

2012 Ogallala Fire Department Annual Report



In 2012, the Ogallala Fire Department members responded to a total of 530 incidents. Page 3 of this report gives a breakdown by month and type of call that the OVFD responded to. At the bottom of the page where the "TOTAL" line is, I have included total EMS calls for that month. As you can see, the majority of calls are EMS or EMS related. If we average over a 12 month period, 73% of our responses are for EMS or EMS related calls. Out of that 73%, 56.8 percent were city calls and 16.2 percent were rural calls. If we calculate the average time spent on each EMS call by the total number of runs, we find that we spent 476.01 hours per member, or 59.5 eight hour work days per member, responding to just EMS or EMS related calls. We currently have 12 EMT's on the roster. Of those 12, four are trained to the paramedic level. Our community is fortunate in the fact that we have these individuals who have dedicated not only the time to volunteer, but to sacrifice the many hours required to just put hands on the patient. With constantly changing standards, the time required to become an EMT is now 150 hours of classroom training followed by 20 hours every two years for continuing education. To become a paramedic, one must achieve the EMT level then take an additional 480 hours of class room training, 230 hours of clinical training (hospital setting), 200 hours of ride along time, and then 72 hours every two years of continuing education. With volunteerism on a downturn due to many circumstances, the community may need to reevaluate its needs and began to explore other options to meet those needs. Currently, looking at the last 9 years, the number of EMS calls is about where we were in 2004-2005 with 378 and 367 respectively. The trend started back up in 2006 thru 2009 with 406, 476, 456, and 411. If the trend continues, we will be busier on the ambulance with fewer members able to respond due to the inability of our volunteers to get away from work to respond. Other agencies are experiencing the same sort of inadequacies of staffing, so this is not just a local problem. Entities such as the NSVFA have put programs into place for funding recruitment and retention efforts for volunteer agencies to offset these inadequacies and we will be taking advantage of everything we can to keep providing exemplary care for our community.

On the Fire side of the house, 2012 was a busy year due to the drought conditions everywhere in our state. The report shows the OVFD responded to 143 fires and rescue calls or 27% of our total runs. These break down to 14.5% or 77 fire calls and 12.5% or 66 miscellaneous other calls including dive rescue, motor vehicle accidents, hazardous materials calls, and investigations by officers not paged out to the department. The 14.5% is divided between 4% or 21 calls in the city and 10.5% or 56 calls in the rural or mutual aid area. If we calculate the average time spent on each fire call by the total number of runs, we find that we spent 175.89 hours per member, or 21.99 eight hour work days per member, responding to fire and rescue calls. Some of the members were on the big wild land fires for 24 hours or more at a time. It is a testament to the training and discipline of the members of the OVFD that we had no major injuries sustained on any of the calls we were on. The community is fortunate to have this diverse group of people and the skills that they bring to the job. We have utility workers, mechanics, carpenters, people with computer skills, and many others with important skills. Each member has a strong desire to succeed at whatever task they are given and the teamwork principle is very strong within the department.

The average response time for the OVFD is 9 minutes and 18 seconds. We are within the parameters set by the NFPA regarding response times, but are always looking to improve our service to the community.

Page 4 has the runs broken down into days of the week and times. Fridays were our busiest days of the week and from 4 PM to 5 PM our busiest time slot. At the bottom right of Page 4 there is a breakdown of pages for service and the response from our department.

As of this report, there are 30 members on the roster for the OVFD. (See page 5 for the complete roster) Individual call percentages were presented to the City Council for VERP verification. This information is available from the City Clerk. The numbers and percentages listed prior are just the calls for emergency service and do not include the special events and extra-curricular activities that the members participate in. Community events such as National Night Out, Kids' Safety Day, Fire Prevention Week (we do this one all year long), and the Keith County Fireworks Display are all examples of events that the members participate in throughout the year. It seems we are always being asked by someone to perform some task that may benefit the community, but takes us away from our families, jobs, or hobbies even more. The specialized training required to respond to certain situations also takes valuable time from our volunteers. The 2012 Firefighter One class (6 members for FF1 and 7 for Haz Mat Ops) was 156 hours plus another 16 hours for Live Fire Training and Hazardous Materials Ops Training that required the members to travel to other areas to complete. We are required to do 4 hours of refresher training for Haz Mat Awareness, we drill in house every fourth Thursday of each month and any other drills the Chief or Training Officers deem necessary, and some of the firefighters are also EMT's so they are at the station more than they are home sometimes. We have restructured the duties and responsibilities of the senior members and officers to accommodate not having a full time supervisor at the station. This system seems to be working well and tasks are being completed and morale is good due to the fact that everyone has ownership in the department and the outcome of a given project. It is a testament to the fortitude and dedication of the members that they spend this time serving the community in this capacity.

Page 6 is a list of all the equipment parked in the OVFD Station. We are blessed with a very generous community, city council, and rural fire board to have the fleet of trucks that we possess. The members take pride in the equipment and it is kept in first rate shape at all times and ready to go at a moment's notice, however, we must be cognizant of the fact that standards change and equipment does age. As you can see from the list, some of our trucks are aging and fall outside the parameters set by the NFPA standards for Fire Apparatus. We do have a replacement program in place and will be seeking the councils' permission to replace one of our pumpers in the near future.

In summary, I would like to thank the city council for the opportunity to serve my community in this fashion. Since I was elected Chief of the department, I have figured out just how much I do not know yet, and I thank you for your patience with me and your continuing support of the Ogallala Volunteer Fire Department. We could not do our job without your support and guidance. I look forward to the coming year and the challenges as well as the rewards that await us.

Respectfully submitted,

OVFD Fire Chief Dell R Simmerman

2012 OGALLALA FIRE DEPARTMENT EMERGENCY CALLS

CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
EMS CITY	13	20	12	19	20	22	20	20	23	22	16	21
EMS RURAL	1	1	5	1	3	5	7	4	4	3	3	8
NURSING HOME	3	4	5	9	4	6	2	3	3	1	7	4
TRANSFER			1		1	1		1				
NON RESPONSE EMS									1			
STRUCTURE FIRE CITY		1	1	1			2	1		1		4
STRUCTURE FIRE RURAL	1							1		1	1	
VEHICLE FIRE CITY		1								1		
VEHICLE FIRE RURAL					1			3				
MVA CITY	1				1				1		1	2
MVA RURAL		1	3	3	1	2	2		2	2	1	6
WILDLAND FIRE CITY			1				1			1	2	
WILDLAND FIRE RURAL		1	5	1	1	12	7	8	4	4		1
FLIGHT FOR LIFE		4	3		2		2		2		2	1
STAND BY EVENT				1			1	8	2	2		
ALS REQUEST		1		1		1	2	2				1
FALSE ALARM	3	2	2	2	1	1		1		4	1	6
CITIZEN ASSIST	3	1	1	1	1	4	3	3	1	3	2	
HAZ MAT /OTHER			2			1		1		3		
WEATHER SPOTTING							1					
DIVE RESCUE CALL					1		4	3	2		1	1
TOTAL	25	37	41	39	37	55	54	59	45	48	37	55
EMS CALLS	18	31	29	33	32	37	35	30	35	34	30	43

TOTAL CALLS FOR 2012	530
TOTAL EMS CALLS	387
TOTAL FIRE CALLS	77
OTHER	66

EMS CITY	56.8%
EMS RURAL	16.2%

CITY FIRE CALLS	4%
RURAL FIRE CALLS	10.5%

RUNS BY DAY OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY	59	11.09%
MONDAY	85	16.17%
TUESDAY	50	9.40%
WEDNESDAY	84	15.79%
THURSDAY	79	14.85%
FRIDAY	88	16.54%
SATURDAY	85	16.17%

RUNS BY TIME OF DAY

12:00 AM	6	1.12%
1:00 AM	11	2.05%
2:00 AM	4	0.74%
3:00 AM	8	1.68%
4:00 AM	5	0.93%
5:00 AM	7	1.30%
6:00 AM	15	2.79%
7:00 AM	24	4.47%
8:00 AM	36	6.70%
9:00 AM	26	5.03%
10:00 AM	30	5.59%
11:00 AM	30	5.59%

12:00 PM	26	5.03%
1:00 PM	23	4.28%
2:00 PM	34	6.33%
3:00 PM	25	4.66%
4:00 PM	38	7.26%
5:00 PM	32	6.15%
6:00 PM	37	6.89%
7:00 PM	29	5.40%
8:00 PM	25	4.84%
9:00 PM	28	5.21%
10:00 PM	14	2.61%
11:00 PM	17	3.35%

MISCELLANIOUS INFORMATION

CALLS PER DAY	1.45	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME	9 MINUTES 18 SECONDS	NUMBER OF PAGES TO RESPONSE	72.6% OR 385 CALLS WENT 1 PAGE
		AVERAGE TIME ON CALL	1.23 HOURS		24.3% OR 129 CALLS WENT 2 PAGES
					2.4% OR 13 CALLS WENT 3 PAGES
					0.6% OR 3 CALLS WENT TO BRULE EMS

NUM	NAME	OFFICE	RANK	FIRE CERT	EMS CERT	ADDRESS	EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
00-4	RICHARD BOURQUE	TREASURER	ASST CHIEF (11)	FF1 INSTRUCTOR	EMT B	115 SPYGLASS CIRCLE OGALLALA, NE 69153	lutefound@live.com	308 289 5918
09-8	COREY BOYLE		SR. FIRE LT. (14)			901 WEST 10TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	cjboyle@nppd.com	308 289 4187
07-3	JUSTIN CARTWRIGHT	EXEC COMMITTEE				316 WEST 4TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	justin_cartwright2001@yahoo.com	308 289 6964
12-5	CHRIS CHASE					PO BOX 305 OGALLALA, NE 69153	mchase@gmail.com	303 335 8549
10-2	ANALISA COLGLAZIER				EMT P	927 EAST 8TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	acolglaz@hotmail.com	307 266 5602
94-1	RAY DIAZ			FF1		219 EAST B OGALLALA, NE 69153	r1diaz@nppd.com	308 289 1816
12-4	ROBERT EARLL	EXEC COMMITTEE	EMS LT. (17)		EMT P	1225 EAST 11TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	earll.robert@gmail.com	308 233 2850
07-5	THERESA ELMSHAUSER				EMT B	817 EAST C OGALLALA, NE 69153	jessie@atcjet.net	308 289 3334
93-8	TERRY HOFFMAN			FF1		717 WEST 2ND OGALLALA, NE 69153	tdhoff1984@yahoo.com	308 284 3138
02-5	NATHAN HOLTHUSEN			FF1	EMT P	402 NORTH SPRUCE OGALLALA, NE 69153	ndhndh@hotmail.com	308 289 4152
90-2	TRACY HOOD		SR. ENGINEER	FF1		1307 WEST 5TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	firereaper_902@msn.com	308 289 2652
12-3	KELLI IVERSON				EMT B	407 WEST 2ND OGALLALA, NE 69153	Kelli75Jo@yahoo.com	308 778 6634
10-3	SCOTT KING	EXEC COMMITTEE	JR. FIRE LT. (15)		EMT B	927 EAST 8TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	scott_j_king@yahoo.com	307 286 5590
04-5	KEN KNOEPEL	PRESIDENT		FF1		1505 EAST 8TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	ken.knoepfel@ogallala-ne.gov	308 289 0640
12-1	CHRISTINA MCGINNIS					516 WEST H OGALLALA, NE 69153	christinamcginnis_9@hotmail.com	308 289 6165
10-1	CHRIS MOORHEAD					2004 WEST 5TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	chrismoorhead@hotmail.com	308 289 5546
08-1	RON OLSON		SAFETY OFFICER	FF1	EMT B	911 WEST 2ND OGALLALA, NE 69153	skolsoon47@charter.net	308 284 8289
12-7	CHRIS PETERS		PROBATIONARY			1101 ETHEL AVE OGALLALA, NE 69153	firefighter3680@hotmail.com	308 289 4028
11-2	COLE PETERS			FF1		1122 RD EAST 70 OGALLALA, NE 69153	cole_peters_93@hotmail.com	308 289 3422
90-1	TRAVIS PONCICK			FF1		1325 EAST 8TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	turnkey1@charter.net	308 289 2006
09-10	TOM REESON		SR. FIRE CAPT. (12)			305 WEST Q OGALLALA, NE 69153	tom_reeson@hotmail.com	402 380 1322
05-5	SCOTT RUDOLPH		EMS CAPT. (16)		EMT B	916 ST. MARYS AVENUE OGALLALA, NE 69153	scottr65@gmail.com	308 289 4110
07-6	WES SCHMER			FF1		605 EAST M OGALLALA, NE 69153	olehiderider@yahoo.com	308 289 3017
03-4	STEFANIE SCHRACK			FF1	EMT B	811 WEST 3RD OGALLALA, NE 69153	stefanie.schrack@bannerhealth.com	308 289 5862
04-4	STEVE SIETLER		JR. FIRE CAPT. (13)	FF1		233 RD EAST 85 OGALLALA, NE 69153	seiter1@yahoo.com	308 289 6068
08-4	ASHTON SIMMERMAN	SECRETARY				320 WEST A OGALLALA, NE 69153	simmerman@q.com	308 289 0891
03-2	DELL SIMMERMAN		CHIEF (10)	FF1		320 WEST A OGALLALA, NE 69153	simmerman@q.com	308 289 5924
12-8	AL SIPLEY		PROBATIONARY	FF1 INSTRUCTOR	EMT B	736 CHRISTINE DRIVE OGALLALA, NE 69153	asiple@standardethanol.com	308 520 6293
10-7	MICHELLE WOLFORD				EMT P	407 WEST 2ND OGALLALA, NE 69153	mwolford7@yahoo.com	308 289 4577
11-6	JOHN YORK				STUDENT	714 WEST 5TH OGALLALA, NE 69153	johnyork@msn.com	308 289 6264

2012 OVFD EQUIPMENT

EQUIPMENT MAKE - DUTY / CALL NUMBER	EQUIPMENT AGE / OWNERSHIP
2002 FORD F 350 - COMMAND TRUCK / #10	11 YRS / CITY VEHICLE
2004 FORD F 250 - TROOP - TRAFFIC SAFETY TRUCK / #60	9 YRS / CITY - RURAL VEHICLE
1995 CHEVY SUBURBAN - ALS - TROOP TRUCK / #62	18 YRS / CITY VEHICLE
2006 FORD HORTON - AMBULANCE / 99 A	7 YRS / CITY VEHICLE (BEING REPLACED)
2003 FORD HORTON - AMBULANCE / 99 B	10 YEARS / CITY VEHICLE
1995 FREIGHTLINER BECKER - PUMPER / #33	18 YRS / CITY -RURAL VEHICLE
1986 FORD SMEAL - PUMPER / #30	27 YRS / CITY VEHICLE
1975 FORD SMEAL - PUMER / LADDER TRUCK / #50	38 YRS / CITY VEHICLE
2009 SPARTAN METRO - HEAVY RESCUE / #R1	4 YRS / CITY - RURAL VEHICLE
1934 CHEVY - PUMPER PARADE TRUCK / #34	79 YRS / CITY VEHICLE
2008 KENWORTH FAUTS - WATER TENDER / #42	5 YRS / RURAL VEHICLE
1985 FORD F350 - QUICK ATTACK GRASS RIG / #25	28 YRS / RURAL VEHICLE
2002 FORD F550 - QUICK ATTACK GRASS RIG / #24	11 YRS / RURAL VEHICLE
2012 FORD F550 - QUICK ATTACK GRASS RIG / #23	1 YR / RURAL VEHICLE