



# 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: June 2, 2022  
RE: Monthly Summary for May 2022

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

- Police and Fire Commission meeting
- Common Council meeting
- Fireworks Planning Meeting
- Fire Vision committee meeting
- Attended an MCI Drill Training meeting in Port Edwards
- Attended Supervisor training
- Officers Meeting
- EMS Committee Meeting
- Held an All Crew Drill on June 5
- MRI Training through Marshfield Clinic
- Crews spent the first three weeks cleaning the Firefighters Memorial
- Attended a training on CRGmapping
- Attended Assumption High School for a Recruitment effort
- Cadet Training (Forcible entry/SCBA confidence course)
- North Central Fire Chiefs meeting
- Attended both Bi-weekly Building addition meetings
- Began the planning for the Open House/Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Station Addition

May Anniversaries: Mike Lisitza 21 years, Justin Pluess 18 years, Aaron Palbrach 15 Years, Brennan Agen 14 Years

Notable Responses:

5/5/22 Cooking Fire

5/6/22 Structure Fire

5/27/22 Cooking Fire

5/11/22 Fan overheated and started burning Assisted Living facility

5/15/22 Grass Fire 48<sup>th</sup> &Commerce drive

5/20/22 Mutual Aid Structure fire Grand Rapids

5/26/22 Structure Fire in the city



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## WRFD Notes:

The first day of the month, probationary Firefighter Cole Varsho started his journey here at WRFD. Cole will spend a month going through an orientation period that focuses on the basic skills he will need to operate on emergency scenes safely. Some of the items probationary Firefighters focus on are SCBA familiarization, Equipment familiarization, Personal Protective Equipment, Standard Operating Guidelines, Field Operating Guidelines, Fire Ground Operations, just to name a few. Once his three-week orientation period is complete, he will begin to ride on staff as an observer for his first two 24 hour shifts. At that point, he will count towards staff. That does not mean the learning is over, he was issued a Task Book that outlines every skill he must show proficiency in, and be signed off by a department Instructor before the end of his Probationary period of one year. Throughout that year, he will take regularly scheduled exams that monitor his progress, as well as a performance evaluation every three months until recommendation to PFC for permanent status. There is a lot of time, money, and effort put into new Firefighters, by both the City and the Instructors that train them. Welcome aboard Cole!!

May 11-12 Red Power Diesel was in house completing all of our Department of Transportation (DOT) Inspections of all our department front line fleet excluding the staff vehicles and ambulances. Both the State of Wisconsin and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) mandate this. While in house, each vehicle goes through a top to bottom inspection looking for areas that are either not in compliance with those standards or nearing that level. A report is then given to the Chief and decisions are made to what level of degradation exists, what items need to be addressed immediately, and which items can wait or may need to be added to the next year's budget due to the cost to complete. This process also allows us to monitor the cost of maintenance for each apparatus to gauge the time for replacement. We are constantly looking for preventative maintenance items that can reduce or remove unnecessary maintenance costs from these inspections. A great example is an identified premature corrosion issue under Truck 5 identified 5 years ago, money was allocated in the next year's budget to have that corrosion addressed, and preventative measures were taken to reduce future issues with corrosion with a coating that was applied. This may be one of the reasons this vehicle was pushed back for replacement in recent years.

On Friday May 20, the Police and Fire Commission met and approved the following recommendations for the open positions made by the appointment of Fire Chief. Division Chief of EMS, Jason Joling, promoted to the Deputy Chief of department. Second Lieutenant Justin Pluess promoted to the Division Chief of Fire. Motor Pump Operator/Relief Officer Adam Yerke, promoted to the position of second Lieutenant, and Firefighter/Medic Aaron Mancl promoted to Motor Pump Operator. These promotions will be effective May 30, 2022 to coincide with the next pay period easing the burden on the Finance department. Congratulations!



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## WRFD MAY 2022 MONTHLY RESPONSE REPORT

Type of Emergency	May 2022 Responses	Total # of 2022 Responses	May 2021 Responses	Total # of 2021 Responses
EMS 911	376	1,767	265	1434
EMS IFT	9	29	22	188
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	1	9	0	7
FIRE	5	14	7	26
EXPLOSION (No Fire)	0	0	0	0
HAZARDOUS CONDITION	4	11	1	24
SERVICE CALLS	4	21	9	46
GOOD INTENT	13	34	0	0
FALSE ALARMS/WEATHER	5	29	8	34
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	417	1,914	312	1659

### 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	May 2022	2022 Totals	May 2021	2021 Totals
Wisconsin Rapids	306	1394	277	1450
Saratoga	25	138	18	97
Village Port Edwards	7	62	7	45
Village Biron	9	47	3	37
Town of Port Edwards	10	29	0	NA
Nekoosa	30	128	0	NA
Cranmoor	1	6	0	NA
Mutual Aid Given	5	35	19	11
Mutual Aid Received	24	75	11	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	417	1914	312	1659

Confined Space Stand-by	May 2022	Total # 2022	May 2021	Total # 2021
TOTALS	25	177	72	273



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