# **EVANS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

### 2015 Annual Report



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# The Community of the Evans Fire Protection District

- The District serves approximately 19,000 citizens in Evans, Colorado in an area of 10 square miles. Located in the southern portion of the Greeley-Evans metro area the District is completely contained within the municipal limits of the City of Evans.
- The District provides fire and emergency services from one fully staffed fire station on 37<sup>th</sup> Street. Administrative offices are located in the Evans Community Complex, which also serves as Evans City Hall. During 2016 plans will be finalized to renovate Station 2; this renovation will include relocating the administrative offices to the station.



- ∂ The District objective is to have five firefighters on-duty to staff two engine companies at all times. Staffing is comprised of 10 full-time firefighters, 3 company officers, 17 parttime firefighters, and 4 volunteer firefighters. The administrative staff includes the Fire Chief, Training Officer, and Business Manager. The training grounds comprises a twostory live fire building as well as propane, vehicle fire, and positive pressure attack props.
- ∂ The District provides the normal range of rescue, wildland fire, fire prevention, and training services common to suburban fire departments. In addition, agreements with other area agencies allow for:
  - o Special Operations teams such as Dive/Ice/Swiftwater rescue and Hazardous Materials response.
  - o Dispatch services provided by the Weld County Communications Center.
  - Paramedic ambulance service provided by Banner Health/North Colorado Medical Center.



∂The District participates in automatic-aid agreements with Front Range Fire Rescue, Platte Valley Fire Protection District, and LaSalle Fire Protection District. We also participate in the Weld County master mutual-aid system, which includes the City of Greeley Fire Department. Between on-duty staffing and automatic and mutual-aid, the District is generally able to deploy 10-12 firefighters to structure fires within 10 minutes.

### **Board of Directors**

The Board is the general governing body of the District. All Directors must be eligible electors of the District and are elected to serve a four-year term. Directors are tasked with overseeing all aspects of the District and managing the business of the District in public meetings. The Board approves major purchases and governs intergovernmental agreements and contracts. The Fire Chief reports directly to the Board of Directors.

#### A Message from the Board President

I am pleased to present this annual report that encompasses the results of another year of Dedication,



Mary Achziger, President Seated on Board through 2020

Compassion, and Excellence on the part of our firefighters and staff. These are values that we have focused on since the formation of the district and have been an important guide. I'm honored to be part of this admirable group that is dedicated to the mission of providing excellent service to our citizens while also ensuring responsible and efficient stewardship of taxpayer resources. During the past year, firefighters have applied for, and been awarded, grants to improve operations and upgrade equipment. New mutual and automatic aid agreements were reached with neighboring districts allowing for better response times and more firefighters on-scene at structure fires. To meet the increasing demand for our services big things will be happening in the coming year and I am privileged to continue guiding this outstanding organization.

David James Vice-President Seated on Board through 2018



Steve Bernardo Secretary Seated on Board through 2020

Tricia Watson Treasurer Seated on Board through 2018





Marty Schanwolf Director Seated on Board through 2018

### A Message from Chief Pristera

#### Greetings,

The 2015 Annual Report for the District follows - it contains a summary of the District's activities and performance for the year, but here are some highlights to consider while reviewing the rest of the document.

Much of 2015 was spent working on separating the District's administrative functions from the City of Evans. Administrative support from the City was a critical factor in the early success of the District. However, as the District has matured the need to absorb its own administrative functions has grown correspondingly.



By the end of 2015 District Administration had built independent systems for the accounting and human

resource tasks necessary for the District to function. In some cases, these systems incorporated existing relationships, while in other cases new relationships were established.

The assistance of the City of Evans, Special District Association, Pinnacle Consulting, and Ireland & Stapleton were all key to the success of administrative separation.

Other significant accomplishments completed in 2015 include the addition of a new engine to the fleet. This engine was partially funded by a DOLA Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant, and coupled with the aerial purchased in 2012 dramatically improved the quality and reliability of the first-due fire apparatus.

Following a detailed review of the remaining apparatus the fleet replacement and operational patterns, the existing apparatus plan was modified to include the acquisition of a utility engine. The new utility engine will replace the medical response vehicle, which in turn will replace the aging command vehicle. Once again a DOLA Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant was secured to offset the cost of the new utility engine which is expected to be placed in service in mid-2016.

The other two significant areas of administrative concentration in 2015 were bringing the District's borders into conformity with the service plan and modifying the District's policy, procedures, and guidelines to reflect our actual practices.

The primary accomplishment in 2015 was completing a new cooperative agreement with LaSalle FPD that establishes a framework for the closest fire department to respond, regardless of where the property is, but also addresses non-response considerations such as who is responsible for fire code enforcement and how to distribute disparate tax revenue from the covered areas.

Looking ahead to 2016, the bi-annual reappraisal conducted by the Weld County Assessor resulted in about a twenty percent increase in revenue (that is reflected in the 2016 budget). The next appraisal (scheduled for 2017) is projected to result in a more modest increase in the value of residential property. And since the District only receives about ten percent of its revenue from oil & gas property the low price of oil and resulting decreasing valuations are not expected to impact us significantly. In light of this analysis we are cautiously optimistic about the District's financial stability, despite the downturn in the oil and gas industry.

We are expecting 2016 to be a busy administrative year as well. We are planning to evaluate our health insurance benefits, wellness program and overall non-monetary compensation package. We will continue to review and revise our written documents, and work on conforming the District's boundaries.

Finally, we are seeking to address the space/facility issues at Station #2, and have been awarded a DOLA Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant that will be part of a funding package to renovate the station. This funding also includes a contribution of fire impact fees from the City of Evans and a cash contribution from the District's unappropriated funds.

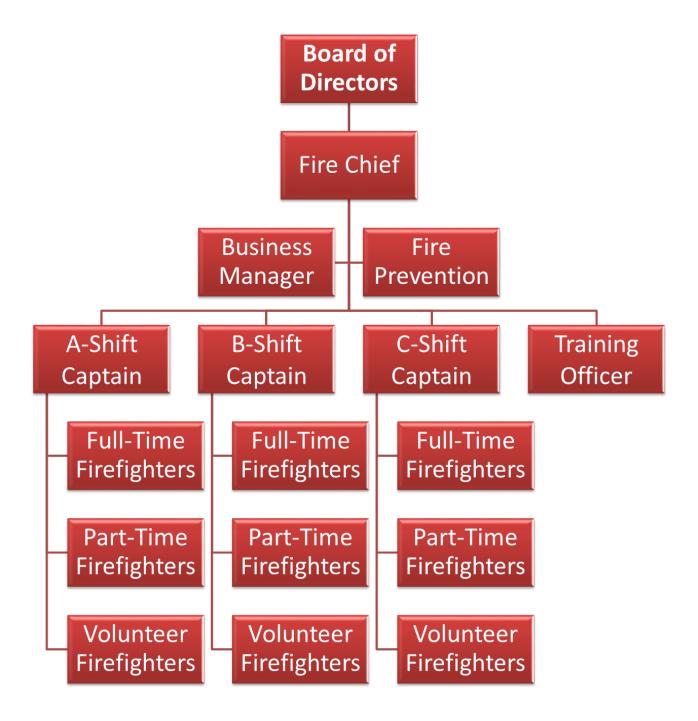
I would be remiss in not taking a moment to thank the extraordinary men and women of our District, who work tirelessly to provide professional, compassionate emergency services that are respectful of the taxpayer's money.

In closing, please take a few moments to review the rest of this report, and if you have any questions, or suggestions, do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

Ron Pristera MPA, CFO

## Organizational Chart



### **District Facilities**



#### Station 1 - 3918 Denver Street

This historic station was built by volunteer firefighters in 1975 with the support of Evans City Council, who purchased the materials. Currently, Station 1 is not staffed but serves as storage space for reserve equipment and contains an exercise facility for onduty firefighters.



#### Station 2 - 2100 37th Street

Station 2 is our primary facility. Built in 1993, Station 2 was expanded to accommodate staffing increases in 2006. During 2016 plans for a complete renovation of this station will be finalized with construction beginning by year-end. Station 2 is staffed 24-hours a day, seven days a week.



#### Administration Office - 1100 37th Street

The Fire Chief, Training Officer, and Business Manager offices are located in the Evans Community Complex. As part of the Station 2 renovation space will be designed to accommodate relocation of the Administration Office to the station.



#### Training Grounds - 1958 40th Street

Located at the City of Evans maintenance facilities the training grounds includes a two-story live fire building, propane, vehicle fire, and positive pressure attack props. A pump pit and dive tank were added in late 2015 for additional training options.

### 2015 Highlights

The District's Public Protection Classification (PPC) improved from Class Four to Class Three. The Insurance Service Office (ISO) determines the PPC based on three categories; receiving and handling alarms, fire department operations, and water supply. The District rating improved due to increased performance in these areas. Of the 681 rated fire departments in Colorado, only 10% have a rating of Class Three and only 5% have a better rating of Class Two or One. The PPC program plays an important role in insurance rates; in general, property insurance is lower in communities with lower ratings.



- ∂ Early in 2015 a new engine was put into service. This was the second apparatus purchased after formation of the District. This engine replaced the old Engine 2. With the addition of this pumper, firefighters are able to respond in two brand new apparatus. To continue updating our apparatus fleet the District applied for, and was awarded, a DOLA Energy Impact Assistance Fund grant for the purchase of a brush-fire capable mini-pumper that can serve both fire and medical needs. We expect to receive the mini-pumper in early summer 2016.
- During 2015, District administrative staff assumed management of the finance, human resources, and benefits administration services previously provided by City of Evans staff through an Inter-Governmental Agreement. District staff is now fully responsible for all administrative functions of the District. The District does maintain an Inter-Governmental Agreement for Emergency Services with the City of Evans.
- Through a partnership with the City of Evans a dry hydrant system was installed at Riverside Park. This system consists of an unpressurized, permanently installed pipe that has one end below the water level of Riverside Lake. This will allow firefighters to flow large amounts of non-potable water for fire training with the water going back into the lake.

## Financial Summary

The District finished 2015 with a balanced operating budget; collecting \$2,166,000 in revenue, with expenses of \$1,954,000. The largest contributor to District revenue is Property Tax, specifically Residential Property Taxes which have been steadily increasing. During 2015, revenues were slightly less than projected due to a large tax abatement from the oil and gas industry.

	2015	2014
REVENUES:		
Grants and contributions	3,000	159,000
Property taxes	1,548,000	1,603,000
Specific ownership taxes	107,000	134,000
Intergovernmental	467,000	449,000
Other	<u>86,000</u>	31,000
Total Revenues	2,211,000	2,376,000
Expenses:		
Administration	79,000	92,000
Operations	1,789,000	1,978,000
Long-Term Debt	<u>85,000</u>	<u> 18,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,954,000	2,088,000



### **Incident Statistics**

2015 INCIDENT COUNT				
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS			
EMS	1336			
FIRE	653			
TOTAL	1989			

MUTUAL AID				
Aid Type	Total			
Aid Given	55			
Aid Received	47			

OVERLAPPING CALLS					
# OVERLAPPING % OVERLAPPING					
441	22.17				



# **Emergency Responses**

The District experienced a 9% call volume increase over 2014. Since the District was formed in 2011 the call volume has increased by 36%.

	2014		20		
Major Incident Type	# of Incidents	% of Total	# of Incidents	% of Total	% Change
Fire	79	4.3%	67	3.4%	-15.2%
Traffic Crash	130	7.1%	119	6.0%	-8.5%
Auto-Alarm	100	5.5%	130	6.5%	30.0%
Assist PD	33	1.8%	43	2.2%	30.3%
EMS	1100	60.5%	1207	60.7%	9.7%
Other	377	20.7%	423	21.3%	12.2%
Total Incidents	1819		1989		9.3%

Other incident types for 2015 include:

Explosion (no fire), other	1
Excessive heat, scorch burns with no ignition	3
Lock-in	6
Swift water rescue	1
Rescue or EMS standby	5
Combustible/flammable gas/liquid condition, other	1
Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	2
Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	9
Oil or other combustible liquid spill	1
Chemical hazard (no spill or leak)	1
Chemical spill or leak	1
Carbon monoxide incident	13
Heat from short circuit (wiring), defective/worn	3
Overheated motor	1
Power line down	4
Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	2
Person in distress, other	14
Lock-out	1
Water or steam leak	10
Smoke or odor removal	3
Animal rescue	1
Assist invalid	30
Cover assignment, standby, moveup	11
Good intent call, other	2
Dispatched & cancelled en route	223
Wrong location	5
No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	51
Smoke scare, odor of smoke	12
Smoke from barbecue, tar kettle	3
HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	1



### Mutual & Automatic Aid

We strive to maintain a strong partnership with our neighboring fire districts. In 2015 new automatic aid agreements were enacted to allows for better coverage with both LaSalle Fire Protection District and Platte Valley Fire Protection District. Some areas of each district have been designated First Response Areas. In these areas dispatch notifies both districts and both respond without additional calls for assistance.

	201	4	201		
Aid Type	# of	% of	# of	% of	%
Aid Type	Incidents	Total	Incidents	Total	Change
Mutual aid received	24	1.3%	21	1.1%	-12.5%
Automatic aid received	34	1.9%	26	1.3%	-23.5%
Total Aid Received	58	3.2%	47	2.4%	-19.0%
Mutual aid given	33	1.8%	32	1.6%	-3.0%
Automatic aid given	11	0.6%	23	1.2%	109.1%
Total Aid Given	44	2.4%	55	2.8%	25.0%
No aid needed	1717	94.4%	1887	94.9%	9.9%



# Medical Incidents

	2014		_ 20	2015	
COMPLAINT REPORTED BY DISPATCH	# of Incidents	% of Total	# of Incidents	% of Total	% Change
Abdominal Pain	36	2.78%	40	2.88%	11.11%
Allergies	4	0.31%	6	0.43%	50.00%
Animal Bite	5	0.39%	7	0.50%	40.00%
Assault	46	3.55%	53	3.81%	15.22%
Back Pain	15	1.16%	20	1.44%	33.33%
Breathing Problem	113	8.73%	127	9.13%	12.39%
Burns	2	0.15%	2	0.14%	0.00%
Cardiac Arrest	18	1.39%	20	1.44%	11.11%
Chest Pain	67	5.18%	75	5.39%	11.94%
Choking	2	0.15%	2	0.14%	0.00%
CO Poisoning/Hazmat	1	0.08%	2	0.14%	100.00%
Convulsions/Seizure	50	3.86%	67	4.82%	34.00%
Diabetic Problem	22	1.70%	29	2.08%	31.82%
Eye Problem	2	0.15%	0	0.00%	-100.00%
Fall Victim	159	12.29%	155	11.14%	-2.52%
Headache	7	0.54%	11	0.79%	57.14%
Heart Problems	12	0.93%	11	0.79%	-8.33%
Heat/Cold Exposure	5	0.39%	5	0.36%	0.00%
Hemorrhage/Laceration	21	1.62%	33	2.37%	57.14%
Industrial Accident	1	0.08%	0	0.00%	-100.00%
Ingestion/Poisoning	34	2.63%	41	2.95%	20.59%
MCI (Mass Casualty Incident)	1	0.08%	1	0.07%	0.00%
Not Applicable	127	9.81%	110	7.91%	-13.39%
Pregnancy/Childbirth	12	0.93%	12	0.86%	0.00%
Psychiatric Problem	127	9.81%	129	9.27%	1.57%
Sick Person	128	9.89%	132	9.49%	3.13%
Stab/Gunshot Wound	1	0.08%	4	0.29%	300.00%
Stroke/CVA	23	1.78%	22	1.58%	-4.35%
Traffic Accident	139	10.74%	124	8.91%	-10.79%
Transfer/Interfacility/Palliative Care	9	0.70%	13	0.93%	44.44%
Traumatic Injury	13	1.00%	39	2.80%	200.00%
Unconscious/Fainting	56	4.33%	55	3.95%	-1.79%
Unknown Problem Man Down	36	2.78%	44	3.16%	22.22%





