



RICH WITH PROGRESS BEAUMONT FIRE-RESCUE

MONTHLY REPORT

MAY 2010

INSIDE:

Updates & Reports

Chief's Message	1
Administrative & Support Services	2
Emergency Operations	4
Community Risk Reduction	6
Fire Museum of Texas	7
Certification & Training	8
Communications & Preparedness	9
HR-Positions Report	12
Customer Survey Summary	14
Daily Staffing Report	15

*Beaumont Fire/Rescue Services
City of Beaumont*

Anne Huff, Fire Chief

Charles Mullins, Assistant Fire Chief

Danny Cross, Fire Administrator

Jack Maddox, Chief Fire Marshal

Keith Nolen, Chief Training Officer

*Keith Stewart, Chief Communications
Officer*

*Carol Gary, Executive Director-
Fire Museum of Texas*

Chief's Message

The story goes something like this...Three people were at work on a construction site. All were doing the same job, but when each was asked what the job was, the answers varied. "Breaking rocks," the first replied. "Earning my living," the second said. "Helping to build a cathedral," said the third. Each person saw the exact same slice of the world differently. That's part of what makes each of us unique creations. Our uniqueness is a truly a gift. It filters and sometimes drives our personal vision of how things are, and how we think they should be.

Organizational vision is different. This vision begins in creative minds, is shared through open interactions, and is institutionalized as words on paper—through the policies, regulations, and guidelines that we agree to operate within. The organization's vision is generally created by leaders and is a big-picture guiding philosophy or framework. An organization's vision should be consistent with its mission and values. Organizational visions are successful at fostering effectiveness to the extent that individuals align their personal visions with the organization's. "Vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more." (Rosabeth Moss Kanter)

The difficult part for leadership

is in communicating effectively enough for people to actually see and understand the vision, and then make the decision to make it part of their own. V. S. Naipaul saw our human propensity to stick with what we know rather than take a chance at the possibility of benefitting from change and growth when he said, "Most people are not really free. They are confined by the niche in the world that they carve out for themselves. They limit themselves to fewer possibilities by the narrowness of their vision." To see the vision, we have to be open to the possibilities, as opposed to the narrower and limiting "way we've always done it."

Stephen Wise most wisely stated, "Vision looks inwards and becomes duty. Vision looks outwards and becomes aspiration. Vision looks upwards and becomes faith." In 2005, representatives from all ranks and divisions in our department created a vision statement, mission statement, and organizational values (institutionalized as R&R 101.02). These are the framework we should strive to live by. When people ask me, "What's your vision for the department?" I can say that mine is most definitely aligned with our organization's. I'm a believer. Are you?

Administrative & Support Services

Personnel Updates:

The monthly extended leave update report was submitted to Human Resources on June 1.

Chief Huff facilitated annual district meetings with 53's district (all three shifts). Thanks to everyone for their participation, candor, and professionalism during the meetings.

Chief Jerry Lyons retired on May 6 with 30 years of service.

Budget Updates:

Chief Huff will be meeting with Budget Officer Elizabeth Shakour about the department's general fund budget on June 10. On April 22, she advised that the FY11 general fund budget would likely remain static or possibly be reduced. Division Chiefs entered FY10 projections in May and these will help to determine FY11 allocations. As information about the FY11 allocations becomes clearer, it will be distributed to everyone.

Grants Updates:

2010 Assistance to Firefighter's Grant: The AFG grant has a 20% matching requirement. Two AFG requests were submitted on May 28. This year's grant request(s) were for a replacement chassis for Unit 62 (Brush Truck), four (4) command centers (Cars 51, 52, 53, 54), four (4) SpCO monitors to monitor carbon monoxide exposures of fire

personnel, and an additional hydraulic rescue tool system.

Advisory Group/Committee Updates:

All advisory group/committee meeting minutes are available on the G: drive. Please access <G:\Shared Folder\Meeting Minutes> to access detailed meeting minutes.

The Medical Services Advisory Group met on May 3. New inventory sheets for station stock have been distributed to all locations. Medications should be ordered one month before the expiration date on the medicine. Patient care transfer reports are a part of the department's First Responder Organization status and will be instituted shortly. The report will be a two-page, carbonless report that will follow the Firehouse EMS report layout. The group also worked on the Fire-EMS integration proposal.

The Safety Committee met on May 4. No outstanding safety-related issues were discussed. There were no on-duty lost-time injuries and five (5) on-duty, no lost-time injuries were reviewed. There were no vehicle accidents reviewed. There were no exposure reports reviewed. Members are reminded to provide complete and detailed information on all accident and injury reports so that the committee can properly assess the preventability of the occurrence and provide appropriate feedback and follow-up relative to the circumstances.

The Diversity and Inclusion Council met on May 10. The group submitted a broad range of recommendations, but did not include cost projections, background

information or a feasibility analysis for any of the suggestions cited.

The Hazardous Materials Advisory Group met on May 18. The group discussed development of SOGs and their coordination with the City's Haz Mat Annex. They reviewed SOGs compiled from other cities and will format our SOGs around the nine (9) DOT hazard classes. Also discussed were increasing the deployment of Haz Mat 68 and billing for haz mat services.

Policy Updates:

Continuing pilot policies included:
R&R 103.01B - Sick & Off-Duty Injury Leave

Implemented this month:
R&R 103.01 - Accrual & Use of Leave Time

Final drafts/revisions of SOGs/R&Rs/PBs distributed for review on the monthly training memo were:
SOG 200.03 - After Action Reviews
SOG 202.04 - Residential Structure Fires
SOG 207.01 - Hurricane Preparedness & Response

SOGs/R&Rs/PBs that were distributed for member review and comment during the month included:
R&R 103.01C - On-Duty Injury & Worker's Compensation
R&R 103.01D - Emergency & Funeral Leave
R&R 103.01E - Vacation
R&R 103.01F - Personal Leave
SOG 603.02 - Medical Equipment Inventory & Maintenance

Policies in the rough draft stage of development during the month included:

R&R 103.01G - Holidays

SOG 108.01 - Injury Reporting & Review

SOG 202.02A - Hydrant Testing for Pre-Planning

Reformatting and renumbering of Firefighter Benchmarks 1-96 to Performance Benchmarks (PB) in the 402.XXX series and is in the works and should be completed during June. Development of policies and benchmarks will be ongoing.

Other News and Updates:

Chief Huff, along with Police Chief Frank Coffin and board members from the 100 Club, accepted a proclamation on May 11 recognizing the 100 Club and the assistance it provides to public safety officers' families in their time of greatest need. May was 100 Club Awareness Month. If you haven't become a member of the 100 Club yet, please consider it.

Mike Pietsch, a consultant who had a long career with the Insurance Services Office (ISO), was here in Beaumont May 25-27 to prepare for the community ISO grading survey that will begin on June 22. The ISO surveyor will be Mike Marks, who is retired from the Austin Fire Department. All personnel are asked to assist with survey preparations as necessary. Thanks in advance for helping us to receive the grading that we deserve.

Updates on the hurricane plan (SOG 207.01 and appendices) have been tweaked

for this season and district training will be conducted in June. Forecasted assignments have been made and will be available in the appendices folder for SOG 207.01 on the G: drive. Remember that assignments are subject to change, based on the resource needs during the actual event.

The forecast provides a big picture view of where we estimate we will be, based on what we've learned from previous response efforts. Please review the entire plan and appendices so that you are aware of your role and the role of others during preparations and the actual response.

Logistics Program Update:

Captain Bill Lambert, Program Manager

Nine accident reports were reviewed for the month of May. Although all Casualty Reports had been entered into Firehouse, two were lacking in information. The responsible parties were notified and reports completed as requested. Please remember that information entered into Firehouse is ultimately forwarded to the State and Federal government where it is used to identify problem areas. These areas are then studied to identify methods for change that can improve public safety. Because of this large scale impact associated with this data, it should be as accurate as possible.

One of the areas where information is occasionally in error is when equipment failure is associated with a firefighter injury. Over the years, Fire Administration has reviewed reports that indicate firefighter hoods, SCBA face pieces, coats, gloves, etc. have failed during fire operations. A detailed investigation of these incidents usually results in identifying improper

equipment use as the cause of injury rather than equipment failure. Please be certain that the injury is indeed associated with equipment failure rather than improper use before you enter your report in Firehouse. Identifying a piece of equipment as having failed in an NFIRS report can ultimately lead to product recalls and litigation.

If a piece of equipment truly fails during operations, it should immediately be removed from service and correspondence submitted through the chain of command detailing the incident. This will allow Fire Management to evaluate the equipment to determine if it was a unique situation or one that warrants removing all similar equipment from service.

Captain Lambert compiled and submitted four weekly call-out reports for the Streets and Drainage and Traffic Departments. He also prepared equipment and records of 2004 through 2008 Homeland Security Grant equipment purchases in preparation for review by State monitors on June 9. Additionally, Captain Lambert worked with Mike Pietsch of ISO Consulting in preparation for review of fire protection capabilities for the City by the Insurance Services Office (ISO) inspectors in late June.

What ultimately became the locker room at the Training Division Offices was the primary focus of the community services workers from the Federal Correctional Complex during May. A storeroom filled with old desks, tables, chairs, and supplies was cleaned out and renovated to become a locker room for storage of personal clothing and PPE. The storeroom was initially cleaned out and equipment was sorted for

disposal or retention. The retained equipment received a good cleaning and broken equipment was repaired. The walls and woodwork of the room were cleaned, primed, and painted. Tile and finish molding was installed over the existing concrete floor followed by installation of modular metal lockers. The lockers had previously been relocated from Station One and were cleaned and repaired prior to installation. During alternating work periods, the new cabinets obtained for the kitchen at Station Seven were being primed and painted in another room.

Fire Purchasing entered nine requisitions into the purchasing system in May. The requisitions were for 1.5" fire hose, officer uniforms, firefighter hoods, helmet lights, and Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) training. Requisitions were also entered for grant purchased equipment that included external microphones for portable radios, portable radio upgrades, voice amplifiers for SCBA use, and mounting hardware. Additionally, five check requests were completed and submitted for membership fees, certification fees, battery refurbishment, appliance repair, and tuition reimbursement. Deposits were made for reimbursement from South East Texas Regional Planning Commission (SETRPC) for dispatcher training materials, sales tax, and the Fire Museum. Staff also reconciled eleven credit card statements for review and approval by Chief Huff.

Supply personnel received

and processed thirteen work requests for the month of May for submission to Building Services. Fourteen pieces of protective clothing were sent out for cleaning, annual inspection, and repair by Lion Total Care. Approximately four hundred sets of Nomex station wear were received, inventoried, and distributed to Operations personnel over several days. Supply personnel also dropped off one combustible gas detector for repair and two thermal imaging camera batteries for rebuild. One lawnmower and one weed eater was repaired by Supply personnel and placed back in service.

Emergency Operations

Emergency Response:

Emergency Operations personnel responded to 1,408 calls for service in May. The calls for service are broken down in the following **National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) categories:**

Fires: 74 calls for fire response services, 17 of which were structure fires. Fire responses accounted for 5.25% of the total calls for service, with losses estimated at \$223,500.

Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (no fire): 3 calls for overpressure rupture, explosion, no fire. This accounted for .21% of the total calls for service.

Rescue and Emergency Medical Services Incidents: 820 calls for rescue and EMS services response. This accounted for 58.23% of total calls for service.

Hazardous Conditions (no fire): 67 calls for response to hazardous conditions. This accounted for 4.75% of the total calls for service.

Service Calls: 145 responses for service calls. This accounted for 10.29% of the total calls for service.

Good Intent Calls: 77 responses for good intent calls. This accounted for 5.46% of the total calls for service.

False Alarm & False Calls: 217 responses for false alarms or false calls. This accounted for 15.41% of the total calls for service.

Severe Weather & Natural Disaster Calls: 2 responses for severe weather calls (lightning strike). This accounted for .14% of the total calls for service.

Special Incident Type: 2 responses on special incident type calls for service. This accounted for .28% of the total calls for service.

Public Relations and Education:

During the month of May, Operations Division personnel conducted 13 fire safety and public education programs and fire station tours. Personnel on Truck 1 provided the flag display for the opening ceremony for the Gusher Marathon, held May 1, at Lamar Montagne Center.

Fire Hydrant Maintenance:

Fire hydrant maintenance began in April and consisted of flowing, inspecting, painting, greasing, and weed maintenance on all fire hydrants Citywide. This maintenance was completed in mid-May.

Hose Maintenance:

A-Shift personnel began the testing of all attack hose, which was completed in May.

Preplanning Program:

Chief Ivan Bertrand was assigned the responsibility for the pre-incident planning program. Work continued in May to coordinate activities necessary to initiate and establish this program.

The May target date for initiation of phase three was delayed by the retirement of Chief Jerry Lyons, with the program being reassigned. Phase three is the assignment of target locations to fire companies and the beginning of pre-incident planning by fire company personnel and the District Chief. The strategy for the initiation of this phase is being reevaluated by Chief Bertrand and may be extended over a longer period of time than was initially proposed.

Response Operations, Tours, Training and Drills:

Tours were conducted on May 11-13 at the Baker Corp. facility, 4890 Stone Oak Drive, with Car 53, Engines 3, 10, and Truck 3 attending. Also, tours were conducted at the Betz Chemical Plant, on Highway 90, on May 25-27, with Car 53, Engines 6, 9, and Quint 5 attending.

Chiefs Mullins and Singler, Captains Chapman and Phillips, and Driver/Operator Jeff Nesom represented Fire Operations in the City EOC Hurrex Drill 2010. Other Operations Division personnel participated in Civic Center and Westbrook functional components of the drill.

Significant Event:

On duty personnel on C-

Shift, May 15, around 3:00 a.m., responded to an explosion and fire at the Chemtrade Chemical facility on Olin Road. This facility is an In-Lieu-of-Tax entity which is provided fire protection by the City of Beaumont. Arriving units found a multi-level process unit heavily involved in fire. Personnel on Cars 54 and 51 established command, other arriving units were directed to establish water supply to begin firefighting operations. Many problems were encountered with the fire water system within the facility. These were overcome and the fire was successfully confined to the process unit and extinguished, preventing the spread to other parts of the plant. The loss from this fire has been estimated at approximately \$7,000,000, and will result in the shutdown of operations by the facility for four to six months according to plant management.

On May 19, Chiefs Mullins, Hebert, and Hillin met with Chemtrade Plant Manager Gomez Nestor, and Plant Safety Supervisor Keith Jackson, to review the response by BF/R to the fire at the facility on May 15. Some items discussed were the lack of water supplies experienced by our personnel in utilizing the fire hydrant system at the facility during the fire, hydrant availability and placement, the need to have a representative from the facility to remain with our command personnel during firefighting operations, and to offer assistance to them to improve our ability to respond to incidents inside the facility.

The fire water system was discussed at some length, with the question of the how the hydrant that E10 was on, was supplying 100 psi, and another hydrant in the facility providing only 50 psi. After some discussion, and flow testing of the two

individual Number 2 hydrants in the facility, it was determined that these hydrant have a separate source of supply. One hydrant is being supplied by the City of Beaumont through an old city main, that we later determined was a 6" main, and the other hydrant is being supplied by the LNVA, from a 48" main through a 10" main into the facility. As best that could be determined, three out of a total of four hydrants were on the City water supply, and one hydrant was on the stronger LNVA supply. The LNVA hydrants flow pressure was 16 psi which equates to approximately 2000 gpm.

Additionally, the placement of the fire hydrants was discussed. The current locations of all of the hydrants provide access to the hydrants from only one side, and would create a problem if the wind was not favorable for utilization. We recommended that the facility determine what their fire water needs are versus their actual water supply and work to improve this, to consider improved placement of the fire hydrants within the plant, to equip all hydrants with 5" Storz fittings on the steamer connections, and to incorporate fixed fire protection systems, such deluge sprinklers for critical units that may require immediate initiation of fire protection.

The meeting closed with an offer by BF/R to help in any way, to work with the personnel at Chemtrade, to improve the protection features, and improve response organization and interface by the personnel at the facility with BF/R.

Once the facility has restored the process unit, the Department will schedule follow up visits by Operations personnel to get a clearer overview of the existing fire water

system, the system limitations, and to plan for any future response to the facility.

Community Risk Reduction (Fire Marshal's Office)

Code Enforcement Update:

Captain Brad Penisson, Program Manager

During the month of May, fire inspectors conducted 221 inspections consisting of 141 general inspections and 80 inspections for certificate of occupancy. There were 269 code violations identified during these inspections. Fifty-five of the inspections generated \$550 in inspection fees. In addition, there were 18 fire-alarm systems tested, 7 sprinkler systems tested, and 4 fixed fire extinguishing systems tested. Permits issued included 15 tent permits and 3 tank permits.

Community Risk Reduction personnel were involved in 282 consultations by phone, 106 office consultations, and 137 consultations in the field.

Plan reviews for May included 3 fire alarm systems, 5 fixed fire extinguishing systems, 2 sprinkler systems, and 37 building plans.

Investigations Update:

Captain Earl White, Program Manager

Fire investigators were involved in 56 fire and safety investigations during the month. Two of the fires investigated were determined to be arson.

There were 18 complaints investigated concerning possible fire code violations.

Significant Investigations:

- 5/02/10 - 360 Ave C - Vehicle Fire, Accidental
- 5/03/10 - 4950 Plant Rd. - Brush Fire
- 5/04/10 - 990 Goliad - Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/04/10 - 6080 Ricki Ln. - Unauthorized Burning
- 5/04/10 - 1573 Hillebrandt Rd - Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/06/10 - 6780 Fannett Rd - Gas Leak
- 5/07/10 - 2197 Washington Blvd - Rubbish Fire
- 5/08/10 - 1295 11th St - Commercial Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/08/10 - 4040 Crow Rd - Apartment Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/08/10 - 1161 Euclid - Outside Storage Fire, Accidental
- 5/09/10 - 5898 Eastex Frwy - Casa Ole - Extinguishing System Discharge
- 5/11/10 - 235 Charlotte Dr - Vehicle Fire, Accidental
- 5/12/10 - Keith Rd/Perl Rd - Vehicle Fire, Accidental
- 5/12/10 - 2440 Omaha - Unauthorized Burning
- 5/15/10 - 1400 Olin Rd - Chemtrade Fire - Second Alarm, Accidental
- 5/21/10 - 5470 Hagner Rd - Commercial Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/22/10 - 6356 Phelan Blvd - Commercial Electrical Theft
- 5/22/10 - 1833 Broadway - Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/23/10 - 6250 Eastex Frwy - Commercial Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/24/10 - 7360 Hurley - Structure Fire, Accidental

- 5/24/10 - 3155 French Rd - Apartment Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/27/10 - 6690 Rebecca - Vehicle Fire, Arson
- 5/28/10 - 2925 Blanchette - Commercial Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/29/10 - 175 Fletcher - Structure Fire, Arson
- 5/29/10 - 2365 Briarcliff - Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/29/10 - 2350 Fillmore - Attempted Electrical Theft
- 5/30/10 - 815 Fulton - Structure Fire, Accidental
- 5/31/10 - 75 N Major Dr - Illegally Parked Tank Truck

Public Education & Information

Update:

Captain Brad Penisson, Program Manager

During this month, there were 7 fire and safety programs conducted with an attendance of 750 persons.

Chief Maddox, Captain Penisson, and Captain White were involved in the Hurricane Drill for two days at the City EOC.

Division personnel were involved in meetings concerning Boys Haven, Red Cross, and Salvation Army.

The recent upgrade to the Firehouse software caused an error to show concerning the NEMSIS Configuration which deals with the NEMSIS codes in the EMS treatment report. We are working with Technology Services to resolve the error. In the meantime, even though you get the error message, you can still save the EMS treatment report.

Operations personnel need to remember; if they find that their unit was assigned a report in Firehouse that they did not respond to (cancelled before they left the

station), they need to send an e-mail to Captain Penisson to have the report deleted.

Attached to this report is a record of the responses received through the citizen surveys from May 2010.

Fire Museum of Texas Update:

During the month of May, the Fire Museum of Texas had a total of 1,022 visitors. Of those, 328 were from Beaumont, 237 from the Golden Triangle, 409 from the State of Texas, and 46 from across the United States. There were also two international visitors from Scotland. Twenty-seven guided tours were given and two dinner parties were hosted.

The Fire Prevention & Family Safety Festival Planning Committee met on May 4 to kick-off plans for the 3rd Annual Festival. The event will be held on October 9, 2010, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Sponsorship packets were approved for solicitation and vendor booth prices confirmed. The group will meet again on June 3, at 11:30 a.m., in the museum kitchen. Additional committee members are invited to attend and help plan this event.

Kountze Elementary Learn to Read Program celebrated at the Fire Museum on May 10. Personalized books were distributed to 125 children. The program is generously underwritten by Joe Penland in honor of Firefighter Shawn Burke. The children toured the museum and experienced a turn-out gear demonstration. Special thanks to Marcus Rogers for helping out with the children and

Barbara Kearns, Director of the Learn to Read Program, for making the event possible.

Carol visited the Texas Travel Center in Orange on May 12 in celebration of National Tourism Week.

Professional Photographer, Paul Manire, visited the museum on May 18. Paul spent several hours shooting the museum and gifted over 200 photos to the museum for marketing purposes. A new updated exhibit on horses in the fire service is now on display in Bay 2. A video filmed in 1916 is on display to compliment the exhibit. A tourism survey has been created and is now made available for guests to complete. We hope to use the information to continue to improve the museum.

A new Fire Museum sign has been installed at the corner of the building to replace the sign damaged in Hurricane Ike. The Puppet Theater has been removed upstairs and replaced with a safety exhibit. The dormitory is doubling as an education center and now includes one of the two 50" televisions installed with DVD players. The televisions were purchased with grant money awarded by Entergy. The other television has been installed in the State Room and is being used to show an eight-minute film as groups arrive. A work order to purchase museum collection software and accounting software has been submitted to Technical Services. A grant received from the Southeast Texas Foundation will cover the expense.

On May 19, Premiere Tours allowed us the opportunity to be the site for a seated dinner for 60 of their clients from Irving, Texas. The group enjoyed a tasty dinner prepared by Beaumont Catering and enjoyed music played by Thomas Cokinos and

Thomas Gary. On May 22, the museum hosted a celebration for Michael Gary, son of Wade and Carol Gary, in honor of his recent graduation from Monsignor Kelly High School.

On May 20, the Board of Directors met and enjoyed their quarterly meeting over lunch. The Treasurer's report, given by Jack Maddox, reflected a balance of \$40,000 due on the State of Texas Fire Fighter Memorial. Additional Board business was conducted, including reporting gift shop sales, attendance, the new website, recent publicity received, and future plans for fund-raising. Current goals include finding a Steamer or a Chemical Truck for our collection. The Board will meet again on July 22, 2010 at noon.

Just a few seats are left in our Fire Safety & Prevention Camp! A lot of exciting activities will take place during the week long camp including firefighter demonstrations, fire related arts and crafts, story telling, learning fire safety songs, making fire safety snacks, playing games and relay races that teach all about fire safety. The 4-6 year old camp is scheduled for June 21-June 25 and the 7-10 year old camp is scheduled for June 8th-July 2, 2010.

Each day of camp is three hours long, 9:00 a.m. until noon. The registration forms and fees are listed on our new and updated website www.firemuseumoftexas.org. For additional information, call Carol at 880-3927.

Certification & Training

With hurricane season just around the corner, the Training Division is in the process of finalizing the refresher material for

reviewing our current implementation plan and documentation needs. The hurricane guideline is understandably a large document and can be daunting to review without the right perspective. At the end of next month, we will be going out on each shift to each of the Districts for a comprehensive review of the current plan so that everyone has a better understanding of how it is designed and what it entails.

Officer Development & Occupational Safety Training Update:

Chief Keith Nolen, Programs Manager

For March officer development training, Eric Chapman, Jeff Nesom, and Dennis Pellerin attended a hurricane preparedness course on “WEB EOC.”

Congratulations go out this month to Charles Gremmel who reached the level of Advanced Firefighter with the TCFP.

The monthly SOG review consisted of 200.03, 202.04, and 207.01.

Requests for officer development training for the month included: three members (Chapman, Pellerin, and Nesom) to attend “WEB EOC Training” on May 27; six members (Brooks, Dunlap, E. Byerly, Jagoe, R. Jones, and Willett) to attend “Power Phone EMD Dispatch” on August 25-27.

Emergency Medical Training Update:

Acting Captain Brandon Lee, Program Manager

Acting Captain Lee taught two CPR certification classes for the members of the City 9-1-1 center. There were 13 EMS re-certifications received this month; ten certifications for ECA (Barry, Fratus, Hicks, Key, Lawson, O’Quinn, Palmer, Parfait, Richard, and White); and two for EMT-Basic (Droptini and Whitehead). There was one EMS Instructor Certification turned in to file this month for Paul Hunt.

For continuing EMS certification and self development, the Training Division assigned and documented the following class:

- Pulse: “Acute Respiratory Distress”

The monthly EMS benchmark review consisted of 405.01F and 405.01M.

Firefighter Training Update:

Captain Randy Arrington, Program Manager

For continuing firefighter education and self development, the Training Division assigned and documented the following FETN (Fire and Emergency Training Network) classes:

- High Occupancy Structure Fires: “Educational Occupancies”
- High Occupancy Structure Fires: “Health Care Occupancies”

The hands-on benchmark training for the month consisted of Firefighter Benchmarks 82-87.

Driver/Operator Training Update:

Captain Randy Arrington, Program Manager

This month there were several

dates where driver training was conducted. The hands-on training included Apparatus Driving Skills Benchmarks 404.01D through 404.01H and Apparatus Pumping Skills Benchmarks 404.02F and 404.02I. Captain Arrington also began work this month on developing an updated version for our Aerial Driver Training Program to go along with our updated Pumper Driver Program.

The hands-on benchmark training for the month consisted of Driver/Operator Benchmarks 404.01D and 404.02H.

Communications & Preparedness Planning

The Beaumont Fire/Rescue Communication Division managed a total of 7,697 calls and created 2,831 events for the month of May. The total fire incidents were 1,403 with 68% being first responder calls and 14% were private fire alarms. Fire/Rescue responded to 78 one-alarm incidents and 206 motor vehicle accidents during the month. Data indicates an average response time for the first apparatus on the scene of a structure fire as being three minutes and thirty-five seconds. The average dispatch time was thirty-four seconds.

Total after hour calls for Traffic, Streets, Building Maintenance, Radio Shop, and Highway Department were:

Just to recap on information conveyed during the month of May officer’s meetings, the Fire Department is in the process of acquisitioning various types of communication equipment to support and enhance operations. The equipment includes: Noise Shield Software that will be programmed

into the portables, mainly Operations, to reduce background noise and enhance voice tone; Scott Epic Voice Amplifier will improve person-to-person communication in close quarter situations - a battery operated device that is attached to the face piece and designed to amplify the voice tone; Command Microphones designed to be rugged with the option of a channel select knob (both types will be purchased, with Operations getting the one without the select knob because during the field test, it was discovered that the slightest impact of the knob could change the radio channel); Lightweight Headset is mainly to provide better radio reception for the Incident Commander in noisy surroundings - a headset with an inline PTT and a noise cancelling boom microphone.

Emergency Management:

Captain Pat Grimes, Program Manager

H1N1 After Action Focus Group:

Emergency Management and the Public Health Department participated in a Department of State Health Services comprehensive assessment, on May 7, to identify strengths and weaknesses with regard to the response and ways to improve operational performance in preparation for future responses. Information identified in the assessment will assist the State Health Services and its partners to better respond to future pandemics. Many regional representatives participated and

shared lessons learned with the group.

Hurrex Drill:

The annual State Hurricane drill was conducted on May 11-12. The Fire Department participated in two full-scale components of the drill.

The evacuation registration component provided an opportunity to test our registration process that was used during Hurricanes Gustav and Ike. Firefighters and volunteers enrolled evacuees into the Sabine Neches Chief's database using laptop computers, bar code readers, and card readers. This provided an excellent opportunity to test the system to be sure we are prepared for the upcoming hurricane season.

The second component tested at the Hurrex drill was damage assessment using Fire Mobile Computer Terminals. Firefighters in fire apparatus performed damage assessments of their district by self initiating the event using their Mobile Computer Terminal. This system will allow reporting to be conducted with minimal radio traffic and the reporting can be monitored in real time at the Emergency Operations Center.

2010 Texas Hurricane Conference:

Steve McCraw, the Texas Homeland Security Director, opened the 2010 Texas Hurricane Conference, held May 17-20, by dedicating the conference to Chief Jack Colley, who passed away shortly before the conference. Governor Rick Perry reflected on Jack's many accomplishments as the Assistant Director of Texas Homeland Security. Chief Colley was responsible for building Emergency Management in Texas as it exists today. Chief Colley lead the State of Texas response to the Space Shuttle Columbia crash in 2003 and also Hurricanes Katrina and Rita

in 2005, Hurricanes Gustav and Ike in 2008, numerous wildfire events, flood events, tornados and H1N1. Texas was blessed and privileged to have Jack.

Governor Perry thanked all responders and emergency workers for their bravery and sacrifice during manmade and natural disasters.

David L. Lakey, M.D. Commissioner, Texas Department of State Health Services, gave a briefing on the lessons learned from the State of Texas response to H1N1 and will take those lessons and apply them to the next pandemic. Dr. Lakey is helping Emergency Management to better prepare Texas for future evacuations by increasing medical special needs shelter locations, identifying hospital bed capacity, use of State facilities for sheltering, using nursing homes for sheltering, increasing and identifying transportation resources, improving special needs tracking system, use of private contractors for shelter operations, improving the drug supply to shelters, and providing case management for all medical special needs evacuees.

The State of Texas can now shelter up to 10,000 medical special needs citizens. The State is able to supply the shelters with resources such as medicines, cots, and supply kits to these shelters.

The State has purchased 10 Litter buses that can transport 10 to 12 litter bound patients per bus, four command and control response trailers, and 10 contracted multi-assistance medical teams.

Dr. Lakey identified many challenges such as identifying and caring for medical special needs citizens that do not evacuate, evacuation of the morbidly obese and caring for the obese, dialysis patients,

and identifying acuity levels of MSN's.

Bill Read, Director of the National Hurricane Center, reflected on the improved Hurricane forecast ability over the last decade. Intensity of the storm has had **no** significant gains in the last decade which means predicting how quickly a storm changes from a Level 1 to a Level 3 is still problematic. Thirty-seven million dollars will be spent in the next decade to find out how to forecast rapid intensity change.

Storm surge is also difficult to forecast because it is sensitive to errors in track, size structure of wind shear, angle of approach and forward speed. Mr Read pointed out how much more devastating Hurricane Ike would have been if it would have come ashore 15 knots stronger and 20 miles east in the heavy, industrial areas around Houston and Texas City. Enforcement of building codes is extremely important for the protection of lives and property in the coastal area. Without exception, newly constructed homes built under stricter codes survive stronger winds and storm surge versus older homes that were built under older codes.

Mr. Read confessed that his number one concern for the upcoming hurricane season was Haiti, after suffering a catastrophic earthquake in 2010, over one million people are living in tents making them extremely vulnerable to high winds and rain.

NOAA is predicting an above normal hurricane season, with 14-23 named storms, of

which 8 to 14 become hurricanes, of which 3 to 7 could become strong (category 3-5).

The primary reasons for this active forecast are:

- End of El Nino means less wind shear, which is more conducive for hurricane development
- Above normal water temperatures across the tropical Atlantic and Caribbean
- Continuing a multi-decadal trend of greater risk of hurricanes

You can read more at this NOAA press release:

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories/2010/20100527_hurricaneoutlook.html

State Mass Care Shelter Plan :

Because hurricanes and tropical storms offer a great threat to the State of Texas, the State spends millions of dollars preparing mass care during and after evacuation for its citizens. The State opened 305 shelters for the Hurricane Ike evacuation. Post Hurricane Ike there was over 600 shelters opened which housed 120,000 citizens.

Mass care means meeting the basic human needs, food, water, clothes, medical care, crisis counseling, emotional and spiritual care, and other essential life supporting needs.

Currently the State has pre-positioned resources such as food, water, cots, and medicines around the State so that we can respond quicker to the needs of citizens during disasters. There are many agencies involved in making the shelter plan

work for the State of Texas. Some of those agencies are: Red Cross, Salvation Army, Texas Baptist Men, Southern Baptist Men, Baptist Children and Family Services, Catholic Charities, Methodist Men, The Church of Jesus Christ of Ladder Day Saints, FEMA, Department of State Health Services, The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, Texas 211, and Civilian Emergency Response Team.

One of the main components of the Shelter plan is the State Shelter Hub system. This system provides an organized approach for the movement of evacuees from anywhere in the State of Texas to a sheltering community anywhere in Texas. Shelter hubs are activated by the State Operations Center.

Point-to-Point cities are designated to take a particular city's evacuees. The point-to-point cities are not made public because they are dedicated to citizens that evacuate using government buses and transportation. The point-to-point locations are reserved for citizens that have no means to evacuate; they are not for self-evacuating general public.

Public Health Nursing Home Assisted Living Center Meeting:

Beaumont Public Health invites all Nursing Home and Assisted Living Center Managers to a meeting once a year prior to Hurricane season to meet with Emergency Management, Department of State Health Services and Department (DSHS) and The Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS). This meeting provides an opportunity for all participants to discuss current issues that pertain to the upcoming hurricane season. The meeting was held May 26.

WebEoc Training:

WebEOC is a computer program that the State of Texas is promoting to all local emergency managers to use during major events. The Beaumont Emergency Operations Center hosted two, four hour training sessions, on May 27, for Sue Landry, the Emergency Planner at the Southeast Texas Regional Planning Commission. This was an entry level training opportunity that was open to the City of Beaumont and the Region.

Survey Responses: May 2010

Question

1. Was the 911 system prompt?
2. Was the 911 operator courteous and helpful?
3. Did the fire department respond promptly?
4. Were the fire department personnel courteous?
5. Were the fire department personnel helpful?
6. Did the fire department personnel take the time to explain their actions?
7. Were the firefighters professional in their appearance?
8. After the fire department left, did you feel you received the service that you expected?

Ratings 1=Excellent 6=Poor						
1	2	3	4	5	6	No Response
3						
3						
3						
3						
3						
3						
3						
3						

Total Surveys Received

3

Citizen Comments:

Report# 10-1005908-“B” Shift-The three men who came and helped Hannah Kirk on Rusk Street 05/07/10 were great. Thanks so much. Michael Wise, Bmt, TX.

CODE							RR & *UP	FO	CF	
DATE	DAY	SHIFT	PERSONNEL ASSIGNED	KELLY DAY	DAILY ASSIGNED STAFFING	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	REGULAR & UPGRADE	OVERTIME	COMP EARNED	OFF-DUTY
							HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS
1-May-10	Saturday	B	71	10	61	45.04	1080.00	1.00	0.00	336.00
2-May-10	Sunday	C	65	10	55	49.50	1188.00	0.00	0.00	276.00
3-May-10	Monday	A	66	9	57	44.17	1032.00	28.00	0.00	312.00
4-May-10	Tuesday	B	71	9	62	47.38	1137.00	0.00	0.00	279.00
5-May-10	Wednesday	C	65	9	56	46.00	1104.00	0.00	0.00	328.00
6-May-10	Thursday	A	66	10	56	45.25	1080.00	6.00	0.00	240.00
7-May-10	Friday	B	71	8	63	44.00	965.00	91.00	0.00	451.00
8-May-10	Saturday	C	65	10	55	45.63	1095.00	0.00	0.00	345.00
9-May-10	Sunday	A	66	10	56	44.75	1074.00	0.00	0.00	222.00
10-May-10	Monday	B	71	10	61	44.00	1044.00	12.00	0.00	372.00
11-May-10	Tuesday	C	65	10	55	45.92	1102.00	0.00	0.00	362.00
12-May-10	Wednesday	A	66	11	55	44.01	1019.00	37.25	0.00	301.00
13-May-10	Thursday	B	71	10	61	44.53	1068.00	0.75	0.00	348.00
14-May-10	Friday	C	65	8	57	48.94	1080.00	94.50	0.00	360.00
15-May-10	Saturday	A	66	10	56	47.99	1021.25	130.50	0.00	277.25
16-May-10	Sunday	B	71	10	61	47.13	1131.00	0.00	0.00	285.00
17-May-10	Monday	C	65	10	55	45.81	1099.50	0.00	0.00	340.50
18-May-10	Tuesday	A	66	10	56	44.01	1044.00	12.25	0.00	300.00
19-May-10	Wednesday	B	71	8	63	44.00	1008.00	48.00	0.00	432.00
20-May-10	Thursday	C	65	9	56	46.00	1104.00	0.00	0.00	336.00
21-May-10	Friday	A	66	10	56	43.97	1012.50	42.75	0.00	307.50
22-May-10	Saturday	B	71	10	61	44.00	1042.00	14.00	0.00	374.00
23-May-10	Sunday	C	65	10	55	48.65	1167.50	0.00	0.00	296.50
24-May-10	Monday	A	66	9	57	43.96	997.00	58.00	0.00	347.00
25-May-10	Tuesday	B	71	9	62	47.67	1144.00	0.00	0.00	260.00
26-May-10	Wednesday	C	65	9	56	44.00	1056.00	0.00	0.00	360.00
27-May-10	Thursday	A	66	10	56	44.59	1034.00	36.25	0.00	336.00
28-May-10	Friday	B	71	8	63	46.92	1126.00	0.00	0.00	290.00
29-May-10	Saturday	C	65	10	55	48.38	1161.00	0.00	0.00	279.00
30-May-10	Sunday	A	66	10	56	44.29	1033.00	30.00	0.00	303.00
31-May-10	Monday	B	71	10	61	50.13	1203.00	0.00	0.00	189.00
TOTALS						1420.58	33451.75	642.25	0.00	9844.75
AVERAGE						45.83	1079.09	20.72	0.00	317.57

		VV & VF	SK & SF	RJ & FJ	RI & WF	WC	JP	EF & EL	FL	CU	MF	PP
DATE	SHIFT	VACATION	SICK	OFF DUTY INJURY	ON-DUTY INJURY	WORKMAN'S COMP W/O PAY	JURY DUTY	EMERGENCY FAMILY LEAVE	FUNERAL LEAVE	COMP TIME OFF	MILITARY LEAVE	PERSONAL LEAVE
		HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS
1-May-10	B	216.00	72.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00
2-May-10	C	168.00	24.00	0.00	48.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
3-May-10	A	168.00	72.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
4-May-10	B	168.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	15.00	0.00	0.00
5-May-10	C	144.00	68.00	0.00	48.00	20.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
6-May-10	A	144.00	72.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7-May-10	B	216.00	171.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.00	0.00	24.00
8-May-10	C	225.00	48.00	0.00	24.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9-May-10	A	192.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00
10-May-10	B	216.00	120.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	0.00
11-May-10	C	144.00	74.00	0.00	48.00	24.00	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
12-May-10	A	192.00	85.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13-May-10	B	192.00	96.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00
14-May-10	C	120.00	120.00	0.00	48.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00
15-May-10	A	168.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	37.25	0.00	0.00	24.00	24.00
16-May-10	B	120.00	141.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17-May-10	C	144.00	96.50	0.00	48.00	4.00	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18-May-10	A	168.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	12.00
19-May-10	B	168.00	207.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9.00	0.00	24.00
20-May-10	C	120.00	72.00	0.00	48.00	24.00	0.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21-May-10	A	192.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	79.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	36.00
22-May-10	B	216.00	120.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	14.00	0.00	0.00
23-May-10	C	144.00	56.50	0.00	24.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00
24-May-10	A	96.00	91.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	0.00	72.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	24.00
25-May-10	B	168.00	30.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	38.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00
26-May-10	C	192.00	48.00	0.00	48.00	24.00	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27-May-10	A	144.00	96.00	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	12.00	0.00	12.00
28-May-10	B	120.00	96.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	24.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
29-May-10	C	159.00	24.00	0.00	24.00	24.00	0.00	48.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30-May-10	A	207.00	72.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00
31-May-10	B	96.00	69.00	0.00	24.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
		5127.00	2433.00	72.00	712.00	216.00	0.00	706.75	24.00	194.00	72.00	288.00
		165.39	78.48	2.32	22.97	6.97	0.00	22.80	0.77	6.26	2.32	9.29



