



State of the Department

September 19th, 2026

Chief Rodriguez



Greetings and welcome.

I extend my gratitude to fire board members and department staff for your dedication and professionalism. Your commitment to each other, our community and fire district is what makes us strong and resilient. Our goal is to remain focused on fire preparedness, community education and strengthening our operational readiness. Together, we will continue our team approach to support efforts in protecting our community and staff.



- Call volume and impact to budget. Call volume remains consistent with previous years. Transportation to landing zones and hospitals provides the opportunity to bill patients and is regulated by the Department of Health Services. The amount we bill is \$2,337.25 per transport and \$19.33/mile. We receive a portion of that amount depending on the health care provider.



Chief's Top Priorities

Maintain On-Duty Staff

Identify Grant and Alternative funding opportunities

Recruitment of POC candidates

Maintain and enhance community relationships

Fire Auxiliary is huge support for funding



On-Duty staff wage: PARAMEDIC

Current - \$22.00/hr



On-Duty staff wage: **FIREFIGHTER/EMT**

Current: \$19.50/hr



Current Staffing Model

- Two Paramedic/Firefighter
- One EMT/Firefighter



Current Staffing Challenges

- Reduction in Resident POC Availability
 - Time Commitment for Certifications
 - 1000 Hours for Paramedic
 - College Semester for EMT
 - Six Months for Firefighter
- Residents have family and job commitments
- Seasonal Residents—retired or here for recreation



17 Years Ago

Paid On Call Resident Personnel - "POC"

Active Roster September 2008

20	Kennedy, Sally	UL - CEP	85	Gallagher, Ed	Eng 01,02,04,13
21	Hill, Kathy	BEMT	87	Cooper, Trina	Fire Training
22	Wilson, Tama	BEMT/FFI & II/Wld	88	Hume, Mack	CFR/AD/1,2,4,11
23	Morris, Bill	FF I & II	92	Jeardoe, Gene	Support
24	Astemborski, Frank	BEMT/FIRE/Wld	93	Krohn, Ron	Eng All Veh
27	Wilson, Brandon	CEP - FF I & II	94	Mager, Al	Sup/F/WWUIG
35	Mendez, May	BEMT - OM - AA	95	Hume, Mary	CFR/AD/1202
41	Etter, Derek	FF I & II	96	Cary, Ted	AD/01,02,04,11,07
43	Mead, Mike	BEMT - FF I & II	97	Taylor, Bill	Support
44	Pontious, April	BEMT			
49	Mannett, Robert	FF			
50	McKeever, John	BEMT - FFI			
55	Cooper, Grant	FF			
57	Bonfeld, Jesse	FF			
68	Schaidler, Steve	FF I&II			
76	McKeever, Dana	Green Waste Site			
80	Scholl, Keith	UL - Support			
82	Mitchell, Bob	AD - Support			
83	Detzler, Don	Support			
84	Mitchell, Diane	Support - Office			



Today

Paid on Call Resident Personnel - "POC"

Active Roster 2025

25	St. Germain, Lou	CFR	Full-Time
88	Ruet, Joe	CFR	Seasonal
33	Waggoner, LJ	CFR	Seasonal
93	Cerchie, Dino	EMT	Full-Time
22	Ulinger, Mick	CFR	Seasonal



Budget Impacts Plus-Deltas

- Pay Adjustments-Minimum Wage up 50 cents January 2027
- Apparatus replacement
- Property owners are now charged for EMS response
- Auxiliary support



- Succession Planning

Fire Board

Fire Chief

Merger/Consolidation/JPA



Summary

- POC Availability - Reduced to lower level.
- Maintain Current Level of Service by adding additional On-Duty staff.
- Equipment Maintenance.
- Grant opportunities.
- Alternative funding sources.



- In closing, we are fortunate to have the professional staff who want to be here, a group of dedicated POC personnel, a cohesive fire board of directors that understand our unique challenges, and a community that is supportive of our overall mission.
- Thanks to each of you!