



## **BUCYRUS FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1120**

International Association of Fire Fighters  
223 E. Mansfield St. Bucyrus, Ohio 44820



### ***Bucyrus Firefighters IAFF Local 1120 Announce Vote of No Confidence in Fire Chief Chad Schwemley***

The members of Bucyrus Firefighters IAFF Local 1120 have formally issued a Vote of No Confidence in Fire Chief Chad Schwemly, which passed unanimously following ongoing concerns related to leadership, firefighter safety, and the operational readiness of the Bucyrus City Fire Department. This action was taken after significant discussion among the membership regarding issues affecting morale, safety, staffing levels, and departmental leadership. Firefighters report that morale within the department has reached an all-time low and that members have experienced a continued lack of support from department leadership when addressing operational and workplace concerns.

Among the primary concerns cited by the union is the failure to maintain updated Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs). National standards such as NFPA 1500 require fire departments to maintain written policies governing operational safety and risk management. Firefighters believe the absence of updated operational procedures increases risk during emergency response.

Union members also raised serious concerns regarding the reduction of on-duty staffing levels. National fire service standards, including NFPA 1710, establish recommended staffing benchmarks to ensure safe and effective emergency response operations. Firefighters state that reductions in staffing compromise their ability to safely perform critical tasks during emergency incidents and may impact the level of service provided to the citizens of Bucyrus.

Additionally, members expressed concerns regarding labor management relations and instances where department leadership appeared to advocate for staffing reductions contrary to the concerns of firefighters. Public employee collective bargaining in Ohio is governed by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 4117, which establishes that wages, hours, and conditions of employment are mandatory subjects of bargaining.



## **BUCYRUS FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 1120**

International Association of Fire Fighters  
223 E. Mansfield St. Bucyrus, Ohio 44820



Firefighters also believe the department has lacked strong advocacy from leadership regarding operational needs, staffing, and firefighter safety. Effective fire service leadership requires communication with city administration and elected officials to ensure the department has the resources necessary to protect both firefighters and the public.

The union states that the cumulative impact of these concerns has led to serious questions regarding firefighter health and safety. National standards including NFPA 1500 and NFPA 1582 emphasize the responsibility of fire department leadership to implement programs and operational practices designed to protect firefighter health and safety.

Bucyrus Firefighters IAFF Local 1120 remain committed to serving the citizens of Bucyrus with professionalism and dedication. The union states that the purpose of this action is to highlight the concerns of firefighters and encourage constructive action to restore confidence, improve safety, and strengthen the future of the Bucyrus Fire Department.

---

Bucyrus Firefighters IAFF Local 1120 represents the professional firefighters and paramedics serving the City of Bucyrus. Members are committed to protecting life and property while maintaining the highest standards of firefighter safety and public service