Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department



Fire - EMS - Haz Mat - Rescue - Education - Prevention "Commitment to Excellence"



To: Mayor Blaser, Wisconsin Rapids Police and Fire Commission, Wisconsin Rapids Common Council

From: Todd Eckes, WRFD Interim Fire Chief

Date: December 1, 2021

RE: Monthly Summary for November 2021

WRFD meetings, events, training, and notable calls for the month of August:

- Police and Fire Commission meeting
- > Common Council meeting
- > Attended North Central Fire Chiefs meeting
- Attended the Finance & Property meeting
- > Attended the H.R. Meeting
- Hosted monthly emergency first responder training
- ➤ Labor Management meeting
- Training: Annual Live Fire Training
- Presented Firefighter Dustin Medic with his First Responder of the year award at Council meeting on November 16th
- Crews held an all department training involving all 3 crews and mutual Aid agencies
- > Ambulance Stand by for Lincoln High School Football
- EMS Contracts signed with City of Nekoosa, Town of Port Edwards, and Town of Cranmoor.
- Held entry level Interviews and developed an eligibility list
- > Attended the Rekindle the Spirit Event
- > Gave AED and Fire Extinguisher training to a local organization
- There is good progress on the addition/remodel of Station I
- Started the Assistance to Firefighters Grant process
- > Began the ISO process
- > Hired one new Firefighter to replace Lieutenant Forcier retirement

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WRFD Notes:

November was a very busy month. With Nekoosa Ambulance closing their doors as of January 1, 2022, we were inundated with requests for ambulance coverage by many of the Townships and city that were being affected by the discontinuation of the service. We quickly worked on proposals for the Town of Port Edwards and the city of Nekoosa and presented them with a contract. Shortly after the town of Cranmoor and the Ho Chunk Casino approached us for coverage. We are currently working on those agreements. As part of this additional territory, we needed to fill our missing 11th Tier opening. We held entry level interviews and placed two candidates on our list. We will continue to work with Ho Chunk Casino and the Town of Cranmoor.

With the close of November, we have responded to 4,197 total calls for the year. A point of note, last year we responded to 3,976 total calls for the year. With one more month left, and an average response of 400 calls per month, we could feasibly end the year near 4,600 calls. That is close to a 14% increase in call volume in a one-year window.

On November 29th Probationary Fire Fighter Bryanna Windsor, our last remaining candidate on our current eligibility list, started her new career with Wisconsin Rapids Fire Department, Bryanna will be assigned to Crew 2 and will spend her 12 month probationary period completing her task book. Welcome to the team Bryanna!

Process has begun on both the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) and the Insurance Services Office (ISO) process. The AFG grant is annual process we can apply for equipment at a 95%/5% payout. A few projects we have applied for in the past and were awarded are the exhaust capture system in Station I & Station II, the cascade filling station for filling our SCBA bottles, and our current SCBA's to name a few.

The ISO is a validation process that rates us on a 1-9 scale with 1 being the best. We currently stand at and ISO 3, which is a good rating but there, is always room for improvement. A better rating affects the citizens and businesses in our response area with their insurance ratings, which in turn lowers their Insurance cost. At last review we were percentage points from moving to a 2 and we have changed and improved the way we operate with hopes that we can move to that Class 2 rating. Last year everything was virtual so there was no movement on the ratings. I hope that they will be doing site visits and we can move that number.

Anniversaries in November: No November anniversaries

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WRFD October 2021 MONTHLY RESPONSE REPORT

Type of Emergency	November 2021	Total # of 2021	November 2020	Total # of 2020
	Responses	Responses	Responses	Responses
EMS/Rescue 911	373	3769	297	2456
EMS IFT	6	162	36	211
COMMUNITY PARAMEDICINE	1	11	1	10
FIRE	3	45	2	34
HAZARDOUS CONDITON	4	43	3	41
SERVICE CALLS	7	79	9	62
FALSE ALARMS	9	88	14	93
TOTALS	403	4197	362	2907

Notes:

- Fire 100 Series: Fire (*structure, vehicle, wildland*)
- > Fire 400 Series: *Hazardous Condition (spills, leaks with no fire)*
- > Fire 500 Series: Service Calls (water & smoke problems, burning complaints)
- > Fire 700 Series: False Alarms

Runs by District	November 2021	2021 Totals	November 2020	2020 Totals
Wisconsin Rapids	318	3335	323	2533
Saratoga	31	261	17	172
Village Port Edwards	20	128	10	89
Village Biron	12	104	10	74
Mutual Aid Given	12	77	30	30
Mutual Aid Received	10	292	1	9
TOTALS	403	4197	362	2907

Confined Space Stand-by	October 2021	Total # 2021	October 2020	Total # 2020
TOTALS	11	343	55	615