

Eau Claire Fire & Rescue 2014 Annual Report



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

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

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction Letter from Fire Chief	1
Mission and Vision Statements	2
Organizational Chart	3
Administrative and Prevention Personnel	4
Fire Fighters Local 487 Elected Positions	5
Personnel / Stations	7-19
Response Statistics	21-27
Accomplishment Highlights.....	29-38
Specialty Captains' Report	40-47
Budgetary Information	49
2015 Adopted Program of Services	51-58
In Memoriam—Denise Waterman	51-58



CITY OF EAU CLAIRE

"Proudly Meeting the Needs of our Community"

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

Lyle N. Koerner, Jr., Chief

Emergency Calls	911
Administration	715/839-5012
Inspections/Investigation	715/839-4825
After Hours	715/839-5013
E-mail	ecfire@eauclairewi.gov
City Website	www.eauclairewi.gov

March 1, 2015

TO: Police and Fire Commission Members
City Manager Russell Van Gompel

As fire chief, I present to you the 2014 annual report for Eau Claire Fire and Rescue. This report provides insight into the daily activities of our members as they strive to meet a variety of community needs in both emergent and non-emergent platforms. Effectively meeting these needs is not without its obstacles in terms of both time and money, but we all work cohesively to overcome any challenges. As we partner with our fellow city departments and also our neighboring fire departments, we strive to meet the expectations of the citizens of—and visitors to—our community. In our day-to-day responsibilities, we remain focused on and diligent in performing efficiently, dependably, and professionally.

Of course, beyond our daily operations it remains vital to strategically plan for the future, while being mindful of the short- and long-term impacts. In 2014, we began to move forward with the replacement of fire station 10 and continue to analyze the potential impacts associated with this operational need. To assist in maintaining the highest level of service possible, we conduct outreach beyond city boundaries with our regional partners. We were able to bring on-board a new regional EMS partner, Oakleaf Surgical Hospital, which shares the common goal of a strong regional EMS system. Overall, organizationally we provide high quality emergency medical service, fire suppression, hazardous materials response, numerous special rescue capabilities, and fire prevention and water safety educational programs.

With all that has changed throughout the year, one constant remains solid: the department's ongoing commitment to deliver the highest level of emergency services. We value the strong support we continue to receive from our partners on the Police and Fire Commission and the City Council, as well as that from the city manager and other department directors.

Sincerely,

Lyle N. Koerner, Jr.
Fire Chief

MISSION STATEMENT

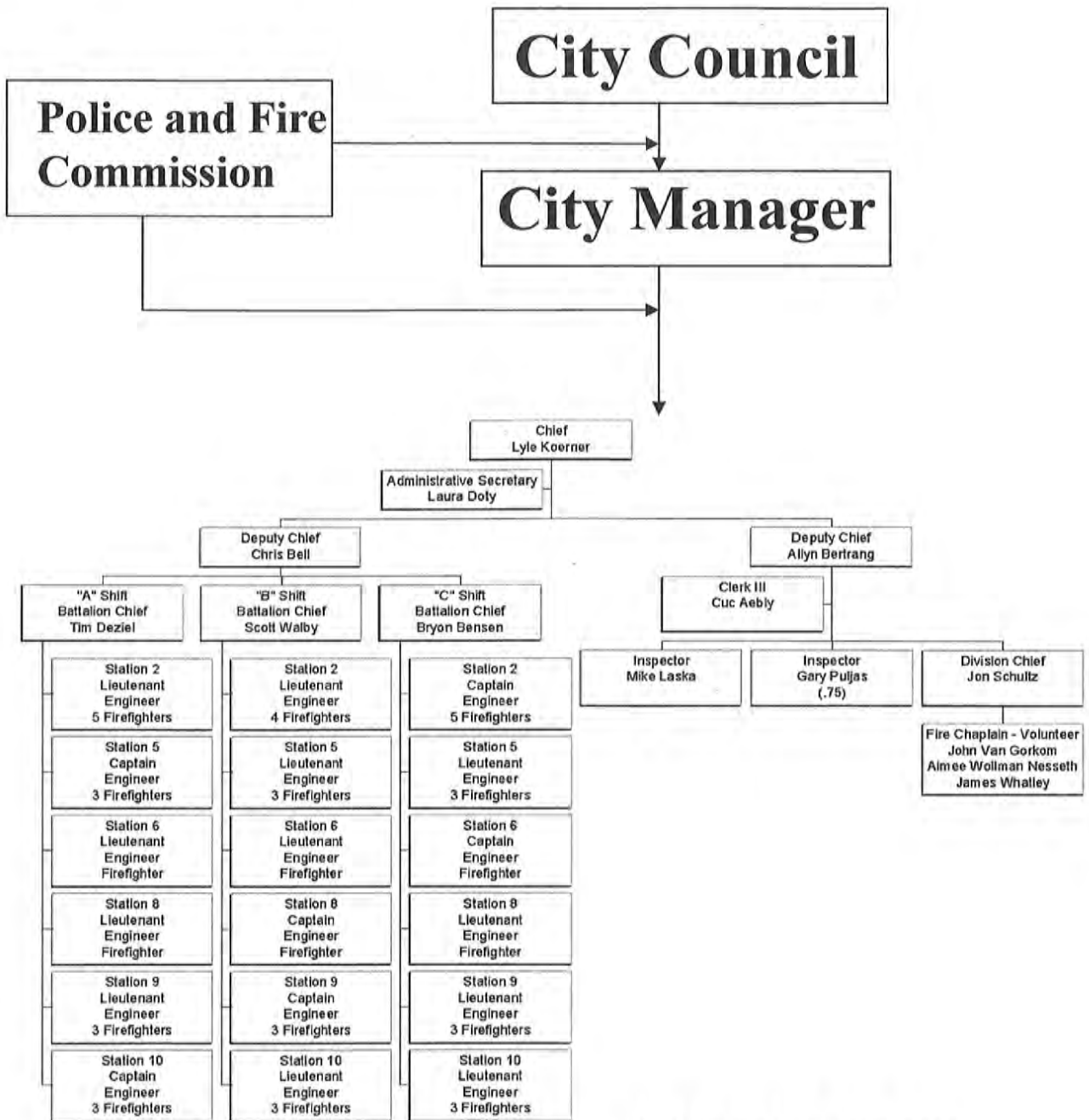
Eau Claire Fire and Rescue's mission is to public health and safety achieved through developing, promoting, and maintaining a comprehensive network of emergency medical services, fire prevention and suppression, technical rescue, and hazard mitigation.

Through progressive education, diligent training, and integrated communication, our team will collectively provide sustainable, high quality services focused on customer satisfaction and the prudent utilization of public funds.

VISION STATEMENT

Eau Claire Fire and Rescue will be a leading regional public health and safety partner by continually and actively promoting excellence in the performance of our duties.

We will support a dedicated membership of honest, accountable professionals who exemplify honor and integrity to build and retain public trust.



91 Protective Employees

2.75 General Employees

3 Volunteers

96.75 Total

Stations 5, 9 and 10 are staffed for Paramedic Response



ADMINISTRATIVE AND PREVENTION PERSONNEL

Lyle Koerner..... Fire Chief

Chris Bell Deputy Chief of Operations

Allyn Bertrang Deputy Chief of Prevention / EMS

Jon Schultz Division Chief of EMS

Laura Doty.....Administrative Secretary

Michael Laska Fire Inspector

Gary Puljas Fire Inspector

Cuc Aebly Clerk III, Prevention

Tim Deziel..... Battalion Chief, "A" Shift

Scott Walby Battalion Chief, "B" Shift

Bryon Bensen..... Battalion Chief, "C" Shift



EAU CLAIRE FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 487 ELECTED POSITIONS

PRESIDENT:	Tony Biasi
VICE PRESIDENT:	Bob Haller
SECRETARY:	Tom Rebeschke
TREASURER:	Bill Drath
GUIDE:	Matt Gunderson
SGT-AT-ARMS:	Dave Strassman
STEWARDS:	Dave Pekol (A-Shift) Jeremy Stary (B-Shift) Tom Wallin (C-Shift)
TRUSTEES:	Brian Dorn Todd Nutter Brian Phillips
WORKING RELATIONS:	Tony Biasi Bob Haller Dave Strassman Tom Wallin



Personnel / Stations



Lyle Koerner
Fire Chief



Chris Bell
Deputy Chief



Allyn Bertrang
Deputy Chief



Jon Schultz
Division Chief



Scott Walby
Battalion Chief



Tim Deziel
Battalion Chief



Bryon Bensen
Battalion Chief



Laura Doty
Admin. Secretary



Cuc Aebly
Prevention Clerk III



Michael Laska
Inspector



Gary Puljas
Inspector



Bruce Buchholz
Captain-Reserve Medic



Joe Kelly
Captain



Greg Stegge
Captain



Steve Vargo
Captain



Matt Jaggard
Captain



Brian Toonen
Captain-Reserve Medic



Lance Hanson
Lieutenant



Ben Hays
Lt.-Reserve Medic



Rob Goodland
Lt.-Reserve Medic



Bob Pratt
Lieutenant



Brian Kranz
Lieutenant



Don Rydzik
Lieutenant



Chris Dolen
Lt.-Reserve Medic



Shawn Abrahamson
Lieutenant



Dave Whitehouse
Lieutenant



Stephen Secker
Lieutenant



Jeff Dykes
Lt.-Reserve Medic



Jeremy Stary
Lt.-Reserve Medic



Dave Lombardo
Engineer



Dennis Duncan
Engineer



John Biegel
Engineer



Al Klocek
Engineer



BouaChao Xiong
Engineer



Mike Miller
Engineer-Medic



Jeff Patrow
Engineer



Kevin McClellan
Engineer



Tom Rebischke
Engineer



Jamie Burkhardt
Eng.-Reserve Medic 9



Bill Jensen
Engineer



Pat Hamler
Engineer



**Dave Pekol
Engineer**



**Bill Drath
Eng.-Reserve Medic**



**Tim Brantner
Engineer**



**Brian Phillips
Engineer**



**Mark Humphrey
Engineer**



**Bob Haller
Eng.-Reserve Medic**



**Scott Mohr
Firefighter**



**Drew Dorn
Firefighter**



**Todd Frank
Firefighter-Medic**



**Frank Leffelman
FF-Reserve Medic**



**Greg Johnson
Firefighter**



**Stephen Friederichs
Firefighter**



**Dave Strassman
FF-Reserve Medic**



**Tony Biasi
FF-Reserve Medic**



**Matt Gunderson
Firefighter-Medic**



**Ryan Hebert
Firefighter-Medic**



Tom Wallin
Firefighter



Nils Bergquist
Firefighter-Medic



Jeff Dahl
Firefighter



Tony Hennings
Firefighter-Medic



Brian Mero
Firefighter-Medic



Natasha Myre
Firefighter-Medic



Levi Vlcek
Firefighter-Medic



Steve Rindt
Firefighter-Medic



Benji Norberg
Firefighter-Medic



Dan Schroeder
Firefighter-Medic



Isaac Hahn
Firefighter-Medic



Ryan Lesperance
Firefighter-Medic



Josh Olson
Firefighter-Medic



Brian Dorn
Firefighter-Medic



Brad Beuscher
Firefighter-Medic



Tim McCaughey
Firefighter-Medic



Todd Nutter
Firefighter-Medic



Stephen Weyers
Firefighter-Medic



Mike Olson
Firefighter-Medic



Chris Meyer
Firefighter- Medic



Ben Gruber
Firefighter-Medic



Steve Patten
Firefighter- Medic



Nicolas Ledin
Firefighter-Medic



Korey Maves
Firefighter-Medic



Karl Johnson
Firefighter-Medic



Kevin Blaine
FF-Reserve Medic



Taylor Quinnell
FF-Reserve Medic



Schuyler Townsend
FF-Reserve Medic



Jordan Watson
FF-Reserve Medic



Andrew Robinson
FF-Reserve Medic



Kurt Trunkel
FF-Reserve Medic



Steve Merkel
FF-Reserve Medic



**Heather Harsh
Firefighter**



**Paul Monroe
Firefighter**



**Nathan Much
Firefighter**



**Matt Noll
Firefighter**



**(Vacant)
Firefighter**



**Jim Fenno, MD
Medical Director**



**John Van Gorkom
Chaplain**



**James Whatley
Chaplain**



**Aimee Wollman Nesseth
Chaplain**

PERSONNEL ACTIVITIES

New Hires:

Heather Harsh
Steve Merkel
Paul Monroe
Nathan Much
Matt Noll
Taylor Quinnell
Andrew Robinson
Schuyler Townsend
Kurt Trunkel
Jordan Watson

Promotions:

Al Bertrang to Deputy Chief
Tim Brantner to Engineer
Tim Deziel to Battalion Chief
Bill Drath to Engineer
Jeff Dykes to Lieutenant
Bob Haller to Engineer
Mark Humphrey to Engineer
Matt Jaggar to Captain
Joe Kelly to Captain
Dave Pekol to Engineer
Brian Phillips to Engineer
Steve Secker to Lieutenant
Jeremy Stary to Engineer
Jeremy Stary to Lieutenant
Scott Walby to Battalion Chief
Dave Whitehouse to Lieutenant

Separations:

Jay Kenealy
Mykola Kramper
Abel Peterson
Tom Wagner

Retirements:

Terry Bechel (Lieutenant)
Scott Burkart (Deputy Chief)
Pete Fasching (Engineer)
Joe Snow (Lieutenant)

Deceased:

Denise Waterman

Step Increases:

Firefighter Isaac Hahn to First Class Firefighter
Firefighter Abel Peterson to First Class Firefighter
Firefighter Brian Dorn to Second Class Firefighter
Firefighter Ryan Lesperance to Second Class Firefighter
Firefighter Joshua Olson to Second Class Firefighter
Firefighter Brad Beuscher to Third Class Firefighter
Firefighter Tim McCaughey to Third Class Firefighter
Firefighter Todd Nutter to Third Class Firefighter
Firefighter Steve Weyers to Third Class Firefighter
Firefighter Mykola Kramper to Fourth Class Firefighter
Firefighter Chris Meyer to Fourth Class Firefighter
Firefighter Mike Olson to Fourth Class Firefighter

SENIORITY RECORD

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Koerner	Lyle	Chief	01-10-83
Lombardo	David	Engineer	03-04-85
Duncan	Dennis	Engineer	03-04-85
Biegel	John	Engineer	12-09-85
Walby	Scott	Battalion Chief	12-09-85
Klocek	Alan	Engineer	05-12-86
Hanson	Lance	Lieutenant	06-13-88
Aebly	Cuc	Fire Prev. Secretary	05-08-89
Hays	Benny	Lieutenant	05-07-90
Deziel	Timothy	Battalion Chief	05-07-90
Buchholz	Bruce	Captain	10-01-90
Xiong	BouaChao	Engineer	05-13-91
Goodland	Robert	Lieutenant	04-06-92
Miller	Michael	Engineer	04-06-92
Kelly	Joe	Captain	11-02-92
Pratt	Robert	Lieutenant	11-02-92
Patrow	Jeffrey	Engineer	10-04-93
Bensen	Bryon	Battalion Chief	10-04-93
Stegge	Gregory	Captain	10-04-93
Laska	Michael	Inspector	06-05-95
Kranz	Brian	Lieutenant	06-05-95
Schultz	Jon	Division Chief	06-05-95
Rydzik	Donald	Lieutenant	02-05-96
Bertrang	Allyn	Deputy Chief	09-16-96
McClellan	Kevin	Engineer	09-16-96
Dolen	Christopher	Lieutenant	09-16-96
Abrahamson	Shawn	Lieutenant	04-21-97
Bell	Christian	Deputy Chief	04-21-97
Vargo	Steven	Captain	04-21-97
Rebischke	Thomas	Engineer	04-21-97
Mohr	Scott	Firefighter	10-20-97
Dorn	Andrew	Firefighter	04-20-98
Frank	Todd	Firefighter	04-20-98
Jaggar	Matthew	Captain	08-24-98
Whitehouse	David	Lieutenant	08-24-98

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Burkhardt	Jamie	Engineer	08-24-98
Secker	Stephen	Lieutenant	02-15-99
Leffelman	Frank	Firefighter	02-15-99
Doty	Laura	Admin. Secretary	06-28-99
Dykes	Jeffrey	Lieutenant	11-01-99
Jensen	William	Engineer	11-01-99
Hamler	Patrick	Engineer	11-01-99
Pekol	David	Engineer	05-08-00
Johnson	Gregory	Firefighter	05-08-00
Stary	Jeremy	Lieutenant	05-08-00
Drath	William	Engineer	04-09-01
Toonen	Brian	Captain	04-09-01
Brantner	Timothy	Engineer	04-09-01
Phillips	Brian	Engineer	04-09-01
Humphrey	Mark	Engineer	10-22-01
Haller	Robert	Engineer	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
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
Myre	Natasha	Firefighter	07-07-08
Vlcek	Levi	Firefighter	07-07-08
Rindt	Steven	Firefighter	07-07-08
Norberg	Benjamin	Firefighter	07-07-08
Schroeder	Daniel	Firefighter	11-03-08
Hahn	Isaac	Firefighter	07-13-09
Lesperance	Ryan	Firefighter	07-12-10
Olson	Joshua	Firefighter	07-12-10
Dorn	Brian	Firefighter	06-20-11
Beuscher	Brad	Firefighter	01-09-12
McCaughey	Timothy	Firefighter	01-09-12

<u>NAME</u>		<u>RANK</u>	<u>DOH</u>
Nutter	Todd	Firefighter	01-09-12
Weyers	Stephen	Firefighter	03-12-12
Olson	Michael	Firefighter	07-09-12
Meyer	Christian	Firefighter	08-27-12
Gruber	Benjamin	Firefighter	02-11-13
Patten	Steven	Prob. Firefighter	07-15-13
Ledin	Nicolas	Prob. Firefighter	07-15-13
Maves	Korey	Prob. Firefighter	07-15-13
Johnson	Karl	Prob. Firefighter	07-15-13
Blaine	Kevin	Prob. Firefighter	09-30-13
Quinnell	Taylor	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Townsend	Schuyler	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Watson	Jordan	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Robinson	Andrew	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Trunkel	Kurt	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Merkel	Steve	Prob. Firefighter	02-10-14
Harsh	Heather	Prob. Firefighter	07-14-14
Monroe	Paul	Prob. Firefighter	07-14-14
Much	Nathan	Prob. Firefighter	07-14-14
Noll	Matt	Prob. Firefighter	07-14-14

AVERAGE AGE – 40

AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE – 13

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
- Ladder Truck 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
- Ladder Truck
- 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
- Special Rescue Trailers
- MCI Trailer



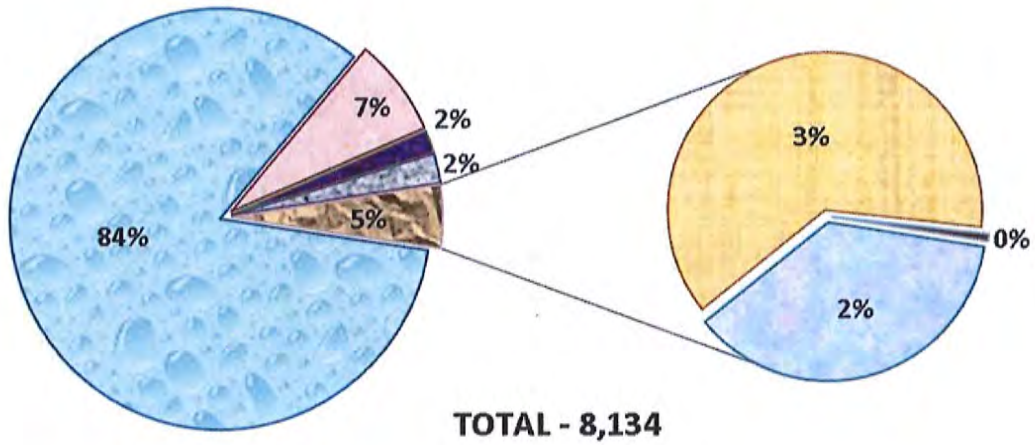
10



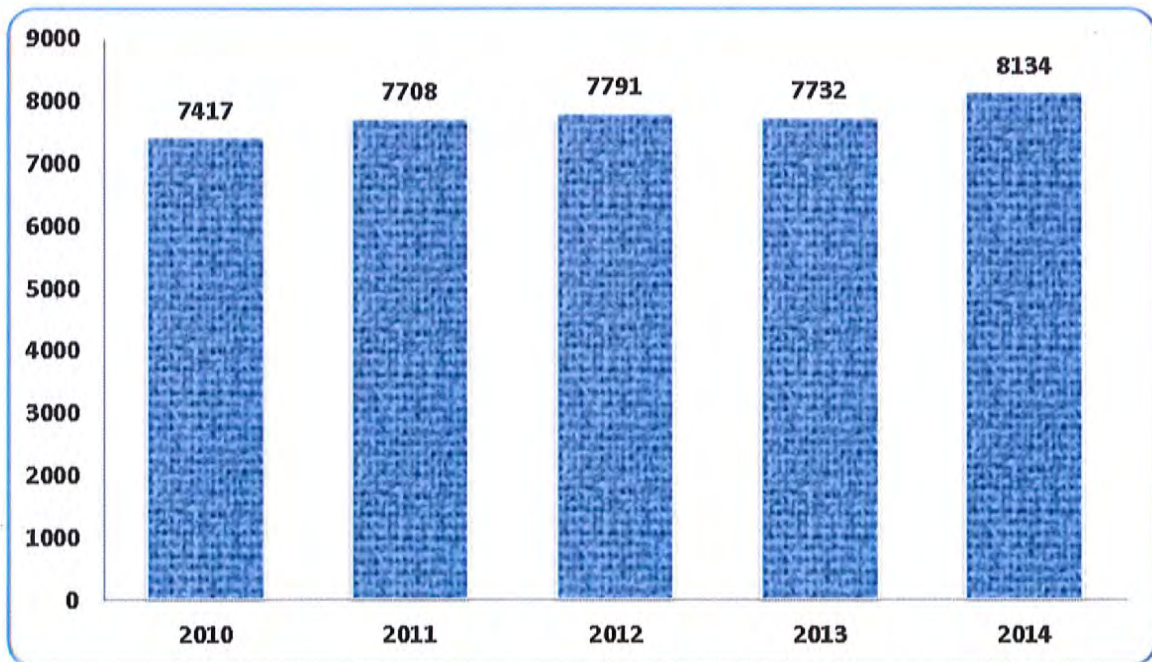
Response Statistics

Response Breakdown

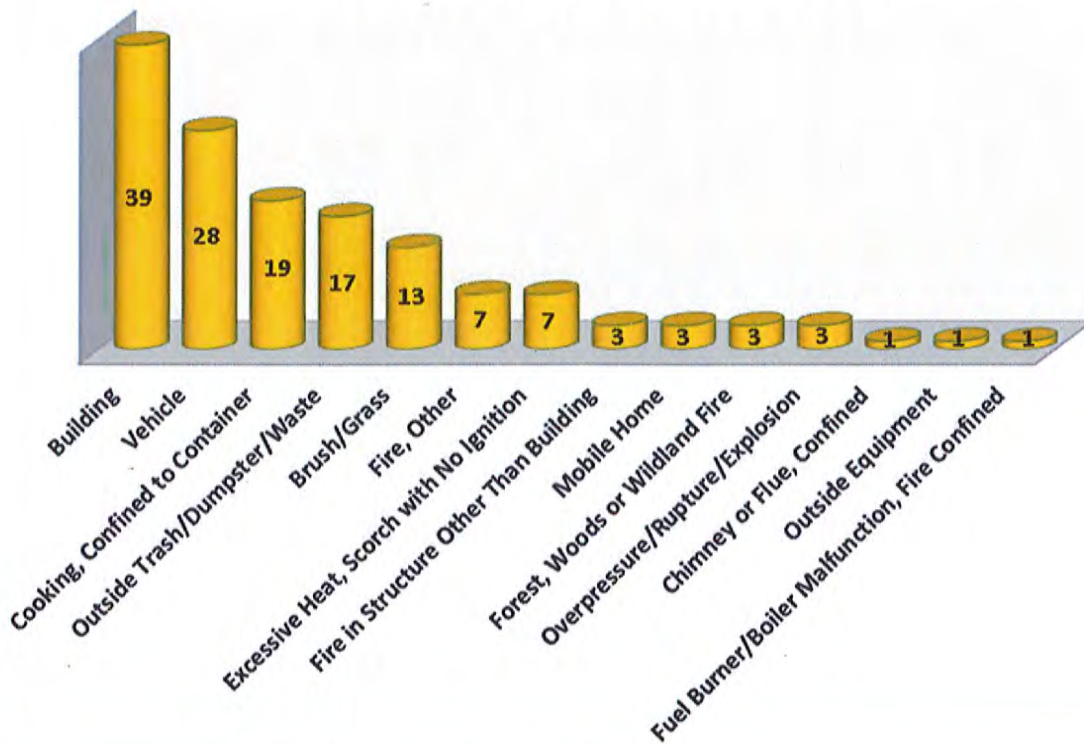
- EMS - 6,801
- Automatic Alarms - 612
- Fire - 145
- Good Intent - 182
- Service Calls - 145
- Hazardous Conditions - 246
- Special Request - 3



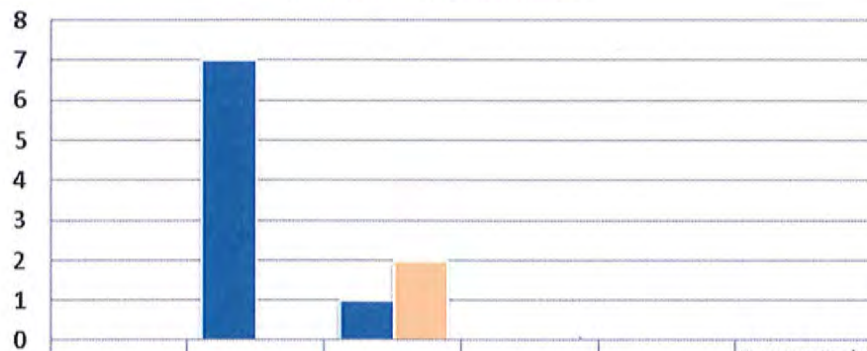
5-Year Total Responses



Fire Responses by Type



Fire Casualties



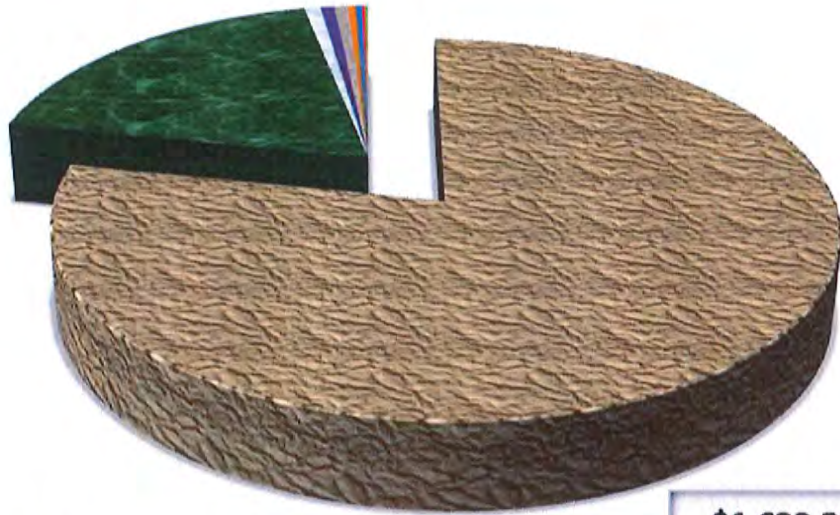
	First Aid Only	Minor	Moderate	Severe	Death	Report Only Incl. Exposure
■ Civilian	0	7	1	0	0	0
■ Fire Service	0	0	2	0	0	0

TOP 20 FIRES BY CAUSE AND DOLLAR LOSS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>CAUSE</u>	<u>DOLLAR LOSS</u>
05-10-14	3010 Mondovi Rd.	Undetermined	\$375,000
05-27-14	6500 I-94	Semi-Truck and Trailer	\$150,000
01-10-14	1205 Bellevue Ave.	Flame Spread & Radiant Heat From Vehicle in Driveway	\$125,000
07-14-14	521 Union St.	Careless Use of Smoking Materials	\$105,000
05-15-14	622 Hewitt St.	Lawn Mower stored in Shed	\$ 95,000
11-01-14	4255 S. Prairie View Rd.	Accidental / Undetermined	\$ 85,000
02-28-14	542 Centre St.	Undetermined	\$ 71,000
02-07-14	2208 Crescent Ave.	Undetermined / Possibly Wood Stove	\$ 55,000
05-19-14	900 N. Hastings Wy.	Tour Bus	\$ 50,000
05-22-14	1426 Truax Blvd.	Undetermined	\$ 50,000
09-05-14	2316 Dorret Rd.	Careless Discard of Smoking Materials	\$ 50,000
06-25-14	2615 N. Clairemont Ave.	Motor Home / Arson	\$ 26,000
05-21-14	533 Niagara St.	Faulty Dehumidifier	\$ 25,000
07-05-14	2033 Glenwood Ave.	Undetermined	\$ 20,000
04-06-14	809 W. Clairemont Ave.	Faulty Chimney	\$ 15,000
01-06-14	810 Birch St.	Electrical	\$ 12,000
06-25-14	4285 S. Prairie View Rd.	Arson	\$ 11,000
07-06-14	215 8 th St.	Vehicle	\$ 11,000
08-27-14	3160 Wellington Dr. E	Cooking/Stove	\$ 11,000
11-18-14	800 Wisconsin Ave.	Residue Build-up in Exhaust Duct Work	\$ 10,000

TOTAL FIRE LOSS FOR 2014 = \$1,622,386

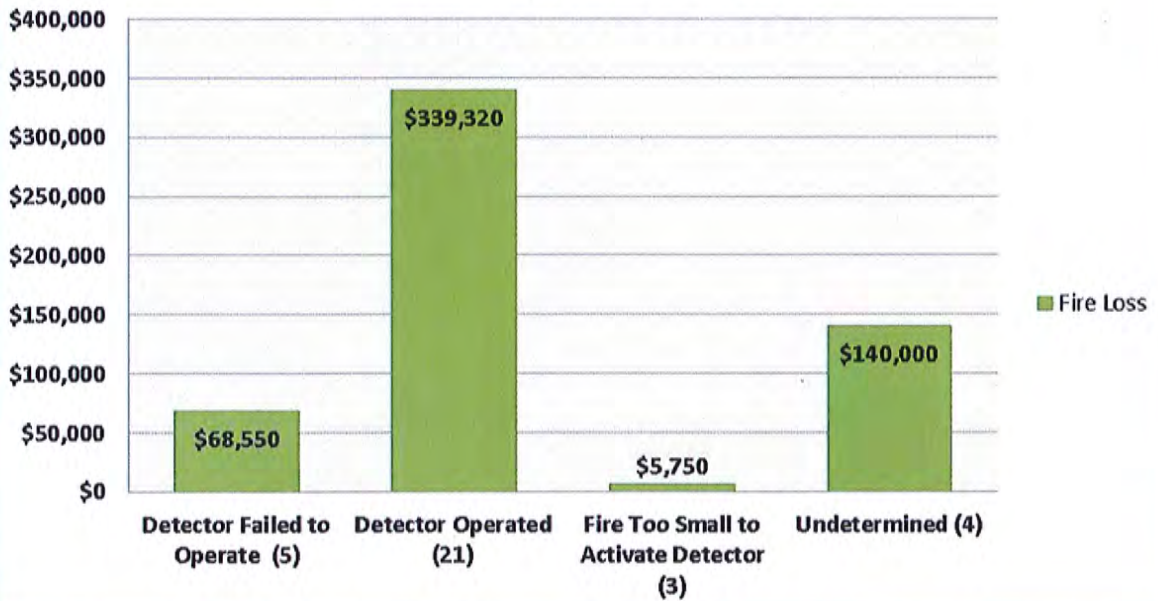
Fire Loss by Type



\$1,622,386

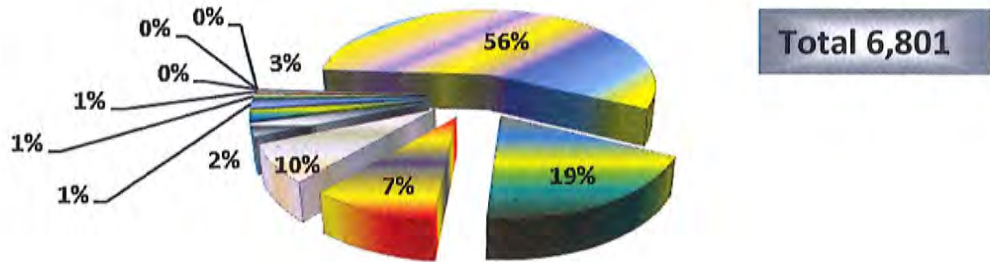
- Building - \$1,270,970
- Vehicle - \$301,160
- Fire in Structure Other Than Building - \$13,000
- Mobile Home - \$10,800
- Outside Trash/Dumpster/Waste - \$10,451
- Cooking, Confined to Container - \$6,305
- Fire, Other - \$5,050
- Outside Equipment - \$2,000
- Excessive Heat, Scorch with No Ignition - \$1,500
- Brush/Grass - \$500
- Overpressure/Rupture/Explosion - \$400
- Forest, Woods, or Wildland Fire - \$250

Fire Loss by Detector Status

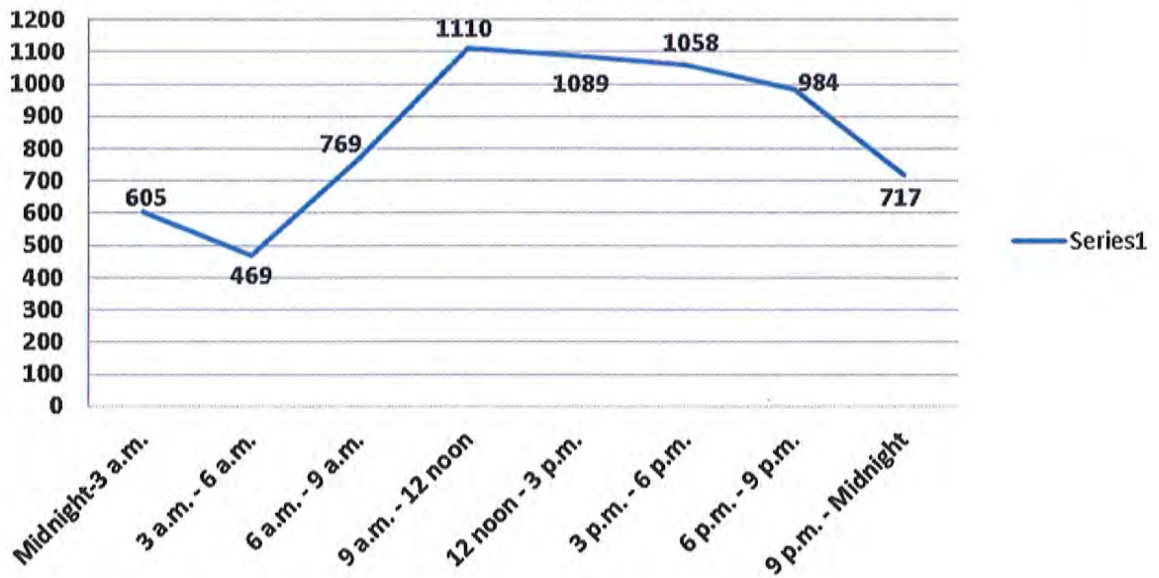


EMS Calls by Location Type

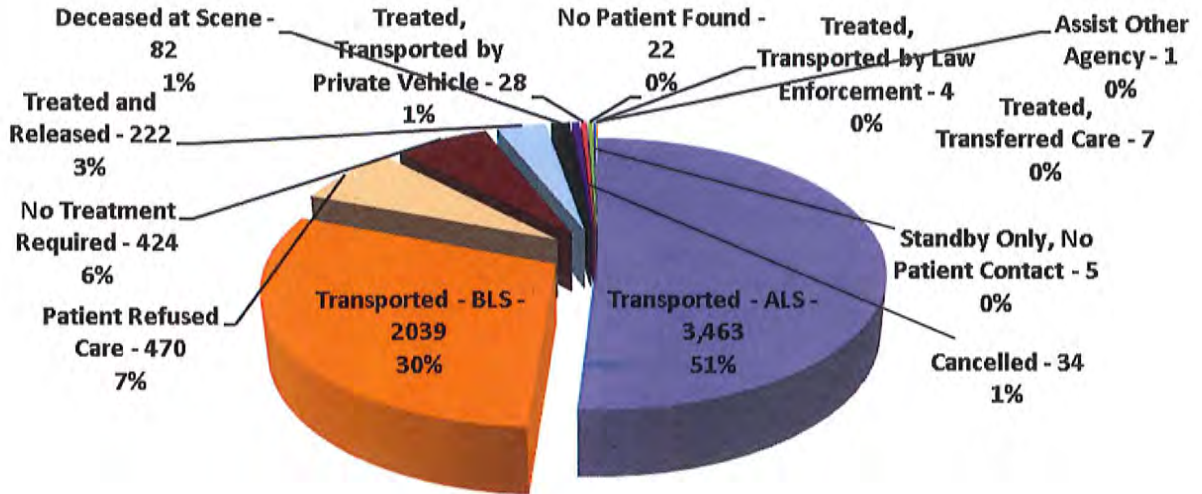
- Home/Residence - 3,816
- Street or Highway - 671
- Public Building - 172
- Other - 97
- Industrial Place and Premises - 38
- Lake, River - 4
- Health Care Facility - 1,303
- Trade or Service - 506
- Residential Institution (Nursing Home, Jail) - 125
- Place of Recreation or Sport - 59
- Airport - 7
- Farm - 3



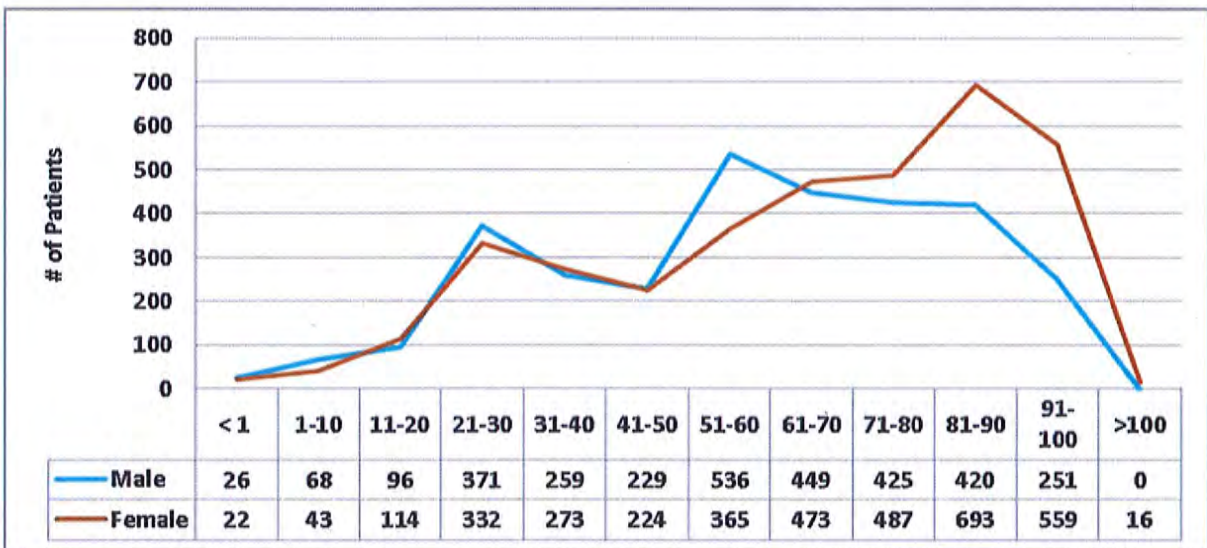
EMS Call Volume by Hour of Day



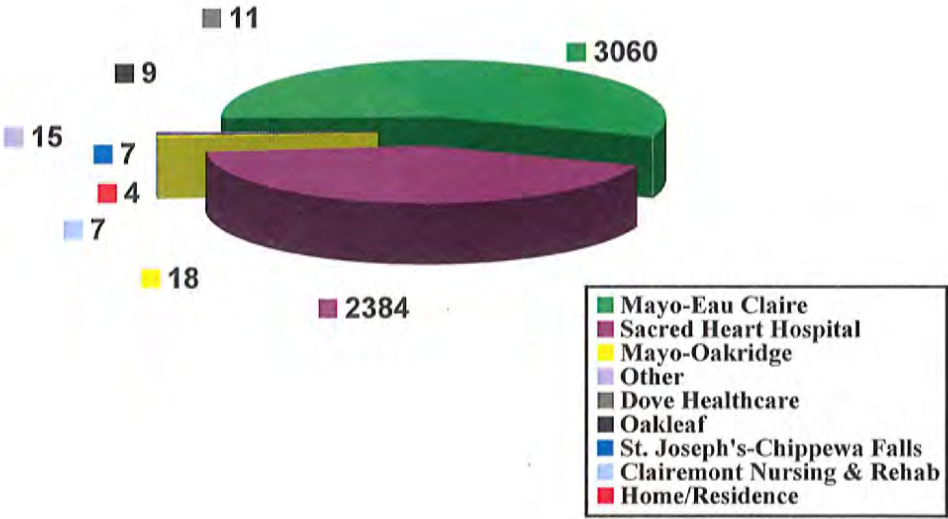
EMS Patient Type



Patient by Age and Gender

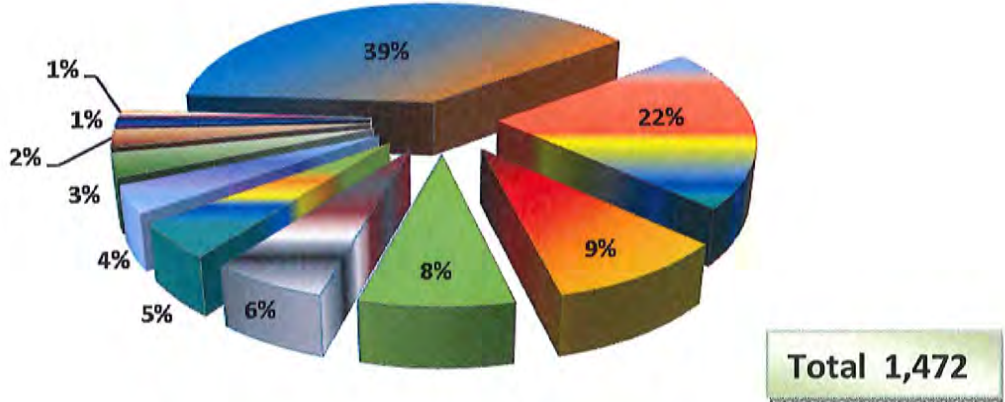


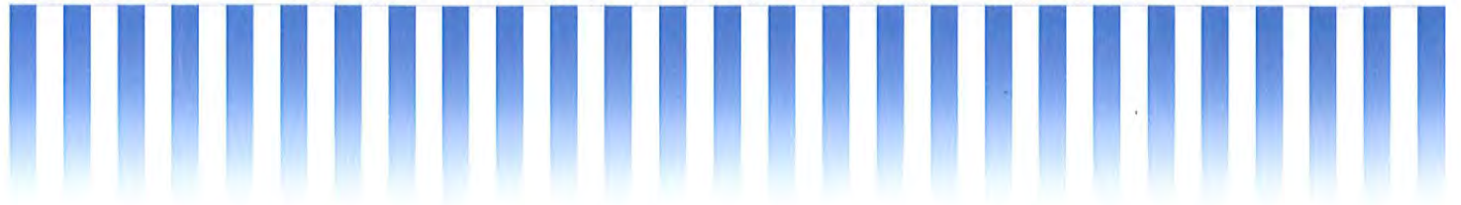
Patient Transport Destinations



Regional EMS Responses

- Altoona - 572
- Washington - 319
- Union - 141
- Fall Creek - 119
- Seymour - 90
- Pleasant Valley - 71
- Brunswick - 53
- Rock Creek - 46
- Ludington - 34
- Spring Brook - 16
- Lincoln - 11





Accomplishment Highlights

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Response Statistics

In 2014, the department responded to 8,134 calls for service, an increase of 5.2 percent from 2013.

TYPE	2014	2013
EMS/Rescue	6,801	6,480
Fire/Rescue	145	152
Malfunctioning Alarms	612	649
Hazardous Conditions	246	171
Service Calls	145	127
Good Intent Calls	182	138
Special Requests	3	15
Total Fire Loss	\$1,622,386	\$2,807,873
RUN TOTAL:	8,134	7,732

Incidents with loss of at least \$50,000 were:

- 3010 Mondovi Road – Commercial Business (\$375,000)
- 6500 I-94 – Semi Truck & Trailer (\$150,000)
- 1205 Bellevue Avenue – 1- or 2-Family Dwelling (\$125,000)
- 521 Union Street – 1- or 2-Family Dwelling (\$105,000)
- 622 Hewitt Street – 1- or 2-Family Dwelling (\$95,000)
- 4255 S. Prairie View Road – Commercial Business (\$85,000)
- 542 Centre Street – Multi-Family Dwelling (\$71,000)
- 2208 Crescent Avenue – Parking Garage/Detached Residential (\$55,000)
- 2316 Dorret Road – Multi-Family Dwelling (\$50,000)
- 1426 Truax Boulevard – 1- or 2-Family Dwelling (\$50,000)
- 900 N. Hastings Way – Tour Bus (\$50,000)

Hirings, Promotions, and Separations

Beginning employment with the department as Firefighter/Medics were Steve Merkel, Taylor Quinnell, Andrew Robinson, Schuyler Townsend, Kurt Trunkel, and Jordan Watson on February 10; and Heather Harsh, Paul Monroe, Nathan Much, and Matt Noll on July 14.

Retiring from the department in 2014 were: Lt. Joe Snow on February 6, D.C. Scott Burkart on February 7, Lt. Terry Bechel on March 28, and Eng. Pete Fasching on April 21. FF Mykola Kramper (January 7), FF/Medic Jay Kenealy (June 8), FF/Medic Tom Wagner (July 6), and FF/Medic Abel Peterson (November 16) resigned from the department.

Promoted in 2014 were: Al Bertrang to Deputy Chief, Tim Brantner to Engineer, Tim Deziel to Battalion Chief, Bill Drath to Engineer, Jeff Dykes to Lieutenant, Matt Jaggar to

Captain, Joe Kelly to Captain, Dave Pekol to Engineer, Steve Secker to Lieutenant, Jeremy Stary to Engineer, Scott Walby to Battalion Chief, and Dave Whitehouse to Lieutenant on February 19. Also promoted were Bob Haller to Engineer, Mark Humphrey to Engineer, Brian Phillips to Engineer, and Jeremy Stary to Lieutenant on May 16.

With great sadness, co-workers said good-bye to Engineer/Medic Denise Waterman, who passed away from cancer on April 30.

Administration

- Maintained a relationship of continuous communication with the labor group to discuss operational issues and successfully worked through several difficult concerns; continued to work through contractual challenges and openly discussed other issues as they occurred.
- Increased, fostered, and strengthened private and public partnerships with other agencies and departments. Special projects were initiated and conducted collaboratively with other departments within the City, as well as Eau Claire County and private sector companies.
- Assisted CVTC with its Girls on Fire – Camp Trailblazers and Rekindle leadership camps. Over 20 girls (ranging from grades 7 through 12) participated in these residential career exploration camps that focus on firefighter and emergency medical skills while integrating leadership and fitness activities. The Rekindle camp is for return campers with continued interest in firefighting and EMS and focuses on leadership skills development.
- Personnel continued to learn to use to its fullest extent the department's new reporting software, Image Trend. The department has secured monies in the 2015 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) to purchase iPads for data entry purposes for field personnel. This software and equipment will allow for further expansion and implementation of electronic recording and delivery methods for various aspects of daily functions including field fire inspections preplan availability and training coordination.
- Applied for Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) monies through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to replace aging and outdated Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). SCBAs allow department personnel to enter areas that are considered Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH). IDLH atmospheres occur at structure fires, vehicle fires, hazardous materials incidents, carbon monoxide incidents, and incidents with inadequate oxygen levels.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

- Updated the EMS protocols. The EMS protocols are now used regionally with all levels of EMS providers listed in each protocol. A Continuous Cardiac Resuscitation protocol was added, and the Spinal Immobilization protocol was updated to allow for use of a c-collar only in most trauma patients. Dr. Stephanie Wagner developed a smart phone app for the protocols to allow for quicker reference.
- Developed a regional EMS association that allows a forum for all regional EMS partners and providers to dialogue, share ideas, work through any concerns, and stay knowledgeable on EMS issues at the regional and state levels.
- Placed in service three Getac ruggedized laptops on the primary ambulances. This allows the paramedics to start patient care reporting at the patient bedside. It also allows for more thorough and accurate patient care reporting.
- Began updating the Phillips cardiac monitors with equipment to allow for transmission of 12-lead EKGs without the use of a cell phone and to move all data from the monitor to the patient care report.
- Developed specs and solicited bids on a new ambulance for 2015. This ambulance will include a new Stryker power cot.
- Worked with the EMS committee to develop a standard format for the EMS report narrative. ACHART was ultimately selected with implementation to take place in 2015.
- Worked with the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to implement an EMS falls prevention program including the development of a brochure to present to patients who have fallen and need assistance in getting up. This brochure also contains fall prevention information, refers individuals to the ADRC, and allows ECFD to refer the patient's information to the ADRC.
- Continued to partner with the State and the Eau Claire City-County Health Department to develop a plan for response to patients with suspected Ebola.
- Evaluated and placed into service seven Binder Lift devices. This device is used to lift patients who have fallen to a sitting or standing position. It will reduce any undue discomfort to the patient, as well as allow crews to use more personnel with better body mechanics when lifting the patient.
- Implemented Audit and Review into the paramedic training. The training is done semi-annually on each shift. It consists of call review with feedback given to the providers from their peers, the medical director, and local medical professionals.

Operations

- Continued to maintain a modern and effective fleet of fire department apparatus as members from the City's fire and fleet management departments worked together to purchase a new fire engine that was received in November.
- Modified and expanded the working relationship among Eau Claire Fire and Rescue, Township Fire Department, and Altoona Public Safety. Updates were made to the mutual aid and automatic aid agreements that ensure effective coverage for both fire and EMS calls in all response areas of these cooperating agencies.
- Completed the transition to narrowband frequency for all two-way radio communications in Eau Claire County. Upgrades were made to the communications process that improved the reliability and timeliness of emergency dispatch for fire department crews through the use of new processes and hardware.
- Type 1 Hazardous Materials Team
 - Created an extensive training outline to meet new requirements of the State hazardous materials contract.
 - Department received State certification as a Type 1 asset with WEM (Wisconsin Emergency Management). The department is one of two Type 1 teams in the state, with the other being the Milwaukee Fire Department.
 - Grant monies in the amount of \$74,000 were received from WEM to replace aging haz mat meters.
 - Captains Jaggar and Vargo attended Advanced Radiological and Nuclear training in Nevada. The department now has three personnel trained at this advanced level.
- Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and other regional fire departments continue to work with local law enforcement agencies to improve communications and operations during emergency responses requiring joint response.

Prevention

- Increased department marketing via additional utilization of Facebook and Twitter. Marketing was greatly increased by inviting the media to training and special events.

- Ensured compliance for all property owners renting to sororities and fraternities with Wisconsin 2005 – Act 78, which requires sprinkler systems.
- Began process of transforming the fire prevention division from a vision of primarily fire prevention to addressing overall community risk reduction.
 - Provided water safety presentations to all 5th graders in the Eau Claire School district and private schools.
 - Partnered with the Water Safety Task Force to develop content and conduct more water safety presentations for the public.
- Transitioned fire inspection data from HTE to Image Trend software.
- Revised the fire safety presentations for the elementary schools to include more interactive and up-to-date programs.
- Revised fire investigation practices and procedures.



Specialty Captains' Updates

Submitted by:

**B. Buchholz, Captain of Technical Rescue
M. Jaggar, Captain of Emergency Medical Services
G. Stegge, Captain of Special Rescue
J. Kelly and B. Toonen, Captains of Suppression
S. Vargo, Captain of Hazardous Materials**

Technical Rescue

Five new firefighter recruits started employment in February and were given hands-on training for ladder and rope bailouts, SCBA rescue belt bailouts, down firefighter movement techniques, and self-rescue techniques. Rapid Intervention Training (RIT) was provided to all three shifts by Instructors Lt. Steve Secker, Eng. Bob Haller, and Capt. Buchholz. The Suggested Operating Guideline (SOG) for the Rapid Intervention Team use is nearing final recommendations. The RIT equipment cache is being further analyzed before distribution to the apparatus.

In March, Confined Space training integrating the use of the dive communication and radio communication systems was conducted. Both systems work well for different scenarios, and it was ensured that everyone is confident in their operation. FF Matt Gunderson was the lead instructor while Lt. Shawn Abrahamson and Lt. Secker directed training on their shifts.

Capt. Kelly was the lead instructor for Light Structural Collapse Rescue training. Personnel used the Paratech struts to build shoring for a partially collapsed structure. The training was designed for participants to become more familiar with the equipment location and maintenance for a quicker and smoother deployment of racker stabilization. The most important aspect of the operation is triaging the structure prior to racker positioning and assembly. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Don Rydzik facilitated the training on A and B shifts.

Four new firefighter recruits began employment on July 14 and were provided with hands-on training for ladder and rope bailouts, SCBA rescue belt bailouts, down firefighter movement techniques, and self-rescue techniques.

Light structural collapse training was conducted by Capt. Kelly on July 14 for A shift, by Lt. Rydzik on July 15 for B shift, and by Lt. Jeff Dykes on July 16 for C shift. The crews had time to review videos and equipment prior to the hands-on portion of the training. They reviewed the steps for triaging a collapsed and partially collapsed building. This information is necessary to determine placement of vertical shoring. The crews then assembled the Paratech Raker System to shore the building.

The Standards and Tactics Committee put together new equipment for the Rapid Intervention Team. The new equipment sets include an SCBA RIT pack with a mask, flat head axe, Halligan bar, and 250' of search rope. The sets were marked with pink tape to distinguish this equipment from other department tools. The three sets were placed on Engine 2, Squad 2, and Car 9.

In August, low angle rope rescue training took place at Mount Simon Park behind the Babe Ruth baseball fields. Captains Buchholz, Jaggar, and Kelly conducted the practical exercises on their respective shifts. Included in the scenario was a change of direction, which added a complexity to the rescue to stimulate clever creativity and expansion of skills.

Emergency Medical Services

In early 2014, Lt. Jaggar was promoted to captain and assumed the EMS specialty duties from Capt. Tim Deziel, who was promoted to battalion chief. EMS protocols were approved by the department's Medical Director, Dr. Jim Fenno, and the State of Wisconsin. The newly approved protocols were disseminated and implemented after personnel were provided with necessary training.

A bariatric ambulance was placed in-service at Station 9. Getac ruggedized laptops were purchased and placed in-service on Medic 5, Medic 9, and Medic 10 after personnel were trained in their use. The department welcomed a new group of Chippewa Valley Technical College (CVTC) Fire Medic students and UWEC athletic trainers who began ride-alongs with our paramedics. Personnel aggressively educated and trained the ride-alongs on specialized EMS skills and patient care.

In February, Sacred Heart Hospital provided blood draw training to the paramedics and also implemented a stroke pilot program in conjunction with the department. One-half of the department's paramedics successfully completed recertification at CVTC in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS). All department Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) successfully completed the EMT-Basic course, which followed a new curriculum. The EMS bag inventories were analyzed and altered to maximize efficiency.

In March, newly-hired personnel successfully completed recertification in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Automated External Defibrillator (AED). Additionally, Flowsafe II Continuous Positive Airway Pressure (CPAP) masks were purchased, trained on, and put in-service.

In April, the paramedics received Paramedic Refresher and Drug-Facilitated Airway Management (DFAM) training. FF Steve Weyers and FF Chris Meyer attended the Wisconsin Paramedic Seminar in Appleton.

In May, cot maintenance was completed on all department cots. Paramedics provided numerous EMS presentations to hundreds of 4th grade students in the Eau Claire school district. Prom programs were held at Memorial, North, and Regis high schools. These programs are conducted in conjunction with the Eau Claire Police Department and Mayo One personnel. They provide a realistic reenactment of a motor vehicle collision with fatalities involving high school students returning home after attending prom. The program focuses on the risks, hazards, and possible consequences associated with using drugs and/or alcohol and then making the decision to operate a motor vehicle.

In June, Dr. Fenno conducted Audit and Review training for paramedics that incorporated ECFD trauma incidents. All personnel participated in EMS training at the CVTC Human Patient Simulator (HPS) Lab. Dr. Fenno and Dr. Stephanie Wagner each used personal emergency room experiences to create scenarios to evaluate and educate all personnel.

Re-licensing for department EMT-Basics and paramedics was completed.

The month of July presented the department with multiple opportunities to showcase its apparatus and equipment in various ways. Ambulance and equipment presentations were given to Sacred Heart Hospital student nurse interns and Fairfax Pool lifeguards. Additionally, apparatus and personnel participated in radiation decontamination training at Sacred Heart Hospital and spinal immobilization training with UWEC athletic trainers at Hobbs Ice Arena. Also, many physician assistants performed ride-alongs with our crews. Furthermore, all personnel completed Bloodborne Pathogens training, and all paramedics attended paramedic refresher and Audit & Review training.

In August, September, October, and November, the department provided ride-along experiences for Dr. Wagner, CVTC students, University of Wisconsin physician assistant students, and a Fall Creek First Responder. Paramedics participated in paramedic refresher and ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support) training. Personnel from station 9 delivered a bariatric ambulance presentation to CVTC paramedic students.

In December, all personnel completed EMS protocol and ebola training. This training focused on updated protocols that will be implemented in 2015 and ebola identification, treatment, and transportation procedures. Paramedics completed EZ-IO (Intraosseous Vascular Access System) training and participated in Audit and Review with Dr. Fenno. Finally, ECFD paramedics and EMTs successfully completed American Heart Association CPR recertification.

Special Rescue

Efforts were concentrated on department-wide training, educational opportunities, and upgrading equipment. The training consisted of dive rescue, boat-based dive rescue, boat operations, and side scan sonar. FF Tim McCaughey attended ice dive training in Black River Falls. The department's boat fleet received several upgrades, thus improving the performance and safety of our boat operations.

In January, then-Eng. Dave Whitehouse organized dive rescue training at UWEC's McPhee pool. The training consisted of a review of dive equipment and communication systems. Divers practiced search patterns and locating victims in blackout conditions. Divers also practiced switching air bottles underwater and controlling their buoyancy. New firefighter recruits were introduced to and practiced with shoreline tethering and the use of the diver communications system.

In April, Lt. Whitehouse organized boat-based dive rescue training at Half Moon Lake. The training consisted of anchoring techniques to secure and stabilize boats during dive operations

with newly purchased anchors. Divers also practiced with the side scan sonar, and proper search patterns were discussed and practiced.

In May, the department conducted boat handling and side scan sonar review training on the Chippewa River. Personnel familiarized themselves with starting procedures, boat equipment, low water operations, and idling and maneuvering in flowing water. Personnel also stopped periodically during water operations to use the side scan sonar to scan the river bottom and set way points.

The department upgraded its boat anchors to better operate in swift moving water. Mac River runner blade savers were added to the boat motors. The Mac River runner blade saver will protect the boat props from rocks, stumps and other underwater hazards. Preventive maintenance was performed on boat 9's wheel bearings.

Throughout the year Lt. Whitehouse provided several water safety informational presentations throughout the community of Eau Claire. In fall as students returned to school, he provided a water safety presentation developed by the Water Safety Task Force to UW-Eau Claire's incoming Residential Advisors. The presentation covered a variety of topics including the difference among pools, rivers, and lakes within the Chippewa Valley. It further detailed the dangers of local rivers and lakes including changing currents, high water conditions, sand bars, and hydroelectric use. Also discussed was tubing on the Chippewa River and the associated dangers of foot entrapment, strainers, fallen trees, current speed, and the use of alcohol while tubing.

Lt. Whitehouse, in coordination with the department's Prevention Division and the Water Safety Task Force, also developed and delivered a water safety educational program to all 5th grade students in the Eau Claire School District. The program covers a variety of age-appropriate water safety topics.

Dive rescue training occurred on the Chippewa River at Mount Simon Park. Divers reviewed shore-based dive operations, dive rescue equipment, and communication systems. Divers then demonstrated their competency in limited visibility search patterns and the use of communications equipment. Topics covered for non-diver participants included use of side scan sonar, the communications system, and line tender control.

In October, the department sent three members to the Wazee Sports Center in Black River Falls for their dive certification. There are now 13 active divers on the department.

The department purchased several new pieces of equipment for dive operations including a body recovery bag system and a DUI public safety dry suit with matching undergarments.

In December, the department conducted ice rescue training on ice at Half Moon Lake. Personnel reviewed the tools and equipment used in ice rescue and the different types of ice encountered throughout the winter season and the associated dangers. The review addressed

signs, conditions, and strength and weakness of various ice thicknesses. Personnel reviewed three methods of ice rescue: shore-based, open water, and solid ice. Personnel conducted live shore-based rescues using throw bags and tag lines. Open water and solid ice rescue techniques were practiced using various methods and tools. Personnel donned their Stearns cold-water rescue suits and practiced rescuing each other from open water surrounded by thin ice. Personnel then practiced using the RDC (Rapid Deployment Craft) to perform one- and two-person rescues. The RDC is an inflatable sled capable of sliding across snow like a sled and maneuvering through water like a kayak.

Purchases and maintenance for ice rescue in the second half of the year included cold water suit inspection, conditioning, and repair of minor leaks.

Suppression

In January, then-Lt. Kelly and Capt. Vargo participated in a tabletop exercise with St. Croix County Emergency Management for an anhydrous ammonia leak.

Capt. Kelly worked with Tom Berg of the City's Engineering Department on maps for the stations and individuals who request them. He also is working on preplan training for the entire department.

In June, the department performed its annual hose testing to meet NFPA standards. The hose testing occurred at CVTC's Emergency Services Campus near Station 9. We currently have 27,751 feet, or 5.39 miles, of fire hose. Capt. Kelly is working with B.C. Scott Walby on assessing the needs for replacement of failed hose. We will be reviewing the hose testing SOG in near future.

In July, all the departments' ladders were tested to meet NFPA standards. The testing was performed at Station 9 by a private contractor.

The department, in conjunction with CVTC, hosted an intern this semester. Nathan Arndt was assigned to A shift at station 9 and completed 25 shifts. For his initial ten shifts, he was assigned to Medic 9 to focus on paramedic skills. For his final 15 shifts, Nathan was assigned to Truck 9 and focused on fire skills.

Capt. Kelly, B.C. Bryon Bensen, and Capt. Vargo are revising the haz mat outreach program presentation. Letters have been sent to the county emergency management directors in our response area, and future contacts will be made with area county fire chiefs' associations.

In January, the PosiChek machine used for SCBA maintenance was shipped to Honeywell Analytics for annual calibration. NFPA 1852 mandates that all compliant SCBA be tested on a calibrated breathing machine before being put into service and at least once per year thereafter. The PosiChek meets these stringent NFPA standards. Upon its return, flow testing

commenced on the department's SCBAs. This is a year-round process that ensures all breathing apparatus are performing within the set standards. Flow testing is done after every maintenance procedure before the air pack is put back into service. The age of the SCBAs is evident with an increase in failed flow tests. Additional parts were ordered to keep them all in working order.

In January, Eng. John Biegel resigned from SCBA maintenance. Eng. Jamie Burkhardt was selected to attend a two-day C.A.R.E. (Certified Air mask Repair Education) course in the Twin Cities. This SCBA maintenance course is specially designed to address MSA air mask and SCBA repair and maintenance. Eng. Burkhardt's certification maintains the department's qualification as an MSA authorized air mask maintenance center. This enables C.A.R.E. certified repair persons to perform the highest level of SCBA maintenance and repair on MSA air masks and SCBAs. Eng. Burkhardt joins Eng. Dave Lombardo and Capt. Toonen as the only members certified to this level on the department.

In February, the department hired six new recruits. During their 3-week training academy, they were trained on the basic use of the MSA SCBA. They also were tested on their ability to escape entanglement hazards and to bail from a 3rd floor window with the use of the SCBA rescue belts. All recruits successfully rappelled three floors to safety.

In spring, the department participated in the annual fit testing process. SCBA face piece fit testing is required by NFPA, OSHA and other safety standards to ensure an adequate mask seal and acceptable fit factor. All department members were educated on the importance of properly cleaning and maintaining their personal masks. Several masks were repaired during this process comply with the fit testing standards.

Also in spring hydrostatic testing procedures began. Hydrostatic testing must be performed every five years on pressurized air cylinders for a max life of 15 years. This process started with the complete hydrostatic testing of the cascade system on all apparatus. This system allows members to refill air bottles while at emergency scenes. The City's maintenance shop played a vital role in orchestrating this process with the removal and reinstallation of the 12 bottles on 4 different apparatus. Several valves were found to be bad and were replaced when serviced.

Menomonie Fire and Safety was contracted to conduct hydrostatic testing on SCBA bottles. Over one-third of the department's bottles were hydrostatically tested over a several week process. The next rounds of hydrostatic testing will begin in late summer 2014 and again in spring 2015. This will conclude the hydrostatic testing for these bottles as their service life ends in 2018.

In April, Capt. Toonen attended FDIC (Fire Department Instructors Conference) in Indianapolis. He participated in many different classes, the focus of which was SCBA air management theories and techniques. Contacts were made with industry leaders to review the new technologies that are being revealed this year. Data was gathered to assist D.C. Al

Bertrang in finalizing the application for the Assistance to Firefighters grant for new breathing apparatus.

Capt. Toonen, Eng. Lombardo, and Eng. Burkhardt worked throughout the summer months to finish flow testing the department's SCBAs and line-supplied air systems. SCBA annual flow testing is necessary to ensure that the SCBAs continue to meet stringent performance requirements that are vital in protecting the user in an IDLH (Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health) environment. Flow testing ensures the SCBAs are in working order and identifies if repairs are needed. All department SCBAs are flow tested on an annual basis and after any routine repairs. During this process, the identification system in which the department tracks SCBAs was updated. This will allow for better tracking for maintenance purposes as well as better accountability within each station. Each apparatus now has a specific set of SCBAs assigned to it such as:

- E10-A (E10 officer's pack)
- E10-B (E10 FF's pack w/a buddy breather)
- E10-C (E10 EO's pack)
- E10-D (E10 reserve air pack w/buddy breather)

As we update the new accountability system, we also update the Tuesday SCBA check forms. These forms are now specific to each individual apparatus and include better information to ensure improved and more accurate weekly checks.

New ECFD recruits and CVTC Fire Medic program interns were issued SCBA masks and bags. Both groups were required to undergo fit testing. NFPA, OSHA, and other safety standards require SCBA face piece fit testing to ensure an adequate mask seal and acceptable fit factor. During this process, the recruits also were trained in the use of the SCBA rescue belt system. This included demonstrating the knowledge and skill for emergency bailouts from the upper floors of the training tower.

In December, mask parts were inventoried to prepare for annual department-wide fit testing that will take place in January 2015.

Eng. Lombardo worked with the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport Fire Department to fit test its personnel. In turn, the airport provides department personnel with aircraft fire training each year. This partnership is forecasted to continue into 2015.

Working in conjunction with the department's Tactics & Standards Committee, the RIT (Rapid Intervention Team) air packs that were originally kept on Squad 2 were moved to Engine 2, Engine 5, and Car 9. This will allow for better and quicker deployment at emergency scenes in the event of a downed firefighter. The packs were serviced and the new accountability system implemented, thus making servicing and tracking easier. The RIT packs were accompanied by a small complement of dedicated tools for RIT responses only. Future training is forecasted for RIT next year.

Menomonie Fire and Safety facilitated the second round of hydro testing in late summer to early fall. Over a several week period, ten to twenty bottles were hydro tested. Two were removed from service. Cylinders may fail a hydrostatic test and inspection for a number of reasons including: out of acceptable limits, dents, gouges, cracks, pitting, and rusting. The third and final round of hydrostatic testing will conclude in spring of 2015.

In August, all crews participated in rope rescue training at Carson Park. Crews reviewed the different equipment and techniques for performing low angle rescues. Participants performed a low angle rescue using an appropriate rigging system and anchor points.

Hazardous Materials

In February, Capt. Kelly and Eng. Tom Rebeschke attended the annual WAHMR conference in Wisconsin Dells. WAHMR is a professional organization for hazardous materials response personnel throughout Wisconsin. During the two-day conference, multiple workshops of various topics were attended.

In March, department training was conducted on the use of multi-gas meters and photo ionization detectors. Capt. Vargo coordinated and was the lead trainer, and B.C. Bensen and Lt. Brian Kranz provided the training on their respective shifts.

In April, Capt. Vargo coordinated and was the lead trainer on the use of color metric tubes and test strips. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Kranz provided the training on their respective shifts.

In May, Capt. Kelly and Eng. Rebeschke attended a 40-hour training course entitled "Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents" at FEMA's Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. CBRNE is the acronym for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives. This course provides responders with operations and technician level knowledge, skills, and abilities in the critical response requirements necessary to conduct sampling and monitoring for CBRNE hazards and incidents. The course included an 8-hour sampling and monitoring exercise.

In May, Capt. Vargo coordinated and provided instruction on 150-lb. chlorine cylinder leaks. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Lance Hanson provided the training on their respective shifts.

On June 26 and 27, many of our hazardous materials technicians attended a Tank Truck Emergency Response workshop presented by STTS (Safe Transportation Training Specialists). This two-day training covered low and high pressure tank truck identification and safe methods of working at such incidents.

In June, Capt. Vargo coordinated and was the lead trainer for training on 1-ton chlorine cylinder leaks. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Kranz provided the training on their respective shifts.

In July, department training was conducted on plugging and patching drum leaks. Training was coordinated and instructed by Capt. Vargo. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Kranz provided training on their respective shifts.

In August, department training was conducted on sample collection, along with a presentation by the 54th CST (Civil Support Team) from Madison. The training was coordinated by Capt. Vargo with instruction by members of the 54th team.

A representative from the Thermo Company provided some initial training for several department members on the Tru-Defender FTX meter, which is new equipment for the department.

In September, training was conducted on identifying unknown materials. The department received two new metering devices: the ChemPro 100 and the Thermo Tru-Defender FTX. Both devices were introduced at this training session and placed in service at its conclusion. Training was coordinated and instructed by Capt. Vargo. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Secker provided training on their respective shifts.

In October, training was conducted on Level A and B PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). Members of the haz mat team, along with several others, dressed out in two levels of PPE and performed various training tasks. Training was coordinated by Capt. Vargo. Capt. Kelly, Capt. Buchholz, and Lt. Secker provided training on their respective shifts.

Lt. Dykes and Eng. Bill Jensen attended the course, "Hazardous Materials Emergency Response – Hands-On Training" at the REACT Center at Volk Field. The 8-hour training covered practical knowledge on hazardous materials identification such as how to interpret hazard data from container shapes, placards, labels, and shipping papers. It also detailed how to utilize resources such as the Emergency Response Guide; reviewed the equipment necessary for respiratory and skin protection during responses to hazardous materials incidents; the methods that are used to safely decontaminate hazardous materials victims and responders; and the options available to physically control hazardous materials to prevent spreading and minimize the size of the incident area.

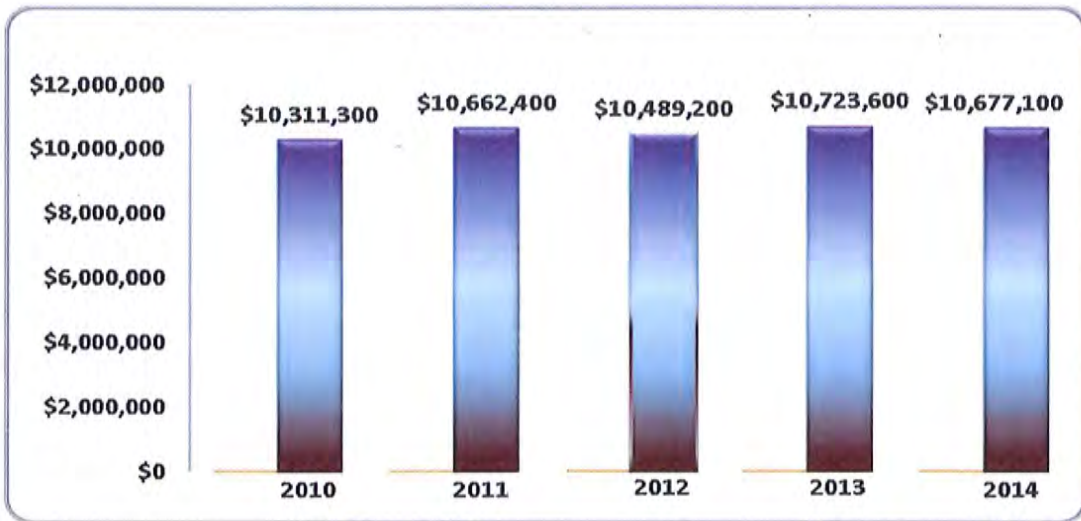
In November, training was conducted on implementing the planned process and reporting. Topics included local reporting, state reporting (E-Sponder), and the newly released state operational plan. Training was coordinated and instructed by Capt. Vargo. Capt. Buchholz and Lt. Secker provided training on their respective shifts.

In December, training was conducted on railcar leaks. Training was coordinated by Capt. Vargo and instructed by Matt Thompson and Joe Eichten, haz mat field representatives from Union Pacific Railroad. Multiple training sessions were provided covering all three shifts.

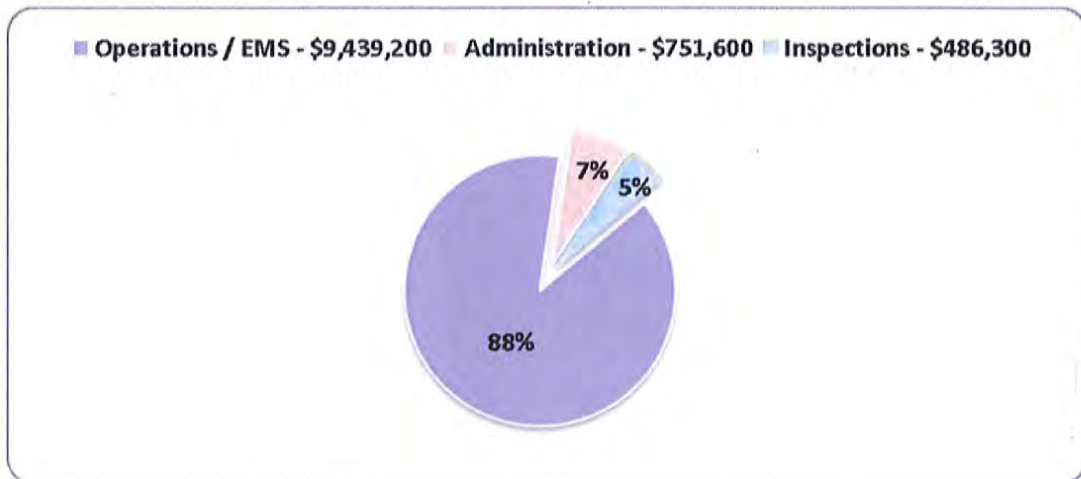


Budgetary Information

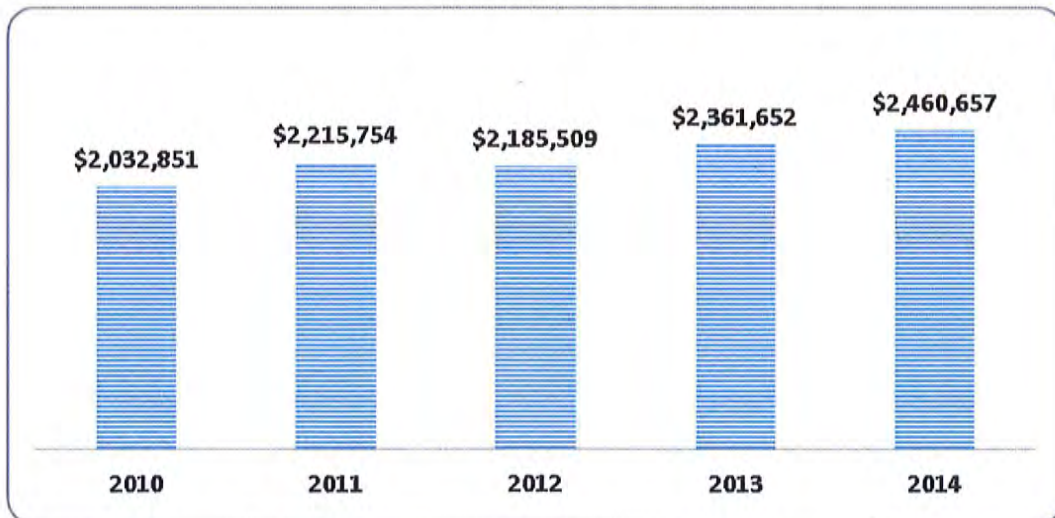
5-Year Budget Comparison



Operating Budget by Division



Net Ambulance Revenue





2015 Adopted Program of Services



City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services

Fire & Rescue Department: Overview

Eau Claire Fire & Rescue is responsible for rendering fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous materials, special rescue services 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 northern and west central Wisconsin. The department is staffed by 94 employees—91 sworn and 3 civilian. Response is provided 24 hours a day, 365 days a year from six stations.



Fire & Rescue Department Expenditure Summary

	2013 Actual	2014 Adopted	2014 6 Month Actual	2014 Projection	2015 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 9,506,954	\$ 9,477,300	\$ 4,043,713	\$ 9,477,300	\$ 9,602,200
Contractual Services	768,773	801,100	452,164	803,100	833,000
Utilities	77,561	74,700	44,589	74,700	77,300
Fixed Charges	89,415	128,100	63,048	128,100	128,100
Materials & Supplies	190,594	195,900	108,665	193,900	199,200
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	\$ 10,633,297	\$ 10,677,100	\$ 4,712,179	\$ 10,677,100	\$ 10,839,800



City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services

Fire & Rescue Administration Expenditure Summary

	2013 Actual	2014 Adopted	2014 6 Month Actual	2014 Projection	2015 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 537,857	\$ 551,000	\$ 262,507	\$ 551,000	\$ 706,200
Contractual Services	64,722	104,100	46,436	104,100	71,500
Utilities	73,286	74,700	42,343	74,700	77,300
Fixed Charges	3,200	3,200	1,600	3,200	3,200
Materials & Supplies	16,457	18,600	5,659	18,600	19,200
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	\$ 695,522	\$ 751,600	\$ 358,545	\$ 751,600	\$ 877,400

Operations / EMS Expenditure Summary

	2013 Actual	2014 Adopted	2014 6 Month Actual	2014 Projection	2015 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 8,487,050	\$ 8,455,300	\$ 3,561,626	\$ 8,455,300	\$ 8,410,800
Contractual Services	698,886	691,300	403,109	693,300	755,700
Utilities	4,275	-	2,246	-	-
Fixed Charges	80,615	119,300	58,648	119,300	119,300
Materials & Supplies	171,326	173,300	102,390	171,300	176,300
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	\$ 9,442,152	\$ 9,439,200	\$ 4,128,019	\$ 9,439,200	\$ 9,462,100

Inspections Expenditure Summary

	2013 Actual	2014 Adopted	2014 6 Month Actual	2014 Projection	2015 Adopted
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personnel Services	\$ 482,047	\$ 471,000	\$ 219,580	\$ 471,000	\$ 485,200
Contractual Services	5,165	5,700	2,619	5,700	5,800
Fixed Charges	5,600	5,600	2,800	5,600	5,600
Materials & Supplies	2,811	4,000	616	4,000	3,700
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	\$ 495,623	\$ 486,300	\$ 225,615	\$ 486,300	\$ 500,300



City of Eau Claire 2015 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.
- Progress with deploying distance education options in our daily operations.
- Continue the advancement of our regional emergency medical services (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.
- Build foundation for department sustainability.
- Evaluate and implement current and future technologies related to department operations.
- Assess and coordinate training demands of the department's personnel while meeting the organizational response demands.

Outputs

- Established working initiatives with regional trauma and EMS transport agencies in the region.
- Worked to support regional fire prevention initiatives for the county departments.
- Continued to improve and upgrade vehicle fleet.
- Continued to develop employee life safety initiatives.
- Continued recognition of new firefighters and newly promoted members with badge ceremony.
- Maintained department's presence and accessibility with social media accounts.

Fire & Rescue Department - Administration Authorized Full-Time

	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Fire Chief	1	1	1
Fire Secretary	1	1	1
Total FTE Positions	2	2	2





City of Eau Claire 2015 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 SPS 330 and applicable Occupational Safety and Health Act and National Fire Protection Association standards.
- Continue training within our organization and with our regional partners in emergency services.
- Provide employees with up-to-date protective equipment for a safer work environment.
- Develop Rapid Intervention Teams and integrate into fire suppression operations.
- Reduce fire loss in the community through aggressive public education and code enforcement.

7,732 Responses in 2013			
6,480	Medical Responses	127	Service Call Responses
152	Fire/Rescue Responses	138	Good Intent Responses
649	Automatic Alarm Responses	15	Special Request Responses
171	Hazardous Condition Responses		

Fire & Rescue Department - Operations Authorized Full-Time

	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
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



City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services



Fire & Rescue Dept: Emergency Medical Services

Comprising 83.8% of department responses, emergency medical services (EMS) remain a strong focus of department resources. The department is staffed with 49 certified paramedics and 41 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 active threat response policy and begin training with ECPD.
- Research integrating paramedics into ECPD tactical team response.
- Continue to research the use of Tranexamic Acid for trauma patients.
- Develop internal quality assurance program that is company-based.
- Continue to research the use of a wireless link to transmit 12 leads to the hospital and move cardiac monitor data to the EPCR.
- On-scene time of less than 20 minutes on all EMS incidents for ambulances.
- Research the need for and feasibility of community paramedics.

Outputs

- Implemented and continued to develop image trend reporting software. The department also purchased ruggedized laptops for versatility in data entry from the field.
- Updated protocols to include Selective Spinal and Continuous Cardiac Resuscitation. All personnel were trained in these skills.
- Developed a fall risk questionnaire in conjunction with the Aging and Disability Resource Center and both hospitals.
- Recertified First Responders in airway procedures, medication administration and blood glucose checks.
- Implemented advance notice and pre-hospital lab draws for stroke patients being transported to Sacred Heart Hospital.
- Outfitted an ambulance with bariatric equipment and trained personnel in its use.
- Provided EMS presentations to all ECASD 4th grades.

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

Ambulance Revenue (Net of Collection Fees)					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
City	\$ 1,256,262	\$1,311,636	\$1,520,597	\$1,532,625	\$1,527,406
Regional	509,777	528,472	505,566	518,224	523,442
Hospital	157,500	154,193	155,827	161,437	164,182
Total	\$ 1,923,539	\$1,994,301	\$2,181,990	\$2,212,286	\$2,215,030

Dollar Loss from Fire				
2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
\$ 2,577,691	\$ 1,354,158	\$ 2,476,988	\$ 2,052,812	\$ 2,807,873



City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services

Fire & Rescue Dept: Inspections

The Inspection division is comprised of five staff members—One Deputy Chief, one Division Chief, one Lead Fire Inspector, one Civilian Fire Inspector, and one Civilian Clerk. 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

- Work with property owners to ensure compliance with Wisconsin Act 78, which pertains to sprinkler systems for fraternity and sorority houses.
- Ensure sustainability of Eau Claire smoke detector ordinance with the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) per Wisconsin Act 270.
- Transition to a tablet-based fire safety inspection program.
- Conduct a community risk analysis focusing on all hazards and risks within the community.
- Partner with area fire departments in providing safety education utilizing the regional fire safety house.
- Provide fire prevention and life safety education for members of the community--targeting young, children, young adults and the elderly.
- Increase outreach programs to college students residing in on- and off-campus housing.
- Conduct fire safety inspections and emphasize preplanning of target hazards.
- Maintain current inspection routes and place more emphasis on pre-planning of target hazards.
- Increase water safety awareness in the community—focusing on the target age groups most affected by water-related incidents.

Outputs

- Approximately 4,200 inspections completed by the fire inspectors and fire/EMS crews.
- 164 specialty inspections and site permits completed including those for fireworks sales and tents and customer complaint inspections.
- 28 fire investigations conducted.
- Conducted 48 site permit inspections on 74 tanks.
- Trained 1,300 individuals at 26 different businesses on fire extinguishers and fire safety.
- 10 unsafe living conditions investigated.
- In spring, the ambulance companies and fire inspectors presented fire and water safety information to 1,500 4th and 5th graders. In fall, fire prevention activities were conducted for 3,600 students at 18 schools for all students grades K-3 and for over 925 children at 18 sites for 4-year-old kindergarten.

Fire & Rescue Department - Inspections Authorized Full-Time

	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
Deputy Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Division Chief	1.00	1.00	1.00
Fire Inspector I	0.75	0.75	0.75
Fire Inspector II	1.00	1.00	1.00
Clerk III	1.00	1.00	1.00
Total FTE Positions	4.75	4.75	4.75



City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services

Hazardous Materials Response

The Hazardous Materials Response Fund was established in 1996 to account for responses to hazardous materials spills. The West Central Regional Response Team is a joint venture between Eau Claire Fire and Rescue and Chippewa Falls Fire and Emergency Services. The team is contracted with the State of Wisconsin to deliver hazardous materials response to a northern and west central Wisconsin. City of Eau Claire tax dollars are not used to operate the team; the State of Wisconsin provides grant funding.

The team is designated a Type 1 team (one of only two in the state) and thus capable of responding to incidents involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD).

Objectives

- Respond to hazardous materials (haz mat) 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. To reach this goal we send personnel to the Wisconsin Area Hazardous Materials Responders (WAHMR) conference to attend numerous classes and share the information upon their return.
- Participate in annual hazardous materials response drill.

Outputs

- Responded to Formaldehyde spill at New Auburn high school.
- Responded to numerous suspicious odor situations that warranted evacuation of building within the city. Advanced metering was utilized to determine causes and mitigation strategies.
- Gave outreach presentations to various entities within the response area. These programs teach groups how to request a regional team, what equipment we carry and the types of incidents to which we are able to respond.
- Participated in a full-scale exercise with the 54th Civil Support Team out of Madison. The 54th CST is a National Guard military unit that specialized in Weapons of Mass Destruction and radiological events. This training affords the team the opportunity to work with and learn from one of the most well-trained groups in the world.
- Captains Jagger and Vargo attended Radiological/Nuclear training in Mercury, Nevada. This 40-hour training provides information on radiological/nuclear incidents, instrumentation and general radiological fundamentals.
- Captain Kelly and Engineer Rebeschke attended Specialized CBRNE (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive) training in Anniston, Alabama. This 40-hour training provides information on response procedures for incidents involving radiological and biological materials and industrial and chemical warfare agents.

42 Personnel are assigned to the Hazardous Materials Response Team

- 29 Members from Eau Claire Fire Department.
- 13 Members from Chippewa Falls Fire Department.





City of Eau Claire 2015 Adopted Program of Services

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS Budget Summary Revenues & Expenditures

Operating Budget	2013	2014	2014	2014	2015
	Actual	Adopted	6 Month Actual	Projection	Adopted
Revenues & Other Financing Sources:					
Intergovernmental	\$ 107,502	\$ 113,900	\$ 56,974	\$ 113,900	\$ 113,900
Charges For Services	3,648	2,000	645	2,000	2,000
Miscellaneous	350	400	190	400	300
Total Revenues & Other Financing Sources:	111,500	116,300	57,809	116,300	116,200
Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:					
Personal Services	52,459	46,700	22,144	46,700	48,100
Contractual Services	14,260	24,100	14,397	24,200	24,200
Utilities	903	3,200	10	3,200	1,200
Fixed Charges	4,000	3,000	1,500	3,000	3,000
Materials & Supplies	8,226	18,200	5,039	18,100	14,600
Contributions & Other Payments	44,171	28,100	1,367	28,100	28,100
Total Expenditures & Other Financing Uses:	124,019	123,300	44,457	123,300	119,200
Excess (Deficiency) of Funding Sources over Uses	\$ (12,519)	\$ (7,000)	\$ 13,352	\$ (7,000)	\$ (3,000)
Available Fund Balance:					
Restricted					
Grant Proceeds	\$ 70,546			\$ 63,546	\$ 60,546
Ending Balance	\$ 70,546			\$ 63,546	\$ 60,546



Equipment Operator-Paramedic Denise Waterman passed away on April 30, 2014, at Sacred Heart Hospital after a difficult battle with an aggressive form of cancer.

Denise joined Eau Claire Fire and Rescue on April 24, 1998, and spent the majority of her career as a paramedic where her compassion for others was shared with many members of our community. Her outgoing personality forged friendships with those on the fire department, as well as numerous others in the medical community of the Chippewa Valley. The kindness she showed towards those for whom she provided care was evident by their subsequent visits to fire station 10 and the appreciative words they expressed.

Denise came to Eau Claire by way of Madison, Wisconsin, where she studied art at the university. She was a gifted artist, and her colorful expressions were admired by many. She often spent years on a painting and then donated it to a charity or for display at an area restaurant to be enjoyed by patrons. Denise also was a very talented and prolific firehouse cook. Always made with healthy ingredients, these meals were welcomed by her co-workers. Although she made many attempts, her fondness for tofu was not always met with the same degree of enthusiasm by her co-workers. However, these meals gave many firefighters an opportunity to try a new dish.

Denise left behind a husband, Greg, and a sister, Michelle, as well as extended family including her close friends on the Eau Claire Fire Department. She truly was a unique individual and will be deeply missed by those who knew her.



DENISE A. WATERMAN