



City of Woodland

REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: April 13, 2010

SUBJECT: Fire Department Monthly Report for February 2010

Report in Brief

The Woodland Fire Department's Monthly Status Report includes a wide variety of information in an effort to better inform the public and the City Council. This report summarizes four specific areas of the Fire Department's operation: Overtime, Incident Response, Fire Prevention and Training. This year, the Fire Department updated its Monthly Status Report format to include a wider variety of information. The report is formatted by division (Administration, Operations, Fire Prevention and Training) and covers the key projects and/or activities for the month.

Attached for the City Council's review is the Fire Department's Monthly Report for February 2010.

Prepared by: Shannon Collins
Management Analyst

Reviewed by: Tod Reddish
Fire Chief

Mark G. Deven
City Manager



Woodland Fire Department Monthly Status Report Summary –February 2010



(The Woodland Fire Department Monthly Status Report includes a wide variety of information in an effort to better inform the public and the City Council.)

| | Previous Month | Current Month | Difference (+ increase/- decrease) |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|--|
| Cost of Overtime | | | |
| Maintain Minimum Staffing | \$64,354.04 | \$74,660.48 | +\$10,306.44 |
| Call Back Staffing | <u>\$2,997.06</u> | <u>\$158.40</u> | -\$2,838.66 |
| Total | \$67,351.10 | \$74,818.88 | +\$7,467.78 |
| Strike Team (reimbursable, and <u>not</u> included above) | N/A | N/A | |
| Total Incident Responses | | | |
| Fire | 12 | 11 | -1 |
| EMS/Rescue | 243 | 220 | -23 |
| Hazardous Condition | 9 | 4 | -5 |
| Public Service | 32 | 27 | -5 |
| Good Intentions | 56 | 43 | -13 |
| False Alarms | <u>35</u> | <u>22</u> | <u>-13</u> |
| Total | 387 | 327 | -60 |
| Mutual/Auto-Aid/Strike Team | 8 | 10 | +2 |
| Concurrent Incidents | 87 | 105 | +18 |
| Fire Prevention | | | |
| Commercial Inspections | 29 | 13 | -16 |
| Plan Reviews | 0 | 21 | +21 |
| Business License Inspections | 6 | 11 | +5 |
| Permitted Inspections | 118 | 91 | -27 |
| Residential Inspections | 8 | 9 | +1 |
| Resale Inspections | 7 | 7 | 0 |
| Engine Company Inspections | <u>84</u> | <u>176</u> | <u>+92</u> |
| Total | 252 | 328 | +76 |
| Weed Abatement | 0 hours | 7 hours | +7 |
| Arson Investigations | 15 hours | 2.75 hours | -12.25 |
| Pub Ed Events | 3 | 0 | -3 |
| Training Hours | 852.5 | 939.5 | +87.0 |

DIVISIONS

ADMINISTRATION:

Policy Coordination

The following elements of our new OSHA mandated Exposure Control Plan were reviewed and implemented this month. Training on this new plan also occurred this month.

Policy 700- Exposure Control Plan

Policy 705- Aerosol Transmissible Disease/Tuberculosis Exposure Control Plan

Policy 710- Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) Exposure Control Plan

Web Page - Nothing to report.

Emergency Management - Nothing to report.

OPERATIONS:

Incident Activity

The WFD responded to a total of **327** incidents in February. They included:

- **11 Fires**, for a current annual total of **23**. The **11 fires** included:
 - **4** building/cooking fire, chimney, fire other
 - **3** passenger vehicle fire
 - **3** dumpster, outside rubbish, trash fires
 - **1** fireworks/explosion (no fire)
- **220 EMS/Rescues**, for a current annual total of **463**. The EMS/Rescues included:
 - **83** Calls requiring medical assistance
 - **112** EMS Calls for people with injuries
 - **9** vehicle accidents with injuries
 - **14** motor vehicle/pedestrian accidents with or without injuries
 - **2** lock-in/extrication rescue
- **4 Hazardous Conditions**, for a current annual total to **13**. The Hazardous Conditions included:
 - **3** gasoline, oil or chemical spills
 - **1** electrical wiring, arcing, power line down
- **27 Public Service** Calls, for a current annual total of **59**. The Public Services Calls included:
 - **7** calls to assist police or other governmental agencies
 - **8** calls for public service
 - **5** invalid public assistance calls
 - **7** cover assignment, standby, move up, water evacuation
- **43 Good Intentions** calls, for a current annual total of **99**. The calls included:
 - **24** calls that were cancelled en route or CAD error
 - **10** no incident found on arrivals
 - **8** Steam, smoke, odor of smoke, barbeque, authorized burning
 - **1** EMS call, party transported by non-fire agency
- **22 False Alarm** calls, for a current annual total of **57**.

OPERATIONS— (CONT'D)

Concurrent Incidents:

These are incidents that come in simultaneously where apparatus and crews are either all committed to the same incident, or committed to separate incidents at the same time called **concurrent incidents**. Concurrent incidents occur as **single-engine calls**, (i.e., medical aids, investigation of a fire alarm sounding, lift assists, etc) or as **multi-company calls** where more than one engine is committed to the same incident (i.e., higher hazard calls such as structure fires, vegetation fires, highway incidents, rescues, hazardous materials releases, traffic accidents requiring extrication, or mass casualty incidents).

The response time standard (driving time to the scene) in Woodland is 4-minutes. This 4-minute response time standard, set by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), was adopted by the Woodland City Council in the **City of Woodland Fire Department Organizational Assessment and Master Plan** (Master Plan) on January 16, 2001, and in the **Woodland General Plan Policy Document**, adopted by City Council on December 17, 2002. The 4-minute standard is critical in medical emergencies where brain death will start to occur in a person not breathing in 4-6 minutes, or in a fire situation where the fire grows exponentially in a structure with each passing minute extinguishment is delayed making the atmosphere inside of a structure much more dangerous for firefighters to enter.

This month, our response time average for getting an initial fire engine on-scene is **6:05 Minutes** for fires and **4:44** for emergency medical services (EMS) calls.

NOTE: Delays in response times occur when we don't have fire stations located within a 1.5 mile driving distance from all locations within the City (i.e., Spring Lake development), and when concurrent incidents occur where the primary response engine to a particular location is already committed to an incident and another unit farther away must be dispatched to the call.

The breakdown of **concurrent incidents** for February is:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|
| 2 Engines committed simultaneously | = | 73 times |
| 3 Engines committed simultaneously | = | 20 times |
| 4 Engines committed simultaneously | = | 11 times |
| 5 Engines committed simultaneously | = | 1 time |

The Woodland FD received **327** calls for service in February with **105** being Concurrent Alarms = **32%** of the time. There were **192** concurrent alarms in 2010 out of 714 total calls meaning 26.89%, or almost 1 out of every 4 calls would commit two or more fire units simultaneously.

Concurrent alarms prevent the fire department from responding adequate staffing and resources to a structure fire or other major incident that would be heavily dependent on firefighters at the scene to accomplish required tasks. We must then rely on recalling off-duty Firefighters and/or requesting allied agencies to assist us with additional calls (both of which are slow) and then we fail to meet our 4-minute response time standard. In the meantime our strategy and tactics must change to maximize firefighter safety at the risk of public safety and property conservation.

OPERATIONS – (CONT'D)

Automatic or Mutual Aid:

Automatic Aid is provided to another agency through formal agreement and occurs automatically without any special request. The agencies we participate in automatic aid with are Davis, Dixon, UC Davis, West Sacramento, Rumsey Rancheria and the volunteer fire departments of Willow Oak, Yolo, and West Plainfield.

Mutual aid occurs when fire departments provide help to one another upon special request when a large incident or multiple small incidents take place. Every fire agency in Yolo County is a signatory to this agreement.

Total Number of Aid Given/Received Incidents in February: 10

Aid Given: 9

- 2 West Sacramento Fire Department
- 2 Willow Oak Fire Protection District
- 4 Elkhorn Fire Protection District
- 1 Davis Fire Department

Aid Received: 1

- 1 Davis Fire Department

Current annual total is **18**.

Note: *Our automatic aid agreements with neighboring fire departments have strengthened so that we now automatically receive a Davis FD engine to cover our southern-most station (Station 2 on West St) whenever we have a working 1st Alarm structure fire (“Working” refers to an actual fire requiring firefighters to extinguish the fire, and “1st Alarm” means the units that respond upon the “first” report of a fire). If the Incident Commander decides he/she needs more resources, he/she then requests a “2nd Alarm” through our Dispatch Center and more resources are summoned to the scene. At this point we draw the Davis FD, the Willow Oak FD, and the UC Davis FD to the actual fire scene to help us. 3^d and 4th Alarm fires draw even more resources to the fire from our neighboring departments.*

Overtime Summary

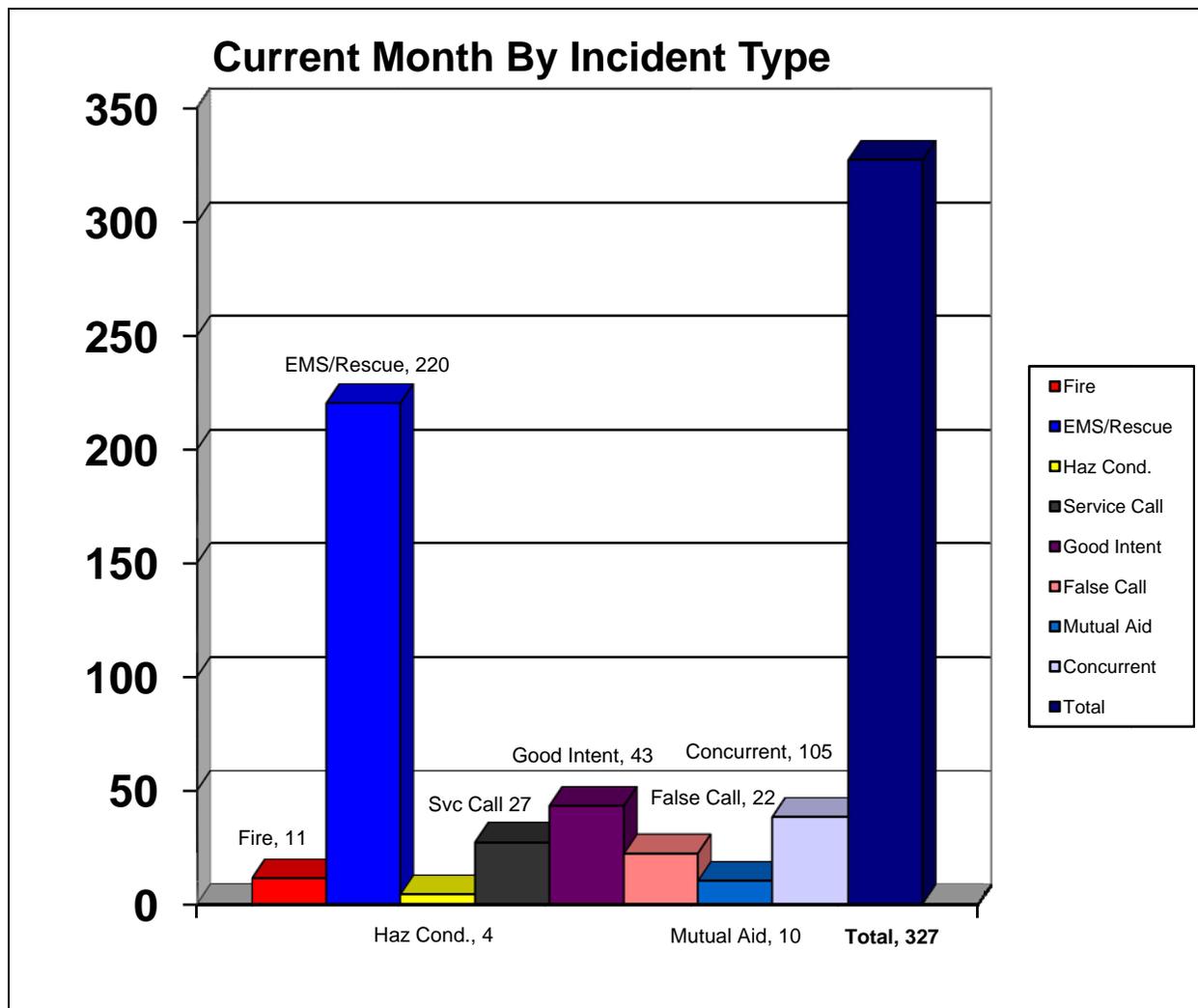
Our overtime expenses here have to do with daily staffing and emergency call-backs for large events. As our staffing has been reduced due to attrition, our ability to absorb vacancies due to illness, vacation, injury, and now furloughs with on-duty relief staffing has been all but eliminated. We were once able to absorb vacancies with on-duty relief staff that we are no longer capable of doing. Instead, when a vacancy occurs, we must hire back off-duty personnel on overtime to cover those vacancies. Reduced staffing on-duty each day also increases our reliance on **call-back staffing** when a large event, or multiple small events, occurs that drain our on-duty resources.

There were a total of **1,954.0** overtime hours worked during the month of February for a total cost of **\$78,338.68**. This includes:

- **1,950** hours of **Minimum Staffing** at a cost of **\$74,660.48** for the month of February 2010. (.85 FTE of an entry level Firefighter, wages and benefits). *In the City of Woodland, a minimum of four engine companies staffed with a minimum of 3 Firefighters each (1 Captain, 1 Engineer and 1 Firefighter) must be staffed daily per the MOU between the City and the Woodland Professional Firefighters Association.*
 - The average hours of overtime used for the period February 2009 to February 2010 was **1,303.88** hours at a cost of **\$51,043.65**.

OPERATIONS – (CONT'D)

- 4 hours were needed for **Call-Back Staffing** at a total cost of **\$158.40** for the month of February 2010. (*Call Back Staffing is necessary to backfill the stations when a major incident occurs that depletes the minimum staffing levels.*)
 - There was an average of **120.79** hours used to provide Call Back Staffing at a cost of **\$5,019.33** for the period February 2009 to February 2010.



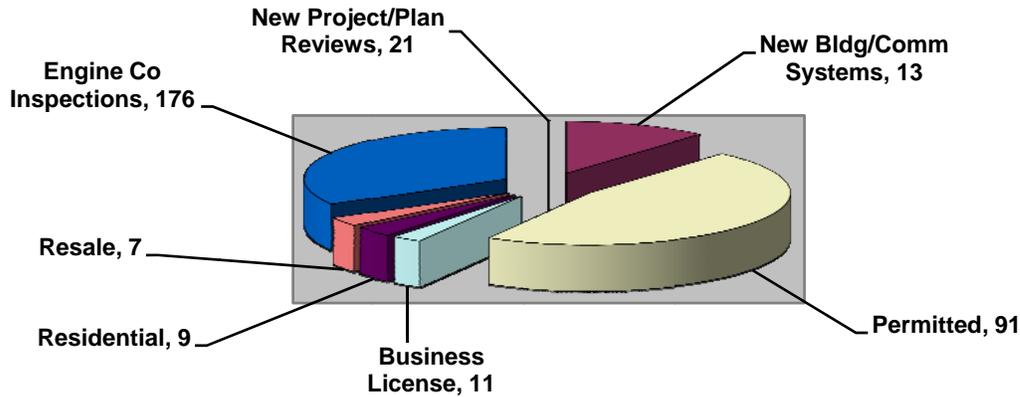
The graph above is a visual summary of the number of incidents that the Fire Department responded to during the weeks February 1, through February 28, 2010.

Total Incidents to Date for 2010 - 714

Average Response Time for First Due Units: Fire: 6:05 EMS: 4:44

FIRE PREVENTION:

The Fire Prevention Bureau conducts several types of inspections and plan reviews. The Bureau concentrates on New Project Development, Civil Drawing Plan Reviews, Building Inspections, On Site Water Systems, Commercial Fire Sprinklers, Residential Fire Sprinklers, Fire Alarm Inspections, Specialized Fire Protection Systems, Fire Permits, Licensed Care Facilities, Business License Inspections, Resale Inspections, Fire Investigation and Code Enforcement, Public Education and Weed Abatement.



For the month of February 2010 the Fire Prevention Specialists conducted the following inspections and plan reviews:

| Commercial | |
|------------------|---|
| 0 | New Project Development Reviews |
| 14 | Plan Reviews |
| 4 | New Building Inspections |
| 9 | Commercial Fire Protection Systems |
| Permit | |
| 91 | Fire Permitted Annual Inspections |
| Business License | |
| 11 | Business License Inspections |
| Residential | |
| 7 | Residential Automatic Sprinkler System Plan Reviews |
| 9 | Residential Automatic Sprinkler System Inspections |
| 7 | Resale Residential Sprinkler Inspections |
| Engine Company | |
| 176 | Business and Mercantile Inspections |

*The Fire Prevention Division inspects new businesses and changes of ownership for occupancy usage and compliance of the Fire Codes. **Plan reviews** are what generate initial commercial and residential inspections. The fees for these inspections are included in the plan review fees. Inspections for commercial projects include the initial plan review, 4 inspections & 1 re-submittal of plans at a cost of **\$717.00/riser + \$2.00/sprinkler head**. Commercial Tenant Improvements are **\$421.00/riser + \$2.00/sprinkler head**. Residential plan review inspections include the initial plan review, 2 inspections & 1 re-submittal of plans at a cost of **\$354.00/riser**. Residential Tenant Improvement plan reviews are **\$284.00/riser**.*

***Permitted inspections** occur when any occupancy has activities that are either hazardous or considered special. (An example of a hazardous activity is a business that houses or manufactures chemicals, or combustibles such as repair shops, chemical warehouses, or airport hangers. Special activities include places of assembly, tents, and high-pile storage facilities.) The average permitted inspection is **\$150.00/ea**.*

*Lastly, the Fire Prevention Division handles **Business License Inspection**, which carries a fee of **\$165.00/ea** for all new businesses. However, this fee is presently under review. The current amount being collected for Business License Inspections is **\$13.00/ea**.*

FIRE PREVENTION – (CONT'D)

Weed Abatement

- 7 hours were spent on weed abatement activities in the month of February.

Note: Funding for weed abatement was eliminated in FY09/10, which pays for hiring a contractor to abate property in the event the property owner fails to comply with a weed abatement notice.

Arson Investigation

- 2.75 hours of investigation were performed in the month of February.

Public Education

- Maxwell School (01/26/10) Station Tour (ages 6-7) 30 kids
- Woodland High School (01/27/10) Career Day (teens) large group
- Holy Rosary School (01/28/10) Station Tour (ages 5-6) 15 kids

Note: Funding for public education was eliminated in FY09/10 thereby cancelling our 1st Grade school program. The WFD will still visit schools and classrooms upon request, conduct station tours upon request, and attend public events upon request.

Mapping

A shift Firefighter maintains our street and hydrant maps as a Collateral Duty. His work is so detailed and thorough that they are widely used by the other fire departments in the county, as well as law enforcement, American Medical Response, the school district, and other agencies.

- Fixed the Springlake addresses, adding over 60 new addresses from a sudden housing build
- Created Street Theme
- Created Map for Dunton Motel
- Created Map for Lone Palm Apartments

TRAINING:

During the month of February the following activities occurred at the Woodland Fire Department Training Division:

Training conducted at the Training Center including:

- 12 hours of Fire Pump Operations/Hydraulics//Nozzles
- 12 hours of EMS / Medical Legal
- 10 + hours Engine Company Inspections
- 12 hours of Exposure Control Plan (OSHA)
- 12 hours of Computer Training (Records Management System)
- 12 hours of Haz Mat Training
- 40 + hours of Outside Training / Classes
-

TRAINING - (CONT'D)

Career staff reported a total of **765** hours of training, resulting in an average of **21.9** hours of training per person.

The reserve staff reported a total of **35** hours of training for an average of **3.89** hours of training per person. The reserve staff completed EMS training, shift ride-a-longs and ladder training.

Battalion Chiefs had a total of **137.5** hours of training, and the Fire Prevention Staff had a total of **2** hours of training.

Highlights for the month of February:

- This month the Woodland Fire Department hosted CPR Saturday (Red Cross), CA State Fire Marshal's Fire Command 1-A course, Yolo County Office of Education's ROP Fire Science Academy Graduation, and the implementation of the Woodland Fire Department's Exposure Control Plan.

February~ 2010 Training Hour(s):

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Line staff | 765.0 |
| Battalion Chiefs | 137.5 |
| Fire Prevention | 2.0 |
| Reserves | 35.0 |