



ANNUAL REPORT

2024

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024



From The Chief

James Klug

To our Community-

As we look back on 2024, I am proud to share that it was a year marked by growth, progress, pride, and deepened commitment, both to our internal values and to those we serve every day. At the core of our progress this year was a continued focus on cultivating and growing our Firehouse Culture. This culture is no longer just something we talk about; it is also something others are discussing. It has become one of our strongest recruitment tools, as prospective firefighters are drawn to the environment we have created: one rooted in shared purpose, mutual respect, and a commitment to one another and those we serve. We are attracting people who want to be part of something meaningful.

We also advanced our efforts to regionalize specialty team functions, a crucial step in enhancing both operational readiness and the value we bring to our communities. In addition to our ongoing participation in the regional Hazardous Materials Team, we joined the Regional Dive Team in collaboration with the Windsor-Severance Fire District and the Greeley Fire Department. We also initiated planning to move in a similar direction with the Technical Rescue Team. These regional efforts reflect a forward-thinking approach to public safety, one built on cooperation, shared resources, and collective strength.

Our commitment to the community has never been stronger. Community is one of our core District Values, and in 2024, we recognized the need to deepen our presence and involvement. Through greater engagement, increased visibility, and new outreach efforts, we took meaningful steps toward being not just responders but trusted partners and proactive contributors to the heart of our community.

Internally, we made considerable progress towards the goals set in our Strategic Plan. While the details of those accomplishments are outlined later in this report, I want to emphasize that they represent a year's worth of focused work, collaboration, and a clear alignment with our mission. From operational improvements and infrastructure upgrades to enhanced training, leadership development, and community programs, our team worked with purpose and integrity to move the organization forward.

As we look to the future, we do so with confidence. That confidence is rooted in the strong foundation we have built, thanks to the responsible financial leadership of our Board of Directors, the unwavering support of our community, and the exceptional dedication of our personnel. We are positioned to meet the challenges head-on and continue delivering the high standard of service our community expects and deserves.

To our community, thank you. You are our Mr. and Mrs. Smith—the families, neighbors, and individuals we are honored to serve. Your trust and support drive us every day, and we do not take that responsibility lightly.

With gratitude and commitment,

James Klug
Fire Chief



COMMUNITY

Our fire department exists to serve, support, and make a meaningful difference in the lives of the community we protect and the members we work alongside. We are dedicated to building strong relationships and contributing to the well-being of both the people we serve and each other, ensuring that our impact is felt in every interaction and action we take.

TEAM

We recognize that our strength lies in our diversity. We bring together individuals with different backgrounds, skills, perspectives, and strengths to create a united team. By overcoming challenges together, we apply our combined expertise and work collaboratively to make a positive difference in our community.

CHARACTER

We operate with integrity, trust, and humility. We hold ourselves accountable to one another and the community we serve, always striving to uphold the highest ethical standards. Our character is the foundation of our actions and decisions, guiding us to do what is right, even when it is difficult.

PROFESSIONALISM

As professionals, we place our people at the center of all we do. We achieve excellence through continuous training, education, and mentoring, constantly striving to improve our skills. By maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, we ensure that our actions positively impact the lives of the people we serve and the community we protect.

D I S T R I C T V A L U E S





Mission Statement

To make a difference in our community and surrounding area by protecting and compassionately caring for life and property through skilled and well-equipped emergency services and life safety programs.

Vision Statement

We will be a progressive, aggressive, innovative, and fiscally responsible Fire Department committed to making a difference in the lives of each other and the community we serve.

Making A Difference

"Making a Difference" is our promise to the community we serve. It means taking deliberate action to improve someone's situation, especially in their most vulnerable moments.

When you call, we are coming for you, your family, your neighbors. It is about showing up with compassion, urgency, and professionalism.

We treat every person the way we would want our own loved ones to be treated. We work to understand their needs, meet them where they are, and leave things better than we found them.

But it doesn't stop there. Making a difference also means lifting each other up within our Firehouse, supporting our team, growing as professionals, and always striving to be better than we were yesterday.



CULTURE



At Platte Valley Fire Protection District, our Firehouse Culture is the core of who we are. It drives how we think, act, and interact with each other and the community we serve. Our culture is grounded in attitudes that inspire positivity, kindness, and determination. We are a family, united by a deep sense of purpose, mutual respect, and unwavering commitment to each other and the people we protect. We prioritize teamwork over individual success, approach every challenge with grit and courage, and hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards of integrity and professionalism.

Our Firehouse is a place where daily rituals strengthen our bonds, traditions honor our legacy, and every action reflects our values of Community, Team, Character, and Professionalism. We believe in lifting each other up, being adaptable to change, and embracing the diversity that makes us stronger. Together, we foster a culture of support, inclusivity, and continuous growth. This is our firehouse. This is our culture.

A RETIREE'S REFLECTION:

From Bunker Gear & Pagers to Paid Staff & Advanced Response

As Platte Valley Fire Protection District continues to grow in strength, training, and service capabilities, we believe it's important to remember where we came from. No one illustrates that journey better than Dan Fahrenbruch—a 20-year veteran of the District who began volunteering in 1988 and witnessed firsthand the transformation from a tight-knit volunteer department to the fully staffed, multi-discipline fire agency we are today.

Dan's journey began just after graduating from Platte Valley High School, carrying on a family legacy in the fire service. "It was my dream to become a Fireman just like my Grandfather and Dad," he shares. "At the age of 18, I went to the Kersey Firehouse, located on 1st Street, and signed up." Back then, training was minimal. Dan remembers being handed bunker gear, a helmet, and a pager on day one. Crews were organized into squads led by Captains, and whoever could respond to calls—did.

"It was prideful to know your bunker gear was the blackest of your squad," Dan recalls. "Those who had that gear were known as 'Smoke Eaters'—this was before we knew all the cancer-causing agents we were being exposed to."

The department at the time relied solely on volunteers—about 40 strong. The building was small, the trucks lime green, and the gear worn and reused. "Med 123 was a Suburban ambulance, and Med 124 was a Ford. Both were crammed into a building that was much too small," Dan notes. "Calls were answered depending on who was available. Sometimes we had a fully staffed crew, other times we worked with what we had."

Over the years, the department grew more structured. Firefighter certifications became required. In-house academies were developed. Still, the culture remained family-oriented and deeply rooted in the community. Dan fondly remembers Monday night meetings, obstacle-course fire races, and the legendary Halloween and Christmas parties, where "Santa Claus was always present with gifts for the children, and everyone left with a lunch sack full of candy and smiles a mile wide."



As emergency services across the region began modernizing, the Department began evolving as well. “District boundaries were sacred back then—you didn’t dare go on a call in another district,” Dan says. “It was much later in my career that we joined forces and provided aid with other departments for the good of the public.” Today, Platte Valley Fire maintains Auto-Aid agreements with multiple neighboring districts, responding together to best serve the needs of citizens across boundaries.

Dan’s final years in the District saw the beginning of monumental change: the idea of a new firehouse, the introduction of paid staff, and new standards for staffing, training, and response. “Talks of a new firehouse north of town and ‘paid staff’ were things we dreamed of, but never thought would happen in Kersey,” he remembers. Yet, blueprints became reality. Hiring began. By the time Dan retired in 2007, Platte Valley Fire had officially transitioned from the Kersey Volunteer Fire Department to a professional, career-led organization—complete with modern facilities, round-the-clock response, and expanded emergency capabilities.

From seven aging apparatus in a cramped station to a modern fleet; from basic life support transport to advanced life support with Paramedics, advanced rescue capabilities, wildland, hazmat, and dive team operations—Dan watched the transformation from the inside out. “From recruiting skills of ‘if you’re interested, come join,’ to Aims Fire Academy cadets and paid firefighters... the time spent with Platte Valley Fire Protection is unmeasurable,” Dan reflects. “The relationships I made, the citizens I assisted, rescued, and comforted will never be forgotten.”

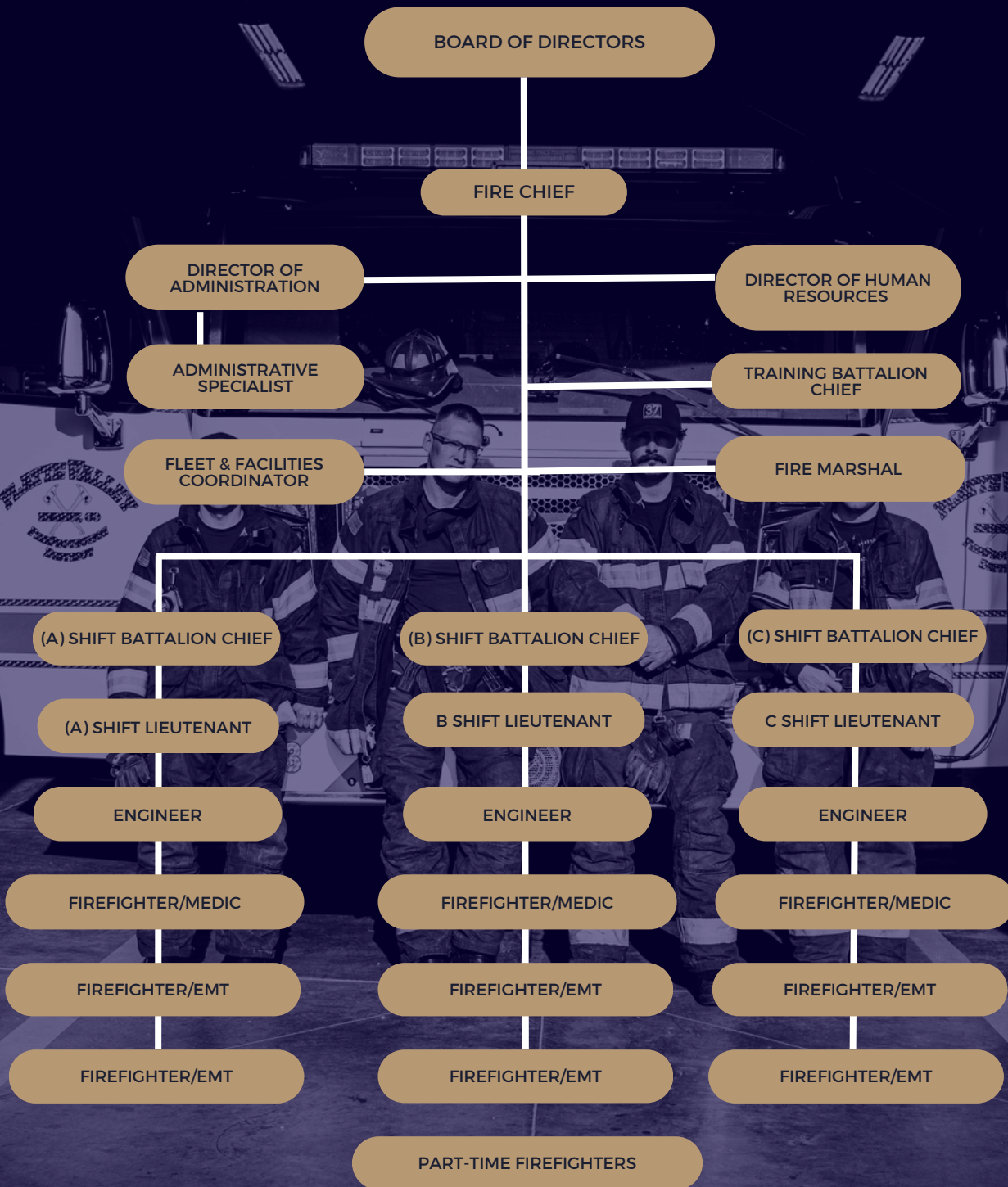
While Dan now applies his experience in the oil and gas industry as a Safety Manager, his heart still holds a place for the Department he helped shape. “Each and every day I use something the fire service taught me,” he says.

As we look toward the future, we honor the legacy of those who built our foundation. The progress we’ve made—from all-volunteer response to a full-service, all-hazard department—is only possible because of individuals like Dan, who gave their time, heart, and skill to serve their neighbors. We stand on their shoulders.

***“Each and every day I use something
the fire service taught me.”***



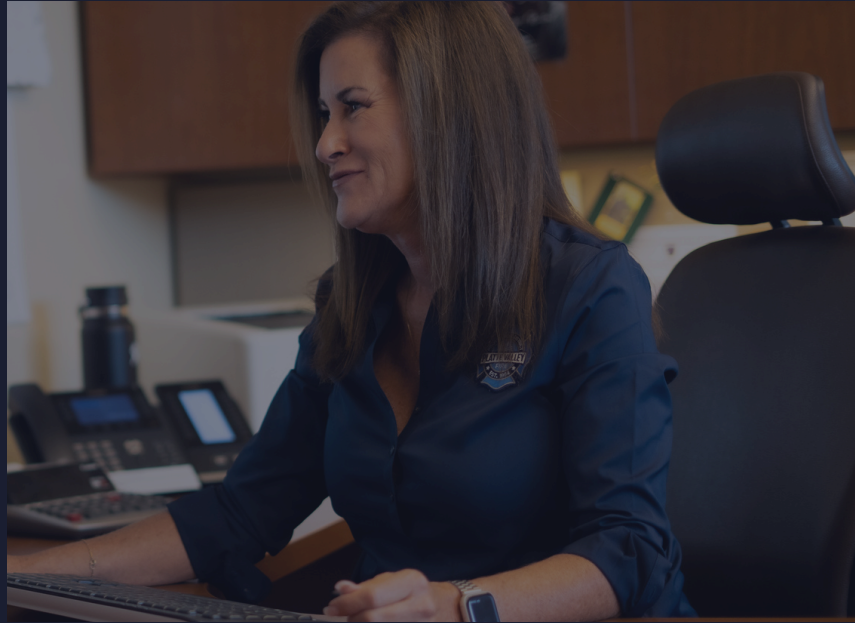
CHAIN OF COMMAND





Organizational Make-Up

At Platte Valley Fire, our people are the driving force behind everything we do. They're not just our greatest asset—they're the foundation of our impact and success. United by a commitment to service, professionalism, and continuous growth, our team consistently delivers excellence to the community we serve. Organized into three key divisions—Administration, Operations, and Fire Prevention—we operate with purpose, clarity, and collaboration to carry out our mission with efficiency and heart.



ADMINISTRATION

The Administration Division forms the backbone of our District's management, spearheaded by visionary leaders who steer us towards our goals. Led by the Fire Chief, supported by the Director of Administration and Director of Human Resources, this team oversees strategic planning, resource allocation, and personnel management. The Training Battalion Chief ensures our firefighters are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to tackle any challenge, while the Administrative Specialist and Fleet and Facilities Coordinator ensure the smooth operation of our administrative and logistical functions.



PEOPLE

At Platte Valley Fire, our strength is our people. We are a tight-knit, dedicated team bound by a shared purpose: protecting lives, property, and the traditions that shape our community. Guided by the values of Community, Team, Character, and Professionalism, our personnel bring heart, integrity, and excellence to every call. With deep roots and strong connections, we proudly uphold the legacy of service that defines Platte Valley Fire



AVERAGE TENURE:
5.4 YEARS

AVERAGE AGE OF EMPLOYEES:
37.2

5 NEW HIRES IN
2024



PREVENTION



Fire Marshal Photo Credit to Jim Rydbom/Staff Photographer-Greeley Tribune 2024



The Fire Prevention Division serves as a vital component, dedicated to reducing the risk of fire and promoting community safety through education, enforcement, and outreach efforts. The Fire Marshal works closely with local businesses, schools, and other organizations to develop and implement fire safety plans. By providing guidance and support, the Fire Marshals helps ensure these entities are adequately prepared to respond to emergencies and protect their occupancies in the event of a fire or other disaster.

OPERATIONS



In the Operations Division, our frontline responders are always prepared to meet the demands of firefighting and emergency service with courage and professionalism. Structured into three shifts—A-Shift, B-Shift, and C-Shift—each team is led by an experienced Battalion Chief serving as the Shift Commander, providing leadership and strategic direction during emergency incidents. Supporting the Battalion Chief are Company Lieutenants, Apparatus Engineers, Firefighter-Paramedics, and dedicated Firefighters, working together as a cohesive unit ready to respond at a moment's notice. To strengthen our response capabilities, part-time firefighters are also available to supplement our ranks, ensuring consistent coverage and support across the District.



AWARD RECIPIENTS



Unwavering Service:
"Mad Dog" Mike Dowd



District Values Award:
Wyatt Meeker



The Chief's Award:
Adam Peabody

INVOLVEMENT



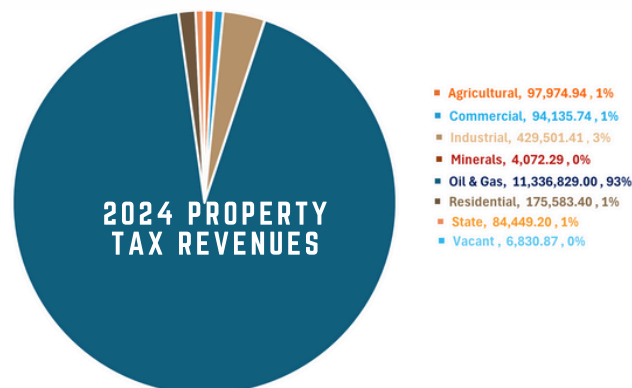
The involvement of our Fire District in various associations and State groups is fundamental to our mission of ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. These partnerships provide invaluable opportunities for collaboration, knowledge-sharing, and staying abreast of best practices and emerging trends in fire prevention, emergency response, and public health.

One of the key reasons we engage with associations such as the Special Districts Association, the Weld County Fire Chief's Association, and the Colorado State Fire Chief's Association is to connect with peers and experts in our field. These platforms facilitate networking and information exchange among fire service professionals, allowing us to learn from each other's experiences and leverage collective wisdom to enhance our capabilities and effectiveness.

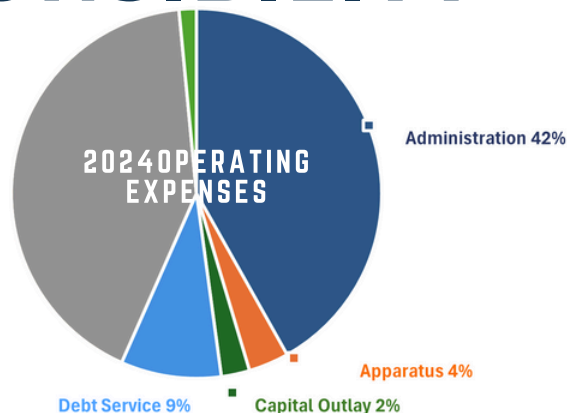
Furthermore, our participation in organizations like the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control, Weld County Fire Training Officer's Association, Colorado Fire Training Officer's Association, and the Front Range Fire Consortium enables us to access state-of-the-art resources, training programs, and technical assistance. These partnerships empower us to stay current with evolving regulations, adopt innovative firefighting techniques, and enhance our preparedness for various emergency scenarios.

Overall, our active involvement in these associations and State groups reflects our dedication to continuous improvement and excellence in fire and emergency services. By fostering strong relationships, sharing knowledge, and staying aligned with State-level initiatives and standards, we strengthen our capacity to protect lives, property, and the environment within our jurisdiction.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



Operations 42%



The District relies heavily on revenue generated by the oil and gas industry as its primary source of income. Once again, the industry saw an uptick in 2024. However, the unpredictable nature of oil and gas income challenges consistent budgeting, making it tough to plan for the future.

The District's Board of Directors has taken proactive measures to ensure financial stability despite fluctuations in oil and gas revenue. They've set aside funds to cushion against lean years, establishing an Operating Reserve when revenue is low. While the state mandates a 3% Operating Reserve, the District maintains a higher percentage due to the industry's volatility. This reserve provides a safety net, equivalent to two years' worth of operating funds, in case of a significant oil and gas income downturn. Additionally, the District has established funding for future capital items and capital replacement plans. For example, the District has a fleet replacement plan so that we are prepared for all upcoming apparatus replacements.

In addition to grappling with the inherent instability of oil and gas revenues, our Fire District faces ongoing challenges from legislative developments. Senate Bills continue to emerge, posing potential threats to our funding sources. These bills, often driven by broader political or economic agendas, can introduce new regulations that directly impact our revenue streams. Navigating this complex legislative landscape requires vigilance and proactive engagement from our leadership to safeguard the financial health of the District. Despite these external pressures, our commitment to prudent financial management remains unwavering. We adapt to evolving circumstances, ensuring that our resources are efficiently allocated to meet the needs of our community, even amidst legislative uncertainties.

By prioritizing fiscal stability, the District aims to minimize the need for future tax increases. With 2024 projected to be a strong revenue year for oil and gas revenues, these funds will be allocated towards essential capital projects and laying groundwork for future community growth. This includes securing land and planning for an additional, strategically placed fire station. This proactive approach allows the District to stay ahead, ensuring it can meet strategic objectives like equipment replacements, repairs, and anticipated expansion needs.

What Does The District Cost You?

If you own property in the Platte Valley Fire Protection District, you pay property tax to support the operations of the Fire District.

Weld County sets your Property Value (PV), which is then multiplied by an Assessment Rate (AR) of 6.765% for residential or 27.9% for commercial to get your Assessed Value (AV). Property taxes are levied against your Assessed Value. Platte Valley Fire Protection District levies 5.165 mills of property tax.

To calculate your property taxes:

$$\text{Property Value (PV)} \times \text{Assessment Rate (AR)} = \text{Assessed Value}$$

$$\text{Assess Value (AV)} \times 0.005165 \text{ (mill levy)} = \text{Your Annual Taxes}$$



Residential Property (Assessment Rate of 6.7)

Property Value (PV)	Assessed Value (AV)	Annual Property Taxes
\$100,000	\$ 6,700.00	\$34.61
\$250,000.00	\$16,750.00	\$86.51
\$400,000.00	\$26,800.00	\$138.42
\$600,000.00	\$40,200.00	\$207.63
\$750,000.00	\$50,250.00	\$259.54

Commercial Property (Assessment Rate of 27.9%)

Property Value (PV)	Assessed Value (AV)	Annual Property Taxes
\$100,000.00	\$27,900.00	\$144.10
\$250,000.00	\$69,750.00	\$360.26
\$400,000.00	\$111,600.00	\$576.41
\$600,000.00	\$167,400.00	\$864.62
\$750,000.00	\$209,250.00	\$1,080.78

Fire District Tax Rate Comparisons

Fire Agency	Mill levy Rate
Evans Fire Protection District	15.5
Fort Lupton Fire Protection District	9.592
LaSalle Fire Protection District	5.154
Platteville-Gilcrest Fire Protection District	6.782
Southeast Weld Fire Protection District	10.327
Platte Valley Fire Protection District	5.165

PVFPD 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, Our District made significant progress by implementing the first phase of our 2023 Strategic Plan. This plan, developed with input from our leadership, staff, and community stakeholders, provided clear direction and accountability. The results reflect a year of focused execution, collaboration, and forward momentum.

One of our key priorities was ensuring the long-term sustainability of our resources and facilities. We updated our Capital Replacement Plan to keep our fleet modern and mission-ready, as well as completing several important building and grounds maintenance projects to extend the life of our existing infrastructure. We also expanded our facility by adding office space in the Firehouse basement to house the growing Fire Prevention Bureau.



SHARED FIRE MARSHAL GREG BECKER



Photo Credit to Jim Rydborn/Staff Photographer-Greeley Tribune 2024

In 2024, Platte Valley Fire Protection District joined with LaSalle and Evans Fire Protection Districts to establish a shared Fire Marshal position—a strategic step toward enhancing fire prevention efforts across our neighboring communities. This collaborative approach allows the districts to pool resources and expertise, ensuring consistent enforcement of fire codes, more thorough plan reviews, and coordinated inspections for new developments and existing properties. By working together, we are creating a more efficient and proactive fire prevention system that supports growth while keeping safety at the forefront.

The shared Fire Marshal plays a vital role in protecting lives and property by focusing on prevention before response. Through public education, code enforcement, and fire investigation, this position strengthens our ability to reduce risk, prevent fires, and increase community awareness. Whether reviewing building plans, inspecting businesses, or engaging with residents and developers, the Fire Marshal serves as a knowledgeable resource dedicated to minimizing hazards and ensuring our communities remain safe, resilient, and prepared for the future.

PVFPD 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS CONTINUED



The development of specialty teams was another key area of emphasis. Alongside our ongoing involvement with the regional hazardous materials team, we became part of the Regional Dive Team through collaborations with the Windsor-Severance Fire District and the Greeley Fire Department. These partnerships not only enhance service delivery but also strengthen regional capabilities and interoperability.

Internally, we made strides to align our organizational structure with our mission better. We revised our organizational chart and clarified key roles, including those of our Battalion Chiefs and Administrative Staff. Additionally, we increased our participation in local community planning initiatives.

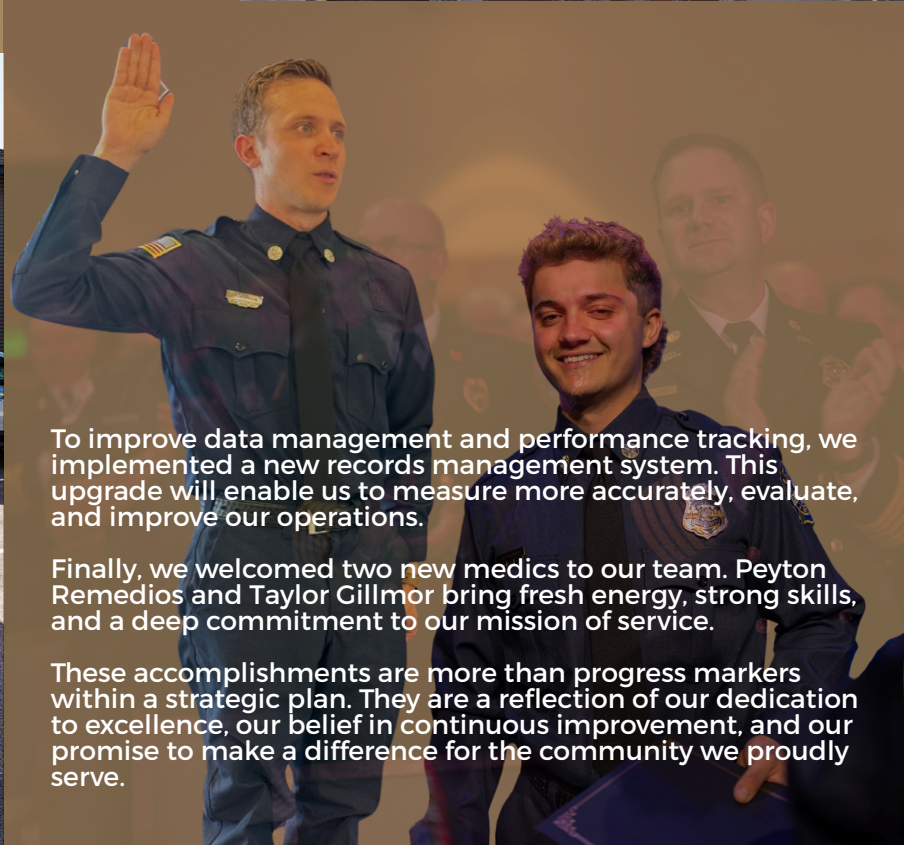
Our dedication to public education and engagement has continued to flourish. We devised a plan to offer community classes and successfully conducted our first community preparedness class before the year's end. We also implemented a strategy to broaden our social media presence, allowing us to connect more effectively with the public we serve.

Leadership development remained a top priority. Our leadership team participated in ongoing professional development and coaching, reinforcing our commitment to building a strong internal culture and preparing our staff to lead with confidence and competence.

Operationally, we enhanced our Advanced Life Support capabilities by equipping our medics with medical narcotics and upgraded equipment. We also obtained our own EMS Medical Director, who now provides direct oversight and leadership for our EMS program. This addition has improved skill development, quality assurance, and patient care.

Training across all levels has advanced significantly. We have begun developing a new, structured training program that utilizes skill-based report cards to reinforce mastery. This program will continue to develop and advance over the next few years. We expanded our training grounds by adding new props, including an additional Conex box that created a T-cell configuration for fire behavior training.

We also researched the development of in-house paramedics and established a plan to support that growth in the future.



To improve data management and performance tracking, we implemented a new records management system. This upgrade will enable us to measure more accurately, evaluate, and improve our operations.

Finally, we welcomed two new medics to our team. Peyton Remedios and Taylor Gillmor bring fresh energy, strong skills, and a deep commitment to our mission of service.

These accomplishments are more than progress markers within a strategic plan. They are a reflection of our dedication to excellence, our belief in continuous improvement, and our promise to make a difference for the community we proudly serve.

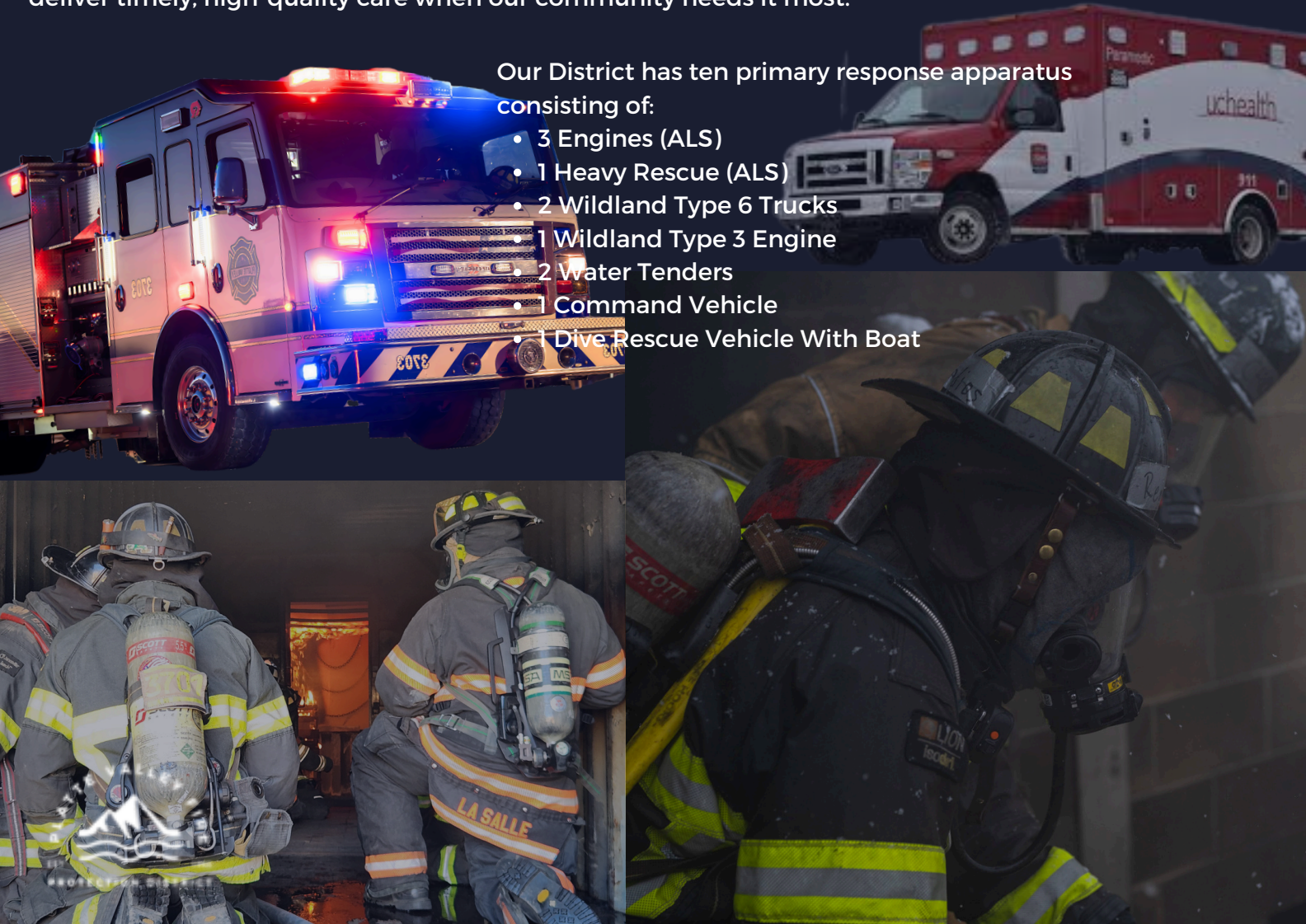
OPERATIONS

As our community continues to experience growth in population, industry, and traffic, our call volume is expected to rise steadily.

Platte Valley Fire is staffed by highly trained Firefighter/EMTs and Firefighter/Paramedics who provide Advanced Life Support (ALS) care at the scene of medical emergencies. We work closely with UCHealth EMS, our transport partner, which is typically posted within town limits and ensures rapid patient transport to the most appropriate medical facility. Together, we deliver timely, high-quality care when our community needs it most.

Our District has ten primary response apparatus consisting of:

- 3 Engines (ALS)
- 1 Heavy Rescue (ALS)
- 2 Wildland Type 6 Trucks
- 1 Wildland Type 3 Engine
- 2 Water Tenders
- 1 Command Vehicle
- 1 Dive Rescue Vehicle With Boat





The Platte Valley Fire Protection District is a progressive, all-hazards emergency services agency committed to protecting life, property, and the environment. While fire suppression remains a core function, our highly trained personnel also respond to a broad range of emergencies—including EMS calls, wildland fires, motor vehicle accidents, water and technical rescues, and hazardous materials incidents. No matter the situation, we're ready to answer the call—any time, any place.

RESCUE

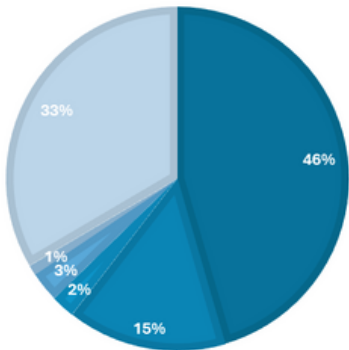
"In Omnia Paratus"



In 2024, Platte Valley Fire Protection District responded to 631 documented incidents across a wide range of emergencies. Our response is carried out by three rotating shifts, each staffed with a team of six highly trained professionals working a 48-hour schedule. This core team is supported by the Fire Chief, Battalion Chief, part-time firefighters, and auto-aid partners, ensuring a comprehensive and coordinated response. Together, this structure enables us to deliver reliable, around-the-clock emergency services to the communities we serve.

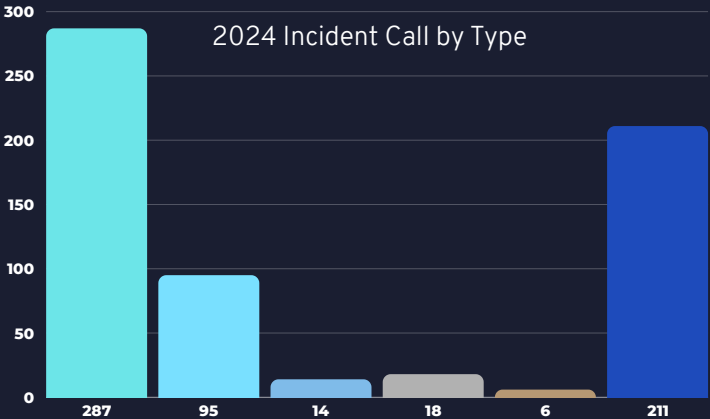
2024 INCIDENTS

■ Rescue & EMS ■ Fire ■ Structure Fire ■ Hazardous Conditions ■ Severe Weather ■ Other

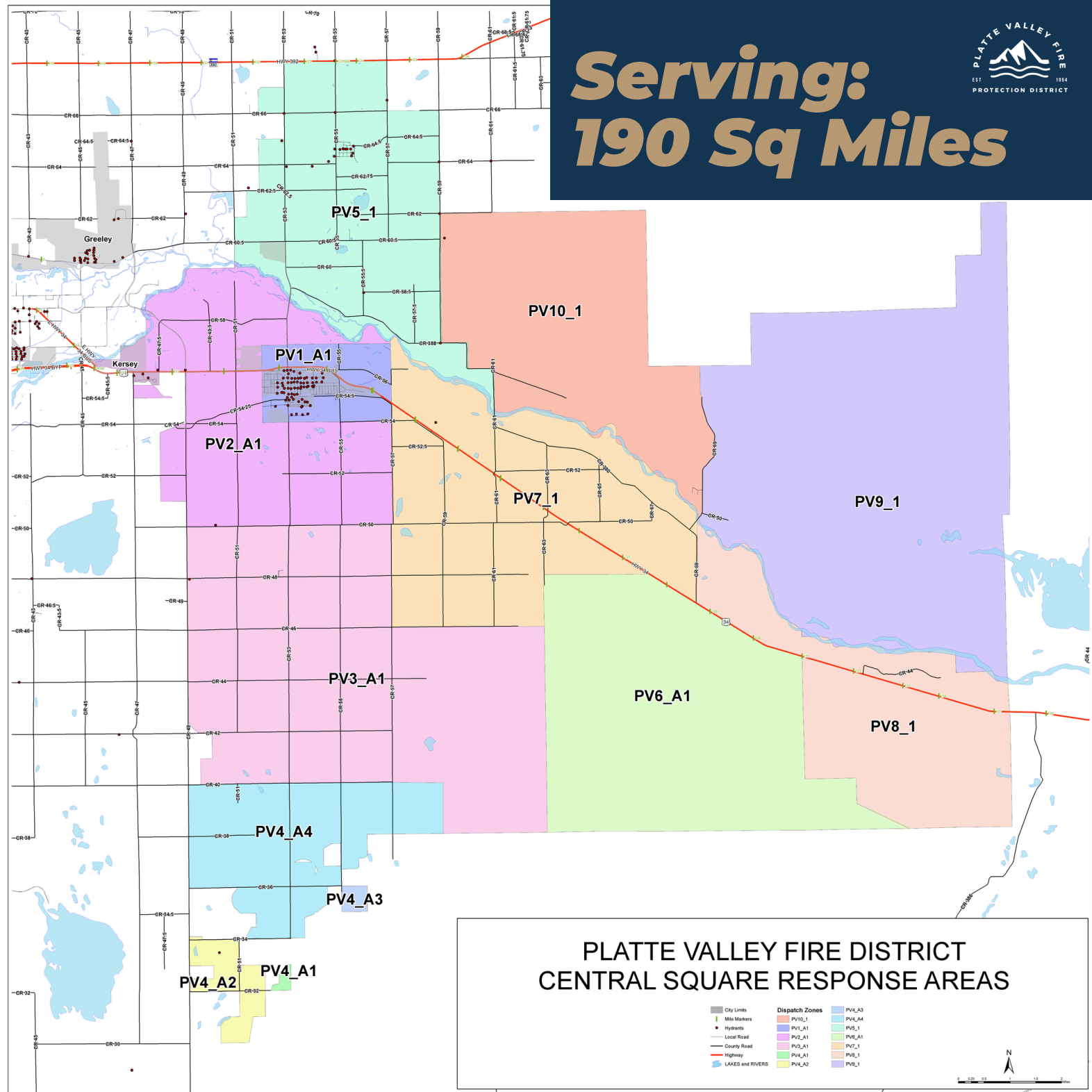


● Rescue & EMS ● Fire ● Structure Fire ● Haz Mat
● Severe Weather ● Other

2024 Incident Call by Type



INCIDENTS & RESPONSE
FOR 2024



MEET DUSTY

DUSTY'S JOURNEY BEGAN ON THE STREETS OF FLORIDA, WHERE HE WAS FOUND HOMELESS, FLEA-RIDDEN, AND SUFFERING FROM A SKIN CONDITION. DESPITE HIS ROUGH START, DUSTY SHOWED A FRIENDLY AND PLAYFUL TEMPERAMENT, LEADING SOME TO BELIEVE HE HAD THE POTENTIAL TO BECOME A SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG. AFTER BRIEFLY BEING ADOPTED BY A HANDLER IN ALABAMA AND WASHING OUT OF THAT PROGRAM, A COLORADO HANDLER CONNECTED HIM WITH RYAN FOSSEN, WHO WAS SEARCHING FOR A WORKING DOG. WITH LIMITED INFORMATION AND A LEAP OF FAITH, RYAN ADOPTED DUSTY AND BROUGHT HIM TO COLORADO IN FEBRUARY 2020, JUST AS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC BEGAN.

TRAINING DUSTY WAS NO EASY TASK, ESPECIALLY AS THE PANDEMIC DELAYED MANY OPPORTUNITIES. RYAN, WITH NO FORMAL CANINE TRAINING, RELIED ON A SUPPORTIVE NETWORK TO BEGIN DUSTY'S DEVELOPMENT. OVER TIME, DUSTY PROGRESSED THROUGH VARIOUS EVALUATIONS, INCLUDING TEMPERAMENT TESTING, AGILITY, OBEDIENCE, AND SEARCH ABILITIES IN CHALLENGING ENVIRONMENTS. BY 2021, THE PAIR WERE ACCEPTED INTO COLORADO TASK FORCE 1 (COTF-1), AND IN 2022, DUSTY EARNED FEMA CERTIFICATION AS A LIVE FIND SEARCH AND RESCUE DOG IN RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA.

DUSTY'S TRAINING TOOK HIM ACROSS THE COUNTRY TO PREMIER FACILITIES, INCLUDING THE SEARCH DOG FOUNDATION IN CALIFORNIA, TEEX IN TEXAS, AND CRISIS CITY IN KANSAS. HE ALSO TRAINED IN HELICOPTER OPERATIONS WITH ARMY AVIATION AT BUCKLEY AIR BASE AND SPECIALIZED IN ROPE RESCUE, BOAT OPERATIONS, AND WILDERNESS SEARCHES. DUSTY'S HARD WORK CULMINATED IN SEPTEMBER 2024, WHEN HE AND RYAN DEPLOYED WITH COTF-1 IN RESPONSE TO HURRICANE HELENE, ASSISTING IN SEARCH EFFORTS ACROSS FLORIDA AND NORTH CAROLINA.

JUST AS HELENE'S RESPONSE EFFORTS CONCLUDED, HURRICANE MILTON STRUCK, DAMAGING MANY OF THE SAME REGIONS. RYAN AND DUSTY WERE REDEPLOYED TO CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, AND LATER REASSIGNED TO NORTH CAROLINA. THEIR MISSION INVOLVED LOCATING RESIDENTS IN DAMAGED BUILDINGS TO ENSURE THEY RECEIVED AID. IN TOTAL, DUSTY AND RYAN SPENT 28 DAYS DEPLOYED ACROSS BOTH STATES, MARKING A MAJOR MILESTONE IN THEIR REMARKABLE JOURNEY FROM STRAY TO CERTIFIED SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM.





Training & Education

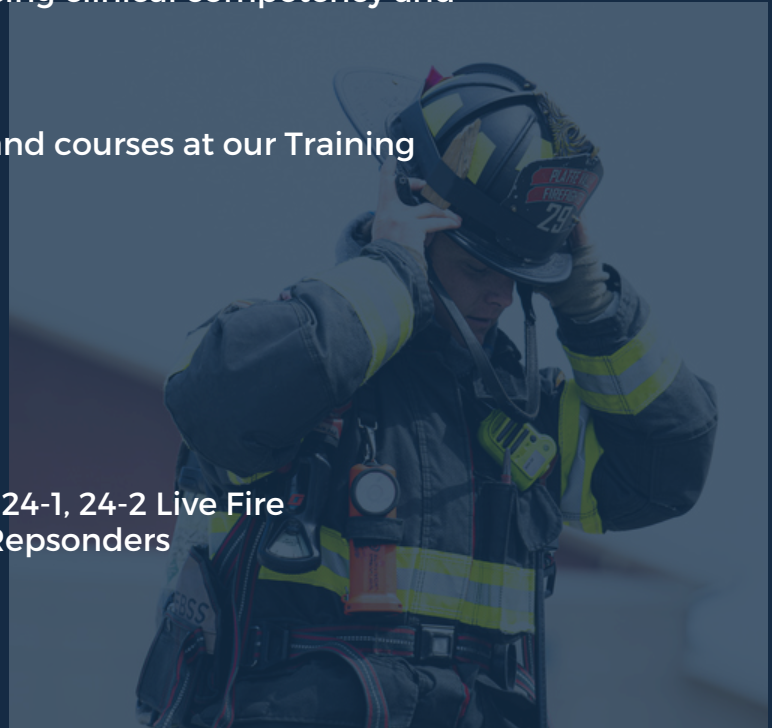
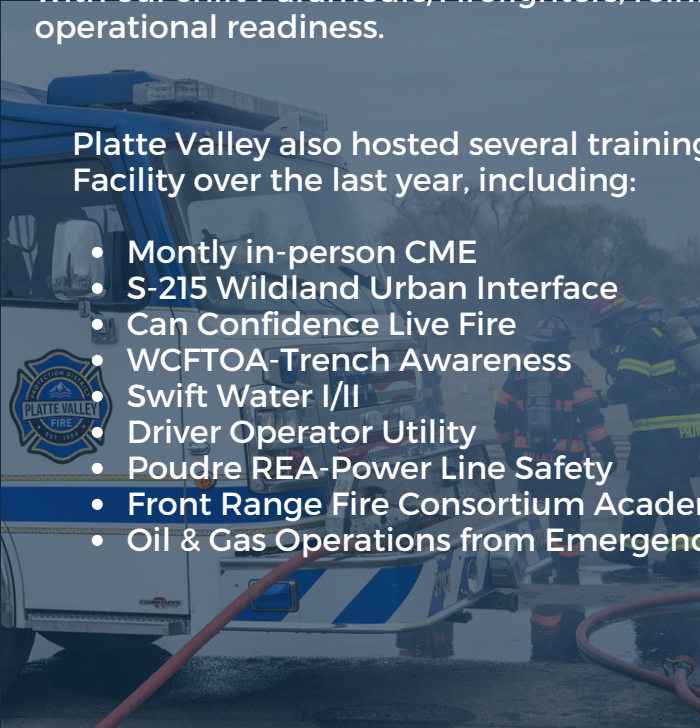
In 2024, Platte Valley Fire embarked on a comprehensive training initiative to enhance our all-hazards response capabilities. This effort included focused training in auto extrication, engine company operations, rescue operations, driver/operator skills, and specialized disciplines such as dive rescue, swift water rescue, hazardous materials (HAZMAT), and technical rescue. These specialized trainings were conducted in collaboration with our regional partners throughout Weld County.

To strengthen interagency coordination and effectiveness, Platte Valley engaged in multiple joint training events, including multi-company drills, live fire exercises, EMS training sessions, and commercial fire response training. These efforts involved valuable participation from neighboring agencies, including the Evans Fire District, the LaSalle Fire Protection District, the Greeley Fire Department, Galetan Fire, and others.

Platte Valley also continued to prioritize excellence in EMS training, supported by NIM Medical through ongoing monthly CME sessions. In addition, our Medical Director, Dr. Johar, played a key role in facilitating incident reviews and training with our shift Paramedic/Firefighters, reinforcing clinical competency and operational readiness.

Platte Valley also hosted several trainings and courses at our Training Facility over the last year, including:

- Montly in-person CME
- S-215 Wildland Urban Interface
- Can Confidence Live Fire
- WCFTOA-Trench Awareness
- Swift Water I/II
- Driver Operator Utility
- Poudre REA-Power Line Safety
- Front Range Fire Consortium Academy 24-1, 24-2 Live Fire
- Oil & Gas Operations from Emergency Repsonders



Training & Education Continued...

In 2024, Platte Valley Fire Protection District continued to demonstrate a strong commitment to operational excellence and professional development by engaging in advanced training across the nation. Personnel have participated in elite programs such as the National Fire Academy in Maryland, the Officer Development Program, Command Officer Boot Camp, and the Water on the Fire Conference. Technical specialization has also advanced through courses like Advanced Rope Technician in Texas and Extreme Industrial Fire and Hazard Training in College Station, preparing members to manage complex, high-risk incidents in oil, gas, and industrial environments.

The District actively invested in leadership and education through attendance at premier conferences, including the Fire Department Instructor's Conference, Fire Rescue International (FRI), and the IAFC Combo Chiefs Conference. These events enable our personnel to stay ahead of evolving fire service standards, gain exposure to the latest technologies, and collaborate with departments nationwide. In Colorado, members participated in state-level events such as the State Fire Chiefs Conference and the EMS Association of Colorado Conference, reinforcing our commitment to excellence in emergency medical services and executive leadership.

Character development and effective communication are core priorities for Platte Valley Fire. Team members have participated in the National Character and Leadership Symposium at the U.S. Air Force Academy and the ESPIOC Public Information Officer Conference, thereby strengthening our leadership culture and community engagement efforts. Through this national and statewide participation, the District ensures that our team remains highly trained, progressive, and prepared to serve with integrity and professionalism.

Platte Valley Fire is a member of the Front Range Fire Consortium (FRFC), and all new recruits attend the 15-week recruit academy where they learn the basic skills needed to be a line firefighter. Firefighters/Paramedics Gillmore and Remedios graduated from the 24-1 and 24-2 Academy.

Total Training hours 6,847



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



PREVENTION



The Platte Valley Fire Protection District's Fire Prevention Bureau plays a vital role in delivering community risk reduction and life safety services across Kersey, Gill, and unincorporated areas of Weld County.

This division oversees fire code enforcement for both existing buildings and new development, including plan reviews, inspections, and permitting. It also supports public safety during special events by ensuring compliance with fire safety regulations, thereby minimizing risk to the community.

Beyond code enforcement, the Fire Prevention Bureau investigates all fires, explosions, and hazardous materials incidents to determine their origin, cause, and contributing factors. When criminal activity is suspected, investigations are carried through to prosecution. The division also develops and maintains pre-incident plans for commercial properties to help first responders operate more effectively and safely during emergencies.

The primary functions of the Fire Prevention Division include:

- Plan Reviews
- New Construction Inspections
- Business Inspections
- Fire & HazMat Incident Investigations
- Pre-Incident Planning
- Special Permits
- Code Enforcement
- Community Fire & Life Safety Programs
- Public Education & Outreach

Adopted Fire Code:

Within the Town of Kersey, the Town of Gill, and Weld County, the 2018 International Fire Code has been adopted.

FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Platte Valley Fire Protection District is guided by an elected Board of Directors consisting of five members. Directors are required to attend monthly Board Meetings, and are also encouraged to attend community events hosted by the District.



DAN BUDERUS - BOARD PRESIDENT - DBUDERUS@PLATTEVALLEYFIRE.ORG

BARRY WELLS - VICE PRESIDENT - BWELLS@PLATTEVALLEYFIRE.ORG

SCOTT HOFF - SECRETARY/TREASURER - SHOFF@PLATTEVALLEYFIRE.ORG

BILL SPALDING - DIRECTOR - BSPALDING@PLATTEVALLEYFIRE.ORG

ART GUTTERSEN - DIRECTOR - AGUTTERSEN@PLATTEVALLEYFIRE.ORG

The primary role and responsibilities of the elected Board of Directors is to; approve policies of the Fire District, approve the annual budget, approve expenditures, and provide direction to the Fire Chief. Directors also represent, support, and promote the Platte Valley Fire Protection District and the Platte Valley Community.

LOOKING AHEAD

2025

COMING SOON

PURCHASE LAND FOR NEW STATION
DEVELOP PLAN TO PROVIDE A CADRE INSTRUCTOR OF FRFC
ACADEMY
CONDUCT AND COMPLETE A COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT
INCREASE COMMUNITY GROUP INVOLVEMENT
HOST AN ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE



PROFESSIONALISM **COMMUNITY** **CHARACTER** **TEAM**

"MAKING A DIFFERENCE"

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