



SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT

SERVING RESIDENTS OF THE SUNSTITES-PEARCE FIRE DISTRICT,
AND NEIGHBORING COCHISE COUNTY

Mailing Address: PO Box 507, 105 TRACY ROAD PEARCE, AZ 85625

PHONE: (520) 826-3645 FAX: (520) 826-3586

Fire Chief's Report for February 18th, 2025

Call Volume as of January 31st:

January Call Volume: 77

Fire: 31

EMS: 46

2025: 77

Training:

1. EMS training completed including BLS IV skills.
2. Annual Wildland refresher complete.
3. On duty training continues at the shift level on various topics.
4. I taught an S-215 Wildland Urban Interface Operations course to 20+ students from multiple agencies in Sierra Vista.
5. Two employees are registered for the Arizona Wildfire Fire and Incident Management Academy in Prescott in March.

Wildland:

1. Forecasts indicate Cochise County is expected to see above average temperatures, below average moisture and above normal fire activity for March-June.
2. We are working in conjunction with USFS, BLM, DFFM, and other Fire Districts within the county to create a structure triage preplan within Cochise County. This will help us effectively order and deploy resources when wildland fires threaten residential areas.
3. Currently working with DFFM to schedule a wildfire safety day to discuss wildfire preparedness with the community.
4. There is lots of confusion and uncertainty at the federal level regarding staffing and funding levels for the USFS, BLM, and other federal fire agencies. This could lead to an increased demand on local resources during the upcoming fire season. We are adjusting our hiring to be prepared for this.

Out of District Services:

1. Dragoon annexation progress continues, have received feedback on mapping changes. Anticipating a community meeting in the 2nd week of March before moving to signature gathering.

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Emergency Medical Services:

1. New ambulance rate is in effect.
2. New ambulance from Ak-Chin grant here and expected to be in service February 25th.

Hazardous Materials and Technical Rescue:

1. Participated in the county HazMat team quarterly training which involved the use of air monitors, radiation detection, and activation of the AZ National Guard's 91st Civil Support Team.

Maintenance

1. E302 is back in service
2. E305 is at SV fleet for maintenance and pump testing
3. Station and vehicle maintenance continues.

Communications:

1. Ak-Chin grant money has been received at the County. The County is awaiting a signature from the Ak-Chin board before transferring money into our account.
2. Coordination continues with the water company clearing around, testing, and marking fire hydrants. Roughly 75% of the 69 identified hydrants are in service and able to flow water. Exact flow capacities have not been tested.
3. Fire danger sign with indicators for no burn days has been ordered. Unknown delivery date. Working with county roads to get final approval for installation south of Ironwood Rd along the shoulder of southbound Highway 191.

Staffing

1. All fulltime positions are currently filled.
2. Additional hiring and orientation is underway to meet the demands of our increased call volume and expected spring/summer fire activity.
3. Part-time and volunteer staff have been engaged in training and picking up shifts.
4. Anticipate adding at least one full-time position next fiscal year. Further discussion on this topic as we start budget planning for next fiscal year.

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