MESCAL-J6 FIRE DISRICT

Ed Nied - Fire Chief

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Fire Chief Report
October 2026
Presented at November 18, 2026, Board Meeting

Incidents: 10/1- 10/30 - -69 total; fire- 16; EMS-42 ; other-11
Total for 2026-- 596; 2025--543-; **increase of 53 or 10% which is again high. Nov has been busy as well.**

Mutual aid: given-6, received- 2; billable calls-7

Significant calls: Several serious MVAs and Semi fires.

Hazard Mitigation Collections: $1795.20 for September
Still working on 21 claims totaling $32,110.25 with 3 calls still awaiting input due to lack of information from DPS as of now.

Projects:
WL Plan
The packets for interest have been distributed to Terry Koepple, who will act as liaison for the Cumaro Valley. We have put it on our website and FB page so both CC and PC residents will have the choice to participate in the water tank portion. We are attempting to solidify dates for the educational piece. District residents and service area residents can come to the educational piece. At this time we have only found funding for chippers/roll-offs for Pima County residents. I am working with CC office of Emergency Management to see what we can do for our CC service area.

Repeater:
Awaiting instructions on access. We will need to have coordination meeting prior to install to ensure radio coverage, etc through process. Once that is done and we have access, we will install. Plan is to hopefully go look at site Tue the 17th. We will need to purchase a $3000 repeater, which is significantly less than the $10000 one. This along with our antenna are being reviewed to ensure we are doing things right and are fiscally responsible as much as possible.

Activities:
If Board passes, will be setting up ASRS account with Nationwide as 457b plan admin. This will allow our FF to put away pre-tax dollars for long-term savings.

Please be patient with FOIA requests, not everything has migrated over yet. We are actively working to get the info out.

We have always had an issue gaining what our apparatus are actually worth for insurance purposes. We found a company who sells apparatus that has input selections which when totaled up, give you much more accurate info because it's based on what exact or very similar vehicles have been sold for recently. We have sent those numbers in and are awaiting final numbers from Provident. This should protect the district much better.

We will be asking the Board to approve the sale of Brush 172, a hand me down. There are a lot of things that are wrong with the vehicle that we simply don't have the money to fix, so it's better to sell it and utilize the funding we receive. We estimate by using the above-mentioned site that the actual worth of the vehicle is between $8,000- $15,000. If the Board approves, we will be putting it on an on-line site or two, depending upon their take, so we can hopefully get the most out of it that we can. We have clear title and no contracts prohibiting its sale.

There is a collective group working towards the establishment of a "Safety Corridor", initial thoughts are from I-10 283 to the 191 south exit. Things that potentially could be part of this is increased signage, trucks-right hand lane only, More DPS presence and possibly others. It's in the data phase right now and we were asked to send ours in for the last 10 months. It is as follows:

65 MVAs—13 of which were non-accident, stranded cars, etc., involving 47 passenger and 18 commercial
10 Fatalities
6 Extrications (not including recovery operations).
19 Serious injuries
16 Vehicle fires

Grant Activities:

Got our 4th quarter GOHS reporting in on time and we have not received an email with any corrections, etc. Still awaiting final word on closing it out but it was a hugely successful grant as it brought the battery-operated power tools to us, which we have utilized multiple times on MVA's mainly on I-10. Much faster extrication times = decreased time to surgeon.

100Club grant for structural PPE has been executed and paperwork is in for reimbursement. Grant = $17.625.00, we came in under at $17,481.28 so the grant covered everything and no additional money had to be spent. That outfitted our 3 FT FF completely head to toe. We are still working on grants, etc for the fourth FF's ensemble.

2027 GOHS grant for stabilization equipment has been executed and has been arriving as available. Once all in, we will submit for reimbursement.

We submitted 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.

CDS/HRSA "grant"- up to date on elements required. Once final total is given, we will be meeting on 17th with PO to ask some specific questions. Meeting here Th to go over entirety of vehicles/equipment/etc. so we can put in our updated budget.

AFG/FP&S- I was just informed we made it to the last step but were ultimately not funded. We will attempt again and try to improve our application. I've already taken a class on this, so I can hopefully improve our application.

Working with Gary Lakin's 501c3 to potentially assist with gaining part or all of last turnout ensemble needed for our FT FF. This will bring us into NFPA compliance as current turnouts are timed out.

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