

Township Fire Department, Inc. Special Rescue Division Water Rescue Summary - 2021

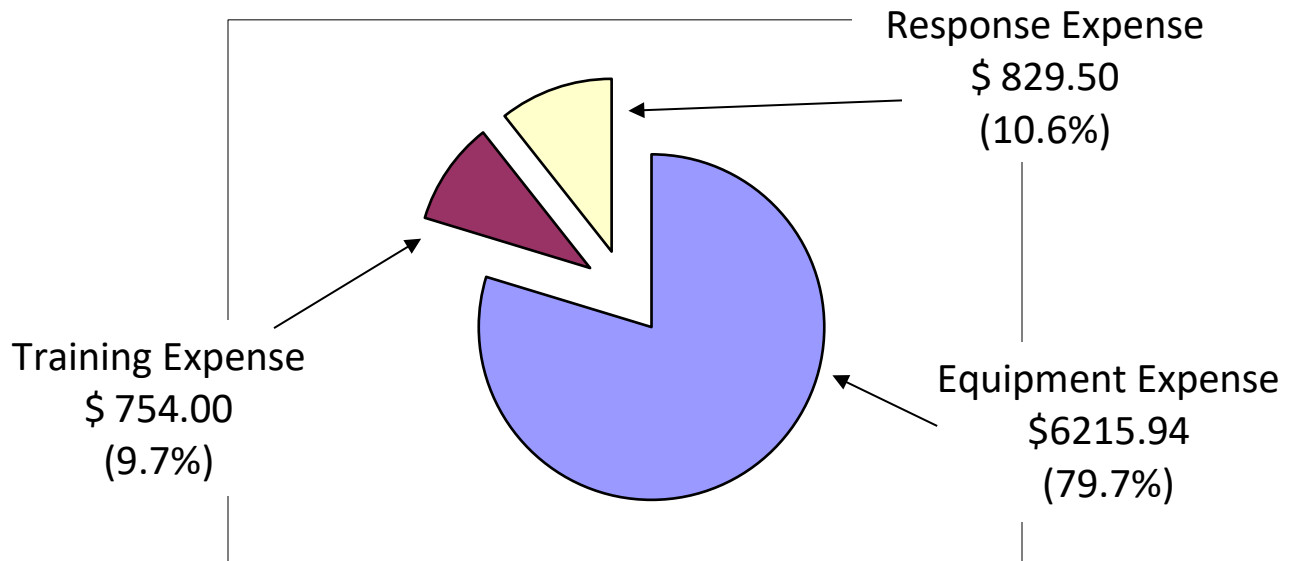


Prepared for:
Eau Claire County
Committee on Finance and Budget

Prepared by:
Chris Turner
Captain of Special Rescue
Township Fire Department, Inc.

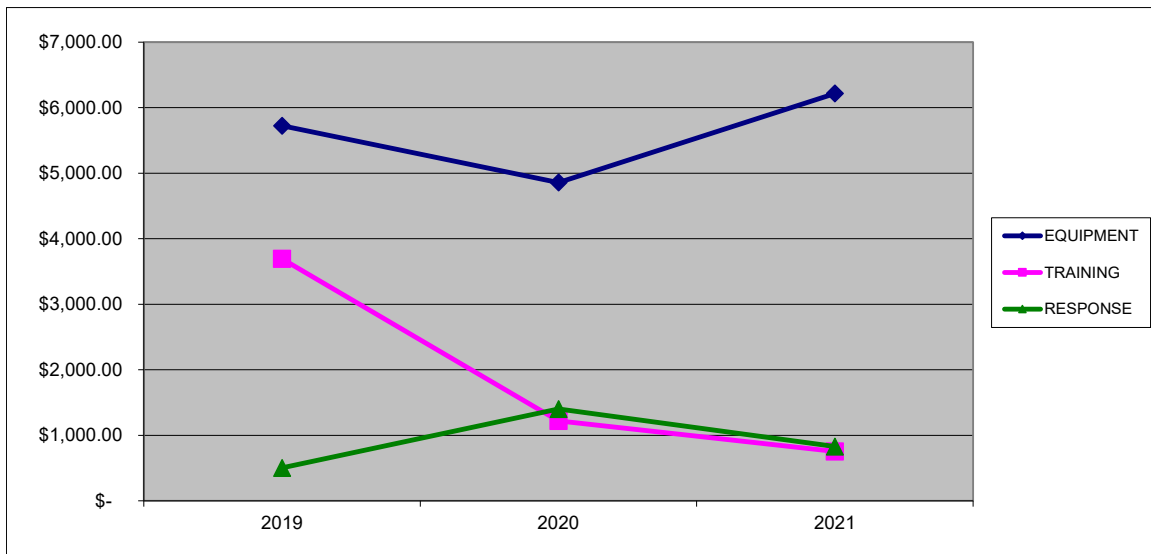


Summary of 2021 TFD Water Rescue Expenses \$7,799.44



Last 3 Years of Water Rescue Expenses

As can be seen below, the proportion of the water rescue expenses varies from year to year. In 2021, overall expenses were roughly 5% higher than the previous year. While training and response expenses went down in 2021, equipment expenses were higher than either 2019 or 2020. Training expenses were lower than expected in 2021 based on the need to cancel several planned training sessions due to COVID-19. Training is schedule to resume normal activity levels in 2022.



Summary of 2021 TFD Water Rescue Activity

- 1 Class
- 2 In-House Training Sessions
- 5 Incident Responses

Equipment Expenditures - 2021

Qty	Item Description	Cost
-	Maintenance parts for SCUBA gear/masks	\$ 483.25
1	Underwater wireless comm system	\$ 2,769.38
3	Mask mounted dive lights	\$ 810.00
1	Second stage and gauges for backup rig	\$ 190.50
1	SCUBA Tank	\$ 208.46
8	Mask bags	\$ 120.83
1	Hood	\$ 99.95
1	Tablet screen and holder for ROV Sonar	\$ 1,423.07
1	Aga swivel	\$ 89.62
2	Octopus holders	\$ 20.88
TOTAL EQUIPMENT COSTS		\$ 6215.94

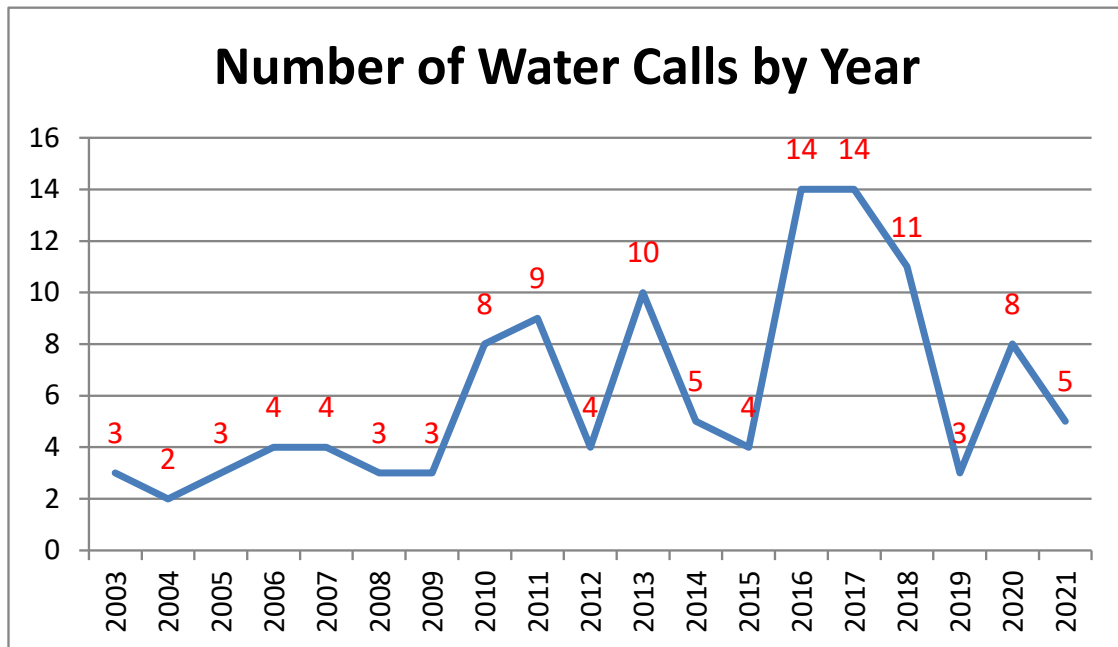
Training Expenditures - 2021

Course Description	# of Students	Total Training Hours	Total Tuition/ Equipment Costs	Training Pay	Total Cost
Dive Team Training (July 2021)	4	12	\$ -	\$ 126.00	\$ 126.00
SCUBA Tank inspector certification	1	8	\$ 355.00	\$ 84.00	\$ 439.00
Special Rescue Training - Ice Rescue (Dec 2021)	6	18	\$ -	\$ 189.00	\$ 189.00

TOTAL TRAINING COSTS \$ 754.00

Water Response Volume Since 2003

In 2016 and 2017, we experienced the highest levels of water responses since we began tracking them, showing an overall trend of increasing water responses. The number of water related incidents varies by year and in 2021, the number of calls dropped off again to a below average level.



Response Expenditures – 2021

Case #	Date	Location	Primary AHJ	Type of Call	# Personnel	Total hrs	Labor Cost
21-12	1/18/21	Coon Fork Park Boat Landing	Augusta Fire	Possible car through the ice	20	20	\$ 210.00
21-168	6/10/21	Eau Claire River at Big Falls	Township Fire	Injured man on island	17	17	\$ 178.50
12-261	9/12/21	Chippewa River	Township Fire	Body recovery	6	15.5	\$ 162.75
21-275	10/1/21	Eau Claire River at K Bridge	Fall Creek Fire	Drowning	3	7	\$ 73.50
21-300	10/30/21	Eau Claire River	Township Fire	Boat crash	10	19.5	\$ 204.75

TOTAL RESPONSE COSTS \$829.50

2021 Water Rescue Case Summaries

21-12	<p>On Monday, January 18, 2021 at 17:52 Township Fire Department, Augusta Rescue, Augusta Fire, and Mayo Ambulance were dispatched for a possible vehicle in the water at the Coon Fork Lake Campground Boat Landing in the Town of Bridge Creek.</p> <p>Information from the caller stated that there were lights from a vehicle on the lake and they disappeared. Squad 25, Brush 13, and Boat 1 responded. While en route to the scene, Eau Claire County Communications Center advised that a DNR Warden was on location and that the truck had simply turned its headlights off and that there was no vehicle in the water. All units were advised to cancel. Township units returned to their stations.</p>
21-168	<p>On 6/10/2021 at 2024 hours, Township Fire Dept, along with Emergicare, Fall Creek Fire District fire personnel and EMS personnel, and ECFD Medic unit 5 were dispatched to Big Falls County Park in the Town of Seymour for an EMS assist for an unconscious person on the island in the Eau Claire River. Units and personnel from all agencies responded.</p> <p>Upon arrival, made contact with ECSD deputies who were already on scene at the river's edge. They stated they had been dispatched as well for a reported person down unconscious from an reported physical fight. Looking across the river with binoculars, noted no one appearing to be down.</p> <p>Fall Creek EMS responder 136 advised that he was crossing the water to look for patient.</p> <p>As units from both fire departments were arriving, Fall Creek EMS 136 advised that he had located the person who had been reportedly down. Male person was conscious and alert, but was refusing to give any information such as name, date of birth, address. Person became more agitated as EMS 136 asked questions. Patient eventually walked away without answering anything further.</p> <p>As Fall Creek responder 136 was beginning to leave to island to return to shore, he located another male, unconscious. He requested assistance from fire personnel to get the person to ECFD Medic 5 personnel on shore.</p> <p>Lt. C. Davey and FF A. Black proceeded to deploy to fortuna inflatable rescue device and walked across the river to assist. Patient was transported to the north shoreline and passed to ECFD medic 5 personnel. Patient was extremely intoxicated and showed sign of heat stress. Patient was transported by ECFD medic unit 5 to HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital for evaluation/treatment.</p>
21-261	<p>Dispatched to the Chippewa River, across from the 2200 Block of White Pine Dr. (union) on report of a fisherman finding a deceased body. Support 9; Dive trailer and Brush 13; Boat 1 responded to the Caryville Boat Landing to meet with the Eau Claire County Sheriff Department. Chief Alf, Firefighter Joel Travis and Sgt Trowbridge proceeded upriver in boat 1 from the Caryville landing to the area where the body was located. The unidentified body was caught in a strainer along the south shore of the river approximately 2100' linear feet east of the Dunn County line. The body was found intact, bloated, and floating on the water. Alf and Travis entered the water, removed a significant amount of floating debris from the body and placed it a self-draining body bag. Travis and Trowbridge held the body bag alongside the port side of boat one and proceeded to the Caryville Landing. Upon arriving at the boat landing, the body bag was moved to the shore and presented to the custody of the Medical Examiner. Fire Department units then cleared the scene.</p>

21-275	<p>We received a call for a possible water rescue at the K bridge over the EC River. Fall Creek fire was also auto dispatched. Fall Creek arrived on scene first, the person had already been removed from the water and CPR had been started by bystanders. Fall Creek Fire took over CPR until ECFD Medic 10 arrived. I was first on scene for TFD. We proceeded to assist Fall Creek and Medic 10 with the patient but he was pronounced at the scene. TFD along with Fall Creek waited till the Detective Sargent and ME arrived after their examination we helped carry the body up to the road to be transported by the funeral director. All units then left the scene</p>
21-300	<p>I received a phone call from Lt. Davey that they had crashed the Airboat into a tree during training and that FF Aaron Black had been Injured and that I should head to the station to get the ATV and S15.</p> <p>As I was leaving the house comm center dispatched us for a report of a crash with injuries in 10500 Block of Wild Rose Drive. Upon getting to the station it was determined that the ball would not fit into the hitch on S15 so I made the decision to hook it up to FF Tyler Moldenhauer personal vehicle.</p> <p>We proceeded to the address indicated for the call. Upon arrival at the scene we were met by Capt. Oxley and were informed that FF Aaron Black was injured and that we would need the ATV, Rescue Sled and Fortuna brought down to the rivers edge to transport the patient up to the ambulance. ATV 1 along with BC Aaron Nicholson, Paramedic from ECFD and Lt. Matt Reas took these items down to the patient. The ATV came back up and picked up more people to take down to the river to help with the patient.</p> <p>During this time Fall Creek fire arrived with their ATV. We sent them down to the river along with a requested chain saw. FF Aaron Black was transported to the ambulance via the ATV and was transported with a leg injury that was non-life threatening. The chain saw was used to remove the part of the tree that had penetrated the protective cage surrounding the engine and blade of the airboat.</p> <p>After starting and then running the boat for a few seconds it was determined by Lt. Davey and Capt. Oxley that the boat was drivable and they proceeded back to the boat landing and loaded the boat onto the trailer and returned to the station. All units on scene packed up the equipment used and returned back to the station.</p>