

Fire Districts and Fire Service Areas

Department Overview

Fire Districts and Fire Service Areas are where County residents have requested the County Commission to create a district or service area to support the area's fire suppression needs. The difference between a district and a service area is the method used to generate revenue. A district's revenue comes from the imposition of a mill levy on all the property in the district. A fire service area generates revenue by charging a fee on each property having a qualifying structure located on it.

Fire districts / fire service areas are administered by elected or appointed boards of trustees. Trustees have the authority to provide adequate and standard firefighting and emergency response apparatus, equipment, personnel, housing and facilities for the protection of the district. Trustees prepare annual budgets and request special levies/fees, based on state budget laws the trustees and County must follow.

The County Commission and trustees of fire districts continue to be concerned about the Department of Revenue's method of identifying New Construction Values within districts. The method appears to be flawed in that several districts had significant increases in valuation with less than half identified as coming from New Construction.

Department Goals

- Dedicated to providing prompt, efficient and progressive emergency services to the citizens of each district and service area.
- Strive to be creative and innovative with resources.
- Provide adequate firefighting and emergency response apparatus and equipment.
- Retain qualified personnel.
- Continue to provide adequate housing and facilities for the protection of the equipment and staff of the districts and fire service areas.
- Strive to meet the challenges of today and anticipate the needs of tomorrow.

Recent Accomplishments

- Several Districts and Fire Service Areas have contracted for an Impact Fee Study pursuant to changes in law.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Districts and Fire Service Areas

Department Budget

Object of Expenditure	Actual FY 2013	Final FY 2014	Actual FY 2014	Request FY 2015	Preliminary FY 2015	Final FY 2015
Personnel	\$ 3,502,199	\$ 4,566,102	\$ 3,881,187	\$ 4,439,834	\$ 4,439,834	\$ 4,466,049
Operations	2,171,988	8,222,972	5,344,932	1,097,639	3,828,463	4,701,850
Debt Service	1,154,416	847,640	805,258	578,143	578,143	578,143
Capital Outlay	1,503,545	4,824,990	2,412,495	4,037,761	4,037,761	6,390,583
Transfers Out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 8,332,148	\$ 18,461,704	\$ 12,443,872	\$ 10,153,377	\$ 12,884,201	\$ 16,136,625

Budget by Fund Group

General Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Special Revenue Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Capital Project Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enterprise Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Internal Service Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trust & Agency Funds	8,332,148	18,461,704	12,443,872	10,153,377	12,884,201	16,136,625
Total	\$ 8,332,148	\$ 18,461,704	\$ 12,443,872	\$ 10,153,377	\$ 12,884,201	\$ 16,136,625

Funding Sources

Tax Revenues	\$ 5,061,012	\$ 6,183,880	\$ 6,060,202	\$ 6,183,880	\$ 7,061,882	\$ 6,390,017
Non-Tax Revenues	2,524,445	6,743,425	5,731,911	6,743,425	2,486,369	3,393,916
Cash Reappropriated	746,691	5,534,399	651,758	(2,773,928)	3,335,950	6,352,692
Total	\$ 8,332,148	\$ 18,461,704	\$ 12,443,872	\$ 10,153,377	\$ 12,884,201	\$ 16,136,625

Department Personnel

No. of Positions	FT/PT	Title	FTE
Work accomplished through each fire district and fire service area			
Total Program			0

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2015 Budget Highlights

Personnel

- No County personnel in this budget

Operations

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Capital

- See Listing Capital Outlay / Capital Projects for capital reserves and expenditures.

Fund Balance Sheet – Millage Requirements FY 2015

County of Gallatin, Montana											
Fund Balance Sheet - Millage Requirements											
FY 2015 APPROVED BUDGET											
Fund No.	Description	FINAL Budget	Cash Reserved	Res. %	Total	Cash	Non-Tax Revenue	Taxes	Mill Value	FY 2015 Mills	MAX MILLS
Fire Districts & Fire Service Area Funds - Trust & Agency Funds											
7200	Central Valley Fire	5,681,551	1,328,928	23.39%	7,010,479	3,763,672	810,018	2,436,789	46,722	52.16	52.16
7202	Rae Fire Service	562,400	-	0.00%	562,400	76,723	-	485,677	2,072.35	\$ 234.36	\$ 234.36
7204	Fort Ellis Fire Service	210,160	-	0.00%	210,160	3,151	24,000	183,009	1,236.53	\$ 148.00	\$ 148.00
7205	Sourdough Fire	2,460,124	-	0.00%	2,460,124	1,731,130	31,000	697,994	11,376	61.36	61.36
7206	Manhattan Fire	657,091	-	0.00%	657,091	512,214	12,500	132,377	1,833	72.21	78.33
7207	Sedan Fire	10,839	-	0%	10,839	7,451	-	3,388	313	10.84	10.84
7208	Three Forks Fire	464,597	-	0.00%	464,597	146,232	263,499	54,866	3,244	16.91	16.91
7209	Willow Creek Fire	90,000	-	0.00%	90,000	41,339	14,060	34,601	939	36.86	54.74
7210	Story Mill Fire	25,168	-	0.00%	25,168	131	-	25,037	511	49.01	49.01
7213	Big Sky Fire	2,314,654	-	0.00%	2,314,654	290,438	1,273,149	751,067	23,399	32.10	32.10
7214	Hebgen Basin Fire	1,762,999	-	0.00%	1,762,999	333,907	840,600	588,492	9,566	61.52	61.52
7215	Gallatin Gateway Fire	704,020	-	0.00%	704,020	247,536	26,748	429,736	10,325	41.62	41.62
7216	Bridger Fire	460,590	-	0.00%	460,590	258,083	21,209	181,298	4,362	41.56	41.56
7217	Amsterdam Fire	516,483	2,440	0.47%	518,923	266,657	16,000	236,266	4,102	57.60	57.60
7218	Clarkston Fire Service	95,860	-	0.00%	95,860	38,429	2,133	55,298	303.00	\$ 182.50	\$ 182.50
7219	Gallatin River Ranch Fire	120,090	-	0.00%	120,090	(33,032)	59,000	94,122	724	130.03	130.03
subtotal Fire Activity		16,136,625	1,331,368	8.25%	17,467,993	7,684,061	3,393,916	6,390,017			

Fire Districts and Fire Service Areas

Workload Indicators / Performance Measures

Workload Indicators	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Indicator	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1. Number and frequency of calls reported				
2. Demands on system for priority responses				
3. Increase in number and length of major incidents				
4. EMS calls				

Performance Measures	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Measure	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015
1. Response to calls				
2. Training of professionals and volunteers				
3. Hours spent on Outreach Education				

Comments