

Chief's Staff Report for November, 2006

Calls for Service - October 2006

Entity	EMS Calls	Fire Calls	Other	Average Response Time
Argyle	15	10	0	4.25
Bartonville	6	3	0	5.75
Copper Canyon	5	2	0	6.00
Corral City	1	0	0	2.50
Lantana	3	4	0	7.00
North Lake	1	1	0	7.25
Denton County	3	14	0	7.75
Total Calls	34	34	0	7.00

The statistics listed above do not include calls that were disregarded while in route. The above response time is from the time of call to the time the first unit arrives.

Staff Activity

Entity	Total Calls	Average Time per Call	Average Responding	Total Hours
Argyle	25	2.15	9	483.75
Bartonville	9	2.15	9	174.25
Copper Canyon	7	2.75	7	134.75
Corral City	1	1.75	6	10.50
Lantana	7	2.50	9	157.50
North Lake	2	1.75	8	28.00
Denton County	17	2.25	9	344.25
Totals	68	2.23	9	1333.00

Call Volume

The District additionally received mutual aid 1 time and provided mutual aid 2 times in the month of October.

Comparing the October 2005 call volume of 52 to the October 2006 call volume of 70 including the 2 mutual aid calls, we see an increase of 18 calls, a 34% increase. Compared to September 2006, our call volume increased by 10 calls, a 17% increase.

All calls have been answered within our average response times, and all medical calls were answered with advanced life support capabilities.

Total number of patients transported to the hospital in October was 22, a total of 75% of all EMS patient contacts resulted in transport.

Disposition	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT
Encounters	25	33	37	26	27	28	27	27	29
Transports	14 56%	13 39%	32 86%	19 73%	16 59%	18 64%	16 59%	19 70%	22 75%
Refusals	10 40%	19 57%	5 13%	7 26%	11 40%	10 35%	11 40%	8 29%	7 24%



Emergency Services District (ESD) Update

The ESD won and won big! With an almost 2 to 1 vote in favor of the ESD creation, our citizens have illustrated both that they support the AVFD and that they share our concern regarding Fire & EMS funding in our district. With the creation of DCESD #1, long term and capital planning is possible.

The County Commissioner has undertaken the first step in preparing for the governance of the ESD, asking for the current AVFD District town's recommendations for the Emergency Services Commissioners. Commissioner's Court will be formally appointing the board at their November, 21st meeting. The Emergency Services Commissioners, recommended by the town councils, will undergo training through the Office of Rural Community Affairs.

Once the ESD board of Emergency is in place, meetings will be scheduled between the ESD Board and the AVFD board of directors to begin planning for the future growth and capital needs of the fire district.

In 2004, AVFD and the member entities completed a very lengthy study with the consultant group evaluating the fire district. Using the projected growth in the area as a prediction of revenue, we will begin to implement their plan, expanding our presence and our services to meet the growing population we serve. The consultant's report addresses information such as geographical location of new homes being built, population factors, and location of current resources; which were then compared and contrasted with available water supply, personnel and equipment.

Recommendations made in the 2004 report were based on available information and projections at the time. Using the analysis model prepared by the consultants, any changes in the district areas (such as new planned subdivisions and commercial developments) will be considered and incorporated into the future long term and capital planning.

Volunteer Personnel

I am pleased to report Cole Jasper has now passed the National Registry examination and he is a Certified Paramedic.

I am equally pleased to announce that David Boyd has passed the state fire fighter exam, and am now a Certified Firefighter. David is now enrolled in EMT school.

At this time 20 of our 24 volunteers are certified by the state of Texas as firefighters, 16 have achieved EMT-B certification, and 2 are Paramedics.

Paid Personnel

All shifts are being covered at this time with the exception of Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We are staffing 4 personnel between 8 am and 5 pm, and 2 personnel overnight.

Recently Captain Michael Lugo completed his Inspector course and passed the state test, he is now a State of Texas Certified Inspector. Chief Hohenberger has completed the Inspector and Plans Examiner course and passed the state test, and is now a State of Texas Certified Inspector and Plans Examiner.

AVFD now has 3 personnel certified to do building fire inspections, and can do plans examination in house.

Inspections

As part of our contracts with the towns in the district, annual fire inspections are underway for local businesses. Our member entities may experience some calls from our business owners, as this service continues within the District. This is a good opportunity to reinforce for our citizens that the purpose of fire inspections is to help maintain their safety, and the safety of the general public as we all go about our daily business.

The District is continuing to work toward the goal of completing initial inspections on all commercial retail businesses by February 1st, 2007.

The District is continuing to provide residential fire safety inspections at any citizen's request.

Fifth Annual Appreciation Banquet

Our fifth annual appreciation banquet is scheduled for December 1st, 2006. This banquet is held annually to show appreciation to all of our dedicated members, and to other highly committed citizens.

As we did at our last banquet, we are asking local businesses and citizens to sponsor a table. Each table sponsorship, at \$145, allows 8 members and family to attend the banquet. If you are interested in sponsoring a table, please contact me via email at mac@argylefire.com. Your sponsorship is greatly appreciated by our dedicated members, and it gives you the opportunity to show your support for the difficult and demanding job that your firefighters and EMS personnel undertake.

Motor Vehicle Incidents

In the month of October two incidents involving fire district vehicles occurred. As per departmental SOP, drug testing was done on the drivers of both vehicles, and both tests came back negative for the influence of any drugs.

The first incident involved the Chevrolet Suburban C-510. The vehicle was backed into a mailbox at a fire scene in the town of Copper Canyon. Total damage to the vehicle was 1,325.00. Because this amount is very close to the District's deductible amount, no insurance claim was made. The costs to repair the Suburban were paid personally by the Chief.

A second incident occurred at a structure fire scene in Bartonville; Engine 513 damaged a bystander's vehicle while backing. All District SOP practices were being observed at the time of the incident. A backer was in place as the engine reversed out of the driveway. The backer did not notice that the vehicle, which arrived after the fire was extinguished and was parked in the driveway behind other fire apparatus, had its front end protruding slightly into the drive lane. The rear of E513 cleared the vehicle as expected, but when E513 was turning to navigate the curve in the driveway, the front right tire struck the front driver's side of the bystander vehicle.

Damage to the engine was minimal, only to the front right tire. No insurance claim was filed. A claim was filed with our insurance carrier for damages to the bystander's vehicle.

District Standard Operating Procedures that are in place were reviewed and found to exercise a reasonable standard of care against this occurrence in the future. An additional recommendation will be made to have a person walking near the front of the engine, where possible, for navigation of turns while reversing in areas where there are close obstructions. This information will be communicated to the volunteer members during regularly scheduled fire training and will be emailed to the paid personnel.

Emergency Vehicle Operations training is scheduled for early 2007 to review and reinforce safety for all personnel.

Golf Scramble

The 5th annual Argyle Volunteer Fire District & Communities Civic League raised approximately 10 thousand dollars this year. The two organizations will be dividing the contributions equally.

A total of 56 golfers participated in what turned out to be a great tournament.

Looking forward to next years tournament

Mac Hohenberger
Fire Chief
Argyle Volunteer Fire District