

Hopkins Fire

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Area Department

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For the month of April, we responded to 11 fire incidents; 2 assists to another department, 2 vehicle fires, 3 unknown accidents, 1 hazmat ammonia leak, 1 tree/wires call, and 2 officer calls. There were 3 calls in Hopkins Township, 5 calls in Monterey Township, 0 calls in Hopkins Village, and 1 call in Watson Township. Hopkins first responders responded to 30 medical calls; 2 in Hopkins Village, 12 in Hopkins Township, 10 in Watson Township, and 6 in Monterey Township.

We had two regular training meeting this last month. The training subjects were emergency driving, and wildland fire response. Training session were 3 hours long and attended by 17 firefighters.

Dave, Ben, Clayton, Levi, and Brandon continue the fire academy in Allegan, final test date is May 20. Herbert Merrill is also nearing completion with his academy in Barry County. Unfortunately, Herbert's commitment to the National Gourd will keep him from taking his final test with his academy. I have found an alternate in late June in Allendale and he is registered to attend.

Scotty's firehouse was in the Hopkins Fire station April 26-27. For this event, we work with the kids at Hopkins Elementary, ages 4-8, and we worked with 198 students. I talked to Levi's mother during the event and she is going to talk to the home-school group she is with for next year. If anyone has other contacts with home school groups we would like to invite them to attend. Bob, Brian, and Eric worked many hours to improve the firehouse in the days leading up to April 26.

There is nothing new to report on this year's AFG grant application. The grant was written to purchase new turn-out gear and SCBA's for the department. Total amount of the grant was about \$240,000, of which we have a 5% match. First awards were announced on April 14.

We were awarded a grant from the Allegan Community Foundation, for \$4,500 to purchase the rescue boat. The boat was picked up and a couple of days later it was used to assist Allegan fire in a successful rescue on the Kalamazoo river. The boat responds from the Watson Station.

We have not heard anything from our ISO visit. The representative told me it would be several months before we would know and he has not contacted me for any additional information.

We are sponsoring officer and an MFR classes. By sponsoring the class we are able to put our people through at a reduced cost. The students are also at our station so in the event of a large incident they could be available.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim McKinnon
Fire Chief