

Neosho Fire Department 2020 Annual Report



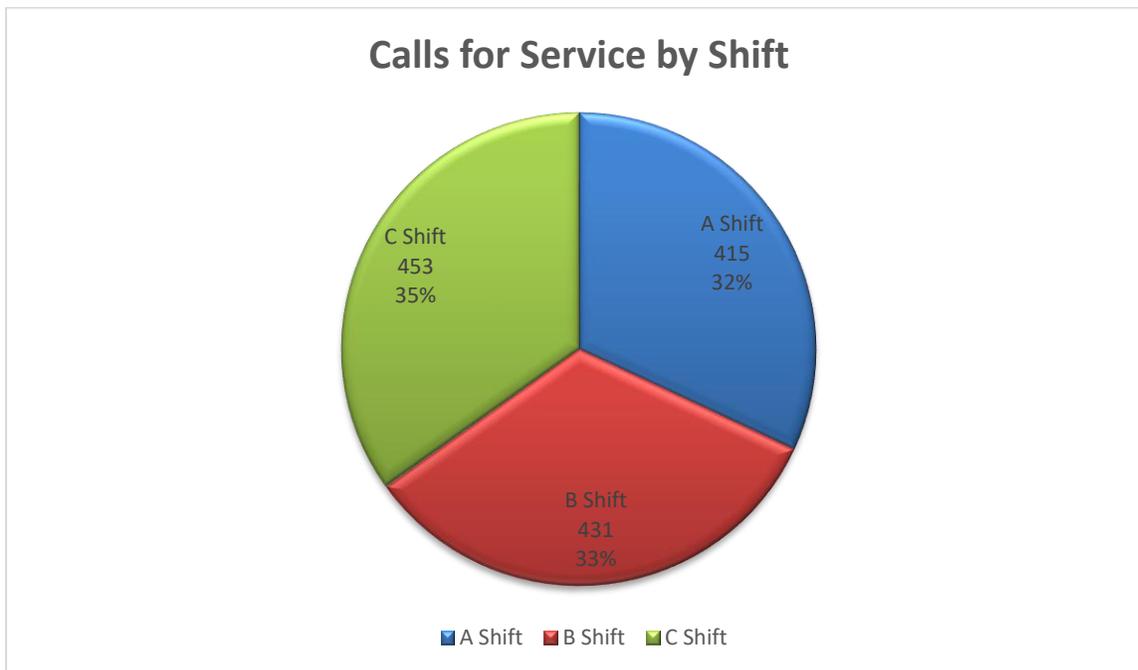
*It is the design of the department to serve the public to the best of
Our ability.*

*The mission of the department is to assist people through
Prevention, Planning, Education, and Action.
We pursue this mission with determination and resolve with
emphasis on
Dedication, Compassion, and Constant Improvement.*

Introduction

The Neosho Fire Department started the year out busy and remained that way throughout the year. We responded to **1,299** calls for service.

I would like to say “Thank You” to the citizens that have continued to support the fire department. We have worked very hard to maintain the high standard that you have come to expect, and we wouldn’t want it any other way. To the members of the fire department, their families, fellow City employees, first responders from around the area, a big thank you for your time helping make Neosho a safer place. In times of need, this community comes together making Neosho a better place.



Departmental Facts

Fire Station 1
125 N. College St.
Neosho, Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8021
Fax: 417-451-8027

Fire Station 2
501 Industrial Drive
Neosho Missouri 64850
Phone: 417-451-8030
Fax: 417-451-8047

District Fire Station (3)
13002 Ireland Lane
Neosho MO 64850
(Unmanned District built station)

Department Fire, Chief, Jim Ledford,
Assistant Fire Chief, Unfunded Position
Administrative Assistant, Shelby Pringle,
Fire Marshal, Scott Maness

Staffing-40 hour
Fire Chief
Administrative Assistant
Fire Marshal

Staffing-24 hour Shift
3 Battalion Chiefs
3 Captains
12 Engineers
6 Firefighters

Staffing-Paid-per-call
1 Firefighter

City ISO rating is: 4/4X
District ISO rating is: 5/10

**Fire Department Personnel Current staff
End of year 2020**

Administrative Staffing [40 hr]

Fire Chief Jim Ledford (97)
Administrative Assistant Shelby Pringle (17)
Fire Marshal Scott Maness (11)

(The years in parentheses at the end of personnel represents hire date)

Shift personnel [24/48 hr]

A-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Roy Haskett (02)
Capt. Kyle Rogers (03)
Eng. Mark Solomon (02)
Eng. Jacob Pim (11)
Eng. Dustin Wright (18)
Eng. Danny Naugle (17)
FF CJ Hutchens (17)
FF Shawn Nance (19)

B-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Adrian Hitchcock (02)
Capt. Derek Williams (16)
Eng. Beau Davis (05)
Eng. Lance Parsons (15)
Eng. Phillip Doke (17)
Eng. Steven Hendrix (17)
FF Brandon Burns (16)
FF Caleb Ridenour (19)

C-Shift (24)

Bat. Chief Bret Smith (91)
Capt. Tim Duncan (02)
Eng. Luke Powell (11)
Eng. Travis Bracht (11)
Eng. Heath Crowder (17)
Eng. Jeremy Clogston (17)
FF Colton Tuten (18)
FF Zachary Chapman (19)

Paid-per-Call

Firefighter Steffen Wiest (11)



Assessment of Personnel

An assessment of the Neosho Fire Department and personnel requirements as required for the City of Neosho.

Determining the number of needed fire personnel can be difficult as personnel numbers are not based off call volume or area covered. Personnel requirements are based on call type. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) sets forth guidelines for staffing requirements. In an ideal world these staffing guidelines would be met and followed. In the real-world funding plays a major role in staffing. The Neosho Fire Department (NFD) works daily to maintain adequate staffing to comply with NFPA while also remaining fiscally responsible for the City of Neosho.

NFPA Guidelines:

NFPA 1710 Chapter 5 lays out the guidelines for staffing.

5.2.2 The number of on-duty fire suppression members shall be sufficient to perform the necessary firefighting operations given the expected firefighting conditions.

NFPA continues to say that the number is based on task analysis based on 5 criteria:

1. Life hazard to populace protected.
2. Safe and effective Fire Fighting Performance Conditions for Fire Fighters
3. Potential Property Loss
4. Nature, Configuration, Hazards, and Internal Protections of the properties involved.
5. Fireground tactics and evolutions employed as Standard Operating Procedure, Type of apparatus used, and results expected to be obtained at the fire scene.

When we apply these criteria to the Neosho Fire Department, we find the requirement for personnel to be the highest within the City limits. The highest life hazard, potential for property loss, Nature, Configuration, and Hazards are found within the city limits. The City of Neosho has a higher number of multi-family living units (apartments), manufacturing, and warehousing.

NFPA goes on to further break down the number of personnel by apparatus assignments:

5.2.3.1.1 Engine companies shall be staffed with a minimum of 4 on duty members.

5.2.3.2.1 Ladder companies shall be staffed with a minimum of 4 on duty members.

NFD responds 2 engines and a ladder to all structure fires within the city limits. When fully staffed, 8 personnel, 4 responds in an engine from Station 1, 3 respond in an engine from Station 2, and 1 responds in the Ladder from Station 2. As we can see when fully staffed the station 1 apparatus meets NFPA while station 2 does not. When we take into consideration Vacation, FLSA days, Earned Leave and Sick Leave often shifts run at minimum staffing levels which is 6 per shift. When this occurs, there are 3 people in an engine from station 1, 2 in an engine from station 2 and 1 in the ladder from station 2.

NFPA also sets guidelines for personnel on scenes by assigning tasks:

Single Family Dwellings:

1. Incident Commander
2. Pump Operator
3. 2 Handline Crews consisting of 2 personnel each
4. 1 Member for assistance
5. 2 Members for Search and Rescue
6. 2 Members for Ladders and Ventilation
7. If an Aerial is used 1 aerial operator
8. Rapid Intervention Crew of 2 members

To fill all the positions required by NFPA a daily staffing of 14 personnel would be required, fully staffed NFD has 8 per day. As the size of the structures increase so do the number of personnel required to safely and effectively mitigate the situation. Apartment Fires call for 22 personnel while high rise fires/commercial fires call for 33 members not accounting for EMS personnel.

In summary the Neosho Fire Department is far below the recommended staffing levels of NFPA. The NFD also understands that given the City of Neosho revenues for the fire department that full NFPA staffing is not a feasible solution. The current number of 24 on duty fire fighters, 8 per shift, allows us to come close to meeting some of the requirements. Any cut to staffing would hamper the department's ability and increase the safety risk to its member's.

Currently the break down on responses from January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 is as follows:

City calls for service **904**

District Calls for service **332**

Mutual Aid calls for service **63**

In order to better serve the community and our firefighters, funding is needed for a Full time Assistant Fire Chief, Full time Training Chief and 3 additional personnel. As mentioned above we operate below the recommended NFPA staffing level. Our personnel work very hard to maintain the level of service our citizens expect.

Sometimes it is very difficult to maintain our service level when there are multiple calls for service going on at the same time, when personnel and resources are stretched thin. Although we may not be a large city, we still face the same hazards that larger cities do. The difference being our personnel are performing multiple job tasks and working with far fewer personnel.

Personnel Numbers by years

2004 Personnel Levels (28 Full time FF's, 8 PPC FF's)
2 Chief Officers, 1 Admin. Assist, 1 sec., 1 Building Inspector, 1 Training Officer,
3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 12 Engineers, 6 Firefighters, 8 Paid Per Call firefighters

2010 Personnel Levels (20 Full time FF's, 3 PPC FF's)
1 Chief Officer, 1 Admin. Assist., 3 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 12 Engineers,
1 Firefighter, 3 Paid Per Call Firefighters

2015 Personnel Levels (26 Full time FF's, 5 PPC FF's)
1 Chief Officer, 1 Admin. Assist, 1 Inspector, 3 Bat. Chiefs, 3 Captains,
12 Engineers, 6 Firefighters, 5 Paid Per Call Firefighters

2018 Personnel Levels (27 Full time FF's, 2 PPC FF's)
2 Chief Officers, 1 Admin. Assist, 1 Inspector, 3 Bat. Chiefs, 3 Captains,
12 Engineers, 6 Firefighters, 2 Paid Per Call Firefighters

2020 Personnel Levels (26 Full Time FF's, 1 PPC FF)
1 Chief Officer, 1 Administrative Assistant, 1 Fire Marshal, 3 Battalion Chiefs, 3 Captains
12 Engineers, 6 Firefighters, 1 Paid Per Call Firefighter

Response area of the department is approximately 93 square miles, which includes:

City of Neosho (15.75 Sq. Miles)
District A-Inside City limit, north of
South Street
District B-Inside City limit, south of
South Street

Neosho Area Fire Protection District
District C-Area outside City of Neosho
(77.25 Sq. Miles)
Limits: Iris Road on the north, Goldfinch
on the west, AA Highway on the south,
Panda Road on the east. District lines
follow section lines where no roads are
located.

Mutual Aid (M/A)

Assistance requested from and provided to all local fire or other agencies that request personnel, equipment, or special assistance from the fire department. Department also participates in the Statewide Mutual Aid assistance program when requested if resources and personnel are available.

Equipment Operated by the Fire Department: (year of vehicle)

City:

2 Engines (2013 & 1999)
1 Aerial 111' (2019)
1 Light rescue (2008)
1 Command vehicle 2016
3 Service units-pickup trucks, & Air Unit
(2005, 2005, 2016)
1 Fire Marshal Vehicle (2006)
1 Educational trailer (CARE)
1 Radio/Rehab vehicle (MDC-1992)
(MDC surplus property)

District:

2 Engines (2017, 2009)
1 Reserve engine (1995)
2 Tankers (2016, 2000)
1 Reserve tanker (MDC-2009)
3 Brush trucks (2001, 2006, 2017)
1 Light rescue (2009)
1 Command vehicle (Chief) (2019)
1 Flatbed trailer
Station 3 (13002 Ireland Lane)
(District owned)
1 Kawasaki Mule UTV (2007)
(MDC Surplus Property)

Homeland Security Equipment operated by fire department- In September 2008, the City of Neosho opted out of this program due to funding available to support the program. In January 2010, we closed out funding from Missouri's Homeland Security Regional Response System (HSRRS) program funds. Teams retained all equipment received through the program. Unencumbered funds were reallocated to the Regional Homeland Security Oversight Committee.

The team was comprised of members of the Neosho Police (Law Enforcement), Neosho Fire (Haz-mat), and Newton County Ambulance District (Medical). Equipment has been used to support local and mutual aid operations when requested or Regional or State Responses when called for. Primary mission of the Neosho Haz-Mat Team was to support other Regional and State teams during times of emergency.

Equipment listed consists of Hazardous materials and Decontamination Equipment used by the Neosho Fire Department HSRRS.

3-Prime equipment Movers (F250, F-550, and Bobcat loader)

1-28 foot Cargo Trailer-Hazardous Materials Equipment

1-20 foot Cargo Trailer-Equipment Mover

1-16 foot Flatbed Trailer-Equipment Mover

4-ATV's with Trailers and Carts-Equipment Movers

Assorted logistical support equipment (Sheltering tents, generators, heating system, etc).

Neosho Police and Newton County Ambulance District also received specialized equipment through the program.

Equipment issued to and purchased for the team through the Homeland Security Program was in excess of \$410,000.

Vehicle Maintenance and Service

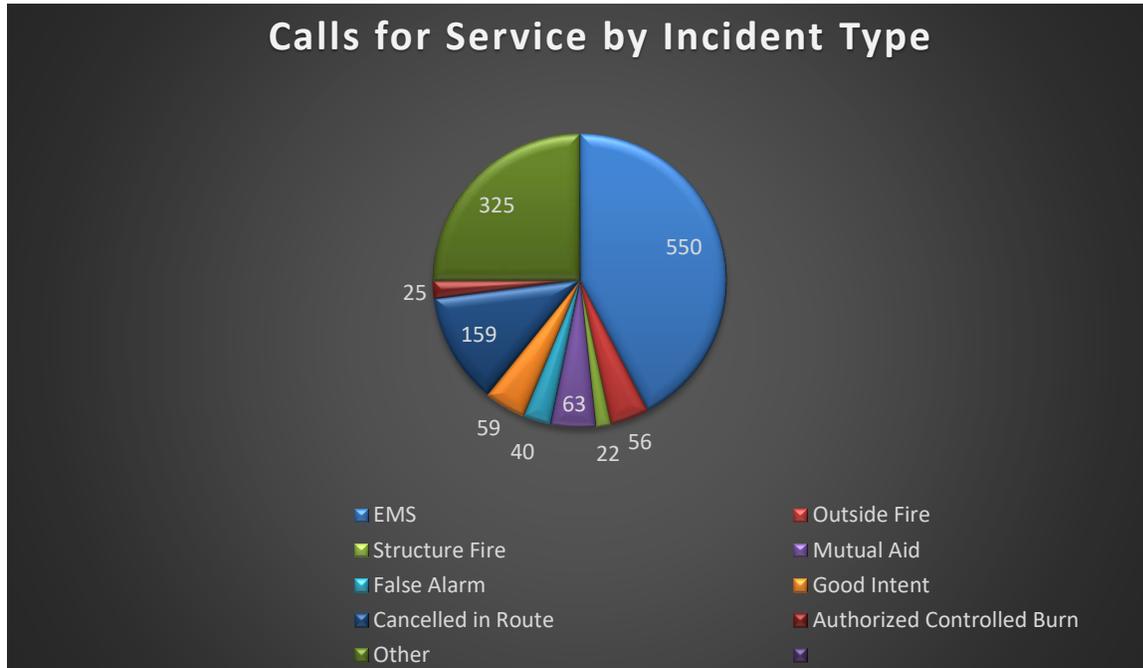
The task of proper operation and maintenance of all equipment is of the utmost importance. The maintenance program for the department consists of daily, weekly, monthly, six-month and annual services. Records are maintained on all apparatus and motorized equipment. Minor service and repairs, such as, adjustments to vehicles, and equipment are performed by duty personnel. Individuals within the department that have been factory trained in maintenance procedures on specific equipment. Those repairs would include, Apparatus pumps, Building Maintenance, Air Sampling and Service of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus and their Air Cylinders. Our annual ISO testing of pumpers, SCBA's, aerial, and ground ladders are performed by an outside vendor since the department does not have proper equipment for these types of tests. NFPA recommends an outside testing source as well. We do attempt to schedule and offer these testing requirements to other departments within our area to help reduce the cost to all departments for these services.

We also rely heavily on City of Neosho public works mechanics, Mike Watts and John McNorton. They have performed many hours of maintenance on our apparatus as well as providing support in areas where assistance was needed with repairs to our apparatus.



Fire Department Response Information

Shown below is the total number of calls received by district and a breakdown of calls received, between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Along with a comparison of the last 4 years.



Calls by District

	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
District A (1,014) =	41.03%	43.87%	43.21%	42.72%	43.04%
District B (640) =	28.56%	27.69%	24.66%	29.06%	27.85%
District C (595) =	25.55%	25.74%	27.53%	25.11%	24.86
Mutual Aid (62) =	4.84%	2.68%	4.58%	3.09%	4.22%



Major structure incidents, with over \$5,000-dollar, fire department estimated loss:

January	City- 245 Hillcrest Dr Dist-10274 Gateway Dr Dist-9965 E Hwy 86 City-1828 Sherry Lea Dr Dist-12966 Kerman Ln
May	City- 511 Baxter St
June	City- 308 E Spring St
August	City- 707 Oak Ridge Dr
September	City- 807 S High St
October	City- 317-Wheeler St
November	City- 815 Baxter St
December	City- 216 W South St District- 12778 Otter Dr City- 942 Industrial Dr City- 501 E Daugherty Rd

Fire Department responded to a total of 22 structure fires.

Total Estimated Value of all structure fires: \$4,311.175

Total Estimated Loss: \$416,150.00

Total Estimated Saved: \$3,895.025.00

Total Estimated Percent Lost: 9.65%

Total Estimated Percent Saved: 90.35%

(Estimates for dollar loss are just an estimate from fire personnel on scene and do not reflect the actual dollar loss by the Insurance Company or Homeowner)

Fire related injuries or deaths (Civilian or Fire Personnel)

- 0-Civilian deaths in the City or District
- 0-Civilian injury in the City or District
- 0-Fire personnel deaths in the City or District
- 0-Fire personnel injury in the City or District



Firefighter Training-Personnel participated in **9,112.76** hours of in-house and outside department training.

Firefighter Training-We continue to train all Firefighters to be Engineers, so we have the flexibility to have enough operators of the apparatus to respond to structure fires. These changes will give us more flexibility in our operations and what we can offer. We continue to provide our firefighters with the needed training and work to bring in as much outside training as possible.

Community Training-Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all fire safety talks were cancelled by the Neosho School District.

Inspections 244 total inspections completed including reinspection's Pre-Plans, Business, Company, Industry, new construction, remodels, tent, fireworks, and burn permits. 85 where re-inspections preformed to follow up on questions and or concerns brought up from the first inspection.

2020 in Review:

The year 2020 brought on several new challenges not only for the Fire Department but our entire city, county and state. The COVID-19 pandemic presented new challenges almost daily as we worked to protect our citizens and Firefighters.

Many training classes and State of Missouri testing locations were closed creating a challenge for fire personnel to finish classes that had already been started or to complete final testing for certification.

Back in March we started the process of applying for a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG). We applied for the grant in April.

In July we were awarded the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for the purchase of new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) and four rescue packs. This was a joint grant between the City of Neosho and the Neosho Area Fire Protection District with a 5% match. We were approved for \$317,759.00 along with the 5 percent match made our total grant award \$333,759.00. After the bid process new SCBA were purchased from FELD Fire Equipment for \$330,759.00 of the total amount \$315,010.00 was reimbursed to the city for the purchase. Each organization paid \$7,875.25 for the match funding. That equipment arrived in December. At this time, we are waiting on in service training to be performed the first week of February 2021. The equipment will go in service on all apparatus after training has concluded.

In September we applied for a Missouri Department of Conservation grant for the Neosho Area Fire Protection District, we were approved for that grant in November. The grant funded the purchase of a new brush skid unit. The unit should go into service sometime in February 2021.

The Neosho Area Fire Protection District voted to replace a model year 2006 brush unit and a model year 2000 tanker. The tanker unit was sold under the sealed bid process in January of 2021. The new tanker has an estimated arrival date of April 2021. The new brush unit is scheduled to arrive in February.

Annual Pump Testing-Annual testing of all apparatus pumps. All city apparatus passed the annual pump testing.

Annual Ladder Testing-Annual testing of all ladders. All ground ladders passed the inspection testing.

Community Events-Personnel assisted with several organizations for fund raising and community assistance programs. Christmas for Kids, Shop with a Hero, Neosho Christmas Parade, Homecoming parade, Fourth of July activities.

Chili Cook Off-Our chili cook off was cancelled this year.

Short Summary of Completed projects for 2020.

Repaired overhead door at fire station 2
Replaced bay floor lighting at fire station 2
Replumbed BAM Unit intake air to the outside
Purchased new SCBA, NFPA 2018 standard
Blue valley public safety serviced all storm sirens and made several repairs throughout the year.
Sold at auction a 1987 Ford pumper fire truck.
Renewed storm siren maintenance agreement (Blue Valley)
Renewed Firehouse reporting software agreement (ESO)
Completed M/A Agreement
Established AED program for city buildings.
Held CPR courses for city personnel.
Completed several repairs to City and District apparatus.
Completed repairs to 4 ATV units and placed them back in service.
Completed EMS protocol.
Completed department hose testing.
Replaced outdated fire hose.
Added TV's to fire department training room.
Completed 2020 ladder testing.
Completed 2020 pump testing.
Completed 2020 Fire Hose testing
Completed 2020 truck service maintenance.