

Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1

Sedgwick County, Kansas

Calendar year 2006



Sedgwick County...
working for you

www.sedgwickcounty.org

From the Fire Chief

The last year has been a year of significant change and growth for Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1. Three new fire apparatus were ordered and will be delivered by June 2007—two quints (aerial ladder) and one engine. Also, a new prototype squad (mini-pumper/rescue truck) concept is being introduced to our department and should increase our efficiency in all types of squad alarms.

The first new station to be built as a direct result of the 2005 fire station relocation study is finally becoming a reality. A groundbreaking ceremony was held in October for new Station 33 at 10625 West 53rd Street North. This station will greatly improve services to the area surrounding Maize and is expected to be completed by October 2007. New Station 32, to be located at 7750 North Wild West Boulevard, will follow after a groundbreaking in March 2007. This station will serve the area around Park City and is scheduled to be completed in February 2008.

A formal recruit academy of four new firefighters graduated in July 2006. Several recent retirements have led to the scheduling of another rookie class beginning in March 2007. These seven recruits will graduate in late April 2007.

The District's third annual compliance report to the Commission on Fire Accreditation International was approved in 2006. In eighteen months, an assessment team comprised of chief fire officers from around the nation will visit the District and review all CFAI-required core competencies. In the interim, a committee of District staff will meet regularly to assess and make recommendations relevant to the ten categories for core compliance.

A career development program recently enacted by the District is doing very well. Several personnel have recently attained either their Associate or Bachelor degrees, with four officers currently working on their Masters degrees. Additionally in 2006, ten officer candidates graduated from the Center for Management Development at Wichita State University. This is a challenging eleven-week course focused on supervision development. Five additional personnel will begin this training in February 2007.

As the Chief of Fire District No. 1, I am proud to have been appointed by the Department of Homeland Security to a two-year term as Chair of the DHS South Central Kansas Region. This committee has representatives from many

disciplines within the nineteen Kansas counties it serves. In 2006, the committee allocated \$1.3 million for projects to assist the region. In 2007, decisions will be made on \$2.5 million in improvements to increase the public safety within these counties.

The secret to the success of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 is our

employees—they make it happen! Our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Board of County Commissioners, the County Manager and his staff, and to our citizens.

Fire Chief Gary E. Curmode, CFO



The mission of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 is to serve the public by protecting life and property, minimizing the impact of fire, and rapidly responding to medical emergencies, potential disasters, or uncontrolled events that adversely affect the community and environment.

SCFD No. 1 gears up

The **OPERATIONS DIVISION** of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1 spent 2006 gearing up for one of the most exciting periods in the District's 51-year history.

A major hurdle was cleared in 2006 with the final approval and contractor selection for the relocation of two of the District's fire stations as outlined in the 2004 fire station relocation plan. Groundbreakings will be held for new Station 33 in Maize and Station 32 in Park City in early 2007. The Maize station, built at a cost of \$1.3 million, will house fifteen personnel and three to four pieces of apparatus; the \$2.5 million Park City Station will become the new home to the District's administrative offices and will house 29 personnel and six to seven pieces of apparatus. Both of the new stations should be operational by February 2008.

A second major accomplishment realized in 2006 was the purchase of four new front-line firefighting apparatuses. Two quints (75-foot aerial ladders), a new engine, and a new squad (mini-pumper/rescue truck) will replace aging equipment when they are delivered in mid-2007. The two quints, manufactured by Sutphen Corporation in Amlin, Ohio, will help increase fire protection to the growing residential and commercial areas of Park City and Haysville. The new engine, manufactured by Smeal Fire Apparatus in Snyder, Nebraska will also update aging equipment. New Station 33 in Maize will house this new engine upon its completion in late 2007. The final piece of equipment is a prototype squad unit and will be tested by Station 35 in Goddard to determine if it meets the needs of the District better than the squads currently in use.

A long-awaited project completed in 2006 was the purchase and installation of Automatic Vehicle Location Systems and Mobile Data Terminals in all District vehicles. Upon completion of the new Sedgwick County Emergency Communications Center in July 2007, this equipment will aid 911 dispatchers in locating and dispatching equipment and personnel to emergency calls anywhere within Sedgwick County. The Mobile Data Terminals will also allow fire crews to access instantly-updated alarm, mapping, and fire pre-plan information directly from their vehicles.

A grant-funded project providing for the installation of emergency generators at all eight of the District's fire stations was completed in 2006. This equipment will prevent delays in emergency response during periods of power outage or severe or inclement weather as seen during the destructive 2005 ice storms.

Other accomplishments of the Operations Division in 2006 included the standardization of all "Jaws of Life" rescue tools on District equipment, the completion of a four-person rookie academy in July, and the providing of mutual aid to Harvey and Reno Counties for large grass fires in February.

Rapid commercial growth within Sedgwick County has kept all four sections of the **FIRE PREVENTION DIVISION** busy in 2006. Both the Division's Investigation Section and Plan Review Section saw substantial increases in demand for their expertise.

The Fire Investigations Section performed 134 fire investigations in 2006. This was a 24% increase over the year 2005; a 131% increase from 2000. Thirty-two arson fires were investigated in 2006, up from 21 arson fires in the year 2000. The District recorded no fire deaths to either civilians or firefighters in 2006. The Section now has three nationally-certified fire and explosion investigators through the National Association of Fire Investigators, and nine Kansas-certified fire investigators.

The Inspection Section, in conjunction with company officers, performed 1,482 commercial building and residential day care inspections in 2006. The Inspection Division currently has two inspectors certified as Inspector I through the International Code Council, and one inspector certified as a Certified Fire Protection Specialist through the National Fire Protection Association.

The Public Education Section targets children and senior citizens—the segment of our population most at risk to fire and burn injuries or deaths. Public education is disseminated through schools and senior citizens groups via face-to-face



An updated water tender fleet helps provide better coverage in rural sections of the District.

teaching. Public Education activities in 2006 including the Adopt-A-School Program that reached 30,700 children and 25,900 adults. Assessment and intervention for 20 youth fire setters and their families was provided in 2006. The District continues to be heavily involved with the Y-FIRE Coalition of Sedgwick County. Two members of SCFD No.1 were elected to serve on the Board of Directors for the Fire and Burn Safety Alliance of South Central Kansas, Inc.



The Fire Prevention staff reviews building plans for a construction site in the District.

The Plan Review Section reviewed 144 sets of plans representing \$93,342,993 of commercial building construction projects in 2006. This is an increase of over \$13 million from 2005 where only 98 plan sets were submitted with a valuation of \$79,624,561. If the current rate of commercial growth continues in the District, it is projected that it will exceed \$100 million of commercial construction growth in 2007.

Approximately 60 percent of SCFD No. 1 calls require a need for the **MEDICAL/SAFETY-TRAINING DIVISION'S** Emergency Medical Services. As a result, all response personnel are trained to the level of Emergency Medical Technician-Basic or above, and are trained to drive Sedgwick County EMS ambulances—thus allowing both paramedics to provide patient care in critical situations.



2006 RESPONSE DATA

Total alarms		5444
55%	Medical	2983
15%	Good intent	812
14%	Fires	758
6%	Service calls	358
5%	False alarms	252
3%	Hazardous conditions	165
2%	Special assignments	121

In 2006, the Division's educational goals continued to keep all of SCFD No.1's EMTs and Paramedics abreast of the latest trends and techniques in emergency response.

Training for all District responders on the latest American Heart Association CPR techniques was completed last year. Personnel were also trained in glucometer usage and treatment for diabetic patients. This equipment aids in the assessment of diabetes patients, possible stroke patients, and also assists in finding possible causes for unconsciousness. The glucometers were put in use January 1, 2007, and within a few hours, a crew had assessed and treated a hypoglycemic diabetic patient. Also in 2006, the Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Services System scripted new guidelines for the use of a new medical airway device called a Combitube. All personnel were trained in its use and expected rollout date on apparatus is March 1, 2007. All of these new skills help the EMSS to better evaluate and treat patients.

SCFD No. 1 averages over 300 hours of training per employee per year including joint exercises with neighboring

departments, major disaster drills, hazardous materials training, and state and national training courses. The Division also strives to provide a safe working environment for personnel through the continual availability of a safety officer, a health and safety committee, and an accident review board. All combined, this helped the District record its lowest number of workman's compensation claims in four years.



Dr. Catherine Young (center) observes as Don Paget and Buddy Pressnell complete training on the new Combitube.



2006 RETIREES



Richard V. Lind
32 years



Glenn D. Randol
32 years



James H. Arnce
31 years

Specialty teams lend expertise to region

The **HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM** continued to operate as part of the HazMat Task Force—the joint effort involving Sedgwick County Emergency Management, Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1, and the Wichita Fire Department. This specialized team of firefighters responds to hazardous materials emergencies anywhere within the 1,008 square miles of Sedgwick County.

The HazMat team handles not only chemical spills and releases but, in cooperation with the Wichita Police Department Bomb Squad, is available to assist with weapons of mass destruction incidents involving Homeland Security. SCFD No. 1 HazMat members participated again in the statewide regional response team, sponsored through the office of the Kansas State Fire Marshal. The task force responds to approximately 100 alarms annually and completes many hours of specialized training to stay abreast of the ever-changing chemical industry and terrorism threats. During the year, several team members attended U.S.-sponsored training in Anniston, Alabama, and Socorro, New Mexico at New Mexico Tech.

One of the biggest highlights for the team comes each year during the fall when they host one of the largest fire service-related training events in the state. The 15th annual Kansas HazMat Symposium was in November 2006 with nearly 400 enrollments over the six-day event. Nationally-known instructors were on-site to teach a variety of field related classes covering HazMat basics and advanced specialties. In 2007 the symposium will move to Overland Park, Kansas. Visit www.kansas-hazmat.com.

HazMat team members also delivered HazMat Operations level refresher training to the entire department during 2006. The training focused on radiological education and monitoring for the first responders on the department. SCFD No. 1 HazMat team members continue to perform as a dedicated group of individuals with public safety and interest in mind.

The **TECHNICAL RESCUE TEAM** is a specialized group of firefighters that responds to emergency calls involving confined space, high-angle, swift water, trench cave-ins, collapse or SCUBA rescues. The team also responds jointly with its counterpart from the Wichita Fire

Department to provide the highest level of expertise available within the Sedgwick County area.

During 2006, the Technical Rescue Team saw several major accomplishments. Nearly all of the team's SCUBA Divers completed the national "Rescue Diver" certification. All primary and backup team members completed basic level rescue training as a prerequisite to the Structural Collapse Technician class. Twenty-one primary and backup team members then completed the 80-hour Structural Collapse Technician course cohosted by SCFD No. 1 and the Wichita Fire Department, and presented by the University of Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute.

SCFD No. 1 has joined forces with fire departments in Newton, Hutchinson,



Winfield, and Wichita to form the South Central Kansas Regional Response Rescue Team. The team has requested funding from the Department of Homeland Security for assistance in equipment acquisitions that will help meet the FEMA standard for a Type II-rescue team. This project will continue into 2007 and beyond.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS of Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1

Critical incident stress management team

Assists with defusing/debriefing personnel involved in critical incidents in Sedgwick County and surrounding communities.

Self-contained breathing apparatus

Technicians perform annual SCBA maintenance tests, fit-testing of all personnel, routine repairs/parts inventory, quarterly breathing air-quality tests.

REACH hypertension screening *Free blood pressure checks available on a walk-in basis at all eight District stations.*

Adopt-a-school program *Personnel volunteer in the classrooms of "adopted" schools to assist faculty and administrators in a variety of classroom functions.*

Research and development team *To keep abreast of new developments and technologies, the R and D team researches new equipment and strategies, and assists with grants and accreditation.*

SWAT tactical medic team *Specially-trained paramedics are available to assist the Wichita Police Department SWAT team in critical situations.*

Assist-a-citizen program *District personnel may assist citizens in distress due—from making a phone call to changing a flat tire.*

Vaccine/immunization program *SCFD paramedics assist the Sedgwick County Health Department with the administration of immunizations at various locations.*

Senior management response team *Personnel from the rank of division chief and above may assist other Kansas agencies in the handling of a major event or disaster.*

Y-Fire task force *The District, along with other partners, conducts a special program for youth who have shown an interest in playing with fire or who have set fires.*

French student ride-along program *Students from Bordeaux University in Talence, France, are sponsored in a ten-week training program that allows them to observe and gain knowledge about the fire service.*

Arson task force *Cooperates with 18 other member organizations (local to federal level) in assisting with investigation of complicated fire scenes in south central Kansas.*

Hydrant testing/inspection *In addition to testing 1440 fire hydrants, a database now gives units information on flow data, main size, etc. during emergencies.*

Grant-writing committee *Researches and applies for available grants to assist with the cost of new equipment and programs.*



RESPONSE CAPABILITIES

8 Fire Stations staffed 24 hours a day
 EMT Emergency Medical First Responder
 Firefighter I and II
 Hazardous Materials Team
 Technical Rescue Team
 Carbon Monoxide Response Program
 Motorist Assistance Program
 Rapid Intervention Crew 2-In/2-Out
 Senior Management Response Team
 Arson Task Force
 Regional HazMat Response Team
 (18 counties)

SCFD No. 1 PERSONNEL

- 4 Administrative staff
- 3 Administrative support
- 5 Fire Prevention
- 2 Medical/Training
- 117 Operations
- 2 Fleet Maintenance



LaWanda Deshazer, Beverly Washington, Janice Robinson

The **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES** are located on the lower level of Station 37 and can be reached between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 316-660-3473. After hours, a voicemail system notifies staff members of messages waiting. Administration can also be contacted at the following:

Sedgwick County Fire District No. 1
 4343 North Woodlawn
 Bel Aire, Kansas 67220-3837

316-660-3473
 316-744-0944 fax

scfd@sedgwick.gov
www.sedgwickcounty.org

MAJOR INDUSTRIAL PROPERTIES within the District

Air Capitol Delivery	DeBruce Grain	Roberts Trucking
Air Products	Dillons Stores	Thayer Aerospace
Alef's Harley Davidson	84 Lumber	T.W. Metals
Boeing Company	The Hayes Company	United Warehouse
Buckley Industries	Kice Industries	Vulcan Chemicals
Carlson Products	Norland Plastics	Westar Energy
Case New Holland	Optima Bus Corporation	Wickham Glass
Cessna Aircraft Company	Raytheon Aircraft	Wild West World
Coleman Company	Company	Youngers and Sons

The **FLEET MAINTENANCE DIVISION** continued to operate from the Fleet Management facility in 2006. Fleet Management provides all support to fire maintenance with the exception of salaries. It includes—but is not limited to—use of facilities, stockroom support, use of fleet software, and administrative services.

During 2006 all front-line equipment was on a four-month preventive maintenance inspection and service cycle. Conducting thorough inspection and repair ensured equipment quality. In addition all staff vehicles were placed on a 4,000-mile preventive maintenance and inspection cycle. All reserve equipment is scheduled for a preventive maintenance and inspection cycle every six months.

In 2006, fire technicians created 402 work orders that included 172 road calls, 138 preventive maintenance inspections, 6 vendor warranties, 70 vendor repairs and the remainder for general maintenance. To support these work orders, over \$29,139

worth of stocked parts were issued and non-stocked parts valued at \$47,885 were issued. Repairs not feasible for in-shop technicians were sublet to outside vendors for \$38,009.

Fire maintenance continues to search for improvement areas and solicits comments from the users by survey, email, telephone and face-to-face with operators.



STATION LOCATIONS

Station 31 5848 N 247th St W	Station 35 651 S 247th St W
Station 32 501 E 53rd St N	Station 36 6400 S Rock Rd
Station 33 5728 N 151st St W	Station 37 4343 N Woodlawn
Station 34 3914 W 71st St S	Station 38 1010 N 143rd St E

BUDGET INFORMATION/ACCREDITATION

During 2006, the Fire District was funded by a special assessment tax mill levy of 18.565. The total 2006 adopted budget of \$13,642,138 maintains staffing and operations of administration, safety/training, fire prevention, and eight fire stations. Revenue sources include ad valorem taxes, other taxes, inspection fees, building rentals, hazardous materials response fees, and other charges for services.

As the District's review for re-accreditation through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International grows nearer, staff members continue to review and update the necessary core competencies for renewal. Leading the accreditation effort are (below, left to right) Division Chief Chuck Thomas, Lieutenant Bryan Ellis, and Dr. John Leslie.



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