

Madam Mayor, Council, & Mr. Sweet,

In July 2021 we had 78 calls.

(As a side note July of 2020 we had 60 calls)

As far as Auto/Mutual Aid in which we sent out

We had 10 AUTO/MUTUAL AID calls // They went as follows:

Seaside - 5 times

Warrenton - once

Hamlet - once

OMD (Oregon Military Department) Camp Rilea - Once

OSFM (Oregon State Fire Marshal) - 2 times (Wildland Fire Mobilizations)

On Aug. 4th, 2020 we were on call number 271.

The last call number we had was 391. This means we are 120 calls ahead of last year.

(two times you will see in the call report that we “received AUTO/MUTUAL AID) -You will see on one of the calls that we “received automatic Aid” that happened due to use having 2 dedicated engines on a structure fire in seaside at the Golf Course. As you remember from my previous reports, What happens during Auto/Mutual Aid is something called move-ups. Because we had 2 apparatus and about 8 Firefighters dedicated to a call in seaside. Astoria was covering our district. During the time they were covering us, we had a burn complaint call come in. We did have additional Gearhart Firefighters here covering our station and district. It is the protocol for the move-ups to happen. Additionally, we did send a Gearhart Firefighter on Astoria’s engine to aid in responding to the burn complaint call.

-The other time we received Mutual Aid was for a water Rescue call at Cullaby Lake. We are currently still running as we always have for Water Rescue calls. In Which Seaside comes to aid us in those calls. We will run command and provide support staff. But, They handle the operational level of the call, due to Gearhart not being trained, certified, or have the needed equipment for water rescue calls. Our Water Rescue program is just getting going. We currently have the needed PPE and Equipment. We are working on the last step which is getting people trained and certified to be able to safely complete water rescue calls. I will elaborate about certifications more here in a minute.

Last month we had 4 interviews for new Firefighters wanting to join.
2 females and 2 male Cadets.

This brings our total number of volunteer Firefighters to 29.

As a reminder they are volunteers. They will not all show up at the same time or, for every call. Again, as you remember from previous reports on what it takes as far as manpower or equipment for a manpower-intensive call. You will remember how those calls for service are handled. If you look at Portland or Seattle Fire Departments. They also cannot handle manpower-intensive calls with a single-engine company or station either. They also use AUTO/MUTUAL AID protocols and bring in other engine companies from neighboring agencies for those calls.

I mentioned earlier that I would explain the training and certification process. You have heard me say in other reports that the Volunteer Firefighters here at Gearhart (which saves the taxpayers millions of dollars) have the exact same certifications as Portland and Seattle Firefighters. They have the same gear/PPE and equipment. They receive the same exact same training. There is only 1 difference between a Gearhart Firefighter and a Portland/Seattle Firefighter. That-Is-How-Much-They-Get-Paid // For-Doing-The-Exact-Same-Job // With-The-Exact-Same-Equipment

At Gearhart Fire We have the following number of Firefighters holding the following NFPA/NWCG certifications:

14 - Firefighter I

7 - Firefighter II // Advanced Firefighter Certification

13- Apparatus Driver

6- Apparatus operator

6- mobile Water Supply

6- Wildland Apparatus

12 - Wildland T-II

2 - Wildland T-I

7 - Wildland Engine Boss

1 - Wildland Task Force Leader/Strike Team Leader

4 - Instructor I

1 - Instructor II

3 - Fire Officer II

- 1 - Fire Ground Leader
- 15 - Emergency Medical Responder
- 7 - Emergency Medical Technician Licensed
- 1 - Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Licensed
- 6 - Working on the Water Rescue Surface-water Rescuer
- 6 - Working on the Rescue Water Craft Technician
- 1 - finishing up the Juivunal Firesetter Intervention
- 7 - HazMat Operations
- 2 - HazMat Incident Commander

Those certifications do not include all the other ancillary courses that the firefighters take such as:

- Low Angle Rope Rescue
- Health and Safety Officer
- Incident Safety Officer
- Fire Investigator
- Incident Command System // Incident Management System

To get any fire certification it takes 3 steps or 3 parts

- Classroom learning
- Taskbook Sign-off's
- Final Practical Testing

For a certification like the basic Firefighter-I it takes

- 78.5 classroom hours

Which includes the following

- 21 separate courses (PPE, Safety, Ladders, Radio Communication, etc.)
- Taskbook (which has sign-offs for general knowledge as well as practical tasks the Firefighter must complete. The Firefighter-I taskbook has 85 boxes that need to be signed off in it.

Then the Firefighter will have final practical testing. Which the Firefighter will complete 4-6 practical fire-ground operational tasks (that they have already completed in their taskbook) and they be chosen at random. The Firefighter will demonstrate their proficiency in front of 4-6 Firefighters trained to the same level (or above) that the applicant is attempting to certify for.

Then once we have all that information/documentation in order. We can apply with the state at DPSST and request for the Firefighter to be certified as a Firefighter-I

That is just to get that 1 certification. The Firefighters also have a certain amount of hours they have to complete every single year just to keep that certification. Also, once they start getting multiple certifications in different categories. The more hours they have to complete every year.

For operational tract certification they have 60 hours every year they have to complete.

For instructional certification tract they have 4 hours every year they have to complete. As well as they have to teach and complete practical service deliveries.

For medical licensing, such as an EMT. After they complete a 1 year college course and final written as well as practical testing to obtain their medical certification licensing, Then they have to complete a total of 24 hours in 6 different medical categories every year Just to keep their medical license.

Every other year we get audited by our District DLO (District Liason officer). He checks our training calendar, personnel files, training record keeping, the application process, etc. to make sure we are doing everything correctly. They even sometimes will watch us hold evaluation testing or be part of the process to ensure we are doing everything as we are supposed to. Our DLO is also involved with our training throughout the year. So, he is dialed in on how we operate.

We have a very dedicated group of Firefighters that do all of this out of their hearts, and, sacrifice all that time away from their families to obtain certifications and also to maintain their certifications. Then they sacrifice all the time away from their families to respond to all of the calls we have. **THEY-HAVE-HUGE-HEARTS.** They don't do it to get any thanks. But to serve, and make a difference in this community.

Thank you for allowing me to present this month's report. Are there any questions?