



GOLDEN FIRE DEPARTMENT

YEAR IN REVIEW
2020



An Introduction from Fire Chief Welch

“Several well trained volunteer firefighters achieved personal and career goals by being hired by area fire departments.”



2020 has been a unique and challenging year in Golden and around the world. The large-scale pandemic hit us hard, but I am proud to report that your Golden Firefighters met every challenge thrown their way, while continuing to provide quality services to our community. As I look back over the year and all the amazing things we have accomplished despite what COVID 19 threw at us, I'm grateful to my staff for the pandemic response actions they put in place to keep our personnel and community safe.

Although the pandemic required our focused attention much of the year, the entire GFD team worked very hard in the pursuit of excellence. In January we hired four career firefighters through the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant, which has significantly improved our daily response capability. After 46 years of dedicated service Volunteer Assistant Chief Bob Burrell was promoted to Deputy Chief. Our Mechanical Technician went through an internal fire academy and achieved Firefighter I, Hazardous Materials First Responder, and Ropes I and II certifications. We brought on board four new Lateral Firefighters who each have been welcomed contributors to our overall success. Several well-trained volunteer firefighters achieved personal and career goals by getting hired by area career fire departments.

The administrative staff was dedicated to supporting daily GFD operations. In partnership with our volunteer members we spent the year developing a strategic plan, which was completed in January and ready for implementation February 2021. We received a grant award from the International Association of Fire Chief's which allowed us to develop a diversity and inclusion program bringing quarterly training to our members. The grant also supported improvements to our marketing and recruitment efforts. 2020 also saw the launch of our Stipend Program that has supported our volunteers for their commitment to the Department, and has also helped in our daily staffing capability.

Together, our Assistant Fire Marshal, Quintana and Operations Captain, Steinhoff worked throughout the year to identify and select the best uniform compliment for our members. They selected a new uniform vendor and manufacturer to help us look professional while maintaining important safety standards. In addition to new work uniforms, all members received exercise clothing, winter coats, and work or technical boots. We also identified a new turnout gear vendor and worked most of the year outfitting several folks with new firefighting pants and coats. The year began with gear inspections and subsequent repairs to ensure our firefighters are in safe and effective PPE. Staff worked with vendors and area career agencies to acquire 60 sets of used PPE for the 2021 training academy. This will save wear and tear on gear during academy and provide cost savings for the purchase of more new equipment following graduation.

In June the City and Department celebrated Captain Tom Young for thirty years of resilience and amazing contributions to the fire service. Although COVID has kept Captain Young from working in the office with us, it hasn't stopped him from producing outstanding media services to our community. GFD and the Golden Fire Foundation partnered with BGoldN to support food insecure families and area restaurants during the pandemic. Inspector Priestly, Captain Young and Chief Stricker produced several weeks of virtual safety messaging for our community. Several of the team supported the American Red Cross Get Your Blood Pumping Campaign where we raised more than \$6,000 in support of their blood donation program.

The GFD Apparatus and Tool/Equipment Committees were hard at work debating and deliberating on the best resources for GFD members. They worked hard writing specifications for a new rescue truck and identifying the most safe and efficient tools available. This year we have purchased three drones, a compliment of electric extrication tools, new lighter weight firefighting helmets, an automatic compression device for CPR, wet suits and swift water gear, a face mask testing machine, and several sets of new turnout gear.

Deputy Chief Stricker and Administrative Coordinator Debbie Testroet deserve our appreciation for their dedicated work on station improvement projects. The health and safety of our members is of primary concern and last year can be considered a win in terms of facility upgrades. Station 21 received new flooring, beds, laptop and printer, and an industrial laundry machine. Fire Station 24 has received several improvements including new siding and paint which have the station looking like a brand-new building. The firefighters completed a landscaping project to provide a beautiful outdoor space as well. New window coverings, laptop and printer, electrical and plumbing upgrades were completed so that our resident, shift, and soon to be live-in firefighters will serve in comfort, safety, and style.

GFD staff are thoughtful about spending the public funds entrusted to us. In that light, our mechanic technician rebuilt our Type 6 Brush Truck, upgraded an urban terrain vehicle (UTV) for faster response to Clear Creek and area trails, and began the installation of new Mobile Data Terminals to our heavy fleet.

November brought a new emergency medical services (EMS) partner to town which has added a third ambulance to the Golden area. This addition improved response times to community members when they suffer a medical emergency. The final significant project in 2020 involved the decision and selection of a contracting firm to conduct a feasibility study for GFD, Fairmount Fire Protection District, and Pleasant View Metropolitan District. The study will inform us as to how we can collaborate more effectively as neighboring public safety partners.

In the end, 2020 was not an easy year for many of us, personally or professionally. However, when we took a moment to reflect on the year, we are proud of the service we provided through effective response and quality programming. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

Alicia Welch, Fire Chief

A FEW ACCOMPLISHMENTS ACHIEVED IN 2020

- Purchased 10 portable radios
- Updated auto aid agreements
- Provided safety boots for all personnel
- Purchased Brush 1 and Prepared for service
- Building inspections, reviews, new construction
- Completed diversity & inclusion training
- Received more donations, fund raising
- Provided birthday drive-bys for children
- Purchased three drones & trained FAA certified pilots
- Enacted E tools
- Added four career firefighters
- Enabled Freedcamp to manage all GFD projects
- Station 24 remodeled, updated landscaping and painted
- Station 21 provided new flooring, beds, laptops, fitness equipment
- Established a fund to support firefighters impacted by pandemic
- Purchased lightweight helmets
- Started accepting lateral firefighters
- Purchased a Lucas Auto CPR device
- Installed mobile data terminals in apparatus
- Created a new recruitment model
- Updated organizational chart
- Began using PStrax inventory tool
- Rescue replacement change from Tower replacement
- Developed a virtual Safety Week for citizens during pandemic
- Purchased a SCBA fit tester
- Changed EMS providers to Stadium Medical
- Stipend benefit initiated
- Completed first Strategic Plan
- Purchased swift water gear
- Integrated Target Solutions to start 1/1/21
- Celebrated Tom Young Day
- Turnout gear repaired and replaced
- Updated uniforms
- Modified Utility One vehicle to be utilized for rescues
- Modified donated UTV for service
- Purchased new wet suits
- Purchased winter jackets

DEPARTMENT

MISSION & VALUES

MISSION

The mission of the Golden Fire Department's dedicated professionals is to enhance the quality of life for the Golden Community through fire and injury prevention, education and the protection of life and property.

CORE VALUES

Integrity

Loyalty

Accountability

Service

Trust

VISION STATEMENT

To be the Best combination fire department in the country.

CITY & DEPARTMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

10.9

Square Miles

POPULATION

20,749

ANNUAL BUDGET

\$2,850,391

ISO Rating: 2

104

**Number of
Uniformed
Personnel**

2

**Number of
Civilian
Personnel**

2

**Fire
Stations**

4

Engines

1

**Ladder
Truck**

1

**Tower
Truck**

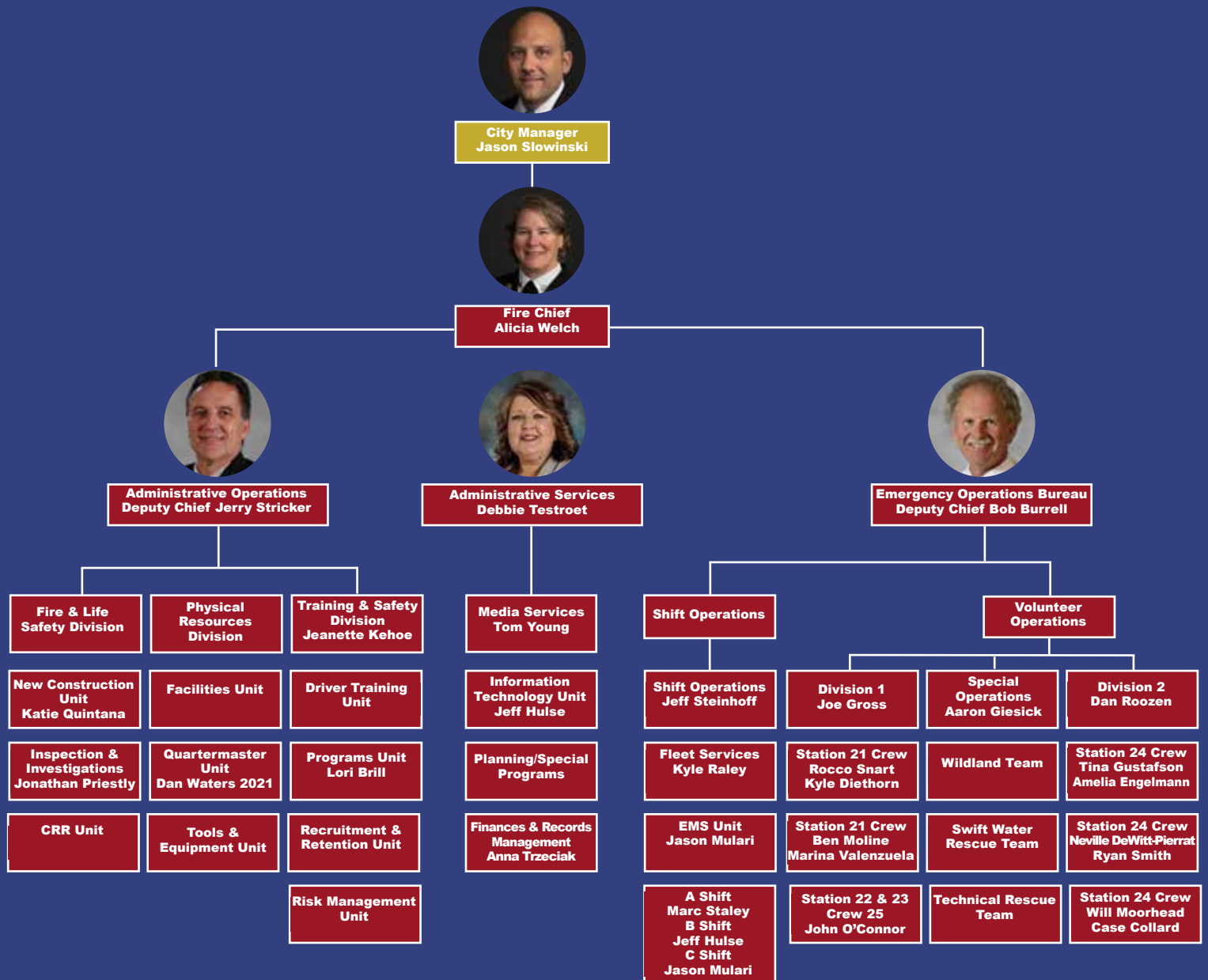
1

**Rescue
Truck**

2

**Brush
Trucks**

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



RESPONSE STATISTICS

Busiest Time

3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Busiest Day

Wednesday

Busiest Station

Station 21

Average

Response Time

6:15

Average On

Scene Time

17.5 Minutes

Auto/Mutual Aid

Given

98

Auto/Mutual Aid

Received

158

9 Wildland

Fires

5 Steep Slope

Evacuations

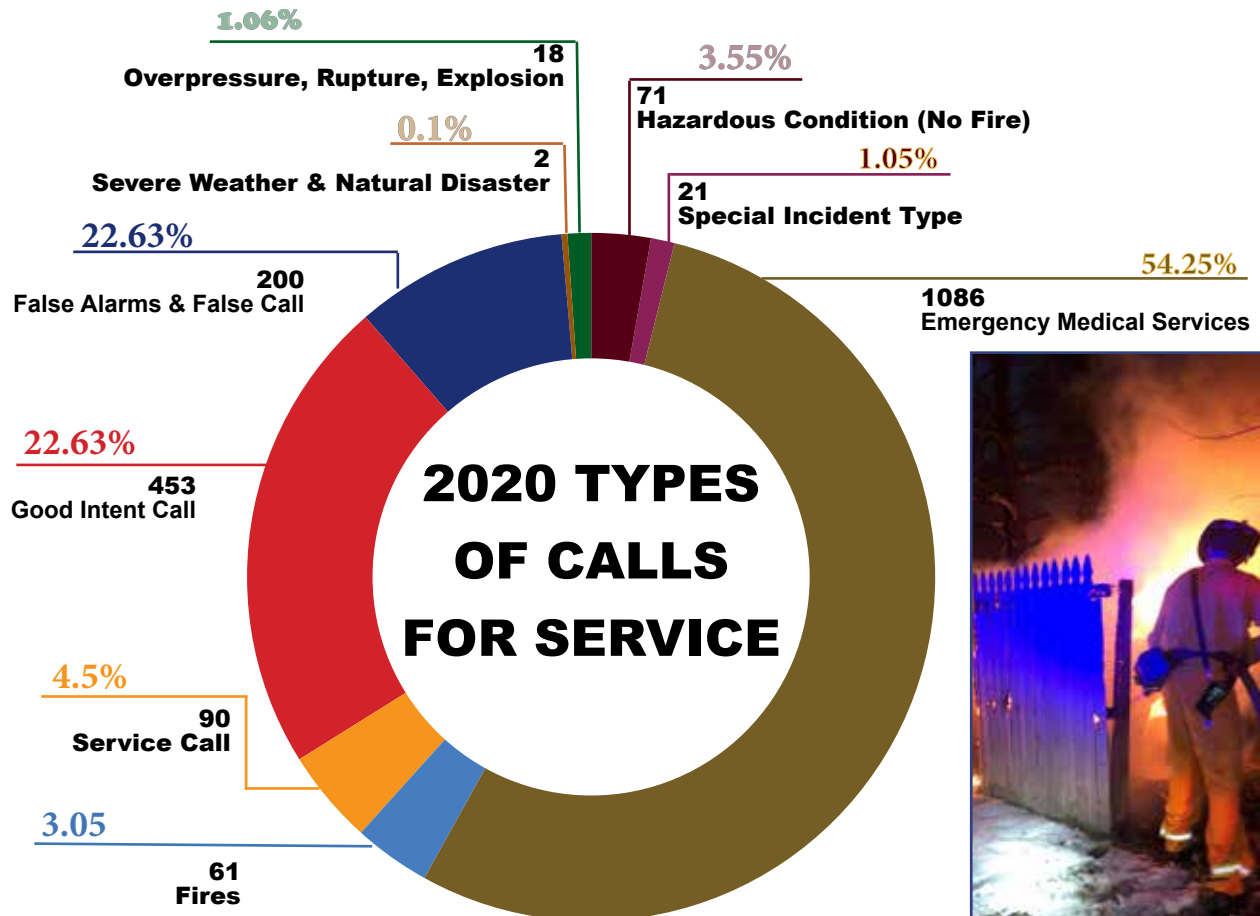
129 Vehicle

Crashes



UNIT	2019	2020
Battalion 21	190	248
Battalion 22	106	63
Battalion 23	98	113
Battalion 24	90	88
Brush 21	54	54
Engine 21	912	857
Engine 23	88	368
Engine 24	448	431
Engine 25	17	23
Tower 21	68	81
Truck 24	107	268
Rescue 21	267	160
Water Rescue	13	14
Utility 21	23	23
Utility 22	11	20

Incident by Type	2019	2020	+/-
Fires	61	61	0
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion	24	18	-6
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1276	1086	-190
Hazardous Condition (no fire)	82	71	-9
Service Call	129	90	-39
Good Intent Call	493	453	-40
False Alarm & False Call	190	200	+10
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	2	2	0
Special Incident Type	5	21	+16
Total Incidents	2262	2002	-260



Year in Review 2020

TRAINING DIVISION

2020 TRAINING DIVISION HOURS

Type of Training	Hours
EMS	1768
Driver Operator	1005
Fire Instructor	54
Fire Officer	1411
Firefighting	3658
Hazardous Materials	154
Technical Rescue	2863
Wildland	644
Total Training Hours	11,557



TRAINING DIVISION 2020 FACTS:

- 1/3RD OF OUR ANNUAL TRAINING WAS FOR ADVANCED CERTIFICATION TRAINING.
- 90% OF THE TRAINING IN 2020 WAS PROVIDED BY GOLDEN FIRE PERSONNEL.
- TEN MEMBERS ATTENDED A TWO-DAY EMS SYMPOSIUM PRESENTED BY ST. ANTHONY'S HOSPITAL.
- TWO MEMBERS COMPLETED THE DIVE RESCUE ICE RESCUE TRAINER COURSE IN JANUARY.
- TEN STAFF AND VOLUNTEER MEMBERS COMPLETED A 16-HOUR INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM 300 COURSE.
- TEN STAFF AND VOLUNTEER MEMBERS COMPLETED A 16-HOUR INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM 400 COURSE.

In 2020, the Golden Fire Department Training Division had planned to withhold offering a Recruit Academy so that the year could be spent focusing on other projects. Unfortunately, one of those projects was figuring out how to keep our firefighters and staff safe during the global COVID pandemic. To assure safety several annual training courses were cancelled including in-person wildland training, outside trainings at other agencies, and the Dive Rescue International Swiftwater Rescue training series. However, because

of these challenges new trainings were developed and presented in a remote format which helped increase attendance for those who could not make it into the station. There was an increase in small group trainings at the fire stations that could be conducted safely and help our firefighters keep their skills sharp. Despite the challenges of 2020 the GFD Training Division and members of the department coordinated and conducted over 10,000 hours of training. Below are a few highlights of the 2020 training activities.

Driver Training



Seven members completed advanced driver training and were certified as Colorado State Driver Operators for Utility, Rescue, Pumper, and Aerial apparatus.

Ropes Level I & II Training



Ice Rescue Certification



GFD hosted Dive Rescue International Ice Rescue Training Program. Two members completed the Certification.

11 members completed Rope Level I
Nine members completed Ropes Level II



FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

PLAN REVIEW ACTIVITY

Fire Permit Plan Reviews	156
Building Permit Plan Reviews	1005
Operational Permit Plan Reviews	26
CSM Permit Plan Reviews	18
K-12 Jefferson County Plan Reviews	7

INSPECTIONS ACTIVITY

Construction Inspections	336
Maintenance/Spot Inspections	681

OTHER DIVISION ACTIVITIES

Acting On Citizen Complaints	126
Colorado School of Mines Construction Meetings	36
Development Review Team Meetings	43



The COVID virus pandemic added a strain on the entire system and affected the Fire & Life Safety Division workload due to COVID logistics related work. The staff was required to temporarily quarantine locations, locate, and collect cleaning and personal protective equipment supplies. In addition, much time was spent on outdoor business expansion permits. This limited their ability to complete normal daily activities as reflected in this report.



\$183,864
Total Property Dollar Fire Loss
\$4,412,997
Total Property Dollars Saved
8 Car Seat Installations
8 Fire Investigations

Our prevention staff works closely with contractors to ensure buildings and fire systems are safe and built to code.

Fire & Life Safety Division
COVID Impact Staff Hours
910

Fire & Life Safety Division
Staff Hours of Training
425

Fire & Life Safety Division
Staff Incident Response
106



Since 2016, the Fire & Life Safety Division has been receiving plans electronically. Electronic plan review is convenient, speeds up the existing permitting process through replacing the traditional paper-based method. It has improved the plan review cycle, reduces costs and reduces paper usage.



The Fire & Life Safety Division is responsible to investigate fires to determine cause and origin. Currently, Chief Stricker and Fire Inspector Priestly are certified investigators. Deputy Fire Marshal Quintana is in the process of obtaining her certification.



We perform fire and life safety inspections utilizing public education to enforce the fire code. Depending on the occupancy, some inspections are completed annually.



This division assists new parents and grandparents on proper installation of child safety seats. In addition, the team provides public education to our target audience of children and seniors.

2021 Golden Fire Department Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Alicia Welch, Fire Chief
Debbie Testroet, Admin Coordinator
Jerry Stricker, Deputy Chief/Fire Marshal
Katie Quintana, Deputy Fire Marshal
Jonathan Priestly, Fire Inspector
Jeanette Kehoe, Training Captain
Jeff Steinhoff, Operations Captain
Tom Young, Administrative Captain
Lori Brill, Recruit Coordinator
Anna Trzeciak, Admin/Media Assistant
Kyle Raley, Firefighter/Fire Mechanic
Mark Testroet, Fire Chaplain

OPERATIONS COMMAND

Bob Burrell, Deputy Chief
Aaron Giesick, Operations Chief
Dan Roozen, District 1 Chief
Joe Gross, District 2 Chief

CAPTAINS

Neville Dewitt-Pierrat, Station 24
Tina Gustafson, Station 24
Ben Moline, Station 21
Will Moorhead, Station 24
John O'Connor, Station 21
Rocco Snart, Station 21

LIEUTENANTS

Case Collard
Kyle Diethorn
Amelia Engelmann
Ryan Smith
Marina Valenzuela

SHIFT OFFICERS

Jeff Hulse, Lieutenant
Jason Mulari, Lieutenant
Marc Staley, Lieutenant

SHIFT FIREFIGHTERS

Tony Orlando, Firefighter
Dan Watters, Firefighter
Chase Whitaker, Firefighter
Will Watts, Firefighter

FIREFIGHTERS

Joe Anderson II, Engineer
Shawn Arbuthnot, Firefighter
Jamie Baker, Firefighter
Michael Blasie, Firefighter
Andrew Buijs, Firefighter
Charlie Charbonneau, Firefighter
Christophe Cheroret, Firefighter
Andrea Crass, Firefighter
Andrew Crawford, Engineer
Brandon Dobson, Firefighter
Matthew Mason, Firefighter
Matt Finley, Engineer
Steven Flexser, Firefighter
Jason Fritch, Engineer
Damon Gentrup, Firefighter
Daniel Glynn, Engineer
Nate Globosky, Firefighter

Rick Gonzales, Engineer
Jacob Harris, Firefighter
Scott Hofmann, Engineer
Ryan Hyde, Firefighter
Andrew Impson, Firefighter
Cody Kalb, Engineer
Joshua Kenney, Firefighter
Stas Koptev, Firefighter
Alex Leininger, Firefighter
Braden Lipker, Firefighter
Charlie Mann, Firefighter
Chelsea Martinez, Firefighter
Kassandra Martinez, Firefighter
Jason Miller, Firefighter
Kris Nagy, Firefighter
Traver Nauslar, Firefighter
Truc Nguyen, Firefighter

Michael Palmer, Firefighter
Wes Polk, Engineer
Penny Reed, Firefighter
JJ Risch, Engineer
Penny Rogers, Firefighter
James Rudnicki -Vasquez, Engineer
George Stern, Firefighter
John Templeton, Engineer
Joe Trujillo, Firefighter
Scott Vigil, Firefighter
Joe Vogel, Engineer
Scott Washburn, Firefighter
Brittnie Weiler, Firefighter
Craig Weimer, Engineer
Jacob Wilmes, Firefighter
Melissa Winn, Firefighter
Jonathan Zoetewey, Firefighter

