



MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT

448 N. Warren Rd. Benson, AZ 85602

Phone (520)586-4690 Fax (520)586-8598

MARCH, 2024 FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Presented April 24, 2024

	March, 2024	Year to Date
Incidents	43	127
Turnout Time	2:07	2:33
Response Time	9:15	9:12
Mutual Aid Provided	1	3
Mutual Aid Received	1	2
% Overlapping Incidents	2 (4.65%)	6 (4.72%)

Training: New hire training and task book completion continues. Recent topics include EMS report documentation, patient assessment, annual wildland refresher, envenomation and intoxication, and a review of recent changes to the AZ DFFM Cooperators Agreements and Billing Process.

Apparatus Maintenance: Annual DOT inspections for our larger apparatus are currently being scheduled.

Facility / Building Maintenance:

- Spring maintenance is underway with crews mowing and spraying for weeds around our facilities.
- I am currently pricing some signage for the Administration building.
- The contractor slated to do our roof is unable to perform the work. He has learned of some concerns regarding our chosen material and the roof pitch. Combined with a labor shortage and OSHA fall protection requirements he has begrudgingly withdrew.
- Regarding the proposed ADA parking: I have one bid for the grading and asphalt work and am expecting another bid for the concrete work any day now. Received bids will remain confidential until I receive at least one more bid each for the asphalt and concrete work.
- I have contacted the USDA twice regarding the paperwork necessary to obtain a construction loan. I will let each of you know when I have something in hand.
- We have received notice from the Arizona Ombudsman's Office of their intent to investigate a records request complaint lodged by Mary McCool. Look for something from the Ombudsman to arrive in your District email in the next few days.

Billing: We currently await payment of \$1,210.75 in incident billing.

Other:

- MJFD FF's are currently conducting our annual fire hose testing. Several lengths of 3" supply hose have failed and I anticipate more failures with some of the older hose. I've already begun shopping around and plan to include an agenda item for the purpose of buying hose on the next agenda.
- Congratulations to volunteer firefighter Christopher Peralta, who will be making the transition to full-time on April 30th.
- We requested 4) new handheld radios from the county wide grant and we hope to receive them in the next month.



MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT

448 N. Warren Rd. Benson, AZ 85602

Phone (520)586-4690 Fax (520)586-8598

- The radio frequency we requested several months ago was denied by the FCC when an unknown public safety with the same frequency contested our application. Despite that agency being well over 100 miles away they were concerned about interference. They objected and the FCC acquiesced. As a result, we had to apply for a different frequency. The broker who applied for our initial frequency purchase assured us FCC approval so our radio tech programmed the new frequency into all of handhelds and mobile radios, as well as all of those at Benson Fire. He has since had to return and reprogram all of those radios with the new frequency. I have personally verified the second frequency application was approved and I have notified Cochise County and the neighboring public safety agencies of the changes to our communications. Still no word from TEP regarding the use of the Haystack radio tower site.
- The Combined Tax Levy Worksheet has not been issued yet. I will forward a copy to each of you when I receive it.
- We've received the November 5th Call to Election from Cochise County. The deadline to submit is May 9th. With that in mind I would ask our incumbents to notify me once they have determined whether or not they intend to run again. Additionally, election details and appropriate links for the forms will be added to our webpage once they become available.
- Sue Dupee, our Volunteer Coordinator has planned the following events:
 - May 18: Volunteer orientation followed by Community Cleanup. Lunch will be provided
 - June 22: Family Movie Night!
 - July 27: Fall Protection for Seniors and Eating Healthy on a Budget. This event will be hosted in partnership with Benson Hospital.
 - August 24: Quarterly Neighborhood Cleanup. Lunch will be provided.Additional details for each of these events will be provided on our webpage, www.mescalj6fd.com and our Facebook page.
- Staff has contacted two providers in a search for health insurance benefits and awaits response from both, while still searching for additional providers. Initial comments from a few providers is that we will need at least five full-time employees before we would be considered.