



NORTHWEST REGIONAL FIRE TRAINING CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016

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This report is being submitted to the Board of Directors of the Northwest Regional Fire Training Center to give an overview of the activities held at the Training Center for the fiscal year October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.

For this fiscal year we received \$10,924.67 from the State of Michigan for instructor fees and expenses. For fiscal year 2016-2017 we are allocated \$17,856.00. I have applied for funding for all classes eligible for the next fiscal year focusing on the first classes held to speed up the payments from the State.

The Board of Directors did review the fee schedule and did not see any need for change this year.

We applied for one Tribal Grant this year to make improvements to the burn tower and were turned down.

We applied for no PARR grants this year.

Our Firefighter I & II class this year started out a nice size but ended low. We started with 19 students and finished with 13. I think most people do not understand the commitment this class takes. All students that finished class passed.

We held five of the six Company Officer I & II prerequisites. We had a total of 32 students. Some took more than one class. We offer the six topics with 6 different instructors to give a variety of styles and experience to help make it more interesting and beneficial to the students.

We held the Company Officer I & II class this year with 12 students starting the class and 11 passing. This was the first year using the online option from Jones and Bartlett and found no issues.

We held two Driver Training classes this year with a total of 16 students. We offer one in the fall before the Firefighter class starts then one in the spring after class ends

We held Haz-Mat Operations as part of the Firefighter I & II class and had no additional student attend.

We offered Vehicle Extrication and Advanced Stabilization on a three day weekend. We hold that along with the firefighter class. We had one extra in the Vehicle Extrication class and three extra in the Advanced Stabilization class.

Pump Operations was held after the Firefighter I & II class on two weekends. It was attended by six students.

We did not hold the Fire Officer II classes this year. The plan right now is to offer them every other year.

We have a Fire Instructor I course scheduled for late September and October. At this time we have 10 students scheduled for the class. More on this in next year's report.

I continue to try and recruit instructors for additional classes. We have offered many in the past and have people asking about them again. I am not having much luck in finding additional classes but will keep trying.

We did have the Great Lake Maritime Academy rent the Training Center again this year for their fire extinguisher training.

Law enforcement agencies continue to use the Training Center. They do both ERT training and the K9 teams.

The Fair Board held their annual meeting here the first Thurs. of Nov.

We did have a few area departments hold trainings at the Training Center for their own departments. It is good to see it used for this.

Did not get a fuel cell for the pump. Just not the money for that yet.

The fire engine did not get repaired this year either. Too many things going on and ran out of time.

Chief Jim Tuller of the Traverse City Fire Department resigned as Board Chairman this year. Chief Theo Weber of the Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department was elected Board Chairman.

Our Board of Directors met on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm with the exception of February and July when we did not have a meeting. Our meetings average about a half hour in length and are normally attended by two to five board members. We occasionally have a visitor interested in the business of the Training Center.

The only improvements done this year were to add operating windows to the three story training structure for ease of using the windows. Other than that just repair and maintenance done this year.

Our current Board Chairman is Chief Theo Weber of the Grand Traverse Rural Fire Department. Vic-Chairman is Chief John Hanmer of the Benzonia Township Fire Department.

Chief Weber did complete work on our Board Membership. We believe we are in compliance with our organizational documents.

This year we were approached by the Great Lakes Maritime Academy and asked if we would be interested in providing ship board firefighting for their cadets. The U.S. Maritime Association closed their training center in Toledo Ohio and they needed someplace close to send students. We have begun the process of receiving U.S. Coast Guard approval to hold this class. We hope to have approval sometime around the first of the year.

I look forward to this next year and continuing to grow our class sizes. I hope our finances keep improving and we can continue to provide the best training for the firefighters of Michigan.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy A. Wrede

Tim Wrede
Training Coordinator