

Fire Department Report

September was another busy month. Not so much for calls but with training and equipment maintenance.

The monthly training was pumping/spraying water, involving water shuttle with all the tankers. We filled the community garden pond while running a pumper-to-pumper scenario on a driveway located at Miller Farm Road. Engine 7 staged directly on Miller Farm Road and supplied water to Engine 2 that was 150 yards into a small driveway. Engine 2 basically acted as a manifold to direct water to hose lines. Supply ponds for Engine 7 were filled by tenders (tankers). We do this at least once a year, as this is a fully rounded training that involves many aspects:

1. getting water down typical island driveways that our larger equipment shouldn't attempt travel.
2. water shuttle into portable ponds to supply thousands of gallons of water from truck to truck to a working fire.
3. portable trailer pump operation from our many water sources:
 - a. marina dry hydrant (this training)
 - b. dry hydrant at pond On Umbrage Road.
 - c. directly from Lake Superior into tankers.
 - d. in a pinch, hydrants on Mondamin Trail and Bob Hartzell's newly acquired water system.
4. radio communication with numerous apparatus and personnel.
5. incident command
6. safety and accountability system.

This training went well.

We now have a certified dive/rescue team on the La Pointe fire department. Congratulations to them and we will continue with diligence to get them properly geared up and dive into their surface support (pun intended). Many options have surfaced with having a vessel available to get them on scene. This is definitely part of the bigger picture, as it pertains to our near-shore rescue program. We will keep the Board and administration up to speed as this unfolds. Zach Montagne is to be voted in as a team leader/officer for his accepting these challenges and overseeing this entire program. Very proud of the hard work and commitment put forth to make this happen in very little time.

All apparatus received a clean bill of health from Steve Adamski and Big Water Apparatus. Both engines/pumpers have passed their yearly pump/waterflow testing. Engine 2 needed and recieved a new radiator and rear axle parts and is back in good health.

Till next month, be safe and careful when firing up your home heating systems. Yearly professional servicing highly recommended.

Chief Reichkitzer

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