Sept/Oct 2026 Chiefs Report

- Calls YTD-60 EMS-41 Fire-19 Non-Emergent Calls- 65
- All units are operational. TR191 currently has a module out that controls the AC to the rear and our emergency lights that is malfunctioning. We are working on diagnosing the issue we have a call into Horton (manufacturer) to fix the issue. It doesn't remove the unit from operations just an inconvenience for the firefighters and patients. We do utilize the transport as a rehab unit if we have a fire for the firefighters to cool off and to have vitals assessed as it is a state requirement.
- I have created a R&M running document. Tony Mere who has been doing all the maintenance on the unit's has the ability to fix most of the list if not all. If he is not able to do the repairs, he has the ability to contact a qualified person to repair what is broken. For instance, last month every overhead light in the bay stopped working. I initially called the on-island electrician UCEC to make sure we didn't have a major issue. When every light stops working, I was making sure we didn't have a safety issue. After I received the invoice for the initial service call, I decided to loop Tony in who has a state certified electrician as a friend who did repairs on our Electrical Panel. They came out and determined that every LED blew and attributed it to a power surge. We had the lights replaced professionally and no major electrical issue was found. We will fill in old holes and paint in the near future to clean up the ceiling as we replaced with a different set of lights.
- E191 Pump Test- We borrowed all the testing items from Bonita Springs Fire and Rescue we are grateful for their assistance. Our initial date to test the pump was set up and we performed the test spent roughly 90 minutes trying to get the Engine to pass but we had 5" suction hose which created an issue we needed 6" suction hose so initial pump test failed. We ended up getting the 6" hose and re-tested the Engine a couple weeks later and she passed. We will have to address a few things. The test is meant to put the Engine under extreme pressure when we did this the Engine got extremely hot. The Engine will never be run at the extreme pressure we put her through on an actual fire but we need to address the overheating issue. I am very pleased with the engine.
- I have been speaking to our surrounding fire districts. I would like the board to discuss a couple of things. Reduction in commissioners to 3 and increasing the statutory max millage rate to 10 mills. Captiva currently has this same statute. I am simply asking for

a discussion. This would eliminate the need for a special assessment. I believe as we continue to work through budgets in the future, we will only be able to reach the current allowable of 3.75. I know this is and will be a hot topic. I am making the suggestion as we will always be on a tight budget. Let's say the district wants to move forward on the High Pressure Well system. As Bill calls these a Fairy List. They are ideas I put forward but funding them are almost impossible. If the Fire Board would have the ability to increase the Millage Rate for a year to obtain the funds for whatever project the district deems necessary then we wouldn't need to have a special assessment. Obviously, this would need to be lobbied at the state level. I have not made that step fully I think this is the first step in that direction. 3 commissioner idea is simply because Sanibel, Captiva and Boca Grande all have 3 board members. I just believe it would be a good idea as we struggle with a quorum not always but it's a monthly ask "who will be here next month". We also struggle for islanders to actually run for election as the on-island residents is a small percentage.

- Current staffing Update 26 Medics (3 more in school or waiting to credential), 11 EMT. 37 on staff. We have 4 firefighters that are inactive due to injury or in medic school. We keep their positions as they will return to active duty when healthy or paramedic school is complete.
- Tractor is working as it should now.
- Training- Each day of the week minus Sunday we will exercise a unit and drive the island. Next month we will be begin training evolutions until every employee has their required 12 hours of training for ISO requirements. This will keep the units in good mechanical shape and hopefully allow for a maintenance repair if something should fail to operate as it should.
- Chiefs Quarters- The area where we plan on staging the trucks has been cleared. The firefighters and Jeff have worked over the last several months we are almost there. We will require some crushed shell and sand to make the area firmer this will come at a later date.
- We were granted 5700$ from the state for the purchase of the Bunker Gear Extractor. The grant does not cover the dryer. I am baffled as to why the Decontamination Grant covers one half of the needed item to clean contaminated gear but not the other. DVC Sanderson was instrumental in writing the grant. I will be providing the state with a clean quote to get the extractor ordered.

- SHC and I had a pleasant meeting regarding accessway and tree incursion on the pathways. I will follow up with them this upcoming month. I explained the importance of the units and the firefighters being able to have a safe means to attack a structure fire. I believe it was very productive.
- 3 quotes for Audits have been obtained. I do not believe we would be doing the district any good to change the current provider as quotes are all relatively the same. Still do not understand how the provide a quote other than it's the going rate. They all quote a 3 year "commitment".
    1. HSC/Tuscan & Company- 18K 2026, 19K 2027, 20K 2028
    2. Ashley Brown & Smith- 19,275 2026 then CPI for next 2 years
    3. CLA 20,500 2026, 21,500 2027, 22,500, 2028
- I am now the Plan Sponsor for the retirement Ameritas. I went through a training session on how to make contributions and I will be correcting last years missing contributions. My 12,600 contributions will be reallocated to the Short-Term Disability payment the district paid me for while I was out on leave. This will then bring the payroll in line.
- I have been missing a step in the monthly process with the bank. We pay for a service called positive pay that requires me to upload the checks I print to be uploaded into their Positive Pay system it is another layer of protection. The way Elsie described it to me is someone could receive the check "wash" it and change the total or who it is made payable to. I will be trained on this process before our meeting. Just one more hat I shall wear.
- Upcoming Large Invoice- Lee County has billed us annually for 14 radios. When I first received the invoice, I sent an email for explanation along with our current on hand radio's. They would not reply to my amended radio emails reducing the annual cost to the district. I finally have had them correct the invoices and acknowledge our current on hand radio count. This invoice will most likely be paid in December as I am still waiting on an updated invoice.
- LCSO and I are working on obtaining a retired drone from the LCSO for potential use on island. This will be a donated drone. It has not been confirmed. More to come.

Questions, Comments, or Concerns