



2023 was a historic year for the Earlham Fire Department! EFD responded to 151 calls for service last year. This is by far the most calls ever ran by the department even beating 2022 by 39 calls. In total, 898 fire fighters responded to calls for service in 2023 giving an average response of 6 fire fighters per call. The department logged close to 400 hours of combined department training. On an average EFD averaged a 9.73 minute response time from alarm to on scene. Earlham gave assistance to our surrounding agencies a total of 30 times and Earlham received assistance from those same agencies 6 times

Part of the increase in giving mutual aid was that the DeSoto FD had a staffing issue for several months and their department was responding with 1 or 2 firefighters. The fire departments surrounding DeSoto all agreed through our mutual aid agreements to assist DeSoto until such a time that their staffing issues were compliant. Dallas County assisted us by drawing up boundaries for each mutual aid department and Earlham & Adel FD shared the largest portion of the response area. Earlham was called for mutual aid to DeSoto a total of 19 times but were cancelled 8 times due to their staffing levels. Currently, DeSoto is efficiently staffed and the calls to them should decrease.

Currently, our roster is at 19 members. All of the members except 1 are either trained to or certified at the minimum training standards set forth by the State of Iowa. The majority of our personnel are certified to Fire Fighter 2 and higher with 3 members certified as Fire Service Instructor 1's. We could definitely use more personnel. Over the last couple of years, we have had some talented personnel retire leaving a huge void to fill. Recruitment & retention on new and current members is a challenge for all departments. Volunteerism is down across the country and every volunteer fire department is struggling to procure new talent. This is why we assist other agencies and we receive assistance from the same agencies due to staffing issues all over. Currently the Dallas County Fire Chiefs are working on a plan for automatic aid responses for large incidents such as structure fires. The original response department along with the 3 closest



departments will all be paged for any working structure fire. We hope to have this plan in place by May 2024

Earlham Fire Department responded to all types of emergency and non-emergency incidents during 2023. The Following is a breakdown of the types of calls EFD responded to.

55 total Fire incidents- 29 grass/ brush or field fires, 18 vehicle fires & 8 structure fires.

24 Motor Vehicle Accidents – 14 Property damage accidents & 10 Personal Injury accidents.

24 Cancelled before leaving the station or while in route

15 Alarm Activations for Smoke or Heat detector activations

14 Hazardous Materials incidents- 8 Carbon Monoxide Incidents, 6 Leaks or Spills

7 Assist Police/ Sherrif Departments or the Public

5 No incidents found at address given

5 Severe Weather Standby or Special Events

1 Electrical Hazard Incident

Earlham Fire Department services 6 full or partial townships in both Madison & Dallas Counties including the City of Earlham. The following is a break down of the number of responses to each area.

47 Adams Township in Dallas County

17 City of Earlham

16 Madison Township Madison County



15 Union Township Dallas County

9 Penn Township Madison County

3 Jackson Township Madison County

1 Douglas Township Madison County

108 Total responses within Earlham Fire District response area

43 Calls either for Mutual Aid Alarms or cancellation of calls either prior to leaving or while in route.

Earlham Fire also participates with several Public Relations events throughout the year. Members attended the 1 year anniversary of the Tornado event in Madison County, 6 members attended fire school in April, We attended several parades during the summer months and probably most noticeable is the Fire Rescue Association Pancake Breakfast on July 4th. We also assist the Police department with the National Night out event, conducted an Open House at the Fire Station during Fire Prevention Week and to finish the year 2 members assisted the Madison County Sherrif's office with a Shop with a COP event.

Once again, an extremely busy year for the department and on behalf of the members of the Earlham Fire Department, we would like to thank Mayor Jeff Lillie, City Council and all of our Township Trustees for your continued support. A special thanks needs to be given to Earlham Rescue and Earlham Police for always having our backs and keeping us safe at scenes. Last but not least, both of the Sherriff's Departments from Madison & Dallas Counties along with their dispatchers .

Sincerely,

Fire Chief Shawn Boyle



**110 South Chestnut Avenue
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