

Monmouth Fire Department August Monthly Report

September 19th, 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.

Responses	Monthly	YTD
<u>Fires</u>	02	22
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.		
<u>Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (without ensuing fire)</u>	00	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.		
<u>Rescue and Emergency Medical Services</u>	43	431
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.		
<u>Hazardous Conditions (no fire)</u>	15	107
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.		
<u>Service Calls</u>	06	84
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.		
<u>Good Intent Calls</u>	05	43
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.		
<u>False Alarms and False Calls</u>	21	112
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).		
<u>Severe Weather and Natural Disaster</u>	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.		
<u>Other Type Incidents</u>	00	02
Includes citizen complaints concerning code or ordinance violations and any other incidents that may not fit any of the above categories.		
Total	92	804

Staff Training:

In August, firefighters completed training on the use of ladders and rescues above or below grade level. Firefighters practiced raising/lowering ladders and using ladders to enter/exit windows while performing search and rescue.

All of the firefighters at the department were recertified in CPR training. CPR certifications last for two years and so the department participated in training that was conducted by Barb Whedbee who is the EMS coordinator for St. Mary's Medical Center. The training was done on three separate days in order to allow each shift of firefighters to be taught while on duty. Along with CPR, Barb also provided a refresher for the use of AED's and aid for a choking patient.

During the CPR training, Barb informed everyone on the recent changes to the Illinois Department of Public Health rules for what medications shall be carried on our engines and ambulance. The IDPH is now requiring all apparatus used for medical response to carry Epinephrine and Narcan and that all EMT's be able to administer the drugs. Epinephrine is a drug that is used mainly to slow or stop a severe allergic reaction that could potentially be life threatening. In the past, we have been required to carry the epinephrine only on the ambulance in the form of an Epi-pen which is a quick way to administer the epinephrine during an emergency. The only downside to the Epi-pen has been the price which can cost up to \$300 per pen/dose. The pens have been sold in packs of two and we have been required to carry both adult and pediatric pens so the cost per year is a substantial amount. Many times the pens would go unused and would expire forcing us to throw them out and purchase new ones. Barb informed us that under the new rules we are now able to purchase small vials of the epinephrine and administer it via injection which will save the department quite a bit of money. The Narcan that we will be carrying is used to treat patients who have overdosed on a medication or illegal drug.

About 30 area firefighter participated in a class called "Flammable Liquids by Rail" that was instructed by the Illinois Fire Service Institute and hosted by the Monmouth Fire Department at City Hall. The class covers the different types of flammable liquids that are transported by trains, the properties of the liquids and also how to react in an emergency. The instructor provided a critique of several past incidents and provided tips for lessons learned during the incidents.

Non-Emergency Activities:

The firefighters union conducted the "Fill the Boot" fund raiser to collect donations to the MDA.

Firefighters provided a stand-by for fires and medical emergencies during the Car Show, no problems were reported.

Firefighters provided fire extinguisher training to all of the employees of Courtyard Estates which is done annually.

Apparatus and Equipment Related Items:

During a mutual aid call to Kirkwood for an extrication in August, Brush 25 had a front tire blow out on the way to the call. When the tire blew out the firefighters were driving between 50 and 60 mph and the tire came off of the rim and damaged part of the running board and the side mirror. The truck had to be towed back to the Monmouth Fire Station where it could be serviced by Keisters. In order to prevent any future accidents, both of the front tires were replaced.

Repairs needed on Tower 22 were completed in the middle of August. These repairs were mentioned in the last report and involved damage/worn out pulleys on the ladder and several other small issues on the truck. The truck was taken out of service for the repairs for about a month.

There were a few other minor issues with the trucks but aside from the above, none were taken out of service.

Other:

Chief Rexroat attended a workshop held by a representative of FEMA for the purpose of preparing for the upcoming application period for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant. The application period for the grant begins on October 11th and the tentative plan is to request funding for a new ladder truck to replace the current truck. Our department applied for a new ladder truck several years ago but were denied funding mostly because the truck was not old enough to meet the requirements needed for replacement. More research is being done to prepare for the grant but hopefully since a few years have passed the truck will meet the requirements.

Respectfully submitted,
Casey Rexroat, Fire Chief