

White Bluff VFD Chief's Report Nov 2025

Calls for Service:

Fire Alarms	2
Lift Assists	2
Medical Calls	11
Grass Fires	3
Gass Odor Inv	1
Structure Fires	2
Total Calls	21

This department has made 242 calls thus far this year.

Two new radios were installed in the rescue boat by Shane Bailey and John Hapka; this will allow communication on the Hill Co UHF radio system and the VHF system still used by other counties we might be called to assist.

Other accomplishments completed during the past year include:

The purchase and conversion of the ambulance from the Plano Fire Department to become the Rehab response unit of this department.

The sale of Engine 131 to the Emergency Service District 1 to be used by other departments within Hill County. This sale helped finance the purchase of the Rehab unit.

Two gas detection devices were purchased with grant money from Tx New Mexico Power Co and from HILCO round up grants. These have allowed us to detect hazardous gasses both from leaks at residence homes but also during fire cleanup to detect poisonous gasses caused by the burning of certain materials.

We are very proud that we were able to send two volunteers, Shane Bailey and Ethan Watson, to the Fire Academy in Whitney. Both brought back knowledge to fight fires and help train new volunteers. Ethan requested to further his education by attending an EMT school, from which he graduated and is now working part time at Hillsboro FD and Whitney EMS as well as responding to medical calls here in White Bluff.

Brandon Butler joined the WBVFD.

The mound that had blocked the road from White Bluff Dr to the Lighthouse and Hotel was removed and limited to emergency vehicles' use. This had prevented fire units and tankers from quick access to these properties in the event of a fire.

A high volume/high-pressure pump was purchased and installed on the Rescue Boat to provide fire fighting capabilities as well as the ability to pump water to refill tankers from the lake. In an area with no fire hydrants this was a major improvement in our water supply.

Our only tanker developed a leak in the 3000-gallon tank and had to be shipped to Mississippi for warranty repairs. The repairs lasted several months during which the need for an additional tanker as back up became very apparent.

The department received a grant from the Texas Forest Service for 300,000 dollars to purchase a new 3000-gallon tanker which is currently in production. This will

ensure we are never left without the ability to transport water to a fire in White Bluff again.

Our Attack Truck 331 is being converted from a 750-gallon brush truck to an 1800-gallon brush/tanker after the foam system on the truck failed and would have cost 20,000 dollars to repair. This conversion will make this truck far more useful for many calls than it's previous configuration.

New lighter weight helmets were purchased for the firefighters. These new helmets replaced not only the heavy previous helmets but also the wild land or grass fire helmets that were worn out.