

History of Department and Overview

- Mdewakanton Emergency Services grew from an idea in 2000 to a functioning department with full time professional staff operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Developed in reaction to incidents on the reservation where response times were critical.
- The department provides mutual aid assistance when requested with the Prior Lake, Savage, Shakopee, and other fire departments in Scott County.
- Mission of Mdewakanton Emergency Services is to take care of the tribe and its guests and then to assist the larger community.
- Station opened in December 2002.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services is a combined department, meaning it utilizes a combination of professional and volunteer firefighters.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services has a training program to insure that firefighters and paramedics are fully prepared to handle virtually any emergency situation which might arise.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services offers CPR/First Aid classes for members and staff in conjunction with the SMSC Health Department.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services responds to about 160 calls and does about 50 medical transports each month.
- Department consists of 43: 17 EMT-Basic; 17 EMT-Paramedic; 4 First Responders; 2 Brigade; 1 firefighter; and 2 administrative staff.
- Responsibilities include:
 - Taking blood pressure and doing glucose monitoring during SMSC wellness events.
 - Conducting outreach and education for youth and providing tours of the fire station.
 - Offering classes for certification which are open to outside agencies. Classes include: Hazardous Materials, Firefighter I and II, and Emergency Medical Services.
 - Providing customized training for police and fire departments and additional Continuing Education Classes.
 - Offering an Explorer Program (since May 2003) to introduce youth ages 12–20 to the fire service.

Fire Station

Total Size: 22,700 square feet

With the increased growth of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community in recent years, the demand for public safety buildings has become a high priority. This free-standing building, including an addition in 2008 nearly doubling the size of the space, provides a starting point for fire department growth as a vital part of the community. The facility includes three levels and a three-bay apparatus area as well as six offices, a conference room, emergency response center, large training room, expanded exercise / workout space, recovery rooms, and separate locker room facilities for both male and female staff.

The dispatch center is located on the main level, with the lower level designed for a future emergency response center to be used in case of community disasters. The upper level has been designated as future space to include sleeping quarters.

Original Building

- Facility includes three levels
- Three bay apparatus area

- Dispatch center located on main level
- Lower level designed for storage and room for expanding services.
- Upper level contains offices and training area
- Generator in case of power outage
- Kitchen and eating area
- Break room
- Laundry facilities

Original Building Construction Data

- Size: 10,500 square feet
- Built 2002
- Brick exterior
- Built by Ebert Construction
- Brick and block construction
- Built by Shingobee.
- Subcontractors: Wachholz Masonry for foundation, masonry, and brickwork; Twin City Steel for structural steel; Voson for plumbing and utilities; and Parson's for electrical.

Fire Station Addition

- Three new equipment bays designed to house the Emergency Medical Services component of the department, including the three ambulances.
- Six offices
- Conference room
- Emergency response center
- Large training room
- Expanded exercise/workout space
- Recovery rooms
- Elevator
- Separate locker room facilities for both male and female staff.
- The bathrooms, kitchen, and break room in the existing building were renovated where the two buildings join together.
- Radiant heat was built into the driveway to melt snow which could pile up and cause delays in response times, thus improving outcomes.

Fire Station Addition Construction Data

- Size: 12, 200 square feet
- Built in 2008
- HTG Architects of Minneapolis designed the project.
- Ebert Construction of Loreto, Minnesota, was the contractor.
- Bolton and Menk, Mankato, was the Civil Engineer.
- Also involved in the project were Clark Engineering of Minneapolis (Structural Engineering) and Emanuelson-Podes, Inc of Minnetonka (Mechanical and Electrical Engineering).

Environmentally Significant Technologies in Fire Station Addition

Because the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community is committed to protecting the environment and preserving resources, the SMSC Fire Station, built in 2002 but renovated extensively in 2008, features

three major, environmentally significant technologies: daylight harvesting, solar panels, and a bioretention site.

Daylight Harvesting

Daylight harvesting uses light coming naturally from the sun to save energy. Special sensors adjust light levels based on the amount of ambient light present. When there's enough natural light coming in, special sensors shut the lights off, thus saving energy.

-All of the new offices have ample daylight to help reduce the electrical costs.

-Four skylights let in more light to the bays and training area resulting in reduced energy costs in the form of lighting. Two skylights over the training room are five feet by 10 feet. Two skylights over the apparatus bays are five feet by 20 feet.

-Clerestory windows (set high or near the ceiling) let in more natural light than traditional windows.

Solar Panels

The building also incorporates the use of solar thermal technology, also called solar panels, to capture the sun's heat to preheat water for various building uses. Six model SS-40 solar panels, manufactured by Solar Skies in Starbuck, Minnesota, are four feet by 10 feet in size and weigh 153 pounds.

With a 1.22 gallon fluid capacity, they circulate a 30% propylene glycol /70% distilled and conditioned water mix at about 30 psi, drain back system. Production of the system annually is approximately 400 therms, offsets about 500 therms when connected to an 80% efficient hot water heater.

The six solar panels on the roof reduce the natural gas load required for the traditional water heating system. Preheated water is used for showers and washing trucks, which reduces the cost of natural gas needed. The solar panels provide substantial energy savings over the long run.

Bio-retention Site

The third environmentally significant technology is a bio-retention site, also known as a rain garden. Specifically designed to soak up rainwater that falls on a roof, driveway, or other solid surface, a rain garden also serves to filter the water before it goes into the storm sewer pond. Installed and planted in September 2008, the roughly 700 square foot rain garden at the fire station contains three types of growing media: 50% sand; 25% compost; and 25% topsoil (with less than 5% clay).

The bio-retention site contains a total of 220 plants, all of which are native to Minnesota and include:

Acer freemannii (Maple 'autumn blaze')

Andropogon gerardii (Big Bluestem)

Betula nigra (Riverbirch)

Cornus sericea (Dogwood 'isanti')

Echinacea (coneflower 'Kims knee high')

Gaillardia aristata (Blanket flower bijou")

Heuchera richardsonii (Coral bells 'lime rickey')

Juncus effuses (Soft rush)

Liatris pycnostachya (Liatris)

Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal flower 'Queen Victoria')

Rudbeckia fulgida (Black eyed Susan 'Goldstrum')

Tradescantia x andersoniana 'blue n' gold' (Sweet Kate gold spiderwort)

Added in 2010:

Allium Prairie (Onion)

Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly weed)

Campanula rotundifolia (Harebell)

Chamaecrista fasciculata (Partridge pea)

Eupatorium maculatum (Joe Pye weed)

Penstemon digitalis (Bearded foxglove)

Ambulance Service

-Mdewakanton Emergency Services began ambulance service on October 1, 2004.

-Three Advanced Life Support ambulances and a staff of trained paramedics respond to emergency situations.

-The ambulance crew, which consists of one paramedic and one Emergency Medical Technician, can perform advanced airway techniques, take vital signs, interpret electrocardiograms, administer oxygen, give medications, start IVs, perform emergency obstetrics, and respond to all types of trauma.

-The department does an average of 50 patient transports each month to local hospitals.

-Emergency Medical Technicians from the SMSC Gaming Enterprise as well as Mdewakanton Emergency Services have had more than 40 successful defibrillator "saves" where patients were shocked with a defibrillator and had their heart rhythm restored. These patients were transported to a local hospital for evaluation, stabilization, and cardiac care. When these procedures are done quickly, it results in minimal heart damage.

-First year of service: During that time Mdewakanton Emergency Services responded to an average of 180 calls a month, 85% of which were medical and 55% of which were transports. They responded to over 70 mutual aid calls over the past year from area departments including Queen of Peace Hospital in New Prague and Allina.

-Negotiations for the groundbreaking ambulance service culminated in an intergovernmental agreement signed May 26, 2004, for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community by Chairman Stanley R. Crooks, along with Representatives from the Minnesota Emergency Management Services Regulatory Board: Chairman Michael Parrish and Executive Director Mary Hedges.

-Patients' outcomes have been greatly improved by the quick response of Community responders, according to SMSC Director of Emergency Services Jim Muelken.

-At the Gaming Enterprise, first responders (Security Staff) are on scene in 1 minute and Mdewakanton Emergency services are on scene within 2 minutes, 95% of the time.

-The goal is to defibrillate patients if needed within 3 minutes, treat with advanced life support procedures, and transport to nearby St. Francis Regional Medical Center for evaluation and stabilization as quickly as possible. After this they may be transferred to an appropriate hospital with cardiac catheterization capabilities.

Equipment/Vehicles

Ladder 1 Description

- Aerial "Bronto" with a skylift (basket/platform) capable of lateral and vertical maneuvering for hard to reach locations.

-Recommended by the National Indian Gaming Commission because of the SMSC Gaming Enterprise.

-Provides a safe platform for up to four firefighters.

-Can go up 114 feet to perform roof ventilation, rescues, or flow water.

-It can also go down to 15 feet below ground level for rescues or maneuvers in ditches, gullies, or other lower areas.

- A jib boom enables the rig to extend 88 feet out from its base and maneuver over and behind a burning building for fire fighters to extinguish a fire.
- From the safety of the boom's platform, fire fighters can perform ventilation, where a few holes are made in the roof to let the superheated gases out so fire fighters can get in.
- The platform, which keeps fire fighters and paramedics safe while fighting fires, also can keep them safe while they are performing rescues in ponds, wetlands, and lakes.
- The platform also has the ability to operate hydraulic extrication tools like the "Jaws of Life."
- The Bronto has a built in water pump with a 2,000-gallon per minute flow, nearly doubling the capacity of the other individual trucks.
- It also has a built in air supply where firefighters can attach their air hoses.
- An auto leveling system with four outriggers stabilizes the 75,000-pound vehicle.
- Spotlights, a giant ladder, and 800 feet of five-inch hose also make up part of the "smart" machine which has numerous redundancies.
- Other equipment includes axes, saws, and fans for building ventilation, backboards, and first aid equipment.

Ladder 1 Specifications

Manufacturer: E-One

Manufacture date: September 2004

Type: Bronto Skylift 114 foot aerial platform

Cab Type: Cyclone II

Engine: Detroit Diesel Series 60

Pump type/size: Waterous 2000 GPM

Pump panel: Side mount

Tank: 300 Gallons

Emergency lighting: Federal Signal *Viewpoint* light bar, Federal Signal *FireRay* strobes-front bumper and side, Federal Signal rotators-rear top behind turntable.

Wheelbase: 19 feet 1 inch

Overall length: 43 feet

Overall height: 11 feet 9 inches

Seating: 6

Engine 1 Description

-Engine 1 is also known as a Pumper truck.

-It is the primary truck that goes out on fire calls unless the call warrants a need for the Ladder truck first.

-Holds approximately 1,000 gallons and pumps 1,250 gallons per minute.

-It is always kept full and is never brought back to the station empty.

-Since Mdewakanton Emergency Services usually pumps off the hydrant, the tank in the truck is a back up water source so if something happens to the hydrant or connection, there is enough water to protect those who are inside long enough for them to get out.

Engine 1 Specifications

Drop Valves

Manufacture date: January 5, 2000

Manufacturer: E-One

Type: Structure Engine

Cab type: Commercial

Engine: International 4900 Diesel

Pump type/size: Waterous 1250 GPM

Pump panel: Side mount

Tank: 1000 Gallons

Emergency lighting: Federal Signal *Vector* light bar, Federal Signal *FireRay* strobes-front of hood and side, Federal Signal rotators-rear top of hose bed, Flashers in tailboard and both side under pump panels.

Wheelbase: 21 feet 3 inches

Overall length: 31 feet

Overall height: 9 feet 3 inches

Seating: 5

EMS Ambulances

All three of the EMS ambulances in service are ALS certified ambulances which means that they are staffed with at least 1 Paramedic and 1 EMT on any given day. They respond to all medical calls at Mystic Lake Casino and in the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. Calls are received both from Security Dispatch at the Casino and 911 calls from Scott County Dispatch.

Each of the ambulances carry both Advanced and Basic Life Support medical supplies such as bandages, splints, IV supplies, and medications to treat various illnesses. They are also stocked with equipment to deal with any type of cardiac emergency. All of the SMSC paramedics are ACLS (Advanced Cardiac Life Support) trained.

Every time the Engine rolls, an ambulance accompanies it in order to ensure the safety and prompt treatment of any medical situation that may arise.

MEDIC 16- Ambulance Specifications

Chassis Manufacture Date: February 2003

Chassis Manufacturer: Ford E450

Ambulance Manufacture Date: May 2003

Ambulance Manufacturer: Medtec

Engine: Diesel

Light Bar: Whelen

Siren: Signal - SS730

MEDIC 17 Ambulance Specifications

Medic 17 is slightly larger ambulance that holds more staff and patients. Is another ambulance that may be used at any time.

Chassis Manufacture Date: June 2005

Chassis Manufacturer: Ford E-450

Ambulance Manufacture Date: August 2005

Ambulance Manufacturer: Road Rescue

Engine: Diesel

Light Bar: Whelen

Siren: Whelen

MEDIC 15 Ambulance

This doubles as a heavy rescue truck. This has all the water rescue equipment and compartments to hold rehabilitation equipment when there is a big fire. It is used to cool down patients and fire fighters to be able to go back in and continue fighting the fire.

Chassis Manufacture Date: February 2002
Chassis Manufacturer: International 4300
Ambulance Manufacture Date: June 2002
Ambulance Manufacturer: Medtec
Engine: Diesel
Light Bar: Code 3
Siren: Signal SA-430

Brush 1

Brush 1 is the rig used for fighting brush, grass, or vehicle fires. It carries a supply of gear for fighting these types of fires; lightweight hose, axes, shovels, and backpacks that carry water. It also carries forcible entry tools to get into the engine compartment and interior of cars. Brush 1 is a dual use fire truck. It was designed and built by Mdewakanton Emergency Services fire personnel to fight both Wild Land fires (fires off-road in woodland and grasslands) and vehicle fires in parking ramps. The weight and height limits of parking ramps do not allow our structural fire fighting apparatus in or on them, so there was a need for a special apparatus for this purpose. Brush 1 also meets and exceeds the Federal Type 6 Wild Land Fire Engine requirements. Brush 1 was the third fire truck Mdewakanton Emergency Services took delivery of, and it went in to service in the summer of 2003.

Manufacturer: Ford
Manufacture date: November 2002
Type: Heavy Duty Pickup
Cab Type: F-350 Heavy Duty
Pump type/size: Waterous 500 GPM
Tank: 285 Gallons of water, 5 gallon tank of foam
Emergency lighting: Whelen light bar and side strobes, Tomar Strobes in front
Seating: 2
Truck: 2002 Ford F350 with extra leaf springs
Pump: Waterous 175 PSIG pump with a Briggs & Stratton 18HP V Twin OHV
Tank: 285 Gallon poly
Appliances: 2- 100 feet 1 ¾ inch preconnects, 1- 1 inch Wild land discharge, 600 feet of 1 inch Wild Land hose with nozzles, Foam Pro system with an 8 gallon foam cell
Equipment: 2- SCBAs (Self Contained Breathing Apparatus) with a extra tank, 20# ABC extinguisher, BLS medical bag, AED, and Wild Land and structural fire fighting tools.

Haz-Mat Trailer

The Haz-Mat trailer would be called for if there was any type of Hazardous Material spill or leak of some kind. Examples are a chlorine leak at the pool, a chemical spill at either of the water treatment facilities, or the Water Reclamation Facility. It carries special equipment to identify and contain hazardous materials and special suits that the firefighters wear to protect themselves from the hazardous materials.

Other Services

- Responsible for weather watching. In case of a threat of severe weather, trucks are dispatched to three areas on the reservation for observation: the North side, Mystic Lake, and Playworks/Dakotah! Sport and Fitness.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services has prepared an emergency operation plan which includes each department and enterprise.

Child Seat Safety Checks

Since Child Restraint Systems are misused 8 out of 10 times, and Child Restraint Systems are 71% effective in reducing infant deaths and 54% effective in reducing toddler deaths, Mdewakanton Emergency Services department offers child seat safety checks. The Mdewakanton Emergency staff is trained to help educate parents on the correct way to keep their child restrained in an automobile.

Mdewakanton Fire Explorer Post 9100

- Local youth ages 14 to 21 have participated in SMSC Explorer Post 9100 since 2003, devoting two hours each week to learning the work of firefighters.
- Their first year Mdewakanton Fire Post 9100 was awarded Minnesota "New Explorer Post of the Year."
- Members study and practice to become state certified first responders.
- Mission of the Explorers is to protect the lives, safety, property, and environment of all persons in the community and surrounding areas they serve; to educate, inform, and enforce life safety with knowledge and fairness; to give to the fullest measure of service.
- Post 9100 follows the Mdewakanton Fire Department's rules and regulations.
- All members of Post 9100 are expected to reflect courteous conduct and act accordingly at all times.

Training and Classes

- To maintain a high level of competency weekly trainings are held on a variety of scenarios which staff might face.
- Staff practice ventilation, hazardous materials response, firefighter rescue, fire suppression, mock crashes, and medical emergency procedures.
- They participate in joint training exercises with other area fire departments several times a year.
- The department cooperated on series of fire prevention and safety videos and training with the Saint Paul Fire Department.
- Employees who work in Security for the Gaming Enterprise also have the opportunity to participate in a unique cross-training program to become Level 1 Firefighters.
- Assisted the Saint Paul Fire Department with their efforts at the Republican National Convention in September 2009.
- Trained and certified 14 members of the Indiana National Guard 53rd Civil Support Team in Firefighter 1 and 2 classes March 18-30, 2007.
- Mdewakanton Emergency Services offers CPR/First Aid classes for members and staff in conjunction with the SMSC Health Department.
- They also offer classes for certification which are open to outside agencies: Hazardous Materials, Firefighter I and II, and Emergency Medical Services.

Volunteer/Brigade Member Qualifications

- Volunteers must be able to complete a variety of skills and agility tests
- Live within ten miles of the Community in the Shakopee and Prior Lake area.
- Must be able to drag the 165 pound "Rescue Randy" eighty feet
- Maneuver a blind hose crawl

- Complete a balance walk
- Perform a ladder climb
- Raise a fire hose
- Carry equipment
- Run up ten flights of stairs carrying a high rise bundle of hoses in under four minutes.
- Volunteers who pass the agility test are put into a Firefighter 1 class to get their state certification.
- They then take an Emergency Medical Technician class and get their state license.
- Hours vary, with four training hours a week required.
- Volunteers have the option to respond to calls when paged if they are available.
- Volunteers train to respond to emergency situations such as hazardous materials spills, vehicle fires, prescribed burns, house and business fires, ice rescues, and high angle rescues.