To the Honorable Mayor, City Council, members of the Rapid City Fire Department and citizens of Rapid City:

With the resignation of Chief Mark Rohlfing, it was an honor to be appointed to the position of fire chief on May 4, 2010. As a lifelong resident of the Black Hills and having served over 20 years with the Rapid City Fire Department, I believe my experience, education and work history will serve Rapid City well in creating a safe environment for our citizens. I have always had a strong sense of community, take great pride in the quality of life in Rapid City and look forward to serving as your next fire chief.

On behalf of the men and women of the Rapid City Fire Department, it is with great pleasure to report on the Department’s activities for 2010. You will find a great deal of change within the organization in terms of personnel, programs and direction. We strive to advance the organization under our mission of PREPARE, PREVENT, PROTECT. Our organization is fueled by our outstanding men and women through their knowledge, skills and abilities. We collectively agree upon our core values of PROFESSIONALISM, RELIABILITY, SERVICE, PRIDE, INTEGRITY and LOYALTY. The organization excels through the unmatched dedication of our personnel.

As Rapid City continues to grow and establish itself as a vibrant Midwest community, the fire department will likely become busier and continue to establish itself as a regional resource for public safety. Our approach to the growth is to be a proactive organization focused on efforts that prevent the loss of life, property and damage to the environment. We maintain this proactive approach through strategically planning for the future, having a shared vision or road map among our employees, and are committed to making Rapid City a safe place for people to live, work and play.

As you review this document, please note the many additions and enhancements to service such as a regional Technical Rescue Team, a Water Rescue Team and regional Hazardous Materials Team both under new leadership, High School Fire Ops 101, new fire apparatus, 2 new fire stations and several updated fire and life safety programs. Other special programs and events included hosting the Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge, the Fire Department Annual Banquet, RCFD Pipe and Drum Corp, MDA Fill-the-Boot and the Guns and Hoses Blood Drive. Personnel changes included 10 retirements, 11 newly hired firefighter-medics, hiring a new EMS Section Chief, and 33 promotions ranging from Firefighter-Medic 1 to the position of Fire Chief.

Through the service of our dedicated employees, excellent equipment, facilities, and programs we are confident we are in a great position to offer the best emergency and non-emergency services in the nation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike J. Maltaverne
Fire Chief
Chief Mike Maltaverne was appointed as Fire Chief of the Rapid City Fire Department by Mayor Alan Hanks and confirmed by the City Council on May 4, 2010. Chief Maltaverne replaced Chief Mark Rohlfing who accepted the position of Fire Chief for the Milwaukee Fire Department. Chief Rohlfing served as Rapid City’s Fire Chief from January 2008 until April 2010.

Chief Maltaverne grew up in Spearfish, South Dakota and graduated from Spearfish High School in May of 1987. He attended Black Hills State University from 1987 to 1988. He began his career in the fire service as a volunteer firefighter for the City of Spearfish in 1988 and joined the Rapid City Fire Department as a full-time firefighter in 1990. He received his Emergency Medical Technician-Basic License in 1991 and his Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate License in 1994. He was promoted to Lieutenant in the Education Division in 1998 and held that position until 2001. In September of 2001, he transferred to the Operations Division and served there until 2005. During this period, he completed his Associates Degree in Fire Science from Casper College in Casper, Wyoming. He was then promoted to Captain and held that position until 2009. He completed his Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Service Administration from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona in 2009. In October of that year, he was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Training Division. As Assistant Chief, he was responsible for coordinating training both inside and outside of the Department. In addition, he oversaw the promotion and hiring processes, information technology, public education and marketing, policy and procedure development, recruit orientation, Company Officer Professional Development (COPD) requirements, and physical standards. In May of 2010, he was promoted to Fire Chief.

In his 23 years of service, he has extensive experience in hazardous materials, wildland fire/mitigation, aircraft rescue and firefighting, purchasing, budgeting, EMS, marketing and public education. He is currently working on his Master’s Degree in Executive Fire Service Leadership from Grand Canyon University and is enrolled in the National Fire Academy’s Executive Fire Officer Program in Emmitsburg, Maryland where he will receive his certificate in 2012. Chief Maltaverne is currently serving as State Representative for the International Association of Fire Chiefs Missouri Valley Division.

Chief Maltaverne is very involved in the community serving on the Big Brothers/Big Sisters Board of Directors, participating in fund raising for various charity groups, coaching girls softball, and a member/volunteer at his church.

With Mike’s extensive credentials and experience, he will do an outstanding job as the leader of our organization and is committed to fulfilling our mission.

Chief Maltaverne is married to his wife, Chris, and has one daughter, Emily.
Our Mission

PREPARE  PREVENT  PROTECT

Prepare - Department members continually strive to maintain a heightened state of readiness in order to effectively provide service to our community. This is done through physical fitness, training, formal education, professional development, and job-specific training.

Prevent - We emphasize a proactive approach to all-risk reduction which results in fewer injuries, fatalities, and property damages to those we are sworn to protect.

Protect - When prevention efforts fail, preparation meets opportunity and our Department responds accordingly. We are tasked to provide this service by our community and do so willingly and professionally.

Vision Statement

We are a proactive, progressive, innovative, and highly trained public service provider that facilitates a diverse, happy, and healthy workforce. Ever diligent in the delivery of public safety to our community, we will serve as a benchmark for all public service organizations throughout the nation. We strive to advance our profession; mindful of our history and tradition, yet are inspired by change. With a transformed organizational culture, our employees are empowered to make ethical, moral decisions and are community-minded in their endeavors. With a collaborative vision of our future we enrich our community, meet our challenges head-on as a team and take risks, encourage a balance between leadership and management, promote opportunities for our employees, and mitigate risk through proactive measures.

Our Core Values

Professionalism: High set of standards, possessing great skills, engaged, career, character, assured confidence in field, authentic.

Reliability: Dependable, can be relied upon, consistently, compatible results.

Service: Occupation/duty of servant, work or duties performed for others, facility providing public with skills and talents, devotion, guaranteed.

Pride: Sense of own dignity or proper value, self-respect, be most successful, esteem oneself, highly confident, ownership.

Integrity: Firm adherence to code or standard of values, quality of being undivided, non-wavering, stands for a set of principles, steadfast, honest.

Loyalty: Feelings devoted, quality or state of being loyal, commitment, faithful, allegiance.
Chief Maltaverne joined the Fire Department in 1990. He has served as Lieutenant, Captain, and Assistant Chief. In May 2010, Mayor Alan Hanks and the City Council appointed him to the position of Fire Chief. He is responsible for the over-all operation of the Rapid City Fire Department including the emergency medical services enterprise.

Chief Kobes joined the Fire Department in 1978. He has served as Lieutenant, Captain, and Battalion Chief. He was promoted to Assistant Chief of Operations in 2003. Tim manages the Operations Division manpower and resources to assure timely and appropriate fire, rescue, medical and hazardous material emergency response. In addition, he oversees purchasing, contracts, employee support and maintenance.

Chief Behlings joined the Fire Department in 2000. He has served as Lieutenant, Captain, and was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Fire Prevention Division in 2009. Tim is responsible for fire code development, enforcement, fire and life safety commercial and construction site inspections, construction/site plan reviews, plat document reviews, permits, the juvenile fire setter program, and fire cause/arson investigations.

Chief Niehaus joined the Fire Department in 1998. He has served as Lieutenant, Captain, and was promoted to Assistant Chief of the Education Division in 2010. He is responsible for coordinating training inside and outside the Department. He also oversees the promotion and hiring processes, recruit orientation, Company Officer Professional Development (COPD) requirements, and physical standards.
Total Calls for Service: 12,840

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Count</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Structure Fires</td>
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<td>EMS/Standbys</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Fires</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>False Alarms</td>
<td>950</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brush &amp; Grass Fires</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
<td>89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rubbish Fires</td>
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<td>Service Calls</td>
<td>1195</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Fires</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>Other Responses*</td>
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*These responses include smoke scares, animal calls, lockouts, severe weather, explosions, etc.

Department Fleet

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambulances</td>
<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>14</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brush Trucks</td>
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<td>CAFS</td>
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<tr>
<td>CFR's</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Engines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ladder Trucks</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maintenance</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue Equipment</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gator</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trailers</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Service Area: 55.01 Square Miles
EMS Service Area: 3,200 Square Miles
Population: 67,956
Fire Budget: 8.1 Million
EMS Budget: 2.8 Million

2010 Incidents by Station

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Number of Calls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Station 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Station 3</td>
<td>1527</td>
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<tr>
<td>Station 4</td>
<td>2517</td>
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<tr>
<td>Station 5</td>
<td>588</td>
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<tr>
<td>Station 6</td>
<td>237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station 7</td>
<td>2500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station 8</td>
<td>1046</td>
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</tbody>
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Department Statistics

91 Firefighter/EMT's
37 Dedicated Paramedics
7 Support Staff
Under the direction of Chief Tim Kobes, Operations Division employees work a 24/48 hour schedule in three shifts headed by Battalion Chiefs Tim Daly, Rob Powell and Rod Seals.

The Operations Division provides emergency and non-emergency services, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Firefighters respond to calls for assistance from our seven fire stations which are strategically located throughout the city. In 2010 we responded to 12,840 incidents. These calls consisted of everything from fires to cardiac arrests, odor investigations to patient assists, and children locked in vehicles to long distance ambulance transfers.

While not answering calls, firefighters are busy training, conducting fire prevention inspections, presenting public education programs, performing equipment and station maintenance, and participating in physical fitness exercises.

Rapid City firefighters are divided into three shifts, with each shift working 24 hours at a time. The 24-hour shift begins at 7:00 am and ends at 7:00 am the following day. Firefighters work, eat and sleep at the fire station during their 24-hour shift. During a typical shift firefighters start their day by checking their emergency equipment to ensure that everything is in proper working order from their personal protective clothing to every piece of equipment on their emergency apparatus, and the apparatus itself. Housekeeping duties are addressed early in the day, and though not as exciting as other duties, your firefighters are proud of their fire stations and keep them in top shape.

There are 122 firefighters assigned to the Division; 88 achieved Journeyman status, the remaining 34 are climbing the ladder of our 4-year Apprenticeship Training Program. All firefighters are trained and certified to meet the requirements of the State of South Dakota as Emergency Medical Technicians. Additionally, 37 of the 122 firefighters are certified as Emergency Medical Technician Paramedics.

In June of 2010, Fire Station 7 was completed and crews moved in on July 1st. The new station is located at 2255 Tish Boulevard and replaced the old station on Maple Avenue that was constructed in the 1950’s and built to house 3 men. Funding was provided by the CIP fund. It will continue to house Engine 7, Brush 7, and Medic 7. In addition, the Rapid City/Pennington County Area Mobile Command Post is housed there. The old fire station was leased to the American Red Cross.

Construction of Fire Station 8 continued with the scheduled completion date set originally for mid-December, however, delays pushed the date into 2011.

Two new engines were placed into service. The truck designated as Engine 1 is be housed at Station 1 and the other, Engine 7, is housed at Station 7. Both are 2010 Pierce Arrow ST models and feature 1250gpm pumps, carry 750 gallons of water, and 25 gallons of Class “A” foam. The two trucks they replaced were given to the Nemo and Doty volunteer fire departments.
Rapid City Fire Department
FIRE STATIONS AND RESPONSE AREAS
The Technical Rescue Team (TRT) is located at Station 3, 102 Federal Ave. The rescue team has been very progressive again in 2010 with continually building the team with more equipment and obtaining technician level certifications. The required certifications include high angle rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue, and structural collapse rescue. In addition to the required training, the team also has certifications in vehicle extrication, swift water rescue, and ice rescue.

Some of the new equipment purchased to help meet these needs is a complete set of shoring used for interior shoring, exterior shoring, and trench rescue. We have also purchased several items for victim search responses which includes cameras, victim communications, and victim locator devices. We have also obtained a surface supplied air system donated by the Hazardous Materials Team that we have retrofitted to be used with our current SCBA masks. In addition to the above equipment, the purchase of personal protective rescue gear and several miscellaneous items such as air compressors, generators, saws, etc. have been made.

Some of the grant money was also used for training. With the training portion of the budget, we were able to send individuals to Sioux Falls, New Hampshire, California, Texas, and Louisiana to achieve technician certifications or train-the-trainer qualifications. In addition, instructors have been invited here to certify team members on various specialties.

The TRT regional response team is also busy expanding its capabilities with the assistance of grant money. The team now has the ability to function as a heavy rescue team. This is a great benefit, not only to the residents of Rapid City, but also to individuals across the state of South Dakota. The team is in the process of forming agreements with Sioux Falls, Watertown, and Aberdeen to create a statewide team in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist threat.
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAM

The Rapid City/Pennington County Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Team (HMERT) had a busy 2010. Late in 2009, it was recognized that the team was in need of a new enclosed absorbent trailer for response to hazardous materials liquid spills. A grant was requested and approved through the Pennington County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). An 8’x18’ enclosed trailer was purchased in January of 2010 and the process of remodeling the interior was completed by the spring of the year. The trailer now contains the team’s John Deere Gator as well as a wide assortment of absorbents for mitigating liquid spills throughout the region.

Remodeling of the Hazardous Materials truck continued throughout 2010. This revision included making better use of the back of the truck as well as a complete rebuild of the computer system used to aid in identification of hazardous materials. This computer system is state-of-the-art and will allow for instantaneous information gathering on the scene of any incident that “Big Blue” is called to.

The HMERT continued to build a relationship with the National Guard Civil Support Team by participating in a couple of scenario based exercises in the early summer and early fall. These exercises allowed each team to learn the strengths and weaknesses of their counterparts. They also allowed team members to work side by side in Level A hot zones, which was something that had not been explored until this year.

Training for team members remains a top priority. Five firefighters were sent to the Security and Emergency Response Training Center (SERTC) in Pueblo, Colorado for the Hazardous Materials Technician course. The addition of these firefighters brings our total number of technician level team members to over 30.

Some of our current technicians also chose to attend the SERTC for specialist training in either Highway Emergency Response or Tank Car Response. Approximately half of our technicians are also specialists in one or both of these courses.

Other training received in 2010 included classes on grant writing (a valuable asset in funding the team and its activities) and Special Operations Team Management offered by the National Fire Academy.

As we move into 2011, the team will continue to train and prepare for service to the community in all hazard scenarios, as well as search for undiscovered services that we may be able to provide in the future.
The Rapid City/Pennington County Water Rescue Team continues its tradition of interagency cooperation in an effort to provide our region with the highest caliber training and equipment available for water-related response. 2010 marked year three in the team’s 5-year plan to become a FEMA typed dive and flood response team. While several long-standing members of the team retired, including Dan Ladenburger and Mark Kirchgesler, many new and eager members from the fire department, police department, and sheriff’s office joined our ranks and are already making significant contribution to the forward progress of the team.

One of the most significant achievements of 2010 was the acquisition of swift water personal protective equipment and the completion of swift water technician training for 14 local responders. The water rescue team remains grateful for the support of the contributing agencies and the public we serve and looks forward to providing water response capabilities to our city, county and region.
The Fire Prevention Division, directed by Assistant Chief Tim Behlings, is responsible for fire code development, enforcement, fire and life safety, commercial and construction site inspections, construction/site plan reviews, permits, juvenile fire setter intervention, and fire cause/arson investigations.

Throughout 2010 the construction activity showed a slight improvement over 2009, yet businesses remain cautious. During this slow economic recovery owners seemed to take advantage of the time to conduct smaller scale renovations and improvements to existing structures. This is important for Rapid City as many buildings continue to install fire protection systems thus not only improving aesthetics, but truly improving fire safety and reducing the fire threat throughout the community.

Rapid City permit values totaled approximately 132.7 million which is up about 15 million from 2009; of the total value, approximately 2.3 million consisted of fire alarm and fire sprinkler systems. So there does not appear to be any shortage of the Fire Prevention Division’s workload in the foreseeable future.

As noted last year, the Division continues to work hard on improving how we do business and serve the customer. After imitating the electronic plan review process in 2009, we followed up with development of electronic field inspection reporting, and fire protection system review through the use of portable field computers which allow us to take the review plans to the field in electronic format. This saves inspectors time and allows a more timely response to the customers. This process will be fully implemented in 2011 and is our way of “going green”. Once again, Captain Rich Broderick and Lieutenant Jack Tomac have diligently worked on this project.

**Personnel Changes**

2010 was another year of change within the Division as Rodney Seals returned to the Operations Division through a captain’s promotion and Lieutenant Damon Hartmann returned to the Operations Division looking for new opportunities. We were pleased to promote Tim Weaver and Dan Janecek into the Division to fill the vacancies and they are working hard to get up to speed.

The changes in personnel have also created opportunities for the Division to begin implementing a program to certify inspectors and enhance the professionalism of the Division. As we head into 2011, the Prevention Division is motivated and ready for the upcoming challenges.
The Fire Prevention Division takes a very aggressive and proactive approach to promoting community risk reduction and fire safety. 2010 was no exception as we rolled out an educational tool which demonstrates the effectiveness of residential fire sprinkler protection to the public. The fire sprinkler demonstration trailer utilizes live fire and common residential furnishings to dramatically show the effects of fire and the effectiveness of fire sprinkler protection. This demonstration has been requested throughout the state and is a cooperative effort with the Pennington County Firefighters Association and hours of volunteer time. In addition, residential fire sprinkler protection was utilized as a tool to promote development where infrastructure did not meet the needs of the homeowners. Captain Rich Broderick leads this effort which requires extensive coordination of all parties involved to help educate the homeowner, builder, and plumber and expand the acceptance of fire sprinkler protection. Fire sprinkler protection remains the #1 most cost effective firefighting tool we have to work with. Fire sprinkler protected occupancies continue to preserve and protect our citizens and economic base in Rapid City.

The Fire Prevention Division would like to note that the risk reduction successes throughout Rapid City are a product of a large cooperative effort. This cooperation is between the various agencies within City government, local developers, contractors, suppliers, business owners and citizens. It is successful because the Prevention Division promotes a problem-solving attitude and approach of which we are very proud.
Under the direction of Assistant Chief John Niehaus, the Rapid City Fire Department’s Education Division provides for and facilitates training and education within the Department. The Division is tasked with many of the administrative responsibilities of the Department including, but not limited to, public education, public information, public relations, training and education, marketing, statistics, planning, and information technology. 2010 was a relatively busy year within the Division involving many personnel changes. John Niehaus was promoted in June to the position of Assistant Chief of Education, Nick Carlson promoted out of the Division to Captain in Operations, and Dustin Willett was promoted to Education Lieutenant.

Some of the changes within the Division during 2010 include the production of several television and internet PSA’s, improved lines of communication within the Department, improved efficiency in day to day operations through the use of technology, and a social networking site on Facebook and YouTube. It is our intention to educate and inform the community and our employees in the most effective means possible.

### Training

Each employee of the Rapid City Fire Department is an investment and must be continually invested in, thus enriching and creating a diverse and happy workforce. The success of any organization is entirely dependent on its ability to prepare for uncertainty and continued success. The Division continually strives to provide the most current and accurate training to its personnel in order to better prepare them for the mission ahead, while also providing for individual career aspirations. Providing education and training for the Department is accomplished through a variety of mediums including: consultation with outside agencies; in-house trainers and instructors; webinars; company level training; conference opportunities; National Fire Academy courses; and State-sponsored training.

According to our strategic plan we as a Department feel it is important to seek National Accreditation and be recognized by our peers in the fire service community. This means providing education and training that is relevant to the occupation and in-line with best practices. Meeting the national standard is our Department’s ultimate goal. The role of today’s Firefighter-Medic, Firefighter-Paramedic, and Fire Officer are ever-changing and require strategies and tactics that are ever-changing to provide such training. One such strategy involves changing the Department’s Company Officer Professional Development Program, geared towards developing tomorrow’s fire officers, to eventually reflect State and National standards for fire officers. Building good leaders through education, training, mentoring, and experience ultimately enhances the Department’s ability to weather difficult times, both forecasted and unforeseen.

**2010 TRAINING STATISTICS**

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<tr>
<th>Training Events</th>
<th># of Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live Fire</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildland Live Fire</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wildland Fire Other</td>
<td>256</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aircraft Firefighting</td>
<td>59</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialized Rescue</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hazardous Materials</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Recruit and Apprentice Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Medical Technician Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paramedic Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>SRT Training with Police Department</td>
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<td>Other Fire Related Training</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>3847</strong></td>
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The public outreach and education provided by the Rapid City Fire Department continues to support every facet of our stated mission - ‘Prepare, Prevent, Protect”. Whether presenting to school children, local businesses, industry, or other response agencies, the Rapid City Fire Department remains committed to actively educating citizens in an effort to make our community a safe and secure place to live, work and play.

While a significant amount of our service to the community is reactive in nature, public education provides an effective avenue for proactively reducing hazards and loss of life and property while simultaneously strengthening the ties between the Department and the people we serve.

In 2010 the Department continued its tradition of reaching out to very fourth grade classroom with the Survival Kids program. Survival Kids is a fun and interactive educational program teaching life safety skills to elementary school age children. The Survival Kids program was revamped in 2010 with assistance from Rapid City Regional Hospital, KEVN Black Hills Fox, the Rapid City Fire Department and the Black Hills Area Community Foundation L.I.F.E. Fund.

In cooperation with the Black Hills Homebuilders Association, the fire safety trailer was utilized throughout the year to provide a hands-on demonstration of exit drills and other fire safety concepts.

Other public education efforts included puppet shows for elementary schools, presentations at career days, career fairs, providing CPR classes, giving fire station tours, and responding to a variety of specialized education requests from the community.

2010 also saw the inception of the Rapid City Fire Department’s Facebook page, as well as increased use of both YouTube and our locally produced newspaper-based 1200 Degrees video program - all of which provide for an increased flow of information to and from the community.

As the strategic plan takes shape and is implemented in the Department, the tempo, quality, and effectiveness of our public education efforts will continue to develop and improve. These efforts will be led by Assistant Chief John Niehaus who has always been a tireless advocate of public education within the Rapid City Fire Department.
Dear Fire Chief Maltaverno and Firefighters,

Thank you for the special tour of your Fire Station! My brother and I loved it. I also had my best birthday ever when the firefighters from Fire Station #5 came to my house during my birthday party - it was very exciting for me and my friends! Thank you!!

Your friend (and future firefighter),
Griffin

Chef Maltaverno

Thank you so much for your support of our Fill-the-Boot program. Your fire-fighters do an exceptional job of supporting our families in so many ways. It was great to meet you and we’re honored to have your support! Thank you for standing behind our program. Your support was key to the success this year. The money you raised supports our over 550 families, you and your department are true heroes to us. Thank you again for all of your hard work and support.

Gratefully,
Kinder

We would like to thank you for coming in and reading to us! We truly enjoyed having you be a part of our “Read-a-Thon!”

Rapid City Fire Department
PUBLIC EDUCATION
In November, the Rapid City Fire Department held its first High School Fire Ops 101 course in conjunction with Partnership Rapid City’s Learn and Serve Program. The program is open to students age 16 and older from Rapid City Stevens and Central High Schools, Jefferson Academy, Career Learning Center, Douglas High School, and St. Thomas More High School. The High School Fire Ops 101 Program is designed to give students an in-depth look at careers in Fire and EMS by allowing the students up-close and personal access in a controlled setting. Students were selected through an application process that involved essay questions and reference letters from the Learn and Serve Coordinator or High School Guidance Counselor. The program is 30 hours long and takes place on three consecutive Saturday’s. The program was at no cost to the students or their families, with lunch each day donated by Qdoba and Westside Burger King in Rapid City.

This year 12 students from Stevens, Central and Jefferson Academy participated in the inaugural program. The program started with a parent and student orientation night. Participants and their parents were introduced to the program, its instructors, and the curriculum, and the participants were fitted with personal protective equipment (PPE). The first full day of class, students learned about the history of the fire service, organization and history of the Rapid City Fire Department, and structural firefighting. During the structural firefighting portion, students learned about fire behavior and the science of fire, hydraulics and water supply, and fire attack. Participants had the opportunity to advance hose through an apartment area in low-visibility conditions wearing full firefighter PPE. The day culminated with a drill in which teams competed against each other using the lessons they learned earlier in the day.

The following Saturday was devoted entirely to Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Students learned CPR, Basic Life Support, and Advanced Life Support. They also met several Rapid City firefighters who discussed their own journey on how they got to where they are today, as well as different educational opportunities and careers in EMS that do not necessarily involve firefighting. Students were also informed about the courses and activities that would benefit them if they were to pursue a career in Fire and EMS.
The last Saturday of class was devoted to specialties. First, students were taken to Fire Station 8, home of Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF). They learned how structural firefighting and ARFF tactics and equipment differ. They received a tour of the airport from inside the City’s two Crash Fire Rescue (CFR) apparatus, and toured the fire station. Special thanks to Firefighters Keith Trojanowski and Jerry Lueras for the excellent demonstrations. Next, they received a visit from the Rapid City/ Pennington County Hazardous Materials Response Team and Captain Matt Culberson. Students learned about Haz-Mat/WMD response, how Haz-Mat members monitor different chemicals and agents, and had the opportunity to try on an encapsulated Haz-Mat suit.

The grand finale was a visit from the Department’s Technical Rescue Team. Thanks to the generous donation from Olson Towing, students under the guidance and supervision of Rescue 3 personnel were able to practice vehicle extrication techniques using the hydraulic extrication equipment. This not only demonstrated what it takes to remove a patient from a badly mangled vehicle, but also reinforced the dangers of driving impaired or distracted. Students ended the day with a confined space exercise that showed them the strong nerves and bodies that it requires to work as a member of a technical rescue company. A special thanks to Lt. Kel Gunderson and Firefighters Scott Jungck and Robert Thompson for their participation and instruction.

At the end of the class, students and parents were invited to the Fire Department for a graduation ceremony. They were shown a slide show that chronicled the three weeks of the course, student’s received their homework assignment, and were given final words of encouragement. A cake reception followed with Fire Chief Mike Maltaverne. The High School Ops 101 Program was a tremendous success, so much so, that there are already plans for a Spring 2011 course. We hope this program can continue to be a benefit to the participating schools, students and the Rapid City community for many years to come.
The EMS Division maintains responsibility for the provision and oversight of emergency and non-emergency Advanced and Basic Life Support ambulance services in the Rapid City and Pennington County service area under the medical direction of Dr. Kelly Manning. In addition to ambulance services, the Division also provides and oversees other non-traditional types of medical services, to include Public Access AED programs and Mobile Medics for special events in the area.

The Rapid City Fire Department is the primary Advanced Life Support (ALS) provider for the City of Rapid City and Pennington County, and frequently responds into neighboring counties as well. The Department covers an area of 3,200 square miles, with a daytime population of close to 300,000 people in the summer. In 2011 the Department’s ambulances responded to 10,034 calls. One of the highest totals we have had since the inception of ALS ambulance services in Rapid City and Pennington County in the late 1970’s.

Currently the system status plan allows for four (4) primary duty ALS (Paramedic level) ambulances 24 hours a day. They respond from Station 1 (Medic 1), Station 3 (Medic 3), Station 4 (Medic 4), and Station 7 (Medic 7). Additional ambulances are available from Station 1 (Medic 11), Station 4 (Medic 14), Station 5 (Medic 15), and Station 6 (Medic 16) and are staffed by on-duty personnel in the event of system overload.

The Department cross-subsidizes the emergency portion of its EMS transport business (911) with traditional and non-traditional non-emergency transports and standby contracts. The Department provides both local and long-distance non-emergent and critical care patient transport anywhere ground transport can be done. The Department provides ambulance and mobile medic services at a number of special events in and around the area to include the Black Hills Stock Show and Rodeo, Heritage Festival, American Legion Baseball, Rush Hockey, and Rushmore Cup Soccer tournaments.

The Department ended the year with an average ALS response time to emergent calls in the City of Rapid City of 5.8 minutes and a fractile response time of 7.5 minutes to 90% of ALS emergency calls in less than 7 minutes and 59 seconds. However, we have seen a general rise in our response time in recent years despite the addition of the fourth 24 hour ALS ambulance. A general rise in population, expansion of the City boundaries and a general increase in requests from outside the City (county requests) has led to this steady incline.

2010 ended with the retirement of Chief Mike Thompson on December 15th. Chief Thompson’s 20 year career was highlighted by the implementation of ambulance transport service by the Rapid City Fire Department in 2003. Mike was instrumental in the inception of transport services and the growth of EMS within the Fire Department. Emergency services in the area, from the 911 communications center to ambulance transports, are forever changed due to his influence. He was a great leader, provided a great service to this community, and will be missed.

Jason Culberson assumed the role of EMS Chief after Mike’s departure. He brings 17 years of EMS experience to the Department, most recently as the Program Director for Black Hills Life Flight. He is a Paramedic and holds a Bachelor’s Degree from Montana State University. He looks forward to the challenges that face EMS in the coming years and continuing the legacy that the Department has built.

2010 also brought the purchase of a new four-wheel drive ambulance. After the difficulties of traversing the snow and bad roads last spring the Mayor made the decision to purchase one. The four-wheel drive ambulance will enhance our response to incidents during these trying times. Expected delivery is in early 2011. A new LTV 1200 ventilator was also purchased. Initially this will be used on our critical care ground transports with the hope to purchase four more to be placed on our front-line ambulances.

The Department’s Patient Billing Services operation is a key component of the EMS Division’s success. Consistent, reliable reimbursement from users of the system assures that service will be available for those who need it.
## INCIDENT CALL NUMBERS BY MONTH COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medic Units</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>Difference from Previous Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>811</td>
<td>780</td>
<td>827</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>718</td>
<td>-37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>856</td>
<td>868</td>
<td>778</td>
<td>-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>735</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>741</td>
<td>-28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>801</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>869</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>819</td>
<td>841</td>
<td>22</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>912</td>
<td>914</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>928</td>
<td>33</td>
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<td>981</td>
<td>920</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>804</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>852</td>
<td>96</td>
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<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>762</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>858</td>
<td>858</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>November</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>807</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>769</td>
<td>40</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>857</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>869</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>9862</td>
<td>10034</td>
<td>172</td>
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</table>
**Definition of Call Types**

**Cancel:** When a medic unit is paged, but cancelled prior to reaching the scene.

**Dry Run:** When a medic unit is paged and upon arrival the patient refuses transport to the hospital or the patient is no longer at the scene.

**Fire Standby:** When a medic unit is requested to standby at a fire scene.

**Intercept:** When another agency’s ambulance who is en-route to the hospital with patient requests one of our medic units to respond; at a rendezvous point, our paramedic transfers into the agency’s to provide a higher level of patient care.

**Life Flight:** Contract with Rapid City Regional Hospital to transfer the Flight Team with or without a patient.

**Transport:** When a patient is transferred to or from a medical facility.

**Other Standbys:** When we provide medical service for an event.

**Treat & Release:** When we provide a patient with medical services and the patient is not transported to the hospital.
Rapid City Fire Department
EMS STATISTICS

2010 Calls by Medic Unit (10,034 Total Calls)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Calls</th>
<th>Medic 1</th>
<th>Medic 3</th>
<th>Medic 4</th>
<th>Medic 7</th>
<th>Medic 10</th>
<th>Medic 11</th>
<th>Medic 14</th>
<th>Medic 15</th>
<th>Medic 16</th>
<th>Mobile Medic</th>
<th>Engine Company</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2805</td>
<td>1975</td>
<td>2315</td>
<td>2488</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


2010 Department Graduation/Promotion Ceremonies

The Department held graduation/promotion ceremonies on two separate occasions in 2010, March 5th and September 30th, to recognize new recruits upon graduation from their 8 week recruit orientation program and for those individuals who were promoted throughout the year.

MDA Fill-the Boot

The Rapid City Fire Department kicked off its 3rd Annual Fill-the-Boot fundraiser for the Muscular Dystrophy Association in May. For three consecutive days, the firefighters collected contributions from parking lots throughout the city. This year’s campaign featured an MDA night at a Rapid City Post 320 baseball game and “Meet the Chief” night at Buffalo Wild Wings. The fund drive raised $33,573 thanks to the generosity of the Rapid City community. The donated money goes towards providing clinic visits, equipment assistance, summer camp for children, and helps enhance the overall quality of life for the families MDA serves.
SPECIAL EVENTS

Guns “N” Hoses Blood Drive

United Blood Services held the very successful Fifth Annual Guns “N” Hoses blood drive in June. The Rapid City Fire Department was declared the winners of the tie-breaker blood drive. The fire department donated 492 units of blood beating the challengers from the Rapid City Police Department by 50 units. All total, 934 units of blood were collected.

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Rapid City Fire Department raises money and toys to benefit children in our community through the Toys for Tots charitable program each year. In December, the Rapid City Rush held their annual Teddy Bear Toss during a hockey game where fans are allowed to throw stuffed animals onto the ice when the Rush scores their first goal. This year 1100 stuffed animals were collected. Also in December, the firefighters defeated the police officers in a game of broomball at the Roosevelt Ice Arena with the proceeds going to Toys for Tots. This event raised over $3900 and 1300 toys.

In September, the Retired Northwest Airline Pilots Association held their annual convention in Rapid City. Each person attending the conference was asked to donate a teddy bear. The Pilots Association presented over 1,000 teddy bears to the fire department who in turn distributed them to local organizations, including Toys for Tots.
The SCOTT Hometown Hero’s Firefighter Combat Challenge made its debut appearance in Rapid City on July 17 and 18, 2010 in downtown Rapid City. The Firefighter Combat Challenge dubbed “the toughest two minutes in sports” brought competitors from across the nation for the two day event.

The Firefighter Combat Challenge encourages firefighter fitness while demonstrating the rigors of the profession and tests each competitor’s athletic ability. Wearing full structural firefighting gear, a pair of competitors race head-to-head through the course comprised of 5 events.

The course starts with a sprint up five flights of stairs with a 50 lb. hose pack. Competitors must touch every step. They then have to hoist another 50 lb. hose pack to the top of the stairwell. After that part of the challenge, the competitors descend the stairs and climb atop the Keiser forcible entry simulator where a 165 pound steel beam is moved 5 feet using only a 9 pound sledge hammer. The competitor will then run through a slalom course and drag a “charged” fire hose to the last station where a 175 pound Rescue Randy is dragged 100 feet across the finish line.
The first day of races in the SCOTT Hometown Hero’s Firefighter Combat Challenge was reserved for the individual competitor. The mid-July heat didn’t slow down any of the 80 competitors with over 2 dozen of those competitors coming from the Rapid City Fire Department. Firefighter-Medic Justin Perkins placed 3rd overall while Firefighter-Medic Joyce Sauer and Lieutenant Mike Wright placed 1st and 2nd respectively in the over-40 division. Firefighter Sauer was also the fastest female of the day.

The tandem and relay races were held on the second day of competition. The Rapid City Fire Department once again had a strong showing with 4 relay teams competing against teams from Casper, Spearfish, Custer, North Haines Volunteer Fire Department, Search and Rescue and several other teams from as far away as Illinois and Idaho. Fire Chief Mike Maltaverne led by example in joining one of our firefighters, Brett Johnson, in a tandem race, finishing with a respectable time of 2:01.

The Hometown Hero’s Firefighter Combat Challenge was more than just an event for the firefighters, but rather an exciting day for the entire family. Local business, RPM, was a proud sponsor of the Kids Firefighter Challenge, a scaled down version of the original, complete with size appropriate fire hoses and a “bouncy slide” for the children to race down. The South Dakota National Guard was on hand with a HEMTT (Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck), a truck more versatile than the standard fire truck, for all curious kids and adults to examine. The Rapid City Downtown Association provided food and drink for the crowd that swelled to over 500. More than showing the general public what it is firefighters do on a daily basis, the Firefighter Combat Challenge displayed the importance of physical fitness in every day life.

The Rapid City Fire Department Firefighter Combat Challenge Team is pleased to host the Firefighter Combat Challenge again in 2011. The upcoming year promises to be an even bigger event with local businesses providing financial support and the general public giving the competitors their cheers and encouragement.
Construction of the new Station 7 began in 2009 following several years of planning and was completed in June of 2010. On July 1, 2010 the move was made to the new Station and 24 hour operations began at 2255 Tish Boulevard.

The $1.6 million fire station replaces the old station at Anaconda Street and North Maple Avenue. The 8,044 square foot station features modern amenities lacking in the old location, including individual bedrooms, a dedicated weight room and separate men’s and women’s bathrooms.

The location was selected in response to Rapid City’s continuing growth to the north providing better response times to new development and the residential neighborhoods in that area.

The ribbon cutting ceremony for Station 7 was held on July 22, 2010. Following the ribbon cutting ceremony, an open house and tours of the station were held for the public. The crews of Station 7 continue to fulfill the mission by providing Fire and EMS response to the citizens of Rapid City.

In conjunction with the ribbon cutting ceremony for Station 7, a ribbon cutting ceremony for the opening of Tish Boulevard was held on July 22, 2010.

Tish Boulevard was named after Jim Tish who served as Fire Chief from 1987 to 1992. Tish joined the Department in 1970, retired in 1992 and died in 1999. During his five year tenure as chief, Tish was instrumental in starting the conversation about city ambulance service, hazardous materials, a live-fire training center and continuing education for firefighters. The officer development programs he advocated are still in use today.

Chief Tish’s wife and his three grown sons and their families were on hand at the dedication to cut the ceremonial ribbon. The street, which extends north of Interstate 90 past the intersection of East Mall Drive and East North Street, leads to Fire Station 7.
The Rapid City Fire Department held its first annual fire department banquet on April 10, 2010. The semi-formal event was held at the Hotel Alex Johnson in the ballroom. The Fire Department’s Women’s Auxiliary put in many hours planning and coordinating the banquet. The evening consisted of a social hour, a dinner catered by the Chop House, a program where employees who were newly hired, promoted or retired in 2010 were recognized, and a raffle drawing. Fun was had by all in attendance and employees are looking forward to next year’s banquet.
The Rapid City Professional Firefighters Pipe and Drum Corp was founded in 2009 and is comprised entirely of active members of the Rapid City Fire Department. Members include: Keith Raymond, Brian Povandra, Mark Raderschadt, Nick Lindsley, Ben Tracy and Eric O’Connor.

The Corps was founded with the intent of honoring fallen firefighters, police and United States military. It is their intention to provide funeral services at no cost to their families.

The secondary mission is promoting community spirit. The plan is to make appearances at Mount Rushmore National Monument, Celtic games, sporting events, parades, ceremonies and other community minded events throughout the Black Hills and the State of South Dakota.
The Rapid City Firefighters Local 1040 Women’s Auxiliary was established in the spring of 2009. Auxiliary members consist of spouses, significant others, parents or children of Rapid City firefighters and currently has 31 members. Their mission is to provide support, promote the safety and welfare of the Rapid City Fire Department, both past and present; at the same time supporting their families and working for the betterment of the Black Hills Community.

This group of dedicated women promote fire fighting safety, promote fire prevention education, give fire and emergency services personnel assistance, cooperate with the Rapid City Local 1040 Firefighter’s Union and Rapid City Firefighter’s Association in advancing their interests and influence on both local and state levels, and create and maintain a fellowship among members of the Auxiliary.

The Rapid City Firefighters Local 1040 Women’s Auxiliary are very active in our community and are involved in several community events throughout the year. In 2010, the Auxiliary participated in the following functions:

- **Membership Fun Night** – BH Workshop Training Room - January 22, 2010
- **1st Annual RCFD Banquet** – Alex Johnson Hotel - April 10, 2010
- **CPR Heartsaver Class** - Rapid City Fire Department, Station 1 - May 1, 2010
- **MDA Fill the Boot** - Various locations in Rapid City - May 26-28, 2010
- **Guns N’ Hoses Spaghetti Feed** - Minneluzahan Senior Center - June 8, 2010
- **Pennington County Relay for Life** - Sioux Park - June 11, 2010
- **Guns N’ Hoses Blood Drive** - Rushmore Mall - June 23-26, 2010
- **Hometown Heroes Firefighter Combat Challenge** - July 17, 18, 2010
- **2nd Annual RCFD Local 1040 Women’s Auxiliary Family Picnic** - Old Story Book Island - July 25, 2010
- **Storybook Island’s “Once Upon a Festival”** - September 11, 12, 2010
- **German Firefighter Exchange** - October 3-9, 2010
- **Christmas Lights Decorating at Storybook Island** - November 6, 2010
- **Festival of Trees** - “Christmas in the Woods” Wreath - November 20, 2010
- **Festival of Lights Parade Gathering** - RCFD Station 1 - November 27, 2010
- **Wrapping Booth for YFS** - Rushmore Mall - December 4, 2010
- **Storybook Island’s Holiday Lighting** - December 22, 2010
Promotions

Promoted to Firefighter-Medic I
Chris Brubaker
Ed Cromwell

Promoted to Firefighter-Medic II
Josh Lange
Eric O’Connor

Promoted to Firefighter-Paramedic II
Aaron Bostel
Brett Johnson
Ryan Marcks
Robert Rendon
Robert Thompson
Tyler Wright

Promoted to Firefighter-Medic Journeyman
Neill Goodart
Scott Lensegrav
Calen Maningas
Tyler Powell

Promoted to Lieutenant
Shawn Barrows
Mike Bartling
Kelly Gunderson
Dan Janecek
Paul Johnson
Keith Raymond
William Reishus
Tim Weaver
Dustin Willett

Promoted to Captain
Jeff Bauer
Nick Carlson
Joe Gilles
Jimmy Massey
John Niehaus
Rodney Seals

Promoted to Battalion Chief
Tim Daly
Rodney Seals

Promoted to Assistant Chief
John Niehaus

Promoted to Chief
Mike Maltaverne
**Rapid City Fire Department**

**PERSONNEL CHANGES**

**New Faces in 2010**

- Jason Culberson
  - EMS Section Chief
- Chris Ciocarlan
  - Firefighter Medic
- Bryce Green
  - Firefighter Medic
- Chaz Fondren
  - Firefighter Medic
- Chris Klucas
  - Firefighter Medic
- Brent Long
  - Firefighter Paramedic
- Alex Rasmussen
  - Firefighter Medic
- Jason Zeigler
  - Firefighter Medic
- Francis Bierman
  - Firefighter Medic
- Matt Kahler
  - Firefighter Medic
- Bryce Kaiser
  - Firefighter Medic
- Josh Morgan
  - Firefighter Medic
Rapid City Fire Department

PERSONNEL CHANGES

2010 Retirements

Jerry Armstrong - 26 years
Bob Archbold - 29 years
Don Schmoll - 26 years
Terry Krause - 29 years
Mike Roesler - 31 years
Stuart Laabs - 31 years
Galen Huebner - 34 years
Mike Holmes - 32 years
Mike Thompson - 20 years
### HISTORY OF FIRE CHIEFS

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<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Fire Chief</th>
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<tr>
<td>1886 – 1887</td>
<td>A.C. Tipple</td>
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<tr>
<td>1887 – 1898</td>
<td>J.R. Brennan</td>
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<td>1898 – 1907</td>
<td>C.M. Leedy</td>
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<tr>
<td>1911 – 1916</td>
<td>E. Bangs</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918 – 1929</td>
<td>J.H. Thompson (Died in office)</td>
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<td>George Scheidt</td>
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<td>George Engler</td>
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<td>Glen Burdine</td>
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<td>Richard Kiefer</td>
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<td>Kenneth Johnson</td>
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<td>James Tish</td>
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<td>Gary Shepherd</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Mark Rohlfing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2010 – Present</td>
<td>Mike Maltaverne</td>
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