

# ***Monmouth Fire Department July Monthly Report***

***August 15th, 2016  
City Council Meeting***



## **Emergency Responses:**

*The Monmouth Fire Department utilizes fire reporting software approved by the United States Fire Administration and the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal. This software records fire department responses in over 90 categories to track fire department emergency response statistics. This information is used by the department to support decision-making for fire response planning. Tracking response data with approved software is also required for fire departments receiving Federal and State grant dollars.*

*The chart on the following page includes a brief summary for each of the nine main categories of incident types and the number of calls that were responded to in each category.*

<b>Responses</b>	<b>Monthly</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b><u>Fires</u></b>	03	20
Includes structure fires, fire in mobile property used as a fixed structure (mobile homes and campers), vehicle fires, vegetation fires, rubbish fires, and field fires. There may also be other types of fires that do not necessarily meet the definition of one of the subcategories in this category.		
<b><u>Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (without ensuing fire)</u></b>	01	03
Includes overpressure rupture of a steam pipe or pipeline, overpressure or rupture from air or gas pipe or pipeline, overpressure rupture from chemical reaction, explosion without resulting in fire, and overheat or scorching with no ignition.		
<b><u>Rescue and Emergency Medical Services</u></b>	53	388
Includes medical assists (majority of MFD calls in this category), vehicle accidents with injuries, vehicle/pedestrian accidents, lock-in (gaining access to a vehicle or other area where a patient is locked inside), search for a lost person, extrication (victims trapped in vehicle, elevator, trench, confined space, machinery), water and ice rescue, and electrocutions.		
<b><u>Hazardous Conditions (no fire)</u></b>	12	92
Includes combustible/flammable spills and leaks, chemical releases or toxic conditions, carbon monoxide incidents, power line down, electrical equipment problems, vehicle accidents with no injuries, incidents involving explosives and attempted arson.		
<b><u>Service Calls</u></b>	13	78
Includes people in distress (locked out of vehicle), water in basements or leaky hydrant, smoke or odor removal, animal rescue, provide police with assistance, smoke detector checks, and unauthorized burning.		
<b><u>Good Intent Calls</u></b>	00	38
Incidents where the fire department was dispatched and then cancelled while en-route to the call. Also includes calls where no emergency was found upon arrival. Incidents where steam was mistaken for smoke or smoke from a barbecue or other controlled fire was mistaken for an uncontrolled fire. Includes emergency medical calls when the patient had been transported prior to the arrival of emergency responders.		
<b><u>False Alarms and False Calls</u></b>	17	91
Includes false alarms that were malicious or mischievous in nature, bomb scares, alarm activation due to the system malfunctioning, and the accidental activation of the alarm system (example -burnt food).		
<b><u>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster</u></b>	00	00
Includes responses to severe weather and natural disasters to stand by, investigate, or to assess the damage to determine if any additional assistance is needed.		
<b><u>Other Type Incidents</u></b>	01	02
Includes citizen complaints concerning code or ordinance violations and any other incidents that may not fit any of the above categories.		
<b>Total</b>	100	712

### **Staff Training:**

During the month of July, fire department staff completed emergency medical training on the subject of the circulatory system. All of the staff completed a review of the circulatory system and conducted a case review.

Firefighters also completed rope rescue training by watching several training videos on the subject and practicing rope rigging and knot tying techniques. Firefighters practiced lifting and lowering techniques using rope and a dummy from a second story window simulating a victim that needed to be rescued from a basement or second floor.

Five firefighters from the department participated in training with the Police Department on the subject of active killer training. The five firefighters trained with the PD for two days to learn how they move into a building to clear it of any threats. The main idea of the firefighters training with the police is to be able to create a safe area inside of a structure where the firefighters could administer first aid to any injured people. At the conclusion of the training the fire department participated in an exercise at the Monmouth High School simulating an active killer in the building. The firefighters who received the training acted as EMT's teamed up with police officers to move into the safe areas and administer first aid and transport the injured out of the area. The training event was very beneficial to all those who participated.

### **Non-Emergency Activities:**

The fire department provided two firefighters and a truck at Citizen's lake on the 4<sup>th</sup> to provide a stand-by during the fireworks display.

The fire department washed out the airport hangar on July 3<sup>rd</sup> to help prepare for the fly in on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

The fire department had a visit from the day campers from the YMCA. A group of children toured the fire station and were shown all of the equipment on the trucks and the gear that the firefighters wear.

Chief Rexroat participated in a meeting with the Western Illinois Home Fire Campaign Coalition. The coalition which was organized by the American Red Cross is offering free smoke detectors to communities in order to reduce the number of fire related deaths in the United States. Currently the coalition is considering an event in Kirkwood to install the smoke detectors but they may be able to offer the detectors to residents in Monmouth. The plans are still in the beginning stages and the detectors may be offered at a later date.

### **Apparatus and Equipment Related Items:**

All of the ground ladders and the aerial ladder received their annual test which is recommended by the NFPA and required by ISO. The ladders are inspected and tested by an independent company called Consolidated Fleet Services. During the test, the ladders are subject to an extreme load and checked for bends, cracks, or other defects. The company also inspects the heat labels which are special heat sensitive stickers that are placed on the ladders which are designed to change colors if the ladder is exposed to excessive heat that could decrease the strength of the ladder.

The aerial ladder was also inspected by Consolidated Fleet Services who found several issues that needed to be addressed immediately. Several of the pulleys on the ladder that guide the cables that extend and retract the ladder had bearings that were worn out causing them grind the metal pulleys against the steel ladder. Another issue was that the cables that extend and retract the ladder had slack in them that needed to be tightened. The last issue is a short section of flexible water pipe that runs water from the truck into the ladder was beginning to fail. The section of pipe had a large bulge in it and needed to be replaced. The ladder truck was taken out of service for the repairs on July 18<sup>th</sup> and has yet to return. The extended repair time is due to the time that it takes to repair the pulleys on the truck. In order to repair the pulleys they need to be taken off of the truck and given to a machine shop where they create a new bushings to replace the center of the pulleys where they are damaged.

The air conditioner at Station I stopped working correctly and due to its age, the condenser needed to be replaced. The City purchased the fire department's building in 2007 and several new condensers were installed during the remodel but there were a couple used condensers that were still in good shape and were not replaced. The condenser that was replaced was about 15-20 years old and the cost to replace the condenser was \$3000.00.

**Other:**

The fire department assisted the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners with the entry-level firefighter testing. Firefighter testing is done once every other year. Four people applied to the fire department and one person did not successfully complete the physical agility test leaving three people on the eligibility list for the next two years. If the fire department needs to hire anyone over the next two years they will come from that list.

Tony Cook submitted a letter of intent to retire from the fire department. Cook is currently on disability from the fire department and is eligible to retire on August 12<sup>th</sup> 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Casey Rexroat, Fire Chief