

Memo

To: Petersburg Borough Assembly
From: Fire Chief Stolpe
Date: January 13, 2021
Re: Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department Report for 2020

I would like to present this information to you as it relates to Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department for the 2020 year. As you know, 2020 was a very unusual year due to COVID-19. The Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department was not exempt from the restrictions and mitigations measures set forth by CDC, the State of Alaska, and the Borough.

All non-emergent in-person activity stopped in the middle of March. Several members of the department stopped participating due to COVID concerns or the restrictions put into place. In early summer, the fire branch was allowed to return to in-person training with mitigation measures in place. We suspended our Fall/Winter Junior Firefighter Program until it is safe to resume. Staff and volunteers recommended online courses for Continuing Education which helped but certainly was/is not a substitute for in-person training and drills.

The Volunteers look forward returning soon to some type of normalcy and being allowed to meet in-person for training and meetings.

Summary of PVFD Activity: January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020

Fire Branch donated 1,633 person hours.

Responded to 59 incidents for 575 person hours donated.

Held 29 drills for 617 person hours donated.

Held firefighter recruit class for 194 person hours donated.

Participated in other activities (meetings, driver training, CISD, Halloween event, Bell Ringing, etc) for 247 person hours donated.

EMS Branch donated 2,020 hours:

Responded to 201 calls with 211 patient contacts for 878 person hours donated.
Held 22 drills and 23 hours training opportunities for 617 person hours donated.
Completed an EMT-1 Bridge Course for 400 person hours donated.
Participated in other activities (meetings, driver training, CISD, Halloween event, Bell Ringing, etc) for 125 person hours donated.

SAR Branch donated 460 hours.

Responded to 4 incidents for 132 person hours donated.
Held 21 drills for 262 person hours donated.
Participated in other activities (meetings, etc) for 66 person hours donated

Junior Firefighter Program donated 40 person hours.

Held 8 classes for 40 person hours donated.

Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department Volunteer Members donated 4,153 person hours for the 2020 year.

Josh Rathmann was hired as the EMS Coordinator in January 2019 and has been a good asset.

We are still accepting applications for new members. We hope to offer a firefighter recruit class, an EMS course, and restart the Junior Firefighter program as soon as it is safe to do so.

Feel free to reach out to the Staff or Officers for additional information. We welcome your input and comments.

Respectfully,

Fire Chief Stolpe