



2017 Annual Report



Chief Jeff Berino

To the public we so proudly serve:

In this annual report, I look back to all of our hard work in 2017 and realized it involved an awful lot of preparation for the future. For starters, the former Lake Dillon Fire-Rescue and Copper Mountain Fire Department are now operating under the name Summit Fire & EMS Authority. After more than a year of hard work, the agreement between the two entities was signed in October of 2017. This functional merger creates one unified, all-hazards emergency-response organization that responds to approximately 419 square miles from Vail Pass to Loveland Pass and north to the Summit/Grand County lines. The communities of Copper Mountain, Frisco, Dillon, Silverthorne, Summit Cove, Dillon Valley, Keystone, Wildernest and Montezuma all lie within the new SFE boundaries, and we now operate out of four response stations and one administration station with 24-hour coverage and a total career staff of 74 dedicated individuals. For legal purposes, property owners will still see “Lake Dillon Fire Protection District” and “Copper Mountain Consolidated Metropolitan District” on their property taxes, but rest assured, tax rates have not gone up as a result of this merger, and our new

organization already is operating far more efficiently than the two separate ones.

With the merger complete, our attention turned to becoming an accredited agency with the Center for Public Safety Excellence. This intensive undertaking includes a comprehensive evaluation on every aspect of our operations, from how we purchase items to evaluating an effective response force operating under industry accepted standards. It is our hope to have this process completed in 2019 and to maintain our standing with constant evaluation of everything we do.

In 2017, we established closer working relations with the Summit County Ambulance Service, including cross-staffing ambulances with our firefighter-medics working side-by-side with paramedics, and now with the planning of a new administration building to be shared by both entities. The new building, to be located in the Summit County Commons near Frisco, will result in savings for both entities and allows Summit Fire & EMS to move all of its administrative operations under one roof. This includes, administration, billing, permitting, the Community Resources Division and IT functions. In 2017, these operations were spread over three different locations.

Beyond all of this, I would be remiss in an annual report if I didn’t reflect some additional 2017 activities which included nearly 2,500 incident responses and several significant wildfires. The 80-acre Peak 2 wildfire near Breckenridge – to which we responded as mutual aid with our colleagues at Red, White & Blue Fire -- and the 31-acre Tenderfoot wildfire threatened homes and our communities. Prompt and effective local responses kept them in check, and as a result I am pleased to report that no structures were lost in those two wildfires. We were also fortunate to have no civilian fatalities or injuries as a result of any fires in our districts in 2017.

While we have a relatively low turnover, I was pleased to welcome several new firefighters to our team. It seems that a job with our organization is a coveted appointment for highly qualified responders who place an emphasis on safety and service to our community.

On a more somber note, we were saddened by the loss of Lake Dillon firefighter Johnathan Hannum, who succumbed to a brain tumor after he was forced into a medical retirement.

In conclusion, I want to thank our dedicated staff members, who train relentlessly and who serve our community with pride every day. I also want to thank our community members for adhering to safe practices in their everyday lives and, most of all, for their support. I wish everyone a safe 2018.

-- Chief Jeff Berino



In October, the respective boards of directors for Lake Dillon Fire and Copper Mountain Fire signed an agreement to form a new joint authority, Summit Fire & EMS. The two departments have combined administration and operations, gaining efficiencies and bringing together 74 professionals with the shared goal of providing a high-quality all-hazards response and ensuring the safety of residents and visitors.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Service Milestones in 2017

Tyson Houston	15 years
Travis Davis	20 Years
Carlina Duggan	25 years
Greg Isaacson	5 years
Kim McDonald	15 years
Ted Salthouse	15 years
Brian Schenking	15 years
Kelly Wagner	25 years

New Members in 2017

Mike Williams – Firefighter/Paramedic
 Ian Aneloski – Firefighter
 Talon Edwards - Firefighter
 Tony Crisofulli – Firefighter

Promotions in 2017

Lou Laurina – Lieutenant
 Mark Thomson – Inspector II
 Josiah Christian – Firefighter/Paramedic
 Doug Beeler - Lieutenant
 Aaron Ferdig – Engineer
 Jim Farquhar – Inspector I



HR Manager Matt Scheer

Retirements in 2017

Assistant Chief Steve Skulski
 Custodian Cheryllyn Goldsberry

In Memoriam

Former Firefighter/Paramedic Jonathan Hannum passed away on October 12, 2017.

FIRE PREVENTION

The Community Risk Division is composed of five full-time inspectors and one full-time office administrator/permit technician. Our primary function is to protect lives and property from all hazards through risk assessment, evaluation, reduction and planning.

Our daily operations include:

- New construction plan reviews, field inspection and testing of life safety systems.
- Fire safety inspections of existing buildings.
- Site plan and PUD reviews in conjunction with local planning departments for new projects and subdivisions.
- Issuing operational permits and conducting inspections for controlled burns, special events and fire mitigation.
- Fire safety education and training for citizens, schools and the community.



Fire Marshal Kim McDonald

The Community Risk Division issued 341 permits in 2017 for projects such as new construction, fire

sprinklers and alarms and business remodels. That generated \$291,074 in fees, a 71 percent increase over 2016. Additionally, the Community Risk Division conducted 205 defensible-space inspections for new homes and issued 33 burn permits.

Among the larger construction projects in 2017 were Hyatt Place Keystone and Labonte's Smokehouse remodels in Keystone; Tuesday Morning building fire-alarm/sprinkler retrofit, McDonald's reconstruction, Breckenridge laundry remodel and Angry James Brewery new construction in Silverthorne; Walmart remodel and Uptown on Main remodel and addition in Frisco.

Lake Dillon Fire's public-education outreach included teaching fire safety lessons to 1,321 students in 38 sessions at our four elementary schools during October's Fire-Prevention Week activities; presentations to homeowner's associations, business organizations and civic groups; and participation in community events such as Safe Summer Kickoff, the Frisco Family Fun Fest and our third annual ice-cream socials in September, which attracted more than 500 visitors to our fire stations.

A fire department permit is required for all non-residential tenant finishes, remodels, new construction (including multi-unit residences), fire-detection and suppression systems and other addition needing inspections under the fire code.

Please see <http://lakedillonfirerescue.org/permits-and-services> for more information or call the Lake Dillon Fire Prevention Division at (970) 262-5201.

SUPPORT SERVICES

The Support Services Division supports building and facility maintenance, fleet services, information technology, communications equipment and support, bulk purchasing and supply and the coordination of the volunteer Fire Corps.

During 2017, Support Services took on several major projects, including:

- Working with Summit County 911 in developing a significant upgrade of the computer-aided dispatch system.
- Collaborating with Summit County Ambulance Service and Red, White & Blue Fire to replace the emergency medical services records-management software.
- Installing a new 50-kilowatt natural-gas backup power generator at Station 8 in Dillon.
- Launching the new summitfire.org domain that merged Lake Dillon Fire and Copper Mountain Fire e-mail accounts.
- Upgrading the kitchen at Station 11 in Keystone.
- Maintaining fire-response apparatus and staff vehicles not only for Lake Dillon Fire but for many surrounding agencies.



Assistant Chief Bruce Farrell



The renovated new kitchen at Station 11 in Keystone is the latest upgrade in the living quarters for our fire crews. With shifts of four firefighters (and often an additional team of paramedics) working and living – and dining – together for 48-hour shifts, the kitchen is an important part of life as a firefighter, and the appliances must withstand industrial-level use.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



During Fire Prevention Week each October, firefighters and officers visit each class in the four elementary schools within the district, teaching kids from pre-school through fifth grade important fire-safety lessons such as “get out, stay out” of a burning building and “crawl low under smoke.” Here, youngsters see what a “superhero” looks like in full firefighting gear and learn not to hide or be scared of them.

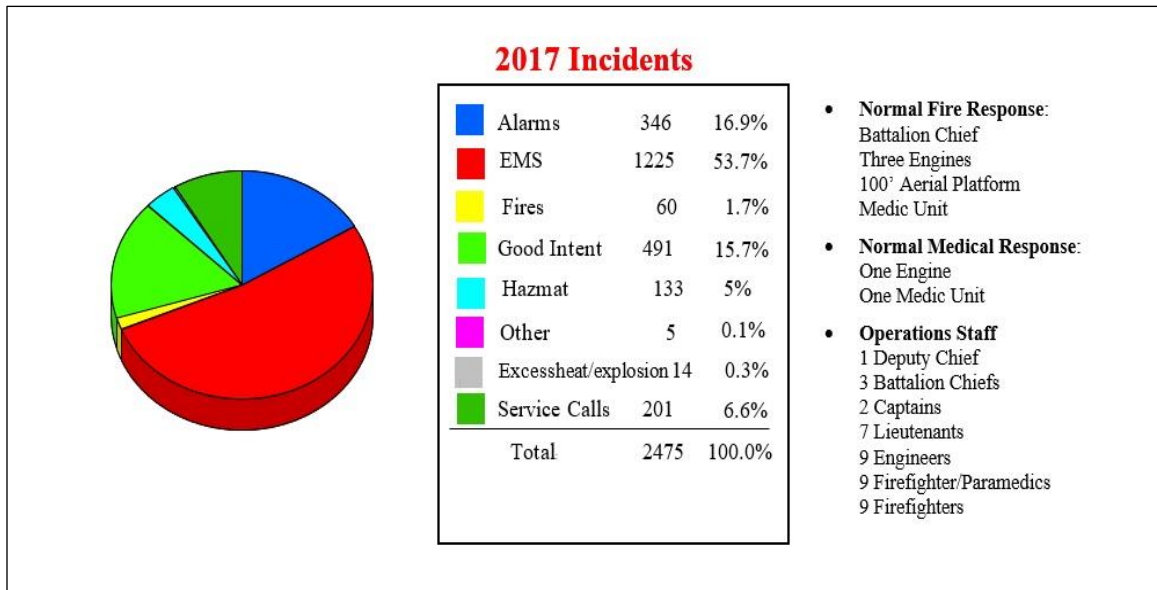


Inspectors conduct free defensible-space and wildfire-preparation consultations for **property** owners. Call (970) 262-5209 to schedule yours.



At the popular ice-cream socials, kids of all ages get to interact with our firefighters and test their skills – as well as enjoy some terrific ice cream!

OPERATIONS



Lake Dillon Fire responded to 2,475 calls for assistance in 2017, reflecting a 3.2 percent increase over 2016 and the most ever in a single year. Copper Mountain Fire responded to an additional 528 calls for assistance, including 270 medical calls and two fires.

The number of fires jumped by 50 percent and included 16 structure fires that resulted in \$328,300 in property damage. Fire crews were able to save an additional estimated \$2.75 million in property that was threatened by these fires. There were 23 fires involving highway or other vehicles that resulted in \$171,496 in damage and two other fires resulting in \$1,500 in damages. Additionally, crews responded to 13 outside or wildland fires that resulted in no buildings or structures being damaged or lost. Total fire loss for 2017 stands at \$501,296, down from the \$1.2 million in losses from 2016.

Lake Dillon Fire put into service a 2017 Rosenbauer pumper/tender with a 3,000-gallon tank and a 1,500 gallon-per-minute pump, and the department has ordered a new Type 3 wildfire engine and a new Type 6 wildfire engine, both expected to be delivered in 2018.

Firefighters accumulated 10,048 hours of training (about 300 more than 2016), and many obtained new certifications such as: fire officer designations, company officer leadership training, fire instructor, hazardous-materials technician, engineer and aerial operator, as well as various arson investigator, wildfire, technical rescue, emergency medical and other training. Much of the training is overseen by the High Country Training Center, jointly operated with Red, White & Blue Fire from Breckenridge and Copper Mountain Fire to ensure that our crews work seamlessly together on major incidents.

Additionally, Lake Dillon Firefighters were deployed to several out-of-state wildfires, providing them with invaluable experience at no cost to the district.

Firefighters and officers have continued to work with our partners at Summit County Ambulance Service by cross-staffing medic units, as well as working in within numerous oversight organizations to ensure high quality medical care, emergency response and dispatch and radio communications.



Lake Dillon firefighters perform mop-up duties on the Tenderfoot 2 Fire just above Corinthian Hills in Dillon in September of 2017. The 21-acre wildfire, on U.S. Forest Service land straddling the Oro Grande Trail, gave residents an uncomfortable front-row seat to impressive work from a multi-agency response team, including air tankers dropping slurry on the perimeter.

Lake Dillon Fire has full-time, staffed fire stations in Frisco, Dillon and Keystone.

The firefighters operate on a three-shift schedule, which entails 48 hours on duty and 96 hours off. Each station has a four-person crew comprised of a firefighter/EMT, a firefighter/paramedic, a driver/engineer and a lieutenant.

In addition to regular duties and emergency responses, Lake Dillon firefighters participated in numerous community events in 2017, including: support of the Muscular Dystrophy Association, hosting the Wounded Warrior dinner and participating in the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, and serving the Adopt an Angel program, the Safe Summer Kickoff, the Summit County Library reading program, the Tiger Trot 5K run for the Summit Middle School, the Teddy Bear clinic, the Boy Scouts award ceremony and three ice-cream socials.

Summit Fire happily hosts station tours and fire-education sessions for schools, community groups and members of our community. To schedule one, please call (970) 262-5209.



Assistant Chief Joe Hegenderfer

COPPER MOUNTAIN FIRE



In its last year as a stand-alone organization operating under the umbrella of the Copper Mountain Consolidated Metropolitan District, Copper Mountain Fire responded to 528 incidents, including 270 emergency medical responses.

The department was established in 1973, staffed exclusively by volunteers employed at Copper Mountain Resort. As demands for a team of professionally trained first responders grew – in particular for medical calls and responses to highway crashes – the department began staffing full-time crews of four firefighters in three round-the-clock shifts.

Copper Mountain Fire in 2014 became the nation's first firefighting agency to put all of its members through the incident safety officer and fire-suppression certification process.

The acquisition last year of a new 75-foot ladder truck and a new front-line engine – replacing 18-year-old apparatus – meant the end of the road for Copper Mountain Fire's distinctive and unique copper-colored apparatus. A chief's command vehicle still in service remains the only remnant of that era.

The fire district in 2017 achieved a new, lower rating "Class 2" from the Insurance Services Offices, potentially meaning lower insurance rates for property owners and bringing its fire-protection capabilities in line with other developed areas of Summit County.

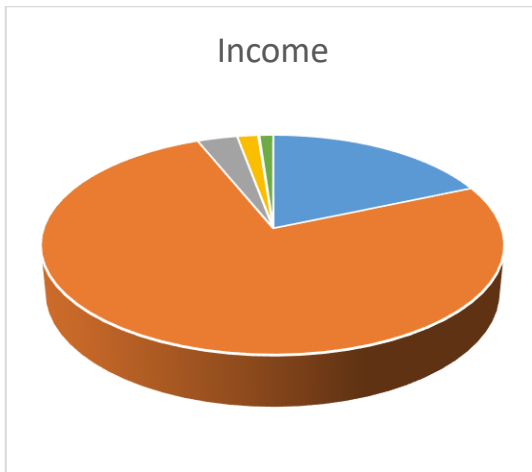


Chief Gary Curmode

In 2017, Copper Mountain firefighters – who already have trained and worked seamlessly side-by-side with our colleagues in Summit County – began integrating operations with Lake Dillon Fire in preparation for our merger as the new Summit Fire & EMS

FINANCE

PROJECTED INCOME: \$10,055,894



Lake Dillon Fire property taxes: \$7,728,002 (76.9 percent)

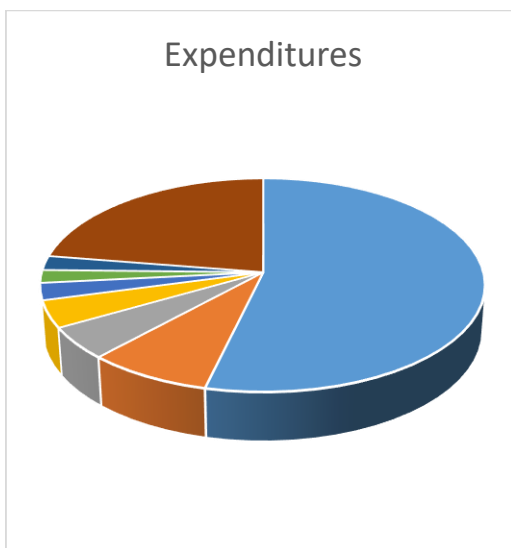
Copper Mountain share: \$1,903,221 (18.9 percent)

Specific ownership taxes: \$330,000 (3.3 percent)

Fleet Services: \$172,393 (1.7 percent)

Inspection fees: \$115,000 (1.1 percent)

PROJECTED EXPENDITURES: \$9,478,222



Firefighting: \$6,219,294 (65.6 percent)

Administration: \$938,450 (9.9 percent)

Fire Prevention: \$565,116 (6 percent)

Support Services: \$474,643 (5 percent)

Fire Authority training center: \$298,711 (3.2 percent)

Stations: \$225,052 (2.4 percent)

Apparatus: \$251,100 (2.6 percent)

Capital: \$2,602,603 (27.5 percent)

- The Lake Dillon Fire Protection District ended the year financially sound, within budget and with no debt incurred.
- The first Comprehensive Annual Financial Report was filed for 2016, and the district received the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.
- The district remains conservative in its approach to budgeting and has approved capital purchases using reserve dollars in 2018 for a new administration building.