

VISALIA FIRE MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2015



June is always a very busy month and this June was no exception. The end of the fiscal year for finances and the due date for firefighter annual evaluations kept us very busy with administrative duties. The official start of summer was met with multiple days of triple digit heat and the first request for our personnel to go out for wild land strike teams' in the Sierras. We have also needed to open the City Cooling Center at the Transit building for days where the temperature is forecast to be 105 degrees or greater. So far there have been two this month.

The construction at Fire Station 53 continues at a good pace and is on schedule. It is fully framed and has plywood exterior covering and all plumbing in place. The drywall phase will begin in July and it is exciting to see what a great building it will be. City staff and Cooper/Chase Construction are working well together and all is coming together nicely.

VFD firefighters have been active with both structure and vegetation fires as the heat and drought impacts intensify. We've averaged over a fire a day within the city or our auto/mutual aid response areas, and have had multiple fires on several occasions. We have also experienced numerous electrical fires and service issues caused by HVAC systems that are overstressed or poorly maintained.

Fireworks will soon go on sale and we are staffing for a busy Fourth of July weekend. VFD and VPD will be teaming up for fireworks enforcement and our prevention personnel will be busy with the firework stands and educating our citizens on "safe and sane fireworks." Hopefully we will have few fires caused by fireworks this year, but we must be prepared.

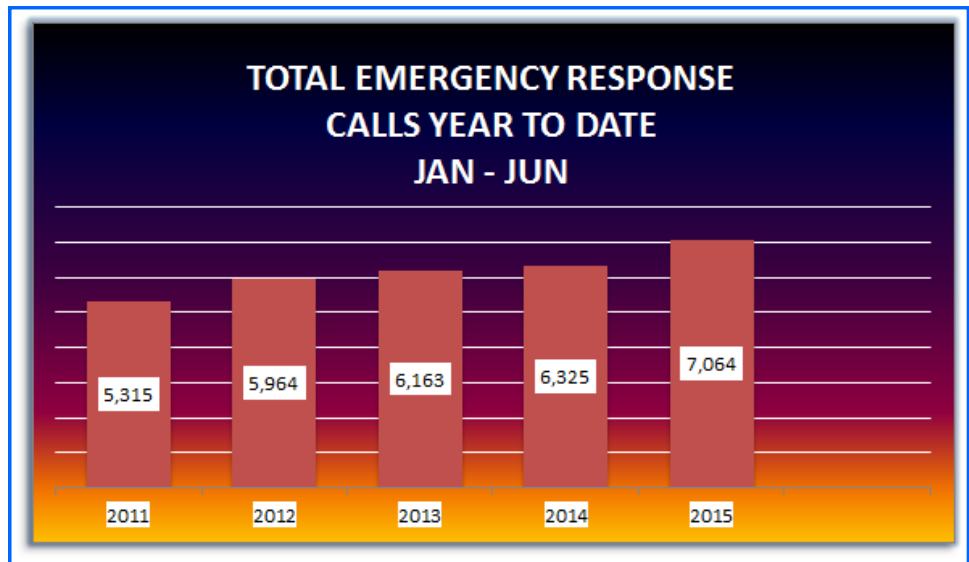
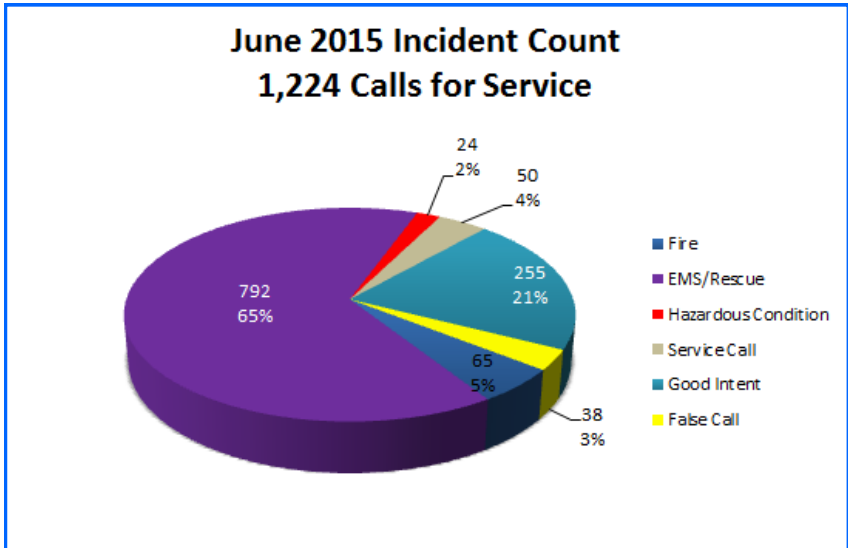
Stay cool and be safe,
Doug McBee, Fire Chief

JUNE STATS

Incident Type Response

Date Range: From 06/01/2015 To 06/30/2015

Incident Type	Incident Count
Station ID	Count
Station: S51	
Fire	17
EMS/Rescue	183
Hazardous Condition	4
Service Call	11
Good Intent	80
False Call	5
Totals:	300
Station: S52	
Fire	18
EMS/Rescue	235
Hazardous Condition	9
Service Call	19
Good Intent	52
False Call	13
Totals:	346
Station: S53	
Fire	5
EMS/Rescue	109
Hazardous Condition	2
Service Call	4
Good Intent	42
False Call	5
Totals:	167
Station: S54	
Fire	12
Rupture/Explosion	1
EMS/Rescue	125
Hazardous Condition	6
Service Call	6
Good Intent	38
False Call	2
Totals:	190
Station: S55	
Fire	6
Rupture/Explosion	1
EMS/Rescue	64
Hazardous Condition	1
Service Call	3
Good Intent	22
False Call	8
Totals:	105
Station: S56	
Fire	7
EMS/Rescue	76
Hazardous Condition	2
Service Call	7
Good Intent	19
False Call	5
Totals:	116
Total Incident Count:	1,224



Visalia Fire Department
June 2015 Monthly Overtime Report

Month	# of Pay Period	Monthly OT Budget	Monthly Actual OT	Adjustments/Reimbursements to OT				Net OT	Budget Variance under(over)
				Strike Team Reimb	Grants / Other	Salary Savings	Total		
July	2	53,423	88,979	(13,517)	(762)		(14,279)	74,700	(21,277)
August	3	80,135	147,423	(90,137)			(90,137)	57,286	22,849
September	2	53,423	35,523				0	35,523	17,900
October	2	53,423	21,329		(458)	(5,400)	(5,858)	15,471	37,952
November	2	53,423	39,117			(5,400)	(5,400)	33,717	19,706
December	2	53,423	51,846		(1,572)	(5,400)	(6,972)	44,874	8,549
January	3	80,135	49,287			(5,400)	(5,400)	43,887	36,248
February	2	53,423	42,364			(10,800)	(10,800)	31,564	21,859
March	2	53,423	38,907			(16,200)	(16,200)	22,707	30,716
April	2	53,423	51,107			(16,200)	(16,200)	34,907	18,516
May	2	53,423	55,129			(5,400)	(5,400)	49,729	3,694
June	2	53,423	53,123			(5,400)	(5,400)	47,723	5,700
YTD Totals	26	\$694,500	\$674,134	(\$103,654)	(\$2,792)	(\$75,600)	(\$182,046)	\$492,088	\$202,412

FIRE PREVENTION

Inspections

The Prevention Division and Engine companies conducted a total of 508 inspections. A total of \$11,900 in Operational Permit fees were billed during the month.

Property Maintenance

The Fire Prevention Division initiates cases and performs inspections on property maintenance cases throughout the entire year with a heavy emphasis during the summer months. Property maintenance cases are started on properties with trash, junk and or debris, weeds and any other items that can constitute a fire hazard. Many properties where cases are started are vacant undeveloped lots, but cases can also be started on vacant or occupied homes and commercial properties. Throughout June, the Prevention Division conducted 51 initial and 130 follow-up inspections on property maintenance cases. Prevention Division staff also filed 10 Declarations of Public Nuisance notices with cost recovery fees totaling \$2,397. Staff also authorized the department's contractor to abate 24 properties.

Fire Investigations

During June, members of the Fire Investigation Team investigated 15 Fires. In addition, engine company personnel performed 16 preliminary origin and cause investigations.

Public Education

Engine Company personnel completed 12 tours, visitations, and presentations. The Department provided this service to approximately 100 people in the community. One community member participated in the department's ride-a-long program. Additionally, four smoke detectors were installed in homes throughout the city.

Site Plan Report

The Fire Department is a member of the Site Plan Review Committee. The committee reviews plans and operational statements, for proposed businesses, operations and future constructions projects throughout our community. Lists of comments are provided to applicants from each member of the committee to assist the applicants with their project. In June, Fire Department staff reviewed 19 plans that were submitted to the committee.

Special Events

A total of six special events took place in June;

Blue Ribbon, Summer Night Lights, Festa Parade, Movies in the Park, Summer Jam, Block Party Sun-Daze.

OPERATIONS

Engines – Equipment – Tools Program (SEET)

The SEET program was busy with continued maintenance and repairs of equipment.

Quartermaster Program

Captain Cromer and crew reviewed personal protective equipment boot options from several vendors and also reviewed the towel/rags/and dust mop contract coming up for bid. Discussions were held with the Finance Department and Captain Cromer will attend the pre-bid meeting.

Hazardous Materials Program

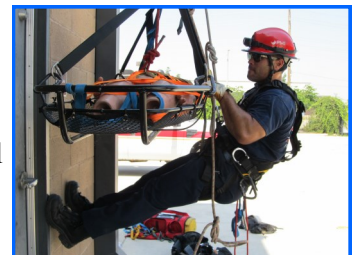
We would like to congratulate Firefighter Paramedic Chris Okland, Firefighter Paramedic Jesse Ruiz and Firefighter Paramedic Brandon De La Cruz for successfully completing the 80 hours of training required to upgrade from Hazmat Technician to Hazmat Specialist.

During June, an upgrade to the chlorine “B” kit was ordered. The “B” kit is used to secure chlorine and sulphur dioxide leaks from one-ton cylinders. A new Heinz 5-step chemical identification kit was purchased and received. This kit enables the Hazmat Team to identify hazards of unknown chemicals, which is crucial in deciding methods of mitigation and proper PPE selection.



Technical Rescue Team

In June the Rescue Team completed High Angle Litter basket training. The Rescue Team also received a new line gun for palm tree rescues. In July Captain Fricke and his crew will train with the line gun and start training evolutions. Training for August is currently being planned and will entail palm tree rescue training for the entire team.



New escape rope and bags for all SCBAs on the front line units were purchased in June. The previous bags were purchased in 2005, and are expired according to rope standards.

Hose, Nozzles and Fittings

This month we completed the wildland fire hose transition, which allows our equipment to connect to all other agencies. This will greatly increase our ability to interact with mutual aid companies coming into the City to assist.

Computer Aided Dispatch Replacement Project

This month the CAD Replacement Committee continued to work on the specifics of a contract with the vendor and also worked to finalize several of the “interfaces” that will be required. We have also met several times with Tulare County on plans for a CAD interface between the agencies.

OPERATIONS

Wildland – Strike Team

During the month of June, we completed the last of the annual wildland refresher training and completed all equipment checks. Chief Adney and Wristen participated in a Wildland Strike Team deployment to the Sky Incident in Oakhurst and spent one night on the fireline.



Emergency Preparedness

This month, we opened the Cooling Center for several days to assist the community with the hot temperatures. The Cooling Center is located at the Transit Center, and is designed to give the community a place to go to escape the extreme valley temperatures. In addition, Chief Wristen attended the EOC Basic Earthquake class at the California Specialized Training Institute and Captain Kassner attended a SEMS/NIMS EOC train-the-trainer class.

Training Facility

Fire staff used the training facility for various classroom and hands-on training topics during June, including annual apparatus pump testing at the drafting pit, rescue training, tailboard training, and City Safety. Additionally, KDMC staff conducted EMS training; Tulare county Probation conducted their monthly training. Visalia Police Department utilized the training facility classroom for departmental meetings. A Fire Safety and Workshop program was conducted at the training facility and sponsored by the Visalia Fire Department.



Training Program

Staff completed 1,280 total hours of training for the month of June. Additionally, 11 individuals completed apprenticeship training through California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CFFJAC) and are now considered Journey Level Firefighters in their respective ranks.

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|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Nick Branch | Jacob Huffman | James Turnage |
| Brandon De La Cruz | Alvino Lopez | |
| Chris Fischer | Chris Okland | |
| Franklin Franzen | Brett Philpott | |
| Michael Herlihy | Troy Stotesbery | |



Communications Program

Repeaters

During June, the Radio Communication Committee met with Motorola for the repeater system upgrade as part of the VECC project and received early quotes for the implementation of all equipment. We have had multiple follow up meetings and conference calls and have begun working on final contract language for review by the City Attorney and Purchasing. We will be taking this contract to City Council the first meeting in July for approval. This will include a new 180' tower at the VECC as well as two 4.9 Ghz micro-wave links to the Holiday Inn and Golden West sites to provide a communications link for the receivers to the new Dispatch Consoles.

CAD Report Management System Committee

The committee has moved forward and entered into contract negotiations with Spillman for our CAD and PD RMS software. Once the contract is finalized, the agreement will be taken to Council for approval. Over the next 18 months, crews will be training and testing to get ready for a go live date sometime during the 3rd or 4th qtr. of 2016.

SAFETY OFFICER

In June, regular safety program activities involved the continuation and maintenance of ongoing programs and closing out items for the fiscal year-end.

The Safety Committee held its regular monthly meeting on June 10th. The committee discussed standing agenda topics of employee injuries, illnesses, near misses, communicable disease, and other ongoing issues. The committee discussed the upcoming implementation schedule to the new online SDS provider. Our previous vendor elected not to provide service to us after having been notified that we would be contracting elsewhere; so staff must re-create our database, format it appropriately, and populate the sections with our SDS to avoid an increase in costs. This task is being accomplished by the department's CSET staff member Bella Rodriguez, at no cost to the City.

In addition to the drought, California is experiencing an epidemic of Pertussis (Whooping Cough). I have been updating the Safety Committee and the other City infection control staff members Captains' Dustin Hall and Karl Kassner with the progression of this epidemic. Between April 20, and June 1, 1,878 new cases of Pertussis were reported in California bringing the total reported by June 1 to 2,552 cases. The infection control staff continues to provide services to employees who are exposed to potentially infectious materials through the course of their work, and encourages all first responders to take advantage of City offered vaccinations against disease.

I continued the Industrial Hygiene refresher training program I started in May. June's course work included sections in indoor air quality, controlling airborne contaminants, ionizing and non-ionizing radiation, temperature extremes, and ergonomics. This training program will conclude in mid-July

The training topic for June was reporting property damage and vehicle accidents.

As of June 30, the Fire Department was without a lost-time injury for 220 days.