



Gerrish Township Fire/EMS Department

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January 2025 Monthly Activity Report

The December incident log shows 55 requests for emergency services. Average responses for the month of December over the past five years has been 44. Total for the year to date, which is also the year-end total, is 583 as compared to last year at this time of 593 responses. Five-year average for responses is 600.

<u>EMS Calls</u>		<u>FIRE and RESCUE Calls</u>	
Medical	23	Structure Fire	2
Trauma/Accident	9	Wildland Fire	0
Medical Assist	5	Powerline	5
Standby	0	Vehicle Accident/Fire	4
Cancelled	2	Gas Leak	0
Alarms	1	Standby	1
		Alarms /Good intent	2
		Ice/Water/Other Rescue	0
		Public Education	0
		Assist EMS/Police	1
		Technical Rescue	0
EMS Total:	40	Fire Total:	15

(Of those calls 7 were intercepts, 14 were non-transports, and 5 were Mutual Aid given.)

Training:

- **Personnel Training consisted of 33 hours of classroom and practical training that included:**
 - ✓ Winter Firefighting
 - ✓ EMS Trivia
 - ✓ UTV and Ropes training
- **Personnel provided the following training:**
 - Car seat use and install education
 - CPR for the RHS health class students

<u>Revenues:</u>	
\$11,106.12	Ambulance Charges
\$20.00	CPR Training
<u>\$825</u>	<u>Intercepts</u>
\$11,951.12	Total

Community Involvement:

- Installed 5 Smoke Alarms and 3 Carbon Monoxide Alarms
- Chief Fisher assisted with food distribution
- Chief Fisher attended Rotary meetings
- Stuff the Ambulance was held Dec 14th. Donations of items and cash was collected for Threads and More a nonprofit program that provides clothing, shoes, support, services, supplies, and aid to children placed in the foster care system, children in need and at risk. We filled one ambulance full and collect over \$800 in donations
- Provided CPR for the RHS Health Class students
- FF Sanford conducted one child car seat installation and education

Committees and Meetings:

- Chief Fisher attended the work and regular Twp. Board meetings
- Asst Chiefs Rodgers and Gilliam attended the county LEPC – Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting
- Asst Chief Gilliam attended the Medical Control Advisory meeting and the Medical Control PSRO meeting
- FF/EMT Stempien, Asst Chief Gilliam and Chief Fisher attended a webinar provided by our EMS billing service with an overview of the new web-based application so that we can access records and data

Department Activities:

- Assistant Chief Rodgers has been coordinating and teaching at the county wide state sponsored Firefighter I+II class being held here at our department from Nov 11th through May of 2025
- The department is in the process of applying for a federal FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant to replace the CAFS system on Brush Truck 225 with a slip on skid unit for wildfire use.
- The department has received \$2054 in donations from the Wes Eldred Family and the Crawford County Victim Services Unit in memory of Firefighter Wesly Eldred. They would like us to use those funds to purchase new rescue struts that we use to stabilize vehicles during rescue operations. The total cost will be about \$2500 so the department will pay the additional \$500. Our older struts were good at the time of purchase but they are not simple to set up where as the newer struts are better designed and much quicker to set up which will improve our on scene operations.
- Chief Fisher has started collecting data in preparation for completing the 2024 Annual Report.
- We continue to address the change in our ISO rating. A committee has been formed with Asst Chief Rodgers leading that. They have a conference call with the ISO folks next week and will be developing a plan to present to them by Jan 21st.

Significant Events:

- On Dec 16th we were called into the village to assist with the Spruce Lodge fire. Our truck was the second truck on scene and our crews were assigned to interior search for victims and fire suppression. The crew searched the main floor and most of the second floor before being called out because the Incident Command saw the building shift and felt there was a significant danger of collapse. Fortunately, all the occupants had self-evacuated and there were no injuries. The fire went into defensive mode from that point on. Grayling City FD and Lake Twp FD both supplied their aerial ladder trucks to assist and multiple departments were on scene. We had FFs and two trucks there for 8 hours.

- On Dec 21st we were called to a powerline down on W. Sunset Dr at approximately 5:30pm. While controlling traffic and assuring no one got near the arcing lines the far west end downed line swung back towards the pole and arced with the ground wire which in turn energized the feed going to adjacent house. This then energized the house at approximately 6pm. We could see the house itself was arcing to the ground in numerous spots including the garage door, the satellite dish and association cables, and the entire house wiring. No one was home at the time and since the house was energized, we could not enter it or spray water on it. While waiting for Consumers Energy to arrive to cut the power the garage area was filling with smoke and eventually ignited with flames coming from the garage window. Consumers cut the power about then and we made initial fire attack saving the main living area of the structure from fire damage.

Upcoming Events or Activities:

- The selection process for replacing the Fire/EMS Chief is under way with a committee formed, criteria drafted and questions being worked on. It is expected that the interviews will be held late January so a recommendation from the committee will be to the Township Board in time for the February work session and regular board meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Fisher, Chief