

# RIO VISTA FIRE DEPARTMENT



## 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

### MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

Community Members,

It is my pleasure to share with you the *2020 Annual Report* for the Rio Vista Fire Department. This year has been a challenge for our Department, as we, like many others, were heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, the resilience of the Rio Vista Firefighters has been amazing. Despite facing enormous challenges, and cases of COVID-19 among our own staff, we continued to serve the Community 24/7/365, staffed with full-time professional Firefighter/Paramedics. Our staffing levels saw very little change in 2020, with only one addition: a full-time Fire Engineer/Paramedic. This addition has allowed us to staff two apparatus', at least part time, with the goal of bringing on two more full time Engineers in 2021. With those planned additions this year, it is our goal to have two (2) fire apparatus' available in the City, 24/7/365.

It is estimated that the COVID-19 pandemic has reduced our call-volume by 15-20%; however, we still responded to 2,099 calls-for-service in 2020. The goal of increasing staffing in 2021 will address several needs. First, it will address our regularly increasing call-volume, that often results in simultaneous calls. Secondly, it will also assist us in addressing our community risk created by anticipated growth.

We have experienced substantial growth in both residential and commercial construction over the last few years. As your Fire Chief, I continue to advocate for adequate resources required to address all-risk emergencies in the City, and the required staffing and apparatus needed for responses to the new large commercial buildings. Developing a staffing plan that meets National standards, addresses firefighter and public safety, while ensuring we have the financial resources to support the plan, is a challenge. In November 2020, the voters of the City chose to extend the much-needed funding of Measure O. These funds, 86% of which go to the Fire Department, will ensure we are able to continue to protect the residents and visitors of Rio Vista with appropriate and adequate resources. Reimbursements from 'Strike Teams' continue to fund our apparatus replacements, making those expenditures less of a budget impact.

We continue to look for ways to be responsive to the needs of our community and be innovative in our service to the residents of Rio Vista and the Delta Fire District. 2021 will be a challenging year, as we anticipate increased call-volume, more commercial growth, and continued recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. However, we look forward to the future, and working on solutions together as a Community.

*Jeff Armstrong*

Jeff Armstrong, Fire Chief



## VISION STATEMENT

*The Rio Vista Fire Department looks to the future and intends to grow and expand with the community. We honor the past but recognize the need to adapt to changing conditions, technology, demands and circumstances.*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*The Rio Vista Fire Department exists to serve our residents by protecting the lives, property, and environment of those who visit, travel through, and live in our Community, from dangers and hazards during emergencies and non-emergencies alike. We are committed to providing skilled and well-trained professional services to all who request us.*

## CORE VALUES

### COMMUNITY:

*The RVFD considers our relationship to the community to be our first and foremost value.*

### HONOR:

*The RVFD recognizes our obligation to uphold our high standards and maintain our focus on service to the Community.*

### INTEGRITY:

*The RVFD acknowledges the need to be honest and forthright in all our actions.*

### PROFESSIONALISM:

*The RVFD acknowledges the ethical and moral obligations required of our personnel.*

### SERVICE:

*The RVFD understands that we exist strictly to serve the Community and for no other purpose.*

## 2020 DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

While many goals for 2020 were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, RVFD remained focused and accomplished several milestones despite significant challenges:

- Integrated technology for response data collection (mobile data tablets)
- Began to develop a 'Community Risk Assessment: Standard of Cover'
- Increased staffing and successfully conducted recruitment processes during COVID-19
- Began the development of department 'standard operating guidelines'
- Supported the State of California with multiple 'strike team' responses
- Implemented a water rescue program with staff trained to State standards



**BOAT 55**

*In 2020, RVFD successfully implemented the long-awaited water rescue (marine) program. 'Thank you' to the Delta Fire Protection District Board of Directors for making this possible.*

**ENGINE 55 AT THE LNU COMPLEX**



**ENGINE 355 AT THE NORTH COMPLEX**

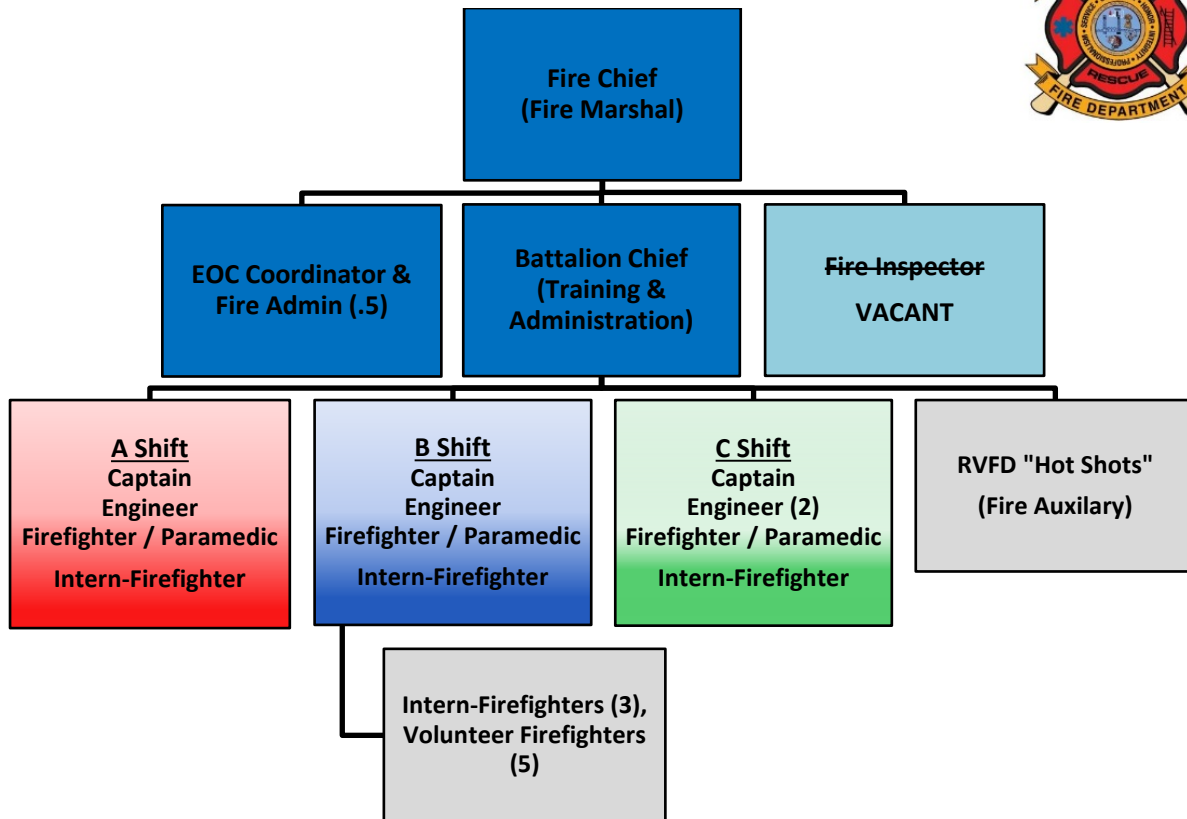


### **FUTURE DEPARTMENT GOALS**

- Increase staffing to provide a second staffed apparatus in the City
- Apply for grant funding where available, including the SAFER Grant in 2021
- Explore the opportunity for an Insurance Services Office (ISO) Rating reduction
- Evaluate the benefit of adding an OES Type 3 or 6 Engine to the RVFD fleet
- Complete development of a 'Standard of Cover: Community Risk Assessment' to guide future needs and define our community risk
- Begin the process of developing a community-driven strategic plan
- Evaluate International Accreditation, and its potential benefits to RVFD and the Community



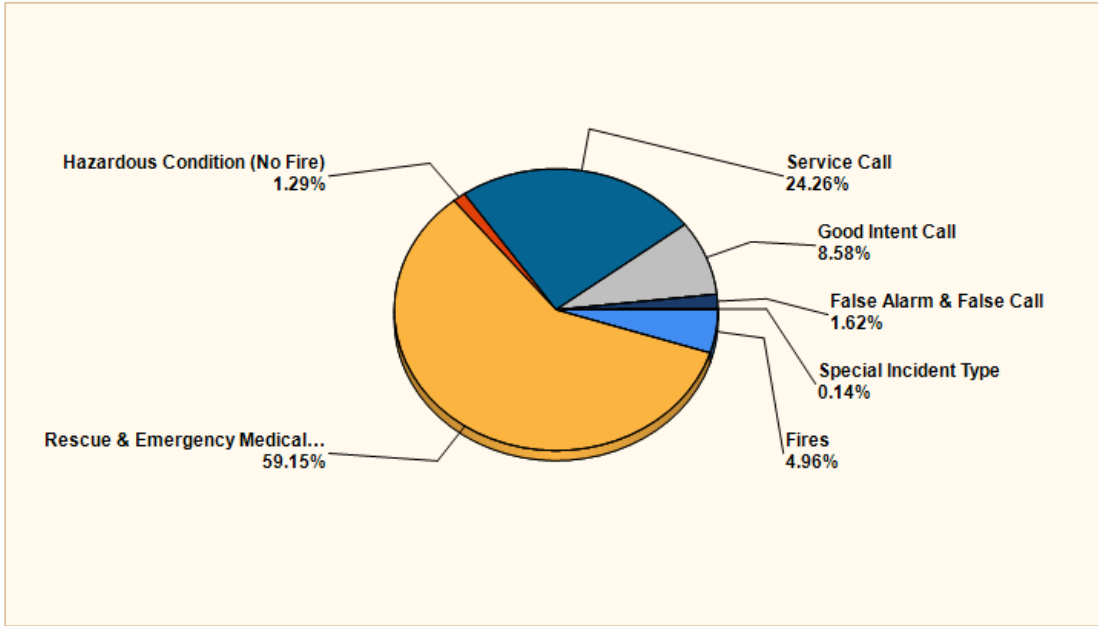
## DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION & STAFFING



### RIO VISTA FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS:

*Jeff Armstrong, Fire Chief*  
*Adrian Hairston, Fire Battalion Chief*  
*Marilyn Monson, EOC Coordinator*  
*Kenny Williams, Fire Captain*  
*Scott Bahrenfuss, Fire Captain*  
*Brandon Wilson, Fire Captain/Paramedic*  
*John O'Leary, Fire Engineer*  
*William Ladley, Fire Engineer*  
*Alex Bosworth, Fire Engineer/Paramedic*  
*Matt McCarthy, Fire Engineer/Paramedic*  
*Will Coelho, Firefighter/Paramedic*  
*Matthew Ramold, Firefighter/Paramedic*  
*Tony Gianni, Firefighter/Paramedic*  
*Tom Hess, Volunteer Administrative Assistant*  
*Ryan Cassity, Volunteer Engineer*  
*John Garza, Volunteer Engineer (Marine Officer)*  
*Richard Cotter, Volunteer Firefighter*  
*Matthew Gregory, Volunteer Firefighter*  
*Ben Pierce, Volunteer Firefighter*  
*John "Arnie" Arnautou, Intern-firefighter*

## ‘CALLS-FOR-SERVICE’ AND INCIDENT DATA

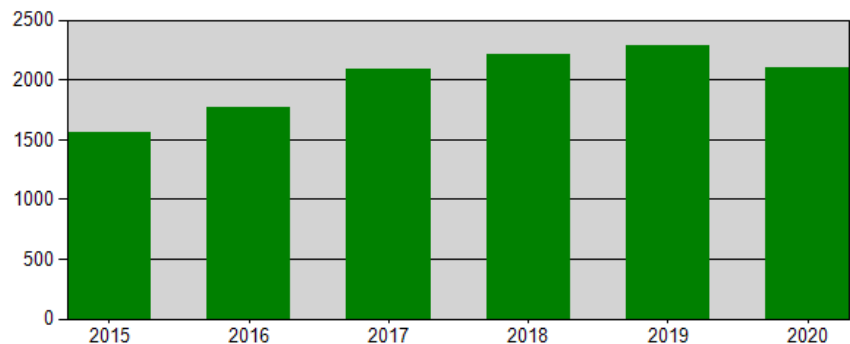


2020 INCIDENTS ‘TYPE’	# OF INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	104	4.96%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1241	59.15%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	27	1.29%
Service Call	510	24.26%
Good Intent Call	180	8.58%
False Alarm & False Call	34	1.62%
Special Incident Type	3	0.14%
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>2,099</b>	<b>100%</b>

RESPONSE TIME BY ZONE	AVERAGE RESPONSE TIME IN MINUTES (DISPATCH TO ARRIVED)
Delta Fire District	9.18
Liberty - Rio Vista	6.81
Trilogy - Rio Vista	6.72
Core - Rio Vista	4.03

### SIX (6) YEAR INCIDENT TOTALS:

YEAR	INCIDENTS
2015	1563
2016	1773
2017	2088
2018	2216
2019	2288
2020	2099



## DIVISIONS

- **OPERATIONS:**

The Operations Division of the Fire Department is responsible for responding to emergencies and calls-for-service that threatened life and property in the City of Rio Vista, the Delta Fire District, and our mutual aid areas. The Rio Vista Fire Department also provides many non-emergency services to the Community, including smoke detector battery changes and public education events. While these services were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and suspended temporarily, they remain a part of our vision and services provided.



- **TRAINING:**

The Training Division, led by Fire Battalion Chief Hairston, seeks to ensure RVFD delivers high quality service to the Community by ensuring we are proficient in our required and expected skills. The Training Division also seeks to meet or exceed State and National training standards, for 'all-risk' emergency operations, and documents our performance for regulatory organizations such as OSHA and ISO (Insurance Services Office). The training in the Rio Vista Fire Department begins with the minimum standards that are a requirement for all members (paid and volunteer). At a minimum, all members are required to have completed a State Fire Marshal accredited fire academy or be certified as a Firefighter I, maintain the requirements of a wildland firefighter ("red card"), and must be certified as an EMT (paramedic preferred). The Department's annual training plan builds on this foundation of knowledge and requires all members to meet or exceed 192-hours of 'in-house' training per year.



- **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

The Rio Vista Fire Department is the lead City Department for 'all-risk' emergency management in the City and the Delta Fire District. Preparedness, Response, Mitigation and Recovery are the four interrelated concepts adopted by the City's Emergency Operations Plan. RVFD also hosts the City's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at Fire Station 55. This facility has been outfitted with technology and resources that enable City staff to address the emergency needs of the City, while working closely with our partners at Solano County. The Fire Chief is designated as the EOC Director and works under the general direction of the Emergency Services Director/City Manager.

- **FIRE PREVENTION:**

The Fire Prevention Division is led by the Fire Chief (Fire Marshal) and its responsibilities includes annual fire inspections, new construction plans review, weed abatement and fire investigation. The Fire Marshal is supported by a fire inspector; however, that position is currently vacant.

## PROMOTIONS & 'NEW HIRES'

### Adrian Hairston, Fire Battalion Chief (Training & Administration)

Chief Hairston joined RVFD in August 2020. He came to Rio Vista with over 20-years' experience as a Fire Captain and Battalion Chief in large metropolitan fire departments. He leads the Training Division and assists the Fire Chief with administrative projects, including the department Strategic Plan and Standard of Cover. He also assists the with "Duty Chief" coverage, enabling RVFD to meet the standards of NFPA 1710 for responding "Command Officer". He holds a master's Degree in Criminal Justice a is working on reciprocity for his California Chief Fire Officer Certificate.



### Matt McCarthy, Fire Engineer / Paramedic

Engineer McCarthy promoted from Firefighter/Paramedic to Engineer in July 2020. Engineer McCarthy joined RVFD in 2019 and brought with him 24-years of Fire and Emergency Services experience. He leads our apparatus committee and oversees ladder and hose testing, ensuring the Department maintains compliance with NFPA standards.

### Anthony ("Tony") Gianni, Firefighter / Paramedic

Firefighter Gianni is the newest addition to our fire family. He joined RVFD in 2020 as a result of an external competitive testing process. He brings nearly 5-years' experience as a professional firefighter and paramedic to Rio Vista.



(707) 374-2233

[www.riovistacity.com/fire-department/](http://www.riovistacity.com/fire-department/)  
[@rio\\_vista\\_FD](https://twitter.com/rio_vista_FD) [@RioVistaFDPIO](https://www.facebook.com/RioVistaFDPIO)