



Treynor Fire & Rescue

Russ McGuire spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on February 14. He started as the Fire Chief in 1994 or 1995 and has been reelected every two years since.

Volunteer fire departments have been in the news a lot lately. The Treynor fire department is different than other fire departments in the area because it has its own funding, mainly through tax levies. Other volunteer fire departments operate under city funding.

The fire department has 26 volunteers. Ten are EMTs, 4 are paramedics, and 24 volunteers are firefighter certified.

When taking a patient to a hospital, medical direction says they have to go to the nearest hospital. They will ask the patient if they want to

go to Jenny Edmundson or Mercy Hospital.

Total revenue for the fire department is about \$144,000. \$82,000 is from tax levies, \$21,000 from fundraisers and donations, \$15,000 from EMS billings, \$6,000 from memorials, and \$10,000 from grants.

The fire department building was built with a 40 year loan for \$440,000. They pay \$21,000 per year toward that loan. Equipment costs \$20,000-\$30,000 per year. Tanker costs are \$14,000 per year, insurance another \$14,000, and parts and fuel \$7500. Utilities are \$8000 and they have spent \$36,000 the past three years to get three-quarters of the parking lot paved. To offset some expenses for volunteers, they get a stipend of \$20 per call.

The volunteers have meetings twice a month. Once meeting is for business and one is for training.

Last year they had 177 calls. Some are cancelled and some are false alarms. They made about 130 actual calls, 80-85% of them for medical reasons.