

2019



BEECHER  
FIRE  
PROTECTION  
DISTRICT

# ANNUAL REPORT

**Contents:**

**Fire Chief.....2**

**Division of Operations.....5**

**Incident Statistics.....6**

**Administrative & Financial Services.....11**

**Division of Training.....13**

**Division of Public Education .....18**

**Division of Apparatus Maintenance .....20**

**Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).....23**

**Division of Station and Grounds.....26**

**Division of PPE & Clothing.....27**

**Division of Fire Prevention.....28**

**Division of Fire Investigations.....29**

**Division of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus .....31**

## Fire Chief

### Joseph M. Falaschetti Jr.

I would like to thank the Trustees and the members of the Beecher Fire Protection District for allowing me to be their Fire Chief for the past year. It is truly a great honor and I am humbled to serve you. The members of the Beecher Fire Protection District are some of the most professional and respectful individuals that I have ever had a pleasure to work with. They continue to impress me with their work ethic to strive to make the Beecher Fire Protection District the safest place to live.

On behalf of the hardworking and committed men and women of the Beecher Fire Protection District, I present for your review the Annual Report for Calendar Year ending December 31, 2019. The report is designed to provide you with a summary of the department's actions as well as statistical information related to the department's operations and mission objectives. With this year's report we will endeavor to provide a broad indication of departmental activity and statistics which can be quickly understood without requiring a vast amount of time to comprehend the material. In 2019, the Beecher Fire Protection District saw its 2<sup>nd</sup> busiest response year ever, having been dispatched to 1,050 requests for emergency assistance. 2018 was the busiest year on record prior to 2019 with 1,061 responses. Staffing continues to be, and will likely remain, a key challenge for the Fire District now and for years to come. Our Paid-On-Call staff, though dedicated, can only provide limited support to the daily staffing model, given their relatively low numbers and other job and family responsibilities. Neighboring departments are experiencing staffing challenges similar to or exceeding our own making it more difficult to rely on them in our times of need.

This is our first, of many to come, formal report. You will read later on in this report the many activities our department has done in the past year to ready our department for when you, "The Public", call on us.

Here at Beecher, one of my main goals of 2019 was to implement a fire inspection program. During our preplan visits, our crews have noticed some significant safety hazards around the district. I am pleased to say that we have successfully executed an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Beecher giving us the opportunity to inspect commercial occupancies along with the common areas of multifamily dwellings. With this agreement, the Village is not only going to assist us with inspections but also follow through with enforcing set codes. Since this program has begun we have already identified and successfully corrected many safety hazards across the fire district; making it a safer place to live, work and visit. The Fire District also adopted the 2015 International Fire Code as well as all appendixes. Along with the International Fire Code, the Fire District also adopted 2015 edition of the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code.



My goal for 2020 is to implement an Officer Development Program. The company officer is the most vital part of any organization. It is crucial fire officers are able to manage an effective fire ground by calmly and quickly making stressful tactical decisions. Alongside maintaining a proactive fire ground, fire officers must be able to manage relationships amongst different personalities within the fire station itself. This program will also give Chief Officers the ability to spell out our expectations of the line officers. Line officers are the go between from the “guys” to upper level management. In order to have successful relationships and safe fire-ground operations, we see a need to implement this program. The program will consist of monthly incident command training, which will include a tactical scenario. Both officers and acting officers have to make effective tactical decisions during the scenario or the scenario will get worse. The other part of the monthly training focuses on the interpersonal relationships within the department and how to handle relations within the community. We will cover everything from how to handle a citizen concern to how the daily “roll call” should be done. The next step in this program is teaching all of our members to be leaders. The leadership portion is being developed but will include more personal matters such as morals, ethics and beliefs.



I have been conducting a study on our operations to make sure we are providing the best service possible to the public. This study included reviewing our staffing, our response times, and our call volume. Our call volume has increased 30% over the past 10 years. Our response times (which is the time lapse between the dispatcher answering the phone to us arriving on scene) are averaging 6 minutes. For a 54 square mile district, this is impressive. We are taking steps to ensure we maintain and hopefully improve our turnout and response times.

We promoted two Lieutenants in late 2019. These promotions will aide in our operational needs with the Deputy Chief vacancy. There was an extensive testing process that included a tactical scenario, an employee conflict resolution scenario as well as a written exam. All members that tested for Lieutenant were scored by an outside testing center.

We also added twelve firefighters to our ranks, FF/PM Carmella Welsh, FF/PM Kevin Tamme, FF/PM Seth Miller, FF/PM Jeremy Horn, FF/PM, John Gutierrez, FF/PM Thomas Farley, FF/PM Nick Carollo, FF/PM Aaron Anderson, FF Austin Behrens, FF Jacob Reece, FF Justin Janssen, and FF Cristian Martinez.



Mental health amongst firefighters is a major concern to all Fire Chiefs. 2019 is the year that has brought the topic to the forefront. In the past year, 113 firefighters and 19 EMT's unfortunately committed suicide across the country. ([www.ffbha.org](http://www.ffbha.org)) The Beecher Fire Protection District continues to monitor the activities of its members to find indicators of a member in need. We currently have 4 members that are active members in the Illinois Firefighter Peer Support Group. The program has been successful and we continue to learn more of this debilitating disease. We also have a very proactive Employee Assistance Program that is available to all of our employees at no cost.

## Grant Funding

The Fire District aggressively seeks out grant opportunities to support our operation and projects. As an example the following grants were applied for and received for the fiscal years 2018/2019 & 2019/2020:

### *FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant*

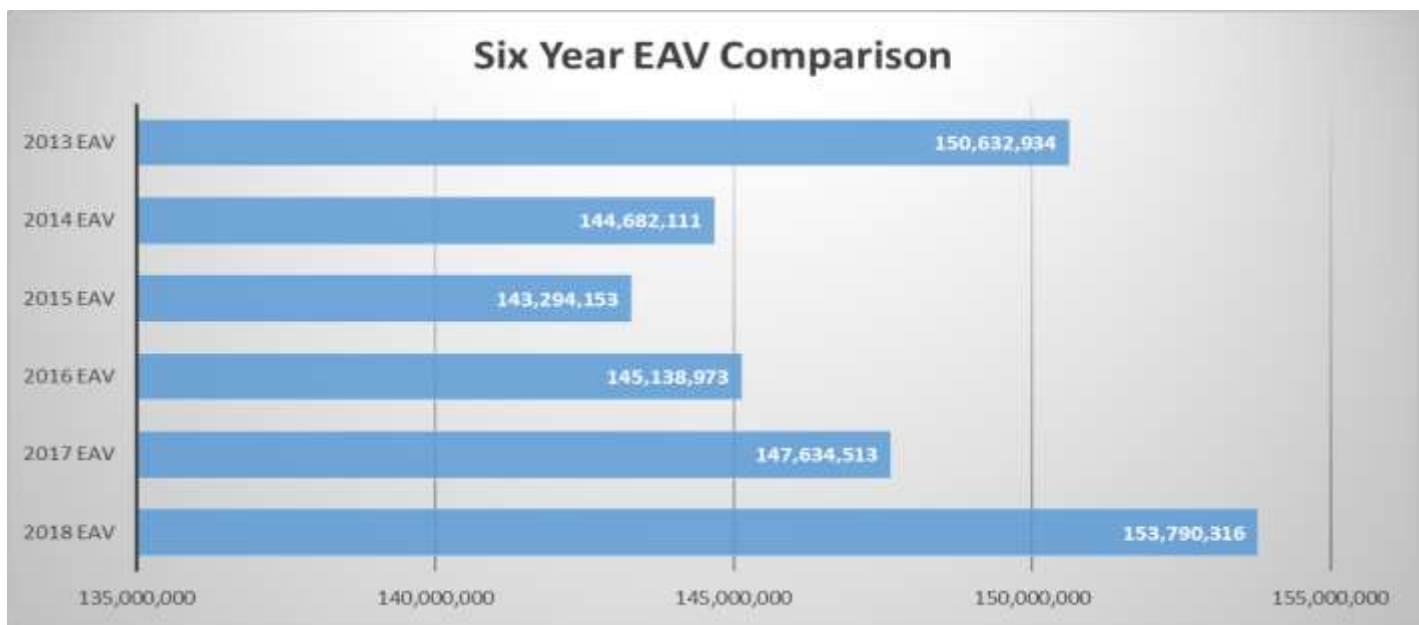
Received \$48,862.00 for the purchase of a source capture exhaust removal system in our apparatus bay.

Received \$168,000.00 to replace and upgrade current inventory of 24 self-contained breathing apparatus with NFPA 1981 2018 compliant SCBAs.

### *Illinois Public Risk Fund*

Received \$3,773.00 for the purchase of Personal Protective Gear for firefighters.

Financially we continue to grow with the economy. Our equalized assessed evaluation (EAV) grew 4% from 2017 which increased our revenue by \$50,000.00. Our fiscal year begins May 1 of each year. The 2019/2020 budget is a well-balanced platform to meet the needs of the department.



## Division of Operations

The Operations Division is responsible for the delivery of emergency services and day to day operations of the Fire District. During 2019, the members of the Beecher Fire Protection District proudly responded to 1,050 calls for emergency services. This continues an upward trend in calls for service. The services provided include:

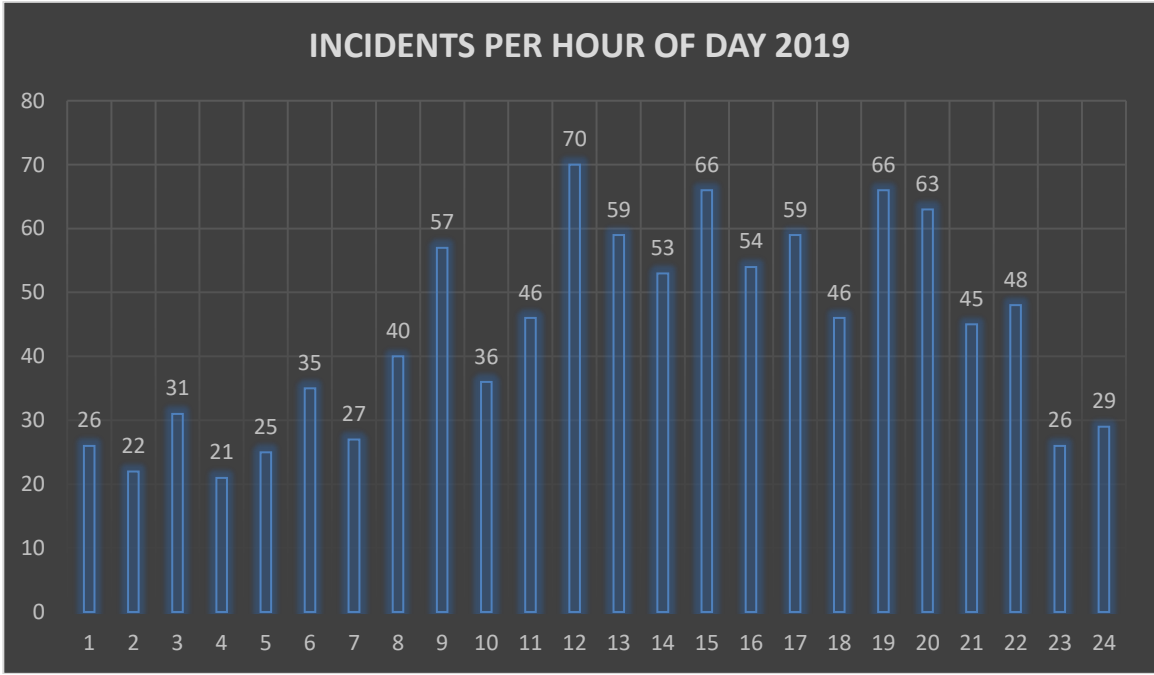
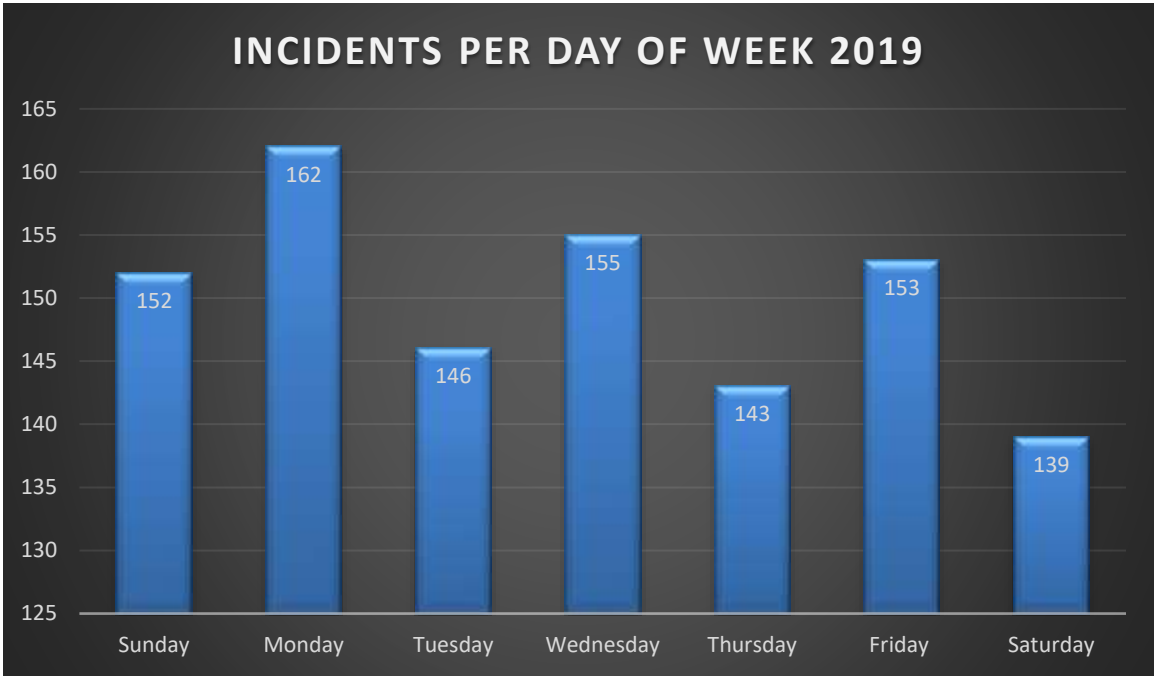
- Fire suppression
- Emergency Medical Services
- Special Teams
- Training/Safety

The members of the Beecher Fire Protection District are ready to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day 365 days a year. Calls for emergency service come in around the clock. In order to meet the demand for services, the Fire District employs two types of personnel split into the following categories:

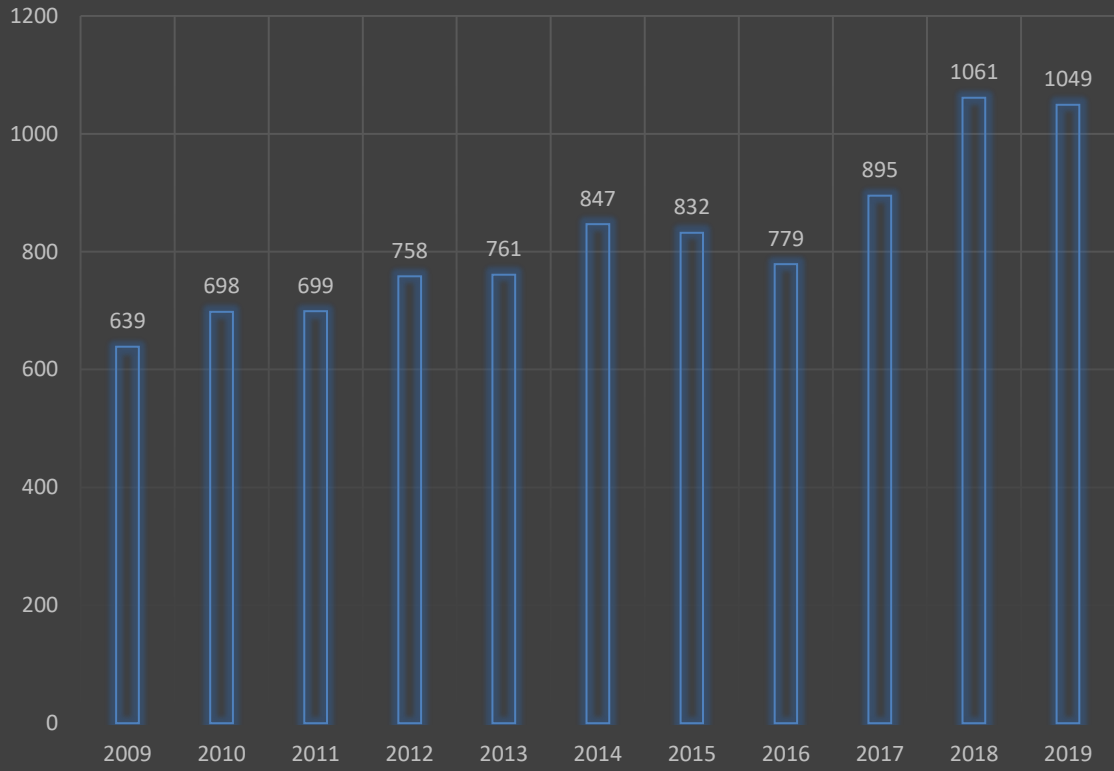
- Full-time contractual staff / Part- time staff
  - Divided into three shifts
  - 6 Contractual members (6 total, 2 per shift)
  - 33 Part-time members
  - Daily staffing model of 5 members per shift (minimum of 4)
  - Shift is supervised by a Lieutenant
  - Work rotating shift (24 hours on/48 hours off)
- Paid- on- Call staff
  - Respond from home following notification of an emergency via pager & text messaging
  - Only paid when they respond
  - Consists of 12 members

The Beecher Fire Protection District continues to evaluate the service delivery needs of our community and improve the emergency response model to meet those needs.

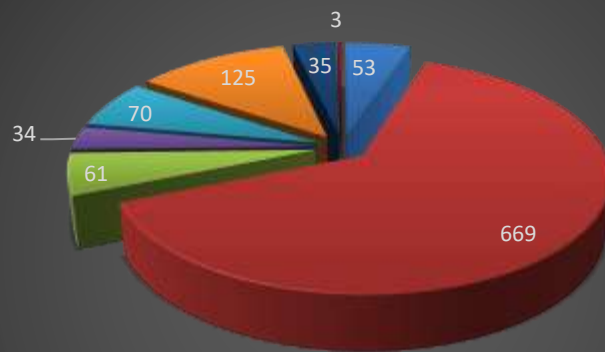
# INCIDENT STATISTICS



### 10 YEAR INCIDENT HISTORY



### INCIDENT BY TYPE 2019



- FIRE
- EMS
- TRAFFIC ACCIDENT
- HAZARDOUS CONDITION
- SERVICE CALLS
- GOOD INTENT
- FALSE CALLS
- OTHER



# 2019 Incident Statistics

## Incident by Incident Type With Detail

Date Range: From 1/1/2019 To 12/31/2019

| Incident Type  | Incident Count | Used in Ave Resp. |
|--|----------------|-------------------|
| <b><u>Fire</u></b>   |                |                   |
| Building fire  | 42             | 15                |
| Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined                                | 1              | 1                 |
| Trash or rubbish fire, contained   | 1              | 1                 |
| Passenger vehicle fire   | 1              | 1                 |
| Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire                                     | 1              | 1                 |
| Brush, or brush and grass mixture fire                                       | 6              | 1                 |
| Outside storage fire   | 1              | 1                 |
| <b>Total Fire:</b>   | <b>53</b>      | <b>21</b>         |
| <b><u>EMS/Rescue</u></b>   |                |                   |
| Medical assist, assist EMS crew  | 3              | 1                 |
| EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury                             | 543            | 534               |
| EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury, refusal of care            | 111            | 110               |
| EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury, treat with no further care | 9              | 9                 |
| Vehicle accident with injuries   | 46             | 35                |
| Vehicle accident with injuries - Multiple Patient Release                    | 1              | 1                 |
| Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)                                   | 6              | 6                 |
| Motor vehicle accident with no injuries                                      | 7              | 6                 |
| Search for person in water   | 1              | 1                 |
| Extrication of victim(s) from vehicle  | 1              | 1                 |
| Water & ice related rescue, other  | 1              |                   |
| Ice rescue   | 1              |                   |
| <b>Total EMS/Rescue:</b>   | <b>730</b>     | <b>704</b>        |
| <b><u>Hazardous Condition</u></b>  |                |                   |
| Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill                                     | 3              | 3                 |
| Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)  | 6              | 6                 |

| <b>Incident Type</b>                             | <b>Incident Count</b> | <b>Used in Ave Resp.</b> |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b><u>Hazardous Condition - (Continued)</u></b>  |                       |                          |
| Carbon monoxide incident                         | 8                     | 8                        |
| Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn | 1                     | 1                        |
| Overheated motor                                 | 1                     | 1                        |
| Power line down                                  | 14                    | 13                       |
| Arcing, shorted electrical equipment             | 1                     | 1                        |
| <b>Total Hazardous Condition:</b>                | <b>34</b>             | <b>33</b>                |
| <b><u>Service Call</u></b>                       |                       |                          |
| Service Call, other                              | 2                     | 2                        |
| Lock-out   | 1                     | 1                        |
| Animal problem, other                            | 1                     | 1                        |
| Public service assistance, other                 | 3                     | 2                        |
| Assist police or other governmental agency       | 8                     | 2                        |
| Public service                                   | 8                     | 7                        |
| Assist invalid                                   | 5                     | 5                        |
| Cover assignment, standby, moveup                | 42                    | 1                        |
| <b>Total Service Call:</b>                       | <b>70</b>             | <b>21</b>                |
| <b><u>Good Intent</u></b>                        |                       |                          |
| Dispatched & cancelled en route                  | 74                    |                          |
| EMS: Dispatched & cancelled en route             | 3                     |                          |
| Dispatch error without arrival at scene          | 11                    |                          |
| Dispatched and unable to respond (took pass)     | 15                    |                          |
| No incident found on arrival at dispatch address | 7                     | 7                        |
| Call dispatched in error                         | 2                     | 1                        |
| Authorized controlled burning                    | 1                     | 1                        |
| Smoke scare, odor of smoke                       | 10                    | 9                        |
| EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency   | 1                     | 1                        |
| Hazmat release investigation w/ no hazmat        | 1                     | 1                        |
| <b>Total Good Intent:</b>                        | <b>125</b>            | <b>20</b>                |
| <b><u>False Call</u></b>                         |                       |                          |
| Municipal alarm system, malicious false alarm    | 1                     | 1                        |

| <b>Incident Type</b>                               | <b>Incident Count</b> | <b>Used in Ave Resp.</b> |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>False Call - (Continued)</b>                    |                       |                          |
| Direct tie to FD, malicious/false alarm            | 1                     |                          |
| Central station, malicious false alarm             | 2                     | 2                        |
| System malfunction, other                          | 1                     | 1                        |
| Smoke detector activation due to malfunction       | 1                     | 1                        |
| Alarm system sounded due to malfunction            | 1                     | 1                        |
| CO detector activation due to malfunction          | 2                     | 2                        |
| Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional | 11                    | 11                       |
| Detector activation, no fire - unintentional       | 2                     | 2                        |
| Alarm system sounded, no fire - unintentional      | 7                     | 6                        |
| Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO         | 6                     | 6                        |
| <b>Total False Call:</b>                           | <b>35</b>             | <b>33</b>                |
| <b>Other</b>                                       |                       |                          |
| Special type of incident, other                    | 1                     | 1                        |
| Citizen assist                                     | 2                     | 2                        |
| <b>Total Other:</b>                                | <b>3</b>              | <b>3</b>                 |
| <b>Total Incident Count:</b>                       | <b>1,050</b>          | <b>835</b>               |



## Administrative & Financial Services

### Administrative Assistant Angela Koehne

**Board of Trustees** – Agenda packets are prepared for the Board of Trustees' monthly meeting. Financial information is provided including a Budget Analysis report. All minutes are transcribed accordingly and added to the District website.

**Workers Compensation** – 0 Claims for 2019. Work closely with IPRF scanning and sending ALL required forms and Invoices for members of the department as well as follow up emails and continued status requests.

**Insurance**- Continued relations with Horton Insurance. Discuss open enrollment documents prepared for employees. Update and Calculate new deductions or dependent status for employees and enter deductions into payroll system.

**Run Reports** – Work closely with Medical Reimbursements Inc. regarding all patient ambulance transport billing. Monthly reports from MRI are reviewed to confirm all patients have been entered properly. All run reports are maintained and filed.

**Medical Records Requests** - 17 medical records requests were received. These are reviewed by our Attorney prior to releasing any information.

**Accounts Payable** – 633 invoices entered, \$1,423,995.94 paid out.

**Payroll** – Payroll is entered bi-weekly for all employees. Federal and State 941 Quarterly payroll reports are completed on time with no discrepancies. All payroll records and reports are maintained for preparation of W-2's and 1099's for end of year distribution.

**Banking** - All banks statements from Midland States Bank have been reviewed and reconciled accordingly. All money moved, interest received or ambulance revenue is entered into the Financial Software program as well as any other transactions that take place.

**Audit** –The 2018-2019 fiscal audit was performed by Brian Zabel & Associates. All requested material including, bank statements, fixed asset listing, minutes, specified ordinances, CD and account balances, 941 quarterlies, and payroll

Information and Accounts Payable were thoroughly reviewed. The audit was presented to the Board of Trustees at the September 2019 meeting and it was stated the District is in good standing.

The assets of the District exceeded its liabilities at April 30, 2019 by \$3,210,656 (net position). Of this amount \$1,573,447(unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors. At FY 2019 end the District's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balance of \$2,452,090, an increase of \$171,887 in comparison with prior year.

**Beecher Firefighter's Pension Fund** – Monthly investment reports are received and reviewed. Pension A/P checks are cut accordingly and bank statements are reconciled monthly. Assist with IDOI reports and pension filing as well as communication with District Auditor and Pension Accountant (Lauterbach & Amen) to provide all reports as needed.

## Division of Training

### Training Officer, Matthew Berk

In our continued effort to remain prepared and fulfill State and Federal requirements, training continues to be an integral part of our daily activities. A list of a few of the agencies requiring specific types of annual/ongoing training include:

- Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL)
- Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
- Riverside EMS System (RMC-EMS)
- National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA)
- Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)
- Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)
- Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF)
- Combined Area Response Team (CART)
- Insurance Services Office (ISO)

#### **Monthly Training Program**

Our training program platform has continuously been changing and developing to make training more consistent and delivered accordingly. Records management has been much easier to track with this program. All members can see what trainings are available and when their associated due dates are. We are also able to track all licenses with ease as the program lets us and the member know when they are coming up to expiration. The activities and training built within the program each have a lesson plan, PowerPoint, JPR's, skill sheets, and videos attached as reference material for the instructor to utilize when they do training. The Training Division assigns the Firefighter program, and over the course of 3 years, every member SHOULD have completed ALL practical objectives set forth by the State Fire Marshal for Basic Operations Firefighter.

#### **Engineer Training Program**

The Engineer program is ever-changing. There is an initial driver/operator program for members that do not have any driving experience with fire apparatus. This program takes about 6 months to complete and includes driving hours and pumping hours as well as basic maintenance guidelines of each apparatus. There is an additional program for those members that meet the requirements and have previous experience of driving fire apparatus.

## **Live Fire Training**

The training division used acquired structures often to complete our live-fire training. In 2020, we will be able to utilize our training tower, which is still under construction. All live fire training will follow NFPA 1403, the standard for live-fire training evolutions in acquired structures and fixed facilities. The training division programs also follow all state standards and regulations from OSHA, NFPA, ISO, OSFM, and the Illinois Secretary of State. During a random IL OSHA visit on August 14<sup>th</sup>, our efforts proved to be successful as we met all of the OSHA requirements for all of our employees. With that, OSHA complimented our organization on our record keeping and dedication to provide a safe work environment.

In addition to the in-house training completed, we were able to send one member to Rapid Intervention Team Under Fire that was grant funded saving the Fire District \$2,600.00. We also sent two Lieutenants to Fire-Ground Company Officer Boot Camp which was also grant funded, saving the Fire District \$2,400.00.

In the spring of 2020 we plan to finish our training tower that is located on Town Center Drive. This will benefit not only our firefighters but the firefighters of the surrounding communities. This will also aid us in reducing our Insurance Services Office rating, in turn saving our tax payers money on homeowners insurance.

## **Cadet Initial Certification Training**

The Training Division started to utilize the Illinois Fire Service Institute to provide the initial instruction for our candidates. The IFSI Basic Operations Firefighter BLENDED course is offered at no cost to Illinois departments. This program is supported by a grant provided through the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. The Basic Operations Firefighter (Blended) is designed to give firefighters the practical and cognitive training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fireground in a flexible blended schedule leveraging online training and weekend hands-on practical. The Basic Operations Firefighter / NFPA Firefighter I (Blended) exceeds the requirements outlined by the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal for Basic Operations Firefighter training. Upon successful completion, the student will also meet Illinois OSFM, ProBoard, and IFSAC NFPA Firefighter I requirements for certification. This program is delivered, balancing a blended learning concept utilizing a variety of online teaching elements. Interspersed with weekend hands-on practical training sessions develops and validates that the student is successfully mastering the knowledge and skills needed as a firefighter. Attendance is mandatory for all portions of the program. The Fire District saved \$27,200.00 by sending our four candidates to this program funded with grant dollars.

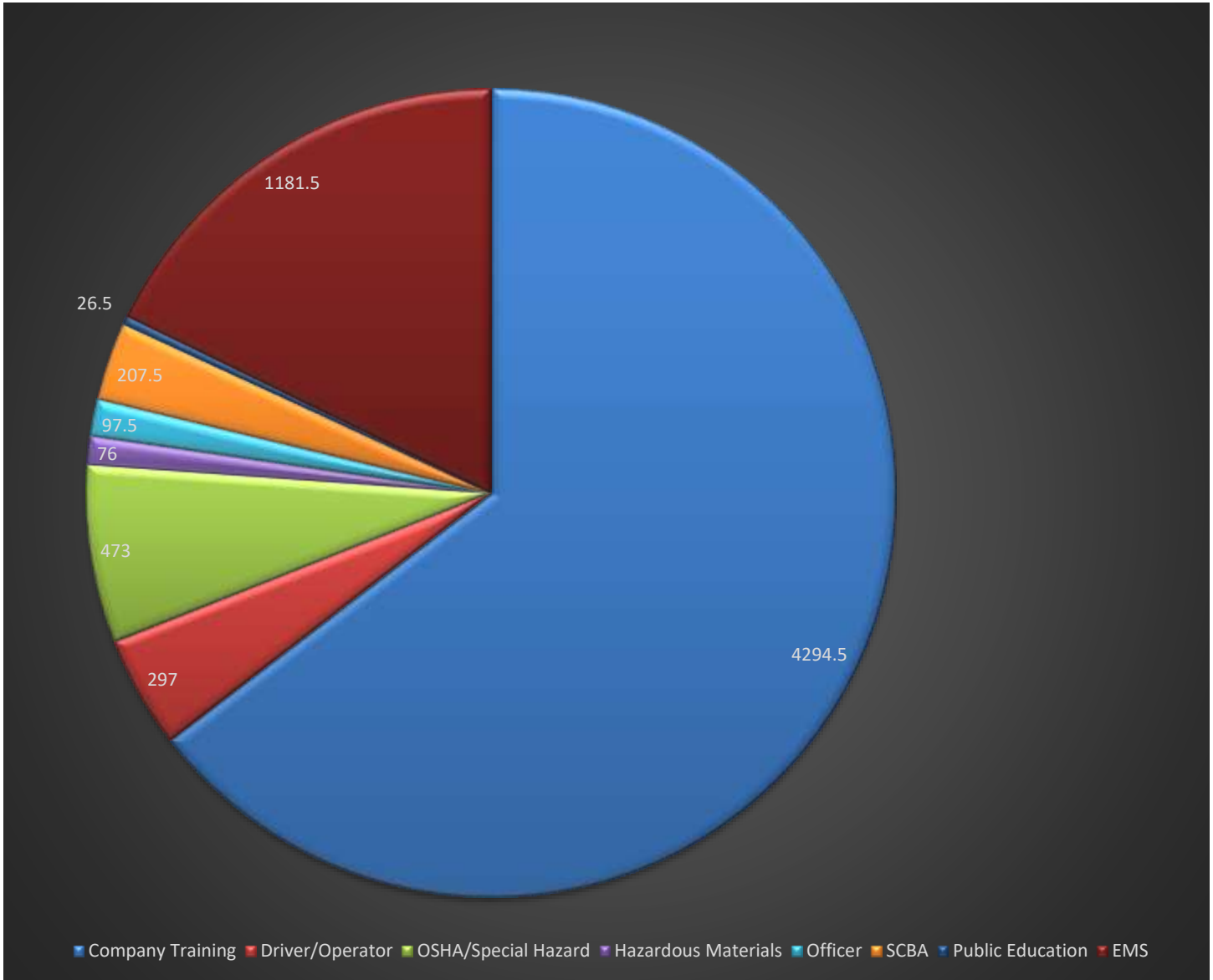
## **Goals for 2020:**

- Increase the amount of training with auto aid departments and mutual aid departments.
- Address and monitor any issues with Target Solutions and ensure training and training records are appropriately completed in the program.

- Continuously monitor the driver/operator training.
- Gauge participation of all members on both required trainings and overall training participation.
- Complete Training tower construction and fabrication.
- Refine the new hire training programs for all members.
- Continue to review and revise all training SOG's.
- Improve Administration Training and programs
- Improve Hazardous Materials Training
- Implement Officer Development Training
- Develop Mass Casualty Incident training to include an Active Shooter program
- Engage POC to participate in weekly training



## Total Training Hours – 2019 – 7,010.5



## Member Achievements/OSFM Certifications – year-end 2019

**Nick Carollo** – Advanced Technician Firefighter

**Dave Conrad** – Basic Operations Firefighter, Advanced Technician Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Operations, Fire Officer 1

**Josh Daisy** – Fire Officer 1

**Joseph Falaschetti** – Chief Fire Officer

**John Gutierrez** – Vehicle & Machinery Operations, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Service Vehicle Operator, Advanced Technician Firefighter

**Kyle Haemker** – Basic Operations Firefighter, Advanced Technician Firefighter, Hazmat Operations

**Jeremy Horn** – Rope Operations

**Anthony Joaquin** – Instructor 1

**Tom Marconi** – Instructor 2, Trench Operations

**Brad Mead** – Company Fire Officer

**Ryan Miller** – Basic Operations Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Operations, Fire Service Vehicle Operator

**Seth Miller** – Basic Operations Firefighter, Hazardous Materials Operations, Vehicle & Machinery Operations

**Jake Pevion** – Basic Operations Firefighter, Fire Service Vehicle Operator, Hazardous Materials Operations

**Dan Price** – Fire Service Vehicle Operator

**Jason Price** – Vehicle Machinery Technician

**Brian Reyna** – Fire Officer 1

**Matt Shronts** – Health & Safety Officer

**James Siciliano** – Fire Officer 1

**Joe Spanier** – Fire Officer 1, Instructor 1

**Blake Wehling** – Vehicle & Machinery Operations

**Mike Wolf** – Instructor 1, Vehicle Machinery Operations, Advanced Technician Firefighter

**Kyle Zelhart** – Rope Operations, Rescue Specialist – Confined Space

## Division of Public Education

### Public Education Coordinator

#### Lieutenant David Conrad

The Beecher Fire Protection District strives to provide a full spectrum of public education programs for our residents. Public education and interaction with our citizens provides an opportunity to stress the importance of fire and life safety. Each year we promote fire prevention in the schools during the month of October. Our Public Educators remained very busy this year visiting the schools in Beecher and letting the children get a close look at the fire equipment.



#### Community Programs:

The Child Passenger Safety Program worked with multiple citizens this year during appointments and our Seat Check Saturday event. The fire district has 7 certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

The Beecher Fire Protection District is proud to be a part of the Beecher community and its events. We participated in standing by with an ambulance for 5K runs throughout the year in the village. We also participated in multiple community parades, block parties, and touch-a-trucks. We show support for our military on Fridays with Red Shirt Fridays.



Our annual Open House was held on Friday October 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. at the Fire Station. We had one of our biggest turn outs yet with an estimated over 900 people in attendance! An amazing amount of people showed up to see what our District does for them, as a community.

The Open House featured a wide range of demonstrations showcasing how Firefighters address various emergency situations. Various fire apparatus used for emergency responses was on display, along with fire equipment used in responding to emergencies. A side-by-side scenario was set up to show our community how quickly fire grows, how working smoke alarms can and will save lives, and how sprinkled buildings will stop the spread of fire.

The event featured free give-a-ways, Will County Sherriff displays, Beecher Police and EMA, Car Seats, kids face painting, American Red Cross, K-9 Comfort Dogs, a Firefighter fashion show, Will County 9-1-1 and kid's stations galore. Thank you to all who participated in this year's event!



## Division of Apparatus Maintenance

**Lieutenant Michael Heusing**

**Lieutenant Joshua Gibson**

During 2019, the Beecher Fire Protection District maintained the agreement with Fire Service Inc. in St. John, Indiana for routine preventative maintenance of our fire and EMS apparatus. Fire Service Inc. provides certified Emergency Vehicle Technicians (EVT's) that provide quick lubes, chassis inspections, brake inspections, pump services and other routine maintenance/repairs of our fire and EMS apparatus. These EVT's ensure that our apparatus are inspected and maintained per NFPA. Any major repairs that are discovered by EVT's are sourced out to local vendors, dependent on the repair type. The Division of Apparatus Maintenance does some minor in-house repairs and preventative maintenance within its scope. Fire District vehicles are extremely well-maintained which is imperative given the need for 100% reliability and the severe duty associated with emergency response.



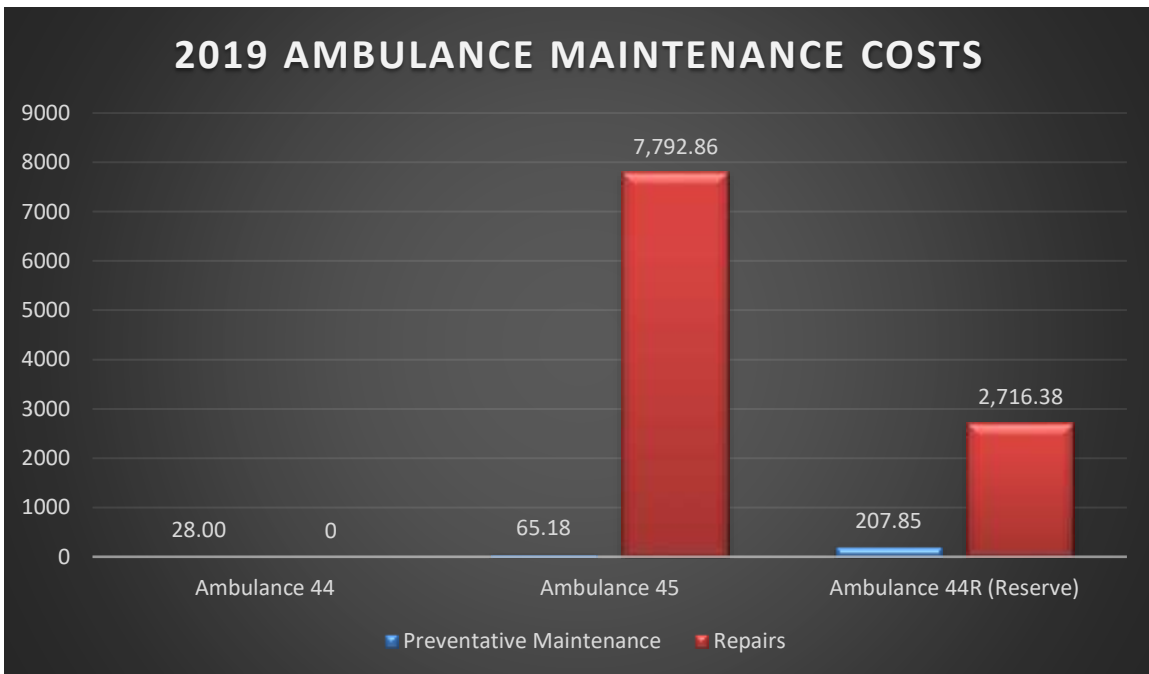
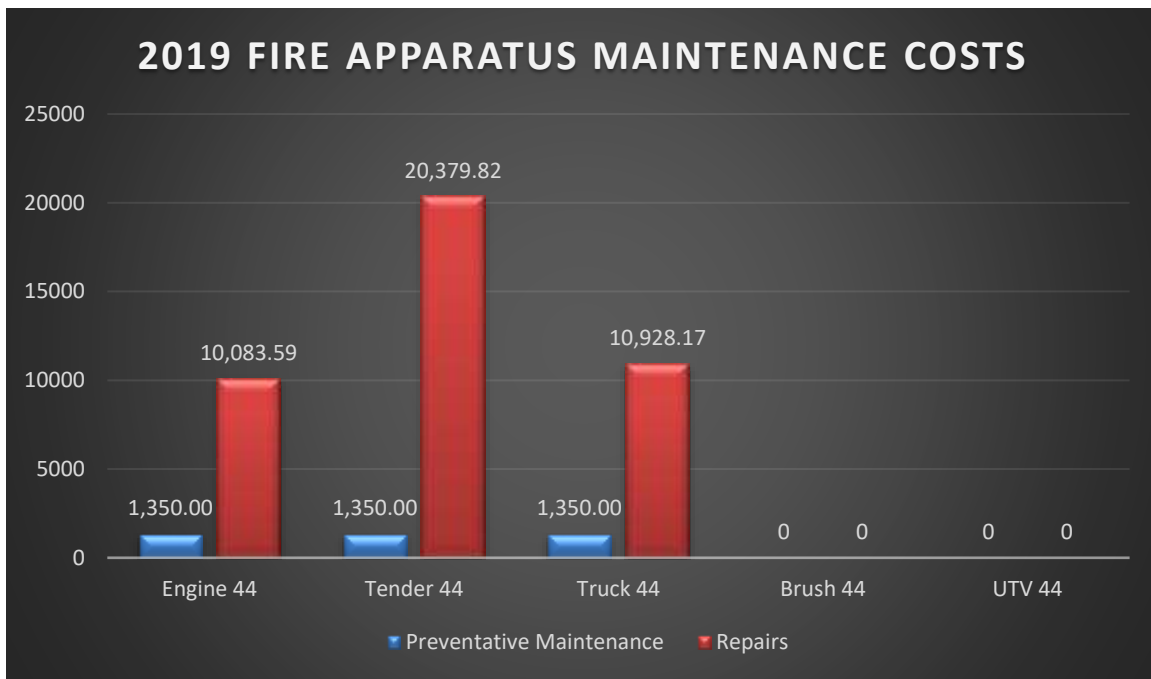
Our annual pump testing was performed by Legacy Fire Apparatus in



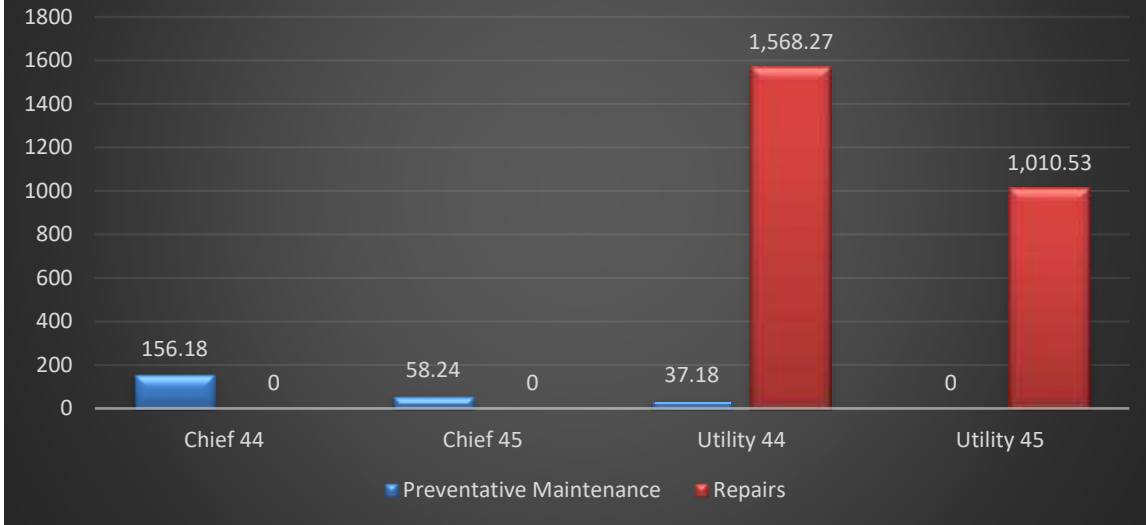
May of 2019. Legacy has a mobile pump testing unit that provides testing on-site. This allows us to limit the amount of Out-of-service time for apparatus during pump testing. All applicable apparatus passed the annual pump test.

Our annual fire hose testing and ground ladder testing was completed in May by Waterway Inc. A total of 8,950 feet of fire hose was tested and 215 feet of ground ladders were tested. We were able to replace approximately 500 feet of various sizes of hose that did not pass the test.

In July of 2019 it was decided to purchase an electronic platform used to perform and record thorough apparatus checks and inventories and also has a built in electronic work order form that is all available on Target Solutions. When an item or apparatus needs service its documented and then it notifies the responsible person to schedule the repair. This program will also aid in tracking maintenance cost throughout the year per vehicle.



## 2019 CHIEF AND UTILITY VEHICLE MAINTENANCE



# Division of Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

## EMS Coordinator

**Colleen Behrens**

**Assistant EMS Coordinator**

**Joshua Gibson**



In 2019 we responded to 730 EMS incidents resulting in 736 patients.

The average response time for an ambulance throughout our District was 4:46 which is an increase from 4:41 minutes in 2018. One possible explanation for this response time increase may be due to the increase of patients in the Districts located furthest from the Fire Stations.

The Beecher Fire Protection District takes great pride in the services we provide to the community. Beecher Paramedics may arrive at your emergency on fire apparatus and ambulances. We have recently implemented the Advanced Life Support (ALS) Engine concept. Our primary front line Engine carries all of the ALS equipment found on our ambulances.

| 2018  |      | 2019      |               | Difference    |               |
|---|------|-----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>EMS Incidents</b>                          |      |           |               |               |               |
| 654   |      | 730       |               | <b>+46</b>    |               |
| <b>Patient Totals</b>                         |      |           |               |               |               |
| 654   |      | 736**     |               | <b>+82</b>    |               |
| <b>Average Response Time for an Ambulance</b> |      |           |               |               |               |
| 4:41  |      | 4:46      |               | <b>+0:05</b>  |               |
| <b>Transport Destination Totals</b>           |      |           |               |               |               |
| Hospital                                      | 2018 | 2019      | Difference    |               |               |
| Franciscan Dyer                               | 178  | 208       | <b>+30</b>    |               |               |
| Franciscan Olympia Fields                     | 92   | 176       | <b>+84</b>    |               |               |
| St. Mary's                                    | 26   | 13        | <b>-13</b>    |               |               |
| Riverside                                     | 39   | 46        | <b>+7</b>     |               |               |
| Franciscan Munster                            | 1    | 1         | <b>Even</b>   |               |               |
| Franciscan Crown Point                        | 3    | 2         | <b>-1</b>     |               |               |
| Franciscan Chicago Hts                        | 114  | 0         | <b>Closed</b> |               |               |
| <b>IV Success Rate for 2019</b>               |      |           |               |               |               |
| Attempts                                      |      | Successes |               | Success Rate  |               |
| 2018  | 2019 | 2018      | 2019          | 2018          | 2019          |
| 327   | 290  | 233       | 199           | <b>71.25%</b> | <b>68.62%</b> |

\* Average response time is listed Min: Sec. This time average is not run as a total due to FRMS implementation in December 2018. The use of "Ghost Units" by WC911 also affected the response time average. The response time average is time of call to the first arriving BFPD unit and includes Mutual Aid EMS.

\*\* This number includes "No Patient Found on Arrival" This number was not previously tracked.

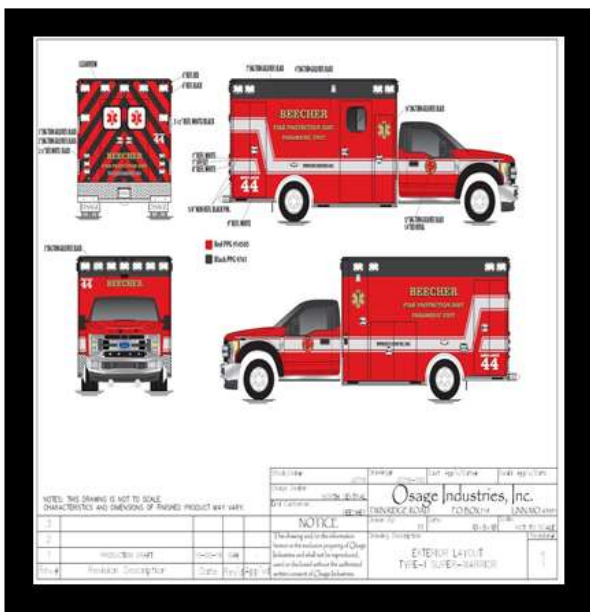


**Goals for 2020:**

- High Performance CPR and Cardiac Arrest Management Program
- Begin certifying Paramedics in ACLS and PALS
- Develop training plan to increase IV success rate



**NEW DELIVERY of Ambulance 44**



The Beecher Fire Protection District completed a year long process in 2019 with the delivery of a new ambulance. New Ambulance 44 is a 2019 Ford F550 4X4 Type-I Osage Super Warrior and was delivered on July 1<sup>st</sup>. This unit is replacing a 2010 Ford E350 Medtec Ambulance that is now placed into reserve status.

## Ambulance 45 collision September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019



While transporting a patient to St. James Olympia Fields, Ambulance 45 was involved in a traffic accident at the intersection of Governors Highway and University Parkway in University Park, IL. Ambulance 45 was struck by a passenger vehicle that disregarded the stop sign. All warning devices on the ambulance were activated and the ambulance was following all traffic laws when the accident occurred. No injuries to any parties involved. Patient was transferred to a mutual aid ambulance to finish the transport for the original medical emergency. Ambulance 45 was Out of Service for 30 days and repair costs of \$6,500.00 were covered by the passenger vehicle's insurance company.

## **Division of Station & Grounds**

### **Lieutenant David Conrad**



During the 2019 year, this division of the Beecher Fire District had been ordering cleaning products from State Chemical and supplementing with Sam's Club. Sam's Club is the where we get a lot of our household items from like toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, mop heads, brooms, floor squeegees, and mop buckets. State Chemical is our vendor for bulk liquid cleaning supplies.

Almost all station purchases go through the Station Division for items such as brushes, things of any cleaning sort, etc. It helps us to keep track and make sure SDS sheets and paperwork are current.

State Chemical and offered great things for the department. The company offered upgraded dilution system that allowed us to help eliminate wasting product. On this dilution system, we have window cleaner, all-purpose, truck wash, disinfectant, toilet bowl cleaner, degreaser, and a neutral floor cleaner. A representative visits once a month to check on how the systems are operating and to check if products need to be ordered. We have also received products from State Chemical such as stainless steel cleaner, a vinyl/rubber cleaner, bug and tar remover, shower/tile cleaner and a drain maintainer.

We have 2 dilution systems, one in the bay and one in the janitorial closet off the kitchen. The bay station has the disinfectant cleaner, truck wash and degreaser. The living quarter station has the floor cleaner, glass cleaner and toilet bowl cleaner.

State Chemical also provides the gear extractor chemicals used for cleaning turnout gear and disinfecting uniforms.



## Quartermaster Division

### Lieutenant Matt Shrouts

The Quartermaster division for the Beecher Fire Protection District had a successful 2019. The Beecher Fire Protection District holds the highest standards in giving our tax payers well trained and dressed Fire and EMS providers. That being said, a successful program is always changing and growing. This year is no exception. Our uniform needs are now being provided by Unique Apparel Solutions (UAS). This is an online, member based program that truly utilizes the quartermaster system. Now, members are to log onto the website, and place orders. Once the orders are placed, they are emailed to the quartermaster for approval.



If the request is approved, the purchase order is submitted. UAS is the ideal business for our needs because they are a true one stop shop. We are able to order all of our needs through one company instead of holding multiple accounts. UAS is beneficial to our administration by saving time and money.

We were also able to successfully purchase 5 full sets of new turnout gear valued at \$3,000.00 per ensemble, to replace gear that has reached its manufacturer service life and is beyond repair. We have also outfitted our personnel with new particulate barrier nomex hoods. This style hood offers more protection from harmful particles and contaminants in the areas that pose greatest risk of exposure. Our members also complete a biannual turnout gear inspection to ensure the gear is intact and we are in compliance with NFPA 1851. We will continue to budget to replace 5 sets of turnout gear every year to maintain a quality rotation ensuring our members are outfitted with the highest level of protection.

#### **Goals for 2020:**

Establish annual gear washing schedule

Perform a cost analysis with various vendors to ensure we are fiscally responsible

## Division of Fire Prevention & Pre-Plans

Most services provided by the Fire District are reactive once an emergency occurs. It is the Fire Prevention and Public Education Division's responsibility to limit destruction before it ever starts. By reaching out to the community and educating residents in fire safety and performing annual fire safety inspections in businesses we hope to stop fires before they start. This division is supervised by the Fire Chief supported by a part time fire inspector. By providing public education programs and preventative fire inspections we hope to stop unsafe practices before they happen. The Fire Districts Fire Inspector assists the Village of Beecher's building official with the review and planning of new developments within the Fire District.

In addition to fire inspections, we are collecting data each year for each commercial occupancy to update information and enter into our Mobile Data Terminals in each apparatus. The goal of preplanning different types of buildings is to identify specific characteristics or features of the building. By doing so the floorplan, occupancy type, and special hazards are already identified prior to our crews arriving on scene. This speeds up the development of an operational strategy to mitigate the identified hazard.



Pre-plan Fast. Respond Smart.

## Division of Fire Investigations

The Beecher Fire Protection District Origin and Cause Team is responsible to investigate all fires that occur within the jurisdiction of the Beecher Fire Protection District. The Fire District is mandated to investigate all fires and determine whether these fires were accidental or incendiary in nature. These fires include structures (whether occupied or vacant), vehicle fires, and all other types of fires (i.e. grass and rubbish). The Beecher Fire Protection District partners with MABAS 27 Fire Investigation Team and the Will, Cook Grundy Fire Investigation Task Force when a fire is determined to be suspicious or incendiary in nature. Intentionally set fires are criminal in nature and are set for a variety of reasons, such as personal or financial gain, as well as crimes against a person.

In 2018, the Beecher Fire protection District Origin and Cause Team investigated several fires within the Fire District. These fires are not only structure but also include vehicles, vegetation, and out buildings to name a few.

The Beecher Fire Protection District Origin and Cause Team works closely with our local police jurisdictions within the Fire District. Depending on where the suspicious fire occurs within the Fire District, the team can work with the Beecher Police Department or the Will County Sheriff's Police Department. The Beecher Fire Protection District also partners with the Illinois State Fire Marshal's Office, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). We are also members of the MABAS 27 Origin and Cause Team as well as the Will-Cook-Grundy Fire Investigation Task Force. The Beecher Fire Protection District responded to over fifteen mutual aid fire investigations as well as the investigations conducted within the Fire District in 2018.

We currently have five state certified fire investigators on our team. In 2019, our investigators continued to participate in the recertification program with the Illinois State Fire Marshal's Office. Of our five fire investigators, one of them is currently a certified Arson Investigator.

Members train to stay current on the latest techniques as well as staying on top of recalls and safety alerts that we can relay to our residents. Trainings included classroom, seminar and monthly team training as well as online monthly training and fire investigations conducted by our team.



In 2019, the Origin and Cause Team continued to see an increase in fires involving electronic devices. Many of these devices were left unattended and unsupervised while their batteries charged. We continue to experience fires involving clothes dryers and exhaust fans. Many of these fires could have been prevented by proper maintenance and servicing. We continuously work closely with manufacturers and our insurance partners to gather the latest and current information involving fire hazards.

Our fire investigators work with our residents to assure that they can get back on with their lives as soon as possible. We want them to know that we are there to assist them during the days and weeks to come. Our investigative team works with homeowners from the moment we respond to their incident until they are ready to move back in. It is often one of the worst times in their lives and we want them to know we are only a phone call away. We encourage all of our residents to reach out and call us when they are in doubt or have any questions regarding their claims.

## Juvenile Fire Setters Program

The Beecher Fire Protection District Origin and Cause Team has two state-certified Juvenile Fire Setter Interventionists on our team. The goal of our interventionists are to work closely with law enforcement and parents to assist juveniles when a fire is suspected of being caused as a result of a juvenile. Our program participants can be recommended to the team by parents, law enforcement and the juvenile court system. The program involves educating the juvenile and their parents on the dangers of fire and promotes fire safety. Parents accompany the juvenile throughout the training process. Our goal is to help identify potential problems and help the family get additional help if needed.



## Division of SCBA

### Firefighter/ Paramedic Matt Martello

This year all personnel completed their mandated fit testing with Scott masks. The yearly NFPA required flow testing was completed on all Self Contained Breathing Apparatus, RIT packs and masks. All SCBA bottles were hydro-tested by Fessco with three bottles being condemned. During the year multiple SCBA's and mask were repaired by MES. The Fill Station at station 44 was inspected and all quarterly air quality tests passed with no problems detected.



#### Purchase of new Scott X3 Pro

We were the recipient of FEMA AFG grant in the amount of 168,000.00 for the purchase of new SCBAs. Upon evaluation by the members of the organization it was decided to purchase 24 Scott Air-Pak X3 Pros. Along with the benefit of meeting NFPA 1981 2018 edition, the SCBAs come with a bumper-to-bumper “As long as you own it” warranty. We hope to have them placed into service by February 1<sup>st</sup> of 2020.

