

Annual Review and Statistics 2024



Introduction

Annually, East Ferris Fire and Emergency Services holds a general meeting with its members, near the end of the year. Several topics are discussed and feedback from members is welcome. The topics below are those that were covered in the 2024 annual general meeting.

Requests for Department at Events

Below is a list of events that the Fire Department is requested to take part in. The events highlighted in yellow are traditional annual events. The events in red are those that are highly recommended for members to participate in, and those highlighted in black are negotiable, and not required. All events are released to the Department for each member to determine their own availability.

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| 1. Pancake breakfast | 11. JK/SK Hall visit – St. Thomas (daytime) |
| 2. Open House | 12. Sirens in the Park |
| 3. Christmas Hampers | 13. Krown Rust Control |
| 4. Recruit training x 4 | 14. 4 Seasons summer event |
| 5. Auto Ex | 15. First Aid – Ed – Voyageur200 |
| 6. MLFTU | 16. St. Thomas Parade |
| 7. Mock disaster – Manor | 17. Halloween haunted house |
| 8. Ride for Jack | 18. Remembrance Day |
| 9. First Response - Mattawa Voyageur Days | 19. Cenotaph Tree lighting |
| 10. Spring Fling – Ferris Glen | 20. St. Thomas Christmas Evening |

Officers Meetings

Officers' meetings occur every month and members are welcome to bring forward any items to any of the officers so they can be discussed. Notice goes out to all members advising when the meeting will take place.

2024 Accomplishments

- Major strides made in Firefighter certifications
 - All members still in the process of obtaining their Firefighter Level 2 designation only have their Hazardous Materials Operations level training to achieve. Training is scheduled for mid Spring.
- Station 2 renovations
 - Station 2 in Astorville has been renovated with a clean, new bathroom including a shower and an enclosed bunker room that has a continual flow of fresh air to assist with keeping the protective clothing that the firefighters wear dry and remove possible lingering carcinogens and other contaminants from the air.
- 1 of 3 Dry Hydrants installed
 - A dry hydrant (that which is not pressurized and remains “dry” until water is drawn from it) has been installed at the South Shore boat launch. In the event of a fire in that part of the Municipality, the Fire Department can safely obtain water without having members deployed onto the ice with portable pumps in winter, or on the docks in summer.
- Nipissing Manor agreement and training with Callander Fire & Emergency Services
 - An automatic Aid agreement was reached with Callander Fire and Emergency Services. This means that whenever a call for an alarm activation at Nipissing Manor is dispatched to EFFES, it is also dispatched to CFES. As such, a training session in the form of a Mock Disaster was held at Nipissing Manor in the fall that encompassed both departments. In general, the training went very well. Both departments identified a few problems that both Fire Chiefs and several other officers are working to resolve.
- Start into water rescue
 - After obtaining the necessary protective equipment, members began familiarization with it and have also done some training. Members are very excited about beginning this process.
- Open House / Recruitment
 - EFFES has held an Open House/Recruitment event for the last two years. This year's event was a great success, with the Department receiving 14 applications. From that pool, 9 recruits were added to our roster.
- OAFCC Conference
 - A look at expanding learning opportunities took us to Vaughn last year for the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs Conference. This is not a conference that we plan to attend every year but a look at upcoming topics will dictate whether we go there or Huntsville for the Northeastern Fire Education Conference (NEFEC).

- Lithium-ion training
 - Lithium-ion batteries can be hazardous to anyone when handled improperly, when they are made using substandard materials, charged with substandard equipment or are damaged in an incident. Firefighters are at elevated risk for injury or death when damaged Lithium-Ion batteries are present at any incident. Therefore, Chief Amyotte and Training Officer Will Ball attended a conference specific to the subject and returned with information to impart on Members.
- Completed Inventory
 - FD staff have completed an inventory of all firefighting equipment and clothing. All pertinent equipment has been affixed with an inventory number so that everything regarding it can be tracked in our data management system, Fire Pro. This was a monumental task but now allows us to track and manage maintenance, repairs, cleaning, and expiring equipment in a more manageable way.
- Paging and radio system upgrades
 - EFFES has purchased 30 new pagers. Due to upgrades to paging systems in our region, analog pagers will no longer be useful. Therefore, we now have a pager that operates digitally, thereby complying with current systems. The new system will improve radio reception in areas of the Municipality that have historically poor reception, thus improving firefighter safety.
- Grant funding approved \$16,460.00 for Cancer Prevention
 - The Ontario Government provided funding from the Fire Protection Grant to improve cancer prevention initiatives across Ontario. East Ferris was allotted the above sum which has been earmarked for new gloves, hoods and helmet liners for all members. The wrists, neck and head are particularly vulnerable areas in firefighting as they can be difficult to keep covered and some firefighting personal protective equipment has only recently been required to block particulate, such as the hoods. Therefore, our members will now each have 2 particulate blocking hoods, 2 helmet liners to interchange when one is contaminated, and 2 pairs of structural firefighting gloves.
- Chief's Peer Evaluation
 - The Chief met with all members to discuss how they felt the department was being run. This was an opportunity for the firefighters to make suggestions on how to improve operations and voice any concerns. Once the evaluation was completed, a report was devised to address suggestions made.

Next Years Goals

- HazMat Ops – Occurring mid spring

- Strat Plan (input from all members)
- NEFEC / Training
- Fire Master Plan
- Install 2 dry hydrants – EFFES will have two more dry hydrants installed in 2025, at the MacPherson Boat Launch and at Big Moose Boat Launch.
- Automatic Aid with Callander for tanker support and manpower
- Fire department structure changes
- Firefighter Evaluations

Summary of Totals for 2024

Training Totals

- 25 Regular Training Sessions
- 1119 total staff hours

Maintenance Totals

- 22 Maintenance Sessions
- 851 total staff hours

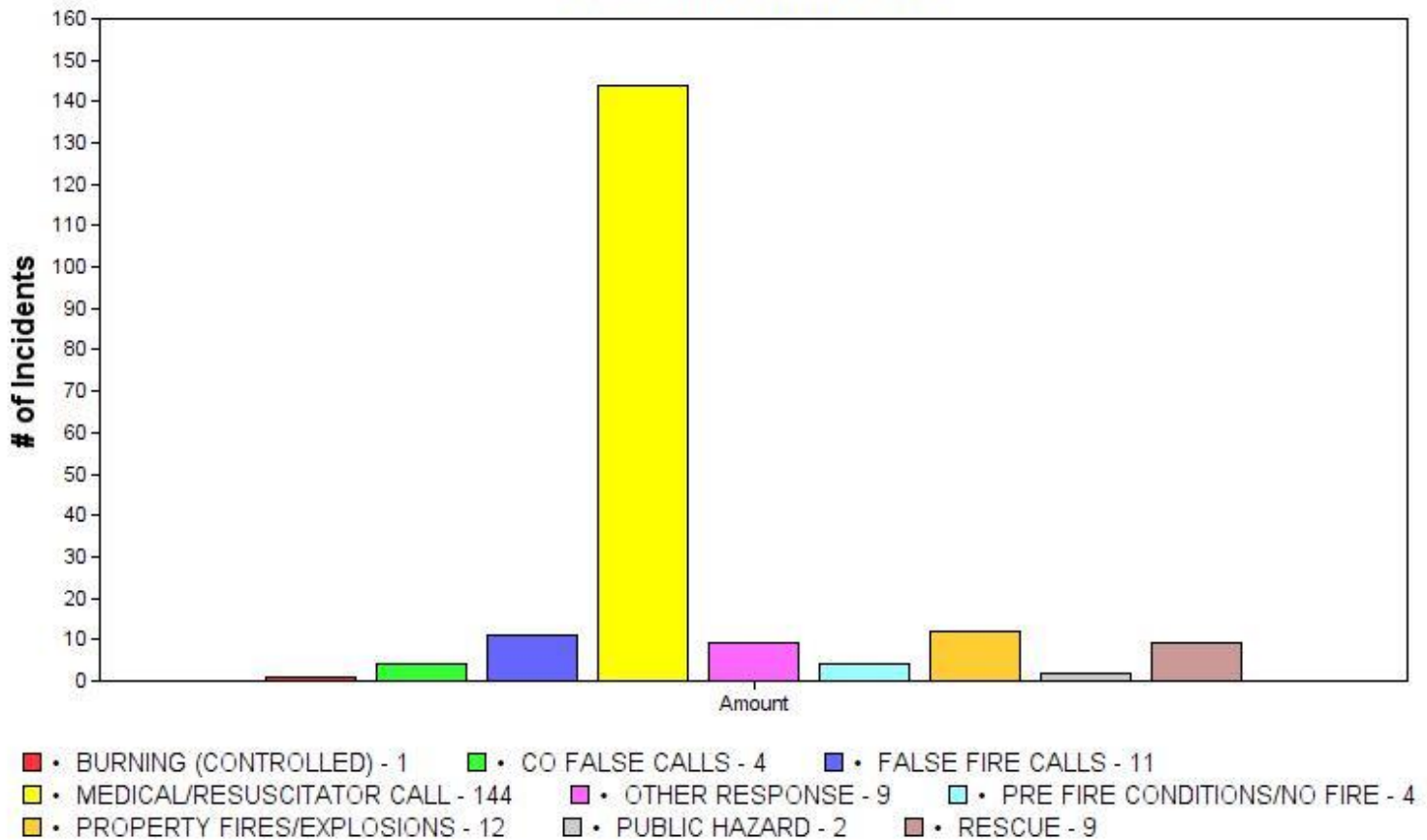
Other Totals (Outside Training, Public Education, Public Relations)

- 22 Other Sessions
- 699 total staff hours

- Total Sessions = 69
- Total Staff Hours = 2669 (Training, Maintenance, and Other)
- Total Emergency Response Staff Hours = 800

EFFES responded to 196 calls for service in 2024

Totals by Type (grouped)
From Jan 1 24 to Dec 31 24



Totals by Year

