

BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018

ANNUAL REPORT



FIRE CHIEF WILLIAM RASH

BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

Message from the Fire Chief



On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Billings Fire Department, it is my pleasure to present the 2018 Annual Report.

I had the honor of serving our community as the Interim Fire Chief for eight months prior to being appointed to the permanent position of fire chief on March 1, 2018.

2018 presented the department with numerous challenges associated with transitioning to a new fire chief, numerous retirements which resulted in several command level promotions, along with the opening and operation of the new City / County 9-1-1 Center. In addition, the department was tasked with building a leadership team that collaboratively created a vision for the future of the Billings Fire Department that would ensure enhanced fire, rescue and emergency medical service delivery.

The department also experienced a 10% increase in calls for service that resulted in over 15,500 calls for service in 2018.

The extremely dedicated and talented members of this department have enthusiastically embraced the vision and challenges associated with the department's goal in becoming the premier fire department within the state and the region.

Our community should be extremely proud of the department's members who consistently perform with flexibility, professionalism, compassion, skill and the strong desire to deliver exemplary emergency services to those we serve.

Respectfully,

**William Rash
Fire Chief**

BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

MISSION

The Billings Fire Department is dedicated to utilizing the latest education, methods and technology in providing outstanding fire, rescue and EMS services to our valued citizens and those who visit our community.

VISION

The Billings Fire Department aspires to be the finest provider of fire, rescue and EMS services within the state and region through calculated planning, training and implementation of service delivery needs.



ABOUT THE BILLINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT

DIVISIONS

- FIRE ADMINISTRATION
- CITY / COUNTY 9-1-1 CENTER
- FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU
- OPERATIONS
- TRAINING / EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- 1 FIRE CHIEF
- 2 ASSISTANT FIRE CHIEFS
- 2 ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT PERSONNEL
- 1 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTER MANAGER
- 4 9-1-1 COMMUNICATIONS SUPERVISORS
- 31.5 9-1-1 DISPATCHERS
- .66 PUBLIC SAFETY TECHNICIAN
- 1 FIRE MARSHAL
- 5 DEPUTY FIRE MARSHALS – *1 SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT
- 1 TRAINING CHIEF
- 1 ASSISTANT TRAINING CHIEF / EMS COORDINATOR
- 1 LOGISTICS OFFICER – *SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT
- 4 BATTALION CHEFS
- 30 CAPTAINS
- 30 ENGINEERS
- 44 FIREFIGHTERS

FIRE STATIONS

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| ➤ #1 | 2305 8 TH AVENUE NORTH – HEADQUARTERS STATION |
| ➤ #2 | 501 SOUTH 28 TH STREET |
| ➤ #3 | 1928 17 TH STREET WEST |
| ➤ #4 | 475 6 TH STREET WEST |
| ➤ #5 | 605 SOUTH 24 TH STREET WEST |
| ➤ #6 | 1601 SAINT ANDREWS DRIVE |
| ➤ #7 | 1501 54 TH STREET WEST |
| ➤ 9-1-1 CENTER | 911 9 TH AVENUE NORTH |
| ➤ RESERVE STORAGE | 605 SOUTH 24 TH STREET WEST |
| ➤ TRAINING FACILITY | BILLINGS LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT |

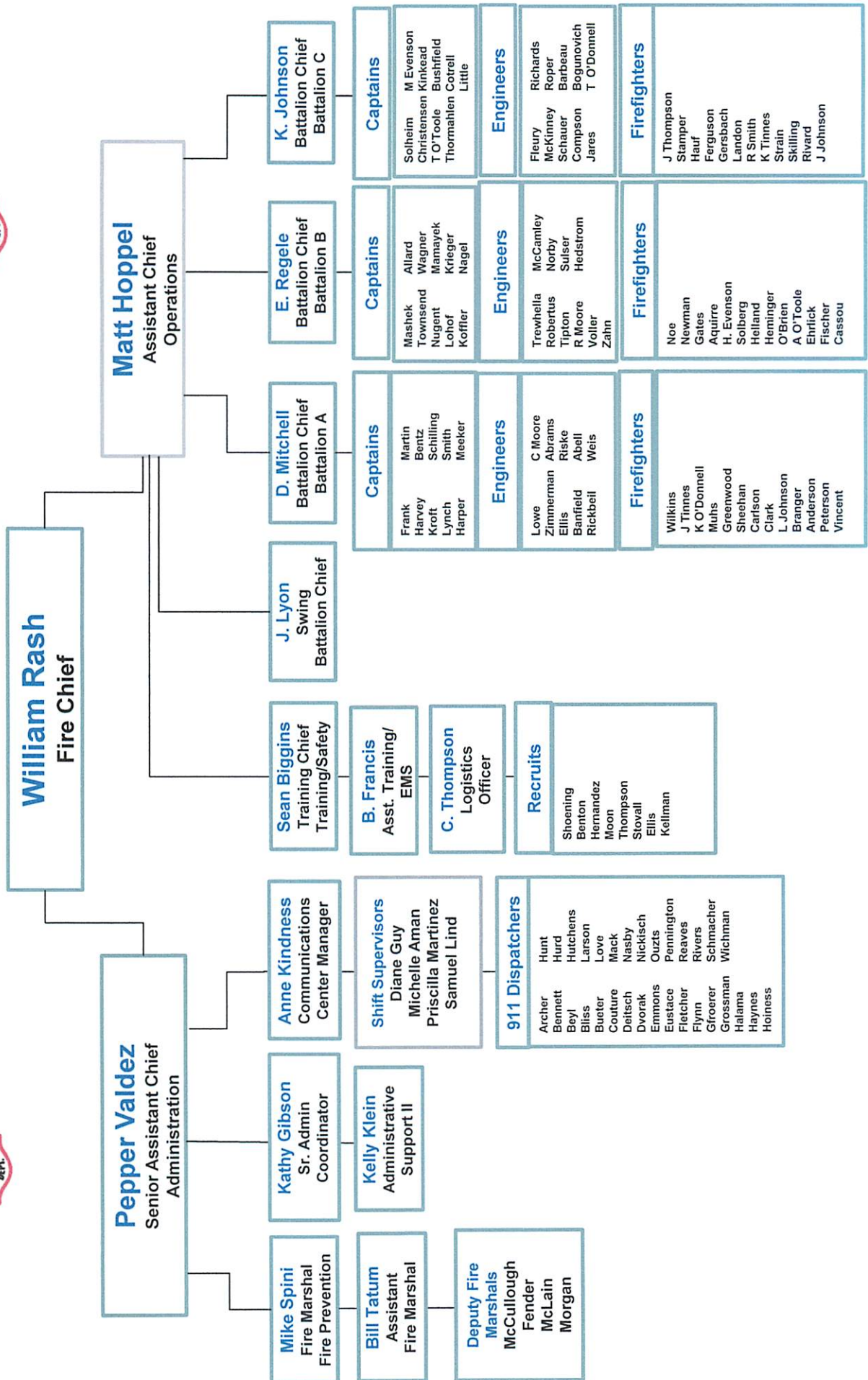
APPARATUS

- **7 FRONT LINE FIRE ENGINES**
 - **1 FRONT LINE AERIAL – LADDER TRUCK**
 - **3 RESERVE FIRE ENGINES**
 - **1 RESERVE AERIAL – LADDER TRUCK**
 - **4 BRUSH TRUCKS (1 DNRC TRUCK ASSIGNED TO BFD)**
 - **2 WATER TENDERS**
 - **1 RESCUE**
 - **2 SQUADS**
 - **1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TOW VEHICLE**
 - **1 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAILER**
 - **2 COMMAND VEHICLES – BATTALION CHIEFS**
 - **2 RESCUE WATER CRAFT**
 - **1 AIR SUPPLY VAN WITH AIR SUPPLY TRAILER**
 - **3 TECHNICAL RESCUE TRAILERS**
 - **1 FIREFIGHTER REHABILITATION MINI-BUS**
 - **OTHER SPECIALIZED APPARATUS AND VEHICLES**
-
- **PROVIDE SERVICE TO OVER 124,000 RESIDENTS (CITY & BUFSA)**
 - **COVER AN AREA CONSISTING OF 91.48 SQUARE MILES**
 - **43.75 SQUARE MILES – CITY OF BILLINGS**
 - **47.73 SQUARE MILES – BILLINGS URBAN FIRE SERVICE AREA (BUFSA)**
 - **RECEIVED 15,506 CALLS FOR SERVICE IN 2018 (11% OVER 2017)**
 - **MINIMUM STAFFING OF 25 FIREFIGHTERS ON DUTY AT ALL TIMES**
 - **ISO FIRE PROTECTION CLASSES**
 - **CLASS 3 IF LOCATED WITHIN 5 ROAD MILES OF A BILLINGS FIRE STATION AND ESTABLISHED WATER SOURCE**
 - **CLASS 10 IF LOCATED FARTHER THAN 5 ROAD MILES OF A BILLINGS FIRE STATION**



2018

Billings Fire Department



2018 Administrative Report

Senior Assistant Fire Chief Pepper Valdez

THE ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION INCLUDES OVERSIGHT OF:

- **ADMINISTRATION**
- **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**
- **CITY / COUNTY 9-1-1 CENTER**
- **FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU**

ADMINISTRATION

The administrative office or front office is considered the business side of the fire department. The Fire Chief, Assistant Chief of Administration and two administrative support staff help to compose and have oversight of the fire department's budget, all internal and external correspondence, policy distribution, and health and risk management, management of fleet and facilities maintenance and overview of labor and personnel matters. This division is also responsible for grants and procurement of new revenue resources and is directly accountable to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief is directly accountable to the City Manager and Assistant City Manager.

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Office of Professional Standards (OPS) was created to accept and responsibly address citizen and member commendations and complaints. The OPS is under the direct supervision of the Assistant Fire Chief of Administration who reports directly to the Fire Chief.

It is of the utmost importance that the Billings Fire Department maintains public trust and ensures the integrity of the membership of the department. The Billings Fire Department and OPS work diligently to hold all members to a high standard of conduct and professionalism through the provision of a fair and consistent complaint process. It is also the responsibility of the Billings Fire Department and OPS to recognize members who have gone above and beyond the call of duty by processing public and departmental requests for commendations.

In addition to address all internal/external complaints and commendations, the OPS continues to review each and every incident where departmental property has been damaged. This process proves invaluable in identifying and addressing safety concerns through policy development and training.

CITY / COUNTY 9-1-1 CENTER

Anne Kindness, Communication Center Manager

The Billings City/County 9-1-1 Center provides the critical link between the community and public safety resources. Thirty one (31.5) full-time employees and four (4) 9-1-1 supervisors receive, coordinate and process emergency and non-emergency radio and telephone traffic twenty-four (24) hours a day. Additionally, the 9-1-1 Center Manager oversees the citywide 800 MHz radio system.

In 1998, the Billings City/County 9-1-1 dedicated \$25,000 to a reserve fund dedicated to constructing a new 9-1-1 facility for this community. Within three years, we elected to increase the annual contribution to that fund to 25% of all in-coming 9-1-1 revenues. Through 20 years of sacrifice and savings, 9-1-1 telephone and radio operations were cut over to our beautiful new facility on September 18th. The significance of this project and its on-going impact to public safety cannot to be overstated and was accomplished without imposing additional fees or levies.

Coming in slightly under its 5.5M budget, the new 9,100 SF facility will nearly triple the space dedicated to 9-1-1 operations and boasts modern enhancements that include environmentally controlled data and UPS rooms, redundant emergency generators, a dedicated training area, dormitory rooms, a conference area, secured parking and separate restroom facilities for male and female employees. Twelve state-of-the-art workstations allow for expanded operational capability and agency support in the event of a critical event or disaster and ensure that our 9-1-1 center is well equipped to meet increased demand for services associated with future community and population growth.

The new 9-1-1 facility has garnered national attention and other communities, faced with the same daunting challenge of constructing this highly specialized type of facility, have sent delegations of police chiefs, fire chiefs, sheriffs and 9-1-1 personnel to visit our center to witness its exceptional functionality and to seek advice on managing the complexity of such a project. Additionally, the Billings City/County 9-1-1 Center was named the 2018 Montana Contractor's Association Commercial Project of the Year in Building Excellence.

Undoubtedly, the most important part of the overall facility project involved the transfer of mission critical radio and telephone infrastructure to the new facility with as little service interruption as possible. As part of the planning for the technology transfer, the 9-1-1 telephone system was upgraded and expanded and the number of 9-1-1 trunks were increased from six to eight. Employee training on new systems was coordinated in the final days before the transfer and ultimately, despite the odds, the facility cut-over was accomplished without missing a single 9-1-1 call or radio transmission.

On every level, the new 9-1-1 center project was a success and reflected the power of effective collaboration between City Departments and private partnerships. Many thanks are due to the City of Billings Information Technology staff, Will Robbins of the City Engineering Division, CTA Architects; Fisher Construction and their many subcontractors and the technical engineers and staff from Motorola and Industrial Communications & Electronics.

Highlighting the 9-1-1 staff's reputation for accomplishing more than what is expected, in the midst of the overwhelming nature of the new facility project, we accomplished a radical expansion and enhancement of the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) program that provides a foundation of training and guidance allowing immediate life sustaining direction and assistance to be provided to callers experiencing acute medical emergencies. 9-1-1 Supervisor Michelle Aman spearheaded the project to upgrade a manually referenced paper card system to an electronic software based product that is fully integrated into the computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. The change in EMD business practice required extensive employee and quality assurance agent training. In addition to classroom training, each employee was required to process 60 simulated test calls to ensure hands-on familiarity with all aspects of delivering immediate intervention until medically trained personnel arrive on scene. We are exceedingly proud of our EMD program. 9-1-1 staff members have delivered babies, resuscitated drowning and cardiac victims, stemmed uncontrolled bleeding and have positively impacted the outcome for countless individuals and their families in our community.

9-1-1 Supervisor Priscilla Martinez completed an outstanding revamp of the annual employee performance evaluation process. While the 9-1-1 center has always been proactive in addressing known performance deficiencies, our new protocol is designed to provide a deeper and more timely view into individual performance. Supervisors meet with employees on a monthly basis to discuss calls and performance that is randomly selected for quality assurance. This process allows us to catch great performance and reward it with positive reinforcement and to get ahead of habits or misunderstandings that might not lend to superior performance. The 9-1-1 staff are professionals who have great interest in delivering top-notch service and they appreciate that the supervisory staff is making a consistent effort to not only identify areas requiring improvement, but also that we see and recognize the outstanding work that is being performed on a daily basis.

City/County 9-1-1 staff conducted nearly 9,000 hours of training in 2018.

FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU

Fire Marshal Mike Spini

In 2018, the fire prevention bureau experienced many positive changes. We added a deputy fire marshal position in late December of 2017. Andrew McLain filled this spot and fit in nicely with his fellow fire marshals. Firefighter Tyrone Morgan filled the other vacant bureau position and became the coordinator of fire safety and public education. With two new DFMs in the office, a primary focus during the year was getting them trained in fire origin and cause investigations as well as fire code enforcement. Andrew became certified as a Fire Inspector I and II and Tyrone earned his Fire Inspector I by mid-year. Both have been a welcome addition to the office.

An exciting and new change for the fire prevention bureau was the transition of our offices from the south side of fire station 1 to the north side of the building in the old 911-dispatch area. Fire prevention and suppression employees helped with the demolition and remodel of the area. All the hard work paid off with a very nice office space for the bureau. In addition to a new office space, we received a new pickup truck that is assigned to the fire marshal. This truck is outfitted with fire investigation equipment and will serve as a backup investigation vehicle should there be a need for multiple investigation call outs.

In September, the Billings Fire Department resurrected the school fire safety program after nine years of dormancy. A big thank you to Fire Chief Rash for supporting the reinstatement of this vital program for our schoolchildren. DFM Tyrone Morgan and Firefighter Patrick Branger (AKA Pattycakes the Clown) put on four fire safety presentations at the Lincoln Center Auditorium targeting third graders. The program was offered to School District 2 schools, county schools located in the BUFSA, as well as home school kids. A total of 1,449 students received this important information during the four-day period. We are looking forward to presentations in 2019 and expanding the program.

Throughout the year, we provided approximately 78 fire station tours and infields. This exposure enables our community to receive fire safety education in smaller group sessions at either a fire station or another location. This education is typically provided by our suppression crewmembers and is very well received. In all, we reached out to 1,305 youths and adults. Fire station open houses kicked off during the first week of October tying in with Fire Prevention Week. These events brought 1,333 youths and adults to our stations where they received fire safety information and learned about our firefighters, the stations, and equipment.

With the addition of one more deputy fire marshal, the fire prevention bureau was able to distribute work more evenly to all the deputies including fire investigation duty, school inspections, complaint inspections, and final construction inspections. An additional task added because of the increase in staffing was the inspection of target hazard buildings in the city, including all buildings that are four or more stories tall.

DFM McLain headed up this program and is making a positive effect on the safety of the city.

Some changes in responsibilities in the fire prevention bureau include DFM Fender overseeing fire protection system reviews and DFM Morgan coordinating the Knox Box program.

In all, it has been a very exciting year and we are looking forward to the future and working with the new BFD leadership.



2018 Operations Report

Assistant Fire Chief of Operations Matt Hoppel

THE OPERATIONS DIVISION INCLUDES OVERSIGHT OF:

- FIRE SUPPRESSION
- TRAINING
- EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
 - ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT
 - BASIC LIFE SUPPORT
- HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM
 - CONFINED SPACE RESCUE
- SPECIAL OPERATIONS
 - VEHICLE STABILIZATION EXTRICATION
 - ROPE RESCUE
 - STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE RESCUE
 - SWIFT WATER RESCUE
 - ICE RESCUE
 - CONFINED SPACE RESCUE (Joint Venture with Haz-Mat)
- SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS
 - CONFINED SPACE RESCUE (Joint Venture with Haz-Mat)

FIRE SUPPRESSION / SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Battalion Chief Ed Regele
Battalion Chief Kevin Johnson
Battalion Chief Jason Lyon
Battalion Chief Darrek Mitchell

The Billings Fire Department responds on a wide variety of calls requiring fire suppression with a majority of them being structure fires. Other fires include vehicle fires, rubbish fires, wildland fires, natural gas fires to list a few. Although these responses are not as high as medical responses, they are very manpower intensive and pose a significant amount of risk. These low frequency, high risk events are the driving factor behind a very intensive annual training program. The fire department uses a risk management profile to reduce that risk whenever possible.



TRAINING

Training Chief Sean Biggins

The mission of Billings Fire Department Training Division is to ensure that emergency service professionals are trained to effectively serve the City of Billings. We accomplish our training mission by the following actions:

Billings Fire Training Division prepares probationary fire candidates for assignment to suppression, enforces and ensures that they successfully complete the recruit training process. Provides reality-based training opportunities to all Billings Fire Department personnel. Researches and acts as a proving ground for all proposed upgrades in firefighting technology and innovations in fire service strategy and tactics as reflected in the Standard Operating Procedures.

Provides professional growth and employee development opportunities to the members of the Billings Fire Department.

BFD members documented well over 72,000 hours of training in 2018.

Some of the highlights of the 2018 training program were as follows:

- **In January of 2018, the *Fire Training Division* saw some changes in the leadership of the division. The previous training chief made a lateral move to become the A-Shift Battalion Chief, which created a promotion for Asst. Training Chief Sean Biggins to Chief of Training. These movements created an opening for the Asst. Training Chief / EMS Chief, which was filled by Engineer Bryan Francis.**

- **On March 12th, 2018, 4 new recruits were hired and entered into 12 weeks of recruit training. The recruit academy cadre consisted of firefighter Lee Weis and engineer Craig Riske whom have spent multiple years working with the training division to provide 12 weeks of training to our new recruits. With the assistance of Assistant Training Chief Bryan Francis, a very successful Recruit Academy was completed on June 1st. Upon completion of the spring recruit academy, a very professional and well-received academy graduation ceremony was conducted at fire station one. The new recruits were Rebecca Vincent, Seth Rivard, Jason Johnson, and Michael Cassou. We are excited to have them as part of our team. The four Billings Fire Recruits began their ranks within the Suppression Division on June 4th.**



- **The Billings Fire Department Technical Rescue Team continues in annual refresher training. Training in the following Disciplines was delivered throughout the year:**
 - High and low angle rope rescue
 - Ice Rescue
 - Swift water Rescue
 - Motor Vehicle Extrication
 - Confined Space
- **In May of 2018, the Billings Fire Department implemented a Rescue Water Craft (RWC) program within the Technical Rescue Team (TRT). This training was initially provided to eight of the BFD rescue technicians by Mather's Rescue Systems and was well received by all. In July 2018, we were able to train 11 of more members of the TRT in this discipline. The edition of this program to the technical rescue team increased our water rescue level of service to the citizens who visit and recreate in this great city. In 2018, this program was instrumental in successfully rescuing 11 civilians from the Yellowstone River.**



- **In 2018, the Technical Rescue Team (TRT) conducted their bi-annual refresher *Trench Rescue* refresher in September. This training had proven to be beneficial in October when the on-duty crews were called to a trench rescue in residential subdivision saving one civilian, just one month later.**



- **During the summer of 2018, the fire training division assisted in the roll out of the new Scott 5.5 series self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), air compressors, rapid intervention kits, and a new supplied air system for Confined Space / Hazmat response. This upgrade and replacement of our previous breathing air system was invaluable to firefighter safety and ultimately, public safety.**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency medical services continue to be an evolving part of the Billings Fire Department. Billings Fire currently offers Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levels at the Advanced Life Support (ALS) care level and the Basic Life Support (BLS) care level. Our system currently includes:

- **8 staffed fire units providing Advanced Life support and Basic Life Support functions**
- **28 Nationally Registered, State of Montana licensed Paramedics**
- **86 Nationally Registered, State of Montana licensed Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)**

Several major projects were launched in 2018 to advance Emergency Medical Services in the City of Billings including:

- Introduction of electronic patient care reports (ePCR's) using the State of Montana approved Image Trend system
- Activation of 11 Nationally Registered, State of Montana licensed, Yellowstone County accredited Paramedics to provide Advance Life Support care
- Training, equipping and deploying 12 additional nationally registered and State licensed Paramedics in a Fire based medical response role. This arduous process consist of a 40 hour training refresher, ride time with an approved Field Training Officer and credentialing within the approved medical system (currently in progress).



- The use of the Life Pak 12's and 15's to transmit data to the hospital emergency room during an active cardiac event
- Implementation of narcotic reversal medication Naloxone (Narcan) at the Basic Life Support (BLS) Level
- Recertification of all Suppression staff in Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation
- Recertification of all Advance Life Support providers in Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
- Participation in a FEMA Integrated Emergency Management Course (IEMC) table top exercise
- Participation in a FEMA sponsored Tactical Combat Casualty Care (TCCC) class including officers from the Billings Police Department and surrounding agencies.
- Continued training in Rescue Task Force (RTF) response to a mass shooting incident

SPECIAL OPERATIONS TEAMS

The special operations teams are teams that have been created inside the Billings Fire Department to address unique situations/incidents that happen in our community from time to time. These events include:

- ***Hazardous Material Team*** for chemical spills and releases
- ***Technical Rescue Team*** for incidents involving:
 - Rope Rescue
 - Confined Spaces Rescue
 - Collapse Rescue, i.e. structural collapse or trench rescue
 - Swift Water Rescue / Ice Rescue
 - Vehicle Stabilization / Extrication.
- ***Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Team***

****SPECIAL TEAMS MEMBERS ARE ALL BILLINGS FIREFIGHTERS WHO HAVE TAKEN ON THE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITY OF ATTAINING AND MAINTAINING A HIGH LEVEL OF COMPETENCE AS MEMBERS OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL TEAMS****

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

The Billings Fire Department / Regional Hazmat Team is staffed with 8 Tox Medics and 35 Haz Mat Technicians. They are trained and equipped to respond to incidents such as large and small fuel spills, chemical spills, clandestine laboratories, and unknown hazardous substances. 2018 was a busy year for the Hazmat Team:

- **Responded and evaluated 2 clandestine laboratories.**
- **Responded to numerous small chemical leaks and spills.**
- **Trained 2 new hazmat technicians and 1 hazardous materials medic.**
- **Enhanced our partnership with the Billings Police Department and the regional drug task force.**
- **Received a \$60,000 'unknown chemical' analyzer through federal grant funds.**
- **Participated in Exxon's oil pipeline spill tabletop exercise.**
- **Completed a hands-on exercise with the Montana National Guard Civil Support Team.**

CONFINED SPACE RESCUE

- **The Hazardous Materials team additionally responds to incidents involving victims trapped or injured in small areas such as storage silos, vaults, tanks, etc. This multi-team incident may require the need of supplied air (SCBA Team), atmospheric monitoring for environments that are immediately dangerous to life and health (Hazmat Team) and the need for specialized rope rescue or extraction equipment (Tech Rescue Team). Each of these teams has specialized training in their respected disciplines, that when combined, they can safely and efficiently, rescue individuals from environments that should not be entered by a civilian.**
- **Annual refresher training is conducted by hosting a multi-team drill every August.**



TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM (TRT)

- **VEHICLE EXTRICATION**

- **The Billings Fire Department's fire apparatus are all equipped with hydraulic and electric extrication tools (Jaws of Life). The Billings Fire Department Technical Rescue Team is specially trained and utilizes a specialized apparatus (Rescue 2) that is equipped with multiple extrication tools, cribbing, and shoring for use in small or large vehicle extrication incidents. This apparatus is equipped to support the mission of the responding engine companies as well as a support vehicle to the other specialized teams inside the Billings Fire Department.**
- **The tech rescue team conducts several training sessions annually that are associated with vehicle extrication and stabilization.**



- **ROPE RESCUE**

- **The City of Billings is surrounded by over 15 miles of sand stone cliffs in which the citizens and tourists recreate on or around throughout the year. Due to this topography, the Billings Fire Tech Rescue Team responds to a variety of incidents that require the use of high angle, steep angle, or low angle rope rescue techniques. An example of a rope rescue incident would include the need to extricate a victim or victims from a vehicle located over a steep embankment. It takes specialized training and equipment to safely and efficiently use ropes and other specialized tools to bring incident victims up embankments or other difficult terrain.**
- **In 2016, the Technical Rescue Team responded to numerous incidents on the rims requiring the use of our rope rescue technicians. Some of these incidents were during hours of darkness requiring more specially trained rescue personnel.**
- **TRT conducts rope rescue training in multiple locations throughout the year. Some of these may include facilities such as, the Metra Park, on various high-rise buildings, or on the rims surrounding our great city.**



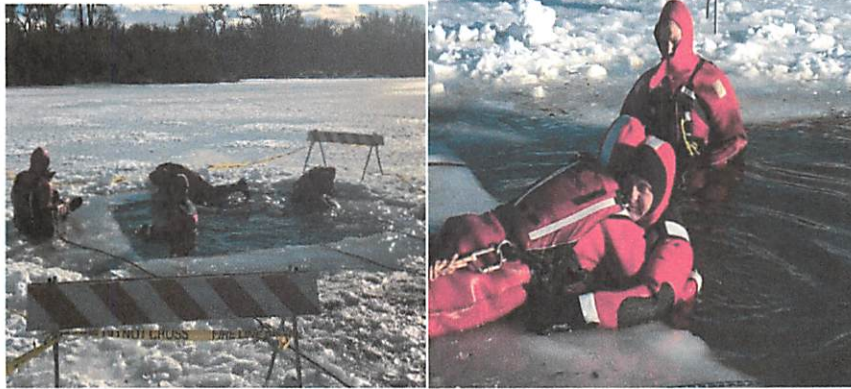
- **SWIFT WATER RESCUE**

- **The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) responds to swift and still water rescue incidents. This team is specially trained and equipped for most water rescue incidents. All Billings Fire apparatus are equipped with personal flotation devices (PFD) and ropes for quick rescues or to utilize in support of this team being deployed to an incident.**
- **TRT continues to evaluate and assemble needed water rescue equipment for incident use and training.**
 - **In 2016, ExxonMobil donated two ski jets to the team for water rescue incidents.**
 - **Multiple swift water rescue training sessions were conducted during the summer months on the Yellowstone River.**



- **ICE RESCUE**

- **The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) responds to frozen bodies of water located within the City and the Billings Urban Fire Service Area (BUFSA). This team utilizes specialized ice rescue suits, ropes and other equipment along with having specialized training to operate in these environments. The ice rescue team is trained to rescue victims who have fallen through the ice and into the water. This operation takes special care, as the stability of the ice is a concern for not only the victim(s) but for the responding firefighters as well, making this an especially dangerous task.**
- **Ice rescue training is conducted on Lake Josephine and Lake Elmo State Park annually.**
- **Members of the TRT regularly monitor ice conditions within jurisdictional waterways.**



- **COLLAPSE RESCUE**

- **The technical rescue team has members who are specially trained in structural and trench collapse rescue.**
- **The team is equipped to evaluate most structures and trenches for instability after the structure or trench has failed due to an impact by a natural or man-made event.**
 - **Natural events may include events such as earthquakes, tornados, or high wind events, etc.**
 - **Man-made events may be vehicle crashes into a structure or the operation of heavy equipment too close to an open trench.**
 - **These members are trained to use specialized equipment to stabilize a structure or trench for rescue operations or general public safety until a contract firm can arrive and assume responsibility.**



SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS TEAM

The Billings Fire Department Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Team (SCBA) is responsible for the operation, maintenance and training on multiple breathing air systems components, providing life safety protection for our personnel, allowing us to serve our citizens during emergency operations. We operate and maintain the following equipment, much of which was purchased new and placed in service in 2017 and 2018.

- **SCOTT HUSHAIR 7500 breathing air compressor**
- **RevolveAir Connect 7000 psi fill / fragmentation station with 4 cylinder ASME storage cascade**
- **Liberty II 6000 psi Mobile Air Compressor / power station with 4 cylinder ASME storage cascade**
- **Mobile Air Cascade van with fill / fragmentation station**
- **90 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus packs - X3 PRO SCBA**
- **200 45 minute breathing air cylinders - 5500 psi**
- **24 75 minute breathing air cylinders - 5500 psi**
- **155 SCBA AV3000HT face pieces**
- **145 SCOTT Sight mask mounted thermal imagers**
- **35 Epic 3 mask mounted voice amplifiers**
- **155 EZ-Flo Plus mask mounted regulators**

- **6 RIT PACK III rapid intervention team portable packs**
- **Supplied Air Respirator Cart**
- **6 SKA-PAK AT confined space supplied air packs**
- **6 HP SAR lines with pre-plumbed pressure capability**
- **Pak-Alert SE handheld downed firefighter locator**
- **2 additional backup breathing air storage cascades**
- **Honeywell POSI3 USB SCBA test bench**
- **OHD QuantiFit personnel mask fit test machine**
- **The SCBA Team received, implemented and tested all new and previously owned breathing air equipment for function and compatibility. All SCBA technicians and suppression personnel were trained on new breathing air equipment and the equipment was put into service. Ongoing training has been designed for continuing education at the technician and operations levels to further improve equipment and efficiency optimization.**

GOALS FOR 2019

- **COMPLETE TRANSITION TO ADVANCED LIFE SUPPORT – PARAMEDIC ENGINE COMPANIES**
- **WORK WITH CITY COUNCIL TO REVIEW AND ADOPT THE FIRE DEPARTMENT'S LONG RANGE MASTER PLAN FOR STATION PLACEMENT AND STAFFING**
- **AGGRESSIVELY WORK TO IDENTIFY AND WRITE GRANTS FOR EQUIPMENT AND PERSONNEL AS APPROVED**
- **COMPLETE REVISION AND UPDATING OF POLICIES, STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINES AND EMS PROTOCOLS**
- **WORK WITH FACILITIES DIVISION AND CITY COUNCIL TO CREATE PLAN TO ADDRESS DEFERRED MAINTENANCE CHALLENGES WITH CITY FIRE STATIONS**
- **CONTINUE WORK ON IMPROVING ISO PROTECTOIN CLASSIFICATION**
- **CONTINUE IDENTIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INNOVATIVE METHODS TO BETTER DELIVER FIRE, RESCUE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE MANNER**

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION FIRE

Billings Fire Department

January 2018 to December 2018

Part III: BREAKDOWN OF STRUCTURE FIRES AND OTHER FIRES AND INCIDENTS

A. Fires In Structures By Fixed Property Use (Occupancy) (all in Section A are Incident Type 110-129)	Number Of Fires	Number of Civilian Fire Casualties		Estimated Property Damage
		Deaths	Injuries	
1. Private Dwellings	62	1	7	\$1,207,672.50
2. Apartments	15	0	3	\$346,105.00
3. Hotels and Motels	3	0	0	\$1,400.00
4. All Other Residential	1	0	0	\$10.00
5. TOTAL RESIDENTIAL FIRES	81	1	10	\$1,555,187.50
6. Public Assembly	2	0	0	\$27,000.00
7. Schools and Colleges	0	0	0	\$0.00
8. Health Care/Penal Institutions	0	0	0	\$0.00
9. Stores and Offices	3	0	0	\$860,400.00
10. Industry/Utility/Defense/Labs/Manufacturing	1	0	0	\$1,050,000.00
11. Storage in Structures	5	0	0	\$628,000.00
12. Other Structures	7	0	0	\$3,000.00
13. TOTAL STRUCTURE FIRES	99	1	10	\$4,123,587.50
14a. Highway Vehicles	47	0	0	\$289,400.00
14b. Other Vehicles	3	0	0	\$12,000.00
15. Non-Structure/Non-Vehicle	4	0	0	\$15,000.00
16. Brush/Grass/Wildland	35	0		
17. Rubbish/Dumpsters	52	0		
18. All Other Fires	5	0	0	\$125.00
19. TOTAL FOR FIRES	245	1	10	\$4,440,112.50
20. Rescue/Emergency Medical Responses	7,368			
21. False Alarms	993			
22. Mutual Aid Given	19			
23a. Hazmat Responses	124			
23b. Other Hazardous Responses	133			
24. All Other Responses/Call For Service Inspections	6624			
25. TOTAL FOR ALL INCIDENTS	15,506			

	Number of Confined Fires	Number of Nonconfined Fires
5. Residential Fires (line 5 above)	24	57
13. Structure Fires (line 13 above)	27	72

Incident Type Percentage Comparison

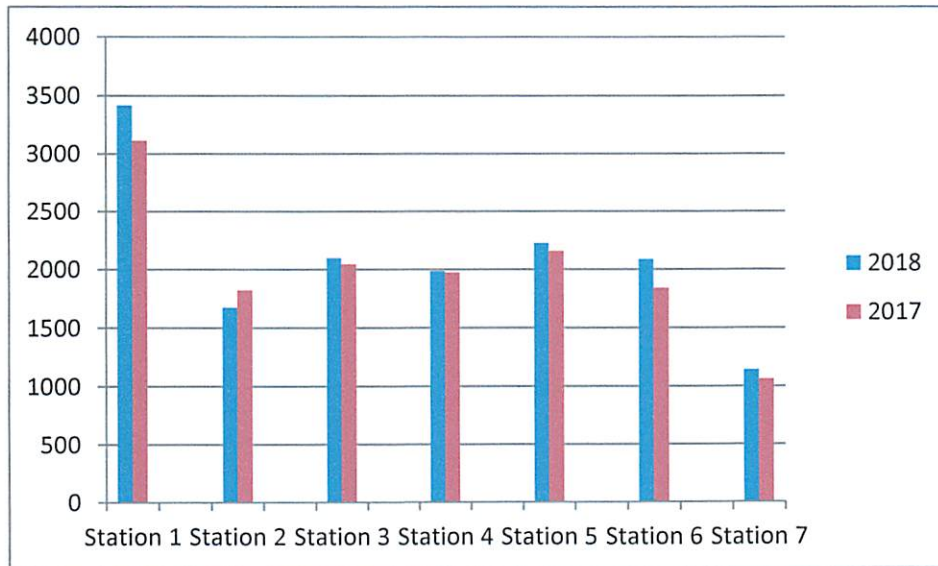
Incident Type	2018	2017	%Change
Fires	245	338	-28%
Building Alarm System	993	622	60%
EMS (Emergency Medical Services)	6727	6012	12%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	629	615	2%
Extrication	23	26	-12%
High Angle Rescue	6	8	-25%
Removal of Children in Locked Vehicle	29	24	21%
Removal of Victim Trapped in Elevator	12	2	500%
Swift Water Rescue	3	2	50%
Hazardous Responses	257	261	-2%
Installation of Smoke Alarms	56	26	115%
Fire Prevention Education	124	109	14%
Extrications	23	26	-12%
Public Service	6379	5934	7%
TOTAL	15506	14005	11%

Incident Response By Station

	2018	2017
Station 1	3416	3112
Station 2	1675	1822
Station 3	2096	2044
Station 4	1984	1972
Station 5	2224	2155
Station 6	2085	1840
Station 7	1143	1060
Totals	14623	14005

Peak Call Times @ 5:00 PM
Least Call Times @ 4:00 AM

The balance of 883 calls for service are not calculated in the station response report. These calls for service were assigned to the Fire Prevention Bureau and to standby crews who were called in and activated



It should also be noted that the 15,506 calls for service does not represent multiple unit responses. Example - one structure fire will result in a minimum of a first alarm or four fire engines, one aerial-ladder truck and one Battalion Chief. The fire department now has the capability to track all apparatus responses, which will be reflected in the 2019 Annual Report

2018 BILLINGS URBAN FIRE SERVICE AREA STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Type of Incidents	CODE #	JAN - MAR 2018	APR - JUN 2018	JUL - SEP 2018	OCT-DEC 2018	TOTAL
Building Fire	111	2	1	1		4
Trash Fire in a Building	118					0
Fire in mobile home	120			1		1
Mobile Property Fire (Vehicle/Motorhome)	130	1		3		4
Natural Vegetation/Grass Fire	140			8	2	10
Outside Rubbish/Dumpster Fire	150	1		3	1	5
Camp Fire	156					0
Special Outside Fire	160			1		1
Cultivated Vegetation, crop fire	170					0
Overpressure Rupture from Steam	210					0
Overpressure Rupture from Air or Gas	220					0
Explosion (no fire)	240					0
Excessive heat, scorch burns,no fire	251					0
Under Influence in Public	301	1	1			2
Medial Assist, Assist EMS crew	311					0
EMS call with injury	321	46	29	94	65	234
Assist Transient/Homeless	3215					0
Vehicle accident with injuries	322	5	2	11	2	20
Vehicle accident with no injuries	324		2	6	9	17
Lock-in	331	1				1
Search	340					0
Extrication, rescue	350	2		1		3
High Angle rescue	356					0
Water & ice related rescue	360			3		3
Electrical Rescue	370					0
Rescue or EMS Standby	381					0
Flammable Gas or Liquid Condition	410	2	4	2	2	10
Toxic Condition	420		1	1		2
Radioactive Condition	430					0
Electrical wiring/equipment Problem	440	1	1	5	1	8
Accident, potential accident	460					0
Attempt to Burn, Illegal Action	480					0
Lock-Out	511			1		1
Water or Steam Leak	522				1	1
Animal Rescue	542					0
Assist Government Agency or Police	551			2		2
Assist Invalid	554	14	6	11	9	40
Public Service Assistance/Police Matter	550	1	1			2
Unauthorized Burning	561	1		1		2
Standby	571					0
Dispatched & Cancelled Enroute/OnScene	611	34	13	51	37	135
No Incident Found	622	1	4		5	10
Authorized Controlled Burning	631	2	1	5	4	12
Steam, other gas mistaken for Smoke	650	1		3	3	7
EMS call, party transported by non-fire	661	3			1	4
HazMat Incident w/no HazMat found	670			1		1
False Alarm or False Call	700	1				1
Alarm System Malfunction	730	2		4	2	8
Unintentional Transmission of Alarm	740	0	7	12	5	24
Severe Weather or Natural Disaster	800			1		1
Citizen Complaint	911					0
TOTAL		122	73	232	149	576