

POWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF FIRE CHIEF CHRISTOPHER SUTTER
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October Fire Department Report

- **Calls for Service:** We have had 1 call for service since the last board meeting. A 100+ Acre Forest fire down off the Yellow Dog Plains and a Fire Prevention / Public Education Event for Fire Prevention Week October 10th.
- **Membership:** is at 22, of that 12 are FF's, 2 are Trainees, and 8 are Auxiliary.
- **Firefighter Training:** August's Training we went to Bay Cliff Health Camp for a site visit and to work on our Fire Preplanning for Bay Cliff. This month Marquette Township Fire Department will be coming up for our Annual SCBA Mask Fit Testing October 26th at 7pm.
- **Auxiliary Class:** There was no October class as the Auxiliary helped out that tuesday for Fire Prevention Week with the school students at the firehall.
- **Fire Stations:** Dressler's repaired the boiler that had caught fire last month and replaced the hot water recirc pump. After those 2 items were addressed they were able to determine that the t-stat for the water maker was also shorted out and there was a damaged thermometer on the west boiler that had taken a direct hit from the water main. These items will be submitted to the insurance company to go along with everything else that was damaged from the water.
- **Apparatus:** Still no luck finding a used trailer under \$1500. 2103's fuel leak was repaired by City of Marq but we are having a hard time getting it started with both batteries shot on the truck. Now that our ISO review and Fire Prevention Week is done, we are hoping by next week to have it moved out of the station 2 bays, so Brush 2105 can rotate down there.
- **Equipment:** After this months forest fire with the DNR and Federal Firefighters it was discovered that we need to replace all of our Kenwood Radio Batteries, all of the ones we have are over 10yrs old and no longer hold a charge. We are mandated to keep these VHF radios for Interoperability with other state and federal agencies that may not run on our primary portable radios. Also our Station Fire pager's Amplified charger base no longer charges properly and needs to be replaced. These amplified station pagers are necessary as a lot of members have poor reception at home, and the one at the fire station receives a boosted signal, so even if they can't hear the call clearly at home when they get to the hall they will be able to replay a boosted version so they know where they need to go.
- **Grants:** Reference the MI State Grant, the new SCBA bottles have been ordered and the paperwork has been submitted to the state for reimbursement. We should hear back on the MI DNR Grant for help with replacing some of our bad fire hose by the end of December. We received a Non-Grant from the state for 72 Smoke Alarms and 24 CO/Smoke Alarms (around \$3,000 worth of detectors) which will be part of our upcoming Fire Prevention Program with the Auxiliary. The option of having a Home Knox Box will also be a part of that new program, in saying that we would like to have 1 on hand to be able to show interested residents how they work, when we roll out our new Fire Prevention Program.
- **Events:** Fire Prevention Week October 10th we had the school students at the firehall once again for a presentation and open house event. We had a great department turnout, we had 3 Officers and 5 Auxiliary members help out. It was a great time and the kids had a lot of fun. Thank you to all that helped clean up the hall and make the event run so smoothly.