City of Copperas Cove
Information Item
April 3, 2012

Fire Department 2011 Annual Report

Contact – Gary D. Young, Deputy Fire Chief, 254-547-2514
gyoung@copperascovetx.gov

SUBJECT: **Fire Department Annual Report for Calendar Year 2011.**

---

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Fire Department Annual Report for Calendar Year 2011.

2. BACKGROUND/HISTORY

None.

3. FINDINGS/CURRENT ACTIVITY

Attached is the Fire Department Annual Report for Calendar Year 2011. This report details the activities of the Fire Department and includes specific information concerning the Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Management, Community Interaction and Fire Prevention.

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT

None.

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT

2011 ANNUAL REPORT

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT
415 S. MAIN STREET
COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522
(254) 547-2514

On the front cover : Firefighters and Citizens shown participating in a traditional ceremonial "Wet Down" and "Push In" of a new fire engine.

Proudly Serving
The Citizens Of Copperas Cove

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Copperas Cove Fire Department is to protect and enhance the quality of life in the *City Built for Family Living* through a comprehensive program of services delivered by an excellent team directed towards providing education, prevention, and control in the areas of fire, rescue, medical emergencies, and disasters.

Values Statement

The Copperas Cove Fire Department will continually strive to exceed our citizen's expectations working within a healthy, safe and innovative environment that enhances the professional and efficient delivery of emergency services. We will strive to be an organization providing community safety education and information, keen to anticipate, influence and embrace change.

CORE VALUES

Professionalism
Respect
Integrity
Dedication
Excellent Service

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message From The Chief	5
Command Staff	6
Operations Division	7
Shift Personnel	8-10
Organization Chart	11
Training Division	12
Statistical Data	13
Fire Prevention	14-15
Office of Emergency Management	16
Fiscal Management	17
Capital Projects	18-20
Community Services	21-23
Stations	24

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is my distinct pleasure to present the Copperas Cove Fire Department's 2011 Annual Report, highlighting the year's activities and achievements.

The Officers and members of the Copperas Cove Fire Department have the honor, privilege and duty to serve our community. We continually measure ourselves as a team and individually to assure we are constantly moving forward and improving.

Every year dealing with the delivery of emergency services, many events and incidents occur that challenge our team to save lives and protect property. In addition to emergency response, we face challenges in other areas as well. In these tumultuous economic times all service industries are faced with declining revenues and increased demands. Our citizens, City Manager, Mayor and Council have continued to show tremendous support and for that we are grateful.

We promise to quickly and selflessly protect our residents and visitors every second of every day in their time of need. The professional skills and compassion of your firefighters are the true value our citizens and guests receive for the investment they make in our organization.

Please visit your fire stations and meet your firefighters at anytime.

Fire Chief J. Mike Baker

Robert Martin
Division Chief
of Fire Prevention

Kimberly Baxter
Administrative Assistant
Fire/EMS

Kathleen Wolf
Administrative Assistant
Support Services/Emergency Mgmt.

Fire Inspector/ Investigator– Vacant

OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Operations Division of the Copperas Cove Fire Department is staffed by 47 members led by Deputy Fire Chief Gary Young. With the exception of the Deputy Chief and administrative assistant, all department members work 24 hour shifts in a rotating 24 on/48 off manner. Fire department staff operate out of three fire stations strategically located in the city.

The Operations Division is responsible for emergency responses inside the city limits of Copperas Cove as well as over 100 square miles outside of the city limits. Responses outside of Copperas Cove include Bell, Coryell, and Lampasas Counties as well as Fort Hood.

The Operations Division is tasked with fire suppression, rescue, hazardous materials and emergency medical services responses. Other responsibilities include daily maintenance of all apparatus and equipment; daily maintenance of the facilities; and assuring preparedness levels of all personnel. Firefighters train daily on all types of life and fire safety procedures and policies, training topics include map districts, firefighter risk prevention and safety and medical protocols, fire department policies and city policies.

The members of the Operations Division stand ready to respond 24 hours a day 365 days a year. The professional women and men who staff this division work very hard to keep the trust of the citizens by providing rapid responses, fast solutions to problems, and to treat each person with the dignity and respect that they deserve during what most consider to be one of the worst moments in their lives.

In 2011, the Operations Division received a replacement fire engine with a full compliment of equipment. The division also received an ambulance and a new cardiac monitor/defibrillator.

The fire department responded fire apparatus to 1,319 calls and responded ambulances to 3,229 calls for service. Top three fire responses were 636 Rescue & Emergency Medical Service which includes motor vehicle collisions, 208 Fires including in homes, businesses, vehicles and grass/brush and 155 Hazardous Conditions which include arcing power lines, gas leaks and chemical spills. Top three EMS responses were 514 non specific medical problems, 370 motor vehicle collisions and 329 respiratory difficulty.

Deputy Chief Gary D. Young

A-Shift Personnel

Officers

Battalion Chief Mike Ramminger
Captain Scott Howard
Lieutenant Mike McGuire
Lieutenant Walter Munsel

Firefighters

Colton Baker
Rebecca Brand
Dwane Cummings
Charles Johnson
Brian Jones
Shelli Miller
John Moser
Monte Priest
Carl Robertson
George Romfh

B-Shift Personnel

Officers

Captain Eric Watson
Lieutenant James Bednar
Lieutenant Alan Mainville

Firefighters

Ryan Baker
Cody Bible
Mark DiGiacomo
Braden Frame
Jeremy Lydon
Tanja Martin
Jamie Stayton
Allan Thompson
Brandi Wolfe
Jeff Young

C-Shift Personnel

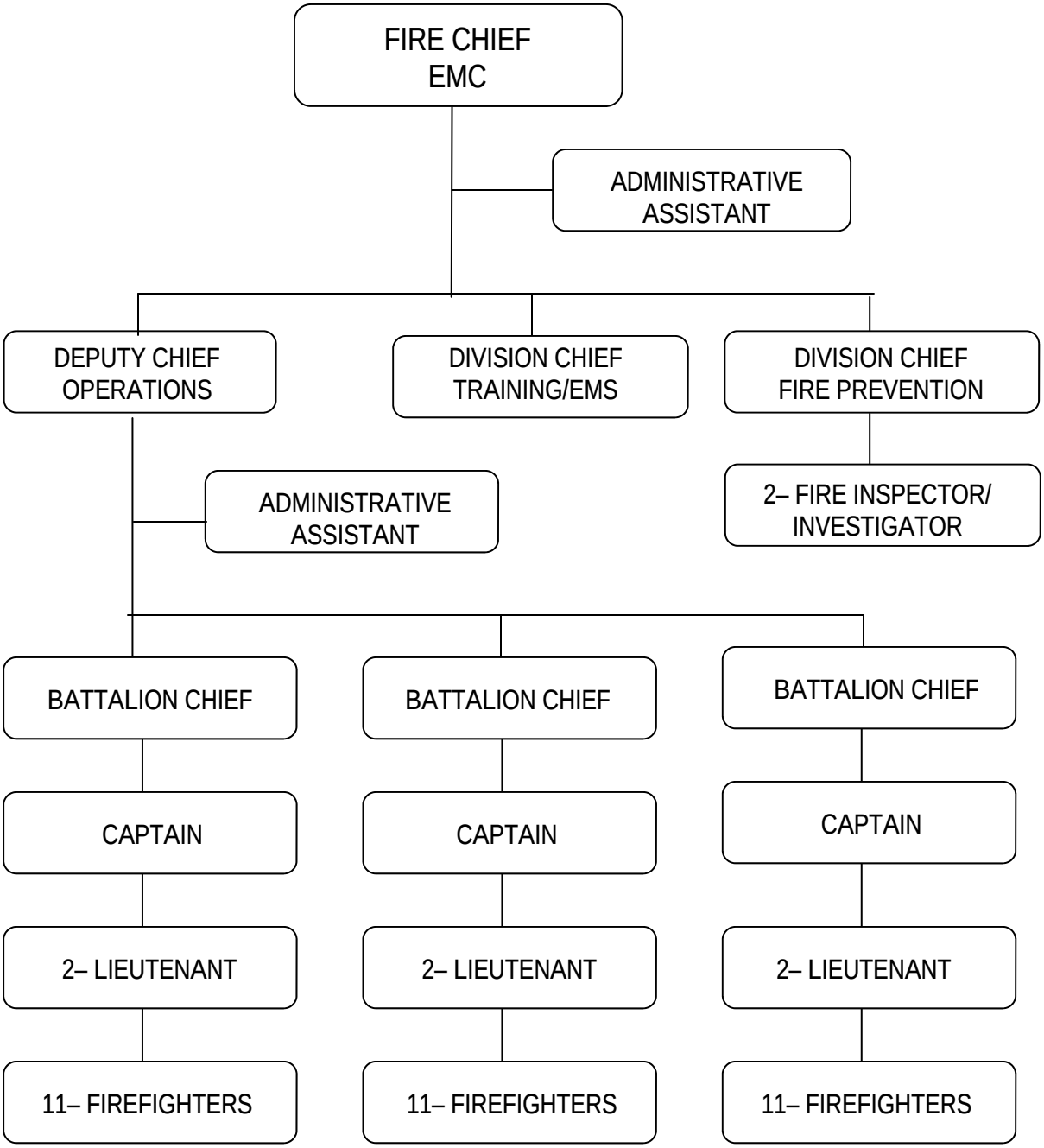
Officers

Battalion Chief Mike Fleming
Captain Carla Polidoro
Lieutenant Steve Clendenen
Lieutenant Robert Hicks

Firefighters

Carol Ballesteros
Michael Brazil
Chris Cox
Clinton Daniell
Heather Frink
Kristopher Hurst
Carlos Mariduena
Eric Oechsle
David Robinson
Cody Scaff
Marcus Waechter

Copperas Cove Fire Department Organization Chart



TRAINING DIVISION

In 2011, the Training Division offered numerous certification classes to our firefighters and officers. We also partnered with neighboring fire departments to offer this training to their members as well. In 2011, the Copperas Cove Fire Department hosted and taught more certification classes than any other year in our history. We are proud to have offered the following classes to our membership and our mutual aid partners:

- Courage to Be Safe, 4 hrs (3 different offerings)
- Fire Officer III & IV, 40 hrs
- Fire Instructor II 40 hrs (3 different offerings)
- Fire Investigator, 120 hrs
- Texas Forest Service 130-190 Wildland Firefighter, 36 hrs

With certifications obtained from the classes listed above, many of our members were able to increase the level of their Structural Firefighter certification to Intermediate and Advanced levels. We also had one member obtain their Master Firefighter level during the year.

In 2011, Firefighters DiGiacomo, Moser, Brazil, Robertson, and Scaff began Paramedic school at Central Texas College. This very intensive , one year program, is scheduled to graduate in August 2012.

2012 is scheduled to be another banner year for our department with even more Fire Commission classes being offered:

- Driver/Pump Operator, 80 hrs (3 different offerings)
- Fire Instructor I, 40 hrs
- Fire Officer I, 40 hrs
- Fire Officer II, 40 hrs
- Fire Inspector, 120 hrs

2011 Training Hours	
Fire	6192
EMS	1259

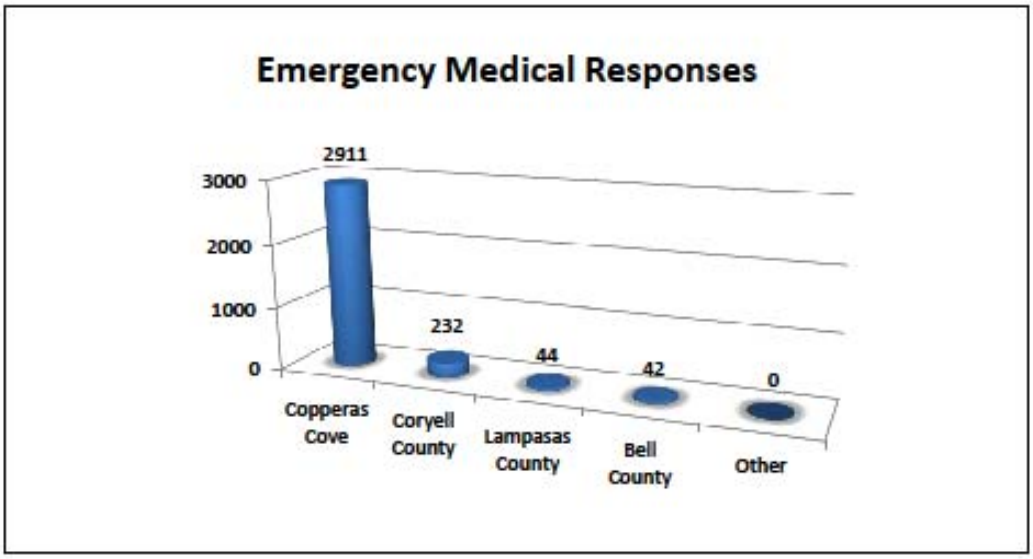
The Training Division supports the training and education requirements of the fire department employees. Every uniformed member of your fire department holds, at a minimum:

·Basic Firefighter (Texas Commission on Fire Protection)
·Emergency Medical Technician (Texas Department of State Health Services)

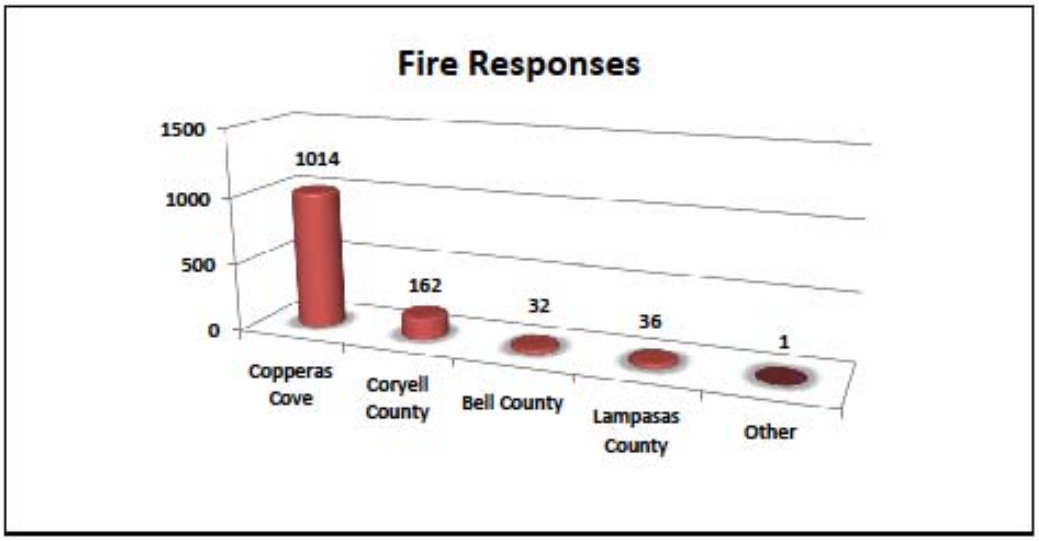
The Texas Department of State Health Services and the Texas Fire Commission offer various levels of advanced certification, including, Intermediate/Advanced/Master level Firefighter, Fire Instructor, Fire Investigator, Paramedic, and EMS Instructor. Each employee is required to obtain a minimum amount of continuing education hours each year in order to renew their certifications with each of those state agencies.

The Training Division works very diligently to meet the needs of fire department employees and more. It also serves as the logistical and administrative hub for all Emergency Medical Services (EMS) operations. The Training Division works intently to ensure continued smooth operation and outstanding medical care for the citizens of Copperas Cove. In 2011 several members obtained their EMS Instructor certification and we have five firefighters who have completed half of their Paramedic training in 2011 and will graduate in the late spring 2012.

Training Division Chief, James Piper



- 3229 Total Emergency Medical Responses
- Other includes Burnet County and other counties we do not have specific agreements with and requests for intrastate mutual aid during disasters like hurricanes.



- 1245 Total Fire Responses
- Other includes Burnet County and other counties we do not have specific agreements with and requests for intrastate mutual aid during disasters like hurricanes.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Division of Fire Prevention gets its authority from the adopted Fire Code and from City Ordinances, and is responsible for three (3) main support areas of the fire department.

- Fire Code Development and Enforcement
- Fire Investigations (Origin and Cause)
- Public Education and Community Safety

Fire Code and Development - Fire Inspectors work closely with the City Building Department to ensure that all buildings meet the requirements of the International Fire and Building Code, and the City Code of Ordinances. This includes:

- Plans review for new construction and alterations/remodeling
- Inspections of all new buildings
- Routine inspections of existing buildings
- Review and inspection of fire protection systems
- Enforcement of applicable codes
- Development and communications of fire codes.

Fire Investigations – Fire Investigators are charged by city charter to investigate the cause of all fires within the city limits of Copperas Cove. If the fire is determined to be intentional (arson) the investigator(s) will closely work with the police department to identify the perpetrator(s) and to pursue criminal charges.

Public Education and Public Safety – The Division of Fire Prevention (with the assistance of the entire Fire Department) is responsible for spreading the message about fire and life safety throughout the City of Copperas Cove. The division develops and implements programs that teach children and adults about fire and life safety, and emergency prevention. This is accomplished through public appearances, demonstrations, and station tours. Fire Prevention Week is the pinnacle of public education with assemblies in every elementary school. Department personnel also participate in health and safety fairs, career days, witnessed fire drills, and fire extinguisher training for the public.

Sparky the Firedog – Sparky is the official Copperas Cove Fire Department mascot making several appearances at many different community events. Sparky is known nation wide and when children see him they relate him to fire safety. Sparky is a registered trademark of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

The Fire Prevention Division can be reached by calling 254-547-2514. You may also visit the Central Fire Station at 415 South Main Street. Hours of operation are 8am until 5pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

Open House- In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week during the month of October, the Fire Department holds an annual "OPEN HOUSE". This program invites the public inside the fire station and inside the world of firefighting. Citizens are welcome to view equipment, ask questions, have their photo taken with firefighters, and register for both Citizens Fire Academy and the Volunteer firefighter program.

Fire Prevention Statistics	2010	2011
Total Inspections	521	430
Violations Found	604	276
Corrections	226	137

Station Tours & Public Presentations	2010	2011
Adults	2521	712
Children	7656	2317

SPARKY THE FIRE DOG REMINDS YOU THAT FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2012 WILL BE OBSERVERED OCTOBER 7-13.

Office of Emergency Management

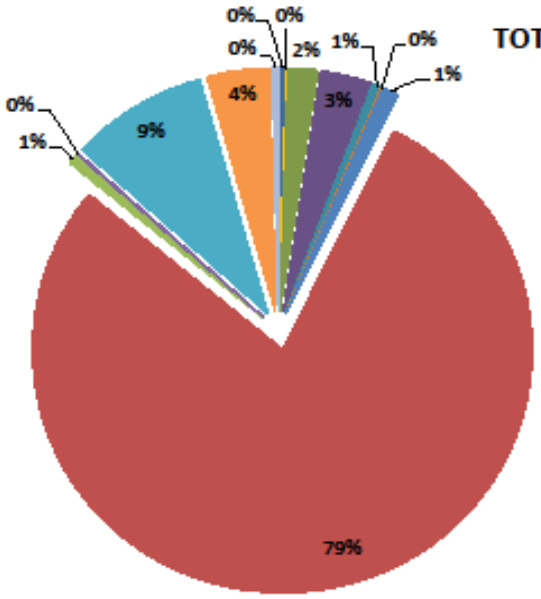
The City of Copperas Cove's Office of Emergency Management is charged with maintaining the City's Comprehensive Emergency Operations Plan. Included in these duties are maintenance of the plan documents, security of the plan, and training on and dissemination of the plan. The City currently has an Advanced Level Plan. This plan was updated in 2011 in accordance with State requirements and approved by the Texas Department of Emergency Management.

The goal of Emergency Management is to provide preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery to our community in the event of disaster. Emergency Management staff conducted a local discussion-based exercise and participated in a regional disaster exercise to test and evaluate various aspects of meeting that goal. The department also participated in regional events through our mutual aid agreements. These included assisting with the wildfires in north Texas and in our surrounding communities.

Additionally, during the year, preparedness information provided by FEMA's *Ready Campaign* and by Texas' *Ready or Not* program was provided to the public on a daily basis using various means of distribution. This information is provided to the public on the City's government access television channel, the City's Facebook page and website, and is available in printed materials that can be picked up at the Copperas Cove Fire Department located at 415 South Main Street.

We will continue to deliver preparedness information and training for the community and staff. To find out what you can do to be prepared or about trainings that might be available to you, visit any of the sources listed above.

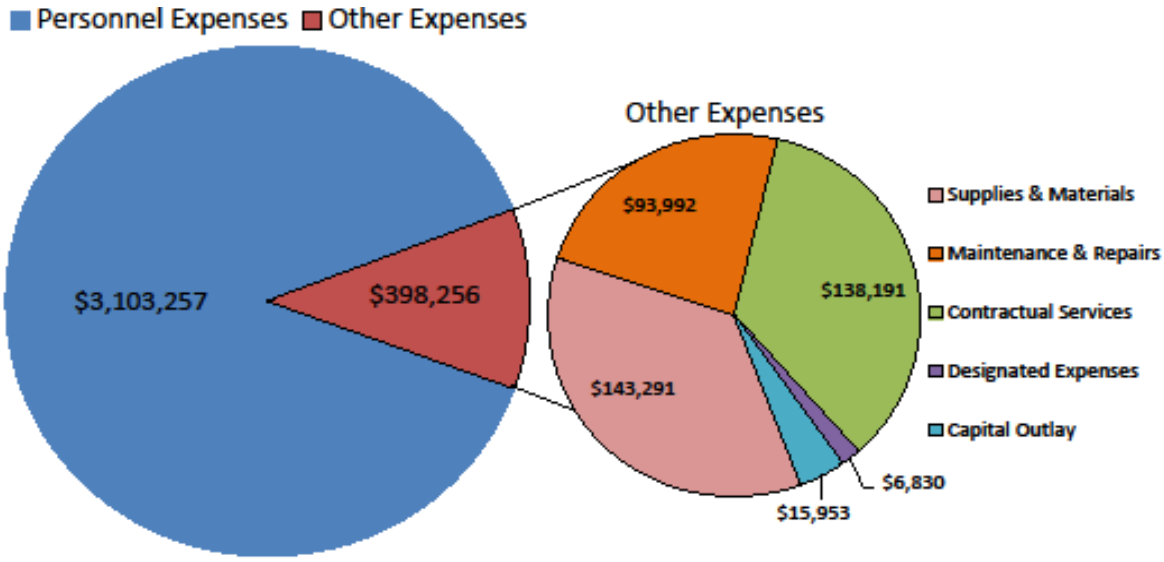
REVENUES & EXPENSES



TOTAL REVENUES = $ 902,226

Donations $ 4,489	Kempner Water Donations Other Donations
Grants $ 61,921	Central Texas Trauma Council Grant Emergency Management Performance Grant Homeland Security Grant TCLEOSE Grant Texas Forest Service Grant
Service Revenues $ 835,816	Ambulance Fees Bell County Fire Runs Burn Permits County EMS Revenue Coryell County Fire Runs Fire Inspection/Testing

TOTAL EXPENSES = $ 3,501,513



Capital Projects

On February 11, 2011 the Copperas Cove Fire Department purchased a 2011 Ferrara fire truck with a KME chassis. The custom designed apparatus was funded by tax notes in the amount of $366,039.

As part of an on-going effort to reduce fleet repair costs and standardize our ambulance fleet, a 2011 Dodge 3500 Frazer ambulance was purchased on April 14, 2011. The tax note funded purchase in the amount of $123,375 replaced the fleet's oldest ambulance.

In April 2011, the Fire Prevention Division received a new 2011 Chevrolet Silverado truck. The tax note funded purchase in the amount of $36,644 replaced a 1998 Ford F150 truck.

In June 2011, utilizing $156,357 in tax notes, the Copperas Cove Fire Department purchased 28 sets of state of the art high pressure air packs. This purchase enabled us to outfit every vehicle in the fleet and give our firefighters the safest , most efficient breathing apparatus available.

A Zoll E-series cardiac monitor/ defibrillator, funded by tax notes , was purchased in March 2011 in the amount of $20,657 . This monitor is able to provide instantaneous feedback to crews performing resuscitation.

The 2011 fire engine and equipment package provided the department the ability to replace some very worn out equipment and for the fire department to completely outfit the new fire engine with desperately needed new equipment . The purchase was funded by tax notes in the amount of $96,360.

In August 2011, 8 new personal protective gear storage racks were purchased for all three stations and funded by tax notes in the amount of $11,838. Garment manufacturers recommend quick open air drying to maintain the protective qualities of fibers and liners.

The parking area and apron area at Central Fire Station received $11,280 in improvements funded by tax notes. Due to wear and tear, all identified concrete and pavement was replaced with thicker concrete in accordance with the current building code.

In May 2011, the Fire Prevention Division purchased an exciting tool for teaching fire prevention. A fully animated fire truck robot. "Freddie the Fire Truck" moves, speaks, listens, plays audiocassette tapes, sounds his siren, and squirts water all by remote control. The robot was purchased out of the general fund for $7,483 from Robotronics Inc.

Community Service

Citizens Fire Academy

The Citizens Fire Academy is a public education class offered annually to the public . Each year the class accommodates 15 students as they learn about the services the Copperas Cove Fire Department provides. The goal of the course is to increase fire and life safety awareness, as well as to promote a positive image of the department to the community.

The Academy is an eight week program consisting of classroom and hands-on participation with rescue tools, hose lines, and fire extinguishers. Participants ride-out with firefighters to experience first hand the responsibilities and capabilities of their firefighters in a real world setting. The highlight of the academy is a Saturday "play day" where attendees experience actual firefighting of a car fire while wearing full protective equipment. They also use rescue tools to cut doors and roofs off of cars and perform a search for victims in a smoke-filled environment with a thermal-imaging camera.

Mentoring Industrious Minds and Educating Students (M.I.M.E.S.)

Each year the Copperas Cove Fire Department sponsors the M.I.M.E.S. camp which selects 7th grade students from Copperas Cove Junior High School and S.C. Lee Junior High School for a week long glimpse into the fire service.

The students spend five full days at the fire station interacting with firefighters and learning how math and science skills apply in the working world. They are also mentored in leadership roles by serving as a "Company Officer" of the day. Firefighters reinforce character and conduct standards such as honor, integrity, honesty, and professionalism. The students also learn about basic first aid and CPR; city government and how it applies to the structure of the fire service; fire science; math; and many other subjects.

Citizens Fire Academy students practice extinguishing a car fire.

M.I.M.E.S students participate in a hose handling exercise.

Shots thru the Firehouse

The Copperas Cove Fire Department has provided “Shots through the Firehouse” program since 2000, and was the first department in the State of Texas to have children’s immunizations available quarterly free of charge to school age children who are uninsured or underinsured.

Immunizations were provided by firefighter/ paramedics quarterly and in preparation for school. In cooperation with Copperas Cove Independent School District, and Texas Department of State Health Services, an annual immunization event is held in August. This is a half day event in which we provide refreshments, fun, and activities.

2010-	91 Immunizations
2011-	33 Immunizations

Firefighter /Paramedic Marcus Waechter reassures a child before immunization.

The Fire Department works with the Copperas Cove Independent School District to provide the Mother's Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) Shattered Dreams program. The program, geared toward high schools students, provides a mock automobile collision caused by an intoxicated driver. The program exposes the students to the realities of the outcomes to drinking and driving.

SHATTERED

DREAMS

Stations

Station 1
415 S. Main Street

Engine 1	Pumper Truck
Engine 11	Pumper Truck (Reserve)
Engine 111	Pumper Truck (Reserve)
Medic 1	Ambulance
Medic 11	Ambulance (Reserve)
Battalion 1	Command Vehicle

Station 2
1208 West Avenue B

Engine 2	Pumper Truck
Medic 2	Ambulance
Medic 22	Ambulance (Reserve)
Booster 2	Brush Truck

Station 3
415 S. Main Street

Ladder 3	Ladder Truck
Booster 3	Brush Truck
Medic 3	Ambulance

COPPERAS COVE FIRE DEPARTMENT
415 S. MAIN STREET
COPPERAS COVE, TEXAS 76522
(254) 547-2514