



MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT

Ed Nied - Fire Chief

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Fire Chief Report

March 2026

Presented at April 29, 2026, Board Meeting

Incidents: 3/1- 3/31/26: 52 total; fire-12 ; ems-23 ; other- 17

Total for 2026 -145 ; 2025--131— 14 **calls = 10% increase.**

Mutual aid: given- 7 , received- 0; billable calls - 1

Significant calls: Assist SDFD on MVA w/extrication; Assist Benson w/semi fire; Assist RVFD w/MVA.

Hazard Mitigation Collections: \$1548.00 for March

Still working on 15 totaling \$14107.25

Projects:

Strategic Plan: I met with Jayme Kahle and now understand better the spreadsheet that we use to track strategic plan progress. I will be putting out an update on the website very soon.

Policy Review:

I will continue to evaluate and bring forward. The ones changed in the work session Feb 11th still need some attention before being brought forward for final review.

IT: Moved from Starlink to Bluespan (fiber optic). Savings of \$2880/yr

Repeater:

Should be hearing something around May 1.

Have secured a free Connex box. It has been delivered and placed. We will be moving the turnouts from bay into it so they don't absorb the diesel fumes, and they don't off-gas carcinogens on our personnel. Due to space, the bays are used for training and education. This is a critical step in protecting our personnel.

Activities:

Beginning to train other FDs on use of extrication equipment.

Air quality testing and extinguisher annual testing completed.

Camaro Valley: Continue to communicate with HOA. Had meeting on Saturday, March 28th. Several residents who attended thought they were in district boundaries but are not. Will be working with them to annex into district. Also, we continue to hold meetings to discuss plans to be able to effectively utilize their storage tanks.

I met with St David Fire District Board on Thursday, April 23, 2026 and introduced myself, handed out strategic plan and fundraising plan. We had good candid discussion. Subsequent phone conversations have revealed the expected....questions on many areas of merger. We will work together to get them answered. We welcome the SDFD Board to the meeting tonight and thank them for their time, questions, and candid conversations.

Grant Activities:

Fire House Subs- wrote for six full sets of turnouts. \$37000-unsuccessful.

Wrote for FPS through Congressman Ciscomani's office for \$10.2 M for station/community center. Informed we did not make the cut to 20 out of over 70 applicants. Spoke with staff who committed to assist beginning in fall 2026 to prepare a more competitive application.

Still awaiting word on beginning process for two rescue trucks and UTV.

Awaiting decision by Senators Gallego and Kelly on whether we made cut to go forward on CDS for station.

AFG- It has been said it will be opening soon. Suppression helmets, boots, gloves, open and we are in for turnouts. We were not allowed to change it in any way. This is an extension of our 2024 AFG.

FP&S- Wrote for community risk reduction evaluation, \$11,650. We will not do it unless we get grant. No word yet on this as it was part of government shutdown timeline. However, we have been continually posting things on FB and NextDoor to educate the public on reducing their risk.

BLM Brush Truck- still awaiting decision--- paperwork filed, awaiting final decision.

EOR