= \$333,074
 - ▶ Total BWJFD fire levy = \$625,701
- ▶ Harmony Township fire contract
 - ▶ 1 millage levy- voted in 2011, renewed in 2021= \$56,213
 - ▶ 1 millage levy- voted in 1989, renewed in 2023=\$23,264
 - ▶ Total annual contract= \$79,477
- ▶ Current total annual budget= **\$705,178**

What is a Levy Millage?

- A millage is 1/1000 of the Assessed Value of your property.
- \$1 dollar for every \$1000 dollars of taxpayer property
- Assessed Value is 35% of the Appraised Value of your property

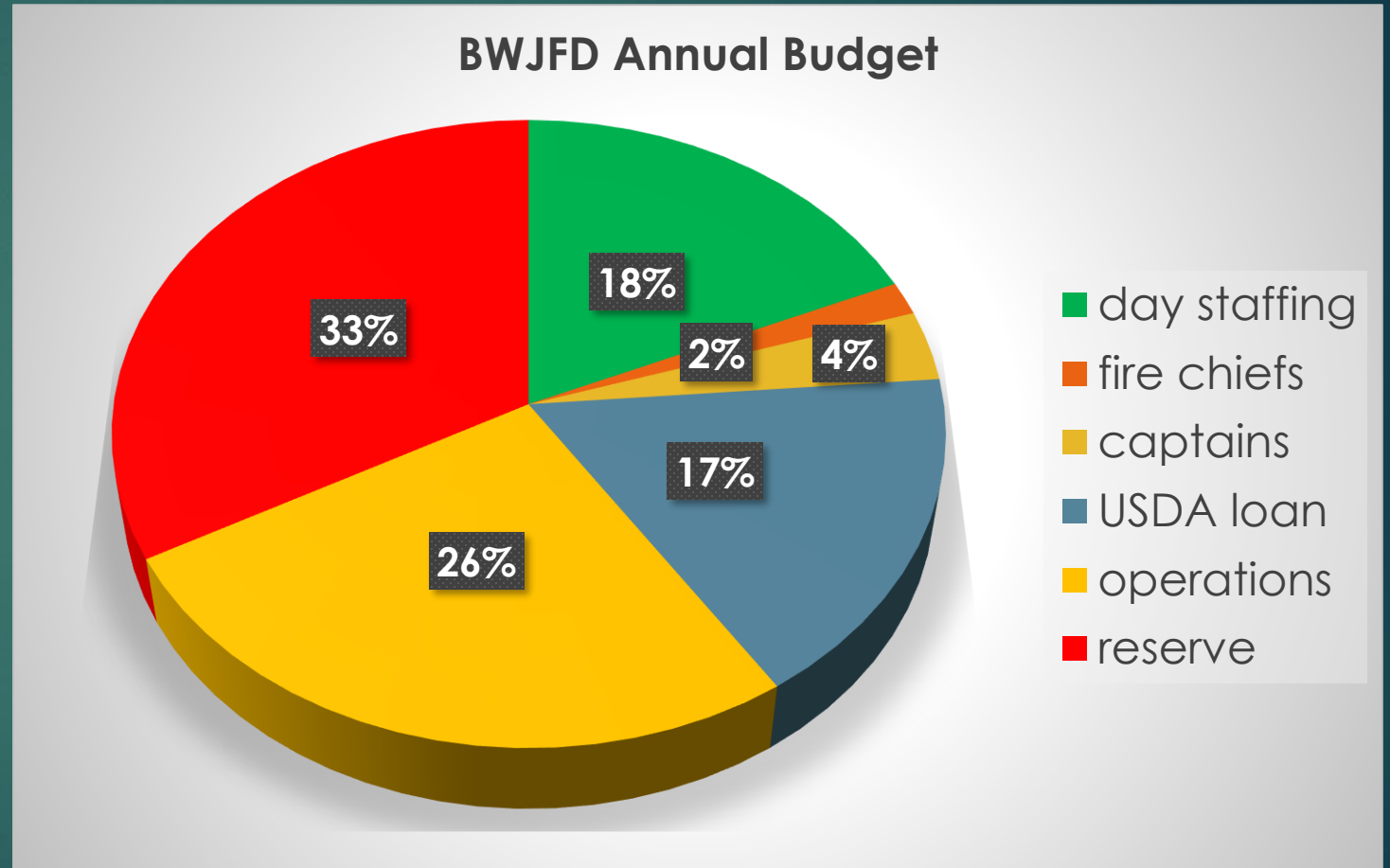
2023 Update has recently been published by Morrow County Auditor's Office; updates are being written



Budget and Operating Expenses- Chief's View

Total	\$705,178.00
Day staffing	\$130,000.00
2 fire chiefs	\$12,000.00
6 captains	\$25,200.00
USDA loan	\$120,000.00
Reserve	\$232,000.00
Operations	\$186,178.00

Operations= fuel, maintenance, uniforms, PR materials, HR, equipment, training, legal, computers, night runs for call in, etc



Revenue Recovery



- ▶ Ohio Revised Code Section 505.84 “Reasonable charges for use of ambulance or emergency medical services.” Effective: September 23, 2011 Legislation: House Bill 128 - 129th General Assembly
- ▶ “A board of township trustees may establish reasonable charges for the use of fire and rescue services, ambulance services, or emergency medical services. The board may establish different charges for township residents and nonresidents, and may, in its discretion, waive all or part of the charge for any resident.”
- ▶ Residents of BWJFD will not be billed for crashes, we will not bill our mutual aid partners



Revenue Recovery

- ▶ Crash Level 1- \$584.00
- ▶ Crash Level 2- \$667.00
- ▶ Crash Level 3 Car fire- \$813.00
- ▶ Extrication- \$1757.00
- ▶ Landing Zone- \$537.00
- ▶ Hazmat Level 1- \$943.00
- ▶ Hazmat Level 2- \$3,369
- ▶ Hazmat Level 3- \$7,953
- ▶ Illegal fires- \$538 per hour, per truck



Revenue Recovery

Current Collection Statistics

Claim Status	YTD	Claims	Rate	All Time	Claims	Rate
Collected	\$1,715.28	4	80%	\$13,163.03	6	55%
Denied	\$584.00	1	20%	\$4,106.50	5	45%
Non-Billable (No Coverage)	\$584.00	1		\$4,478.00	3	
Non-Billable (Insufficient Inf...	\$0.00	0		\$716.00	1	



Revenue Recovery- Permits and Inspections

18	Construction Inspection (per each system)					
	a	Inspection	112.2(a)	\$200.00	N	Construction
	b	Re-Inspection	112.2(b)	\$75.00	N	Construction
	c	First Follow-up Inspection	112.2(c)	\$100.00	N	Construction
	d	Second Follow-up Inspection	112.2(d)	\$150.00	N	Construction
	e	Third Follow-up Inspection	112.2(e)	\$200.00	N	Construction
	f	Fourth Follow-up Inspection	112.2(f)	\$300.00	N	Construction
	g	Any Subsequent Re-Inspection After Fourth (further additional inspections increase in increments of \$50.00 per inspection)	112.2(g)	\$350.00 +	N	Construction
	h	Phased inspection after 1st one \$75.00 per hour (1 hour minimum)		\$75.00		Construction
	i	Re-inspection of failed system \$150.00 per system		\$150.00		Construction
19	Construction Trailers - Per trailer unit			\$150.00		Construction
20	Covered Mall Buildings		105.6.10	\$250.00	N	Permit
21	Cryogenic Fluids		105.6.11	\$250.00	N	Permit
22	Cutting and Welding		105.6.12	\$250.00	N	Permit



What We Have Accomplished In The Last Decade

- ▶ Day staffing
- ▶ Started teaching public CPR/first aid classes
- ▶ Replacing Chesterville fire station
- ▶ Updated the fleet
- ▶ Updated the fire station's equipment
- ▶ Researched, wrote, and awarded over **2 million dollars** in grants



Grants

- ▶ Over **2 million dollars** since 2014
 - ▶ AFG smoke alarms
 - ▶ AFG SCBA fill station
 - ▶ CARES Act
 - ▶ AFG fire truck
 - ▶ MARCS radio grants
 - ▶ Ohio Fire Marshal equipment grants
 - ▶ Ohio Dept of Public Safety EMS grants
 - ▶ BWC grant for battery powered rescue tools
 - ▶ AFG SCBA
 - ▶ Congressional Directed Spending for Rural Development



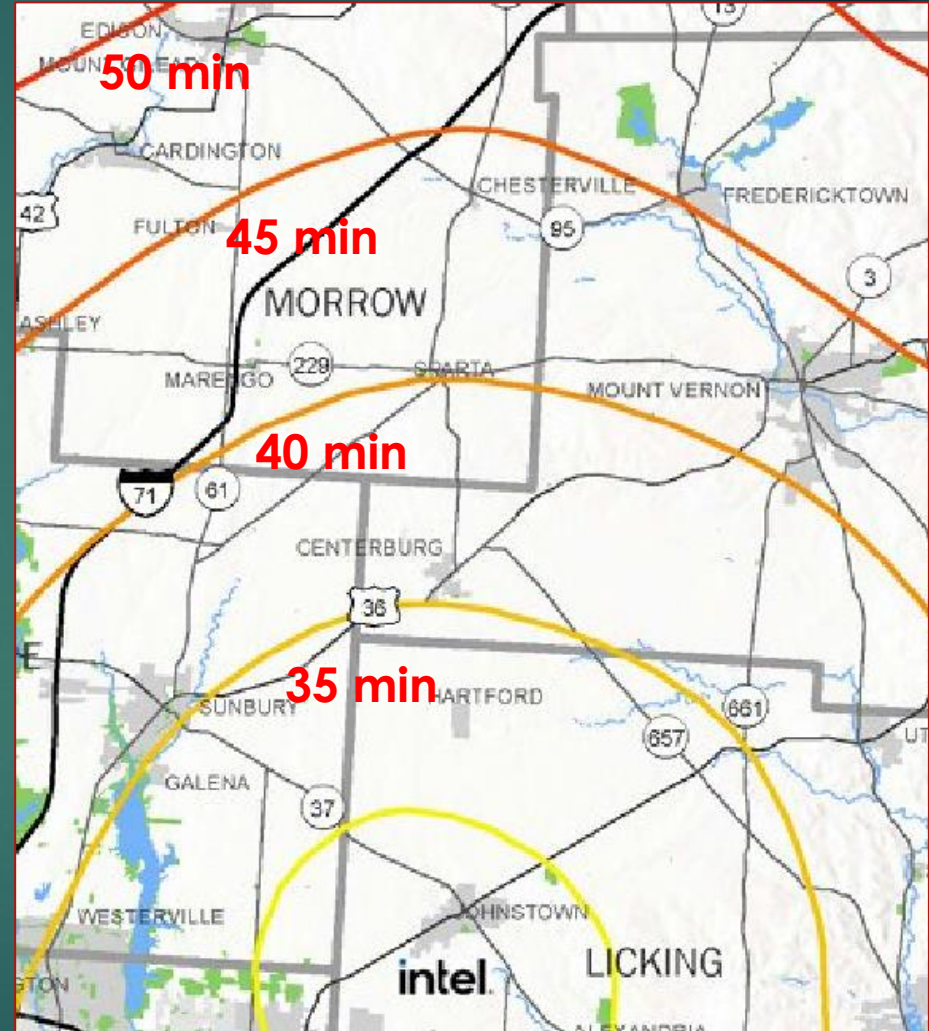
First in Morrow County to...

- ▶ 1st female firefighter
- ▶ 1st battery powered rescue tools
- ▶ 1st female fire chief
- ▶ 1st fire department owned squad
- ▶ 1st all female firefighter duty crew
- ▶ 1st FD with a rescue boat



The Silicon Heartland Will Affect Morrow County

- ▶ Our fire district is within a 45-minute drive
- ▶ **100 billion** investment with 3000 employees and 7000 construction workers
- ▶ Average annual salary \$130,000
- ▶ For every 1 job, it will create 13 supplemental jobs (approx. 40,000)
- ▶ Many are looking forward to moving out to the country



Courtesy Betsy Goldstien Consulting-Used with Permission



The Silicon Heartland Will Affect Morrow County

- ▶ Knox and Morrow Counties most affected for population explosion
- ▶ Morrow County now in Columbus Region Economic Development District
- ▶ Morrow County may become part of the “Columbus Metro” area
- ▶ We protect part of the semiconductor supply chain: I-71

BUSINESS

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission study to target Intel impact outside central Ohio



Mark Ferencik
Columbus Dispatch

Published 6:04 a.m. ET Sept. 12, 2023 | Updated 6:04 a.m. ET Sept. 12, 2023



A new apartment complex and commercial development are the beginning of the new Chester Crossing development near the intersection of Ohio Route 95 and Williamsport Crestline Road (CR172) in Morrow County. *Brooke LaValley/Columbus Dispatch*



The Future

- ▶ Preparing to open new Station 39-2 in Chesterville
- ▶ Preparing for increase in runs due to development
 - ▶ If the State Route 95 corridor is fully developed, it will result in a potential increase of 150-200 in fire/rescue runs each year.
- ▶ Need for increase of in-house firefighters to respond immediately- night staffing
- ▶ Strategic planning- we need citizens to help guide the process



Questions / Discussion

