



Glen Lake Fire Department

6401 W. State St
PO Box 212
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

(P): (231) 334-3279
(F): (231) 334-4050

March 25, 2021

To: The Empire Township Board
RE: Glen Lake Fire Department 2020 Summary
From: Chief Bryan Ferguson

Glen Lake FD Call Volume by Incident Type		Calls by Area	
Rescue and Emergency Medical Services	291	Empire Township	238
Service Call	66	Glen Arbor Township	288
Fires (Wildland and Structures Combined)	14	Other Area	49
False Alarm	40		
Hazardous Condition	45		
Good Intent Call	39		
Severe Weather	78		
Special Incident	1		
Rupture/Explosion (No Fire)	1		
Total Calls for 2020	575	Total	575

COVID-19

The fire department had to overcome many hurdles in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We were fortunate to not have any member get sick with COVID and as of March 2021, most of the department employees have received their COVID vaccines.

The department implemented several new COVID guidelines in conjunction with guidelines outlines by the MDHHS. In March 2020, the department, along with other departments in Leelanau County, assigned two ambulances for COVID patients only. One ambulance was stationed in Glen Arbor and the other in Leland. These ambulances only responded to COVID positive patients or those who were experiencing symptoms associated with COVID. Temporary living quarters were built in the classroom at St. #1 to allow for social distancing while also providing a sleeping area for personnel working on the COVID ambulance.

The department requested and received about \$107,000 in reimbursements to cover COVID-19 related costs.

Station 1
6401 W. State St.
Glen Arbor, MI 49636

Station 2
11530 S. Lacore Rd.
Empire, MI 49630

Apparatus and Maintenance

2020 was a big year for apparatus maintenance. Much of the fleet underwent significant maintenance that had been neglected in years past. The department understands the age of our fleet grows every year and with trucks aging, repairs are more frequent. Although there is still work to be done in 2021, we're fortunate to get our apparatus back up into shape. Below is a list of the apparatus records performed in 2020:

- Started new truck reporting and vehicle maintenance software – Target Solutions Check-It.
- Started a maintenance program with Fick & Sons Garage and CSI for timely repairs and an annual service schedule for apparatus.
- Almost all apparatus have been taken to F&S and CSI for their full service and DOT inspections have been completed on all vehicles for the first time.
- Old Ambulance 391 was sent away and replaced with a loaner for the time being. It was having unsolvable electrical issues that the manufacturing company was unable to resolve.
- Most of the trucks have received new tires. NFPA states tires on fire apparatus should be replaced every 7 years.

An order for a new ambulance was placed in March 2020 and that ambulance was officially placed into service in March 2021. Ambulance 391 will be the primary response out of St. #1 in Glen Arbor.

Training and Education

The Training Division is responsible for conducting and scheduling most of the Department training. In-service training is accomplished in several ways, including outside instructors, on-duty shift training, monthly staff training, in-house and on the water training. Personnel are also sent to classes and conferences outside of the Department for specialized training. All Department training is done in compliance with standards established by the Michigan Firefighting Training Council (MFFTC) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Overall, staff completed 3,569.14 hours of training in 2020. One individual, Bill Mills, is recognized for his accomplishment of achieving the most training hours for Firefighter with 287.

The Glen Lake Fire Department continues to excel in Public Education and was able to again offer American Heart Association Courses. Due to Covid-19, we were unable to teach in-person CPR/AED/First Aid classes for the months of March thru August. Still, we were able to reach 81 people in our community with this valuable education. These courses teach lifesaving CPR and First Aid techniques which were offered by any of our 9 certified instructors.

Glen Lake Fire is fortunate enough to have 5 members of the department that are Fire Instructor I educators certified through the State of Michigan. During our time off-duty, those instructors continue to pass along their experience and knowledge through teaching at the Northwest Regional Fire Training Center located in Traverse City. Our instructors teach lectures and practical sessions for the annual Fire Academy as well as Combined Basic and Advanced Shipboard Firefighting (CBAFF) class for the Great Lakes Maritime Academy. We spend several days a year teaching the profession of firefighting to students in the Fire Academy looking to becoming structural firefighters in the future. For the CBAFF class, our instructors teach the maritime students how to effectively fight fire aboard the large vessels and freighters that transports cargo throughout the Great Lakes. We thank our dedicated instructors for passing along their knowledge an experience that will help educate future firefighters.

Health and Safety

2019 ended on a strong note and 2020 continued to be one of our best in terms of Health and Wellness. In late 2019, the department began utilizing Dr. McBride of Total Body Health Care to run our department health and wellness program. We are pleased to say that the program turned out to be better than expected. During the year 2020, each person vastly improved their health and physical strength. Below is a list of the improvements the department made from the first evaluation in January 2020 to the final evaluation in December 2020:

- 116lbs lost as a department (100% of all members involved in the program lost weight during the 1-year period)
- 12% increase in functional mobility score (determining factor in how injury prone a person is)
- 58% increase in overall fitness score (how fit a person is)
- 7% increase in grip strength
- 2.2% increase in spirometry output (lung capacity)
- 105% increase in number of dumbbell squats performed in one minute.
- 141% increase in number of pull-ups in one minute
- 53% increase in planking time
- 21% increase in dumbbell burpees in one minute
- 17% increase in total jump ropes in 5 minutes
- 4% improvement in total time for tractor tire flips around the station
- 1.4% improvement in biking distance
- Half of the department improved in every statistical category while the remaining half improved in at least 10 categories.
- As a department, we had increasing scores in all 16 categories.
- For the first time since we started recording test times (2012), every member of the department passed the annual department agility test in under 6:45.

Personnel

- One full-time member of the department, Zak Yanska, retired from the department in December of 2020. Zak had been with the department for 10 years as a Firefighter/Paramedic.
- We currently have a posting open for filling the vacant position.
- One part-time member, Morgan Chalup, started Fire School in December 2020 and her class will conclude in May 2021.
- Lt. Jay Morse was the recipient of the Health and Wellness Award and Bill Mills was awarded the Training Award.