



# Gerrish Township Fire/EMS Department

2997 E. Higgins Lake Drive, Roscommon, MI 48653

(989) 821-9813 ~ FAX (989) 821-7810

Email: [Fire.Chief@GerrishTownship.org](mailto:Fire.Chief@GerrishTownship.org)

## May 2023 Monthly Activity Report

The April incident log shows **51** requests for emergency services. Average responses for the month of April over the past five years has been 39. Total for the year to date is 185 as compared to last year at this time of 138 responses.

### EMS Calls

Medical	22
Trauma/Accident	6
Medical Assist	4
Standby	0
Cancelled	4
Alarms	0

### FIRE and RESCUE Calls

Structure Fire	1
Wildland Fire	2
Powerline	3
Vehicle Accident/Fire	3
Gas Leak	0
Standby	2
Alarms /Good intent	1
Ice/Water/Other Rescue	0
Public Education	3
Assist EMS/Police	0
Technical Rescue	0

**EMS Total: 36**

**Fire Total: 15**

**(Of those calls 5 were intercepts, 12 were non-transport, and 12 were Mutual Aid)**

### Training:

91 personnel hours of classroom and practical training

Fire Training: Staff meeting – Dispatch operation, radio desk reports  
County wide Aerial Apparatus (towers) water shuttle  
Truck equipment inventory

EMS Training: Pediatric Pharmacology  
Basic Life Support Mega Code

### Revenues:

\$7,798.93	Ambulance Revenue
\$1,375.00	Intercepts
\$42,926.18	Delinquent Property Taxes
\$50,100.11	Total for Month

### **Community Involvement:**

- Chief Fisher attended Rotary meetings and assisted with the monthly food distribution.
- Several department members assisted with the COOR Technical Career Public Safety Training program at the RMS.
- Several members assisted in teaching the RHS Health Class First Aid, Bleeding Control, and Hands Only CPR.

### **Committees and Meetings:**

- Asst Chief Gilliam provided one 1-on-1 peer contact conversation, one debriefing, and attended three peer support meetings for the NW MI Peer Support Team.
- Asst Chief Rodgers attended the LEPC Meeting with Roscommon County Emergency Management and other agencies. This group is planning a Mass Casualty Incident Simulation training to be held in August and involve all public safety agencies.
- Chief Fisher attended the MABAS regular meeting in Grayling.
- Asst Chief Gilliam met with 911 Director Stringham to develop the dispatch maps for EMS Mutual Aid coverage.
- Asst Chief Rodgers attended the COOR Career Tech Advisory Meeting.
- Chief Fisher chaired the 911 Authority Board meeting.
- Asst Chief Gilliam attended the 911 Technical Advisory meeting.
- Asst Chief Rodgers and Chief Fisher attended the County Fire Chief's meeting and Asst Chief Rodgers led the County Fire Training Committee meeting.
- Chief Fisher attended the Northern Michigan Fire Chiefs Meeting and the Michigan Joint Fire Service Council meeting.
- Asst Chief Gilliam attended the Medical Control Advisory and PSRO meeting.
- Asst Chief Gilliam attended a class on nutrition training to change how we feel by what we eat and hopes to bring this information to our staff.

### **Department Activities:**

- The Roscommon/Crawford County Firefighter 1+2 course is about to wrap up on May 13<sup>th</sup>. Many department members have assisted with the class that was hosted here at Gerrish every Monday and Wednesday and some Saturdays from November of last year.
- Two full-time employees (Matthew Wooten and Neal Dopp) are scheduled to begin an EMS instructor course in June. Two full-time employees (Joshua Sanford and Neal Dopp) and one paid-on-call employee (Jason Budzinski) are scheduled to take the Firefighter instructor course in May. These folks that are willing to step up and take these instructor courses support the department and surrounding agencies with qualified instructors to provide much needed training opportunities for recruiting and retaining members.
- Annual employee performance planning has started.
- The County Fire Training Committee led by Asst Chief Rodgers conducted a county wide Aerial Apparatus training that included three ladder/tower trucks and multiple tankers to supply water. The training was held at the Blodgett County Airport with most county departments in attendance.
- Tanker 224 required a front-end alignment to correct a slight pull to the right.
- The Rescue/Fire Boat project is coming along and we plan to have the boat in the water for training by May 11<sup>th</sup>. The seats were removed, the new console installed, the carpets cleaned, the old graphics removed and the new graphics were completed this month. See the picture at the end of the report. All this work except the new graphics was completed by department members, some while on duty, but mostly by volunteering their time and talents led by 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Budzinski. A used hoist was purchased, a limited use agreement was drafted and sent to a property owner that is allowing the department to house the boat at his dock for the summer. The location is ideal for our response as it is near Flag Point which is the center of our response area on the lake and close to our main station.
- After many months of working with the developers from the First Due web site application we determine that the scheduling module was not going to work for our operations and have formally notified First Due to drop that from our contract. We are awaiting confirmation of the reimbursement for that portion of the cost associated. We will continue to use the other modules that First Due offers.

**Significant Events:**

- The department was requested by Higgins Twp Fire Department to assist with a house fire in town. Upon arrival we were not needed as they had made a good knock down of the fire in the garage and saved the house. That fire started in the area of the storage batteries in the garage from the solar panels on the houses. The issue of fires resulting from lithium-ion batteries has been growing across the country and difficult for departments to deal with. Higgins Twp Fire Chief Mephram contact Chief Fisher to seek assistance in managing the batteries that were continuing to burn and arc. Chief Fisher contacted Fire Chief O'Brien from Brighton, MI who he knows from the Michigan Association of Fire Chiefs. Chief O'Brien is a national expert on the issue and was able to help Chief Mephram handle the batteries safely to remove them from the garage, suppress the fires that continued to occur in the batteries for several days and then arrange for proper disposal from a downstate company.

**Upcoming Events or Activities:**

- 2024 will mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Gerrish Township Fire and EMS Department. The department will start planning for a celebration next year and we look forward to working with the township as we move this planning effort forward.
- May 10<sup>th</sup> Asst Chief's Rodgers and Gilliam and Chief Fisher will be attending the Michigan Association of Fire Chief's Legislative Breakfast and meeting with select state legislators to discuss issues facing the fire service.

Respectfully Submitted, Chief Jim Fisher

