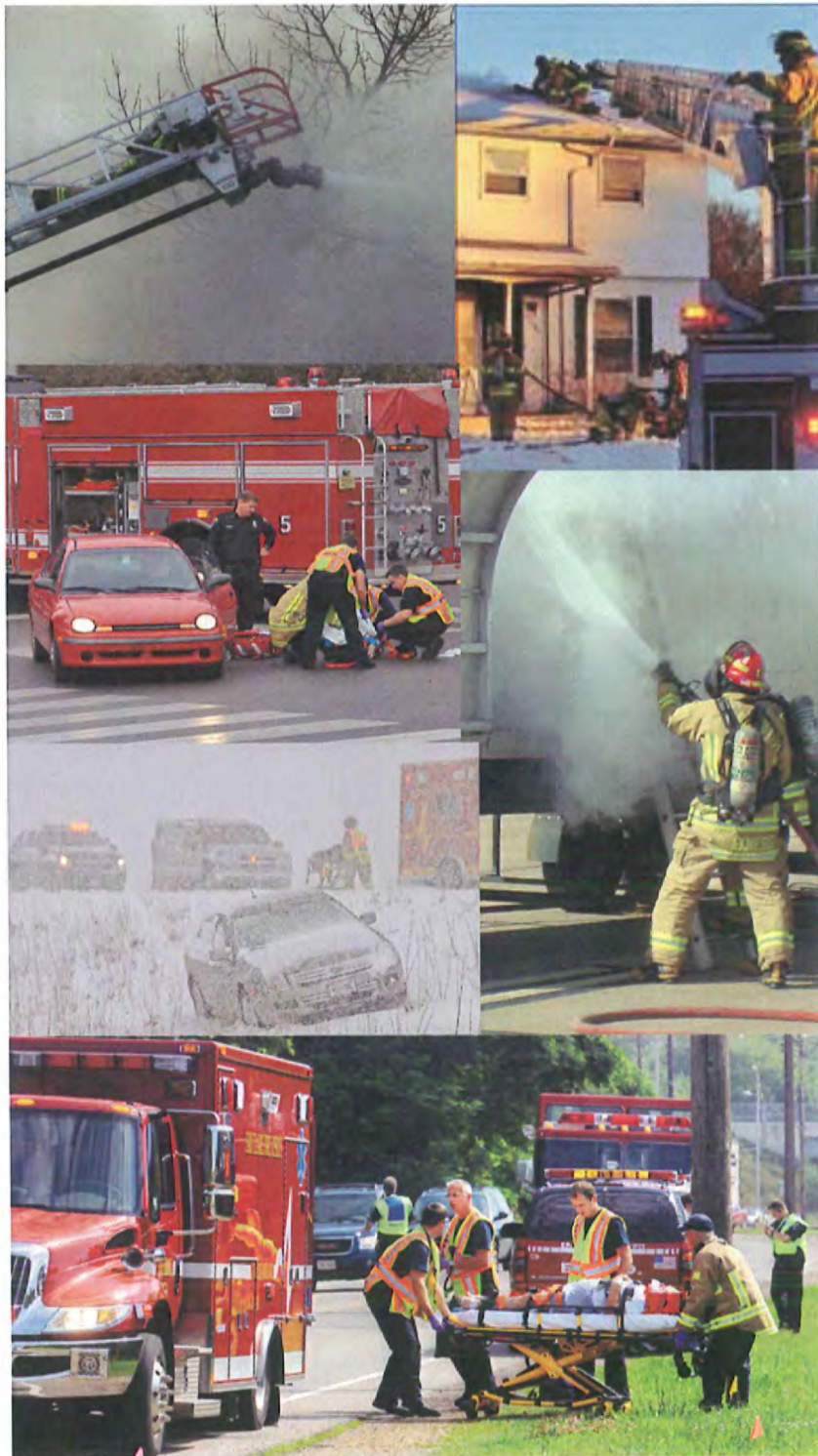


# Eau Claire Fire & Rescue

2010

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*Fire Administration \* 216 S Dewey Street \* Eau Claire WI 54701*

*www.eauclairewi.gov \* ecfire@eauclairewi.gov \* 715-839-5012*

\*EMS photos courtesy of Eau Claire Leader Telegram

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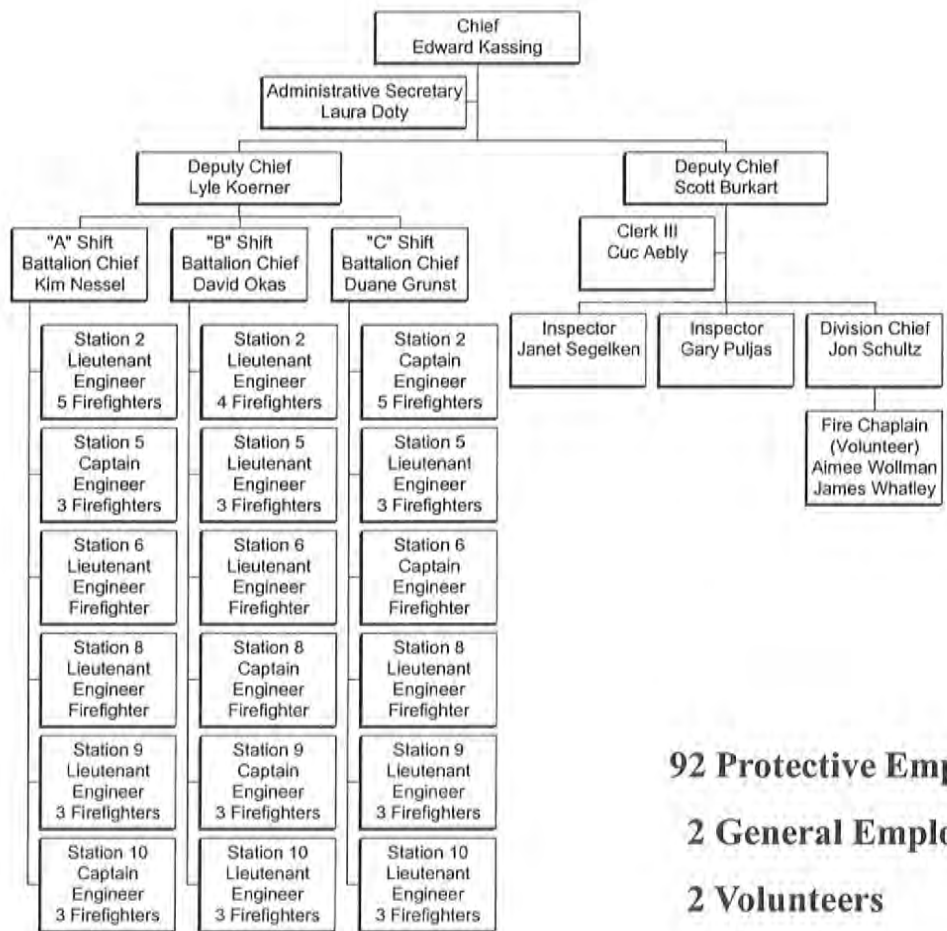
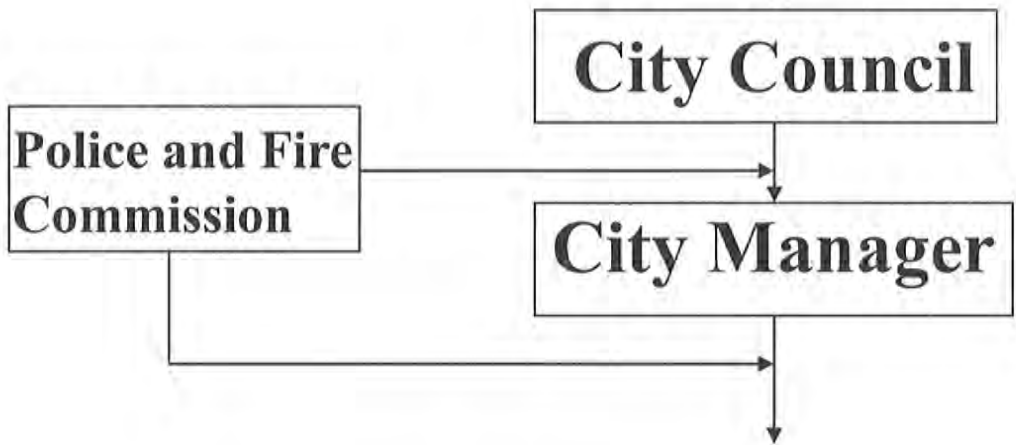
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**EAU CLAIRE FIRE AND RESCUE  
MISSION STATEMENT**

OUR COMMITMENT IS TO PUBLIC  
SAFETY, ACHIEVED THROUGH  
DEVELOPING, PROMOTING, AND  
MAINTAINING A COMPREHENSIVE  
NETWORK OF FIRE PREVENTION,  
FIRE SUPPRESSION, AND  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES.

THROUGH EDUCATION, TRAINING,  
AND COMMUNICATIONS, WE WILL  
CONTINUE TO PROVIDE QUALITY  
SERVICES.



**92 Protective Employees**  
**2 General Employees**  
**2 Volunteers**  
**96 Total**

**Stations 5, 9 and 10 are staffed for Paramedic Response**

## **ADMINISTRATIVE AND PREVENTION PERSONNEL**

Ed Kassing ..... Fire Chief

Lyle Koerner ..... Deputy Chief of Operations

Scott Burkart ..... Deputy Chief of Prevention / EMS

Jon Schultz ..... Division Chief of EMS

Laura Doty ..... Administrative Secretary

Janet Segelken ..... Fire Inspector

Gary Puljas ..... Fire Inspector

Cuc Aebly ..... Clerk III, Prevention

Kim Nessel ..... Battalion Chief, "A" Shift

David Okas ..... Battalion Chief, "B" Shift

Duane Grunst ..... Battalion Chief, "C" Shift

**EAU CLAIRE FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 487  
ELECTED POSITIONS**

**PRESIDENT:** Chris Bell

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Bob Haller

**SECRETARY:** Steve Secker

**TREASURER:** Bill Drath

**GUIDE:** Dave Lombardo

**SGT-AT-ARMS:** Tom Rebischke

**STEWARDS:** Jeff Patrow (A-Shift)  
Matt Jaggar (B-Shift)  
Joe Kelly (C-Shift)

**TRUSTEES:** Tom Wallin  
Nils Bergquist  
Tony Hennings

**WORKING  
RELATIONS:** Chris Bell  
Bob Haller  
Steve Secker  
Tony Biasi

# **Personnel / Stations**



**Edward Kassing**  
**Fire Chief**



**Lyle Koerner**  
**Deputy Chief**



**Scott Burkart**  
**Deputy Chief**



**Jon Schultz**  
**Division Chief**



**Kim Nessel**  
**Battalion Chief**



**Duane Grunst**  
**Battalion Chief**



**David Okas**  
**Battalion Chief**



**Laura Doty**  
**Admin. Secretary**



**Cuc Aebly**  
**Prevention Clerk III**





**Janet Segelken**  
**Inspector**



**Gary Puljas**  
**Inspector**



**Glen Axness**  
**Captain**



**Wayne Klett**  
**Captain**



**Scott Walby**  
**Captain**



**Bryon Bensen**  
**Captain**



**Greg Stegge**  
**Captain**



**Allyn Bertrang**  
**Captain-Reserve Medic**



**Mark Legge**  
**Lieutenant**



**Steve Hanson**  
**Lieutenant**



**Loren Travis**  
**Lt.-Reserve Medic**



**Joe Snow**  
**Lieutenant**



**Terry Bechel**  
**Lieutenant**



**Bill Mengele**  
**Lieutenant**



**Lance Hanson**  
**Lieutenant**



**Ben Hays**  
**Lieutenant-Medic**



**Tim Deziel**  
**Lt.-Reserve Medic**



**Bruce Buchholz**  
**Lieutenant-Medic**



**Rob Goodland**  
**Lieutenant-Medic**



**Lieutenant**  
**(Vacant)**



**Kevin Frank**  
**Engineer**



**Joel Pettis**  
**Engineer**



**Dave Lombardo**  
**Engineer**



**Dennis Duncan**  
**Engineer**



**John Biegel**  
**Engineer**



**Al Klocek**  
**Engineer**



**BouaChao Xiong**  
**Engineer**



**Pete Fasching**  
**Engineer**



**Mike Miller**  
**Engineer-Medic**



**Joe Kelly**  
**Engineer**



**Bob Pratt**  
**Engineer**



**Jeff Patrow**  
**Engineer**



**Mike Laska**  
Eng.-Reserve Medic



**Brian Kranz**  
Engineer



**Don Rydzik**  
Engineer



**Kevin McClellan**  
Eng-Reserve Medic



**Chris Dolen**  
Eng-Reserve Medic



**Shawn Abrahamson**  
Engineer



**Chris Bell**  
Firefighter



**Steve Vargo**  
Firefighter



**Tom Rebeschke**  
Firefighter



**Scott Mohr**  
Firefighter



**Drew Dorn**  
Firefighter



**Todd Frank**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Denise Waterman**  
FF-Reserve Medic



**Matt Jaggar**  
Firefighter



**Dave Whitehouse**  
Firefighter



**Jamie Burkhardt**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Stephen Secker**  
Firefighter



**Frank Leffelman**  
FF-Reserve Medic



**Jeff Dykes**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Bill Jensen**  
Firefighter



**Pat Hamler**  
Firefighter



**Dave Pekol**  
Firefighter



**Greg Johnson**  
Firefighter



**Jeremy Stary**  
FF-Reserve Medic



**Bill Drath**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Brian Toonen**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Tim Brantner**  
Firefighter



**Brian Phillips**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Mark Humphrey**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Bob Haller**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Stephen Friedrichs**  
Firefighter



**Dave Strassman**  
Firefighter-Medic



**Tony Biasi**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Matt Gunderson**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Tom Wagner**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Ryan Hebert**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Tom Wallin**  
**Firefighter**



**Nils Bergquist**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Jeff Dahl**  
**Firefighter**



**Tony Hennings**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Brian Mero**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Kasondra Atwood**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Natasha Myre**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Levi Vlcek**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Steven Rindt**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Benji Norberg**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Perry Kyser**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Dan Schroeder**  
**Firefighter-Medic**



**Abel Peterson**  
**FF-Reserve Medic**



**Isaac Hahn**  
**FF-Reserve Medic**



**Ryan Lesperance**  
**Firefighter**



**Josh Olson**  
**Firefighter**



**Stephen Weyers**  
**Firefighter**

# PERSONNEL ACTIVITIES

## **New Hires:**

Ryan Lesperance  
Joshua Olson  
Stephen Weyers

## **Promotions:**

Shawn Abrahamson to Engineer  
Scott Burkart to Deputy Chief  
Rob Goodland to Lieutenant  
Jon Schultz to Division Chief  
BouaChao Xiong to Engineer

## **Separations:**

None

## **Retirements:**

Tim McCaughey (Lieutenant)  
Rick Merryfield (Deputy Chief)  
Mark Olson (Lieutenant)  
Joe Rondeau (Firefighter)

## **Step Increases:**

Firefighter Tom Wallin to First Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Nils Bergquist to Second Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Jeff Dahl to Second Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Tony Hennings to Second Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Brian Mero to Third Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Kasondra Atwood to Fourth Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Natasha Myre to Fourth Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Benji Norberg to Fourth Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Steve Rindt to Fourth Class Firefighter  
Firefighter Levi Vlcek to Fourth Class Firefighter

## SENIORITY RECORD

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Legge	Mark	Lieutenant	06-19-78
Kassing	Edward	Chief	01-02-79
Axness	Glen	Captain	03-29-82
Nessel	Kim	Battalion Chief	01-10-83
Koerner	Lyle	Deputy Chief	01-10-83
Hanson	Steven	Lieutenant	07-11-83
Burkart	Scott	Deputy Chief	02-06-84
Frank	Kevin	Engineer	02-06-84
Travis	Loren	Lieutenant	02-06-84
Snow	Joseph	Lieutenant	02-06-84
Klett	Wayne	Captain	04-02-84
Bechel	Terrance	Lieutenant	07-23-84
Mengele	William	Lieutenant	07-23-84
Segelken	Janet	Inspector	12-10-84
Pettis	Joel	Engineer	12-10-84
Lombardo	David	Engineer	03-04-85
Grunst	Duane	Battalion Chief	03-04-85
Duncan	Dennis	Engineer	03-04-85
Biegel	John	Engineer	12-09-85
Okas	David	Battalion Chief	12-09-85
Walby	Scott	Captain	12-09-85
Klocek	Alan	Engineer	05-12-86
Hanson	Lance	Lieutenant	06-13-88
Dong	Cuc	Fire Prev. Secretary	05-08-89
Hays	Benny	Lieutenant	05-07-90
Deziel	Timothy	Lieutenant	05-07-90
Buchholz	Bruce	Lieutenant	10-01-90
Xiong	BouaChao	Engineer	05-13-91
Fasching	Peter	Engineer	09-03-91
Goodland	Robert	Lieutenant	04-06-92
Miller	Michael	Engineer	04-06-92
Kelly	Joe	Engineer	11-02-92
Pratt	Robert	Engineer	11-02-92
Patrow	Jeffrey	Engineer	10-04-93
Bensen	Bryon	Captain	10-04-93



<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Stegge	Gregory	Captain	10-04-93
Laska	Michael	Engineer	06-05-95
Kranz	Brian	Engineer	06-05-95
Schultz	Jon	Division Chief	06-05-95
Rydzik	Donald	Engineer	02-05-96
Bertrang	Allyn	Captain	09-16-96
McClellan	Kevin	Engineer	09-16-96
Dolen	Christopher	Engineer	09-16-96
Abrahamson	Shawn	Engineer	04-21-97
Bell	Christian	Firefighter	04-21-97
Vargo	Steven	Firefighter	04-21-97
Rebischke	Thomas	Firefighter	04-21-97
Mohr	Scott	Firefighter	10-20-97
Dorn	Andrew	Firefighter	04-20-98
Frank	Todd	Firefighter	04-20-98
Waterman	Denise	Firefighter	04-27-98
Jaggar	Matthew	Firefighter	08-24-98
Whitehouse	David	Firefighter	08-24-98
Burkhardt	Jamie	Firefighter	08-24-98
Secker	Stephen	Firefighter	02-15-99
Leffelman	Frank	Firefighter	02-15-99
Doty	Laura	Admin. Secretary	06-28-99
Dykes	Jeffrey	Firefighter	11-01-99
Jensen	William	Firefighter	11-01-99
Hamler	Patrick	Firefighter	11-01-99
Pekol	David	Firefighter	05-08-00
Johnson	Gregory	Firefighter	05-08-00
Sary	Jeremy	Firefighter	05-08-00
Drath	William	Firefighter	04-09-01
Toonen	Brian	Firefighter	04-09-01
Brantner	Timothy	Firefighter	04-09-01
Phillips	Brian	Firefighter	04-09-01
Humphrey	Mark	Firefighter	10-22-01
Haller	Robert	Firefighter	08-19-02
Friederichs	Stephen	Firefighter	08-19-02
Strassman	David	Firefighter	08-19-02
Biasi	Tony	Firefighter	12-09-02
Gunderson	Matthew	Firefighter	11-29-04

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Wagner	Thomas	Firefighter	11-29-04
Hebert	Ryan	Firefighter	11-29-04
Puljas	Gary	Inspector	01-27-06
Wallin	Thomas	Firefighter	01-30-06
Bergquist	Nils	Firefighter	08-07-06
Dahl	Jeffrey	Firefighter	08-07-06
Hennings	Anthony	Firefighter	01-08-07
Mero	Brian	Firefighter	07-09-07
Atwood	Kasondra	Firefighter	07-07-08
Myre	Natasha	Firefighter	07-07-08
Vlcek	Levi	Firefighter	07-07-08
Rindt	Steven	Firefighter	07-07-08
Norberg	Benjamin	Firefighter	07-07-08
Kyser	Perry	Firefighter	11-03-08
Schroeder	Daniel	Firefighter	11-03-08
Peterson	Abel	Prob. Firefighter	07-13-09
Hahn	Isaac	Prob. Firefighter	07-13-09
Lesperance	Ryan	Prob. Firefighter	07-12-10
Olson	Joshua	Prob. Firefighter	07-12-10
Weyers	Stephen	Prob. Firefighter	07-19-10

AVERAGE AGE – 41

AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE - 14

# STATION LOCATIONS / STAFFING

## Station 2 - 216 S. Dewey Street

- 4 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine
- Heavy Rescue Unit
- Hazardous Materials Assessment Vehicle
- Hazardous Materials Equipment Trailer
- Battalion Chief Command Car
- Collapse Rescue Vehicle
- Administrative Offices



# 2

## Station 5 - 2500 Patton Street

- 5 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance



# 5

## Station 6 - 3020 Golf Road

- 3 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine and Reserve Engine



# 6

## Station 8 - 3510 Starr Avenue

- 3 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine and Reserve Engine



# 8

## Station 9 - 3611 Campus Road

- 5 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance



# 9

## Station 10 - 559 North Hastings Way

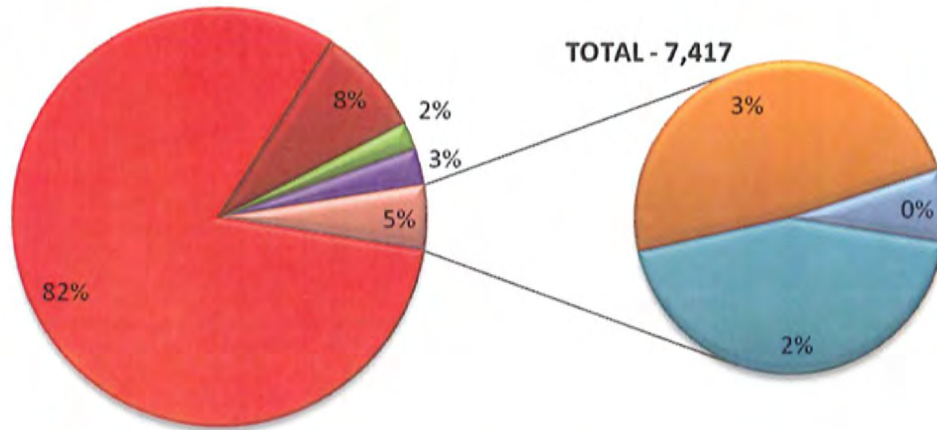
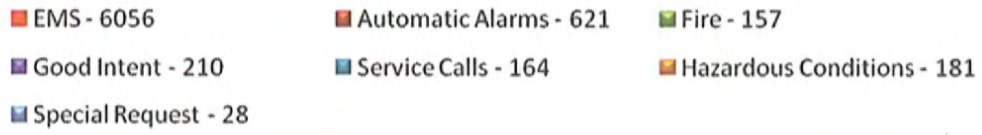
- 5 Personnel per day
- Fire Engine
- Paramedic Ambulance and Reserve Ambulance
- Brush Vehicle
- Special Rescue All-Terrain Vehicle



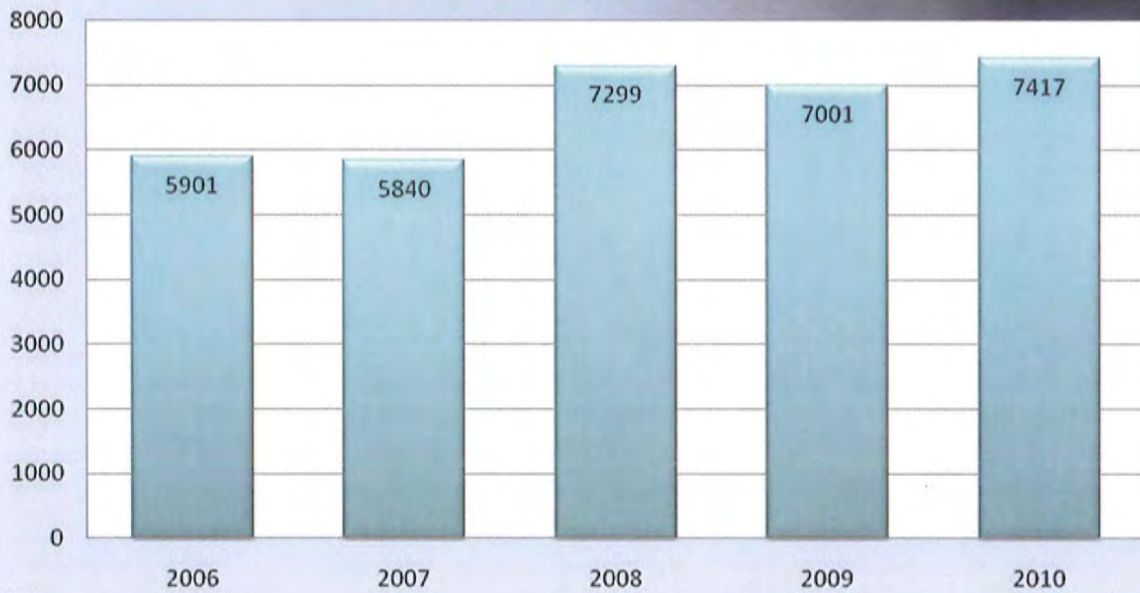
# 10

# Response Statistics

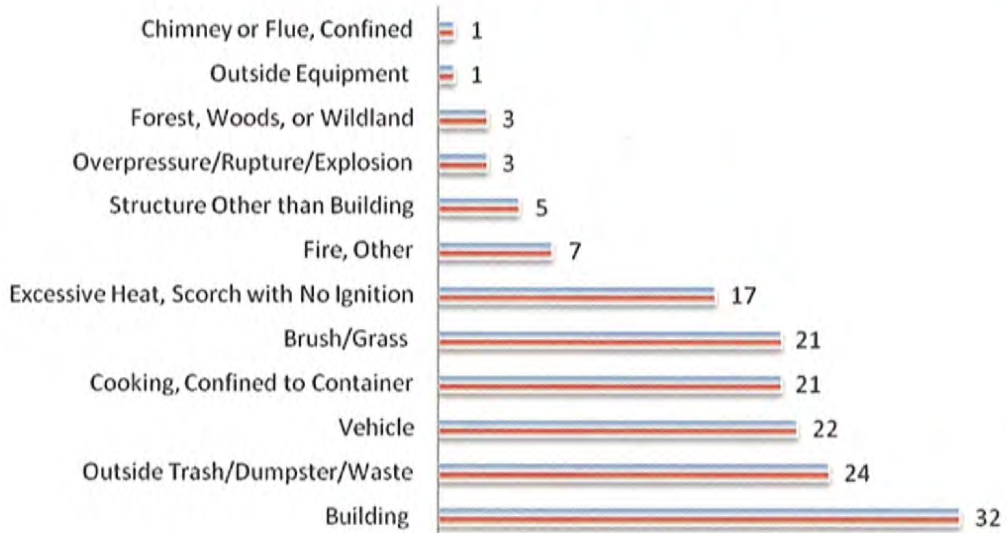
## Response Breakdown



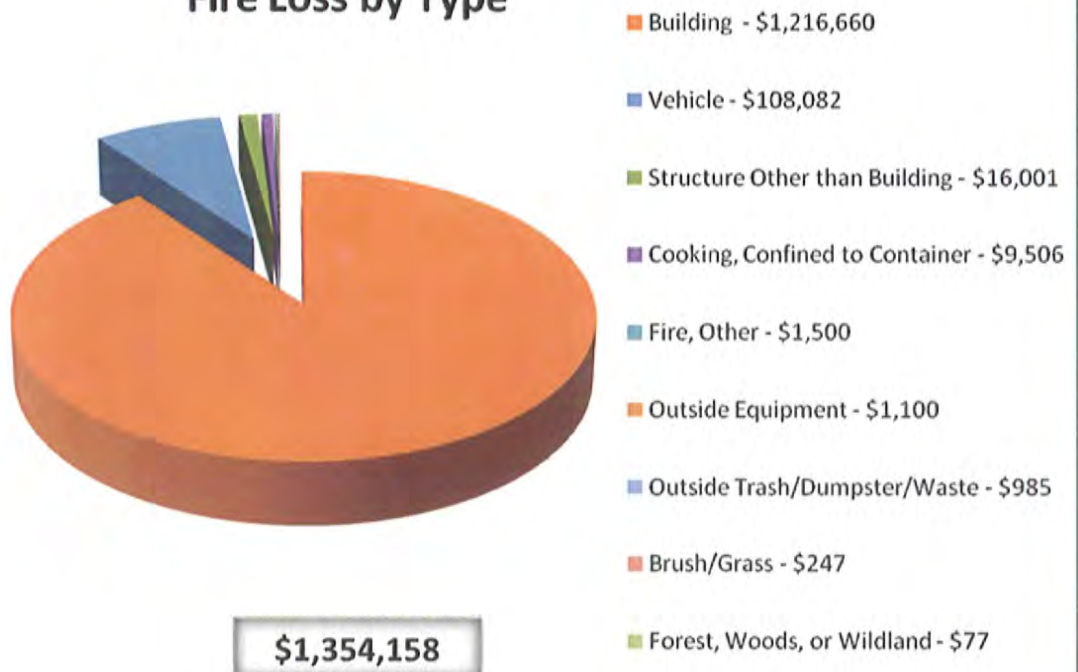
## 5-Year Total Responses



### Fire Responses by Type

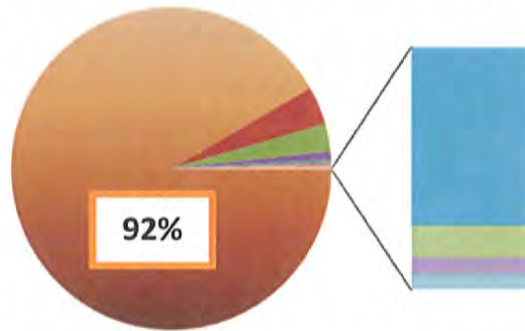


### Fire Loss by Type



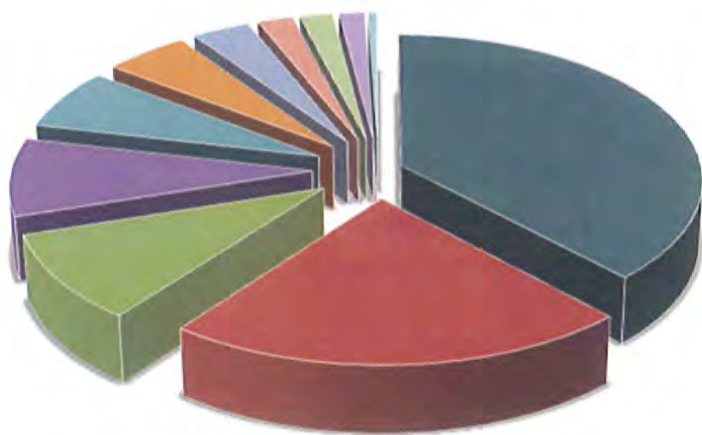
## EMS - Rescue Response Types

6,056



- EMS, Excluding Veh Accident with Injury
- Vehicle Accident with Injuries
- Medical Assist
- Vehicle Accident with no Injuries
- Vehicle/Pedestrian Accident
- Rescue or EMS Standby
- Water/Ice Related Rescue
- Rescue, EMS Incident, Other
- Removal of Subject from Stalled Elevator
- Lock-in
- Extrication of Subject from Machinery

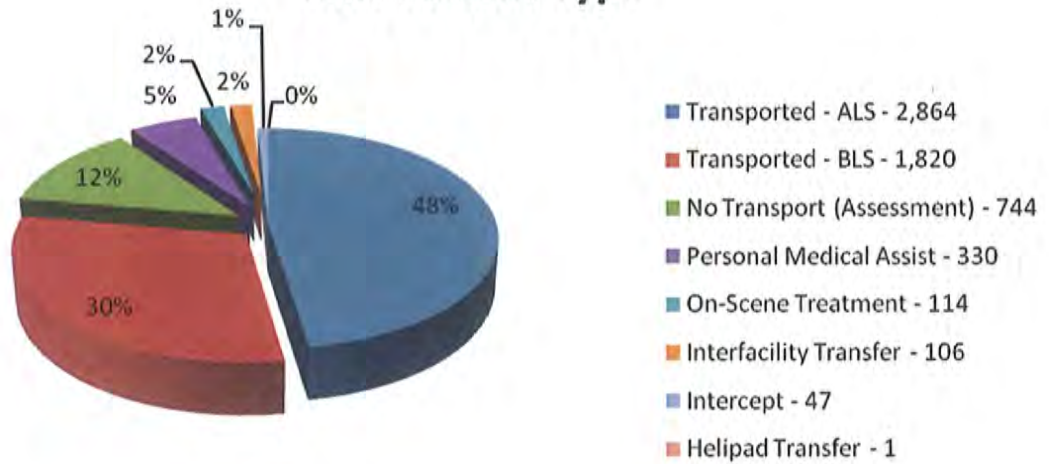
## Regional EMS Responses



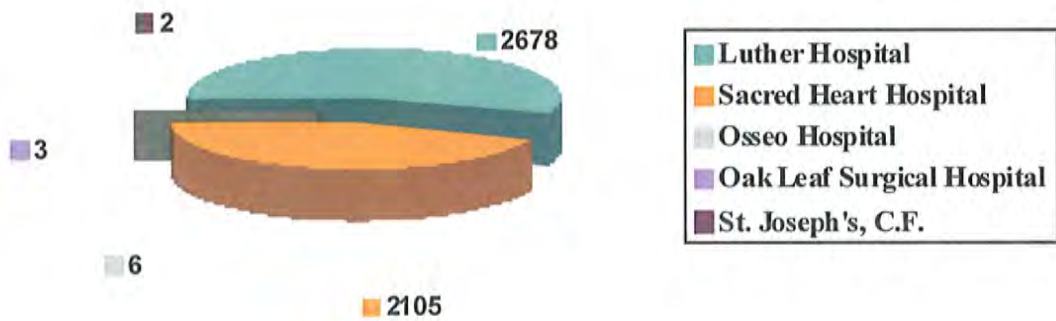
- Altoona - 503
- Washington - 296
- Fall Creek - 128
- Union - 114
- Seymour - 89
- Brunswick - 67
- Pleasant Valley - 46
- Ludington - 28
- Rock Creek - 26
- Lincoln - 20
- Spring Brook - 7

1,324

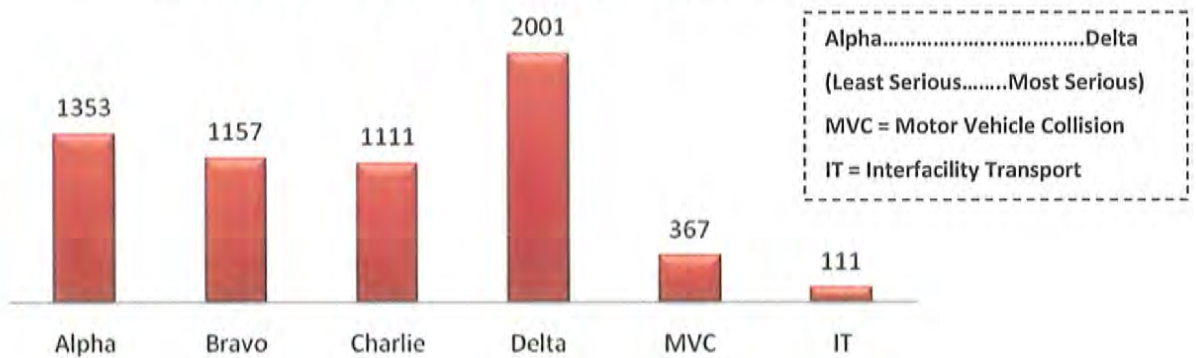
## EMS Patient Type



## Patient Transport Destinations



## Incidents by Trauma Designation





## TOP 20 FIRES BY CAUSE AND DOLLAR LOSS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>DOLLAR LOSS</u>
02-14-10	310 Lake St.	Undetermined	\$214,000
01-13-10	133 Niagara St.	Electrical or Candle	\$200,000
10-02-10	3401 White Ave.	Electrical or Smoking Materials	\$151,000
12-07-10	2649 Western Ave.	Faulty Refrigerator or Smoking Materials	\$ 90,000
07-10-10	3626 Seymour Rd.	Spark from Power Tool	\$ 57,500
05-22-10	941 Leonard Dr.	Vehicle Fire	\$ 55,000
10-11-10	2807 Wellington Dr. W	Discarded Ashes	\$ 55,000
02-13-10	3213 Runway Ave.	Unattended Candle	\$ 45,000
03-01-10	3419 Northstar Dr.	Lamp Igniting Clothing	\$ 33,000
01-25-10	851 University Dr.	Electrical	\$ 30,000
12-20-10	2143 Lehman St.	Chimney too Close to Wood Beam	\$ 28,000
09-01-10	3013 Rudolph Rd.	Malfunctioning Dehumidifier	\$ 25,000
03-12-10	209 Chestnut St.	Smoking Materials	\$ 21,000
01-05-10	2704 North Ln.	Spark from Power Tool	\$ 15,000
05-17-10	1714 Oxford Ave.	Arson	\$ 15,000
12-22-10	5000 Hwy. 53	Vehicle Fire	\$ 11,000
08-27-10	3400 3 <sup>rd</sup> St.	Arson	\$ 10,000
08-12-10	Main/Margaret St.	Vehicle Fire	\$ 6,500
04-05-10	421 N. Dewey St.	Vehicle Fire	\$ 5,800
07-10-10	1221 Whipple St.	Chemical Reaction	\$ 5,500
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,073,300</b>

# **Accomplishment Highlights**

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Response Statistics

In 2010, the department responded to 7,417 calls for service, an increase of 5.9 percent from 2009.

TYPE	2010	2009
EMS/Rescue	6,056	5,819
Fire/Rescue	157	183
Malfunctioning Alarms	621	530
Hazardous Conditions	181	145
Service Calls	164	150
Good Intent Calls	210	154
Special Requests	28	20
Total Fire Loss	\$1,354,158	\$2,585,691
RUN TOTAL:	7,417	7,001

Incidents with loss exceeding \$50,000 were:

- 310 Lake Street – Multi-family dwelling (\$214,000)
- 133 Niagara Street – Multi-family dwelling (\$200,000)
- 3401 White Avenue – 1- or 2-family dwelling (\$151,000)
- 2649 Western Avenue – 1- or 2-family dwelling (\$90,000)
- 3626 Seymour Road – 1- or 2-family dwelling (\$57,500)
- 941 Leonard Drive – Vehicle fire (\$55,000)
- 2807 Wellington Drive W – Detached garage (\$55,000)

### Hirings, Promotions, and Separations

Four personnel retired in 2010: Lt. Mark Olson on April 19, FF/Medic Joe Rondeau on April 21, D.C. Rick Merryfield on July 5, and Lt. Tim McCaughey on December 30. Promoted during the year were BaoChao Xiong to Engineer and Rob Goodland to Lieutenant on May 21; Scott Burkart to Deputy Chief on July 6; and Shawn Abrahamson to Engineer and Jon Schultz to Division Chief on July 16. Also in July the department hired Firefighter/Medics Ryan Lesperance, Joshua Olson, and Stephen Weyers.

### Equipment Grants

In 2010, the department applied for \$657,511 in grant monies through various Department of Homeland Security initiatives. Under the FIRE Act grant program, the department received \$77,100 to purchase six power cots and three stair chairs to assist our ambulance personnel in the movement of patients. Those items have been purchased and are in-service. The department also applied for grant monies for a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) air compressor and an emergency back-up generator for station 8. This total grant application was \$46,250, and we have not yet received notice on acceptance/denial. For many years, the department has applied for grant monies to replace our aged fire safety house, which is a vital tool in our fire prevention educational efforts. This year we were notified we were successful in obtaining a

\$56,869 grant for a new house and are in the process of purchasing this fire education tool. The department applied for grant monies to purchase a side scan sonar unit to be used in water rescue situations. We received \$2,000 from Xcel Energy and \$1,000 from Eau Claire Energy Cooperative to assist the department in purchasing this unique tool. The department will make this purchase in the spring of 2011 before the water season begins. Lastly, the department applied for a Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant. We are requesting \$473,992 in funding for four additional firefighter positions to add to our current number of 92 sworn personnel. We expect to receive notice of acceptance/denial in the summer of 2011.

### Training

In February, a representative from the Insurance Service Organization (ISO) completed a review of the department. ISO staff reviewed department staffing levels, equipment, training, and water supply systems as part of the process of assigning a rating on a scale of 1 to 10. The department's rating remains a 3, unchanged from previous ratings.

Frank Neibauer, Xcel Energy LNG plant manager, provide several training session for the firefighters on natural gas emergencies and related response. He talked about the physical properties of natural gas and procedures to protect ourselves and the public when responding to a natural gas emergency.

In June, Eau Claire Fire Rescue provided fire and EMS protection for the spectators and participants of the Air Show held at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport. Department personnel were part of the planning team and attended biweekly meetings to prepare for this large event. Our responsibilities included presenting Incident Command instruction for the Boy Scouts administration and the other agencies involved with the event.

Eau Claire Fire Rescue, the West Central Regional Hazardous Materials Response Team, and the postal distribution center conducted a decontamination drill at the postal distribution center. The drill was designed to test response to the Biological Detector System (BDS) installed at the postal distribution center to detect biological hazards shipped by mail.

A representative from Fire Aid 2000 provided a firefighting foam demonstration of one of their products, a combination class A and B foam. The existing foam on our fire engines was either class A or class B and thus limited our ability to fight a flammable liquid fire. Additionally, the Fire Aid 2000 foam is non-toxic, has an unlimited shelf life, and can be used on class D fires. We have since begun a multi-year program to convert to the Fire Aid 2000 foam on all of our engines. Engines 2 and 5 are now using the Fire Aid 2000 foam, and as we purchase more foam additional engines will be converted.

In September, department personnel participated in a disaster drill at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport, a requirement of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The following day the aircraft fire simulator that was used in the drill was used for training personnel from many of the area fire departments, including Eau Claire Fire Rescue.

All firefighters and equipment operators received drivers' training on truck driving simulator at Chippewa Valley Technical College. The driving trainer simulated emergency driving in both

urban and rural settings including ice covered road conditions. The simulator also evaluated the drivers' skills and provided feedback to each driver when their driving session was completed.

#### State Task Force 4 – Regional Technical Rescue Team

The committee that was formed to discuss the feasibility of one State Task Force Team as opposed to four teams reported back to the Office of Justice Assistance (OJA). The committee's proposal was to form one team for the State of Wisconsin, but there was been no decision by OJA. Unfortunately, due to lack of funding by OJA there was no training provided at Volk Field this year. As the department awaits a decision from OJA, department members are continuing with training while on-duty.

#### MABAS – Mutual Aid Box Alarm System

In early 2010, Eau Claire County joined MABAS Wisconsin and became known as MABAS Division 126. MABAS is a preplan of a mutual aid measure that may be used for deploying fire, rescue, and emergency medical services response in a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency response. Throughout the year, monthly meetings were held at which policy and procedures were developed, as well as the actual box cards. Eau Claire Fire Rescue has completed its box cards, and they have been approved by responding departments. Training has been completed on the MABAS system, and a "go live" date of April 1, 2011, is anticipated.

#### Major EMS Projects

A new ambulance was received from Medtec Ambulance and placed in service at Station 9.

The department took delivery of and placed into service six Stryker power cots and three new Ferno stair chairs. One Ferno cot was kept as a spare. The other five were donated to International Fire Relief Mission to be distributed to needy countries.

D.C. Merryfield retired after 32 years of service. Scott Burkart became the new Deputy Chief of Prevention-EMS, and Jon Schultz was promoted to Division Chief of EMS.

Personnel continue to participate in joint EMS training with First Responders in our primary response area. Training sessions are held monthly with Altoona, Fall Creek, and Emergicare, as well as with representatives from Sacred Heart Hospital and Luther Hospital.

The department continues to transmit ECG telemetry to both hospitals on a more frequent basis, allowing the Emergency Department personnel to view the patient's heart rhythm before the patient arrives at the hospital.

Personnel participated in the County EMS Committee, Regional Trauma Advisory Committee, and State EMS meetings.

Department EMS staff worked with the department's fire/EMS software vendor, HTE, to successfully upload EMS call data to the State's WARDS system. Call data is uploaded weekly in accordance with state statute.

Personnel have been working with the department's Medical Director, Dr. Jim Fenno, in rewriting the EMS protocols including the consolidation of all three EMS levels into one set of protocols.

911 calls for lifting assistance are being screened at the Communications Center, and if criteria are met a single engine company is being dispatched to provide this assistance. This program has proven very successful in the city of Eau Claire, and we are looking at expanding this service into Altoona and having the Altoona First Responders provide this service.

In December, three new portable ventilators were placed in-service, replacing the Uni-vents on the spare ambulances.

#### Level "A" Haz Mat Team

This year the West Central Regional Hazardous Materials Team responded to four chemical releases in the region.

One of the responses was for an unknown odor at Banbury Place, the old Uniroyal tire plant. Here crews were presented with an odor in the building that made occupants sick and forced them from the structure. It took several hours to determine what the chemical was and from where it was originating. It was determined that an individual on the second floor had been trying to extract gold from salt using a chemical process whereby the acidity of a chemical mixture and salt was adjusted up and down to extract gold fragments from the salt. This chemical reaction generated a tremendous amount of Hydrogen Sulfide. The gas forced everyone out of the building and caused some to become ill. Hydrogen Sulfide is a toxic gas that can kill in small quantities if conditions are conducive; it is commonly found in sewer systems. Once fire crews cleared the building of the hazardous chemicals, a clean-up contractor had to remove the waste product.

Other regional calls for service included a chemical reaction in 55-gallon drums on a dairy plant in Cameron; a fire and explosion at Waste Research & Reclamation in Eau Claire County; and a chemical release/reaction at a private residence near Mondovi.

On a local level, we continued to respond to several carbon monoxide and flammable gas releases within the city. A fire in a basement at one of the area hospitals necessitated a response that involved chemical identification, metering and sampling.

Additionally, throughout the year Eau Claire Fire Rescue receives numerous inquiries from the general public, other fire departments, and police personnel about chemical-related issues. These have involved questions on how to safely dispose of mercury spills, explosives in safes, and poisonous chemicals.

We conduct internal training and also have delivered specialized hazardous materials training in conjunction with the following entities in 2010:

- Dairyland Power
- New Richmond Fire and Police Department
- UWEC - Environmental Sciences Class
- Chippewa Valley Technical College – Police Sciences
- Osseo Fire and Police Departments
- Somerset Fire Department

- Hudson Fire Department
- United Fire Department
- Elk Mound Fire Department

In February, two team members attended the annual Wisconsin Association of Hazardous Materials Responders (WAHMR) annual conference in Wisconsin Dells.

#### House Numbering Visible from Alleys Ordinance

The City Council updated an ordinance requiring dwellings with an entrance or exit to an alley to post street numbers in order to identify the building from the alley and set a compliance date of October 15, 2010. The Fire Prevention Division sent out letters to 2,800 property owners advising them of the ordinance change. The Prevention staff fielded many inquiries pertaining to the ordinance change.

#### Safety Camp

On June 23, personnel participated in Safety Camp at Carson Park. This day camp is for children entering the third grade. Insp. Janet Segelken presented a program on summer fire safety to over 100 participants on the first day of the camp.

#### Safety Town

Safety Town was held on June 23 and 30 at Northwoods Elementary School. Utilizing the safety house, two engine crews taught over 50 first grade students about fire safety. This event was held on two separate days in order to reach more participants.

#### UST/AST Inspections

Insp. Segelken completed 49 site permit inspections – some sites contain multiple tanks to be inspected. There were 12 tank removals and 6 tank installs/upgrades during this period requiring multiple inspections per site.

#### Juvenile Fire Setter Program

The Eau Claire Fire Department had one request by a parent for intervention.

#### Fire Prevention Education in the Schools

Inspectors Gary Puljas and Segelken provided instruction to the 4-year-old kindergarten program, EC4T. There were 20 sites with 45 sessions and over 800 children involved in this program.

Personnel from the engine and ambulance companies presented programs to over 3,500 students in grades K – 4 at 19 schools. All second graders received a “Learn About Fire Safety” color/activity book, a donation from Met Life. Also, all students again received coupons from Taco John’s with a message reminding parents to change the batteries in their smoke detectors.

#### Fire Extinguisher / Fire Safety Training

Inspectors Puljas and Segelken trained 2,000 individuals at 46 different businesses; some businesses held multiple sessions. Insp. Segelken also was involved with a number of fire safety fairs, as well as speaking about fire safety at Heatherwood Assisted Living, Orchard Hills, Dove West, and Dove South.

### Fire Drills

Department personnel witnessed (a State requirement) 128 fire drills at a variety of businesses.

### Property Inspections / Review / Investigations

The City of Eau Claire assesses fees for fire sprinkler plan reviews and inspections; kitchen hood inspections; adult family home and group home inspections; and tent inspections. Listed below are the reviews and inspections that were done in 2010.

- **Sprinkler Plans / Site Plans** – 30 site plans and 27 sprinkler plans were reviewed and inspections completed.
- **Adult Family Homes** – 22 facilities were inspected.
- **Tent Inspections** – 72 tents were inspected.
- **Complaint or Follow-up Inspections** – Fire inspectors reviewed the approximately 6,000 inspection reports completed by the fire crews, and 600 inspections required additional follow-up to address specific code issues.
- **Fireworks** - The Fire Prevention Bureau inspected 15 sites that sell fireworks. These sites were both inside commercial buildings and in parking lots.
- **Fire Investigations** - The Fire Prevention Bureau conducted 44 fire investigations within the city and 2 mutual aid investigations, one in Altoona and one for Township Fire. Each investigation varies in the amount of time required to bring it to conclusion.
- **Unsafe Living Conditions** - The Fire Prevention Bureau was involved in 4 situations involving unsafe living conditions. These situations are specific to the individual but on average require multiple visits and ongoing contact to resolve.
- **Altoona Fire Prevention** – 534 fire inspections were completed for the year. 762 students from 3 schools participated in the K – 5 fire prevention programs. There also were 8 preschool sites that held numerous sessions involving 290 children; these include the 4-year-old kindergarten program. The “Get Out and Stay Alive” program was presented to 85 students at Altoona High School. Fire drills and fire safety presentations were completed at two senior citizen apartment complexes involving 120 residents.
- **Other Community Outreach** – Prevention personnel appeared with local media to address a variety of fire safety and investigation topics. “Fire Facts”, a monthly column providing fire safety tips, continues to be published in Eau Claire’s Leader Telegram newspaper.



# **Specialty Captains' Updates**

**Submitted by:**

**W. Klett, Captain of Suppression  
A. Bertrang, Captain of Technical Rescue/Heavy  
S. Walby, Captain of Emergency Medical Services  
G. Stegge, Captain of Technical Rescue/Light  
G. Axness, Captain of Maintenance  
B. Bensen, Captain of Hazardous Materials**

### **Suppression – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

In January, Captains Axness and Klett conducted the annual NFPA breathing apparatus, facemask fit test. This test is a NFPA requirement. Each firefighter has his/her own mask, and the test takes 15 minutes. The test is conducted with a Posi-Check 3 machine. The Posi-Check 3 machine checks for contaminants in the air and then compares those results with the level of contaminants in the mask as the firefighter performs five different 60-second activities. This year we had three failures, which entail obtaining a new/different facemask for that firefighter.

During the last part of the quarter, Capt. Klett worked on obtaining quotes for the NFPA-required annual ladder/aerial testing.

Capt. Klett scheduled the annual hose testing for May 7 - 14. The engine companies will do the hose testing in-house. This is also a NFPA requirement.

### **Suppression – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

In mid-May, Capt. Klett scheduled the annual fire extinguisher maintenance/inspection with North Star Fire Systems. State law requires that all fire extinguishers on commercial property be inspected annually.

Also in May, hose testing was conducted, as required by NFPA 1962. This is done in-house; the Eau Claire County Chiefs Association owns and loans the hose tester to any Eau Claire County fire department free of charge. This process takes a week to complete.

Ladder testing was scheduled in May for July 20 and 21. This is also an annual NFPA requirement.

In June, pump testing was conducted. This was scheduled and overseen by Bob Boecher, the City's fleet manager.

On June 3, we replaced Medic 9 with a new medic rig. Capt. Klett worked with D.C. Rick Merryfield in determining equipment storage and location. The replaced medic rig was sold to the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department.

During the latter part of June, Capt. Klett continued to work with D.C. Merryfield on issues with the new vehicle—part of the normal process when placing a new vehicle in service.

### **Suppression – 3rd Quarter**

On July 20, American Testing from Minnesota performed the NFPA-required ladder testing. The testing was conducted at Station 9. All of our ground ladders on Engines 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, and 10 passed. This year we tested both aerial ladders.

The annual NFPA-required engine pump testing was conducted at the city shops. All engines passed.

### **Suppression – 4th Quarter**

With October being Fire Prevention month, department personnel provided prevention education outreach to Eau Claire students in grades kindergarten through third. With the arrival of the holidays, the department again participated in the “Keep the Wreath Green” fire awareness program. The program runs from Thanksgiving Day through January 2. This year there were two structure fires during that time period.

For the first time in 2-1/2 years, the department participated in the intern program through Chippewa Valley Technical College. The three interns learned the daily responsibilities of firefighting and emergent street medicine/rescue, as well as the standard activities occurring at a fire station. The program gives department personnel the opportunity to evaluate potential future employees in “real life” situations over an extended period of time. Each of the three shifts is assigned an intern, and they work the normal 24-hour shifts for an eight-week period.

### **Technical Rescue-Heavy – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

Personnel participated in building collapse rescue training on March 22, 23, and 24. Building marking systems were viewed and discussed in a classroom setting. Building triage and marking systems would be utilized in an incident involving structural collapse of one or more structures. Examples of these types of incidents include, but are not limited to, windstorms and tornados.

Building triage and marking kits were distributed to each station to be placed on apparatus. The kits will be kept on all apparatus including reserve ambulances and engines.

### **Technical Rescue-Heavy – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

On May 3, 4, and 5, department personnel took part in structural collapse rescue training at the Emergency Service Education Center – CVTC. The training was conducted by Capt. Bertrang and provided personnel with the opportunity to practice skills that might be encountered during incidents requiring exterior stabilization of a building such as wind storms and tornadoes. The following objects were achieved in this training:

- Given Paratech systems equipment, personnel demonstrated an ability to properly assemble raker systems for building collapse scenarios.
- Given building materials, personnel demonstrated an ability to properly cut, assemble and build permanent raker systems for building collapse scenarios (optional).

### **Technical Rescue-Heavy – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

Additional cribbing was added to both Engine 2 and Engine 5. This cribbing has been pre-built to be utilized during collapse rescue incidents or during other incidents as needed. The inventories for Engine 2 and Engine 5 have been adjusted and maintained to provide an equal and consistent set of specialized cribbing on both apparatus.

### **Technical Rescue-Heavy – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

Department personnel spent time as individual crews reviewing the worksheets and SOGs to be used in the event of a confined space rescue incident. The knowledge gained during this review will facilitate efficient operations at the scene of a confined space rescue.

On four days in November and December, personnel worked in conjunction with members of the water and sewer department in preparation for confined space rescue incidents. Those present simulated situations in which trapped persons were in need of rescue. Personnel utilized recently updated worksheets to ensure that all aspects of the operation were completed. Communication with the water and sewer department remains ongoing to ensure that the training and emergency incident needs of both departments are being met should an incident involving confined space or trench collapse occur.

The inventory of the special rescue trailers continues to be updated as changes in equipment are made. Lt. Rob Goodland has maintained an inventory of the personal protective equipment used by members of the department for technical rescue incidents.

A training schedule including lesson plans for each department-wide training evolution was developed for 2011. This training will include but not be limited to confined space rescue, trench rescue, and collapse rescue.

Tactical worksheets and SOGs stored on Heavy Rescue 2 were updated and an inventory taken to ensure adequate supplies are in place for heavy technical rescue incidents, as well as other incidents involving special rescue situations.

Capt. Bertrang worked on a process improvement project with library personnel. The process involved developing a plan and set of procedures in the event there is a lost child at the Eau Claire Public Library.

### **Emergency Medical Service - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

During the first quarter, department members completed a State of Wisconsin-required Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-B) refresher course. The State changed the refresher guidelines for this course, and members used a combination of online training and fewer classroom hours to meet the new criteria. All EMT-Bs then passed a State of Wisconsin written exam.

Department paramedics attended an Audit and Review in January and March. This is a chance for the paramedics to discuss new topics, review calls, and participate in any other activities Dr. Jim Fenno (our medical director) deems important. Outside speakers also are brought in. January's topic was trauma, and in March the emphasis was on customer service. Last year, the department applied for grant monies to purchase power cots for the ambulances. We recently learned the grant application was successful. The grant monies will cover six power cots and three stair chairs for the ambulances. The power mechanism in the cot will aid in raising and lowering the cot once a patient is on the cot and ready for transport to the hospital. The idea behind the concept is to reduce heavy lifting and thus minimize back injuries. The stair chair is a chair with handles and straps in which a patient can be secured for moving up and down stairs.

New equipment placed in service includes the following: Water Jel burn dressings to help reduce pain and promote fast healing in burn patients; Bolin Chest Seal used in patients with a penetrating chest wound; Pediatric PerTrach, which is an advanced needle airway for pediatric patients; and Quik Clot Combat Gauze, which is treated with a chemical that promotes blood clotting. We can use the latter in cases of extreme bleeding.

### **Emergency Medical Service – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

Paramedics continued to precept EMT and paramedic students from the area.

On April 14 – 16, some department paramedics attended an EMS Conference in Appleton.

In April and May, crews presented "Prom Programs" at Memorial High School and North High School. These programs are designed to illustrate to students what happens when students use drugs and/or alcohol and drive. The program involves a realistic reenactment of a crash scene with fatalities.

In May, department paramedics received training on some changes in EMS report entry in HTE, the software program the department uses as its reporting system.

On June 5-6, personnel—with the help of surrounding agencies—supplied fire and EMS protection to thousands of people attending the Air Show at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport.

### **Emergency Medical Services – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

Department paramedics were preceptors for Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic students from CVTC during July and August. The students rode with ECFD medics to gain experience with basic patient contacts. The students had recently started the Paramedic program and will return to be supervised by ECFD medics in the future after they have had their advanced training.

In August, all department members participated in training at CVTC in the Human Patient Simulator (HPS) lab. The training involved emergency medical scenarios and participants

treating the patient simulator as they would a patient in the field. This training was closely supervised by our Medical Director, Dr. Fenno; Div. Chief Jon Schultz; and staff from Sacred Heart and Luther Hospitals.

Also in August Medic 9 did some spine training with the trainers from the University of WI—Eau Claire. This involved the handling of patients with possible spinal cord injuries.

Later that month some department medical units attended a Hazardous Materials Decontamination drill at Sacred Heart Hospital. The drill involved a patient brought into the hospital with some type of hazardous materials contamination. The medics and hospital then treated the patient accordingly.

In September, paramedics attended Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) refresher. This is an update on new practices in cardiac treatment. Paramedics also attended Audit and Review, which is an opportunity to review medical responses and learn new things.

Some fire and medic units participated in an airport disaster drill at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport. The drill involved many local jurisdictions working together in the event of a real airport disaster or emergency.

A department rescue unit gave a presentation to the attendees at the American Heart Association Walk.

### **Emergency Medical Services – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

In October, a medic unit attended a mass casualty incident drill at Luther Hospital. These drills are designed as training and also as a test of the facility's readiness in the event a real incident happens. The drill finds strengths and weaknesses in the system from which to make improvements.

In October and November, personnel efforts are concentrated on fire prevention/education programs in the schools.

In December, all personnel were due for a refresher in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR). The department keeps all members of the department trained and certified to the latest American Heart Association standard. Also in December department paramedics attended an Audit and Review session at Sacred Heart Hospital. This is an opportunity for the ECFD Medical Director, Dr. Fenno, to review and assess actual emergency medical responses in which the paramedics were involved. This is a great learning experience for the medics and also serves as a quality assurance program.

### **Technical Rescue – Light – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

In January, the department finished its yearly ice rescue training for the remaining crews who missed December's training. The training was conducted at Half Moon Lake. Crews reviewed a variety of rescue techniques using the equipment found on their assigned

apparatus. Crews further had a chance to review and use the RDC, a Rapid Deployment Craft that can be used for ice or open water rescue.

After this year's training, routine maintenance was performed on our cold water suits and on other various equipment found to be in need. Maintenance performed include patching holes in some of our cold water suits, replacing lost or inappropriate carabineers, re-rigging rescue horse collars, and inspecting the ice rescue rope.

### **Technical Rescue – Light – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

The second quarter consisted of boat review and maintenance. All boats were reviewed for maintenance issues, lost equipment and future needs. All boats motors received their annual oil change. The gas containers on all boats were emptied and refilled with fresh gasoline. Boat 5 received a new running light. After reviewing the department's boat motors, recommendations for replacements were forwarded to Chief Ed Kassing.

### **Technical Rescue – Light – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

The third quarter consisted of boat training and developing specs and obtaining bids for a new boat.

Lt. Mark Legge conducted boat operation and maintenance training for newly hired employees. He took them out on the Eau Claire River to review and instruct them on proper river operations for rescue and dive boats utilized by the department. Topics included: proper motor position for high and low water operations, balance and bounce within the boats, cross current operations and concerns, retrieval of objects from the river, and dragging the river for objects with the dragging hooks.

Currently, the fire department is looking at replacing one of its older V-bottom boats with a flat bottom boat. Several boats types and models were reviewed in order to find the one type that best fits our current needs. It was determined that a 16-foot Alumacraft flat bottom boat with a 25-horse outboard motor would work best. Specs were delivered to Deputy Chief Lyle Koerner.

### **Technical Rescue – Light – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

All department personnel participated in a review of ice rescue methods and techniques. A training DVD was produced and distributed to all stations for review. The DVD showed a variety of rescue situations with real people in real time to demonstrate a variety of rescue methods employed by the department. Personnel reviewed the signs, conditions, and dangers of various types of ice, as well as the three methods of ice rescue: reach, throw, and go. Also covered were rescue techniques for shore-based, open water, and solid ice rescue. Each rescue technique reviewed how rescuers should properly use a variety of rescue tools employed by the department. Those tools included Sterns cold-water rescue suits, which allow personnel to enter sub-zero water for shorts periods of time in order to attempt rescue. The Mars three-in-one throw line is another tool reviewed. It allows a rescuer to throw a 60-

foot rescue line to a victim from shore or from within a boat. The cold water rescue sling allows a rescuer to enter the water and place the buoyant rescue sling around a victim in order for shore-based rescuers to then pull both the rescuer and the victim to shore using the attached 200 feet of rope. Lastly, the DVD showed a demonstration of the RDC (Rapid Deployment Craft). The RDC is an inflatable boat that allows rescuers to safely venture out onto unstable lake or river ice, thus providing them and the victim with a solid rescue platform from which to work.

### **Maintenance- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

Hydro testing of our SCBA bottles is moving along smoother now that the department has changed testing companies. Annual maintenance on the Bauer compressor was completed. We repaired the locking mechanism on the fill station after it jammed shut. We replaced a faulty valve on Engine 8's cascade system. Several repairs were made to our breathing apparatus. EMT refresher was conducted, and many hours were spent preparing for the new format—including the EMS Jane program. The Eau Claire Municipal Wells area was reviewed in preparation for wildland fire season.

### **Maintenance – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

An engineer from Ayres Associates inspected the roof support beams at station 8 for structural soundness, and it was determined they were ok. Personnel prepared the station yard for the Air Show by fertilizing and watering the lawn due to dry conditions, as well as trimming trees and taking measures for weed and insect control. Aerial maps were prepared for the City Wells and Airport areas to assist with identifying the location of emergency scenes. The Air Show command post was located at station 8, and many response agencies worked together to cover all emergency possibilities. Thankfully, things went rather smoothly for the four-day event. Crews participated in the North High School “Prom Program”. A Focus on Energy technician checked station 8 for energy use. Repairs were made to station blinds, kitchen sink, and dishwasher. The hydrotesting process for the SCBA bottles is wrapping up. Various repairs to SCBA masks and packs were completed.

### **Maintenance – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

North Shore Compressor Company replaced two gauges on the Bauer compressor. The quarterly air samples continue to pass quality standards. Our flow test equipment was sent in for calibration. Capt. Axness fit-tested three new recruits for SCBA masks. Rescue belt training for the new recruits was conducted at the CVTC training tower. Masks turned in by retirees were cleaned and readied for use. Eau Claire street maps were ordered for the recruits. Capt. Axness and Eng. Dave Lombardo attended a one-day MSA Certified Technician class for repairing the department’s breathing apparatus.

Personnel participated in the emergency airport drill. This included area departments, airport crew members, county officials and a fire simulator. This drill tested our readiness for aircraft emergencies.



### **Maintenance – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

Quarterly air samples for the Bauer compressor continue to pass quality standards. Scheduled annual maintenance for the Bauer compressor was performed. Forms for the upcoming annual fit tests in January were updated. Personnel repaired Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus; replaced a quick fill fitting on Engine 10's cascade system; and cleaned, rebuilt and fit tested used masks for future use.

### **Hazardous Materials – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter**

In February, Div. Chief Scott Burkart, B.C. Kim Nessel, and Capt. Bensen attended the Wisconsin Association of Hazardous Materials Responders conference in Wisconsin Dells. The WAHMR conference is a yearly gathering of individuals who possess expertise in the field of hazardous materials response—from both government and the private sector. The objective is to provide additional training and update members about current trends. Some of the topics covered were: Review of the Banbury Place Incident, Radiological Responses, Ethanol Emergencies, and Advanced Metering.

During the first quarter of 2010, Lt. Bill Mengele has been reviewing the options for purchasing new Level A encapsulated suits. Two different manufacturers are being considered. The current inventory of encapsulated suits is near the end of their functional life. The recommendations will be made during the second quarter of 2010.

In March, Capt. Bensen, Eng. Brian Kranz, and FF Steve Friederichs gave a presentation to an Environmental Science class at UWEC. The presentation consisted of information on the advanced metering and research capabilities of the Regional Level A Haz Mat team.

The Level A Haz Mat team offers an outreach program to all fire departments in the area. The purpose of the outreach is to inform the area departments of the contact procedure, the capabilities of the Level A team, and what would be the expected support from the local resources. The following departments took advantage of this program:

- Somerset Fire Department
- Hudson Fire Department
- United Fire Department (Baldwin and Woodville)
- New Richmond Fire Department
- Elk Mound Fire Department
- Glenwood City Fire Department

### **Hazardous Materials – 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

In April, training on Radiological Events was held for the entire department. The subject matter consisted of the terms and concepts involved with radiation and the metering capabilities of the equipment in the inventory. The basic concept was to ensure that all members of the ECFD were familiar with the procedure to keep radiation levels at acceptable levels for the safety of the survey team.

A second session of training was held for the regional Level A Haz Mat team members. This training included worksheets that would enable the incident commander to determine a plan of action. The information generated included the distance from a “hot” source that the “hot zone” would be, the time allowed to work next to the source, and the amount of shielding that may be required.

A representative from Xcel Energy also provided additional training on Natural Gas Incidents.

The decision was made to purchase eight fully encapsulated Level A suits from Saint Gobain. The construction of the suits, the dexterity of the integrated gloves, and the price point were all factors in the choice. Four of the suits will have built-in flash protection, which is a feature that none of our existing suits have.

### **Hazardous Materials – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter**

On August 17, there was a combined haz mat drill at the postal annex located on Hogarth Street. Located on site is a monitoring system that is capable of detecting biological hazards such as Anthrax. If the Biological Detection System (BDS) alarm is activated, it is the responsibility of the regional Level A haz mat team to decontaminate the onsite postal employees and assist the postal inspectors with their investigation. In the weeks leading up to the drill, the procedure and equipment that is used are reviewed. The basic scenario entails setting up a mass casualty decontamination tent, sending two postal employee volunteers through the decon line, and isolating any contaminated clothing and equipment. The mass casualty decon tent is a specialized system that has a built-in shower capability, a dedicated water heater, and separate areas for ambulatory and unconscious patients. The secondary function is to assist the postal inspectors by setting a secondary decon line.

In July, the regional Level A haz mat team received eight new fully encapsulated suits. Four of the suits are single use suits designed for entry into a hazardous atmosphere that is noncombustible. The other four have a new feature built into the fabric in that they are rated for flash fire protection. The older style suits needed an extra over-suit to meet the current National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) rating to be considered for flash fire protection. The elimination of the over-suit enables better dexterity while in the suit and increases efficiency. These suits are reusable.

The current system of calibrating and maintaining the six 4-gas meters that are assigned to each engine has been working well. The meters are capable of monitoring the following: oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, explosive levels, and carbon monoxide. The meters are calibrated every month and the proper documentation kept on file. There have been little or no maintenance issues.

### **Hazardous Materials – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**

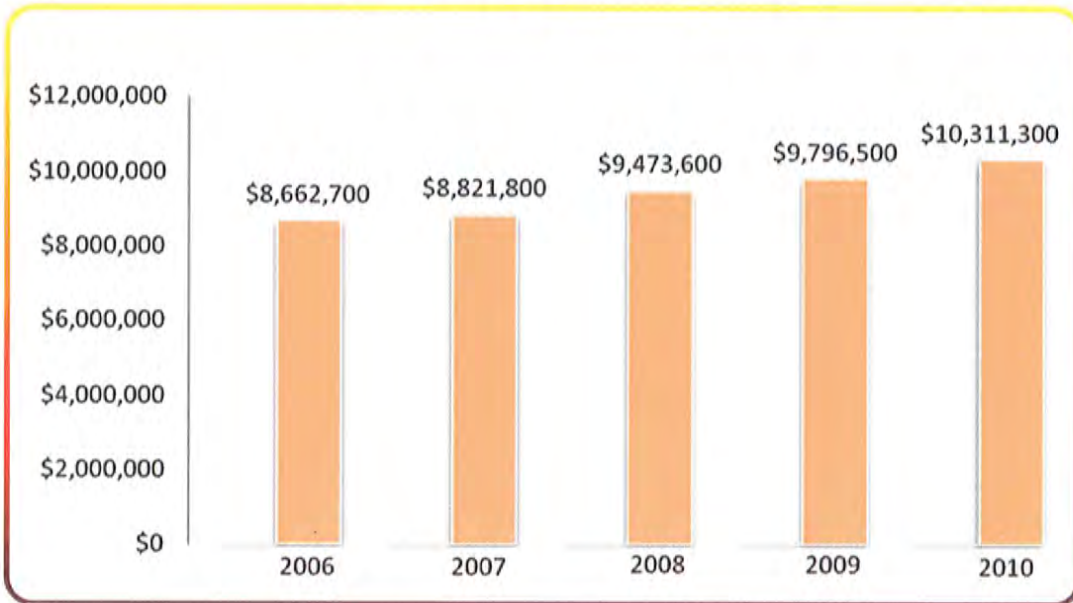
In October, Capt. Bensen, Eng. Brian Kranz, and FF Steve Vargo attended a Mass Casualty Incident drill at Sacred Heart Hospital. The main purpose of attending was to observe the procedures used by the staff at Sacred Heart. It was noted during the drill that the scenario used included a patient who was contaminated with radiation. Department personnel advised

the drill proctors of the capabilities of the regional haz mat team and its metering capabilities. Therefore, possible joint training for the future was discussed.

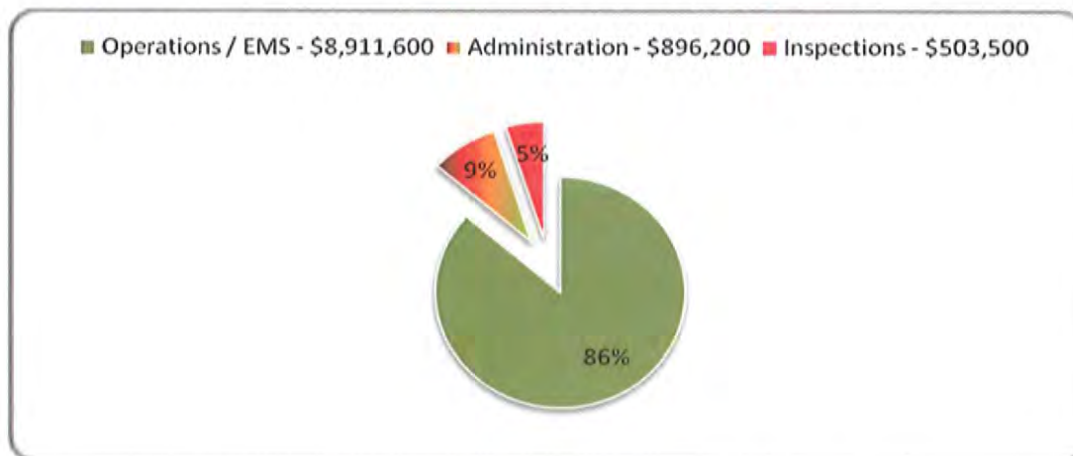
The haz mat supply trailer that is assigned to fire station 2 was reorganized. The trailer was at its current GVW limit of 10,000 lbs. The amount of equipment that is needed to handle all the variations in a hazardous materials event is extensive. It was decided to limit the volume of equipment that is permanently kept on the trailer. The arrangement will be to have most of the expendable supplies staged at stations 2 and 10. Depending on the type of response required, the correct supplies will be loaded into the trailer or Car 4 (Ford F350). Keeping fewer items on the trailer will assist with inventory procedures and equipment familiarization. During this two-week process, every item on the trailer was removed and evaluated.

# **Budgetary Information**

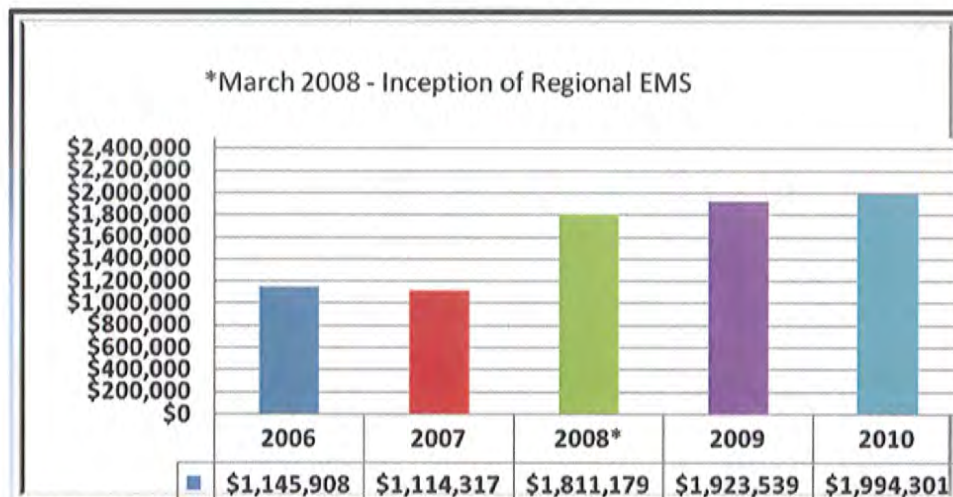
## 5-Year Budget Comparison



## Operating Budget by Division



## Net Ambulance Revenue



**2011 Adopted  
Program of Services**



## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Fire & Rescue Department: Overview

Eau Claire Fire & Rescue is responsible for rendering fire prevention, fire suppression, special rescue, and emergency medical services for the City of Eau Claire. Beginning in March 2008 the department expanded its emergency medical services response area to include surrounding communities consisting of 11 townships, 1 village, and 1 city. The department also manages the Hazardous Materials (Haz Mat) Response program to provide response to a 14-county area of West Central Wisconsin. The department is staffed by 94 full-time employees—92 sworn and 2 civilian. Response is provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from six stations.



#### *Fire & Rescue Department Overview of Revenues & Expenditures*

	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted Budget	2011 Adopted Budget	% Change
<b>Revenues</b>				
Intragovernmental Service	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,200	1.7%
Intergovernmental:				
State Aid-Fire Ins. Tax	120,715	120,000	125,000	4.2%
State Aid-Under. Tanks	11,220	11,000	11,000	0.0%
State Aid-Mun. Services	401,319	385,000	357,500	-7.1%
State Aid-Ambulance Services	97,800	-	-	
Altoona-Fire Inspector	44,089	44,500	-	-100.0%
Ambulance Fee	39,375	40,000	39,900	-0.3%
Charges for Services:				
Fees	15,379	31,000	31,000	0.0%
Ambulance Fees	2,111,879	2,331,000	2,255,700	-3.2%
Haz-Mat B Response	30,400	30,400	30,400	0.0%
Gen. Purpose (tax) Rev.	7,185,937	7,306,400	7,799,700	6.8%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 10,070,113</b>	<b>\$ 10,311,300</b>	<b>\$ 10,662,400</b>	<b>3.4%</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
Personnel Services	\$ 8,948,322	\$ 9,058,500	\$ 9,344,400	3.2%
Contractual Services	753,824	806,000	899,900	11.7%
Utilities	61,614	82,900	84,600	2.1%
Fixed Charges	128,050	128,100	128,100	0.0%
Materials & Supplies	178,303	224,800	188,900	-16.0%
Capital Purchases	-	11,000	16,500	50.0%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 10,070,113</b>	<b>\$ 10,311,300</b>	<b>\$ 10,662,400</b>	<b>3.4%</b>

## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### *Fire & Rescue Department - Administration Expenditure Summary*

	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 6 Month Actual	2010 Projection	2011 Adopted
<b>Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>					
Personnel Services	\$ 538,136	\$ 523,600	\$ 253,548	\$ 523,600	\$ 511,200
Contractual Services	231,399	262,100	122,725	262,100	249,400
Utilities	58,789	82,900	33,907	82,900	84,600
Fixed Charges	3,200	3,200	1,600	3,200	3,200
Materials & Supplies	14,035	24,400	5,068	24,400	23,200
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>	<b>\$ 845,559</b>	<b>\$ 896,200</b>	<b>\$ 416,848</b>	<b>\$ 896,200</b>	<b>\$ 871,600</b>

### *Fire & Rescue Department - Operations / EMS Expenditure Summary*

	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 6 Month Actual	2010 Projection	2011 Adopted
<b>Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>					
Personnel Services	\$ 7,950,879	\$ 8,045,300	\$ 3,697,977	\$ 8,045,300	\$ 8,382,300
Contractual Services	518,944	540,600	250,430	540,600	645,500
Utilities	2,825	-	1,350	-	-
Fixed Charges	119,250	119,300	58,650	119,300	119,300
Materials & Supplies	160,507	195,400	103,813	195,400	159,900
Capital Purchases	-	11,000	-	11,000	16,500
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>	<b>\$ 8,752,405</b>	<b>\$ 8,911,600</b>	<b>\$ 4,112,220</b>	<b>\$ 8,911,600</b>	<b>\$ 9,323,500</b>

### *Fire & Rescue Department - Inspections Expenditure Summary*

	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 6 Month Actual	2010 Projection	2011 Adopted
<b>Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>					
Personnel Services	\$ 459,307	\$ 489,600	\$ 214,238	\$ 489,600	\$ 450,900
Contractual Services	3,481	3,300	1,794	3,300	5,000
Fixed Charges	5,600	5,600	2,800	5,600	5,600
Materials & Supplies	3,761	5,000	2,988	5,000	5,800
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>	<b>\$ 472,149</b>	<b>\$ 503,500</b>	<b>\$ 221,820</b>	<b>\$ 503,500</b>	<b>\$ 467,300</b>





## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Fire & Rescue Dept: Administration

The Administrative Division is located on the second floor of Station No. 2 at 216 South Dewey Street. In addition to the Fire Chief and Fire Secretary, both department Deputy Chiefs and its Division Chief maintain offices at this location.

#### Objectives

- Assess cost reduction models and implementation criteria.
- Utilize existing CompStat data to assess operational efficiencies.
- Progress with deploying distance education options in our daily operations.
- Continue the advancement of our regional EMS providers' initiative.
- Increase public presentations on the mission and scope of the department while developing a viable feedback system to evaluate the community's needs.

#### Outputs

- Implemented Select Station Dispatch for the department.
- Completed the process to internalize Emergency Medical Services (EMS) training.
- Took lead role in the advancement of Eau Claire County's EMS Council programs.
- Established working initiatives with regional trauma and EMS transport agencies in the region.
- Worked to support regional fire prevention initiatives for the county departments.
- Accessed a grant that will replace our fire safety trailer deployable to area events.
- Continued to improve and upgrade vehicle fleet.

#### Fire & Rescue Department - Administration Authorized Full-Time

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Fire Chief	1	1	1
Fire Secretary	1	1	1
<b>Total FTE Positions</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>



**Fire Station #2 with  
Administrative Offices  
216 South Dewey Street**



## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Fire & Rescue Dept: Operations

The Operations Division assumes the overall planning and management responsibility for fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials response, water/dive rescue, confined space rescue, high angle rescue, and personnel training for the organization.

Responsibilities are carried out through the efforts of 1 deputy chief, 3 operational (shift) battalion chiefs, 6 captains, 12 lieutenants, 18 equipment engineers, and 47 firefighters. Its employees are the department's most valuable assets. Without dedicated and cross-trained people, the department cannot accomplish its mission of protecting the lives and property of the citizens it serves.

#### Objectives

- Provide fire suppression methods in a safe and efficient manner for the citizens of the City of Eau Claire and surrounding areas.
- Provide response to hazardous materials incidents.
- Provide special rescue response such as water rescue, confined space, trench rescue, high angle rescue, and vehicle extrication.
- Provide the foundation for response capabilities within the Homeland Security framework.
- Preserve and protect life, property, and the environment against injury and damage from other incidents occurring within the City of Eau Claire.
- Average a 5-minute or less response time from the time of the call within the City of Eau Claire and a 10-minute or less average response time within our regional EMS delivery area external to the city.
- Enhance communication within the organization using electronic methods and increase the citizens' knowledge of department services.
- Provide company level training through more efficient means by identifying mandated requirements through Wisconsin Comm 30 and applicable OSHA and NFPA standards.
- Develop Rapid Intervention Teams (RIT) and integrate into fire suppression operations.
- Reduce fire loss in the community through aggressive public education and code enforcement.

#### Outputs

- In 2009, averaged a 4.47-minute response time from time call is dispatched to first unit on-scene in the City of Eau Claire and a 7.59-minute response time for responses outside the city.

Fire & Rescue Department - Operations Authorized Full-Time	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Deputy Chief	1	1	1
Battalion Chief	3	3	3
Fire Captain	6	6	6
Fire Lieutenant	12	12	12
Fire Equipment Operator	18	18	18
Firefighter	47	47	47
Total FTE Positions	87	87	87

7,001 Responses in 2009			
5,819	Medical Responses	150	Service Call Responses
183	Fire/Rescue Responses	154	Good Intent Responses
530	Automatic Alarm Responses	20	Special Request Responses
145	Hazardous Condition Responses		



## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services



### Fire & Rescue Dept: Emergency Medical Services

Comprising 83% of department responses, emergency medical services remain a strong focus of department resources. The department is staffed with 42 certified paramedics and 50 certified emergency medical technicians. There are three front-line paramedic ambulances and three units available as reserves. Personnel are involved in constant training and also participate in community education and special events to increase citizen knowledge about EMS issues.

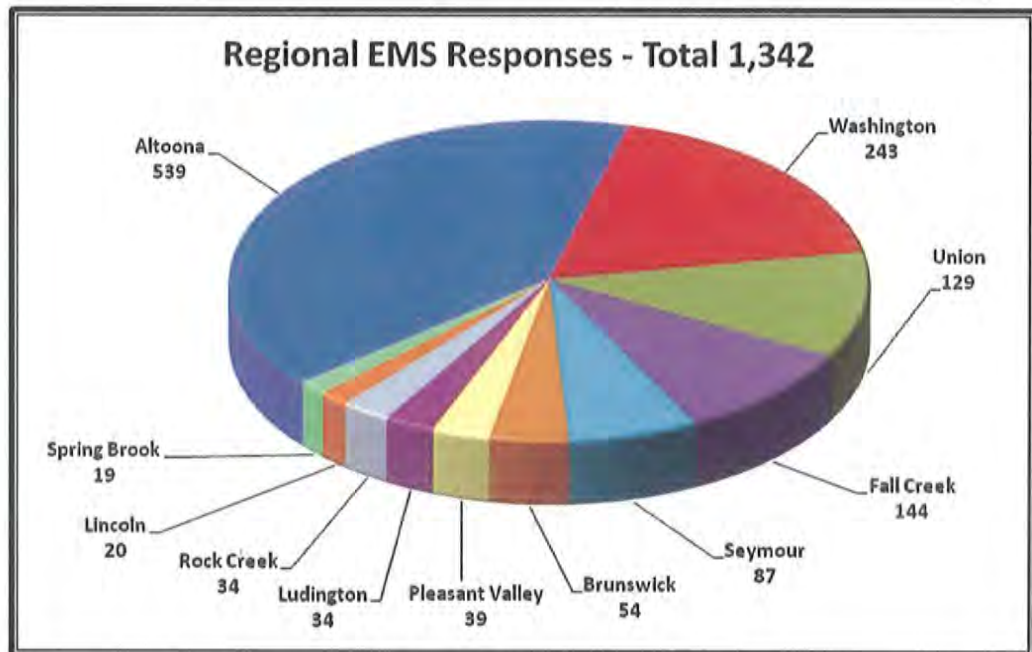
#### Objectives

- Develop a proactive elderly fall reduction program.
- Continue enhancement of First Responder response and training.
- On-scene time of less than 20 minutes on trauma incidents for ambulances.
- Revise internal quality assurance program to that which is company-based.

#### Outputs

- Continued to work with Sacred Heart Hospital and Luther Hospital to enhance the stroke quality assurance program, 12-lead, and STEMI (Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction) programs.
- Conducted trauma training for all personnel to reduce the on-scene time of trauma incidents.
- Revised the Emergency Medical Technician Basic (EMT-B) training to computer-based and hands-on training that is offered in-house.

*Note – EMS staff are included in the Fire Operations staffing totals.*





## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Fire & Rescue Dept: Inspections

The Inspection Division is comprised of five full-time staff members; four officers and one clerical person. The main responsibility of this division is to oversee the inspection of commercial properties within the City of Eau Claire. Division personnel are responsible for compliance with follow-up inspections and codes, fire investigations, public education, and underground/aboveground storage tank inspections. Personnel serve as informational contacts for other departments and citizens who have questions regarding National Fire Protection Association and Wisconsin Administrative codes.

#### Objectives

- Evaluate and find funding to purchase building pre-planning software.
- Provide fire prevention and education, targeting the young, off-campus housing residents, and the elderly.
- Maintain current inspection routes and place more emphasis on pre-planning of target hazards.
- Implement an "After the Fire" review program.
- Develop a smoke detector assistance program for low-income citizens.

#### Outputs

- Approximately 6,000 inspections completed by the fire inspectors and fire/EMS crews.
- 219 specialty inspections and site permits completed.
- 42 fire investigations conducted.
- 8 unsafe living conditions investigated.
- 8 juveniles referred to the Juvenile Fire Setter Program.
- Fire prevention activities were conducted for 4,000 students at 20 schools for all students grades K-4 and for over 800 children at 22 sites for 4-year-old kindergarten.

#### Fire & Rescue Department - Inspections Authorized Full-Time

	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011
Deputy Chief	1	1	1
Division Chief of Training & EMS	1	1	0
Division Chief	0	0	1
Fire Inspector I	1	1	1
Fire Inspector II	1	1	1
Clerk III	1	1	1
<b>Total FTE Positions</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>

Dollar Loss From Fire				
2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
\$ 2,775,848	\$ 1,709,903	\$ 3,716,199	\$ 958,517	\$ 2,577,691 *

\*The total equalized value of all property in the City of Eau Claire for 2009 was \$4.316 billion. The total dollar loss from fire in 2009 represents .0597% of the total equalized value.



## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Hazardous Materials

The West Central Regional Response Team is a joint venture between Eau Claire Fire & Rescue and Chippewa Falls Fire & Emergency Services. The team is contracted with the State of Wisconsin to deliver regionalized Level "A" hazardous materials response to a 14-county area in West Central Wisconsin. City of Eau Claire tax dollars are not used to operate the team; the State of Wisconsin provides funding.

In addition, the team then contracts with the Rice Lake Fire and Menomonie Fire Departments for their service as designated CATs (Chemical Assessment Team) as adjuncts of the West Central Team.

#### Objectives

- Respond to hazardous materials incidents within 14-county area to provide mitigation.
- Provide consultation for emergency responders concerning Haz Mat situations they may encounter.
- Provide outreach presentations to law enforcement, emergency medical services, fire departments, civic groups, and local government personnel throughout response area.
- Conduct training according to National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards.
- Participate in annual hazardous materials response drill.

#### Outputs

- Consulted with Chippewa Falls Fire & Emergency Services on a call where a nurse was splashed with Ethylene Oxide. The department worked with Chippewa Falls on chemical detection methods.
- The department's Chemical Assessment Team (CAT), in conjunction with the Black River Falls Fire Department, responded to a semi truck rolled over with a mixed load of chemicals and a leak in progress on I-94 near Black River Falls.
- Responded to an abandoned Anhydrous Ammonia container off Highway 8 in rural Polk County. A CAT team arrived, identified the product, and consulted with local responders on clean-up options.
- Presented outreach programs to six entities within the response area, reaching over 115 people. Programs of this type teach groups how to request a regional team, what equipment is available within each team and what types of incidents the team is able to respond to.
- Upgraded the chemical monitoring equipment allowing the department to decrease the time it takes to detect a hazardous environment. Previously, engine companies only provided a carbon monoxide meter. When checking for gas leaks, Hydrogen Sulfide (sewer gas), and elevated or decreased Oxygen environments meters from station #2 had to be sent to the scene.
- Upgraded a meter on the regional response team vehicle and placed four gas meters on all six front-line engines. Crews were trained on the use of the equipment and a service plan was established that will save on maintenance costs and provide better documentation of repairs and daily checks.

#### 40 Personnel are assigned to the Hazardous Materials Response Team

- 28 Members from Eau Claire Fire Department.
- 12 Members from Chippewa Falls Fire Department.





## City of Eau Claire 2011 Adopted Program of Services

### Hazardous Materials Budget Summary Revenues & Expenditures

Operating Budget	2009 Actual	2010 Adopted	2010 6 Month Actual	2010 Projection	2011 Adopted
<b>Revenues &amp; Other Financing Sources:</b>					
Intergovernmental	\$ 178,263	\$ 178,200	\$ -	\$ 178,200	\$ 178,200
Charges For Services	2,117	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
Miscellaneous	1,760	1,000	800	1,000	1,000
<b>Total Revenues &amp; Other Financing Sources:</b>	<b>182,140</b>	<b>182,200</b>	<b>800</b>	<b>182,200</b>	<b>182,200</b>
<b>Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>					
Personnel Services	58,304	66,300	30,604	66,300	68,900
Contractual Services	15,797	28,600	12,717	28,600	28,900
Utilities	2,362	1,500	1,844	1,500	3,500
Fixed Charges	12,000	12,200	6,000	12,200	12,400
Materials & Supplies	22,295	55,100	2,489	55,100	59,800
Contributions & Other Payments	72,888	77,500	32,579	77,500	78,600
Capital Purchases	-	18,600	-	18,600	46,000
Other Financing Uses	3,779	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Expenditures &amp; Other Financing Uses:</b>	<b>187,425</b>	<b>259,800</b>	<b>86,233</b>	<b>259,800</b>	<b>298,100</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) of Funding Sources Over Uses</b>	<b>\$ (5,285)</b>	<b>\$ (77,600)</b>	<b>\$ (85,433)</b>	<b>\$ (77,600)</b>	<b>\$ (115,900)</b>
<b>Working Capital/Available Fund Balance:</b>					
Assigned:					
Subsequent Year Expenditures	\$ 207,183			\$ 129,583	\$ 13,683
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 207,183</b>			<b>\$ 129,583</b>	<b>\$ 13,683</b>