

FIRE CHIEF REPORT

Report Date: 4/15/2026

Call Volume: March had 148 requests for service: 911 EMS 86, Transfers 46, Dive 0, and Fire 16
February had 147 requests for service: 911 EMS 82, Transfers 52, Dive 2, and Fire 11

District Staffing

District Staffing Level: 95 members

Command Staff: 4 (1 Career Fire Chief & 3 POC Deputy Chief)

Administrative Assistant: 1

Chaplains: 2

St 1 - 37 members: 31 POC, 3 PT, & 3 Career (7 fire, 25 fire/EMS, 2 MPO, 2 EMS, & 1 Fire Investigator)

St 3 - 34 members: 31 POC & 3 Career (12 fire, 11 fire/EMS/dive, 1 MPO, 1 EMS, & 9 dive)

St 6 - 17 members: 16 POC & 1 Career (11 fire, 3 fire/EMS, 1 MPO, & 2 EMS)

EMS Training: 48 members trained as EMS Responders

Ambulance Staffing: 27-member training/approved to work on ambulance

Dive Team - 20 members (12 Divers & 8 Support)

Members that have complete Fire Training(S)

Bruce Miller has completed Firefighter 1 effective 3/31/3036

Anniversaries this month

Fire Chief Bernette – 34 years of service (13 years with the Fire District)

Administrative Assistant Cathy Zeinert – 1 year of service

Members that have completed probation

EMT Sophia Boudreau

Members that have resigned

FF/EMT Racheal Kuznar effective 3/30/2026

FF/EMT Evelyn Richard effective 3/30/2026

Department Interview(s)

3 new applicants have applied for an interview for paid on call positions

Vehicle/Equipment Updates

Squad 3 - marker light replaced on 3/18/26

Engine 6 – cab tilt cylinder had a leak fixed on 3/20/26

Tender 1 – water gauge not working right fixed on 3/20/2026

Medic 5 – in for service on 3/24/2026

Truck 1 – hydraulic hose leak; hose replaced on 3/24/2026

Medic 3 – power load cot lifting serviced on 3/25/2026

Medic 3 – marker light replaced on 3/25/26

Squad 3 – serviced for a coolant leak (radiator cap bad) fixed on 3/26/25

Medic 1 – 2 marker lights replaced on 3/30/26

Tende 1 - brakes serviced on 4/1/2026

Engine 6 – Front scene light serviced on 4/2/26

Engine 6 – Rear scene light power wire replaced on 4/2/26

Engine 6 – Water leak / front hose clamp was tighten on 4/2/26

Engine 1 - fuel leak / fuel tank replaced on 4/7/26

Medic 3 in for annual DOT and service on 4/14/26

Medic 4 in for annual DOT and service on 4/14/26

Medic 5 in for annual DOT and service on 4/14/26

Engine 1 service for a door ajar warning on 4/15/26

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District Meetings

Station Meetings

Station 1 meeting was held on 4/1/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Nowak, Officers, and members.
Station 3 meeting was held on 4/8/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Jeffers, Officers, and members.
Station 6 meeting was held on 3/18/2026 attended by DC Schiedler, Officers, and members.

Fire Board Meeting

Special Meeting on 3/25/2026 with City of Altoona attend be Board Members from Town of Hallie, Town of Lafayette, Town of Howard, and Village of Lake Hallie, Chief Bernette, DC Nowak, DC Jeffers, DC Sheidler, several District Officer and Firefighters, and members of Chippewa Fire Commission Meeting held on 3/17/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Sheidler, several District Officers, and Next regular scheduled meeting is scheduled for 4/23/2026 at 5:30pm

Fire Commission Meeting

Meeting was held on 1/27/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Scheidler, DC Jeffers, DC Nowak, Station Officers, Station members, and several from the public.
Next regular scheduled meeting is scheduled for 4/28/2026 at 6:30pm

Officer's Meetings

District Officers Meeting held on 3/5/2026 attended by Chief Bernette, DC Nowak, DC Jeffers, and Station Officers.
Next Meeting: 5/7/2026

Employee Meetings

Career and Part-time Employee Meeting held on 3/5/2026 at Station 1 at 7:30am
Next Meeting: 4/3/2025 at Station 1 at 7:30am

District Trainings

Fire Training

March: Wildland Fire responses
April: Utilities and Down Powerline Responses (District Wide)

EMS Training

March: Peds calls and skill reviews
April: TBD

Officer Training

April: Severe/Storm Responses (SOP 504 Severe Weather) on 4/2/2026
Feb: Scene Size Reports & Entering Reports in NERIS on 2/5/2026

Other Meetings/Activities

CVTC BLS/AEMT Advisory Committee Meeting online attend by Chief Bernette on 3/30/2026
NERIS online training attend by Chief Bernette on 4/7/2026
911 Policies & Procedures Workgroup Meeting attend by Chief Bernette on 4/8/2026
Chippewa County Emergency Medical Services Association attend by Chief Bernette on 4/8/2026
EMS/MC Meeting attended by Chief Bernette and Cathy Zeinert on 4/9/26

District Safety Message

OSHA Monthly Safety Topics 2026
April Safety Topic: Electrical Safety Awareness

Electricity is unforgiving. One mistake can be fatal. This safety sessions cover electrical hazards, damaged cords, overloaded sockets, and lockout procedures. Non-electrical workers also need awareness. Many accidents happen when people assume equipment is safe because it looks normal. Teach them never to assume.

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Home Electrical Safety

- **Inspect Cords:** Regularly check appliances for frayed or damaged cords. Replace damaged items immediately.
- **Avoid Overloading:** Do not plug too many appliances into a single outlet or surge protector.
- **Water Hazard Protection:** Keep all electric-powered devices away from water, particularly in bathrooms and kitchens. Use GFCI outlets.
- **Extension Cord Safety:** Use extension cords only as a temporary solution. Do not run them under rugs or high-traffic areas.
- **Child Safety:** Install tamper-resistant socket covers in homes with small children.
- **Safety Check:** If a switch or outlet feels warm, turn off the circuit and call an electrician.

Workplace Electrical Safety

- **Inspect Equipment:** Verify that tools and leads are in good condition and tested.
- **Lockout/Tagout (LOTO):** Ensure power sources are de-energized and locked before beginning repairs.
- **Clear Access:** Keep electrical panels and breaker boxes clear of debris or storage.
- **Protective Equipment:** Wear appropriate PPE such as non-conductive gloves and eye protection.
- **Overhead Lines:** Maintain a minimum 10-foot distance from power lines and use non-conductive (fiberglass) ladders.
- **Power lines on the ground:** Assume they are energized until the power company see they are de-energized.
- **Emergency Response:** If someone is being shocked, do not touch them; shut off the power source immediately.

Note: If you see something, say something!

Note: If you see a life safety issue within our fire stations (fire door block open/closed, blocked exit, blocked electrical panel, ect) correct it and then report it. Don't leave it as a safety hazard .