

POWELL TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

FROM THE DESK OF FIRE CHIEF CHRISTOPHER SUTTER

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April 2024 Fire Department Report

- **Calls for Service:** We have had 0 calls for service since the last board meeting
- **Billing:** 1 Billing Invoice was recently dropped off
- **Membership:** is at 19, of that 11 are FF's, and 8 are Auxiliary
- **FireFighter Training:** March's Training was Wildland Pumping Operations and Foam use with Brush 2104 and Brush ATV 2112, also familiarization with the new trailer for 2112
- **Auxiliary:** Nothing new to report.
- **Fire Stations:** We had an issue on March 23rd with Station 2's 1000gallon propane tank that Captain Boudreaux luckily caught as he was driving by to go home that day. There was a strong odor of propane in the area and Boudreaux tracked it down to the fill valve on the firehall propane tank using 2102's explosive gas detector. The tank was just topped off February 27th and was found at 30%. It appeared the fill valve had failed, so we had to call Ferrell Gas out late Saturday night as this was not something we could turn off or stop. Ferrell has fixed it for now and advised it was due to be replaced last year. Ferrell will be replacing that tank this year as a priority replacement now.
- **Apparatus:** We are still having an issue with 2102's roof mounted spotlight after replacing the batteries in the remote. We are not sure if this is something the city of marquette can repair and if it may need to be replaced this year. I am waiting to speak to the city about the issue right now. We would like to thank the Board and specifically the Township Clerk/Fire Dept Liaison Mitch Walker for helping us locate a suitable trailer for the brush side by side. Mitch went out of his way to not only help us find it, but he also helped pick it up down state and hauled it back to Big Bay. We had been looking unsuccessfully locally for one for almost a year. Thank you Mitch for all of your assistance with the new trailer!
- **Equipment:** 2101's Gas Powered Portable Ventilation Fan that went in for service due to it not starting, has been condemned by Bergdahl's. They could not revive it, advised it is from the 1960's and parts are no longer available for the 60yr old fan. Replacement cost is around \$3500.
- **Grants:**
 - 2023 MI Fire Grant: Wrapped up the reimbursement paperwork for our new SCBA Bottles, we should be seeing a check for \$10,000 from the state within the next couple of weeks.
 - 2023 HMC Grant: We have 2 quotes back for the fabrication of a new hose bed and long tool storage for Brush 2104 as well as a quote to install a wildland hose reel in the rear compartment. That will be on the agenda tonight for quote approval.
 - The Marquette County Police & Firemans Fund just opened up and if we apply would be due in by May 1st which is just a couple of weeks away. We would like to apply for assistance in purchasing a replacement Gas Powered Ventilation Fan for \$3,500 since our only gas fan has just been condemned.