



GREATER NAPLES FIRE RESCUE DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF REPORT

MARCH, 2024

REPORTING OFFICER	Chris Wolfe, Interim Fire Chief
TYPE	Monthly – Commission
SUBMITTAL DATE	May 3, 2024

ACTIVITIES REPORT

Negotiations: The Local and Staff are pleased to announce that we have successfully reached a Tentatively Agreed-upon Contract. The Local will be working through the Ratification process. It is presumed that this process will be completed in time to present it to the Commissioners at the June 2024 Board Meeting.

Facilities:

- Station 60: Construction continues rebuilding the station. I have been advised that the construction should be completed in the next 60-90 days. The current hurdle is the fire alarm permit process. The District is working with the City of Everglades to ensure that when the construction is completed, we have a smooth transition back into the station.

Grants:

- HMGP DR: Still waiting to hear from FDEM Grant Review. There has been several requests for additional information by the state.

Personnel:

- The new hire academy is progressing well, and they are approaching the final stretch. We understand that their skills are taking shape, and they are getting excited to begin their new roles on shift. The recruits are working through live fire training the first week of April. They will complete the Academy on May 10th and will begin shift life the following Monday. To date, we have released 3 candidates from the Academy which converts to an approximate 90% pass rate. This would not be successful without the support of you all in addition to the line staff who have volunteered to be assigned to days to help augment the limited training staff.
- Resignations/Vacancies: The District has received 3 resignations in the past month (2 in Finance and 1 in HR), in addition to the vacancies in Fleet. We have closed the posting for the Fleet Director and Mechanic. Interviews for the Fleet Director are expected to be completed in early May. Once this position is filled, Mechanic interviews will be completed. Finance has developed a plan to fill the essential functions completed by the staff members that separated employment.
- Staff is conducting a needs/gap analysis to determine a more efficient model for potentially aligning staff in a more appropriate service line based on their work function(s).



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- The resignation in Human Resources was for the District's Benefits Coordinator. We capitalized on an opportunity for Deb to stay on board in a limited/part-time capacity, working remotely. We are eternally grateful for Deb's dedication to the District.

We wish them all the best in their future endeavors and thank them for serving the District and community.

- Employee Mental Health Awareness: This is an ever-evolving topic in Public Safety. Recently, some agency champions have met with a primary goal to hone and bring coordination to the many 'services' that fall into this broad category. Our Chaplain attended the Florida Chaplain Conference in April, and Chief Krajewski attended the 2024 First Responder Resiliency Summit. Chief Weinbaum has taken the lead on this project. He is drafting a Guideline that will serve as a guide to help match the need with the more appropriate resource.
- Lieutenant Promotions: The District will begin the promotional process to fill several Lieutenants vacancies. This process should conclude in late summer/early fall.

Budget Process: Staff have begun the budget process. A draft should be completed in the next 4-6 weeks. Tweaks will be made when the Trim notice is received from Collier County.

COPCN Ordinance: We have reviewed the final draft of the new Ordinance. The county has advised that the two readings should be completed during the June BoCC meetings. This is a huge milestone in Collier County's history.

Apparatus Update

- County Assets: We are still waiting to hear back from Collier County on any movement for them to replace the assets servicing the Ochopee Fire District. Staff will continue to have open dialog with the county.
- Boat 90: The spec has been completed and will be posted for competitive bids for 30 days. Staff will be prepared to present the bid received during the July meeting.
- GNFR Fleet: The District has experienced a spike in accidents recently. Fortunately, none of our staff were significantly injured. Some of the identified root causes are aging vehicles and improper tire selection for use. Our Fleet division has placed all large surplus military vehicles out of service. They are attempting to locate parts.



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- Agency-wide Town Hall: On April 1, the Local and District co-hosted an agency-wide Town Hall type meeting. This event was well attended; it is estimated that over 70 attended (50/50 in person and via Zoom). This was a great opportunity to engage our membership and create a single-point delivery of information and an open platform to have questions answered. A follow-up survey was developed and sent out to collect feedback. The responses far exceeded any expectations. It was refreshing to see the commitment of our staff to take the time to complete it. This certainly provides invaluable insight into what is important to our members. Overall, the feedback was very positive. Multiple responses were asked about all positions' future growth, planning, and staffing. Based on the feedback, we will continue these events quarterly; the next one is scheduled for July 15 at 1000 hours.

Third Party Reporting Intro: Third-Party Reporting service assists in tracking and code compliance of life safety system inspection, testing, and maintenance (ITM) and will greatly reduce the time staff currently spends on ITM review and follow-up. The SaaS company will complete most of the ITM tracking and follow-up through a deficiency remediation process and notifications sent out on behalf of the District.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Budget Workshop
- Future Growth/Facilities
- FASD/Ethics Training
- Report data elements

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Bi-weekly Command Staff
- Weekly Station 74 coordination calls
- Contract Negotiations
- Region 6
- COPCN
- East Naples Civic & Commerce
- Golden Gate City Association
- Collier GIS workgroup
- CCSO Open House
- Ochopee Advisory Meeting
- RDSTF Exercise
- MARC IO

LODD- There were 5 firefighter fatalities reported to the United States Fire Administration in the month of April. Year to date there have been 23 LODD reported to the US Fire Administration. May they rest in peace.



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PUBLIC PROGRAMS

April Events- 6
YTD Events- 50

OPERATIONS

Call Volume Statistics - April 2024	
Total Incidents	2612
Medical/Rescue	1,622
Medical Percentage	62.10%
Fire/Other	990
Busiest Station	Station 21 - 316 Incidents
Busiest Apparatus	Engine 75 - 335 Responses
Busiest Day of Week	Tuesday - 451 Incidents
Busiest Time of Day	1200-1759 - 867 Incidents

Basic Incident Type Category	Jan.	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total	Percent
*N/A	24	38	38	30	130	1.19%
1 - Fire	26	33	40	47	146	1.34%
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	2	2	1	0	5	0.05%
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	1,781	1,700	1,902	1,622	7005	64.24%
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	25	27	26	19	97	0.89%
5 - Service Call	237	270	241	289	1037	9.51%
6 - Good Intent Call	486	472	492	489	1939	17.78%
7 - False Alarm & False Call	187	111	131	116	545	5.00%
8 - Weather	0	0	0	0	0	0.00%
9 - Special Incident Type	0	0	1	0	1	0.01%
Total Summary	2768	2653	2872	2612	10905	
Responses by Day Average	89.3	91.5	92.6	87.1	90.1	
Responses by Station Average	173	166	180	163	682	
Medical vs. Fires and Other Calls	64.34%	64.08%	66.23%	62.10%	64.24%	

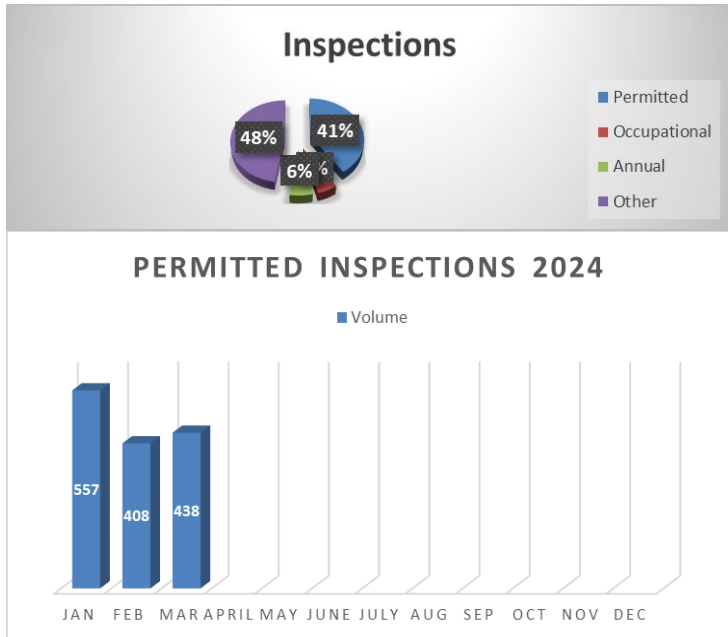
FIRE & LIFE SAFETY

Inspection Statistics – March 2024

Permitted Inspections: 438
Occupational/Business Tax License Inspections: 59
Annual/Periodic Inspections: 68
Other Inspections: 513
Average wait time for an inspection in March: 3 Days
Current wait time as of May 2nd: 2 Days

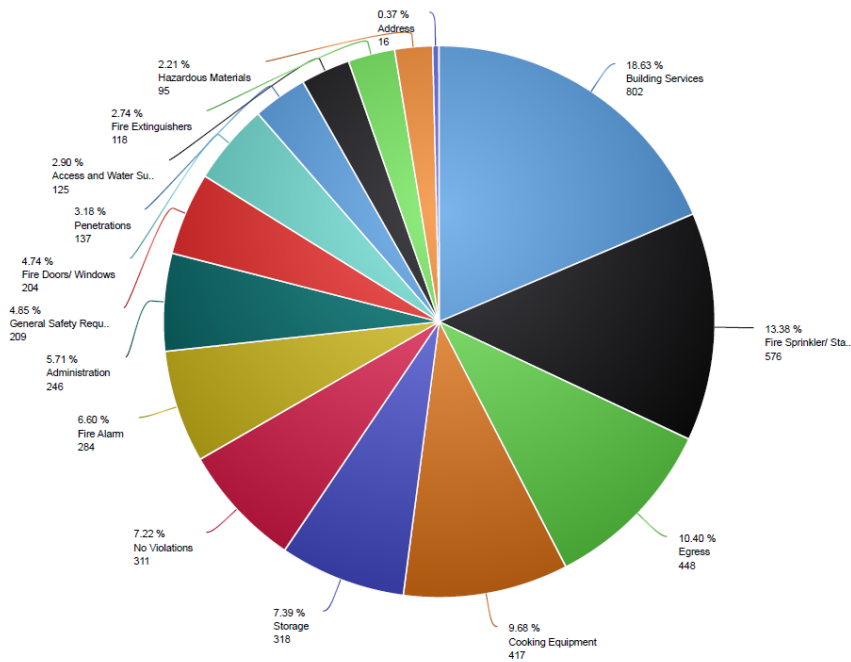


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- Building Services
- Fire Sprinkler/ Standpipes
- Egress
- Cooking Equipment
- Storage
- No Violations
- Fire Alarm
- Administration
- General Safety Requirements
- Fire Doors/ Windows
- Penetrations
- Access and Water Supply
- Fire Extinguishers
- Hazardous Materials
- Address

Completed Inspections MARCH VIOLATIONS



Total of Violation Type: 4,306

Investigations - March 2024

Number of fire investigations: 4

Hours spent: 27



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Fire Plans Review Statistics - March 2024

Fire Plan Building Reviews: 425

Site Development/Planning Reviews: 60

Everglades City Building Reviews: 6

Average Review Time: 2 Days

FINANCE

Cash on Hand

The District ended the month of April with roughly \$32.1M in the general fund.

Ad Valorem

The District received another tax distribution in the amount of roughly \$1.5M. I expect the monthly distributions to begin decreasing from now until November as we have received nearly the majority of our anticipated Ad Valorem for Fiscal Year 2024.

Interest

The District received approximately \$122,000 in interest for the month of April bringing our year to date interest income to approximately \$720,000. Our interest rates are locked in at the Federal Funds Rate, less 1%. The Federal Open Market Committee met on May 1st to discuss current economic conditions. They agreed to maintain the Federal Funds Rate at 5.25% – 5.50% as they have stressed concerns that inflation has not decreased down in a sustainable fashion to 2%. Inflation is currently sitting around 3.50%.

Operating Costs

Operating costs are higher than anticipated due to a number of factors.

- Usage of professional services has increased as we have contracted with iParamterics to assist in grant funding.
- Usage of legal counsel has increased due to assistance needed during legislation. Also, we have used our labor attorney more frequently to assist in the wages section of the next collective bargaining agreement.
- The District has outfitted the latest round of engines causing a significant increase in our small equipment and tools line.
- An increase in ad valorem also results in an increase in ad valorem fees that must be reported.
- The District has incurred some unanticipated repairs to vehicles as there has been a high number of accidents. Although we do get reimbursement from our insurance company, expenditures are still incurred and reported on the income statement.

TRAINING

- Lt. Nugent and the Instructor Cadre continue with weeks five through eight of the recruit academy. The recruits are progressing and are grasping the team concept.



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- Capt. Godette provided instruction to shift personnel on Brush fire weather and how it effects fire behavior. This instruction was provided over two weeks with collaboration from Florida Forest Service during the second week.
- Community CPR continues to be provided by Chief DiSarro each month and he is gearing up for the COPCN renewal process. All EMT's and Paramedics should be at least 70-80 percent complete with their renewal hours for their State license. 2024 is year two of our two-year certification for EMT and Paramedic so Chief DiSarro has ensured all personnel have availability for more than enough hours for recertification.
- Work continues on developing task books and academies for each shift position – Driver/Engineer, Lieutenant, Captain, and Battalion Chief.
- Vehicle stabilization and extrication – thanks to our relationship with Trademark Metals and Recycling we have been able to obtain a couple dozen vehicles for our personnel to conduct this training. This too is a perishable skill so the opportunity to conduct this type of training is appreciated by all – plus firefighters like breaking stuff and cutting stuff up.
- Chief Krajewski attended Peer Support training and the 2nd Alarm Project Firefighter Resiliency Summit in Tallahassee.
- Four new members were added to the District's Special Operations teams, Capt. Jason Sellers was added to the Technical Rescue Team and Lt. Doug Holden, FF James Callahan, and FF John Delashmet were added to the Dive Team.