



**MINUTES  
CITY OF LAUREL  
EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025**

The Emergency Services Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00pm on Monday, March 24, 2025 by Chair- Heidi Sparks

**Members Present:** Heidi Sparks- Chair, Jodi Mackay- Vice Chair, Richard Klose, Irv Wilke, Bruce McGee, Jim Irwin

**Others Present:** Ambulance Chief Lyndy Gurchiek, Fire Chief JW Hopper

**Public Input:**

**General Items:**

1. Approval of Emergency Services Committee minutes of February 24, 2025. Jodi moved to approve the minutes; Irv seconded- Motion carried 5-0.
2. Update from Emergency Departments
  - a. Ambulance Chief Gurchiek- Report attached
    - i. Busy month- 7 missed calls, all were due to being on a previous call, 6 additional times a second crew was able to respond
    - ii. 1 volunteer has resigned due to scheduling issues. Will re-evaluate staffing once 2 full time individuals have completed training.
    - iii. Stop the Bleed interdepartmental training on March 26
    - iv. Irv asked about responding to calls for mutual aid and how our calls get handled. Chief Gurchiek stated that if we are out on a mutual aid call and get another call that we can't cover, we will call for mutual aid. Has not had a problem with mutual aid coverage. Has been able to build good relationships with mutual aid partners.
  - b. Fire Chief JW Hopper- Report attached
    - i. Beginning Wildland training for the season
    - ii. Bridger Fournier has been hired by Billings Fire Department and will be in Rookie School for 15 weeks
      1. He will continue on the volunteer fire department on weekends during rookie school and is planning to stay as a volunteer
    - iii. Working on filling the boards for the fire districts
    - iv. Travis Nagel is headed to Indianapolis for FDIC, a Fire Department Convention
    - v. Reno Olvera is headed to Texas to help with fires for 14 days
      1. Chief Hopper will be going down the following 14 days with the Columbus crew to assist with fires
      2. This is part of DNRC



**New Business:**

**Old Business:**

**Other Items:**

**Announcements:**

3. Next Meeting will be Monday, April 28, 2025, at 6:00pm in Council Chambers

Meeting adjourned at 6:17pm





# LAUREL FIRE DEPARTMENT

215 West 1st Street • Laurel, Mt • 59044 • Office 406.628.4911 • Fax 406.628.2185

## *Emergency Services Meeting 2/24/2025– 3/24/2025*

### Calls-

- Responded to 32 **Total** Calls for 2/24/2025 – 3/24/2025.
- Total Hours on Calls-
  - Firefighters – **309**
  - Officers – **216**
  - Combined Hours – **525**
  - Training Hours - **1223 HRS YTD**

### Training-

- Joint Training with PD/EMS/Fire
  - Stop the bleed.
- Structure Fires
- Car Fires
- Wildland Training
- DNRC Training will continue over the next three months.
  - Chiefs Certification is complete.

### Rookie School Training-

- Vehicle Extrication
- Car Fires
- Structure Fires

### Department News-

- Current Numbers
  - 31 Members
    - One member resigned for personal and work reasons.
    - 7 firefighters currently in various stages of rookie school.
- Appointments
  - Assistant Chief – Travis Nagel
  - Battalion Chief – Corey McIlvain and Shane Willis
  - Fire Marshal – Ryan Robertus
    - In March we will appoint the following.
      - Captains
        - KC Bieber and Henry Fox
      - Lieutenants
        - Evan Bartram and Jonathan Gotschall
      - Assistant Fire Marshal
        - Sara Naylor
      - Deputy Fire Marshals
        - Jonathan Gotschall
        - Abby Nagel
      - Training Officer
        - Reno Olvera
      - Maintenance Officer
        - Jake Vannoy

- Misc.-

- Congratulations to Bridger Fournier hired by Billings Fire Department
- Montana State Fire Fighter Memorial
- Working to fill fire districts.

# Laurel Emergency Services Report created 1/17/25:

| 2021                                                               | 2022                                                               | 2023                                                               | 2024                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1228 requests for service                                          | 1238 requests for service                                          | 1300 requests for service                                          | 1363 requests for service                                          |
| 135 times LEMS was unavailable                                     | 177 times LEMS was unavailable                                     | 171 times LEMS was unavailable                                     | 73 times LEMS was unavailable                                      |
| 34 times AMR was unavailable                                       | 48 times AMR was unavailable                                       | 23 times AMR was unavailable                                       | 14 times AMR was unavailable                                       |
| 318 responses in Ward 5=26% of calls outside of the city of Laurel | 351 responses in Ward 5=29% of calls outside of the city of Laurel | 351 responses in Ward 5=27% of calls outside of the city of Laurel | 373 responses in Ward 5=27% of calls outside of the city of Laurel |

## Recent Month Summary:

### February 2025:

|                                   |            |
|-----------------------------------|------------|
| Requests                          | 123        |
| Missed Calls                      | 7 = 6%     |
| Shortest Delay                    | 12 minutes |
| Longest Delay                     | 40 minutes |
| Average Delay                     | 29 minutes |
| Fire Driver Available             | 6 times    |
| City Driver Available             | 0 times    |
| QRU Response With 1 Provider      | 0 times ** |
| On A Previous Call                | 7 times    |
| 2 Units On A Call                 | 6 times    |
| No Crew / Provider Available      | 0 time     |
| AMR Transported or Responded      | 2 times*   |
| Red Lodge Transported             | 0 times    |
| HELP Flight Transported           | 0 times    |
| HELP Amb Transported or Responded | 1 time     |
| Columbus Transported or Responded | 1 times    |
| Joliet Transported                | 1 time     |
| Park City Transported             | 0 times    |
| PD Assisted Pt or Transported     | 1 time     |
| FD Assisted Pt no transport       | 0 times    |
| POV Transport                     | 0 times    |
| Refusal or no transport           | 1 time     |
| YCSO Transported                  | 0 times    |
| MHP Transported                   | 0 times    |

\*\*0 times the QRU responded and the patient refused / no transport to hospital or no patient found.

\*1 times AMR responded and there was no patient– they were cancelled enroute

36 responses in Ward 5 = 29% of calls outside of the city of Laurel

3 LEMS response for mutual aid. During 3 of these responses resulted in another call that required mutual aid.



# 2025 Running Totals

|                                   | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December | Total 2024 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|----------|-------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|----------|------------|
| Requests                          | 124     | 123      |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 247        |
| Missed Calls                      | 1       | 7        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 8          |
| Shortest Delay (minutes)          | 38      | 12       |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 12         |
| Longest Delay (minutes)           | 38      | 40       |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 40         |
| Average Delay (minutes)           | 38      | 29       |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 34         |
| Fire Driver Available             | 2       | 6        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 8          |
| City Driver Available             | 1       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 1          |
| QRU Response w 1 Provider         | 2       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 2          |
| On A Previous Call                | 1       | 7        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 8          |
| 2 Units On A Call                 | 8       | 6        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 14         |
| No Crew / Provider Available      | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| AMR Transported or Responded      | 0       | 2        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 2          |
| Columbus Transported or Responded | 0       | 1        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 1          |
| Joliet Transported                | 1       | 1        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 2          |
| Park City Transported             | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| Red Lodge Transported             | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| HELP Flight Transported           | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| HELP Amb Transported or Responded | 0       | 1        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 1          |
| POV Transport                     | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| PD Assisted Pt or transported     | 0       | 1        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 1          |
| FD Assisted Pt no transport       | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| YCSO Transported                  | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| MHP Transported                   | 0       | 0        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 0          |
| QRU/AMR, Refusal or No Patient    | 0       | 1        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 1          |
| Responses in Ward 5               | 28      | 36       |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 64         |
| LEMS response for mutual aid      | 1       | 3        |       |       |     |      |      |        |           |         |          |          | 4          |

**Other Reporting Information** \*correction made after report given

- staffing – 1 Volunteer resigned do to scheduling reasons. 2 full time staff in training are nearly done with their training, they are doing well. Once they are all done we will re evaluate where we are sitting for volunteer numbers.
- Recertification for licensure for the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline has been completed by everyone that needed it.
- Interdepartmental training schedule for March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Mandi participated in 1 car seat check event in February.
- Been busy with several projects - a couple legislative bill involvement – one, HB 56, is looking promising for some additional Medicaid funding for EMS providers in Montana. The other is to switch our licensure oversight from the Board of Medical Examiners to the Department of Labor and Industry. The State EMS Advisory Committee has been working on updating the state scope of practice and patient care guidelines. The local Yellowstone County EMS services and Medical Directors have been working on updating our local EMS care protocols. These projects have been fairly labor/time intensive but are really needed and its been great that we have had an integral part in the changes.