



MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISTRICT

Ed Nied - Fire Chief

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Fire Chief Report

November 2025

Presented at December 2025 Board Meeting

Incidents: 11/1- 11/30/25: total-42 fire-5; ems-30; other-7.

Total for 2025 –585; 2024-544– **up 42 calls. 7% increase.**

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

Significant calls: Nothing outstanding

Hazard Mitigation Collections:

November received \$0 Still working on over \$15K, will be receiving \$ in January.

Projects:

Strategic Plan Rollout: If you are interested in serving or know of someone who would like to, please have them contact me.

Policy Review:

I have begun to review and will bring any changes to the board for approval potentially beginning in January 2026.

IT:

Some scanner repairs. Mr. Temple worked with the vendor of our refurbished computer and they replaced the defective part.

Repeater:

Going to resurrect this group. May be without Mr. Zappia, who we were really hoping could assist. He is currently unable, so we will attempt to move on beginning in January.

Admin:

Worked on lighting up walkway and parking. Ramp comes next week when concrete has time to dry during the holidays.

Activities:

Denise has been very busy obtaining and sending documents for our audit. Things are going well. We have been able to deliver everything they have asked for, and the audit

firm is very pleased with our ability to do so. We look forward to the results so we can improve should any deficiencies be found.

Capt. Olander finished up his Arson I course and will continue with Arson II.

FF Ben Brewer was selected to move into full-time position.

FF Ben Brewer enrolled in an EMT refresher program in December, to then be able to challenge the test. After that, he will attend the Whetstone Fire Academy beginning in January, with the hopes of testing and being certified FF II soon after. Reserve FF Aysia Roar is looking to test for EMT. If she passes, she too will be FF/EMT certified.

Major movement on training our newest members, as well as drills by current members. Critical to our operations. Kudos to Capt. Olander and rest of team for the work.

SCBA mask fit testing complete. Ladder testing is complete. SCBA flow testing on 12/17, and fire extinguisher testing are also coming soon in Dec/Jan.

Arizona State Mutual Aid Compact. Documents have been sent and accepted.

I have now met with all Pastors of churches in district. Will be working on potential AED program for entire district. Early CPR and Defibrillation are most powerful tools in gaining Return of Spontaneous Circulation (ROSC). Possibility for grants....will begin checking.

2nd meeting with Camaro Valley Homeowners on Dec 16th. Will be discussing tapping into owned water tanks and home protection sprinklers, etc.

Purchased 1 refurbished AED. All of ours are no longer useable or supported. We got all we could safely out of them, but we had to act. Too critical to wait for grants, etc.

Grant Activities:

GOHS- Tools are in! They are gorgeous and our troops are thrilled. They have been placed into inventory and training will begin soon. Will begin process of receiving reimbursement. We have had several stories by the press go out about the new tools.

Ak-Chin Grant- We have signed the contract and sent the wet-signature back to Ak-Chin. Once that is received, funding will be carried out projected in January 2026. We expect that by the end of January, the turnout extractor will be operational. This will greatly reduce our FF exposure to chemicals and smoke debris, thus reducing the risk of cancer, which is currently the number one cause of FF death.

BOS Grant- Nozzle in, awaiting hose delivery.

Getting ready for Firehouse subs grant, will ask for turnouts as ours have "timed out".

Looking at DFFM grant for fuels reduction around district, which will help with wildfire spread. Very in-depth application, trying to get all info together...hopefully in time.

HRFSA- wrote for two pickup trucks, fully loaded with EMS, rescue and other safety equipment. This will improve safety, ensure we have at least one truck in service and have capabilities to get back into tight spaces with new ATV rescue. GREAT NEWS! WE'VE MADE IT PASSED THE SECOND CUT! NO GUARANTEES, BUT IT'S A GREAT PLACE TO BE! Update: We have now made it through and are part of the actual bill the Senators and Congressmen are requesting be funded at the national level! One more step forward! Decisions are not likely until December 2025.

I am less optimistic on this due to the severe cutbacks and state delegated costs from the federal government. We will continue to hope for this as it would be tremendous. I have left a voicemail with Senator Kelly's office asking about standing....no response yet.

Working with Reps on station build and road from Mescal to a connection going east, to give northern residents 2nd way out and a 2nd way in for our response. Not going to be easy, but we're trying.

AFG- Suppression helmets, boots, gloves, not open yet

100 Club- PPE, not open until March.

SAFER- we cannot afford to write for it due to matching %.

FPS- 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.

Arizona 1st and USDA- will be utilizing them hopefully for portions of the plan.

I have been working with SEAGO and they have developed an overall general timeline for process of building a fire station. It is a start, and they have done a tremendous amount of work for free! SEAGO has helped with building phases, general knowledge.

Will be meeting with realtor and architect to begin developing outline of station design. This is necessary as we ask for grants, etc going forward. We have some great partners working with us who have been doing things gratis. More to come hopefully in Jan. Continue to work on land and donations, it's a balancing act.