

August Chief's Report

In August we continued to move forward with changing the negative image associated with Arivaca Fire District. This was done by public relations at the facilities we transport to and also through engaging the community by showing that positive changes are being made.

Due to the fact that Arivaca Fire cannot at present participate in out of area wildland there have been a lot of negative feelings and statements made regarding our lack of participation and other agencies having to cover our area twice during the month has been a challenge especially given the nature of the fire service which is to offer assistance when needed. This wildland season has been unprecedented in the amount of and critical nature of the fires in the western states. I am sure you all read the email from Mark South. Three Points Fire District had the truck but needed personnel. We had the personnel but no truck. Since an arrangement could not be made those individuals went out on assignment with a private contractor instead.

Placing the van up for auction has been a challenge. The first company I chose (government surplus auctions) didn't follow through and left me waiting for several weeks. Elephant Head Volunteer Fire Department suggested using public surplus auctions so I began that process last week. It is not easy to place items up for auction. It is much easier to buy items off an auction. However, I spoke with Don Clayton with Public Surplus Auctions and he has me signed up for a tutorial on placing items for auction tomorrow at noon. I will attend that training and then once the paperwork has all been filled out the item should be available by Thursday. I have set the reserve price at \$10,000. If that is not correct, please let me know. The KBB value for the van is \$11,204.

I have spoken with the prehospital coordinator, Katie Tuttle, at SMH about switching base hospitals and acquiring medical direction for the training center. She advised that Banner needs to be notified so I have contacted Mary Ann Matter and am awaiting her response. I am getting conflicting information as to whether or not our base hospital medical direction and training center medical direction have to be the same. I am sure Mary Ann will be able to clear up the confusion.

I taught our first HeartSaver AED, CPR, First Aid course to an employee of the Arivaca Action Center. We have the ability to teach that course as well as all CPR courses. I have gotten the word out to San Fernando and the community of Sasabe that we can provide the training. We are trying to schedule a training with San Fernando in October. I also performed a fire inspection for the Action Center.

I wrote a request for donation to Kidde alarms and am awaiting their response. I requested 25 alarms.

I would like to set up a monthly BP clinic to commence after the Health Fair. It could be offered on Saturdays from 8-noon unless a call came out.

The department should consider participating in the Envelope of Life which is a program whereby the department hands out an envelope full of information regarding medications, allergies and DNR orders that residents can keep in their homes on their fridges for First Responders who may respond to the residence in the event of an emergency. I have left a few at the station to look at.

The call volume for August was 19 calls. We had 100% ALS coverage.

The call breakdown was

EMS Calls-14

Fire Calls-2

Transferred call-1

Beckham-12

Castro-6

Wood-2

We have had a request for public records. In the process of acquiring the requested records which are all EMS calls from 2005-2015 it was determined that what was reported into Emergency Reporting and what is claimed on the Incident Spreadsheet are not matching up for 2014. I will be attempting to get that straightened out within the next few weeks.

I also attended my first training with Rio Rico Medical and Fire District last week on the Community Health Integrated Paramedic Program. It was useful training on managing the diabetic patient in the non EMS setting. I plan to continue to attend their trainings as they are offered.

Elisha and I attended the Arizona State Fire School and both of us successfully passed our classes. Mine was in Executive Fire Officer Leadership and Elisha attended the Live Fire Basic Training class. The trainings were very beneficial to us both and in turn will be beneficial for the department.

Vehicle maintenance was performed on R501 and the SUV. They both received oil changes. The SUV also got a new tire as it had a flat that couldn't be fixed. It has another issue with the R passenger tire that I will get fixed this week.

Last but not least E501 is back in service!!!! It has been equipped to the best of our ability. There are items missing that should be placed on that truck but we are unable to locate them and are wondering if those items were ever put on that truck in the first place such as a PPV fan and the necessary nozzles for the hose lays. Our DO Marnie is compiling a list of necessary items to submit to the board.

Since E501 is back in service, B503 is now a fully equipped Type 6. Richard has agreed to take it to the weight station when he returns.

We had a very successful training day on Sunday that included going over the equipment on E501 as well as tool placement and safe operation of the vehicle. We also did a lot of cleaning and straightening up in the bays. It had the best turnout yet. Ieva was also present to hold a focus group discussion regarding our role as First Responders in the border zone.

I would like the board to recognize the importance of monthly trainings of the employees. These trainings are beneficial for not only the employee, the department as a whole but the community we serve. I would propose that each employee that attends the mandatory monthly training receive a stipend of \$20 each to cover their gas expenses to attend training. Other departments hold trainings on shift days so that employees are not attending on their off days. I feel this would provide incentive for the employees to attend trainings on their off time.

Marnie Castro has been offered and accepted the position of Battalion Chief. Noah Coppen has been offered and accepted the position of Captain.

I hired two employees this past month. Brandon Ferrier EMT/FF and Joseph Pincock EMT. There is a third individual pending that I found at fire school. His name is Todd Ryker and he has extensive experience in fire and EMS. He also is a grant writer and his skills will be invaluable to the department.

That is all I have for this month. My apologies for not attending this meeting.

Chief Beckham