

**CROOKED RIVER RANCH FIRE & RESCUE** 

# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 2023

"SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF CROOKED RIVER RANCH BY PROVIDING SUPERIOR SERVICE THROUGH PREVENTION, EDUCATION, EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT"





## A MESSAGE FROM YOUR FIRE CHIEF, SEAN HARTLEY

2023 proved to be another busy year for the fire district, and we hope you find this annual report to be an educational resource for you, the residents and businesses of Crooked River Ranch. Thank you to the staff and volunteers for their continued dedication to our community and for helping us provide Crooked River Ranch with a high level of service.

We responded to a record 654 calls for service in 2023. To look at this differently, your firefighters responded to 1.8 calls every day during the year. Most of these calls, 78%, were requests for emergency medical services. The total number of fire calls made up 3% of our total call volume. Even though these calls make up the lowest percentage of total call volume they are often the most personnel intensive. They can also be some of the most devastating and costly to our residents without a rapid response from our personnel. The remaining 19% of our calls involve service calls, false alarms, and good intent calls.

To respond to the high volume of calls we continue to train our staff and volunteers. Your firefighters, EMTs, and Paramedics meet weekly for training on all manner of topics. In 2023 they completed a combined total of over 5,000 training hours. We would not be able to provide the services our community has come to expect without the dedication of everyone in the fire district.

We continue to promote all aspects of fire prevention and safety. In 2023 we continued to help residents receive Title III grants funds through Jefferson County for making their homes safer from wildfire. The fire district volunteers and staff performed the property assessments required for the grants to be awarded. The volunteers who oversee the smoke alarm program have been busy going to residents' homes to assess and replace alarms that are expired or faulty. Working smoke alarms save lives and we want to make sure you have them in your home.

We also received grant funds for several projects in 2023. The vehicle exhaust capture system we received an Assistance to Firefighters Grant for was installed in the fire station. This system captures the carcinogenic exhaust fumes from our apparatus and vents them outside of the fire station. This helps prevent our firefighters from being exposed to carcinogens and will help keep them healthy throughout their years of service. We were awarded the Volunteer Fire Assistance grant to help offset the cost of replacing two-way radio equipment necessary for communication with our mutual aid partners. These new radios ensure we can communicate on structure and wildland fire events throughout Central Oregon.

The Oregon State Fire Marshal chose the District, along with others throughout Oregon, to receive grant program funding to hire two full-time Firefighter/Paramedics to increase staff available for emergency response. They also awarded us the Wildland Fire Season staffing grant to hire seasonal firefighters. Finally, they awarded us a brand-new Wildland Fire Engine which will be delivered in early 2024. All these awards were made possible by funds from Senate Bill 762. We are ever grateful for the Oregon State Fire Marshal for investing in us so we can continue to provide high quality service to our community.

I am very proud to lead this dedicated organization as we move forward. I encourage everyone to visit our website, crrfire.org, to learn more about the fire district. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and connect with us on Nextdoor. We look forward to serving you in 2024 and beyond.



Sean Hartley Fire Chief

#### MEET OUR STAFF...



Sean Hartley Fire Chief



Dana Schulke Administrative Assistant



David McDonald A Shift Captain/Paramedic



**Adam Wiley** B Shift Captain/Paramedic



Alysha Delorto C Shift Captain/Paramedic



**Laura Waldron** Firefighter/Paramedic



**Elizabeth Ramirez** Firefighter/Paramedic

#### DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

Allyn Bright / EMT Grant Caudel, Paramedic, PIO Mark Cooley, EMT/Wildland Firefighter Frank Day, Lieutenant/EMT Travis Delorto, Firefighter/Paramedic Bobby Edwards, Lieutenant/EMT Parker English, Firefighter/EMT Tom Fast, Firefighter/Paramedic Damion Hatch, Firefighter/Paramedic Emily Lara, Firefighter Dan Marsh, Firefighter Marta McGovern-Philpott, Wildland Firefighter/EMT-I Brooke O'Connor, Firefighter/EMR Ryan Rhodes, Firefighter/EMT Jeff Scheetz, Wildland Firefighter/Rope Rescue Technician Dennis Senko, Deputy Fire Marshal Alex Silva, Firefighter Jackson Spadaro, Firefighter Colton Steinke, Firefighter/Paramedic Myrsideys Steinke, Firefighter/Paramedic Kaisha Stokes, Firefighter/EMT Amy Weddle, Firefighter/EMT

### YOUR CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**Brad Pahl** Position #1 (term expires 6/30/2025)



Kay Norberg Position #2 (term expires 6/30/2025)



**David Palmer** Position #3 (term expires 6/30/2027)



Joe Costigan Position #4 (term expires 6/30/2027)





**Cole Gayheart, Jr.** Position #5 (term expires 6/30/2027)

# "Serving our Community with Courage, Pride, Honor, Commitment and Integrity"

#### **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

General Fund	Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Actual Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Actual Expenditures	Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Proposed & Adopted Expenditures/Supplemental Budget
Personnel Services	822,284	805,268	1,194,833
Materials & Services	473,949	448,065	546,731
Capital Outlay	43,246	169,861	Ο
Debt Services	27,045	27,045	27,045
Transfer to Capital Reserve Fund	50,000	75,000	90,476
Operating Contingency	61,297	37,204	38,721
Unappropriated Ending	665,067	1,292,078	690,338
Total	2,142,888	2,854,521	2,588,144

The District's financial functions include accounting and budgeting, accounts payable/receivable, payroll, grant management, annual reporting and auditing, cash flow projections and various other financial tasks. Our fiscal year is from July 1st through June 30th.

Most of the District's funding comes from property taxes paid by residents who own property within the boundaries of the Crooked River Ranch Rural Fire Protection District. Additional revenue is generated by fees charged when patients are transported by ambulance to the hospital. Miscellaneous income is from donations, refunds, and insurance credits. Occasionally, the District participates in State Fire Mobilizations through the summer months, resulting in additional reimbursement revenue, which is only incorporated into our operating budget when an actual conflagration occurs. We go through an annual auditing process, and the finalized reports are submitted to the District and our Board of Directors.

## CALL VOLUME STATISTICS

	2020	2021	2022	2023	Description
Vegetation/Structure/Vehicle Fires	37	22	20	19	Wildland or Structure Fires, Vehicle Fires
Overpressure Rapture/Explosion/Overheat (No Fire)	0	0	0	0	Explosion, Overheats and Ruptures
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	406	468	464	513	Rescues and Emergency Medical Assistance, Traffic Accidents/Crashes
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	5	7	5	2	Down Power Lines, etc.
Service Call	84	62	50	44	Illegal Burning, Lift Assist
Good Intent	62	64	55	66	Medical Call, No Patient Transport, or Canceled Call
False Alarm/False Calls	14	4	18	10	Commercial/Residential Fire Alarms
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	1	0	0	0	Ice Storm, Snowstorm, Wildfire, etc.
Special Incident	2	0	1	0	Event Standby Requests
Total:	611	627	613	654	*Includes EMS canceled in route and no patient calls.

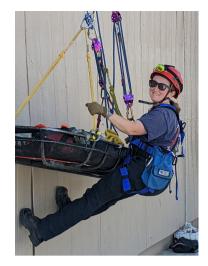
Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue responds to emergencies twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Our firefighters are also trained as emergency medical professionals and are equipped to respond to any emergency. That is why you may see both a fire engine and ambulances responding to incidents.

We are honored to serve our residents in many other capacities, such as hazardous materials incidents, high angle rescues, downed power line situations, etc. Community Risk Reduction is also important to us. We prioritize local risks, followed by the integrated and strategic investment of resources to reduce their occurrence and impact. We are constantly helping the community prepare for emergencies by performing inspections, public safety education and community outreach.

#### **STUDENT LIFE**









#### Fire Academy 2023

Parker English Emily Lara Brooke O'Connor Ryan Rhodes Alex Silva Jackson Spadero





Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue has a student program for Central Oregon Community College students. This is an opportunity for the student to gain valuable on-the-job skills as a firefighter and emergency medical technician.

The students are assigned to one of three shifts for the duration of their time in the program. The students participate in regular training in all facets of fire and emergency medical services. The primary goal of the District is to help the students develop the skills and acquire the knowledge necessary to begin a career in the fire service.

#### FIRE ABATEMENT PROJECTS





In the summer of 2023 the Crooked River Ranch Lions Club was awarded a grant from the Office of the Oregon State Fire Marshal to purchase equipment to be used in fire abatement projects around the Ranch. The club purchased a wood chipper, a utility trailer and a log splitter. In partnership with Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue and the Home Owner's Association, areas have been identified, prioritized and scheduled for the removal trees and/or brush as needed, with work being done by Lions Club volunteers. The project also includes creating safety corridors in many of the common areas around the Ranch. Fire abatement work continues to be done on both private residential properties and common areas of the Ranch, such as the RV Park and Memorial Park.

In an effort to encourage the creation of defensible space on CRR properties, a team of trained community volunteers is available to do lot inspections under the auspices of CRRF&R. Property owners are encouraged to create space free of leaves, debris, or other flammable materials at least 30 feet from a structure, as well as to remove lower limbs on larger trees up to 6 feet above ground and to completely remove smaller trees. In some instances, there are Jefferson County grant funds available to reimburse property owners for expenses incurred in their fire abatement efforts.



#### **Civil Service Commission**



Richard Hoffman, Vicki Burt, Debbie Miles

Crooked River Ranch Fire & Rescue has met the threshold of employees in civil service positions that requires the formation of a Civil Service Commission. The commission is made up of members of the public who volunteer to serve and are selected by the Board of Directors. This commission provides a third-party review of the District's employment practices and can function as an appeal board for employment matters.

The Civil Service Commission's primary responsibilities include: working cooperatively with the Board of Directors and Fire Chief to maintain a current list of all job classifications for positions subject to civil service rules; oversee proper administration of all civil service exams, maintain current position and promotion lists, and work cooperatively with the Fire Chief to certify qualified candidates for vacant positions covered by civil service rules; conduct hearings and investigations related to complaints against civil service rules.

#### **Volunteer Opportunities**



The *Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)* program educates volunteers about disaster preparedness for hazards that may affect their area and trains them in basic disaster responses skills, such as fire safety, light search & rescue. The *Community Support Volunteer* program is designed for those who want to help the Fire District in a nonemergency response role. Volunteers participate in community activities, public education, station tours, assist with administrative functions of the Fire District and other events that require positive public interaction.



#### **COMMUNITY EVENTS**



Trunk or Treat





4th of July Parade



Emergency Preparedness Open House



Pancake Breakfast





Shop With a Firefighter







Easter Egg Hunt