

## Brainerd Fire Department

To: Mayor and City Council  
From: Tim Holmes, Brainerd Fire Chief  
Date: January 28, 2021  
Re: January Activity Report

As we start a new year we are still faced with some uncertainty and a need to keep learning to do things a little different than we have in the past. We are a resilient and strong department and everyone continues to be flexible and adaptive.

We are slowly and cautiously trying to provide the needed training and education to stay current with all our certifications and skills. One way we are overcoming some of these challenges is a new online training program through Target Solutions. Target Solutions provides us the opportunity to assign and complete some of our training online which allows us to stay current and also limits our exposures within the station.



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Our new Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) was put into service the first week of January. The new SCBA replaced our old ones that were nearing their end of life. We were able to purchase this equipment as a result of over 5 years of capital planning and investment by the city and the area cities and townships we serve.

This equipment is vital to the health and safety of our firefighters. The SCBA is used in a variety of situations including: structure fires, vehicle fires, carbon monoxide incidents, gas leaks, and other incidents that require our firefighters to enter an atmosphere that is immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH).

We are very thankful for this new equipment.



Another great program we were able to start this month was the Road to Resilience Program from The First Twenty. The program is brought to us from Crow Wing Energized, who received a grant from Sourcewell for the program. We are grateful and honored to be part of the program. It is another way the community is helping to look out for our firefighter's health and well-being.



FM/DC Cox remains active with all the school projects and several new constructions projects in our area. FM/DC Cox and Chief Holmes conducted a walk-through of the project at the high school to stay aware of the higher risk operations for the upcoming months.

This month we were not able to have our annual dinner due to COVID-19 restrictions, but we were able to have a small gathering at the station to honor and remember all the great accomplishments of 2020. Our 4 new firefighters and recently promoted Captain Norwood were given their badges. This is something we would normally have their spouse or significant other pin on them for the first time at the annual dinner.

Captain Jeff Schellin was named the 2020 Brainerd Firefighter of the Year. Captain Schellin was selected because of his consistency, calmness, and hard work. Captain Schellin is a leader in the department and exhibits all the values and characteristics of a great firefighter, leader, and friend. Congratulations to Captain Jeff Schellin.



**Brainerd Fire Coverage Area Incident Report (Includes City of Brainerd)**

Structure Fire	2
Vehicle Fire	2
Outside Rubbish Fire	1
Medical Assist	1
Extrication, Rescue	1
Assist Other Governmental Agency	1
Good Intent, Public Service	13
Unauthorized Burning	2
Smoke Scare	3
Alarm System Activation	8
Canceled Enroute	5
Carbon Monoxide Alarm	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>40</b>

**City of Brainerd Incident Report**

Vehicle Fire	2
Outside Rubbish Fire	1
Assist Other Governmental Agency	1
Good Intent, Public Service	11
Unauthorized Burning	1
Canceled Enroute	2
Alarm System Activation	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>