



**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023**

The Emergency Services Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Monday, February 28, 2023, by Chair Heidi Sparks

**Members Present:** Heidi Sparks- Chair, Irv Wilke- Vice Chair (tardy), Richard Klose, Jodi Mackay, Jamie Swecker, Jim Irwin (tardy)

**Others Present:** Police Chief Stan Langve, Fire Chief Brent Peters, Ambulance Director Lyndy Gurchiek, Troy Charbonneau- Ambulance Dept

**Public Input:**

Jayson Nicholson- - Jayson stated that he would like to have a working relationship between the city and the fire department. They would like to have a seat at the table to have a voice in the conversations.

Johnathan Gotchall- Jon stated that he spoke at the council workshop last week and did not mean to come across in a negative way if that's how it came across.

**General Items**

1. Approval of Emergency Services Committee minutes of January 23, 2023. Richard Klose moved to approve the minutes; Jodi Mackay seconded- Motion carried 4-0

**New Business**

2. Update from Emergency Departments
  - a. Police Department Chief Langve – Report attached
    - i. Items to note:
      1. Decrease in overall calls. One officer at the academy, but should return to duty in March
      2. Article will be coming out in The Outlook, there has been an increase in mental health related calls
      3. Montana Attorney General Austin Knudson stated there has been a 11,100% increase in Fentanyl seizures since 2019
        - a. Jodi asked why Fentanyl has become so prevalent. Chief Langve stated it increased the addiction of the drug. Approximately 1/3 of population gets highly addicted to opioids.
      4. Roughly 70 Fentanyl overdoses for the state since January 1<sup>st</sup>.
      5. Jodi gave feedback on CIT training- she has attended this is previous occupation and thought it was beneficial. Happy to hear the ER Services taking this training
    - b. Fire Chief Brent Peters – Reports will be provided for next month
      - i. Items to note:
        1. Brent provided information on the training that the Fire Department goes through in the 1<sup>st</sup> year they are in the department. There are 2 manuals that they are provided and they go through both manuals in the 1<sup>st</sup> year

2. There is also a pager that is provided to each of the firefighters. Brent has provided a pager to the Emergency Services committee members to rotate around the member, starting with Chair Heidi Sparks
3. Brent stated as of midnight tomorrow, March 1, 2023, he will no longer be the Fire Chief, as he has resigned from the position. He stated that he has concerns about the administration of the city and stated that he is sad the fire department is the area that is bringing this to a head. Brent also stated that he cannot perform as a department head when his boss is not present, he has asked for meetings with the mayor but has not been able to get a meeting outside of his performance review, which was interrupted and never completed
4. Brent stated he was asked to pull his letter of resignation, but the mayor would not allow that
5. Jodi stated she is extremely thankful for the services and work that the department provides to the city and the citizens
6. Richard stated that American Legion has a Fire Fighter and Police Officer of the Year award, which he was very disappointed with the turnout for that recognition. He stated he wants to thank all 3 of the departments for the work that they do
7. Irv stated that when he moved to the city in 1991, the negative perception of the Fire Department was what he saw from the department. He has seen a change in the department over the years
8. Brent invited the committee to attend training, which takes place on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm-10:00pm. Rookie training takes place on Thursday evenings
9. Brent introduced JW is a deputy chief for the Fire Department and Brent stated JW will be attending the Emergency Service committee meetings going forward
- c. Ambulance Director Lyndy Gurchiek – Reports will be provided at next meeting
  - i. Items to note:
    1. Lyndy has been involved in calls and did not have a chance to prepare formal reports, will provide these at March meeting
    2. Completed Legal Blood Draw policy and procedure for her team to be able to complete these for the Police Department. Currently with City Attorney for prior approval to be able to start training.
    3. Working on recertification and continued education for department
    4. Local Emergency Planning Committee has asked Laurel Ambulance to start being involved in this group. Lyndy and Troy will be attending on behalf of Laurel
    5. Community Outreach has begun. Two staff members have been at the walk-in clinic working with them on options for potential home visits
      - a. Car seat clinics have been taking place. Mandy has attended or provided two car seat clinics

#### **Old Business:**

#### **Other Items:**

#### **Announcements**

3. Next Meeting will be Monday, March 27, 2023, at 6:00pm in Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm





# Laurel Police Department

215 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Laurel, Mt. 59044 ▪ Phone 406-628-8737 ▪ Fax 406-628-4641

**Chief of Police Stanley J Langve**

February 27, 2023

## Emergency Services Report February 2023

For the reporting period of January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 27<sup>th</sup> 2023 the FAP saw a decrease in the average number of calls for service with 581. We are at 1, 266 calls for service this year. Part of the impact of this on the Police side is that Officer Seibert is at the academy and we are still working to fill the remaining vacant Patrol Officer position. Those two positions represent nearly 30 % of our Patrol Division and unfortunately we have had to run some single Officer shifts. The very cold weather also seems to impact call volume for a short period of time so that might be a bit fortuitous.

Kylee Nelson graduated the Montana Law Enforcement Academy's Dispatcher Basic Academy on the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month. We were also able to send dispatchers to Crisis Intervention training in Billings this last month. Known by its initials C. I. T. it is interactive and in depth two day training to help recognize those in mental health crisis and provided tools to deal with those in need. There was a lot of positive feedback from those who attended.

The Police Department has seen an increase in mental health related calls, thefts, vehicle break ins, and burglaries. One burglary was while the resident was at home. I believe that there is a correlation with the prevalence of Fentanyl in Montana. Montana Attorney General Austin Knudson was on national television this past weekend speaking to the subject. He reported that there was a 11,100% increase in Fentanyl seizures since 2019. I have attached the OD Map report for 2022. It shows 1,103 suspected Overdoses of Fentanyl with 160 fatalities and 408 administrations of Naloxone. The Police Department has carried Naloxone for at least five years now and was able to replenish their stock through a state program recently.

March will inevitably see a large increase in calls, not only with the warmer weather and more activity, but with the large Cenex Refinery turnaround ramping up. Cenex has taken measures to mitigate the impact of the turn around and has readily offered to compensate the city for incurred overtime associated with increased traffic control presences and supplement overtime shifts to cover when we only have single Officer shifts.

Respectfully,

Chief Langve



# Laurel Police Department

215 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street Laurel, Mt. 59044 • Phone 406-628-8737 • Fax 406-628-4641

Total Calls

Printed on April 10, 2023

[CFS Date/Time] is between '2023-01-30 00:00' and '2023-02-27 23:59' and

[Primary Incident Code->Code : Description] All

---

Code : Description	Totals	
10-15 : With Prisoner	0	0
: Abandoned Vehicle	18	18
: Agency Assist	50	50
: Alarm - Burglary	9	9
: Alarm - Fire	6	6
AMB : Ambulance	96	96
: Animal Complaint	7	7
: Area Check	8	8
: Assault	2	2
: Bad Checks	0	0
: Barking Dog	3	3
: Bomb Threat	0	0
: Burglary	2	2
: Child Abuse/Neglect	2	2
: Civil Complaint	3	3
: Code Enforcment Violation	1	1
: Counterfeiting	0	0

<b>Code : Description</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
: Criminal Mischief	2	2
: Criminal Trespass	1	1
: Cruelty to Animals	3	3
: Curfew Violation	1	1
: Discharge Firearm	0	0
: Disorderly Conduct	9	9
: Dog at Large	12	12
: Dog Bite	0	0
DUI : DUI Driver	6	6
: Duplicate Call	3	3
: Escape	0	0
: Family Disturbance	11	11
: Fight	0	0
FIRE : Fire or Smoke	11	11
: Fireworks	0	0
: Forgery	0	0
: Found Property	3	3
: Fraud	5	5
: Harassment	6	6
: Hit & Run	5	5
: Identity Theft	0	0

<b>Code : Description</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
: Indecent Exposure	0	0
: Insecure Premises	5	5
: Intoxicated Pedestrian	4	4
: Kidnapping	0	0
: Littering	0	0
: Loitering	0	0
: Lost or Stray Animal	8	8
: Lost Property	3	3
: Mental Health	0	0
: Missing Person	3	3
: Noise Complaint	4	4
: Open Container	0	0
: Order of Protection Violation	0	0
: Parking Complaint	17	17
: Possession of Alcohol	0	0
: Possession of Drugs	1	1
: Possession of Tobacco	0	0
: Privacy in Communications	0	0
: Prowler	0	0
: Public Assist	44	44
: Public Safety Complaint	2	2

<b>Code : Description</b>	<b>Totals</b>	
: Public Works Call	9	9
: Report Not Needed	8	8
: Robbery	0	0
: Runaway Juvenile	1	1
: Sexual Assault	3	3
: Suicide	0	0
: Suicide - Attempt	0	0
: Suicide - Threat	1	1
: Suspicious Activity	84	84
: Suspicious Person	8	8
: Theft	17	17
: Threats	1	1
: Tow Call	0	0
: Traffic Accident	17	17
: Traffic Hazard	2	2
: Traffic Incident	12	12
: TRO Violation	0	0
: Truancy	0	0
T/S : Traffic Stop	42	42
: Unattended Death	3	3
: Unknown - Converted	0	0



Code : Description	Totals	
: Unlawful Transactions w/Minors	0	0
: Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle	1	1
: Vicious Dog	0	0
: Warrant	11	11
: Welfare Check	14	14
<b>Totals</b>	610	610