



2021 Annual Report

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District Overview

Serving approximately 20,000 citizens in Evans, Colorado. The District is completely contained within the municipal limits of the City of Evans, covering an area of approximately 10 square miles.

Providing 24/7 fire and emergency services from one fully staffed fire station on 37th Street. Staffing is comprised of 15 full-time firefighters, 3 company officers, and 2 part-time firefighters.

Automatic-aid partners with Front Range Fire Rescue, Platte Valley Fire Protection District, LaSalle Fire Protection District and Weld County master mutual-aid system, which includes the City of Greeley Fire Department.

Chief's Message

Greetings,

The following is the Evans Fire Protection District Annual Report for 2021. This document contains a summary of the Fire District's activities, performance, and accomplishments for the year.

I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to recognize Chief Ron Pristera. After seven years with Evans, Chief Pristera retired at the end of May 2021. The list of his accomplishments during his tenure is long but he was very instrumental in EFPD becoming the organization it is today. Chief Pristera helped secure grant funding to offset the cost of new fire apparatus, SCBAs, and the expansion of Station #2. He improved our shift fire inspector/investigator program, hired additional shift firefighters to ensure more consistent two company staffing, established a partnership with UCH to staff an ALS ambulance to improve services, and led EFPD through the more challenging times of the COVID pandemic.

While the COVID pandemic has been a major challenge for us all, the members of the Fire District have met this challenge and have continued to provide outstanding service to the citizens and visitors of Evans. 2021 was a very busy year for EFPD and despite all the challenges we've faced, we have been able to accomplish a lot. The following is a list of the major ones that I wanted to highlight:

- The firefighters created a hiring process that allows us to better evaluate candidates through a skills assessment and interview.
- Expanded our new firefighter orientation and task book.
- Hired two new firefighters and promoted one Captain.
- Conducted fire behavior and fire investigation training for all personnel as well as personnel from LaSalle, Platte Valley, and Windsor Fire Districts and ATF.
- Began work with Weld County Regional Communications on county-wide implementation of new dispatch software.

- Submitted a regional grant to offset the costs of firefighter physicals.
- Participated in a regional HazMat exercise.
- Continued training with our mutual/automatic aid and EMS partners.
- Participated in Driver/Operator training for Evans, LaSalle, and Platte Valley Fire Districts.
- Assisted Boulder County during the historic Marshall Fire.

The Evans Fire District is a strong advocate of professional development and lifelong learning. In 2021, our members completed a wide variety of classes and obtained various certifications and professional designations. These include, but are not limited to, obtaining certifications as ICC Fire Inspector I, Fire Investigation Technician (FIT), Public Safety Diver, and Driver/Operator as well as attending the National Fire Academy Youth Fire Setter Intervention Specialist course and swift water rescue operations for company officers.

None of this would be possible without the exceptional members of this organization. They are all committed professionals who embody our mission of “Providing professional fire and emergency services with *Dedication, Compassion & Excellence.*” More detailed information concerning the Fire District’s performance is contained in the following pages.

If you have any questions about the annual report, or how the Fire District operates, please feel free to reach out to me directly at jdesalvo@evansfiredistrict.org.

Respectfully,



Joe DeSalvo
Fire Chief





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

**Tim
Naylor**

Director

**Tricia
Watson**

Treasurer

**Marty
Schanwolf**

Secretary

**David
James**

Vice-
President

Organizational Chart



Revenue	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Property Taxes	\$ 2,915,588	\$ 3,838,493
Specific Ownership Tax	\$ 146,029	\$ 182,248
Intergovernmental	\$ 538,789	\$ 404,909
Impact Fees	\$ 61,030	\$ 88,704
Grants	\$ 4,587	\$ 14,479
Miscellaneous	\$ 56,199	\$ 45,200
Total Revenue	\$ 3,722,223	\$ 4,574,033
Expenditures		
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 2,288,258	\$ 2,181,570
Operations	\$ 379,557	\$ 505,882
Capital Outlay	\$ 125,408	\$ 207,954
Debt Service	\$ 87,013	\$ 84,753
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,880,236	\$ 2,980,159

Financial Summary

District Facilities



District Training Grounds are located at the City of Evans maintenance facilities. Here crews simulate a variety of situations using a two-story live fire building, propane tanks, and a vehicle fire prop. A pump pit and dive tank allow for even more training options.

Station 2 is our primary facility. Built in 1993, Station 2 was expanded to accommodate staffing increases in 2006 and again in 2017. Two engine companies staff this station 24-hours a day, seven days a week.

Historic Station 1 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 apparatus.

Highlights

Captain Promotion

Following the retirement of a long-time captain, a new recruitment process was developed to hire a Captain and Full-time Firefighters. The result of this process was the internal promotion of Firefighter John Udick. Captain Udick took command of C-Shift in November. Additionally, Firefighters Tory Rein and Kyle Roll joined the District in October.

Driver/Operator Course

Staff developed and conducted a Driver/Operator Course to increase the knowledge of firefighters on all aspects of operating fire apparatus in emergency and non-emergency situations.

EMS Continuing Education

In conjunction with UC Health, staff established a complete, internal EMS continuing education program to meet the unique needs of our citizens.

Community Events

Throughout the year, crews participated in events with our citizens at Evans Heritage Days, Teen Police Academy, Poudre River Young Marines, Trick or Treat Down the Trail, and visits to area elementary schools.



Open House

We welcomed our community to Station 2 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the formation of the District. Throughout the day, citizens toured Station 2 living quarters, watched auto-extrication demonstrations, tried on firefighter gear, and learned how to use fire extinguishers.



INCIDENT COUNT	
INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
EMS	1,786
FIRE	663
TOTAL	2,449

MUTUAL AID	
Aid Type	Total
Aid Given	26
Aid Received	55

OVERLAPPING CALLS	
# OVERLAPPING	% OVERLAPPING
550	22.46

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITY	
Fire Inspections	187
Plans Reviewed	23
Investigations	16
PR Events	10

Emergency Responses

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.

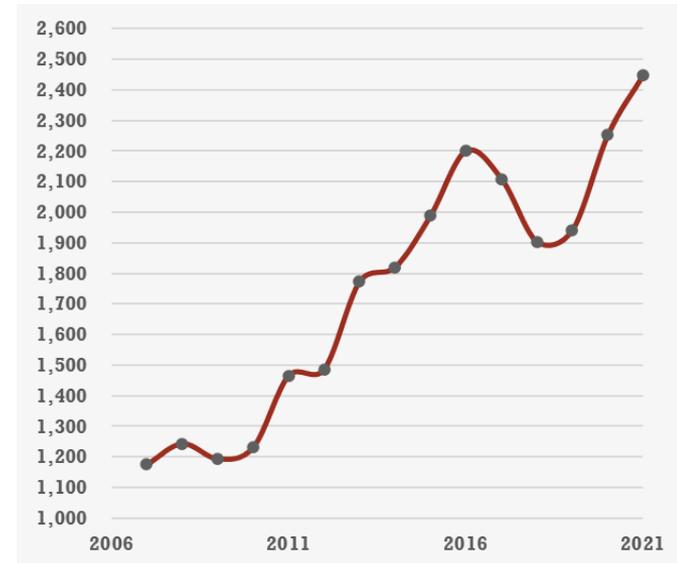
The increase in Overlapping Calls – the occasions we are dispatched to an incident while still on-scene of another incident – make these partnerships even more important. Our aid partners are ready to assist with multiple calls in our District, just as we are ready to assist them, when needed.



Call Volume

Requests for service have been steadily increasing since the District was formed. 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.

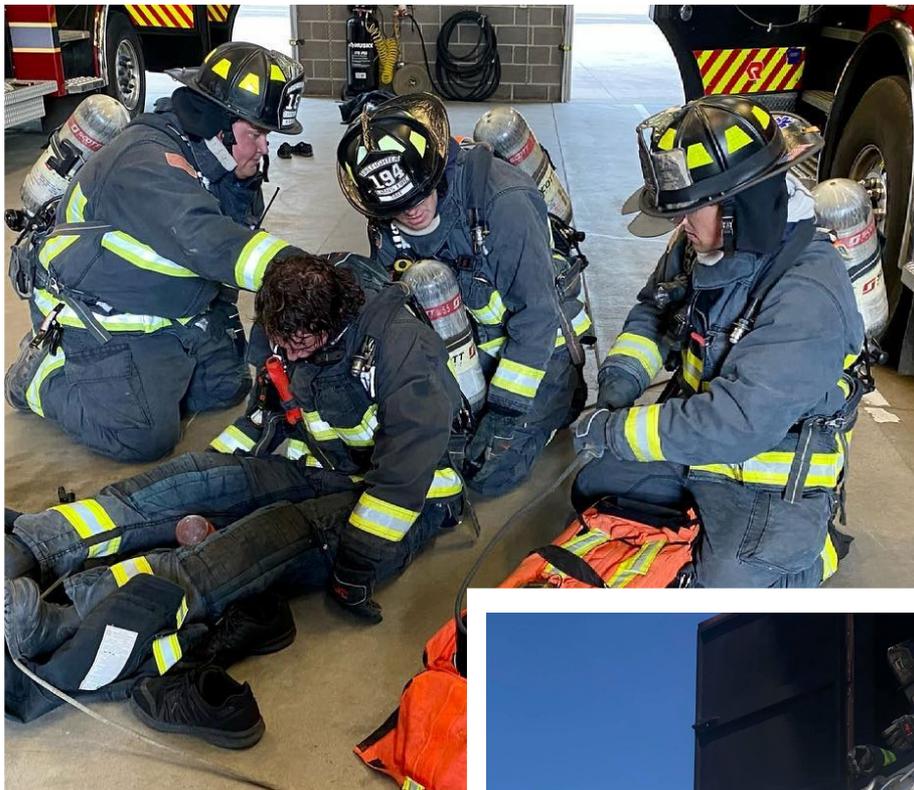
In 2017 we were able to stem the increase (and reduce the number of calls) by changing our deployment model to not respond to incidents at medical clinics unless specifically requested by the ambulance crew or for serious medical emergencies. Despite these changes, the call volume is continuing to increase. We experienced a 9% call volume increase over 2020. The District has experienced a 64% increase in calls over the past 10 years.



Training

Throughout the year, Evans firefighters trained for a total of 1,596 hours. Training topics range from fire behavior to medical education –some training sessions are active, and hands-on, while others require classroom time. During 2021, Evans firefighters completed training courses in:

- Fire Instructor Skills
- Forcible Entry
- Vehicle Extrication
- Fire Behavior
- Ice Rescue
- Swiftwater Rescue
- Rope Rescue
- Search & Rescue



Retirements



Fire Chief Ron Pristera retired after seven years of service to the District and 26 total years in the fire service. During his tenure, Chief Pristera guided the District through the separation from City of Evans administrative services, managed the Station 2 remodel, and developed a new agreement to house UC Health ambulance crews at Station 2.

Captain Ryan Fuller retired from the fire service in August 2021 with 18 years of service. Captain Fuller served the Evans community as a training officer and shift captain. While serving in these capacities, he developed a more structured training program to meet the needs of our growing community and aided the transition from a volunteer to career firefighter organization.



