

MINUTES
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday September 27, 2021 6 p.m.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

☒ Bruce McGee Chair
☒ Irv Wilke Co Chair
☒ Bill Mountsier

☒ Richard Klose
☒ Heidi Sparks
☒ Jim Irwin

Others Present: Fire Chief Peters, Ambulance Director Lyndy Gurchiek. Jamie Swecker.

Chair called meeting to order, noted that a quorum was present and ask for approval of the minutes of August 31 , 2021. Moved and approved.

Jamie Swecker made a personal presentation to the committee to be a member. Motioned by Bill Mountsier to recommend Mr. Swecker 2nd by Heidi Sparks motioned approved.

Report from Fire Chief Peters (see attached report.)

Highlights of Chief Peters report, new brush truck will coming first week of October. Squad 5 truck repairs dismantled and repairs moving forward. Fire prevention plans and station open house. Firefighter memorial event with Montana Governor Greg Gianforte a great and grand success. And an update on the condition of his cancer treatment for Firefighter McCleary.

Ambulance Director Gurchiek (see attached) staffing needs and changes including Fire Driver status currant reported by Director Gurchiek. Also offered was a possible future severe bleeding class. The idea of offering that to even council and committee members.

Director Gurchiek will bring an update in the future on the collection request from Councilwoman Sparks for the committee.

Old Business:

Chairman McGee offered and update and layed out the plan to the Ambulance Director on next steps for increasing Volunteer Ambulance staffing pay.

New business:

Parking issues, as related to 3rd Ave. It was motioned by Councilman Klose and second by Councilman Wilke and approved to make a formal request for a parking study to the Mayor.

Adjournment: Moved and Approved



Laurel Fire Department

Report for the Month of Aug-21

	Calls		Hours
Structure Fires	1		17
Wildland Fires	9		336
Extrications	8		123
Other Rescues			
Alarms	6		74
Medical Assist	6		48
Severity Staffing			1800
Other calls	9		89
	39	Totals	2000
Fire Prevention			
Total Training			250
Total Maintenance			80
Community Service			
Total			2330

Announcements: 9 Mutual Aid Requests for wild land fires for 100+ hours

Structure Firefighting

Conduct all levels of Structure Firefighting to include entry and attack, ventilation, salvage, overhaul, and investigation.

A structure fire is a fire involving the structural components of various types of residential, commercial or industrial buildings.

Wildland Firefighting

Wildfire, brush fire, bush fire, desert fire, forest fire, grass fire, hill fire, peat fire, vegetation fire.

Extrications

Rescue victims entrapped in automobiles, machinery, farm equipment, buildings, and trenches.

Other Rescues

Rope Rescue, Water Rescue, Ice Rescue

Alarms

Any false alarms or malfunctions.

Other Calls

EMS assist, Industrial or Aircraft firefighting, Vehicle Fire, Hazmat, Spills, Public safety, Investigations, gas leaks, Carbon Monoxide problems, etc.

2021 Running Totals

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total 2021
Requests	92	98	117	96	108	89	127	100					827
Missed Calls	8=9%	2=3%	10=9%	12=12%	8=7%	16=18%	11=9%	12=12%					79
Shortest Delay (minutes)	20	43	15	15	36	10	14	7					7
Longest Delay (minutes)	45	70	80	87	73	60	75	52					87
Average Delay (minutes)	25	47	30	50	61	36	35	23					41
Fire Driver Available	11	21	26	9	15	7	16	20					125
QRU Response w 1 Provider	6	1	5	7	3	14	9	9					54
On A Previous Call	3	1	4	2	1	1	1	1					14
No Crew / Provider Available	0	2	1	3	4	2	2	2					16
AMR Transported or Responded	4	1	5	7	5	5	4	5					36
Columbus Transported	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0					3
Joliet Transported	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1
Park City Transported	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0					2
Red Lodge Transported	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0					1
HELP Flight Transported	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0					2
POV Transport	3	1	4	3	2	2	3	3					21
PD Assisted Pt no transport	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0					1
Responses in Ward 5	21=23%	40=41%	30=26%	28=29%	36=33%	27=30%	43=34%	26=26%					251=31%

Other Reporting Information:

- We are working with MSU Paramedic Program to start assisting with their ambulance clinical time. One of our own EMTs is in the program and he will begin riding along in October. This is a great opportunity for us as a recruitment tool and to have a great partnership with an EMS training program.
- One full time paramedic has resigned due to receiving a full time position with BFD. He is a great paramedic and a big loss for us but we are very grateful to say that he will stay on as a volunteer. We are working on recruiting to fill that spot.
- We have brought on an additional EMT volunteer that lives here in Laurel and believe would fit in great with our staff. We have 2 paramedic applications for volunteers that we are looking at possibly bringing on.
- We have applied for an MDT grant for an ambulance, I believe we should hear back on whether we will be awarded this by mid October.
- We were not awarded the grant for First Responder Training class. I will work on ideas for funding of this course and see if we can find any other possible grants to apply for so that we can move forward with training of fire drivers.
- If you know of any businesses or groups that would like to have Stop the Bleed training, please let me know and we can work on getting a class scheduled.



Laurel Emergency Services Report created 8/13/21:

2020

1090 requests for service

159 times LEMS was unavailable

72 times AMR was unavailable*

288 responses in Ward 5 = 27% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

Recent Month Summary:

July 2021:

Requests	127
Missed Calls	11 = 9%
Shortest Delay	14 minutes
Longest Delay	1 hour 15 minutes
Average Delay	35 minutes
Fire Driver Available	16 times
QRU Response With 1 Provider	9 times **
On A Previous Call	1 time
No Crew / Provider Available	2 times
AMR Transported or Responded	4 times
Red Lodge Transported	0 time
HELP Flight Transported	1 time
Columbus Transported	0 time
Joliet Transported	1 time
PD Assisted Pt no transport	0 time
POV Transport	3 times
YCSO Transported	1 time
MHP Transported	1 time

**1 time the QRU responded and the patient refused / no transport to hospital or no patient found

* 43 responses in Ward 5 = 34 % of calls outside of the city of Laurel

2021 Running Totals

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total 2021
Requests	92	98	117	96	108	89	127						727
Missed Calls	8=9%	2=3%	10=9%	12=12%	8=7%	16=18%	11=9%						67
Shortest Delay (minutes)	20	43	15	15	36	10	14						10
Longest Delay (minutes)	45	70	80	87	73	60	75						87
Average Delay (minutes)	25	47	30	50	61	36	35						41
Fire Driver Available	11	21	26	9	15	7	16						105
QRU Response w 1 Provider	6	1	5	7	3	14**	9**						45
On A Previous Call	3	1	4	2	1	1	1						13
No Crew / Provider Available	0	2	1	3	4	2	2						13
AMR Transported or Responded	4	1	5	7	5	5	4						31
Columbus Transported	0	0	0	1	1	1	0						3
Park City Transported	1	0	1	0	0	0	0						2
Red Lodge Transported	0	0	0	0	0	1	0						1
HELP Flight Transported	0	0	0	0	0	1	1						2
POV Transport	3	1	4	3	2	2	3						18
PD Assisted Pt no transport	0	0	0	0	0	1	0						1
Responses in Ward 5	21=23%	40=41%	30=26%	28=29%	36=33%	27=30%	43=34%						225=31%

**7 times the QRU responded and the patient refused / no transport to hospital or no patient found

Other Reporting Information:

- July was a busy month. One full time employee was out on light duty and a large part of our staff were gone for the month which made staffing difficult. Those that were working did an amazing job filling holes and covering as best as possible.
- One of our full timers has turned in his resignation, he has been hired on with the Billings Fire Department, we are very sad to see him go but excited for his opportunity. Hoping he will stay on as a volunteer.
- We have received approval from the City Council for bringing on a new volunteer EMT, she lives here in Laurel and we are excited to have her join our team.
- We changed the locks on the ambulance side of the building. Unfortunately we were unable to account for many keys from previous years and crew and equipment safety was a concern.
- We continue to move forward with training on new equipment and protocols.
- We would like to bring on one additional EMT volunteer that lives here in Laurel and believe would fit in great with our staff. We are hoping to wrap up some of the other new hires training and once they are cut loose will re evaluate our staffing numbers to determine if we want to bring on more staff.
- We have applied for an MDT grant for an ambulance, I believe we should hear back on whether we will be awarded this by mid October.

- We did receive permission from the state of Montana EMS & Trauma department to extend our waiver for fire drivers for another 6 months. It expired in July. We will continue to work on ways to try and ensure we have good staffing and ability to work with the fire department staff for assistance. We have not heard back on the grant for conducting a first responder class for them, I would anticipate this being announced anytime now.