

# **New Boston Fire Department 2011 Accomplishments**

**Grants** – The fire department received a large grant acquired in April 2011. It is a Federal grant that will provide weekday daytime coverage in New Boston for 4 years. The program is referred to as the TARP program. The grant's value was \$265.4K.

**TARP Program/Recruit Program** – The primary goal of this program is to ensure quality emergency medical coverage for New Boston during weekdays when many of our volunteers are out of town. Students will provide daytime coverage at **NO** cost to New Boston and in exchange they will have their tuition for Paramedic training paid for out of the grant. To date we have managed to reduce response times by 50%, while increasing the medical staff by 200% during the daytime. These programs have reduced stress on our regular members having to leave their jobs for emergency calls. The recruit program members are all volunteers from out of town that have agreed to work (1) 8 hour daytime shift a week to gain experience and promote their career goals.

**Operational Information** – Our emergency calls were down by 26 calls from 396 calls in 2010 to 370 calls in 2011. The costs of emergency budget expenditures were down by approx. 30%. This is due to the weekday personnel responding to medical calls, thereby reducing the need for additional personnel to respond.

**Cadet Program** – This program continues to serve the purpose of introducing the fire service to the youth of New Boston and surrounding towns

**Financial Information** - For 2011, we returned over \$7,000 to the general fund as a result of operational improvements resulting in the reduction of cost of emergencies. Going forward, we are able to remove a \$240K tax burden out of our Capital Appropriation plan on our next replacement ambulance. Additionally, expense lines have been removed from the FD operating budget equaling about 10% of the total budget. These cost savings to the taxpayer are a direct result of receiving the revenues for ambulance transports.

**Staffing** – Our roster stands at 42 volunteer members, 7 Tarp members and 3 recruit members. Our cadet membership is currently at 5. The

majority of our membership is very active. We're very fortunate to have such dedicated people willing to give up their personal time to be part of this organization. Neighbors helping neighbors!



New Boston Fire Department Personnel

**Training** - During 2011, the department members logged 4893.75 training hours of which 2098 hours were in house training. It should be noted that our FD cadets attended 1590 hours of training in 2011, 1384 of which were from attending special firefighting camps designed for young fire fighters. The training consisted of a variety of subject areas including SCBA, ice rescue, equipment familiarization, search and rescue, and low angle rescue to name a few. We focused many training hours on rural water supply firefighting and introduced the rural hitch into our water supply techniques. Members spent many hours practicing these procedures including a drill with surrounding communities.

**New Member Certifications** - We had one person achieve their Fire Fighter One Certification, 3 people became EMT certified, one person received his Instructor level one certification, and one person became certified as a First Responder. With these accomplishments, NBFD membership has achieved a 99.5% certification in the particular areas they work, (Firefighter / EMT / Paramedic).

**Fire Prevention Report** - The Fire Prevention Division had a very active year in 2011 conducting 982 points of service, which represents a slight increase from 2010 when we conducted 953.

Listed below are some examples of the services the Fire Prevention function is providing:

- New & Existing Business Inspections
- New & Existing Residential Inspections
- Town Buildings and School Inspections
- Plan Review
- Assembly Permit Inspections
- Sprinkler and Fire Alarm Inspections
- Day-Care Inspections & Foster-Care Inspections
- Woodstove/Pellet Stove Inspections
- Oil Burner Inspections
- Public Education
- Administration, Suppression & Emergency Medical Support
- Grant Writing
- Town-Wide Safety Committee Member
- Miscellaneous Fire Protection Inquiries

**As a reminder: Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors save lives and should be installed throughout your home, especially in sleeping areas.**

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Dan MacDonald