



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

BELVIDERE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief's Message

To the Mayor, City Council, City Administration, the dedicated personnel of the Belvidere Fire Department, and our partners throughout Boone County:

It is my privilege to present the 2025 Annual Report for the Belvidere Fire Department—a year marked by exceptional service, professional growth, innovation, and continued investment in the safety and resilience of our community.

A Year of Service and Progress

In 2025, our members answered thousands of calls for help, always ready to serve with skill and compassion. Our mission remains clear: to provide emergency rescue and fire protection services that exceed expectations and to be there for our community at its greatest times of need. The extraordinary dedication, teamwork, and spirit of our staff remain our greatest strengths. Notably, this year saw zero turnover or retirements—including several dedicated members who could have retired but chose to continue their service. Their ongoing commitment, along with strong engagement at every level, speaks to the supportive, positive culture we have built together and our deep commitment to each other and those we serve.

Strategic Investment: AFG Communications Grant

A defining achievement this year was the full implementation of the county-wide Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) project, which we led in partnership with four other Boone County fire departments. We were awarded a \$594,248 AFG grant for this county-wide communications project. The funding was used to procure critical interoperable radio equipment—primarily 68 dual-band P25 portable radios and rugged accessories—covering 90% of project costs via FEMA. This award significantly enhanced communications interoperability and responder safety across the entire county.

By focusing on this infrastructure, we have improved incident coordination, responder safety, and our ability to work seamlessly with partners across Boone County—now and for years to come.

Additional Department Accomplishments

Beyond daily emergency response and the AFG project, 2025 saw important operational and administrative milestones:

- Restarted regular fire inspection cycles, supporting fire prevention and community risk reduction
- Updated policies and procedures to maintain best-practice compliance with evolving standards
- Generated over \$1.1 million in ambulance revenue through fiscally responsible operations and robust EMS delivery
- Welcomed new staff – FF Cam Johnson, Inspector Lee Revels, and Administrative Assistant Hannah Childers, strengthening our team for the future

These successes reflect not only the professionalism and flexibility of our personnel but also the strong relationships we maintain with our community, elected officials, and public safety partners.



Chief's Message

Facing Our Challenges

Our annual SWOT analysis provides a clear-eyed view of both our strengths and our challenges:

- Price escalation and long wait times for apparatus remain industry-wide hurdles
- Significant increased fleet and building maintenance costs
- Annexed properties far from current stations require thoughtful, strategic planning to ensure coverage keeps pace with growth
- Pension liability and single-person executive administration present ongoing operational and fiscal considerations
- Ambulance operations continue to be delivered with excellence despite structural challenges in staffing and facilities, with the lease on our ambulance quarters set to expire at the end of FY26

Addressing these challenges requires the same teamwork, resourcefulness, and forward-thinking that defines our approach to every emergency call.

People, Training, and Growth

Our robust daily training—emphasizing safety, efficiency, and adaptability—remains at the heart of our preparedness. Administrative and operational tasks are willingly shared among firefighters and officers, and we are continually focused on professional development at all ranks. The pride we take in our apparatus, gear, and modern records management platform reflects our shared commitment to operational excellence.

A Culture of Respect and Inclusion

We are proud of our inclusive and respectful workplace, guided by our code of ethics and core values. Every member's contributions are valued, and we remain committed to fostering an environment where innovation, compassion, and servant leadership are celebrated.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2026 and beyond, our mission, vision, and values remain at the heart of everything we do. We are dedicated to making Belvidere a safe, welcoming place where people can live, work, and raise their families with confidence. Our promise is simple: if you need help—whether it's a fire, an emergency, or medical care—we're here, 24/7, ready to respond. You can *always* count on us.

Thank you for trusting us to serve.

**May God bless the Belvidere community and all the first responders who serve.
With respect and gratitude,**



**Shawn Schadle
Fire Chief
Belvidere Fire Department**

Mission Statement

IT IS OUR MISSION TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY RESCUE AND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES THAT EXCEED EXPECTATIONS; TO BE THERE FOR OUR COMMUNITY AT THEIR GREATEST TIMES OF NEED

Values

SENSE OF SECURITY

- ENSURING THE SENSE OF SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR RESIDENTS AND VISITORS IS OUR UTMOST PRIORITY. WE WORK TIRELESSLY TO CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE EVERY RESIDENT FEELS CONFIDENT WITH, PROTECTED BY, AND PROUD OF OUR SERVICES.

DEDICATION

- WE ARE COMMITTED TO OUR MISSION, OUR PEOPLE, AND OUR COMMUNITY—SHOWING UP EVERY DAY WITH THE RESOLVE TO MINIMIZE THE IMPACT OF EMERGENCIES.

EMPATHY

- UNDERSTANDING AND COMPASSION ARE AT THE HEART OF OUR SERVICE. WE STRIVE TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE WE SERVE WITH SENSITIVITY AND KINDNESS.

COMMUNITY PRIDE

- WE TAKE IMMENSE PRIDE IN BELVIDERE, WORKING DILIGENTLY TO ENHANCE THE WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF OUR COMMUNITY, AND FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING AND PRIDE AMONG ALL RESIDENTS.

STRONG COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

- BY BUILDING ROBUST PARTNERSHIPS, WE UNITE WITH INDIVIDUALS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND AGENCIES TO ACHIEVE COMMON GOALS AND STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY'S FABRIC.

BEST PRACTICES

- OUR COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE IS DEMONSTRATED THROUGH OUR ADHERENCE TO BEST PRACTICES IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE, ENSURING THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF SERVICE AND SAFETY.

CONSTANT TRAINING

- WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF EDUCATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT. WE INVEST IN ONGOING TRAINING TO ENSURE OUR TEAM IS SKILLED, PREPARED, AND CAPABLE.

EMPLOYEE EMPOWERMENT

- EMPOWERING OUR PERSONNEL IS KEY TO OUR SUCCESS. WE ENCOURAGE INITIATIVE, INNOVATION, AND LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

SERVANT LEADERSHIP

- WE LEAD BY SERVING—EMBRACING A LEADERSHIP STYLE THAT FOCUSES ON THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR TEAM MEMBERS ABOVE ALL ELSE.

SELFLESS SERVICE

- OUR DEDICATION TO THE COMMUNITY IS UNWAVERING, MARKED BY A SPIRIT OF SELFLESSNESS THAT DRIVES US TO PUT THE NEEDS OF OTHERS FIRST.

Welcome



Lee Revels - Fire Inspector

Lee comes to us with over 10 years experience in safety management, inspections, code enforcement and hazmat safety of over 600 employees while working for a major manufacturer here in Belvidere. Lee has also been the chairwomen of the Boone County Local Emergency Planning Committee for Boone County. Lee more recently worked for the Belvidere Chamber of Commerce. She made the switch to get more involved with her passion for safety and creating safe workplaces.

Camden Johnson - Firefighter/Paramedic

Camden was born and raised here in Boone County. He graduated from Belvidere North High School Class of 2016. He was an intern at Belvidere Fire Department before being hired full time in Pekin Illinois as a firefighter/paramedic. Camden enjoyed his time and the knowledge he learned from his previous department but his dream was to be back home with family and to be a Belvidere firefighter.



Hannah Childers - Administrative Assistant

Hannah became part of the department in April 2025. She graduated from Belvidere High School in 2017 and soon after worked in patient scheduling. For the past four years, she focused on raising her son as a stay-at-home mom. Hannah is excited to take on this new role and grow with the department.

Chris Gilman - Retired Administrative Assistant

Chris Gilman retired from the department on May 15th, 2025. She was the Administrative Assistant from 2014-2025.



Organizational Overview



BELVIDERE FIRE DEPARTMENT

PROTECT PRESERVE PREVENT

**GOLD
Shift**

Mark Beck
Aaron Pihl
Stephan Mead
Troy Vandenbroek
Hannah Deleeuw
Apryl Slack

Glenn Williams
Ron Herman
Bobby Gunsteen
Angel Cardona
Emily Riley

Lt. Dan Drall

Capt. Chris Letourneau

**BLACK
Shift**

Matt Loudenbeck
Greg Pavlatos
Joe Erber
Jason Jankowski
Lauren Schultz
Rasmus Gotzsche

Jim Kriebs
Adam Ellwanger
Zach Bullard
Mike Maronde
Alex Stallons

Lt. Travis Tangye

Capt. Jason Swanson

**RED
Shift**

Jeff Vaughan
Brad Heiser
Jake Hendrickson
Cory Mitchell
John Doles
Aubri Swader

Kevin Fox
Todd Winnie
Cam Johnson
Quinn Staley
Joanna Wessel

Lt. Nic Thornton

Captain David Burdick

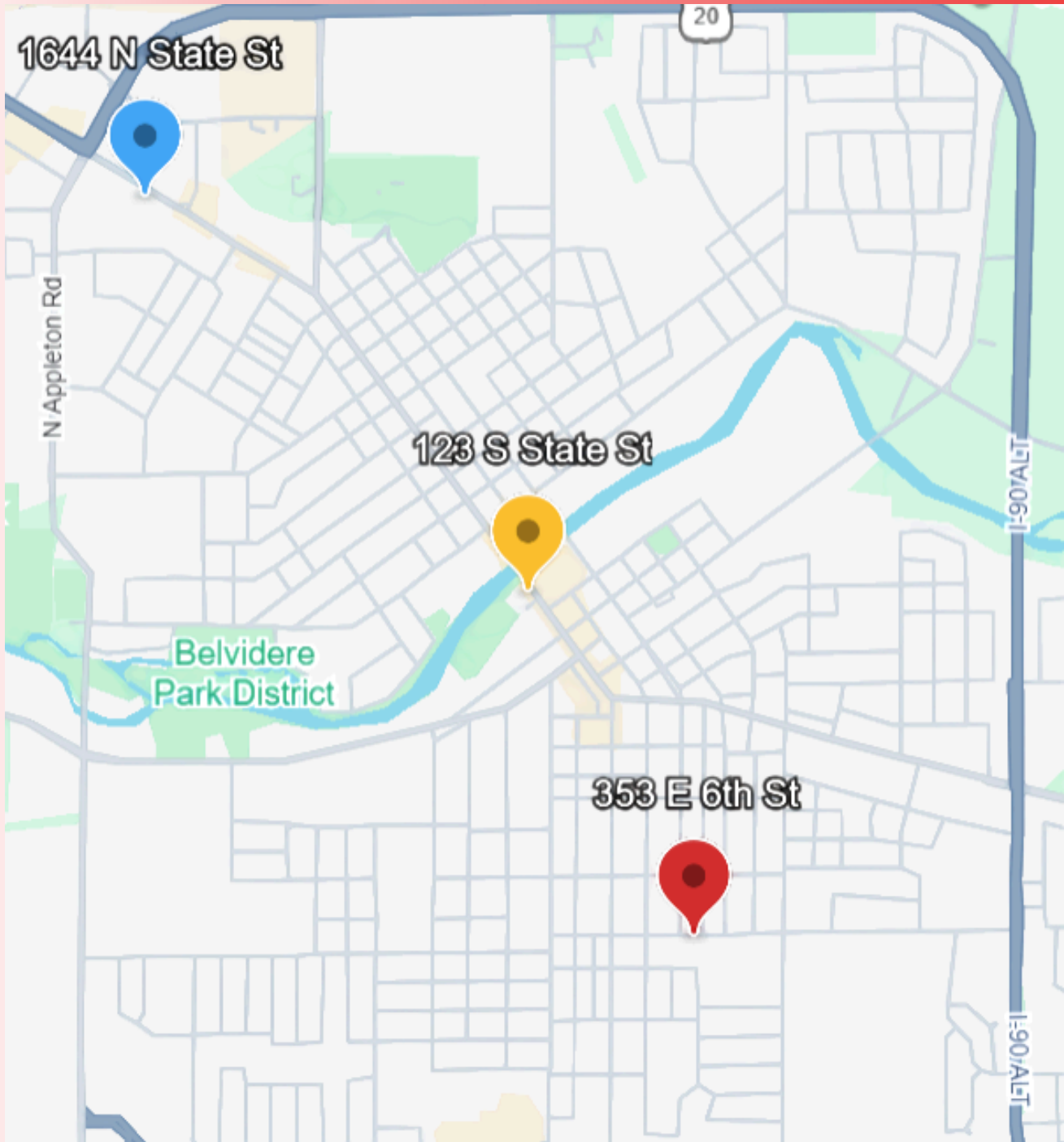
F/T Inspector – Lee Revels

Admin. Asst. Hannah Childers

Chief Shawn Schadle



Locations

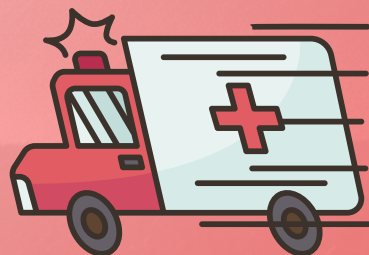


- 123 S. State Street: Station 1
- 353 E. 6th Street: Station 2
- 1644 N. State Street: Station 3/EMS

Call Statistics

Row Labels	Count of Incident Number
100 - Fire, other	2
111 - Building fire	40
113 - Cooking fire, confined to container	10
116 - Fuel burner/boiler malfunction, fire confined	1
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	7
132 - Road freight or transport vehicle fire	1
138 - Off-road vehicle or heavy equipment fire	1
140 - Natural vegetation fire, other	1
142 - Brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire	3
143 - Grass fire	2
150 - Outside rubbish fire, other	3
151 - Outside rubbish, trash or waste fire	4
154 - Dumpster or other outside trash receptacle fire	1
200 - Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheat other	2
300 - Rescue, EMS incident, other	4
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	8
320 - Emergency medical service incident, other	4
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	2379
3211 - EMS Call, excluding MVA - CPR Given	1
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	64
323 - Motor vehicle/pedestrian accident (MV Ped)	5
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	32
342 - Search for person in water	2
353 - Removal of victim(s) from stalled elevator	3
381 - Rescue or EMS standby	5
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
411 - Gasoline or other flammable liquid spill	3
412 - Gas leak (natural gas or LPG)	28
422 - Chemical spill or leak	1
424 - Carbon monoxide incident	34
440 - Electrical wiring/equipment problem, other	11
442 - Overheated motor	4
444 - Power line down	21
445 - Arcing, shorted electrical equipment	11
451 - Biological hazard, confirmed or suspected	1
480 - Attempted burning, illegal action, other	8
500 - Service Call, other	30

**2,473 of 3,200 incidents compliant
with response time under 429
seconds**



510 - Person in distress, other	1
511 - Lock-out	6
520 - Water problem, other	5
522 - Water or steam leak	3
531 - Smoke or odor removal	9
540 - Animal problem, other	1
542 - Animal rescue	3
550 - Public service assistance, other	103
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	16
552 - Police matter	7
553 - Public service	21
554 - Assist invalid	31
555 - Defective elevator, no occupants	1
561 - Unauthorized burning	46
571 - Cover assignment, standby, moveup	10
600 - Good intent call, other	15
611 - Dispatched & canceled en route	56
6111 - Cancelled in Route Auto Aid CV	22
6113 - Cancelled in Route Auto Aid Boone 2	3
6114 - Cancelled in Route Auto Aid Boone 3	3
6115 - Cancelled in Route Mutual Aid	3
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	53
6221 - Canceled after arrival	14
631 - Authorized controlled burning	1
651 - Smoke scare, odor of smoke	8
671 - HazMat release investigation w/no HazMat	3
700 - False alarm or false call, other	62
710 - Malicious, mischievous false call, other	1
730 - System malfunction, other	5
731 - Sprinkler activation due to malfunction	4
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	10
734 - Heat detector activation due to malfunction	1
735 - Alarm system sounded due to malfunction	36
736 - CO detector activation due to malfunction	6
740 - Unintentional transmission of alarm, other	20
741 - Sprinkler activation, no fire - unintentional	2
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	17
744 - Detector activation, no fire - unintentional	3
745 - Alarm system activation, no fire - unintentional	30
746 - Carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO	7
900 - Special type of incident, other	3
Grand Total	3389

Helping Out

Auto-Aid: Each department brings an engine and a Chief.

Provided to/from the following departments:

District 1 (Capron)

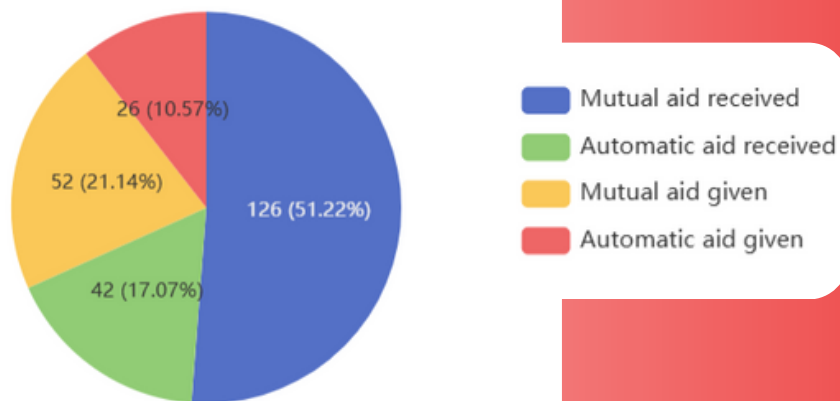
District 2 (Boone)

District 3 (Poplar Grove)

Cherry Valley Fire

Station coverage by Marengo Fire

Total aid given and received (246)



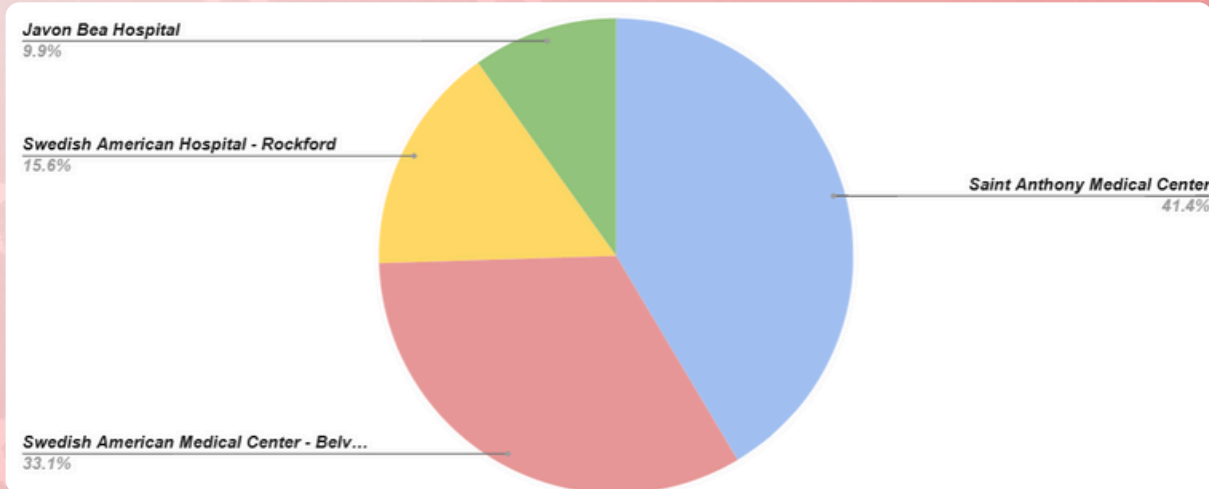
MABAS

- MABAS stands for *Mutual Aid Box Alarm System*. It is a statewide mutual aid system, which has been in existence since the late 1960s.
- Includes approximately 1,175 of the state's 1,246 fire departments organized within 69 divisions.
- Offers specialized operations teams for hazardous materials (40 teams), underwater rescue/recovery (15 teams), technical rescue (39 teams) and a state-sponsored urban search and rescue team.
- MABAS gives departments access to many assets such as: decontamination vehicle, shelter systems, mobile ventilation units, light towers, and more.
- Belvidere Fire Department is a part of MABAS Division 8

Division 8 Secretary: Kevin Fox

Ambulance

Total Transports from 5/1/24 - 4/30/25: 1,969



Ambulance Service Cost: \$1,739,554.51

Ambulance Revenue: \$1,049,334.02

CITY OF BELVIDERE AMBULANCE BILLING POLICY

The Corporate Authorities of the City of Belvidere (the City) adopt this Ambulance Billing Policy, pursuant to the authority set forth in Section 46-62 of the City of Belvidere Municipal Code (the Code), to provide for the implementation and application of Ambulance Services Fees under that section. This policy shall govern the billing and collection of fees imposed by Section 46-62 of the Code. All references to the Department shall include any entity providing billing services pursuant to section 46-61 of the Code as well as any entity providing collection services for the City for unpaid amounts due under Section 46-62.

1) The Department shall first bill any third-party insurance company or Medicare / Medicaid (third-party payors) identified by the Patient or other responsible party for all amounts due pursuant to Section 46-62. The Department shall then bill the Patient (or other responsible party) for any balance not paid by a third-party payor in accordance with relevant law. In the event the Patient is a resident of the City, the Department shall accept payment by the third-party payor plus any co-payment, co-insurance, and deductible as payment in full of obligations under Section 46-62. In the event the patient is not a resident of the City, the Department shall bill the full balance of all amounts owed under Section 46-62 to the Patient or other responsible party (parent or guardian) with a credit for amounts received from third-party payors in accordance with all applicable rules, codes, and laws.

2) The Department is authorized to enter payment plans with the patient (or other responsible parties) not to exceed twelve monthly payments. In the event a patient (or other responsible party) fails to make two or more required monthly payments the remaining balance owed shall be forwarded to collections.

3) Patients who qualify for financial assistance with the receiving hospital for treatment received immediately following the emergency transport, can provide the corresponding award letter to the department or billing agency. The Department shall apply the same discount to any remaining balances.

Billing Rates Ordinance

ARTICLE III. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES / TRANSPORT

46-60. Ambulance Service Established.

Effective May 1, 2023, the City of Belvidere shall operate Ambulance Services within the corporate limits of the City of Belvidere and outside of the corporate limits pursuant to agreements or requests for assistance. Ambulance Services shall be performed under the auspices and policies of the City of Belvidere Fire Department and pursuant to the policies and procedures of the appropriate agency with Medical Control. The Fire Chief, or the Chief's designee, shall be responsible for, set policy for, and otherwise supervise all ambulance service activities.

46-61. EMS Transport Independent Contractors.

The Corporate Authorities may enter into agreements to lease Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support ambulances for the provision of Ambulance Services and may enter into agreements with outside agencies or third-party entities to provide paramedic services on an independent contractor basis. The Corporate Authorities may also enter into agreements for the provision of billing services related to the collection of fees for Ambulance Services.

46-62. Fee schedule for Ambulance Services:

The City shall charge every patient fees for Ambulance Services as set forth below. The City may adopt policies relating to the collection of fees and the procedure for forgiving debts.

- Basic Life Support (BLS) Rates: \$1,900.00 Transport + \$21.00 per loaded mile
- Basic Life Support Emergency (BLS-Emergency) Rates: \$1,900.00 Transport + \$21.00 per loaded mile
- Advanced Life Support, level 1 (ALS1) Rates: \$2,100.00 Transport + \$21.00 per loaded mile
- Advanced Life Support, level 1 Emergency (ALS1-Emergency) Rates: \$2,100.00 Transport + \$21.00 per loaded mile
- Advanced Life Support, level 2 (ALS2) Rates: \$2,100.00 Transport + \$21.00 per loaded mile
- The charges for ambulance service set forth above shall increase annually at the rate of 3% annually.

Training

Total training hours: 9,149.5

Completions - Aggregated		
Type:	Completions - Aggregated	
Run Date:	5/4/2025 8:24	
Shares:	Not Shared	
Filters:	Type	All Assignments
	Completion Date	From 05/01/2024 To 04/30/2025
	User Status	Active, Offline
First Name	Last Name	Duration (hours)
Mark	Beck	259.75
Zachary	Bullard	264.25
David	Burdick	316
Angel	Cardona	105
Hannah	Childers	0
Hannah	DeLeeuw	93.25
John	Doles	92.25
Dan	Drall	237.5
Adam	Ellwanger	293
Joe	Erber	320.5
Kevin	Fox	354
Chris	Gilman	0
Rasmus	Gotzsche	89.5
Robert	Gunsteen	281
Brad	Heiser	354
Jacob	Hendrickson	382
Ron	Herman	221.25
Jason	Jankowski	342.25
Camden	Johnson	197.25
James	Kriebs	258.5
Chris	Letourneau	252.5
Matt	Loudenbeck	366.5
Mikal	Maronde	85.75
Stephen	Mead	268
Cory	Mitchell	239
Gregory	Pavlatos	300.75
Aaron	Pihl	264.75
Lee	Revels	7.5
Emily	Riley	119.25
Shawn	Schadle	75.75
Lauren	Schultz	100.5
Apryl	Slack	107.25
Quinn	Staley	113
Alexandra	Stallons	93.25
Aubrianna	Swader	90.5
Jason	Swanson	247.75
Travis	Tangye	453.5
Nicolas	Thornton	295.25
Troy	Vandenbroek	219.75
Jeffery	Vaughan	279.5
Joanna	Wessel	107
Glenn	Williams	262.75
Todd	Winnie	338.5
		9149.5

Outside Training Partners - May 2024 - April 2025
Acument
Americold
Belvidere North Athletic Trainer
Belvidere Police Department
Boone County District #1
Boone County District #2
Boone County District #3
Boone County EMA
Boone County Sheriff's Department
Cherry Valley Fire District
Cherry Valley Police Department
ComEd / Fire Risk Alliance
Community Building of Boone County
District 3 Fire Explorers
Frontier Communications
General Mills Production Facility
Illinois Fire Service Institute
Industrial Consultants
Kirkland Fire District
MD-1
Midwest Refrigeration
National Fire Academy - Emmitsburg, MD
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Nicor Gas
REACT Helicopter/Mercy Health
Saint Anthony's Medical Center
Stellantis
Union Pacific Railroad
Waterous Hydrants
Whiting-Turner Construction (Project Yukon)
Zoll Medical



Training Coordinator: Lt. Travis Tangye

Public Education & Community Outreach

- Open House - added a live burn prop in 2024
- Reimplemented the Vial For Life Program
- No 2nd Grader Left Behind
- Meehan MVP Ride
- School Safety Drills
- Halloween Trunk or Treat
- School Read Out Louds
- National Day of Prayer
- Vets Roll
- Touch a Truck
- VFW Memorial Day Program
- Library Summer Kickoff Party
- Hydrant Block Parties
- Heritage Days
- Fill The Boot, \$7,609 raised
- Fishing Frenzy
- Fire Station Tours
- Farmers Market Car Seat Checks
- JOY (Just Older Youth) senior talks
- Homecoming Parades
- Veteran's Day Ceremony
- Build a Bike Sponsor
- Girl Scout Fire Safety Talk
- Special Olympics Parade
- Cub Scout First Aid Talk
- Medium/High Density Residential Safety Talks





Apparatus & Equipment



121

2023 Chevrolet
Express 3500
Miles: 47,382

122

Chevrolet Express
3500
Miles: 43,413



101 - 2023 Pierce Saber

Pump Size: 1,500
Pump Hours: 139.09
Miles: 21,262
Hours: 2,078



150 - 2010 Alexis

Miles: 54,065
Hours: 6,715.80



102 - 2017 Alexis

Miles: 67,308.70
Hours: 7,092.70
Pump Size: 1500

Captain Jason Swanson is in charge of all vehicle/apparatus maintenance

Apparatus & Equipment

142 - 2015 Ford F350, 10,881.40 miles, 1,021 hours

103 - 1993 Stephen Deluge, 120,415.90 miles, 13,503.60 hours,
Pump Size: 1,500 Pump Hours: 1,685

BC1 - Chief's vehicle, 2021 Ford Expedition, 27,832 miles

BC2 - Command vehicle, 2017 Ford Expedition, 63,979 miles

Inspection - 2012 Dodge Durango, 96,984 miles

Jetski - 2003 Kawasaki, 62 engine hours

UTV - 2016 Polaris Ranger

Rescue Trailer

TRT Trailer

