



NEWSLETTER

January 2020



Welcome to 2020!

Welcome to the 2020 newsletter - a review of 2019 and what the Hygiene Fire Protection District hopes to do in 2020. This is **your** fire and medical service District enabled by **your** tax dollars and delivered by passionate volunteers. The contents of this newsletter, assembled by the Board of Directors, Volunteers, and HVFD Firefighters, is designed to keep residents informed about our success and challenges. If you have any questions, contact the Board, volunteer as a Firefighter or find out how even small assistance can help better your community.

Our goal is to have the **fastest response times** with the **highest number of well-trained** personnel, using the **best and most appropriate equipment**.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Pancake Supper : **Feb 15, 2020**

Self-Nomination forms due for Board of Directors elections: **February 28, 2020**

Board of Directors Election : **May 5, 2020**

HIGHLIGHTS

· Hygiene's efforts to improve our capabilities has made the department popular with firefighters and emergency medical responders wanting to gain the experience and training needed to apply for full-time service jobs. In the past, it has been difficult to find enough volunteers. Now, highly qualified applicants outnumber available positions. Our strategy is seeing benefits as Firefighters stay on with HVFD, even if they accept jobs with larger departments, and bring back full time service skills and knowledge to Hygiene.

· Response times have decreased by 5 minutes since the voter-approved mill levy increase in 2016. Before 2018, the station was not staffed 24/7 and volunteers had to report to the station first before loading into fire trucks and departing to an emergency. Due to the start of a Shift program in 2018, there is now nearly 24/7 coverage of at least 2 and typically more volunteer Firefighters at the Station preparing for the next call. Additional volunteers respond as needed.



HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED...



- Hygiene FPD tax rate is 9.09 mills, which is ½ the rate of neighboring communities and far less than incorporated city rates.

- Mutual aid agreement with neighboring departments provide a flex force if a large need arises in our district. Training with our neighbors gives our members additional mentoring and networking opportunities as well as making the interface seamless during a true emergency.

- A robust training program provides nearly 8 training opportunities per month for members to stay nationally certified, which ensures the best possible medical care and fire service.

- All of the above has kept our property insurance rates low because of the District's exceptional training, better equipment, and lowering response times.

CHALLENGES

Few volunteer Firefighters live in the District. We encourage more Hygiene residents to consider applying.

Ambulance service is provided by Boulder County, so while Hygiene Firefighters will likely be first on the scene, if an ambulance is needed, it typically comes from Boulder. This adds to the time from call to arrival at a hospital for medical patients. The HFPD Board has been looking at options to streamline the arrival of an ambulance. We continue to focus on ensuring a well-trained set of first responders.

BY THE NUMBERS

40

Volunteer firefighters

10

Vehicles to respond
(fire, medical or rescue)

218

Calls in 2019



Ways the department can help you or your neighbors

- 1 Quarterly CPR classes at no cost to residents in the District are planned to start in 2020. Check back on the website.
- 2 Meals on Wheels can contact the department if they are having difficulty contacting a Meals on Wheels recipient. The department can work with MOW to help contact the recipient at their residence.
- 3 A fire assessment at your house or business. This includes ways to make your house or business more fire safe, with safety plans, escape route plans, and help with smoke detectors.
- 4 Community organizations can request Firefighters to talk to your group.

If you have any questions, contact the Board, volunteer as a Firefighter or find out how even small assistance can help better your community. Please sign up for the newsletter and the HVFD email where we will keep people updated with current department events, and as always check out the website for recent news and upcoming events.

We wish you a happy and healthy 2020.



www.hygienefire.org