



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 1, 2024
RE: Monthly Summary for March 2024

WRFDFmeetings, events, training, and notable calls for the month of March 2024:

- Police and Fire Commission meeting
- Common Council meeting
- Finance & Property Meeting
- Human Resources Meeting
- Held a Management Meeting
- Held a Labor/Management meeting.
- Held a Guardian Angel Project meeting.
- PD/FD Meeting
- One member attended the Wood County Fire Investigation Task Force Meeting
- Fire Vision Committee meeting
- Monthly EMR training
- Monthly Cadet Training
- Wisconsin State Fire Chiefs Board Meeting
- Attended North Central Fire Chiefs meeting.
- Attended Wisconsin Fire Chiefs Education Conference.
- Fire Safety Presentation for "Sons of Norway" (Lithium Battery Safety)
- Garrett Huber started as a new Firefighter/Medic
- Neck up Checkups all month
- Car seat Clinic at Station I
- Received Trans 309 Ambulance Inspection from the Wisconsin State Patrol
- Ambulance Standby for WAA Gymnastics Tournament

March Anniversaries: Adam Yerke 16 Years, Dustin Lease 15 Years, Jarod Miller 6 Years

Notable Responses:

Structure Fire: 0 Incidents

Motor Vehicle: 6 Incidents

Carbon Monoxide/Odor Calls: 2 Incidents

False Alarms: 2 Incidents



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WRFDNotes:

March had many positive and many negative components within it. We completed all our ‘Neck up Checkups’. Many thanks to the Council for allowing us to try these annual Mental Health checkups. There were many positive comments from the members regarding the program. Our industry exposes us to citizens’ worst moments, and those memories are many times carried with us into our family life. Traditionally as Firefighters we would bottle those emotions thinking we are tough and could handle those effects on our mental health. The reality is our profession has lost many great members that succumb to those emotions with no help to understand and decode them leaving us feeling alone and broken. Going forward, this professional component to our Mental Health Wellness Program will allow our members to work through those emotions and learn to understand them teaching them to cope with those exposures in a positive manner.

By the end of March as a department we saw ourselves 4 members down on our Roster. This started in January when we lost our first member, followed by one in February, and two in March. Two members that left did so to improve themselves by accepting promotions with other departments. The two others followed lifelong dreams to move to other states that they wanted to live in. Although lateral moves, they were important moves for them in their personal lives. On March 18th, we hired one Firefighter/EMT that is currently in the Paramedic program at MSTC and will graduate in May. On April 9 & 10 four candidates will interview with the Fire Department Command Staff and the PFC respectively. We hope at the end of the day, April 10th that we can offer positions to three of those four candidates. Barring any problems with their Physicals and Psych exams hopefully they will come online sometime mid-April filling out our roster.

Lastly, March 19th the Council approved the purchase of a new Ladder to replace our current 31-year-old Ladder Truck. We have historically done a great job to complete annual maintenance on this apparatus, and it has served us well, but in the last few years it has started to cost us a lot to maintain annually. When the new apparatus arrives our deployment model will change from our current response. We do not have enough personnel to get two engines and the ladder out the door on the first alarm. We need to analyze the dispatch information and decide if we take both engines or the Ladder Truck and an Engine. When the new Ladder arrives, it will be built to respond as an engine or a Ladder, allowing us to make that decision once we arrive on scene and get a better look at the need for resources and decide to use it as an Engine or the need requires it to be used as a Ladder. We know that anytime money in this amount needs to be allocated it is always a hard decision. Many Thanks to the Council for doing their due diligence to look at all options and ask the hard questions that they did with regards to the apparatus and the need. I assure you that that decision made will benefit this city and will help in the end with strategic planning for both the Department and the city.



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WRFD March 2024 MONTHLY RESPONSE REPORT

Type of Emergency	March 2024 Responses	Total # of 2024 Responses	March 2023 Responses	Total # of 2023 Responses
EMS 911	367	1,151	415	1056
EMS IFT	3	4	3	3
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	1	2	0	0
FIRE	0	7	8	11
EXPLOSION (No Fire)	0	0	0	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	3	13	1	7
SERVICE CALLS	4	15	3	5
GOOD INTENT	8	16	2	9
FALSE ALARMS/WEATHER	10	36	3	12
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	396	1,244	435	1,103

Notes:

- Fire 100 Series: Fire (s *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 2024	2024 Totals	March 2023	2023 Totals
Wisconsin Rapids	317	921	320	841
Saratoga	19	70	28	71
Village Port Edwards	7	45	10	30
Village Biron	7	47	35	59
Town of Port Edwards	2	17	10	23
Nekoosa	24	87	16	54
Granmoor	0	1	0	1
Mutual Aid Given	10	16	9	11
Mutual Aid Received	10	40	7	13
TOTALS	396	1,244	435	1,103

Confined Space Stand-by	March 2024	Total # 2024	March 2023	Total # 2023
TOTALS	19	62	44	130



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WRFD TRAINING CENTER FOR MARCH 2024

Category	Topic
Fire	Fire Inspection Class
Officer	None
Motor Pump Operator	None
Technical rescue	None
Hazardous Materials	Wisconsin All Hazards Materials Response (Conference)
EMS	Cardiac
EMR	Resuscitation
Cadet	CPR

Total Training Hours for the Month	101
Inspections for the month	0



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March Overtime Paid Summary

Overtime Summary in Hours												
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Running Total
Category												
Comp Paid Out	2.75	24										26.75
FMLA	24		72									96.00
Emergency Call ins	23.5	104	87.54									215.04
Sick	146.3	86	96.5									328.80
Stay-Over	5.5	3.5	2.54									11.54
Meeting/Committee		5.5										5.50
BC VAC		12	48									60.00
ODT		5										5.00
Training	26.75	19.17	28									73.92
Short Crew			72									72
Monthly Total	228.80	259.17	406.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	894.55

O.T. Rate	\$39
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Comp Pay Out over 100 hours	\$7,442
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March Total O.T. Cost	\$15,855.06
Year to Date O.T. Cost	\$34,882.77

Jan. Crew Transfer Pay	\$200
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