

November Activity Report

Madeira & Indian Hill Joint Fire District

By: Stephen C. Oughterson



Highlights and Fire / EMS Incidents

Fire activity slowed from the unusually high number of working fires in October. We responded to a few working fires including another fire at the Carousel Inn and a house fire in Blue Ash. We had no major fire or rescue incidents in November but continued to be on-pace for a record-breaking EMS call volume year as we responded to 144 medical calls for the month. Career Personnel received their annual physicals conducted by TriHealth staff and Dr. Wanat. All employees were given their specific health information. Additionally, the department received the reports that state the employee is in apparent good health and medically acceptable for the position as well as the physician's approval for the Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134.

We had only two fire events, both automatic mutual aid responses to Sycamore and Blue Ash. Below is a brief description of those events.

1. 11/9/2021: Car 6401 and Medic 65 responded into Blue Ash for a working house fire. Chief was assigned Alpha Division and M65 was assigned EMS. The first line extinguished a fully developed fire in the kitchen as it was extending to other parts of the small home. No firefighter or civilian casualties. Sycamore arrived first as other Blue Ash personnel were mitigating an auto accident with multiple injuries.
2. 11/26/2021: Car 6401 responded with the IMAT for a fire in the vacant Carousel Inn on Reading Rd. Units arrived on the scene to find a working fire, searches were conducted, and units went defensive after an All Clear was declared from the primary search. The building has had multiple fires over the last few years, three this year and is slated for demolition by the end of the year. No firefighter or civilian casualties, thankfully.



Sycamore Twp FD Hotel Fire
Reading Rd

Fire Prevention: The feedback from the Smoke Detector Blitz

48	Commercial Fire Inspections
0	Adoption Inspection
2	Tent Permit / Safety
0	Underground Storage Tank
4	Commercial Plan Reviews
7	Car Seat Inspection / Install
1	Block Party
5	Station Tours (150 kids)
1	Scout Visit

Program was very positive from both a customer and employee point of view. Our citizens reported positively with our engagement in the community. Additionally, our employees were able to see inside many homes in all types of conditions prior to being there in an emergency. There were several homes that revealed hoarder conditions, several homes had solar panels and other unique features revealed that will help our firefighters preplan for fire events.

We participated in a lockdown drill in cooperation with Madeira Schools, Madeira Police Department and Silverwood Presbyterian Church. The full scale drill is part of our annual efforts to provide training and feedback to staff members in case of emergencies with

school children. This drill focused on staff responsibilities in the case of an intruder with access inside the building while kindergarteners are in session.

We are also in the planning stages with Hamilton County Emergency Management Agency to provide a tabletop drill in late March or early April. Madeira Police and the MIHJFD met with Doug Whitskin, the Hamilton County EMA director, to see the proposed disaster that will be simulated in downtown Madeira. The disaster is based on the very real possibility of a train derailment on Miami which may or may not include a hazardous materials incident. The details of the drill are kept secret so that the simulation of the event is more realistic for all those involved. The drill will include 40-50 participants from about 30 different agencies, most of which are outside of the traditional fire and police agencies we normally work with. The drill is scheduled for three hours and will conclude with lunch. The location of the tabletop drill is not set, but will likely be a church or school in Madeira due to need for a room to hold about 50 people to work through the drill in small pods.



Training: Training for November included a search training presented by FF / Medic Sean McCarthy. We utilized an acquired structure behind the Madeira City Administration Building. Sean spent several hours preparing the structure to include features that can be changed for each scenario. Focus of the training was performing rapid, yet effective primary searches.

The Leadership Academy had their second session in November and Lts. Kevin Schuerman and Brandon Linne took part in the three day session. The students also presented their ideas for their project to their mentors and chief. Their project will be to re-imagine our district's vision and mission statements.

Hamilton County U.S.A.R. held its quarterly training at Colerain FD Training Tower. The drill focused on lifting, cutting, and breaking. In cooperation with two local tow companies, Engel's and Nick's Towing, we performed vehicle lifts with rotating heavy tow trucks. The rotator is an incredible resource due to its versatility and ability for a quick response. Companies provided their service free for this valuable training. We cut steel with the petrogen torch, cut concrete with gas powered and hydraulic saws, we lifted concrete with air bags and broke concrete with electric breakers.



Apparatus Maintenance:

- Annual Ground & Aerial Ladder Testing:
 - o Completed with no failures
 - o Minor issues corrected
 - o Q65 minor hydraulic leak to be addressed

M64 Damage: M64 was damaged while negotiating a tight turn in a driveway on Walton Creek while transporting a patient to the hospital.

- Estimates are being obtained.
- Support 64 upgrades completed by Parr Public Safety
 - o Installation of back-up camera
 - o Emergency light upgrades including light bar and additional rear lights

Fitness:

Throughout the year, the firefighters have challenged each other to different fitness related challenges. As we finish up the year, I look back to some of the accomplishments from our members that I will report at year's end. However, November's challenge was once of our most successful as far as participation and accomplishments. November's Fitness Challenge was the 300,000 Step Challenge. Each participant had to record 300,000 steps in the month of November. We had 22 participants, including Police Chief D. Schaefer and Administrative Assistant Sara Jacob. In fact, those two racked up the most steps in the month and topped one million steps between the two of them. The rest of the firefighters helped push that total over 6.5 million steps! December has a fresh fitness challenge and we report the year's challenges and totals.

Station Maintenance: Minor issues were resolved in the month of November to include repair of outside lighting and bulb replacement inside the stations

Personnel:

Average Daily Staffing was 8.05 for November. Chief Oughterson was elected to the Board of Trustees for the Hamilton County Fire Chiefs and will serve a two-year term. The Board of Trustees approved the creation of our lieutenant and captain eligibility list. The promotion process was completed in November, and we now have a list that may be utilized if the 2022 MIHJFD Budget is approved by both cities. The process included the submission of a Letter of Intent / Resume, a written test, an assessment center and a final interview. The candidates were given point values and the candidates are ranked given their cumulative point total. The test was created by the Chief and was based upon our Employee Personnel Guide. The Assessment Center was conducted by three outside fire chiefs, Steve Agenbroad, Steve Pegram and Doug Wehmeyer. The Final Interview was with MIHJFD Board President, Beth Wright and Chief Steve Oughterson. Promotions will be based upon the eligibility list, candidates 1-4 may be chosen for the two positions, once they are approved.



Eligibility List 2021		Scores				
Last Name	First Name	Written	Assessment Center	Interview	Overall	Rank
Linne	Brandon	25	164	73	262	2
Scheurman	Kevin	26	189	82	297	1
Stiens	Nick	24	185	84	293	1
Mahan	Kurtis	27	173	89	289	2
McCarthy	Sean	26	166	86	278	3
Sanders	Toney	23	162	77	262	4
Placke	Joseph	24	155	78	257	5
Drake	Griffin	21	165	59	245	6
Otten	Scott	25	142		167	7
Posega	Michael	23	140		163	8
Brahm	Alex	23	119		142	9
Meyer	Joseph	19			19	10

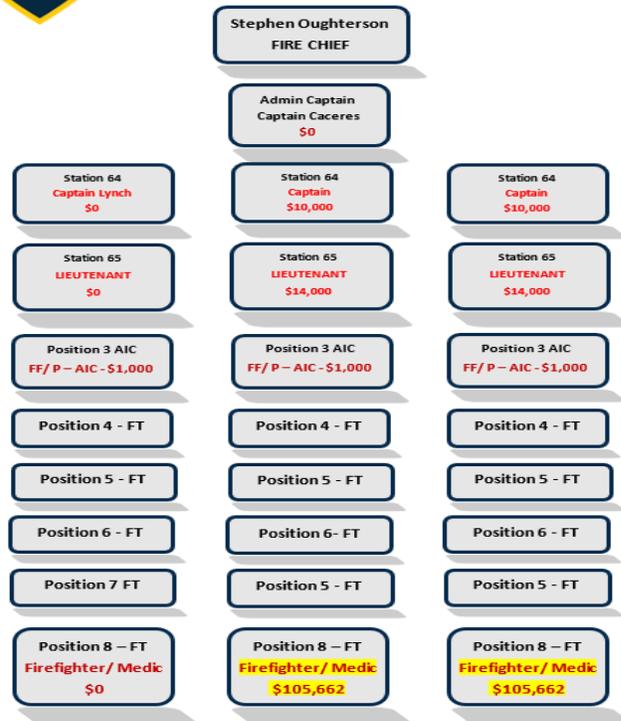
Station Maintenance: Minor issues were resolved in the month of November to include repair of outside lighting and bulb replacement inside the stations.



2021 Promotions = \$48,000
 2022 8th Position Career = \$211,324
 (\$105,662 Salary/ Benefit per position)

Budget:

We are currently on track to be under budget for 2021 as the November financial reports indicate that we are 1.3% or \$54,180 under budget. As stated in the July Activity Report, we have given both cities our budget request after the Board of Trustees approved my request. The budget request was turned in to both cities which represents an overall increase of just under 5% over 2021. My staff and I worked hard to reduce the overall effect on the budget request for both cities. A bulk of the increase in the budget is a result of the contractual and non-contractual raises for our bargaining unit employees, the administrative staff and our part time employees. All positions are budgeted for 3% raises.



Projects: We continue to work on several projects regarding apparatus and personnel deployment:

- **Engine:** The committee presented their recommendation to the Board of Trustees at the November Board Meeting. The committee recommended the E-One product by Vogelpohl Fire Equipment. We chose three dealers based upon their ability to maintain the truck locally and they were all on a state or national bid. The goal of the committee, which began work in April, 2021, was to build a truck that features the following:
 - o **Small Truck** – Tight turning radius for unique response area
 - o **Low Hose Bed** – Fast deployment

- **Extended Hose Lines** – Large homes and long setbacks
 - **Increase Water Capacity** – From 500to 750 gallon water tank
 - **Reduce Maintenance Costs** – Increase HP to decrease maintenance costs
 - **Increase Seating** – Cab for 5 firefighters with plenty of storage
- **E-One:** The decision to go with E-One was based upon their ability to meet our specifications as well as service our vehicle over the course of its life. The E-One has met all the specifications as well as provided the best price, best standard cab rollover / crush protection, lowest hose bed and best standard corrosion protection. Since we are paying for the vehicle now, we saved over \$17,000 and beat significant price increases set for the end of the year. Construction time for the vehicle is approximately 14 months. Extended production times are the result of COVID and supply issues felt throughout the industry.
- **Department Events:** We continue to plan for upcoming department events scheduled to take place. As mentioned above, the Family Picnic was a success:
- **Retiree Lunch:** Friday, December 3rd at Station 64 – Indian Hill
 - **Breakfast with Santa:** Saturday, December 11th at Station 64 – Indian Hill
 - **Holiday Party:** Saturday, December 11th at Livingston Lodge

November 2021 Fire Incidents				
Incident Type	Indian Hill	Madeira	Out Of District	Grand Total
Animal rescue	1			1
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	1			1
Building fire			6	6
Carbon monoxide incident	2			2
CO detector activation due to malfunction	1			1
Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other		1		1
Cover assignment, standby, move up			1	1
Dispatched & canceled en route	3	4	4	11
Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other		1		1
Extrication of victim(s) from machinery		1		1
False alarm or false call, other	4	2		6
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	2	3		5
Heat detector activation due to malfunction			1	1
Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	1			1
Power line down	1			1
Public service	1			1
Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1			1
Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1			1
Smoke or odor removal		3		3
Trench/below-grade rescue		1		1
Grand Total	19	16	12	47

NOVEMBER EMS RUN DATA

EMS RUNS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	TOTAL	2020
MEDIC 64	29	29	27	37	42	30	38	38	48	42	39	399	
MEDIC 65	86	78	74	80	89	79	90	92	101	86	99	954	
MADEIRA	84	85	72	87	98	77	93	93	103	100	109	1001	862
INDIAN HILL	29	18	24	29	30	27	27	26	31	22	27	290	310
MUTUAL AID Given	2	3	5	5	8	7	8	9	13	6	8	74	78
MUTUAL AID Recvd	5	8	4	7	4	8	1	1	2	3	1	44	54
MONTHLY TOTAL	115	106	101	121	136	111	128	128	147	128	144	1365	
YEAR TO DATE	115	221	322	443	579	690	818	946	1093	1221	1365		
	99	69	90	78	87	109	108	97	127	116	125		
	99	168	258	336	423	532	640	737	864	980	1105		

EMS Mutual Aid	Given	Received
Anderson		
Blue Ash	1	
Deer Park - Silverton	2	
Little Miami	1	
Loveland - Symmes		1
Mariemont		
Milford	1	
Montgomery		
Sycamore	3	
Miami Twp		

Bariatric Update

We had no bariatric calls for the month of November. We received payment for two bariatric transports that were made earlier this spring; however, we are waiting on 4 more payments.

EMS RUNS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	TOTAL
Treated/Transported	86	70	64	85	94	67	88	100	99	98	94	945
Not Transported	22	25	26	28	29	27	22	17	41	23	35	295

NURSING HOMES	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	TOTAL
5970 Kenwood	20	17	20	18	22	20	16	15	19	8	10	185
7885 Camargo	15	9	11	16	12	10	20	11	13	22	20	159
7650 Camargo	5	9	8	12	10	10	11	15	15	16	23	134
MONTHLY TOTAL	40	35	39	46	44	40	47	41	47	46	53	478
YEAR TO DATE	40	75	114	160	204	244	291	332	379	425	478	

EMS runs are up significantly from 2020 and we have already surpassed the 2020 total with one month to go in the year!