Atchison Business Fire Battled Friday

(KAIR)--Fire crews rushed to the scene of an Atchison business early Friday afternoon, following the report of a structure fire.

It happened at Express Lube, located at 2605 U.S. Highway 73, around 12:45, when a storage facility, located in the parking lot of the business and primarily used to store tires, caught fire.

Interim Atchison Fire Chief Ted Graf tells MSC News the structure was found to be fully engulfed. "Units arrived on scene to find a metal storage building that was fully involved in fire. Fire had spread to a small storage building, just to the west, that also contained some different types of small equipment."

Assisted by Shannon Township firefighters, crews went to work to extinguish the blaze. "Personnel for the Shannon Township Fire Department also responded, due to the close proximity to their building," Graf says. "The fire was under control within about 30 minutes. A backhoe was brought in from the Public Works Department and was utilized to remove some of the unburnt tires, and debris, from what remained of the building, for better overall extinguishment. Both building, and their contents, are considered a total loss at this time. The cause of the fire remains under investigation, no injuries were reported."

Graf says the business also stored paperwork in the storage unit, and investigators believe those papers were where the fire began.

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