



ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Our responsibility is to be as prepared and competent as possible so we can help people on what may be the worst day of their lives; no matter the incident.

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Our Motto

Desire to Serve, Ability to Perform, Courage to Act

Our Mission

To selflessly provide the highest level of service possible through preparation, prevention, and effective emergency response.

Our Vision

We will be dedicated and compassionate professionals who recognize our greatest strength lies in our team approach. We will be recognized as leaders in our profession, and as community role models.

Our Core Values

- Our members are the key to our success.
- The safety of our personnel and citizens is our number one priority.
- We believe in constant respect of fellow firefighters and citizens.
- We accept ownership of our actions and decisions.
- We will be fiscally responsible.
- We will approach our tasks with compassion, integrity, and pride.
- We accept each other for his or her strengths and weaknesses.
- We expect commitment and dedication from our members.
- We expect all members to represent the organization in a positive and professional manner, and adhere to the policies, procedures, and guidelines of the department.



Chief's Message

I am proud to present our 2017 annual report and to be part of an organization that has provided 75 years of outstanding service to our community, relying primarily on volunteers. We are fortunate to have a high performing team that works extremely well together. Their dedication, desire to serve, and willingness to train produces outstanding results for our community. We must also recognize the contribution families make in our success, and the shared sacrifice of time they make; we would not be successful without their support.

We ended 2017 with 1,103 emergency responses. I am proud to report that we had zero firefighter injuries requiring medical treatment, zero civilian fire injuries, and zero fire fatalities. Our community experienced zero commercial losses due to fire, which is a direct result of our fire prevention and inspection activities, and positive working relationships we have with our business community. Our goal is to help our businesses minimize risk through prevention not enforcement. We did however, experience a fire in a middle school classroom that was caused by improper use electrical equipment.

While we strive to focus on the positive, we must also discuss our challenges. Overall, the volunteer fire service struggles to recruit and retain qualified individuals to serve as firefighters, and we are no exception. In the mid-nineties, Saginaw County had more than 800 volunteers; today that number is just over 500. In 1991, Bridgeport had 32 members with a waiting list; today we have 18 members and respond to three times the emergency responses. We must strive to develop a cost-effective, sustainable delivery model for our community.

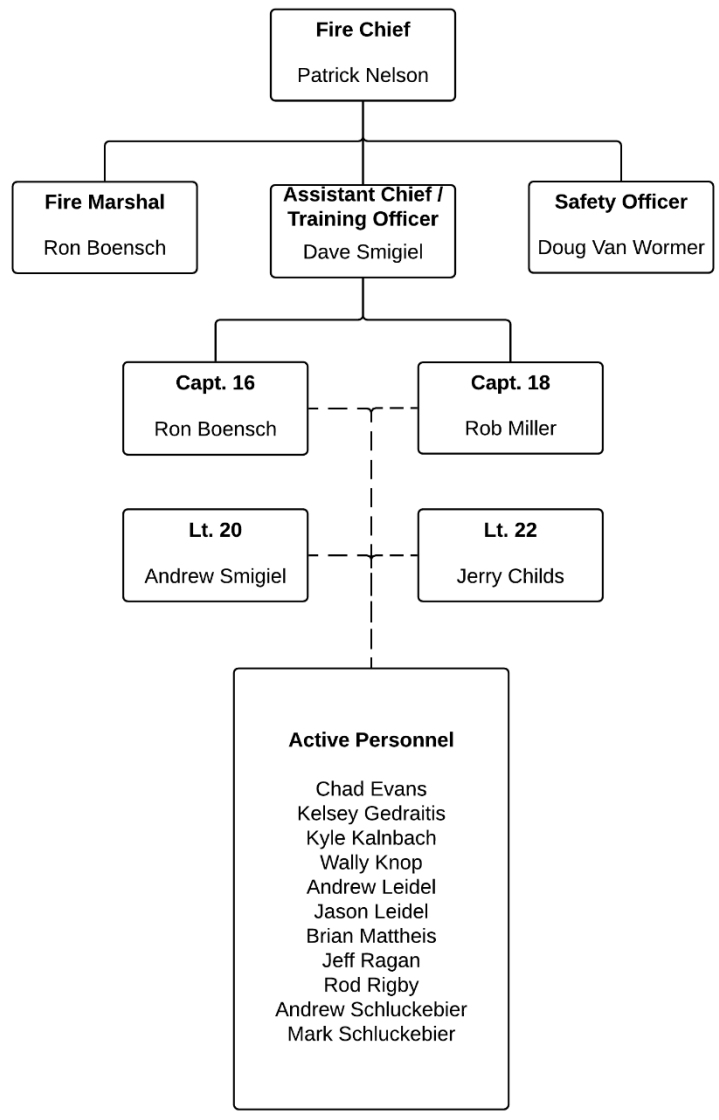
The following pages will provide information on many aspects of our complex operation but is certainly not all inclusive. I encourage you to ask questions of our personnel and to stop by the station for a visit.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Nelson
Fire Chief



Organizational Chart
January, 2018



2017 at a Glance

Key Projects:

- Completed turn-out gear acquisition to insure all personnel are equipped with primary and secondary gear that meets current OSHA and NFPA standards.
- Completed a full review and update of standard operating procedures, guidelines, and policies. These are now available to our personnel online.
- Completed a full audit through the Insurance Services Office (ISO) resulting in a continued rating of 5/9.
- Completed Michigan Par Plan risk control audit.
- Initiated review of MIOSHA standards for compliance.
- Initiated process of finalizing current fire station renovation needs and developed plan to obtain bids in early 2018.

Key Activities:

- Personnel committed 6,678 hours to serving our community.
- Dispatched to 1,103 incidents.
- Completed 120 fire inspections.
- Completed 164 code enforcement activities.
- Delivered CPR training to 80 people outside of our own personnel.
- Delivered fire safety programs to 400 children.
- Attended or hosted 14 public relation events.
- Utilized fire safety house at events in: Birch Run, Bridgeport, Buena Vista, Frankenmuth, Hemlock, Spaulding, and Tittabawassee Townships.
- Recognized Jerry Childs as Firefighter of the Year.

Personnel Information

Active Personnel Roster

Name	Rank	Start Date	Employment Duration	2017 Response %
Boensch, Ronald	Captain	01/02/1996	22 Years, 0 Months	25%
Childs, Jerry	Lieutenant	07/13/2012	5 Years, 6 Months	33%
Evans, Chad	Firefighter	07/07/2011	6 Years, 6 Months	14%
Gedraitis, Kelsey	EMT	12/12/2017	0 Years, 1 Months	2%
Kalnbach, Kyle	Firefighter	07/23/2001	16 Years, 6 Months	10%
Knop, James (Wally)	Firefighter	08/13/2007	10 Years, 5 Months	7%
Leidel, Andrew	Firefighter	03/02/2014	3 Years, 10 Months	14%
Leidel, Jason	Firefighter	10/16/1996	21 Years, 3 Months	13%
Mattheis, Brian	Firefighter	08/24/2017	0 Years, 5 Months	8%
Miller IV, Robert	Captain	08/01/2002	15 Years, 5 Months	24%
Nelson, Patrick	Fire Chief	09/01/1991	26 Years, 4 Months	27%
Ragan, Jeff	Firefighter	07/21/2016	1 Years, 6 Months	30%
Rigby, Rod	Firefighter	08/24/2017	0 Years, 5 Months	3%
Schluckebier, Andrew	Firefighter	03/02/2014	3 Years, 10 Months	17%
Schluckebier, Mark	Driver/Engineer	08/24/2017	0 Years, 5 Months	1%
Smigiel, Andrew	Lieutenant	05/09/2003	14 Years, 8 Months	21%
Smigiel, David	Assistant Chief	12/15/1997	20 Years, 1 Months	23%
Van Wormer, Douglas	Safety Officer	03/01/1992	25 Years, 10 Months	22%

Note: Response percentage does not include the normal fire department work schedules of Boensch, Nelson, or D. Smigiel.

The following is the paid on-call hour breakdown of the time commitment made by our personnel for 2017:

Incident Response	Training	Community Events	Total Hours
4,727	1,443	504	6,678

2017 Personnel Changes:

Hired	Resigned	Reason/Notes
Chris Cramer	Chris Cramer	Time commitment
	Mike Gardiner	Relocated
Mark Mohn-Young	Mark-Mon-Young	Time commitment
Kelsey Gedraitis		EMT only
Brian Mattheis		Previous member for 14yrs (1992 – 2007)
Rod Rigby		Moved to Bridgeport. Was on BV for 10+ years
Mark Schluckebier		Returned as a driver/Engineer



Dave Smigiel – Assistant Chief – Training & Public Education

I am proud to have reached a milestone of 20 years of service as a proud member of our fire department. Aside from daily operations, my primary responsibilities are life-safety inspections, training and education of our personnel, and all public education and events.

We provided formal fire safety education to 400 students as well as, CPR classes, disaster preparedness, and other safety training to adults through various organizations. Our fire safety house was used at 12 community and school events in seven communities. It is estimated that 2,300 persons passed through the safety house receiving valuable life-safety information.

Bridgeport participated in 14 public relation events coordinated through organizations such as the YMCA, Bridgeport Historical Society, Bavarian Comfort Care, Shively Brothers and Bridgeport Community Schools. Bridgefest was one of our primary events. Our personnel committed more than 100 hours to provide a first aid station, staff the fire safety house, provide standby for the fireworks and mud bog event, and host the barbecue event.

Throughout the year, each of our personnel participate in a minimum of 80 hours of training. For some, this number is much higher depending on certification level and specialized team participation. Total training hours for 2017 were 1,443.

We are fortunate to have personnel with a willingness to improve their skills through training and education. We regularly see this training translate in to safe and highly effective scene operations. Just because most our personnel are “paid volunteers” does not mean their responsibilities are less than our paid counterparts. The public expects well-trained, professional people to show up when they call 911, and our goal is to exceed this expectation whenever possible. The risks they are exposed to are also significant and are not lessened because they “volunteer”.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or would simply like to learn more about our training and education programs.



Ron Boensch – Captain – Fire Marshal & Code Enforcement

2017 was another busy year for our department. My primary responsibilities outside of daily operations is to coordinate blight enforcement, support our BS&A software code enforcement modules, perform fire investigations, and coordinate all equipment, apparatus, and building maintenance and repair.

We conducted 120 fire inspections in 2017, down from 142 in 2016. This decrease is attributed to the increase in blight/code enforcement that rose from 132 code enforcement activities in 2016, to 164 in 2017. Our goal is to increase our fire inspections and other code enforcement activities in 2018 by implementing new inspections practices and scheduling.

Allowing our fire inspection activities to decrease, increases the risk of commercial fires, which are time-consuming, require a lot of resources, and typically result in large losses. However, it is also important to combat blight and other code violations. Blighted properties deter investment, create a hazard, and can increase crime, not to mention generate a significant number of citizen complaints.

To accomplish fire and life safety inspections, and blight and other code enforcement activities, Chief Nelson has tasked us with reorganizing our work schedules, whereby I will spend increased time on blight and code enforcement, while Chief's Nelson and Smigiel will allocate more time to fire inspections. We believe this will allow us to accomplish more with existing resources for 2018.

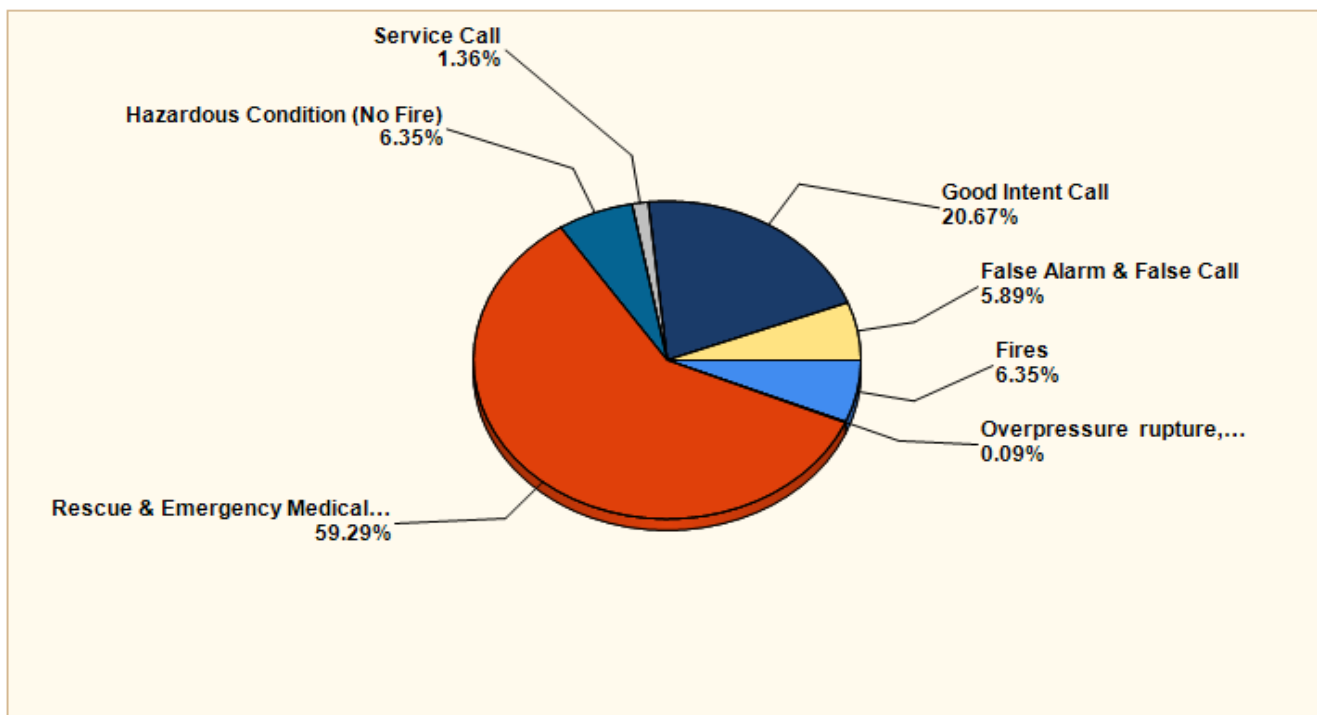
Although we would like to be farther ahead in these activities, we are challenged by limited resources, and the time it takes to manage these problems. There is continuous follow-up, meetings or discussions with occupants and property owners, letters to be sent, citations issued, and in some cases excessive time spent in court that may or may not help our efforts. Our time aside, Ron Wheatley also spends significant time on code issues with law enforcement handling abandoned vehicles. We are continually evaluating priorities to maximize use of available resources.

Feel free to contact me if you would like a better understanding of what is involved in conducting these activities, or if you have specific questions about our codes.

Responses

Our department was dispatched to 1,103 emergency responses in 2017. We report on incidents based on the nature as determined upon our arrival. Our response level however is based on the initial dispatch information from our 911 center.

Please note that due to a program called focused response, our department responds to approximately one-third of the medical responses that MMR is dispatched to. Bridgeport initiated this program through our medical control authority in 2001. Since its inception, the program has expanded to include several other departments and improvements. This program was initiated for three reasons: to reduce personnel response and burn-out; to reduce duplication of service; and to reduce cost. Without this program, we would triple our medical response call volume.



Breakdown by Major Incident Type 2017

<u>Major Incident Type</u>	<u># of Incidents</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
Fires	70	6.35%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	1	0.09%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	654	59.29%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	70	6.35%
Service Call	15	1.36%
Good Intent Call	228	20.67%

False Alarm & False Call	65	5.89%
TOTAL	1103	100.00%

The following provides further breakdown of the incident types we responded to in 2017.

Detailed Breakdown by Incident Type		
Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total
100 - Fire, other	2	0.18%
111 - Building fire	22	1.99%
112 - Fires in structure other than in a building	1	0.09%
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	11	1.00%
116 - Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	1	0.09%
118 - Trash or rubbish fire, contained	2	0.18%
130 - Mobile property (vehicle) fire, other	1	0.09%
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	10	0.91%
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	1	0.09%
141 - Forest, woods or wildland fire	1	0.09%
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	5	0.45%
143 - Grass fire	3	0.27%
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	1	0.09%
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	3	0.27%
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	2	0.18%
162 - Outside equipment fire	1	0.09%
170 - Cultivated vegetation, crop fire, other	1	0.09%
171 - Cultivated grain or crop fire	2	0.18%
251 - Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	1	0.09%
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	4	0.36%
320 - Emergency medical service, other	2	0.18%
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	553	50.14%
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	75	6.80%
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	3	0.27%
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	15	1.36%
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	1	0.09%
360 - Water & ice-related rescue, other	1	0.09%
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	3	0.27%
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	6	0.54%
422 - Chemical spill or leak	2	0.18%
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	6	0.54%
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	5	0.45%
443 - Breakdown of light ballast	1	0.09%
444 - Power line down	44	3.99%
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	3	0.27%
520 - Water problem, other	1	0.09%
531 - Smoke or odor removal	4	0.36%
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	1	0.09%
552 - Police matter	2	0.18%
561 - Unauthorized burning	4	0.36%
571 - Cover assignment, standby, move-up	3	0.27%

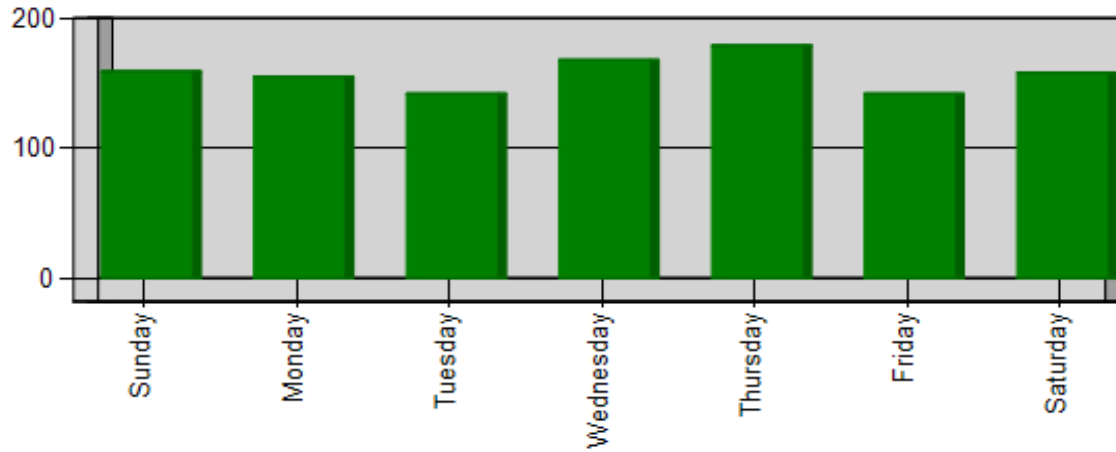
600 - Good intent call, other	17	1.54%
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	152	13.78%
621 - Wrong location	3	0.27%
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	27	2.45%
631 - Authorized controlled burning	11	1.00%
650 - Steam, other gas mistaken for smoke, other	3	0.27%
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	9	0.82%
652 - Steam, vapor, fog or dust thought to be smoke	3	0.27%
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	3	0.27%
700 - False alarm or false call, other	5	0.45%
710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other	2	0.18%
713 - Telephone, malicious false alarm	1	0.09%
730 - System malfunction, other	5	0.45%
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	7	0.63%
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	9	0.82%
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	6	0.54%
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	6	0.54%
741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	1	0.09%
742 - Extinguishing system activation	1	0.09%
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	11	1.00%
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	2	0.18%
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	8	0.73%
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	1	0.09%
Total Incidents	1103	100.00%

Incidents with code 611 occur for the following reasons:

- MMR arrives and determines additional assistance is not needed.
- Law enforcement arrives first and does not find an incident, or determines an emergency does not exist.
- The incident is determined to be outside of our jurisdiction.

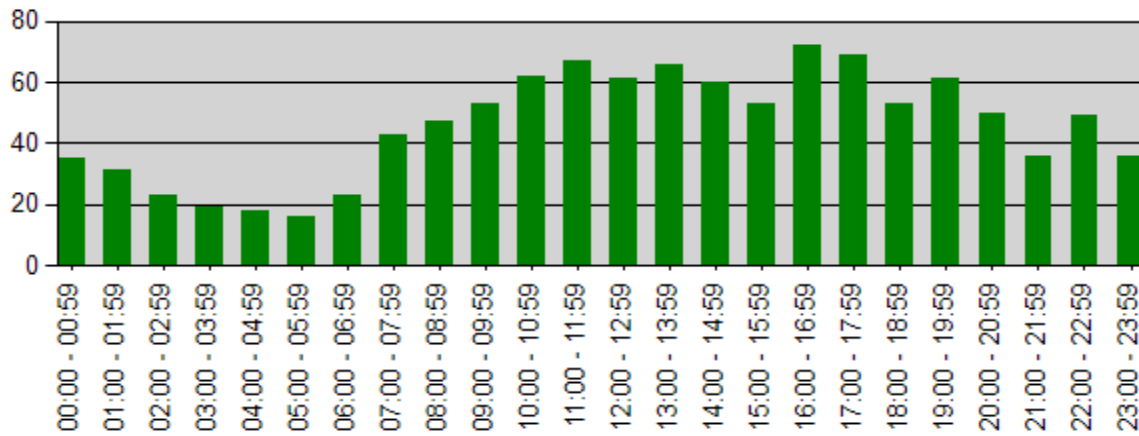
Saginaw County 911 Communications Authority												
911 Management Report - 2017												
Department	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Albee Fire	73	118	77	77	71	76	89	58	73	62	75	
# Birch Run Fire	588	560	551	567	620	614	639	529	473	581	564	
# Blumfield Fire	77	71	65	73	86	88	49	57	56	43	62	
# Bridgeport Fire	1,103	1,026	1,068	1,180	993	957	967	968	1,077	1,178	1,111	
Buena Vista Fire	1,667	1,775	1,745	1,958	1,498	1,451	1,420	1,275	1,402	1,427	1,677	
Carrollton Fire	111	104	119	117	128	110	122	113	133	131	131	
Chesaning-Brady Fire	163	152	146	147	162	162	201	150	172	191	220	
Frankenmuth Fire	97	127	98	110	125	112	123	133	156	126	146	
James Fire	114	155	148	145	142	129	168	178	149	148	195	
Jonesfield/Lakefield Fire	242	230	203	222	235	244	259	220	210	263	260	
# Kochville Fire	454	521	471	473	465	449	430	443	465	488	477	
Maple Grove Fire	69	73	68	60	71	71	61	50	72	68	75	
# Marion Fire	117	126	95	138	137	130	129	100	129	130	118	
# Richland Fire	363	351	354	324	319	315	309	291	292	359	384	
Saginaw Twp Fire	787	805	774	726	807	698	713	749	736	742	733	
# Spaulding Fire	216	241	213	235	220	167	182	165	198	242	200	
Tri-Twp Fire	189	193	149	176	184	191	228	188	200	202	205	
Taymouth Fire	321	321	249	324	317	335	299	333	330	244	214	
Tittabawassee Fire	437	472	409	457	501	625	621	631	695	762	665	
# Thomas Fire	807	772	884	975	656	628	635	671	687	861	825	
Zilwaukee Fire	206	174	186	168	221	217	189	175	216	213	230	
Saginaw City Fire	1,991	2,256	1,705	1,738	1,900	1,774	3,220	4,867	3,121	3,225	3,439	
Annual Total	10,192	10,623	9,777	10,390	9,858	9,543	11,053	12,344	11,042	11,686	12,006	
#	These fire departments participate in the focused response to reduce medical related responses.											

Incidents by Day of Week for 2017



DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	159
Monday	155
Tuesday	142
Wednesday	168
Thursday	179
Friday	142
Saturday	158
TOTAL	1103

Incidents by Hour for 2017



HOUR	# of CALLS
00:00 - 00:59	35
01:00 - 01:59	31
02:00 - 02:59	23
03:00 - 03:59	19
04:00 - 04:59	18
05:00 - 05:59	16
06:00 - 06:59	23
07:00 - 07:59	43
08:00 - 08:59	47
09:00 - 09:59	53
10:00 - 10:59	62
11:00 - 11:59	67
12:00 - 12:59	61
13:00 - 13:59	66
14:00 - 14:59	60
15:00 - 15:59	53
16:00 - 16:59	72
17:00 - 17:59	69
18:00 - 18:59	53
19:00 - 19:59	61
20:00 - 20:59	50
21:00 - 21:59	36
22:00 - 22:59	49
23:00 - 23:59	36

2018 Initiatives

Staffing

Recruitment and day-time responders continue to be a problem for the volunteer and on-call fire service and we are no exceptions. The following outlines continued efforts that will be taken to try and reduce this problem:

- Continue marketing efforts leveraging local media, an open house, and national marketing tools developed and recently released by the National Volunteer Fire Council.
- Continue discussion on staffing models to address those timeframes when staffing is most critical.
- Discuss ways to incentivize volunteer participation and longevity.
- Add a minimum of three qualified personnel to our roster in 2018.

Fire Station

We completed only the highest priority renovation items in 2015 and budgeted for only minor repairs in 2016/17. We have now reviewed our overall renovation needs and will be obtaining firm bids to facilitate final recommendations.

- Finalize and award contract(s) to complete necessary fire department renovations in 2018.

Fire Prevention

Fire prevention is important to our community. Fire Inspectors from Saginaw, Midland, and Bay Counties have formed a group to evaluate how best to move forward with adopting a fire code that is consistent throughout the area. Unlike the building code, the State of Michigan has yet to adopt a statewide fire code.

- Complete updated fire code adoption in 2018.
- Present for adoption a revised open burn ordinance for adoption. Our goal is to reduce incidents caused by open burn negligence, and reduce our responses to nuisance type incidents. This is a carryover from 2017.

Other Fire Department

- Update emergency response plans based on initiative underway through Saginaw County Emergency Management. This is in process from 2017.
- Update the fire department webpage. This is a carryover from 2017.
- Develop educational materials for officials and the public to understand increased cancer risk to personnel.

Township

- Continue to implement and improve code enforcement for blight and other ordinance matters. We initiated this project in 2015 and continue to improve using data, and through improved resource management and process improvements.
- There is a second phase to this project that encompasses planning and zoning, work-orders, and online access for customers and contractors. These areas will be evaluated for implementation in 2018.
- Perform analysis of phone system upgrade to meet 2019 mandate for enhanced 911 call locating capabilities.

Closing Remarks

Thank you for taking the time to review this information. There is a lot of information to know and understand about our complex operation. As always, I encourage you to ask questions and stop by the station to better understand our operation. A time can be arranged in the evening or on a weekend for your convenience.

We look forward to another safe and productive year!