

EVANS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

2020 Annual Report



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The Community of the Evans Fire Protection District

- ∂ The District serves approximately 21,000 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 37th Street. District Administration is also housed at this location.
- ∂ The District objective is to have five firefighters on-duty to staff two engine companies at all times. Staffing is comprised of 15 full-time firefighters, 3 company officers, and 2 part-time firefighters. The administrative staff includes the Fire Chief and Business Manager. The Administrative Captain position is currently vacant. The training grounds comprises a two-story live fire building as well as propane and vehicle fire 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:
 - Special Operations teams such as Dive/Ice/Swiftwater rescue and Hazardous Materials response.
 - Dispatch services provided by the Weld County Communications Center.
 - Paramedic ambulance service is provided through an agreement with UC Health.
- ∂ 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 inter-governmental agreements and contracts. The Fire Chief reports directly to the Board of Directors.



Mary Achziger, President
Seated on Board through 2023

A Message from the Board President

I am pleased to present this annual report that encompasses the results of another year of Dedication, 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, our firefighters have gone above and beyond to maintain services to our citizens despite the unknown conditions of a global pandemic and the ever-changing guidance and safety protocols. As we look to the coming year, we are saddened to say goodbye to Chief Pristera, who has been an exceptional friend and mentor. We wish him well in his retirement as we prepare to welcome a new fire chief to join us in guiding this outstanding organization.

Mary Achziger

David James
Vice-President
Seated on Board
through 2022



Marty Schanwolf
Secretary
Seated on Board
through 2022

Tricia Watson
Treasurer
Seated on Board
through 2022



Tim Naylor
Director
Seated on Board
through 2023

A Message from Chief Pristera

As I write this, the Directors of the District, supported by the members, are searching for someone who will be given the privilege to lead the Evans Fire District after I retire next month.

Though this was my decision, I am nevertheless melancholy about leaving such a dedicated and committed group of people who have befriended and trusted me.

The pandemic of 2020 presented extraordinary personal and professional challenges and unprecedented impacts on the members of our District. Despite these challenges, and without hesitation, the men and women of the District continued to do their duty.

I have always considered it an honor to stand with these exceptional men and women, but the events of 2020 were without equal in my career, and bring the famous quote from Henry V to mind- "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers."

I will miss them and my job, but the residents of the District can rest easy, they are in the care and protection of uncommon people who are committed to doing their duty.

Finally, congratulations are in order for Captain Lance Homann who has served the City of Evans since the District was a volunteer department. Captain Homann accepted a fire chief position in Idaho and we wish him well.

The 2020 annual report follows.

Respectfully,



Ron Pristera MPA, CFO



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 District records.



Station 2 - 2100 37th Street

Station 2 is our primary facility. Originally built in 1993, the station was expanded to accommodate staffing increases in 2006. A second major renovation and expansion was completed in 2017. Station 2 is staffed 24-hours a day, seven days a week and houses the District Administrative Staff.



Training Grounds - 1958 40th Street

Located at the City of Evans maintenance facilities the training grounds includes a two-story live fire building, propane, and vehicle fire props.

2020 At a Glance



Additional full-time positions were authorized to allow for six full-time firefighters on each shift.

Tim Naylor was elected to serve on the Board of Directors in the May election.



Captain Lance Homann, who began as an Evans Volunteer Firefighter in 1988, moved to a fire chief position in St. Maries, Idaho.

Firefighters trained for a collective total of 1,876 hours throughout the year.



Engine 1 was retired and sold to a fire department in Paraguay.

Financial Summary

The District finished 2020 with a balanced operating budget; collecting \$4,574,033 in revenue, with expenses of \$2,980,159. The largest contributor to District revenue is Property Tax, specifically Residential Property Taxes which have been steadily increasing. The District continues to invest money in a COLOTRUST account to be saved for future needs. Due to the ongoing pandemic, several projects scheduled for completion were put on hold, pending the availability of supplies and labor. This resulted in expenses slightly below budget.

	2020	2019
REVENUES:		
Property Taxes	3,838,493	3,825,160
Specific Ownership Taxes	182,248	257,708
Intergovernmental	404,909	519,902
Impact Fees	88,704	183,507
Grants	14,479	2,058
Interest	17,145	32,124
Other	28,055	17,475
TOTAL REVENUES	4,574,033	4,837,934
EXPENDITURES:		
Salaries and Benefits	2,181,570	2,000,360
Operations	505,882	569,949
Capital Outlay	207,954	394,190
Debt Service	84,753	87,623
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	2,980,159	3,052,122



Emergency Responses

2020 INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	1,623
FIRE	630
TOTAL	2,253

We strive to maintain a strong partnership with our Mutual & Automatic Aid partners in neighboring fire districts. To increase service to our citizens, 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. Due to the increase in Overlapping Calls – the occasions we are dispatched to an incident while still on-scene of another incident – make these partnerships even more important. Our aid partners are ready to assist with multiple calls in our District, just as we are ready to assist them, when needed.

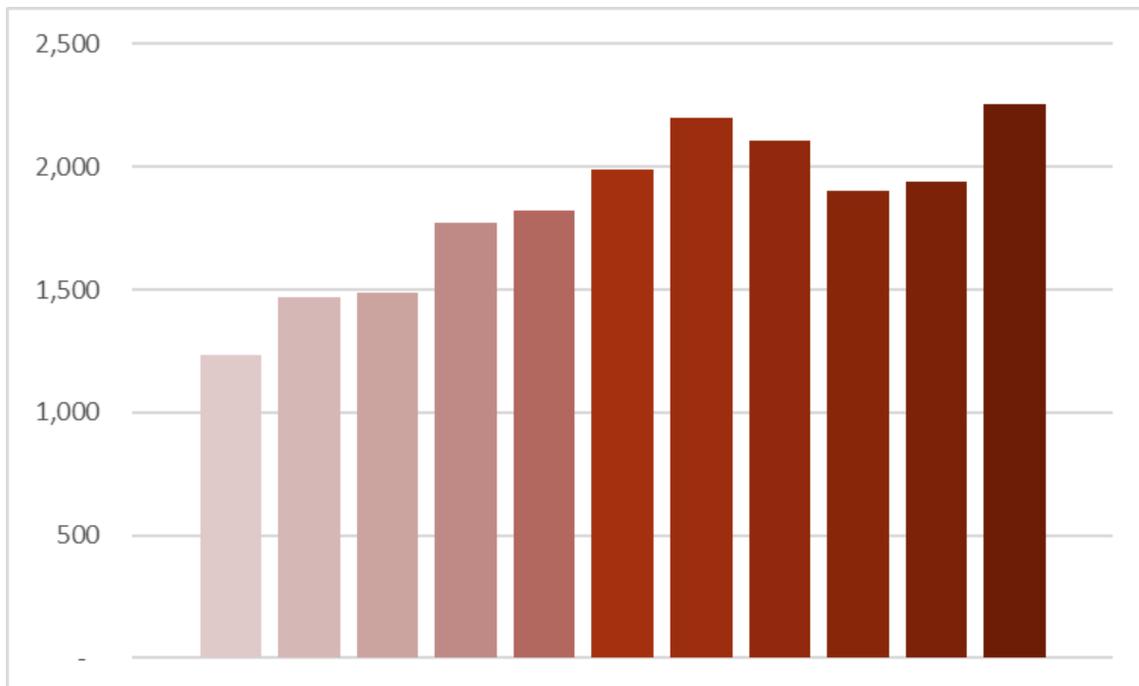
MUTUAL AID	
Aid Type	Total
Aid Given	35
Aid Received	60

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
602	26.72



Requests for service have been steadily increasing since the District was formed. As the budget permits, we have added resources, however, we are also dependent on our mutual aid partners when we experience concurrent calls.

To ease the burden on our partners, and to help curtail the escalating volume of calls, the District seeks opportunities to eliminate duplicate or unnecessary responses to make more efficient use of our resources. In 2017 we were able to stem the increase (and reduce the number of calls) by changing our deployment model to not respond to incidents at medical clinics unless specifically requested by the ambulance crew or on serious medical emergencies. Despite these changes, the call volume is continuing to increase. We experienced a 16% call volume increase over 2019. Since 2010 the call volume has almost doubled, with an 83% increase in calls over the past 10 years.



The busiest day of the year was for B-Shift on August 27 with 17 calls for service during that 24-hour period. This was also the busiest 48-hour set of the year: B-Shift responded to 23 calls on August 26-27. August was the busiest month of the year with 228 calls, followed by December with 210 calls, and June with 203.

C-Shift's busiest 48-hour set was March 1-2 with 20 calls. A-Shift's busiest 48-hour set was October 29-30, also with 20 calls.

A majority of our calls involve a medical emergency of some type. All Evans Firefighters are certified as Emergency Medical Technicians. We partner with UC Health for paramedic services and hospital transport.

