



**MINUTES
CITY OF LAUREL
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE
MONDAY, APRIL 28, 2025**

The Emergency Services Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Monday, April 28, 2025 by Chair- Heidi Sparks

Members Present: Heidi Sparks- Chair, Jodi Mackay- Vice Chair, Irv Wilke, Bruce McGee, Jamie Swecker

Others Present: Ambulance Chief Lyndy Gurchiek, Fire Chief JW Hopper

Public Input:

General Items:

1. Approval of Emergency Services Committee minutes of March 24, 2025. Bruce moved to approve the minutes; Irv seconded- Motion carried 5-0.
2. Update from Emergency Departments
 - a. Ambulance Chief Gurchiek- Report attached
 - i. Chief Gurchiek noticed an error on the report provided. This report is for 4/28/25, not 1/17/25
 - ii. Staffing- looking at recruiting more volunteers. Going to try to do ride-alongs to gain interest
 - iii. High school career fair was a successful event, and kids seemed very excited and engaged
 - iv. Irv asked about the car seats- can they take used car seats? Chief Gurchiek stated most likely not since they can't be certified. Might be able to take them to use for demonstration. Will check into that and get back to Irv.
 - v. Jamie thanked Chief Gurchiek
 - vi. Heidi asked about creating districts. This was mentioned during the discussions on the mill levy that passed previously. Chief Gurchiek stated there has not been any progress on an emergency service district yet. Chief Hopper stated he has been working on combining the fire districts and that is nearing completion. Goal is to combine all the individual fire districts into one district. Once the fire district restructure has been completed, then focus can move to the emergency service district(s). Chief Gurchiek stated they are charging a \$150 fee each time they respond to Ward 5, which is the out of area calls.
 - b. Fire Chief JW Hopper- Report attached
 - i. DNRC class took place over this past weekend. Those hours are not included in the training hours YTD.
 - ii. Moving to a Minute Man lay with hoses. This is to improve efficiency and allows for only one individual to pull the hose in fire response.

- iii. Doll House burn- this is a house fire simulation. Floors, windows, etc. are movable to train on fire patterns and how a fire moves through a structure.
- iv. Dave Powers' funeral is Wednesday, April 30 at 11:00am
- v. House Fire on Long Meadow Drive- This is the first Tesla fire in Laurel, second Tesla fire in the state. Fire department is adopting a "let it burn" policy for Tesla vehicles and other EVs. There is an EV fire hotline to contact for guidance. Undetermined cause of the fire, but it looks like something with the car as the cause.
- vi. Wildfire season is right around the corner. Very concerned about this season as there has been a lot of growth. DNRC is also predicting this to be a bad fire season. Will be partnering with Lockwood around staffing.

New Business:

- 3. Next meeting falls on Memorial Day.
 - a. Irv made a motion to move meeting to Monday, May 19, 2025 at 6:30pm after Public Works meeting. Bruce seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business:

Other Items:

Announcements:

- 4. Next Meeting will be Monday, May 19, 2025, at 6:30pm in Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm



LAUREL FIRE DEPARTMENT

215 West 1st Street • Laurel, Mt • 59044 • Office 406.628.4911 • Fax 406.628.2185

Emergency Services Meeting 3/24/2025– 4/28/2025

Calls-

- Responded to 62 **Total** Calls for 3/24/2025 – 4/28/2025.
- Total Hours on Calls-
 - Firefighters – **435**
 - Officers – **356**
 - Combined Hours – **791**
 - Training Hours - **1669 HRS YTD**

Training-

- Joint Training with PD/EMS/Fire
 - Active Shooter
- Minute Man lay (hose cross lays)
- Doll House Burn (house fire simulation)
- DNRC Training will continue over the next three months.
 - Chiefs Certification is complete.

Rookie School Training-

- Wildland Tactics
- Shelter Deployment
- Tender Operations

Department News-

- Current Numbers
 - 31 Members
 - One member resigned for personal and work reasons.
 - 7 firefighters currently in various stages of rookie school.
- Misc.-
 - Dave Powers Funeral
 - 4/3/2025 – Procession from Smith's Funeral Chapel 10:30AM & Funeral @ 11 AM.
 - House Fire on Long Meadow Drive (Hidden Lakes Subdivision)
 - Gallatin County Emergency Management Exercise
 - Montana State Fire Fighter Memorial
 - 6/13 Run
 - Food Trucks 5PM – 10PM
 - Hot Pants Dash 5PM
 - 5k Run 6PM
 - Fire Hose Pull @ 7PM
 - Live Music 7:30 to 10PM
 - Working to fill fire districts.
 - Wildland Season

Laurel Emergency Services Report created 1/17/25:

2021

1228 requests for service
135 times LEMS was unavailable
34 times AMR was unavailable
318 responses in Ward 5=26% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

2022

1238 requests for service
177 times LEMS was unavailable
48 times AMR was unavailable
351 responses in Ward 5=29% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

2023

1300 requests for service
171 times LEMS was unavailable
23 times AMR was unavailable
351 responses in Ward 5=27% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

2024

1363 requests for service
73 times LEMS was unavailable
14 times AMR was unavailable
373 responses in Ward 5=27% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

Recent Month Summary:

February 2025:

Requests	99
Missed Calls	5 = 5%
Shortest Delay	18 minutes
Longest Delay	38 minutes
Average Delay	27 minutes
Fire Driver Available	1 time
City Driver Available	0 times
QRU Response With 1 Provider	1 time **
On A Previous Call	5 times
2 Units On A Call	5 times
No Crew / Provider Available	0 time
AMR Transported or Responded	4 times*
Red Lodge Transported	0 times
HELP Flight Transported	0 times
HELP Amb Transported or Responded	1 time
Columbus Transported or Responded	0 times
Joliet Transported	0 time
Park City Transported	0 times
PD Assisted Pt or Transported	0 time
FD Assisted Pt no transport	0 times
POV Transport	0 times
Refusal or no transport	0 time
YCSO Transported	0 times
MHP Transported	0 times

**1 time the QRU responded to begin patient care – Care 2 returning from Billings for previous call. 0 times the QRU responded and the patient refused / no transport to hospital or no patient found. *1 time AMR responded and they were cancelled enroute – FD/PD provided lift assist
29 responses in Ward 5 = 29% of calls outside of the city of Laurel
1 LEMS response for mutual aid. None of these responses resulted in LEMS not being available for another call.



2025 Running Totals

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total 2024
Requests	124	123	99										346
Missed Calls	1	7	5										13
Shortest Delay (minutes)	38	12	18										12
Longest Delay (minutes)	38	40	38										40
Average Delay (minutes)	38	29	27										31
Fire Driver Available	2	6	1										9
City Driver Available	1	0	0										1
QRU Response w 1 Provider	2	0	1										3
On A Previous Call	1	7	5										13
2 Units On A Call	8	6	5										19
No Crew / Provider Available	0	0	0										0
AMR Transported or Responded	0	2	3										5
Columbus Transported or Responded	0	1	0										1
Joliet Transported	1	1	0										2
Park City Transported	0	0	0										0
Red Lodge Transported	0	0	0										0
HELP Flight Transported	0	0	0										0
HELP Amb Transported or Responded	0	1	1										2
POV Transport	0	0	0										0
PD Assisted Pt or transported	0	1	0										1
FD Assisted Pt no transport	0	0	0										0
YCISO Transported	0	0	0										0
MHP Transported	0	0	0										0
QRU/AMR, Refusal or No Patient	0	1	1										2
Responses in Ward 5	28	36	29										93
LEMS response for mutual aid	1	3	1										5

Other Reporting Information

*correction made after report given

- staffing – We will start working on recruitment for possibly bringing on a couple more volunteer.
- we have had several ambulance maintenance issues, working on keeping things rotated to try and ensure we have 2 trucks to respond at a time.
- taught stop the bleed to the CHS refinery rescue squads. ~50 or so individuals total in those classes.
- April 16th we participated in the high school career fair.
- Mandi participated in 2 car seat events and handed out 6 car seats. She did a great job promoting Safe Kids of Yellowstone County on the news recently and reminded everyone of the can donation program to help buy car seats.
- will begin working on budget