



Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department

Fire - EMS - Haz Mat - Rescue - Education - Prevention

"Commitment to Excellence"



To: Mayor Shane Blaser, Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission, Wisconsin Rapids Common Council
From: Todd Eckes, WRFDFire Chief
Date: April 3, 2023
RE: Monthly Summary for March 2023

WRFDMeetings, events, training, and notable calls for the month of December:

- Police and Fire Commission meeting
- Three Firefighter/Medics Began week of 2-20
- Common Council meeting
- Finance & Property Meeting
- Mayors Monthly Touch Base Meeting
- Health & Safety Meeting
- Retiree Breakfast 3/23
- Training Meeting
- Special Operations meeting
- WRFDFeceived the Coverdell Stroke program award
- 2%Dies Audit
- St. Luke's Preschool toured Station I and received a Fire Prevention talk
- Held Chief Brief with all three crews
- WICS Fire Advisory Board Meeting
- Recruitment with CVIC Students
- All SCBA's were flow tested
- Training Committee Meeting
- FDPDtraining
- Car seat Clinic at Station I
- EMS Standby at WAA Gymnastic tournament
- North Central Fire Chiefs meeting
- Fire Training – Firefighter Down, HAZ-MAT IQ, MPO Training Emergency Vehicle Operations Course, Officers Rapid Scene Assessment.
- EMS Training - Protocol Review
- Held EMR Training
- Cadet training Topic – Two minute Drills Low visibility search & Rescue

March Anniversaries: Justin Borski 18 Years, Adam Yerke 15 Years, Dustin Lease 14 Years, Jarod Miller 5 Years.

Notable Responses:

Structure Fire

Verso wood room, Garage, Breezeway, Cooking Fire

Wildland Fire, Water Rescue, Elevator Rescue



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WRFD Notes:

March was a busy month on many fronts. First, we are seeing an uptick in call volume. We usually start to see this with the weather as it warms up. People begin to get cabin fever and start to get active. With that, warm weather we as a department also starts to get more active outside with training. On Tuesday the 21st we held our first of three day drills at Billerud in the old 16 paper machine building. 24 members were separated into three teams and given three different scenarios for them to work through. Station 1 was a simulated mannequin entangled in an auger prop that they could actually disassemble and cut to extricate the victim. Then package the victim and lower them from an elevated platform. Station 2 was a confined space rescue exercise of a victim that fell in the confined space and had concrete pinning them to the floor. Teams needed to raise the concrete from the victim, immobilize them and extricate them from the Confined Space while wearing supplied air-breathing equipment. Station 3 was an entangled victim that fell in a ladder-caged access and was unconscious. Teams needed to secure the victim so they did not fall any further, place a harness on them, raise them to untangle them, and then lower them to the ground to be immobilized. All 24 members worked great as Teams and accomplished all the stations with great skill. (Photos of the training below)

March also found us finalizing initial bids for pricing of the Station II remodel. Those initial bids have shown that the money left from the Station I project and what was left in outlay from last year is enough to complete that project this year. We have moved to the bidding process for final skilled Craftsmen in each category. Joe Eichsteadt from the engineering department is helping us with that bid process. The plan is to release notice of the bidding May 1, with a deadline to open May 31 and a start date to follow shortly after. The plan is for completion before the end of the year, making us Gender neutral at both stations.

Lastly, on Wednesday March 15th myself, and four other members from the department participated in Lobby Day at the capital along with over 150 other Chief Officers and Union Leaders. This is an opportunity to Lobby our Legislature for important bills and budget items. The top two subjects we focused on were a legislative bill that would include Volunteer Firefighters and EMS personnel from across the State in the PTSD bill that was signed last session for Career Firefighters. The second Focus was on Governor Evers proposed budget allowing 1 cent of the 5 cent sales tax to be earmarked for shared revenue to be given to the municipalities across the State. In that budget, 43% of that revenue will be identified for Fire, Law Enforcement, and EMS. This could offset the continual rising cost of these core functions for all municipalities. Both sides of the aisle Democrat, and Republican are working together to make this happen.. The testimony we gave helped to explain why municipalities are having a hard time to support their Public Safety. Both the Professional Fire Fighters of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Association will continue to push for this legislation and proposed budget to be approved in the next session.



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WRFD FEBRUARY 2023 MONTHLY RESPONSE REPORT

Type of Emergency	March 2023 Responses	Total # of 2023 Responses	March 2022 Responses	Total # of 2022 Responses
EMS 911	415	1056	360	1066
EMS IFT	3	3	3	14
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	0	0	1	8
FIRE	8	11	2	7
EXPLOSION (No Fire)	0	0	0	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	1	7	0	4
SERVICE CALLS	3	5	5	11
GOOD INTENT	2	9	4	12
FALSE ALARMS/WEATHER	3	12	3	15
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	435	1,103	378	1137

Notes:

- Fire 100 Series: Fire (*structure, vehicle, wildland*)
- Fire 200 Series: Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (*No Fire*)
- Fire 300 Series: Rescue & Emergency Service Incident (*Motor vehicle accident, EMS Calls*)
- Fire 400 Series: *Hazardous Condition (spills, leaks with no fire)*
- Fire 500 Series: Service Calls (water & smoke problems, burning complaints)
- Fire 600 Series: Good Intent (*Dispatched and cancelled, Citizen needs help*)
- Fire 700/800 Series: (700) False Alarms (800) Severe Weather/Natural Disasters

Runs by District	March 2023	2023 Totals	March 2022	2022 Totals
Wisconsin Rapids	320	841	280	852
Saratoga	28	71	31	82
Village Port Edwards	10	30	9	33
Village Biron	35	59	10	35
Town of Port Edwards	10	23	5	24
Nekoosa	16	54	27	79
Cranmoor	0	1	1	3
Mutual Aid Given	9	11	4	16
Mutual Aid Received	7	13	11	13
TOTALS	435	1,103	378	1137

Confined Space Stand-by	March 2023	Total # 2023	March 2022	Total # 2022
TOTALS	44	130	31	118



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