

THE SIREN

January/February 2018

WELLINGTON FIRE/EMS

Strategic Plan Accomplishments 2017

In 2016 a strategic plan was developed by stakeholders including department personnel, city department heads and citizens to give the department direction for five years 2017 thru 2021. Not all of the strategic goals for 2017 were accomplished as some were postponed or were not any longer pertinent. Goals that were completed include outsourcing medical billing and utilizing new EMS software for EMS reports and EMS report quality assurance. Beyond paramedic scholarship

program with three staff members taking advantage of the program. Developed a cardiac survivability program to include free CPR classes to the public and 8th grade students. We have applied for grants to purchase a cardiac monitor, self contained breathing apparatus and an inflatable boat. The department now has access to the cities face book account and can deliver messages immediately to the public. Staff members attend one chamber coffee each month to keep citizens apprised of current Fire/

EMS activities. Worked with the Sumner County Fire Chiefs and Kansas State Forestry to have a countywide study done on the current state of readiness of county fire departments. Presented in the budget and approved was the purchase of an ambulance in 2018 and annual incentive for technical rescue certifications. The department continues to produce a newsletter every other month and are seeking additional email addresses to receive the newsletter. Staff will continue to review and follow the plan as close as possible.

New Paramedics

The departments goal for the last few years is to staff three paramedics on each of the three shifts to ensure that paramedic service will be available 99% of the time. Hiring of paramedics has been very difficult for us and for many EMS agencies in the State of Kan-

sas. The main obstacles have been lack of hiring pool statewide, attracting applicants and their spouses to a small community and some applicants do not want to perform fire department tasks. A scholarship program was developed to assist staff with paramedic class and the department supported staff

applying for a state grant. In January 2018 Rebekah Carr and Nate Keller acquired their paramedic certification after one year in the classroom, hands on in hospital setting and riding with other EMS agencies. Damian Berry is presently in paramedic class and will finish in December 2018 giving us three paramedics per shift.

Inside this issue:

Star of Life	2
House Fire	2
Department Training	2
Call Statistics for 2017	3
Officer Visits	3
Photographs	3
Around the Station	4



Star of Life



The blue "Star of Life" seen on our ambulances and as seen to the left of this article was created by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Adapted from the personal medical identification symbol of the American Medical Association, each bar on the "Star of Life" represents one of six Emergency Medical System functions which include detection, reporting, response, on-scene care, care in transit and transfer to

definitive care. The serpent and staff in the symbol portray the staff of Asclepius, an ancient Greek physician deified as the god of medicine. Overall, the staff represents medicine and healing, with the skin-shedding serpent being indicative of renewal. The "Star of Life" has become synonymous with emergency medical care around the globe. This symbol can be seen as a means

of identification on ambulances, emergency medical equipment, patches or apparel worn by EMS providers and materials such as books, pamphlets, manuals, reports, and publications that have a direct application to EMS or were generated by an EMS organization. It can also be found on road maps and highway signs indicating the location of or access to qualified emergency medical care.

House Fire

On November 24th at 2:57 PM the department responded to a structure fire at a single story home at 1203 North C. Upon arrival noted light smoke coming from the roof vents. Crews setup a ladder on the side of the house and removed the gable vent. Water was applied to cool the attic space. Crews then cut a hole in a side gable at the front of the house and were able to see a small glow in the middle of the attic. Water was applied through the hole.

Automatic aid was received from Belle Plaine, Oxford and Mayfield. Off duty Wellington personnel were also requested to assist. Belle Plaine crew entered the house and pulled the living room ceiling to extinguish the fire. Tarps were placed prior to pulling the ceiling to protect belongings in the house. Firefighters remained on scene until 4:30 PM to ensure all hot spots had been extinguished. Estimated total loss of

personal belongings and to the structure was \$26,500. The fire was caused by faulty electrical wiring. There were no injuries to the family or firefighters. The house was uninhabitable after the fire.

By Rebekah Carr



Water Supply Training

Department Training

Classes conducted in-house during December/January were chest pain, communications, report writing, incident command system, building construction, patient airway management, obstetrical, capnography, structure fire overhaul/salvage, and self contained breathing apparatus donning and care. Staff attended trauma symposium in Wichita, advanced cardiac life support at Sumner Regional Medical Center and Harold Parkey attended a Leadership Class in Newton. The three Captains and two firefighters began Blue Card Incident Command on line class work. All personnel attended an active shooter class presented by the police department. B shift attended "stop the bleed" class presented by Wesley Medical Center. A demolition house was used to practice various fire tactics by all shifts.

Call Statistics for 2017

Once again the department has responded to a record number of calls in 2017. EMS calls have consistently gone up each year and fire calls have risen each year with the exception of 2014. In 2017 there were 1733 EMS calls compared to 1460 in 2016 and 1298 fire related calls compared to 1250 in 2016. To break that down even further for EMS calls there were 895 city responses, 244 county responses, 466 Wichita transfers, 95 city bypass and 35 county bypass. A break down of fire calls are as follows-79 fire related calls,

950 EMS & rescue, 47 alarm activations, 102 good intent calls, 52 hazardous material and 68 service calls. Fire related calls can fluctuate depending on the wild land season, severe storms/winter weather, July 4th activity, and wheat harvest activity. EMS calls continue to climb because of an increase in obesity (related diseases), drug and alcohol use, mental illness, and as the baby boomer population becomes older EMS calls will continue to increase. Other 2017 statistics are the departments save vs loss ratio

was \$1,460,475 loss compared to the value of \$8,568,650 resulted in a 82% save rate of property. The busiest day of the week in 2017 was Saturday followed by Thursday and then Wednesday. The busiest shift in terms of calls was C shift followed by A shift then B shift. The departments average response time for calls within the city limits was 4:06 minutes and for all calls within our entire fire response area was 6:09 minutes.

Officers visit Winfield and Ark City Fire Departments

The three Assistant Chiefs and three Captains off their respective shifts visited both Arkansas City Fire/EMS and Winfield Fire/EMS in January. The intent was for the officers to acquire information from those departments staff members and Chief on how their department operates. That information included fire/

safety prevention activities, training operations, community interface, staff/apparatus response guidelines, current and future apparatus/equipment inventory and personnel management practices to name a few. It is in the best interest for our department to seek out ideas from others to better provide emergency and non-

emergency services to the public. Officers spent six hours at each station and both Winfield and Arkansas City plan on reciprocating the visits with us. Some times we become stagnant on how we approach problems and challenges and visiting other departments refreshes how we look at ourselves.

Photographs



Car fire in Woods Park



House fire 2023 E. 7th



Patient Airway Training

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

JAVAN WRIGHT JANUARY 6TH
JEREMY WIENS FEBRUARY 7TH
REBEKAH CARR FEBRUARY 24TH
JOHN FAUST FEBRUARY 26TH

Thank you to the Presbyterian Women who donated \$100.00 which will be used to purchase smoke detectors.

Fire District #7 authorized the purchase of wireless head sets to be installed in our Brush trucks to improve communication and safety.

A big thank you to all individuals and businesses who brought various food to the station over the holidays!

Upcoming Classes & Events

Trauma Symposium January 19 Wichita
Company Officer Academy Feb. 6-8 Manhattan
Wildland Firefighter Feb. 13 Mulvane
Driver Simulator Feb. 14-16 Wellington
Severe Weather Program March 7th Wellington



Around the Station

B shift participated in the character assembly at Eisenhower Elementary.

B shift installed the lights on the city Christmas tree on main street.

A shift participated in Big Fish Bail Bonds Christmas shop for kids at Walmart. Staff donated money toward the project.

Wellington Fire/EMS has agreed to participate in a Wildland Task Force made up of a few Sumner County fire departments and Derby fire department that can be de-

ployed inside or outside the state to assist with wildland fire suppression and structure protection. Sumner County is one of only a few organized Task Forces in Kansas. A Task Force will be made up of 4 Brush trucks, 2 Tenders, 1 Engine and a command vehicle.

Staff have prepared a standard operating guideline for cleaning/disinfecting personnel and safety equipment after a structure fire to prevent cancer. Cancer in firefighters has been linked to dirty structural protective gear.

Two Sumner County 911 dispatchers completed a one day ride long to learn more about Fire/EMS operations.

Staff are developing a protocol for Sepsis (serious infection). The protocol will allow staff to take a patient directly to a Wichita hospital if they meet certain criteria. A Sepsis alert will be similar to alerts we already have in place such as trauma, STEMI (heart attack), and stroke.

The first ever free CPR class conducted by the department with 12 attending. Classes will be conducted quarterly.