



Department Update 2019

Upper Captiva Fire & Rescue

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UPPER CAPTIVA FIRE & RESCUE

Preface

This year has been one of growth and change. This district has made great strides in safety, compliance, and capability. With a Board of Commissioners and public support, the department has grown existentially.

Station

The station underwent several changes and upgrades this past year. The records of the district are now locked and secured within the Chief's office. Additionally, the office was expanded to accommodate for the need to keep records secure. The exterior was painted in its entirety. The floor surface of the entire second floor was funded and installed, allowing for ease of cleaning and much needed update. Commissioner Jenkins was instrumental in orchestrating contractors and work schedules with the same.

6 portable radios were donated by Pine Island Fire Department. As digital 800 mgz models, this allowed communication with the Lee county system upgrade. This improvement allows for each person on shift, as well as chief officers to have designated portable communication with each other and county entities.

Additionally, the emergency lighting was brought up to code, along with the exit signage and fire alarm system. The walls of the majority of the second floor were painted, and storage bins removed to allow better access to the meeting space.

Fleet

This was an enormously productive year in the regards to fleet and operational growth. The addition of a second Class A pumper, as well as a 1600+ gallon brush/tender was added to replace the old GMC tender, and the addition of the islands first ambulance.

The pumper was donated from the South Trail Fire District. The unit is a General Custom Pumper with 750 gallons of water and a 1250 gpm pump. Many thanks go out to those who orchestrated the transfer of this valuable piece of equipment to our district.

The Brush/Tender was the completed project started by Chief Kinniry and DC Mack McMullen. This was eligible for 50/50 funding, and after a cost of \$ 51,315.13 will actually cost the district \$25,657.59. The configuration of the truck will allow for the firefighting unit to be switched to any future 5 ton government vehicle. This vehicle will access any point on the island, and bring a capable firefighting package along with it.



Brush/Tender 191

This vehicle, along with the existing military truck, provides the department with a high water response in case such is needed to conduct evacuation or recovery operations. Both units will provide a solid and reliable response to the state park property and our community members on the south banks. The plan is to refit the existing unit on the island in a similar fashion with a drafting capability to ensure that each piece of equipment is performing multiple functions.

Each of the bed units is intended to be re mounted with a similar class military truck. This will provide a much longer service life of the equipment, and extend the life of the investment made by the community.



Rescue 191

The Ambulance marks a huge improvement in the district's ability to treat, protect, and provide secure medical care for our patients prior to transport to an appropriate ER .This

unit is a 2003 Wheeled Coach. The community investment, in partnership with the Friends of the Fire Department made this leap in care a reality.

The unit also provides shelter and rehabilitation services for families and firefighters in case of a house fire.



Fleet 2017

Also this year, the district responded to the public request that the department obtain an electric powered cart or unit to conduct admin and daily duties. The addition of this piece of equipment has proven very valuable in executing daily duties as well as shown cost savings in fuel.

The district retains a single gas powered ATV to work to haul drafting pumps and other heavier hauling tasks that the cart is not suited to. Currently, the ATV is the only gasoline powered vehicle in the fleet, with the rest being diesel powered.

Speaking of fuel, the fueling program of the district has been modified in that fleet fuel is now obtained from mainland sources, and no longer from marina outlets. This has shown a marked decrease in annual fuel costs for the fleet and district.

Marine operations have been modified with the assistance of SHC. The department boat, Marine 191 is now back at the dock within SHC Village. This has improved response times in which the unit is underway in approximately 10-12 minutes faster than the previous docking space.

The marine firefighting capability has been improved with pre-positioning of fire equipment both on the boat, and in the storage box at the dock.

These measures, along with approximately 48 hours of training, have honed the skills of the department in marine operations both from boat to boat, but also from boat to land. This was demonstrated last week at a multi-agency training exercise in which we were tasked with obtaining a water supply and performing land based firefighting duties.



Marine 191



Fleet 2019

Personnel

The district has seen great growth in this aspect over the past year. The addition of Assistant Chief Denison has allowed the district to move to staffing a Chief 24/7. The schedule was modified to 48 on and 48 off to allow for sustainable and responsible staffing along with the additional 3 staff on shift. This also ensures 2 Paramedics on each shift.

The command staff structure has been modified to fit the needs of the department. The elimination of the rank of Captain through attrition, and addition of the 2 Division Chiefs allows for more command and control over specific departments within the department. Essentially, the removal or reassignment to Division Chief streamlines the command structure and allows empowerment of the chiefs to execute their divisional tasks.

The staffing remains constant with 40 part time staff, and the board of 5 Commissioners overseeing budgeting and funding. Contract services in finance are provided by Mrs. Renee Lynch-Wishin, and legal counsel by Mr. Richard Pringle.

Along the administration lines, the district has adopted a 457 Retirement program through ICMA-RC. This again is a growth and service not previously provided by the district for its full time employees. In addition to the 457 plan, the district is working with the staff on a short term disability benefit in the future.

Urgent needs in regards to personal protective equipment were discovered and addressed. SCBA units were purchased and additional breathing air cylinders added to inventory. All existing units were brought up to OSHA and NFPA standard. Also included in this project was development of a written respiratory protection program that was also an OSHA requirement.

One half of the wild land fire protective gear was out of date and needed to be replaced. This was accomplished, along with the SCBA program due to a 50/50 grant from our insurance provider.

Public Relations

Several new initiatives were undertaken this year to communicate better with our community as well as visitors. Also, institution of a Facebook page, as well as a

department web page have both proven useful in keeping our community informed of events and progress here at the district.

Inspections and site planning for our commercial community members were performed this year, ensuring the safety of our visitors and community. I am pleased to report that our relationships with the commercial partners on the island are strong and flourishing. We will continue to participate in island events and initiatives as the community works together on various projects.

Access Way Service

I have been told many times this past year by our citizens that the road conditions have never been better. Great credit to Commissioner LaVallie and his partners at SHC, MAJ, NCIC, and others to improve and assure our means of access in the community are both better in quality, and resilience for our community. Many take for granted the access ways that we use around the community. Our citizens and commercial partners however, realize the vast improvement to our community with this infrastructure improvement.

Future Planning and Goals

Overall, the progression this past year would be hard to beat. However, there are a few things that bear our attention. All are feasible with the millage rate as posted. My sincere hope is to have these larger projects completed this year and allow the district to settle into a state of equipped, professional service that has long been the goal of the community.

First, the addition of a 2 bay pole barn structure to house the military trucks and provide a work and storage space to allow for future growth. Along with complying with the ISO requirement to protect fire apparatus for ISO credit, this will be more aesthetically pleasing in our community, and provide a long term storage solution on the existing property. The existing tent structure can then either be re purposed or eliminated.

Next is a pair of equipment allocations for use in hazardous situations. A 4 gas monitor will allow the firefighters to reliably investigate gas leak, CO, and hazardous environment conditions. The second is a thermal imaging camera. This will allow

firefighters to sense heat in walls, hasten rescue of a victim trapped in a structure fire, or even help locate a victim in the waters surrounding our island.

Worthy of note, both pieces of equipment qualify for a 50% grant from our insurance company.

Refitting the existing military unit on the island is planned for this year. The goal of the project is to provide drafting capability, as well as brush fire capabilities. Due to the existing equipment available, this refit will be done at minimal cost, with mounting of some of the equipment to be done on the island by department staff. This project is also eligible for a 50/50 match with the Florida Department of Forestry.

Pending technology improvements include:

- Improved internet service
- Electronic EMS reporting
- Electronic payroll system
- Cardiac monitor upgrade to current series

An update of policy and procedures was identified by the officer staff and is currently underway. This will provide an update methodology on how operations and safety standards are carried out here at the district.

Finally, grant submission has been made with the federal government to supply all of our staff with complete structural turnout gear. Per NFPA standards, this is a necessity. The cost for this district makes such a goal very unlikely without government support. This government program would require the district a 10% match on the overall cost of the project. With a 10 year service life of the gear, this investment is well worth the benefit of having all staff equipped properly.

Conclusion

The year of 2019 was busy with staffing and equipment upgrades. The end result is a more capable, flexible and prepared department with which to provide fire, ems, and marine response service to our community and those areas that surround us. I'm confident that we are well prepared for events that befall our community.

Boundaries and Legal Descriptions

North Captiva Island: All that part of North Captiva Island lying in Sections 4, 5, 8, 9, 15, and 16, Township 45 South, range 21 east, and Section 32, Township 44 South, Range 21 East, bounded on the North by Captiva Pass, West by Gulf of Mexico, South by Redfish Pass, West by Gulf of Mexico, South by Redfish pass, and East by Pine Island Sound.

The legal descriptions of the two properties owned by the district are:

4511 Hodgepodge Lane
STRAP #05-45-21-10-00000.0010
FR CONC MAR ON SL GL 1
226 FT M/L E OF HIGH TIDE
AS DESC IN OR 1088 PG445

4521 Hodgepodge Lane
STRAP #05-45-21-10-00000.0020
FR CON MAR ON SL GL 1
226 FT M/L E OF HIGH TIDE
AS DESC IN OR 1226 PG 903

Major Equipment

Engine 191

1995 Pierce Dash Pumper
750 gallon water tank
1250 GPM Waterous pump
Engine –Detroit Diesel
Transmission- Allison
Weight- 38,000 lbs
Length: 29 feet x Width 9.5 feet x Height 9’ 10”

Engine 192

2001 General Fire Apparatus Pumper
750 Gallon Water Tank
1250 GPM Waterous pump
Engine- Cummins
Transmission- Allison
Weight- 36,000 lbs
Length 27 feet x Width 9.5 feet x Height 9’ 11”

Rescue 191

2003 Ford Econoline/Wheeled Coach Ambulance
Engine- 7.3 liter Diesel
Transmission- automatic
Weight- 18,000 lbs
Length- 21 feet x Width 8.4 feet x Height 9’11”

Utility 191

2006 Ford E 350 4x4
Engine 6.0 L Power Stroke Diesel
Transmission- Automatic
Weight: 14,500 lbs
Length- 20.2 feet x Width 8.4 feet x Height 8.9 feet

Brush 191

1996 Stewart & Stevenson LMTV 2.5 ton 4x4
1000 gallon water tank
250 GPM Hale pump
Engine- 7.2 L CAT
Transmission- Allison
Length- 22.2 feet x Width 10 feet x Height 9.5 feet

Tender 191

1996 Stewart & Stevenson LMTV 5 ton 4x4
1650 gallon water tank
350 gpm Hale pump
Engine 7.2L CAT
Transmission- Allison
Length- 28 feet x Width 10 feet x Height 9.5 feet

Marine 191-Fire & Rescue Response Unit

2003 Contender
28 foot in length
Engines- Twin 225 hp Mercury Optimax
Weight- 4,800 lbs
Length- 28 feet x 8.85 feet x draft- 1.5 feet
Hale 350 GPM water pump

Marine 192- Crew transport unit

1999 Aquasport Explorer

Length- 24 feet x Beam 8.5 feet x draft 1.4 feet

Engine- 2017 Suzuki 225

Utility ATV

2017 Polaris

Engine-4 stroke 760cc

Transmission- Automatic

Weight 1550 lbs

Length- 114 inches x width 60 inches x height 76 inches

Pump 191

Portable 750 GPM Waterous pump

Engine- 2012 Kubota 99 hp Diesel

Unit on aluminum trailer for drafting operations

Pump 192

Portable 750 GPM Waterous pump

Engine- 2015 Kubota 99 hp Diesel

Unit on aluminum trailer for drafting operations