

The Madeira & Indian Hill Fire Company

VOL LXXXIII MARCH 2025 NO 1



President's Annual Message

On behalf of the Madeira Indian Hill Joint Fire District (MIHJFD) Board of Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chief Oughterson, his officers and all the men and women of our Fire Department for their unwavering dedication to excellence and determination to keep our communities safe. I would also like to thank both communities for their generous support of our firefighters throughout the year. Over the years, we have received support in many ways, from large donations, such as the funds to construct two new fire stations (the Thomas Family), to the small ones we receive throughout the year from our grateful residents in the way of donations, meals for those on shift at the stations, and smaller things like thank you cards. All of this contributes towards maintaining the MIHJFD as a world-class organization.

Many residents may not be aware that a Board of Trustees exists for the MIHJFD. The Board of Trustees has twelve members (six from each community), two of which are members of their city's elected Council. Each Trustee serves a three-year term. These volunteers provide governance and spend significant time and energy to provide policy and oversight of the District's operations. These Board members also serve as ex-officio members of the Madeira Indian Hill Fire Company. The Fire Company predates the MIHJFD by many years and in 2024, celebrated its 100th Anniversary. The mission of the Company is to support, benefit and promote the firefighting and emergency medical services of the Fire District. In furtherance of this mission, the Company provides direct and indirect financial assistance to the JFD and its employees.

2024 saw a continued march towards normalcy, with the difficult years of the COVID pandemic finally behind us. Recruitment and retention of the best qualified personnel remains one of our top priorities and our biggest challenge. As firefighting and paramedic duties have become increasingly more complex, the pool of available personnel has decreased. Despite these challenges, our District remains well staffed with dedicated and qualified employees.

Finally, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chief Oughterson and all the members of the MIHJFD, thank you for the opportunity to serve our communities.

Colonel (Ret) Donald C. McGraw President MIHJFD Board of Trustees

Private Fire Hydrants- Did You Know?

The JFD has over 1,800 fire hydrants in the joint fire district; however, the JFD doesn't own or maintain any of them. The cities of Madeira and Indian Hill own and maintain most of those hydrants and water lines that supply them. Throughout the JFD, there are about 200 hydrants that belong to private citizens and are not public hydrants. Those hydrants are called Private Fire Hydrants. The owners of these hydrants are required to perform inspection, maintenance, and testing of these hydrants. Most of these hydrants exist because the local code states that all structures in the cities must be within 400 feet of a hydrant. If a structure is constructed outside that 400', then the cities require them to install a hydrant. In the JFD, private fire hydrants are located on larger properties like schools or golf clubs and private residences located far off the roadway.

Private fire hydrant ownership comes with responsibilities that are required by law or local statute. In Ohio, the owner of a private fire hydrant must supply records of testing, flow and maintenance to the local fire department. In the JFD, we send a letter to all of our private

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fire hydrant owners to allow us to perform the inspection and flush and to do those services without liability from breakage. If JFD didn't perform the inspection and flush, then we expect owners to send us record of performing those functions. After the disparaging wildland fires of LA County and the lack of water, we are reminded how important it is to make sure a fire hydrant performs when it is called upon. While we can always plan for contingencies when a hydrant malfunctions, it takes time away from fighting fire and increases the chances of getting someone hurt and more property lost. If you own a private fire hydrant, become familiar with our local requirements and provide the records so we can add it to our database.

With written permission for the owner, the JFD will perform the inspection, testing and flushing of your private fire hydrants. We aren't authorized not equipped to perform maintenance, but we will provide names of reputable contractors to perform maintenance if needed. If you are unsure if the hydrant near your home is a private hydrant, please call the fire station to inquire. Lieutenant Sean McCarthy oversees our Hydrant Maintenance program and can be reached at 513-561-7926.



New Full-Time Personnel

Join us in welcoming Michell Morgan as our newest full-time Firefighter EMT. Mitchell came to MIHJFD as a part-time FF-EMT after graduating from the Scarlet Oaks Fire Academy in the Spring of 2023. In addition to serving at the JFD, he also works part-time for the Green Township Fire Department. Mitchell is currently enrolled Paramedic school at Butler Tech. He and his fiancé are getting married this summer!

Our Values: Compassion, Integrity, Service and Discipline



In 2024, the Madeira and Indian Hill Fire Company celebrated 100 years of service to the communities. In 2023, we were trying to come up with ways to celebrate and we landed on 100 Acts of Kindness. The initiative was established at our Annual Meeting and the premise behind the idea was to have our members perform simple acts of kindness outside our normal scope of duty and record those acts. Sara Jacob, our administrative assistant, came up with the idea and she also tracks all the acts. The very first act of kindness was very unique and grand. The Indian Hill Rangers donated proceeds from the annual hockey tournament to one of our members, FF / Medic Mark Feldmann, who is battling a disease that makes him susceptible to cancers. Even though the act was for one of our own, we thought it was fitting that it would be the first. We surpassed our goal of 100 and we are in the process of putting all those acts into a book which will be released soon. Acts of kindness included giving up seats at sport venues, providing groceries to someone in need, changing tires on the roadway, giving blood and many more. The initiative was widely supported by others in the joint fire district including our brothers and sisters in law enforcement, members of the Board of Trustees and community members.









2025 MIHJFD Firefighters & EMS Personnel Officers

Stephen Oughterson, Chief (Paramedic)	2019
Francisco Caceres, Captain (Paramedic)	2001
Brandon Linne, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2014
John Lynch, Captain (Paramedic)	2011
Kevin Scheuerman, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2002
Pat McCall, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2010
Sean McCarthy, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2018
Nick Stiens, Lieutenant (Paramedic)	2015
<u>Members</u>	
Jeff Ashpaw (FF-Paramedic)	2018
Doug Bingaman (FF-Paramedic)	2007
Michael Borger (FF-EMT)	2024
Alex Brahm (FF-Paramedic)	2017
Tanner Cibula (FF-EMT)	2025
Brian Dapper (FF-Paramedic)	2017
Griffin Drake (FF-Paramedic)	2018
Mark Feldmann (FF-Paramedic)	2019
Johannes Gebauer (FF-EMT)	2021
Jeff Glassmeyer (FF-Paramedic)	2008
Josh Haney (FF-Paramedic)	2024
Taylor Hester (FF-Paramedic)	2015
Michael Hoying (FF-Paramedic)	2012
Terry Lovelace (FF-EMT))	2023
Kurtis Mahan (FF-Paramedic)	2019
Joe Meyer (FF-Paramedic)	2017
Mitchell Morgan (FF-EMT)	2023
Scott Otten (FF-Paramedic)	2020
Dennis Parry (FF-EMT)	2002
Joe Placke (FF-Paramedic)	2019
Olson Reider (FF-EMT)	2021
Ben Rood (FF-EMT)	2019
Toney Sanders (FF-Paramedic)	2010
Tristyn Smiley (FF-EMT)	2025
Ryan Smith (FF-Paramedic)	2022
Coleton Stath (FF-EMT)	2024
Matthew Stickley (FF-Paramedic)	2020
Alexander Stubbs (FF-Paramedic)	2020
Austin Taylor (FF-EMT)	2024
Zakk Van Nottingham (FF-Paramedic)	2019
Brian Willing (FF-Paramedic)	1994
Find us on	

THE MADEIRA & INDIAN HILL FIRE COMPANY 6475 Drake Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45243

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PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that on the **14th day of July, 2025 at 5:00pm,** a public hearing will be held.

The Budget prepared by the Madeira and Indian Hill Joint Fire District of Hamilton County for the next succeeding fiscal year ending December 31, 2026 will be presented.

Such hearing will be held at the Indian Hill Fire Station at

6475 Drake Road

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Don McGraw, IH, President
Joe Weil, Madeira, Vice President
Jennifer Lightcap, IH, Secretary
Jim Gulick, Madeira, Treasurer
Matt Borneman, Indian Hill
David Ellis III, Indian Hill
John Hassan, Indian Hill
Chris Hilberg, Madeira
Steve Krehbiel, IH City Rep.
Doug Moorman, Madeira City Rep.
Sam Robinson, Madeira
Beth Wright, Madeira

ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Madeira & Indian Hill

Fire Company would like to invite
all residents to the

2025 Annual Meeting
which will be held on

Wednesday, March 12th at 7pm

The meeting will be held at the Indian Hill Fire Station at 6475 Drake Road.

The agenda shall include:

Trustee Elections, Officer

Elections and receipt of reports.

SUNDAY MARCH 9th



