



MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT

Ed Nied - Fire Chief

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Fire Chief Report

July 2026

Presented at the August 26th, 2026, Board Meeting

Incidents: 6/1- 6/30/ -70 - total; fire- 12; EMS- 38; other-20

Total for 2026 - -490 ; 2025---498; **8 less**

Mutual aid: given-0, received-2 ; billable calls-5

Significant calls : Double fatality, two other serious accidents on I-10; semi fire, brush fire next to I-10.

Hazard Mitigation Collections: \$5000 for July

Still working on totaling \$25,000

Consortium credit card quarterly earnings \$141.62

Projects:

Strategic Plan: Presented at 1300 and 1800 on August 12, 2026.

Policy Review:

Revised Policy on selling of surplus items. Other Policies--I will continue to evaluate and bring forward. Some JPRs are changing and we don't want to repeat the process too soon. Capt Olander and Lt. Peralta are attending Officer I&2 training. Part of their homework is to look at policies and procedures as they pertain to JPR's. We'll be utilizing this work to revisit our SOP's and SOG's.

Repeater:

Follow up has been made --TEP and ASLD have agreed to the placement of our repeater. Awaiting final signatures. Should take less than 2 months. It's time for another "bump".

Activities:

Will be beginning to train other FDs on use of extrication equipment.

Our annual mandatory training for Infection Control, HIPAA, and Sexual Harassment is underway. Total of 4 hours.

Captain Olander and Lieutenant Peralta completed their Fire Officer I & II course and have taken state test. Captain Olander passed both sections. Lt Peralta passed the LT's section, but will retake the Capt level test as it becomes available. He only needed to pass the first phase for his Lieutenant's rank.

Tender 171 had normal fluid replacement and lubrication. Found a few gasket leaks as well. Also, first set of dual tires needed replacement, safety issue.

R171 Solenoid gear frozen, no damage because crews understood issue immediately and shut it down. Fixed. Brush 171 had turbo replaced, Rescue 1711 had work done and new tire replaced.

C171 truck had windshield crack-replaced; tire blowout, replaced, and crease to passenger side repaired (Chief paid for this repair).

I took an online education on lithium battery fires.

Our team took 3rd place at the water fight competition on July 4th. We also participated in the parade. Good times.

We will be hosting a virtual class on record keeping law and processes on September 2.

Cumaro Valley: Captain Olaner and myself met with Mitch Culp, Jake Kartchner, Melissa Coakley, Dana Law, and Dave Owens. Took tour to determine if there was ANY way to get across tracks in event train was blocking. Not feasible for any large apparatus. Brush truck and new pickups with UTV can cross at certain points, but even those are tough. Second visit with Mitch Culp to determine if any tanks were in fact available. No good sources found, however, there is possibility of adding a tank at the Salcido turn which would be more equally distant to both Cumaro and Double XX areas. Still working on potential for 15,000 tank, which would be great for that location. Still looking into efficacy of placing select apparatus on Kartchner property just north of tracks. This would potentially allow crew to go between cars and get to those trucks for response. We have a ways to go on this as there will be safety and legal items that need to be ironed out, as well as lease agreement. Also have been working with Pima County Wildland for abatement activities in most critical areas. They visited and were given a tour of all Pima County areas.

We are planning educational meetings to better inform our residents as it pertains to wildfire issues. We don't want to be doing this work in the heat of summer, so looking at October for classes followed by mitigation recommendations, which would include roll-offs and chippers that can be used after residents have cut down. More to come...

Also, I'm in research phase for a rank of "Water Tender Operator". This position would include extensive training and continuing education and drilling.

Been working on mandatory continuing education for the recertification of my Paramedic.

Grant Activities:

Got our 3rd quarter GOHS reporting in on time and have not received an email with any corrections, etc.

We will be submitting a grant for Hazardous Materials monitors. These monitors “sniff” for the bad stuff as well as oxygen levels. This will enhance the safety of our personnel and better scene management.

100 Club: We’ve gotten everyone sized, now we work towards getting them built and distributed. This could take up to 90 days. We are working closely with the vendor to ensure good information and process is in order. Latest bid shows we will come in below amount granted.

We submitted the HRSA non-competitive grant for our rescue trucks and UTV. We have not had contact that would lead us to believe there was an issue with our submission. We expect funding by September 30, 2026, with a 6-month build.

Brandee has been working hard with IMD, our Medical Direction Team on the new DEA requirements, training for EMT-IV, and Quality Assurance. We are no longer being replaced for disposable equipment we’ve used from NCE, therefore, we must find it within our budget so we can offer these services to our citizens. This was unanticipated, so it will take some time to iron out.

Received email from Senators Gallego and Kelly that we made cut to go forward on CDS for station. Not a done deal, but we beat out hundreds of others and it’s a great first step. No further update so far. Just want to make sure everyone knows this grant does not require a match as it is under THUD, and we have received direct information that the \$5M for the station will not require a match.

AFG-Submitted-- asked for 6 turnout ensembles. Awaiting word.

FP&S- Submitted-- this will pay for our third-party Community Risk Assessment and subsequent Plan. This is one of our “pillars” in our Strategic Plan and we are excited for the results so we can put a comprehensive risk reduction plan into place.

EOR