

2021 Northwestern Joint Fire District **Annual Review**



Mission statement-

We are committed to providing fire suppression, medical services, and other emergency and non-emergency activities to the residents and visitors of the Northwestern Joint Fire District. We will respond to emergencies promptly, professionally, and courteously and strive to promote public safety awareness through public education and fire prevention.

Vision statement-

We are a responsive, forward-thinking organization and progressive part of the community we serve. We are committed to excellence and professional accountability through practical training, technology, and adapting to the changing needs of our community. Cost-effectively, we embrace new technologies and techniques, focusing on training and education to provide the highest level of customer services and satisfaction in a professional and caring manner.

Core values and meanings-

- Tradition- Preserving and carrying forward the legacy of those who served before us.
- Professionalism– In application, appearance, attitude, and standards
- Integrity– Demonstrate honesty and fairness, developing a community partnership based on continued trust, respect and common goals.
- Compassion– Demonstrate kindness and empathy
- Responsibility and Accountability– Professionally, personally and fiscally responsible for our actions. We are caretakers of taxpayer money. We see ourselves as stewards of taxpayer dollars.
- Respect– For each other, our department and our customers, the citizens and visitors within the fire district boundaries.
- Diversity– Be open minded and responsive to the uniqueness of our community without regard to age, gender, religion or ethnic origin
- Commitment– In all department endeavors
- Teamwork– Encourage unity and a cooperative attitude

The Northwestern Joint Fire District is grateful to our community for their support. The community's support is one of the most profound rewards an organization can obtain. In November, the community supported our mission and vision by passing an eight-mill continuous levy in all the voting districts. The passing of the levy will help provide the funding for additional staffing allow some moderate growth and provide long-term stability for the District. Our citizens indeed came through for us when we needed them. We will return by being good stewards of the community monies.

As we look at the year in review, we acknowledge that 2021 provided the newly formed Fire District with many challenges and gave us many rewards and growth opportunities. 2021 was a hectic year for us. Development of our staff and expanding our community footprint. With the intent to improve the quality of life for our residents in both emergent and non-emergent settings.

The Coronavirus has once again proven that it is a formidable opponent. Still, the members of the Fire District have continually stepped up to the challenges presented to them. By working with the neighboring departments, the Union County Health Department, and Union County EMA, we continue to face the challenge of the ongoing pandemic. The unified response has helped provide a unified approach to testing and vaccinating the community.

We are no different from other departments facing the challenges of staffing shortages and the industry's shortage of first responders joining as a whole. We are very appreciative that the board has budgeted and approved hiring three new full-time members in 2022. This additional staffing will provide us with more personnel and stability in staffing to help meet our existing and emerging requests for services. We will continue to monitor and develop creative means to balance the increased demand for assistance within our community's financial resources.

I want to conclude by commending our excellent staff that has put in an unprecedented amount of time and effort this past year. Looking forward to the future, I would be remiss if we didn't stop and thank our wonderful community that we are blessed to serve. This relationship spans over 70 years. Thank you all for the trust you honor us with. We do not take this privilege lightly and will continue to live up to our core values of "Tradition, Integrity, and Service."

On behalf of the Northwestern Joint Fire District officers and firefighters, I thank each trustee for the three townships and our Fiscal Officer Allison Hamilton for their support throughout 2021. Without this support, our Fire District could not be as successful as it is.

Chief Tim Merrick

2021 Year in Review

Personnel

With the establishment of the District and hiring its first fire chief, a lot of time was spent establishing, cleaning up, and creating the day-to-day operational accounts and those needed to apply for grants at the state and federal levels.

In addition to the grants, the fire district members performed a SWOT analysis. They developed the District's Mission, Vision, Core Values, and brand development. In 2021 there were two different organizational structure used. The first one was a singular command structure. This was established to help mitigate the official decision-making process of the District to one individual, the Chief. To help clearly define who has the responsibility and authority to manage and make decisions. This was important during the first stages of the transitional period and reinforce or development of many of the organizational structures that are in place today.

The task of moving the department forward has always been larger than one individual. Once the base of the structure was in place, a promotional process was done, and a staffing model change occurred. Through a formal process of study, written testing, and oral board interviews, 3 additional lieutenants were promoted from within the ranks.



The 3 Lieutenants are:

Lt/Paramedic Rob Morey

Rob started out as a volunteer firefighter with Liberty Township, where he served for the last 15 plus years. Rob, his wife, and 4 children all reside in the District. Rob brings experience from working part-time from several different departments such as Allen Twp., City of Marysville, and Pleasant Valley Fire. His training includes firefighter 1&2, State of Ohio Paramedic, Hazmat operations and has developed the signup program that most of the Union County Fire Department use for part-time shift coverage. He has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science with a concentration in the business system and over 20 years of IT and HR roles at Cardinal Health. The firefighters that are assigned to him are the POC's of the District.

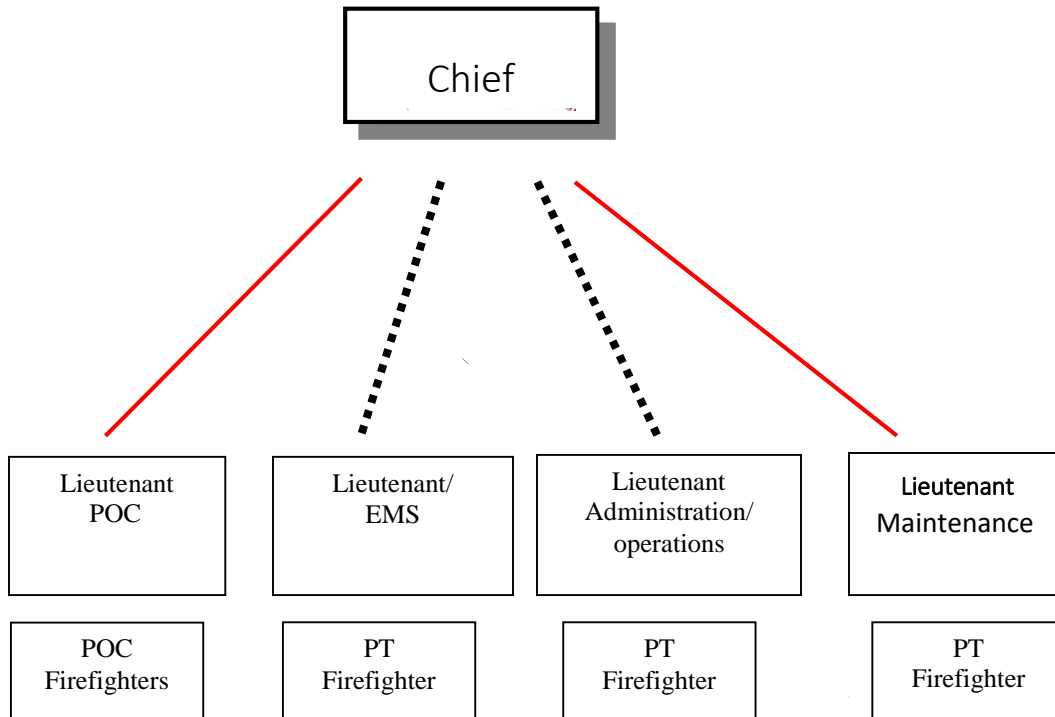
Lt/Paramedic Chad Heminger

Chad started out as a volunteer firefighter with Northern Union County Fire District and is currently a Full-Time Member of the Allen Township Fire Department. Chad brings experience from working as a Volunteer, part-time and full-time experience. His role includes being in the EMS coordinator position that he was performing for Liberty Township. His background includes inventory management, order processing, and just-in-time delivery. His training includes firefighter 1&2, State of Ohio Paramedic, Hazmat operations, and safety. There are part-time firefighters assigned to him.

LT /EMTA Kim Barrett

Kim started out as an explorer with the Liberty Township Fire department in 1995, then a volunteer firefighter with Liberty Township, where she served for the last 20 plus years. Kim, her husband, and her children all reside in the District. Kim brings experience from working part-time from several different departments and 20 years of full-time experience at The City of Marysville. Her training includes firefighter 1&2, State of Ohio Advanced EMT, Fire Officer 1, Company Officer Development 1-3, leadership by the numbers, Managing Company Operations (MCTO), Incident Safety Officer, HazMat Technician, Juvenile Fire setters and is scheduled to complete medic school in April 2022. The firefighters that are assigned to her are primarily part-time.

Organizational Chart as of October 2021



Equipment –



The Fire District is fortunate that throughout the last 15 years, Liberty Township has received grants and purchased equipment for the future instead of what was needed at that time. For the most part, our equipment is up to date and allows personnel to safely perform their skills or deliver the medications needed.

Below is a breakdown of some of the new additions or replacement equipment that occurred in 2021. Several pieces of equipment or upgrades were accomplished through the Federal Cares Act and State of Ohio Fire Marshal Equipment Grants.

The Fire District replaced its gear washer/extractor. The old Extractor was donated



to Leesburg Township did to have a functional gear washer. The Extractor is used to clean firefighters' turnout gear after emergencies to helping remove harmful contaminants from the gear.

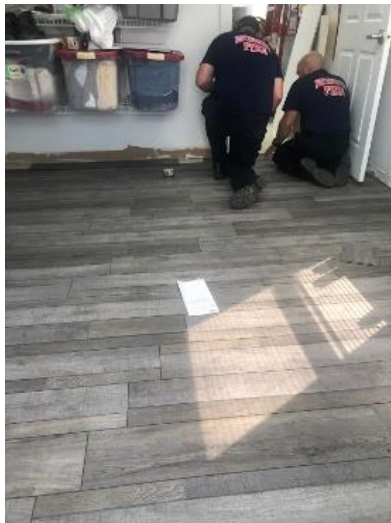
The washer generates extract speeds up to 108 G-force. By comparison, most hard-mount washers typically reach speeds of 75-90 G-force. Higher extract speeds remove more water from every load - reducing dry time, cutting gas consumption, and improving productivity. Laundry is processed more quickly, using less labor and energy!

Additional items such as decontamination sprayers purchased to help reduce the risk of COVID after calls. Since fire district personnel respond to calls for service and may become contaminated by a known or unknown contaminant. To help protect our personnel we purchased 2 decontamination sprayers. These units are being used during the COVID pandemic and years to come



To improve the safety of our personnel during this virus and future viruses, the Fire District has purchased reusable EMS gowns that were specifically designed to help protect from contamination. We also purchased air-purifying respirators for all of our personnel to ensure they are not being exposed to this airborne virus. A dishwasher was installed for sanitation purposes as well during the kitchen renovation

To decontaminate the fire station and equipment easier, the station was renovated.



The renovation included new flooring in all living spaces. New mattresses were purchased, the furnace and central air system were cleaned, inspected, improved, and serviced. The kitchen was remodeled, increasing the storage space while decluttering the appearance and the new floor covering, blinds, and paint in the Kitchen,



Training Room, Bunk Rooms, and Restrooms. Countless hours of work were performed by the Firefighters, saving the district thousands of dollars in labor costs.

The installation of a pre-plumbed chemical proportioning system to help to assure the proper level of cleaning agent is used at the station. This system will also help reduce the excess product usage from an unregulated system. Plus, all the products are from a local business.



We also purchased three sets of Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment in 2021 and additional fire helmets, helmet badges, Fire and Extrication gloves. A complete set of Firefighter Protection equipment is a fire coat, fire pants, a pair of boots, a fire hood, and pair of protective gloves. Each set cost approximately \$3500.00

SEEK thermal personal Thermal Cameras help our first responders locate people or hotspots when the second count. The Seek Thermal camera equips every pack on our first due engine. The thermal cameras cost \$800.00 each; we have purchased a total of 6 of them.



Grants-



FEMA

The Northwestern Joint Fire District could not receive federal and state grants in the 2021 calendar due to not having our SAMS, Dun & Bradstreet Number, or FDID numbers in place. However, we did obtain a \$1000.00 grant from OTARMA for training purposes. Additionally, the State Fire Marshal MARCS grant and AFG grants were applied and awaiting a response.



35 YEARS | 1987
OF SERVICE | 2022



Community Engagement-

Community Day-



The Fire District hosted its first community day. This successful event was the first public display of our new brand but not forgetting where we started. The community day also allowed us to show the public the expanded services they are receiving and discuss some potential benefits of being a district.

Fire Levy-

The Northwestern Fire Board of Trustees approved a tax levy on the November ballot. The eight-mill continuous Fire Levy was voted on and approved by the citizens. This levy will provide adequate funding for the staffing we currently need and moderate growth for the Fire District for the next 8-10 years. The levy passed with a 60/40 split in all three townships. The families and members of the Northwestern Fire District and citizens such as Mark and Nancy Seger volunteered countless hours and days to help make this process successful.



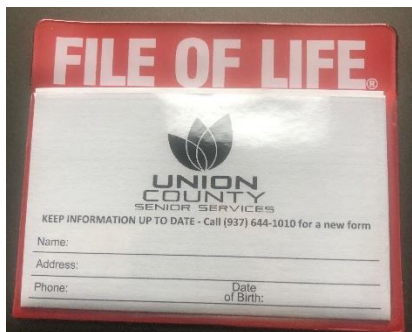
Web Page-



Our website is the landing place for our citizens. Here they can learn more about our history, organizational values, codes of ethics, and information about elected officials and other public servants.

Community Safety –

In 2021 fire inspections began to pick up with controls to help with the



Coronavirus. Two fire safety inspections of Raymond Elementary occurred. In addition, we assisted the schools in the full-scale non-reentry drill conducted by the Marysville School System. We are working with the county engineer department for plan review and conducted eight home inspections for adoptions or foster care. A total of six contracts for Dry Hydrant repairs and maintenance were signed and

returned to us. Inspected the District Dry Hydrants and drafted at least twice in 2021 investigated two inquiries about installing dry hydrants. Made contact with ISO to have a reevaluation performed.



NFD members installed 3 address signs, 15 smoke detectors, and numerous batteries provided by and replaced by department members. In addition, to educate the public of the services we offer and connect them to while empowering the independence of our senior population.



Calls-



The Northwestern Joint Fire District responded to 423 calls for service in 2021.

There were 275 EMS calls (65%), 81 fire calls (19%), 50 MVA (12%), 17 calls for 911 Unknowns (4%).

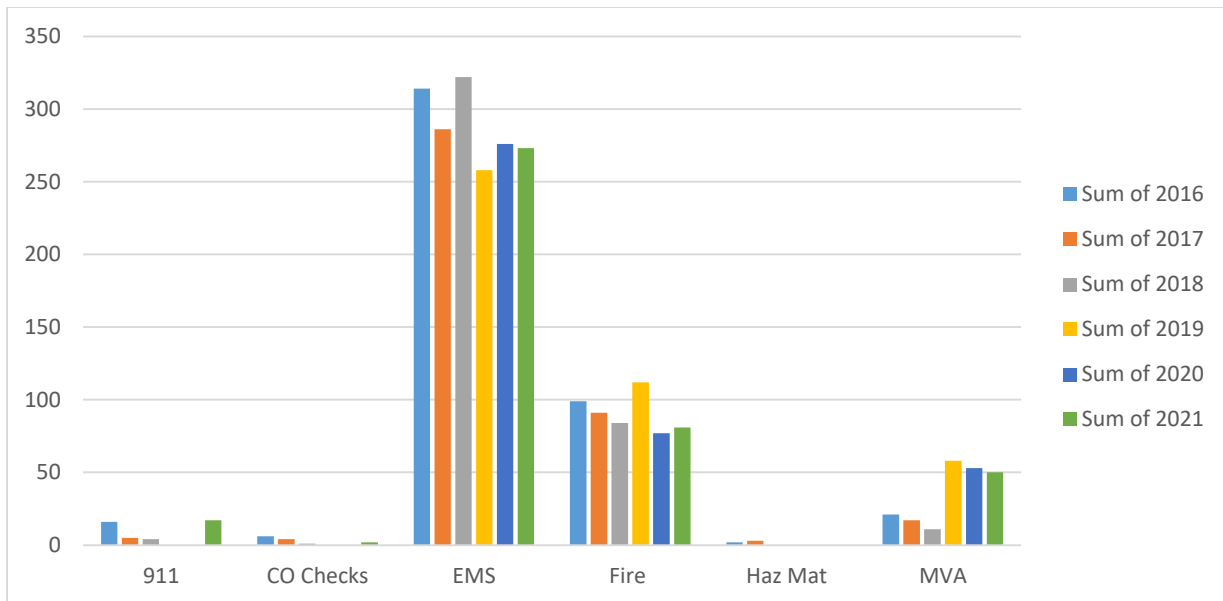
While not

frequently, we did have multiple calls simultaneously. The simultaneous calls require mutual assistance from a neighboring department because our resources are already committed to a different call. Our closest average response time from a mutual aid department is nearly 13 minutes. Northwestern received mutual aid 18 times.



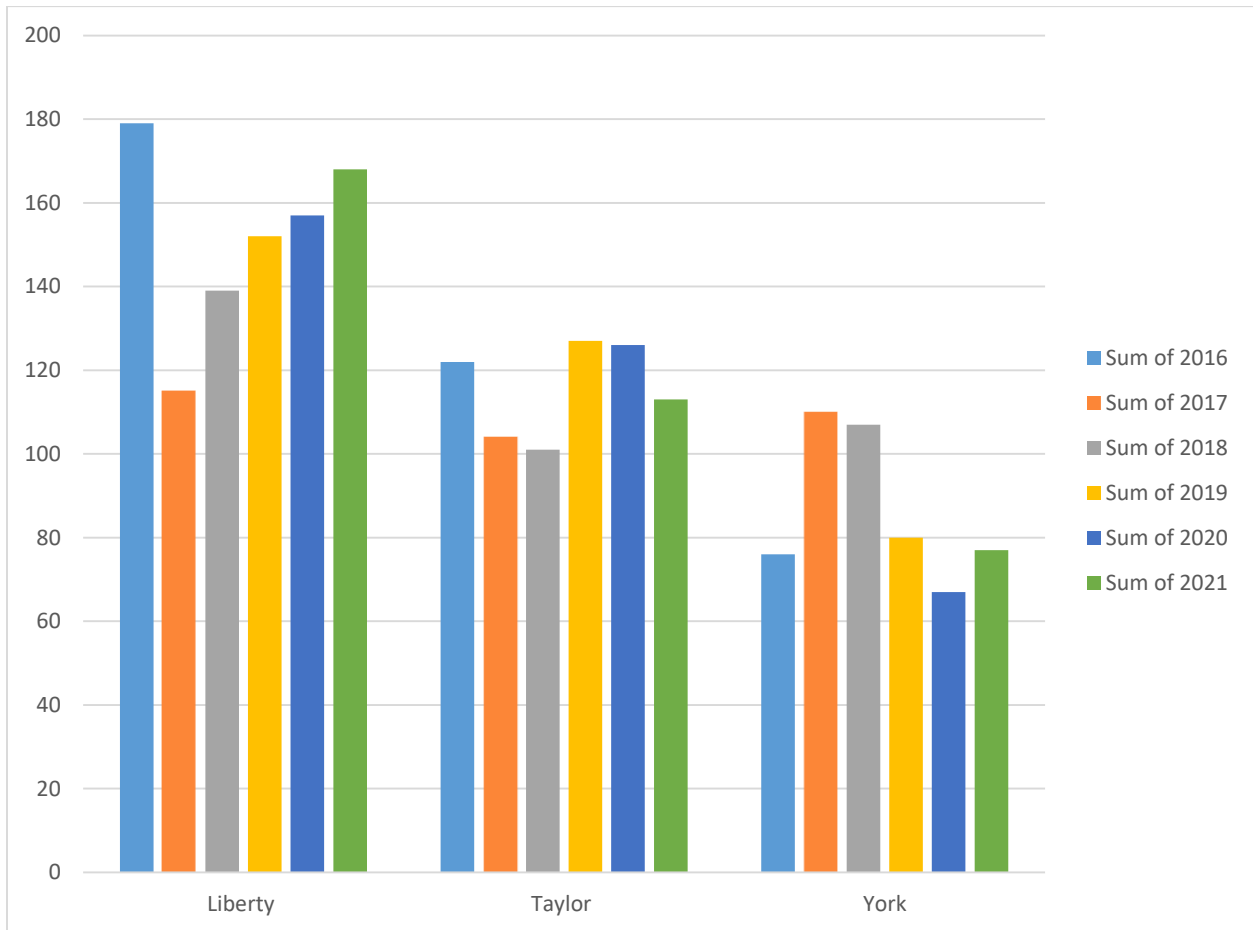
Types of Calls-

Row Labels	Sum of 2016	Sum of 2017	Sum of 2018	Sum of 2019	Sum of 2020	Sum of 2021
911	16	5	4	0	0	17
CO Checks	6	4	1	0	0	2
EMS	314	286	322	258	276	273
Fire	99	91	84	112	77	81
Haz Mat	2	3	0	0	0	0
MVA	21	17	11	58	53	50
Grand Total	458	406	422	428	406	423



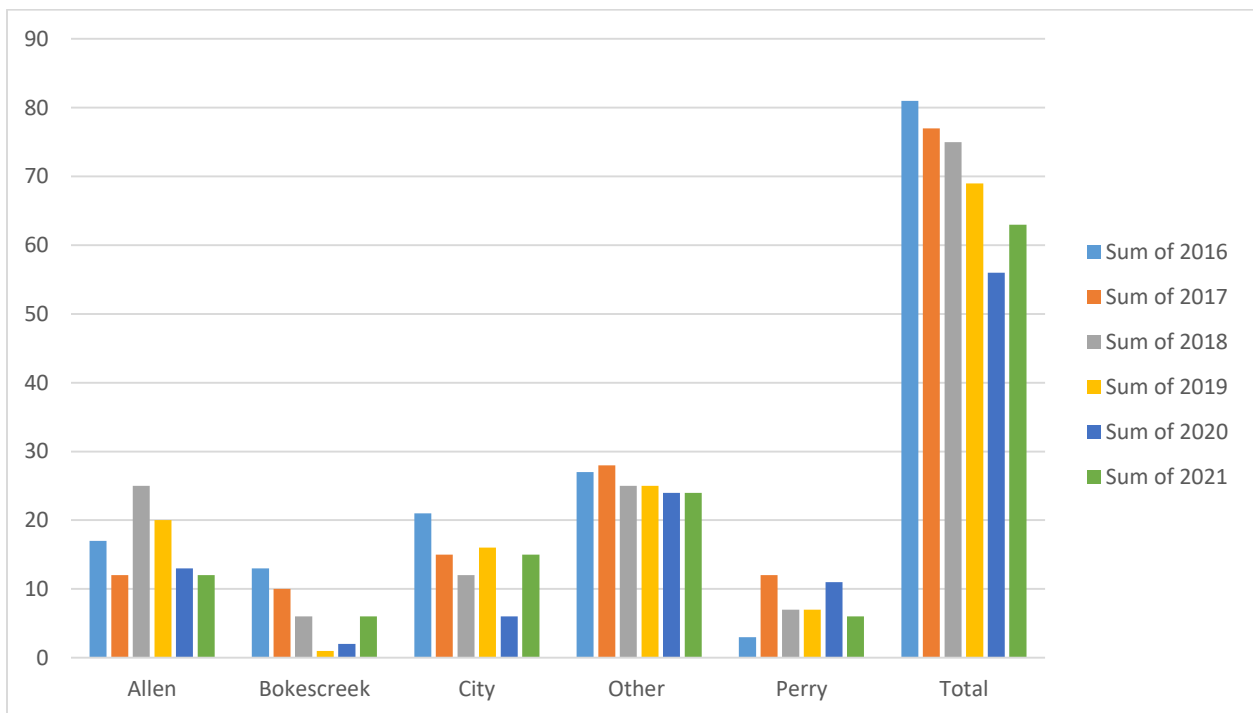
Summary of Calls by Township-

Row Labels	Sum of 2016	Sum of 2017	Sum of 2018	Sum of 2019	Sum of 2020	Sum of 2021
Liberty	179	115	139	152	157	168
Taylor	122	104	101	127	126	113
York	76	110	107	80	67	77
Grand Total	377	329	347	359	350	358



Frequency of Mutual Aid given-

Row Labels	Sum of 2016	Sum of 2017	Sum of 2018	Sum of 2019	Sum of 2020	Sum of 2021
Allen	17	12	25	20	13	12
Bokescreek	13	10	6	1	2	6
City	21	15	12	16	6	15
Other	27	28	25	25	24	24
Perry	3	12	7	7	11	6
Total	81	77	75	69	56	63



We have developed an outstanding working relationship with our neighboring departments and are grateful for the assistance they provide us. Mutual Aid was given a total of 63 times during 2021.



EMS Billing-

The Fire District continued to utilize Medicount Management to conduct EMS billing for transports. The funds generated from EMS billing is to be used to purchase EMS supplies, equipment, EMS software, and other equipment related to EMS operations. In 2021 the Fire District generated approximately \$45000.00 from EMS billing.

EMS billing brought in 44915.21 in revenue for 2021. This is approximately 25% lower than Liberty's collection of \$60000.00 in 2020. The decrease is attributed to side effects and supported by the report below where there were no collections for three months and not having the preferred vendor contracts in place.

Each healthcare system has different policies on when and what must be done to be considered a preferred provider.



Month Name	Current Year	Previous Year	Net Change
January	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
February	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
March	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
April	\$1,636.88	\$0.00	\$1,636.88
May	\$3,364.07	\$0.00	\$3,364.07
June	\$5,508.04	\$0.00	\$5,508.04
July	\$3,816.78	\$0.00	\$3,816.78
August	\$3,188.88	\$0.00	\$3,188.88
September	\$8,582.51	\$0.00	\$8,582.51
October	\$4,762.48	\$0.00	\$4,762.48
November	\$4,507.91	\$0.00	\$4,507.91
December	\$9,547.66	\$0.00	\$9,547.66
Total	\$44,915.21	\$0.00	\$44,915.21

Collaboration-

In 2021, the Northwestern Joint Fire District members became active in the Union County CISM team with Jerome Township Fire Department, Pleasant Valley Fire District, the Union County Sheriff's Office, and the Marysville Police and Fire Divisions. The class was offered through a grant program to the departments with Federal Funding. This training will have allowed Union County to have a (CISM) Critical Incident Stress Management team to respond to other public service agencies if needed.



The Northwestern Fire district was actively involved in the COVID clinics and EOC operations in a unified command structure throughout the year. The EOC outlines responders' specific roles and responsibilities during an event, providing a common framework for government, the private sector, and non-governmental organizations to work seamlessly together.

Each year, the Union County Health Department hosts a multiple location clinic so that cats and dogs over four months can get vaccinated. One of the direct benefits to the citizens is that they can get their animals vaccinated without paying a vet bill. The Union County Health Department, the Union County Humane Society, sponsor this event. Union County veterinarians volunteer their time. We continued to be a hosting site for the Union County Rabies Clinic.

The Union County Fire Chiefs continue to develop standardized policies and practices that all departments in the county utilize during emergency operations. Helping increase the safety and the efficiency of operations when on an emergency call. I was appointed Chair of this organization in November 2021.



In December, our members participated in the Shop with a Hero. This is organized by the Union County Sherriff's Office, allowing kids to shop with a Hero from around the county. We had 4 kids assigned to us.

Unfortunately, only three were able to attend due to a COVID exposure. All four of the children reside in our

fire district. The child that was not able to participate did receive his \$100.00-dollar gift card so he could shop at a later date.



Training-

Small communities across the U.S. are typically protected by all-volunteer departments. For 50+ years, we followed this model. Approximately 20 years ago, we expanded and hired a few paid firefighters to assist. Moving toward the next level of this process as a department that utilizes a combination of volunteer and paid firefighters. The cost to train and equip a firefighter can exceed \$20,000.00

Helmet	\$ 300	Gloves	\$ 95
Coat	\$ 1,200	SCBA	\$ 6,300
Pants	\$ 875	Radio	\$ 3,700
Boots	\$ 300	Thermal Imager	\$ 1,200
Hood	\$ 40	Training	\$ 7,800

Northwestern is providing access to FireRescueone. This is an online training platform to help ensure we keep our current POC members and provide a standardized training platform for all members.



2021 Year in Review

Goals with Trustees

The Board of Trustees' goals was as follows Recruitment of members, Retention of members, Cleanliness of station, Determining fanatical goals.

- i) **Recruitment of members-** This is an ongoing task. The shortage of individuals joining the fire service and employers' restrictions will constantly require evaluating this goal. The Northwestern POC member count has been from 8 to 12 over the last year, with all members being active on calls and training. The 12 members do not include 3 additional members, including myself, who live in the district and respond to calls.
- ii) **Retention of members-** We finished the year with 46 members. The focus point of retention in 2021 was on the POC. The POC members are vital to the success of our operations. Whether it be a call that requires more than one piece of equipment, multiple calls at once, or when the staffing on the station was low, they are the ones we rely on. These members just show up and make it happen.
(1) Retention of Part-time is also essential. The need for 30 or 40 part-times will significantly be decreasing now that the levy has passed and full-time members will be hired.
- iii) **Cleanliness of the station-** The first part of this goal was to renovate the station and make it as functional as possible. New mattresses were purchased, the furnace and central air system were cleaned, inspected, improved, and serviced. The kitchen was remodeled, increasing the storage space while decluttering the appearance and new floor covering blinds and paint in the Kitchen, Training Room, Bunk Rooms, and Restrooms. A daily task sheet was generated to assure all the everyday items were getting addressed and who was responsible for the day when the Chief was not on station.
- iv) **Determining fanatical goals-** The first and most important financial goal was to secure self-funding by passing a District-wide levy. Second is the development of a solid fifth quarter plan for the next 5 years. The estimated money is based on the information provided to the district in the hiring process of the Fire Chief and 100% spending of the proposed budget. There is a 5% increase annually in all categories to determine the long-term stability for hiring full-time and the amount of money needed to be voted on.

Fire Chiefs Goals for 2021

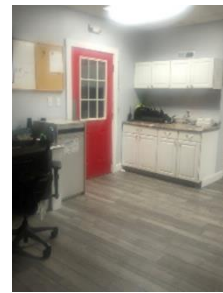
- a) Establish goals with trustees This was accomplished in April 2021 and revised throughout the year.

(1) Conduct personnel interviews completed in May 2021

1. Personal interviews were conducted for several months, to help determine what all members of the fire district felt was important. Both groups were looking of additional disciplines and clearer expectations of what is expected of them. Along with the opportunity to better themselves. The POC members felt ad had a fear of exclusion. Inclusion was at the top of these members list. The part-time membership felt that the table talk/ bumper time that Fire Chief Segner established was unique and a vital part of the identity of this fire department. It is one of the things that kept them working here.

(2) Develop mission statement completed August 2021

1. We are committed to providing fire suppression, medical services, and other emergency and non-emergency activities to the residents and visitors of the Northwestern Joint Fire District. We will respond to emergencies promptly, professionally, and courteously and strive to promote public safety awareness through public education and fire prevention.



(b) Develop vision statement completed August 2021

1. We are a responsive, forward-thinking organization and progressive part of the community we serve. We are committed to excellence and professional accountability through practical training, technology, and adapting to the changing needs of our community. Cost-effectively, we embrace new technologies and techniques, focusing on training and education to provide the highest level of customer services and satisfaction in a professional and caring manner.



(3) Develop core values and meaning completed August 2021

1. Tradition- Preserving and carrying forward the legacy of those who served before us.
2. Professionalism– In application, appearance, attitude, and standards
3. Integrity– Demonstrate honesty and fairness, developing a community partnership based on continued trust, respect and common goals.
4. Compassion– Demonstrate kindness and empathy
5. Responsibility and Accountability– Professionally, personally and fiscally responsible for our actions. We are caretakers of taxpayer money. We see ourselves as stewards of taxpayer dollars.
6. Respect– For each other, our department and our customers, the citizens and visitors within the fire district boundaries.
7. Diversity– Be open minded and responsive to the uniqueness of our community without regard to age, gender, religion or ethnic origin
8. Commitment– In all department endeavors
9. Teamwork– Encourage unity and a cooperative attitude

(4) Perform an operation analysis completed December 2021-

1. Several areas of our operations were evaluated some were identified because of required inspections by the state, the SWOT analysis, areas of deficiency or no way to collect data from that system without duplicating efforts.

2021 Additional District Goals Accomplished.

- (1)(1) Work with the Northwestern Joint Fire Districts residents to educate them on who we are, the need for passing the levy, and what occurs after it passes
 1. The Northwestern Fire Board of Trustees approved a tax levy on the November ballot. The November Fire Levy was approved at a rate of 8 mills continuous. This levy will provide adequate funding for the staffing we currently need and moderate growth for the Fire District for the next 8-10 years. The levy passed with a 60/40 split in all three townships. This confirmed the fact that the citizens favor the fire district instead of written contracts that had been the method of funding the Liberty Township Fire Department in the past. The remaining assets and monies that each individual township was held in reserve if the Fire District failed are will be transferred to the fire district in June 2022. The families and members of the Northwestern Fire District and citizens such as Mark and Nancy Seger, volunteered countless hours and days to help make this process a success.
- (2) Lack of structure for the HR need items and training
 1. Online annual departmental HR training through Fire Rescue One program 1 and require all new members to have a valid physical before starting.
- (3) Finalize Job descriptions and performance evaluations

Development of Job descriptions for POC, part-time, full-time, and the different officers within the district and a performance evaluation system to help remove the subjectivity from the system. While the system does use the traditional point system, it also provides predetermined benchmarks for each level. It also provides opportunities for the evaluator and the member to make comments and provide goals based on their job descriptions. All members will have at the minimum an annual evaluation.
- (4) Lack of accurate contact information
 1. Provided the Officers a standardized form to update emergency contact information for benefits. In addition to this form, Lt Morey developed an online version that will allow us to collect the information needed and allow easy updating on an annual basis.
- (5) Loss of the CE site with the organizational changes

1. The purchase of the annual subscription to Fire Rescue ONE provides standardization of both EMS and Fire training as a base foundation for our members. The on line service allows the membership to obtain the required certification hours when convenient for them. Dr. Cortez's group CE site number is used for monthly training. We already pay for this service with his annual medical director fees.
- (6) Lack of organizational structure for new members
 1. One of the most significant items noted in the SWOT and personal interviews was the lack of organizational structure for both the POC and part-time members. To help with this, we implemented a structured probationary period. Developed an orientation/ new hire packet; all POC and part-time members will complete the same packets. This will help assure that all members receive the same basic training along with the online services.
- (7) Hosted a workday and uniformity in training and expectations
- (8) Updated the incident accountability system
- (9) Performed the SWOT Analysis
- (10) Purchase of Uniforms and Jackets for all members
- (11) Throughout the year, provided both fire and EMS training and offered online service to the members. All these activities were impacted by COVID.
- (12) Develop a method or system allowing us to be more efficient and help prove an educated decision in our response when multiple pieces of equipment are being requested.
- (13) Utilize the programs that we already pay for
 1. Using Active 911 to send messages/ staffing issues and updates to the membership
 - (i) Modified the response button on the active 911 app
 - (ii) Eliminates the extras on the screen that do not positively impact the call.
 - (iii) All members that "respond" from home have been educated to hit responding. This will pop up in real-time on the TV s that are already in the station, so the duty crew knows who is responding from home.
 - (iv) TV in Bay for response (active911)
 1. The TV was placed to allow the duty crew a quick glance after getting dressed to see who and how many are responding to help determine truck assignments

2021 District goals ongoing/ in process-

(1) Strengthen our relationship with neighboring departments



1. To meet the citizens' challenges and expectations, the district must continue to grow and modify our services. We rely on our neighboring departments to assist when our resources are stretched thin.

2. In 2020, the departments of Union County joined as 1 and applied for a FEMA grant to purchase new SCBAs. This was the first time all departments worked together on a grant.

3. Throughout 2021, the fire service community has been challenged by the COVID -19 pandemic. The departments of Union County united early and opened the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). As a group, we lead Union County and the State of Ohio in COVID 19 safety procedures and practices.

4. The Union County Fire Chiefs continue to develop standardized policies and practices utilized by all departments in the county during emergency operations. This helps increase the safety and the efficiency of operations when on an emergency call. I was appointed Chair of this organization in November 2021.

(2) Improve the Marketing of the Fire District and the services provided via Media platforms.

1. The Fire District has placed emphasis on marketing. We utilize the department Website and Facebook

2. After developing a logo, the district turned its efforts into developing its brand.

3. The utilization of Facebook and our website to provide fire safety and general information about the Fire District. Over the past year, we have had over 500 new followers on our social media page and helped spread the word about general safety in our community. In 2022 we will continue to expand our messages, reaching even more of a diverse community.



(3) When Raymond Elementary returned to full classrooms this year, The Northwestern Fire District was there to welcome them back.

(4) In December, our members participated in the Shop with a Hero. The Union County Sherriff's Office organizes this, allowing kids from

around the county to shop with a Hero. We had 4 kids assigned to us. Unfortunately, only three were able to attend due to a COVID exposure. All four of the children reside in our fire district. The child who was not able to attend did receive his \$100.00-dollar gift card to shop later.

- (5) In the progress of finalizing the online equipment and truck checks
1. Lt Morey and Lt Heminger have been working on inputting our data and troubleshooting the Check it programs before replacing the current paper system.
 2. The system is to help manage our assets and other critical items for routine checks and inventory. The operations management software will also track inventory and asset maintenance. Tracking these requirements will help reduce improper inventory practices, documentation, and communications that can all hurt the safety of your staff, patients, or the equipment they use.
 3. When performing equipment or vehicle checks anytime, anywhere on the mobile application, all data is real-time.

(6) Applied for grants

1. In 2020, the departments of Union County joined as 1 and applied for a FEMA grant to purchase new SCBAs. This was the first time all departments worked together in a effort to secure a grant.
2. This grant was applied for and did a final review but was rejected for funding.
3. We applied for the Assistance to Firefighters again in 2021 to replace our aging SCBA's. The fire district anticipates the purchase of the SCBA bottles in the 2023 budget. We prefer to utilize the Federal Grant to purchase these SCBA units.
4. 2021 Ohio Fire Marshal MARC grant. This is a grant available to us because our population is less than 25,000.
 - (i) The purpose of the grant money is to purchase the communication systems, equipment, and/or services. These items are part of, integrated into, or otherwise interoperable with the Multi-Agency Radio Communication System (MARCS) that the State of Ohio provides fire protection services.
 - (ii) If awarded, we applied for \$30,000.00; our overall cost per radio will be under \$1000.00 per radio.



(7)(5) Develop a Union County ISO (Insurance Services Office) Task Force. This task force aims to help reduce the overall ISO rating within the Fire District and throughout the county. This is a multiple-year goal.

1. Due to the ongoing pandemic, this goal has been delayed; the first training occurred on January 27th. It has been delayed.

