



GOLDEN GATE

Fire Department

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Kyle Kociemba-Benson, Fire Chief
CC: Membership
DATE: Aug 19, 2024
SUBJECT: **August 2024 Chief's Report**

Regional/County

As most know, there were several large wildland fire events across the region in the last 30 days. Surge deployment was requested for several out of county fires in late July and early August, however, due to local severity and staffing complications, command staff held GGFPD firefighters and apparatus in district. This decision had a direct impact when we were requested to send a type 3 engine for initial attack on the Quarry fire and GGFPD had resources available to send to our mutual aid partner, Inter Canyon Fire. Due to ongoing concerns with in-district severity E82 returned to district after the initial fire attack phase. Ch82 assimilated in to the Jeffco IMT as a plans section chief trainee for several days.

Thank you to all who headed the Jefferson County Stage II fire ban this month. Jefferson County has brought the fire ban back to Stage I as of August 20th.

Lutheran Hospital's new location is now open and is now officially the closest hospital to the district.

Chief Benson met with the Clear Creek Watershed and Forest Health Partnership's new forestry specialist for district familiarization. CCWFHP's goal is to follow in the path of the Platt and Boulder watershed groups to help fund and execute on forest health initiatives within the clear creek watershed. GGFPD is the largest Jefferson county fire district within the watershed boundary.

A correction to July's Chief's report: We had recommended a wildfire awareness app which was not correctly cited. The application is called "Watch Duty" instead of the incorrectly cited: "firewatch"

Administration

GGFPD was awarded a SIPA grant for \$5500 to update our website and bring it into ADA compliance. The district will be moving forward with web design firm Coberly Web Creations who specializes in government website building on the SIPA platforms. Previous work can be viewed at <https://cob-webcreations.com>

No significant movement was made on the TAK integration project this month as we have evaluated options. However TAK was used widely during the Quarry Fire on personal devices.

Grant updates

- BLM Community fire assistance grant- 50% match on CWPP- Status: awaiting result (?)
- SIPA grant- \$5500- website update and ADA compliance- Status: Awarded!
- Firehouse Subs- \$38,000- Hurst battery extrication tools. Status: awaiting result (Oct/Nov)
- DFPC Direct Distribution- Full replacement of outdated Scott SCBAs/Bottles & Face pieces. Status: awaiting result. (Aug/Sept)

Operations

The last month has been on par for seasonal averages with 66 calls to date. Of particular note is a significant increase in motorcycle accidents, which is typical for the season.

Personnel

We currently have 23 operational members and 3 support services members on the roster.

We are sad to share that HR manager Val Baughman has stepped away from her volunteer role with GGFPD. We want to thank her for her service to the fire department as we took some large steps forward as an organization with her help!

Training

The GGFPD FFI academy will be doing their final practical testing in September. Once they have passed their practical the academy members will be fully certified Colorado firefighters! Graduation will follow academy completion, however we are working around a busy September with the pig roast and several large outside trainings.

GGFPD will be hosting a 2 day multi-agency backcountry rescue training in October.

Station Update Projects

Station 83's drainage issues and solutions are addressed in the engineering report that was submitted to the board. The engineering report is addressed as an individual agenda item.

As we wrap up our largest station update project and also bring new equipment and bunker gear into service, we have determined the need for a regular professional pest mitigation service at all stations to protect these assets against damage from mice. We have solicited bids from several companies and are currently reviewing options.