



# Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

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[www.cwfire.org](http://www.cwfire.org)

To: Board of Fire Commissioners  
From: Chief Ed Hartin  
Date: August 6, 2019  
Subject: Chief's Report

## **Operational Activity**

The District had 113 calls for service in July with 872 calls year to date. The District experienced 12 instances in which calls were received concurrently for a total of 2 incidents affected. In the first seven months of the year, the District has experienced a 3% decrease from last year at the same time. This decrease is likely due to the elimination of the District's providing interfacility ambulance transports for WhidbeyHealth and limiting split crews with WhidbeyHealth to multiple patient incidents and simultaneous calls within the District.

## **Administrative Activity**

The District completed recruitment for the position of Finance Officer and Ms. Cathy Niiro has begun transition training with our incumbent Finance Officer Kim Harpe.

EMS Manager Roger Meyers advised that he would have a counter proposal regarding the Basic Life Support Ambulance Interlocal Agreement to the District prior to the Board of Fire Commissioners regular September Meeting. This delay further compromises the District's budget process and ability to complete the citizen budget review prior to providing the proposed budget to the Board in October.

As reported last month, the Station 53 project continues slow progress with Carletti Architects completing Island County's required Site Plan Review and Conditional Use Permit process. Septic plans are the final step prior to submittal to the county. The subcontractor for this element of the project has not completed this work in a timely manner, resulting in further delay. However, with ongoing pressure from our architect we hope that submittal will occur within the next month.

Chief Hartin participated in a research project examining coordinated fire attack in garden style apartment buildings conducted by the Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute (UL FSRI) in Cobb County Georgia the week of July 21<sup>st</sup>. All expenses are being paid by UL FSRI. Chief Hartin will also be on Paid Time Off August 7<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> and attending the UL FSRI Advisory Board meeting on August 11<sup>th</sup> through 16<sup>th</sup>. All expenses are being paid by UL FSRI.

Chief Hartin will be participating in a presentation panel discussion on Bond Measures and Bond Ratings along with Mr. Jim Nelson of D.A. Davidson at the 2019 Washington Fire Commissioners Association in October.

### Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

**Fire & Life Safety Inspections:** Considerable progress has been made in reducing the inspection backlog on each shift, but continued work will be needed to ensure completion of annual inspections by the end of 2019. Overall 40.73% of annual inspections have been completed (if distributed evenly through the months of January through November, 63.63% of inspections would have been completed by the end of July).

Shift	Inspections Complete (Past Month)	Inspection Backlog (Prior Months)
A	3 of 5	19
B	6 of 6	8
C	7 of 8	33

A Shift attempted to complete one of their assigned inspections three times without success and another was rescheduled for August. One of C Shift's scheduled inspections was canceled as the business was closed.

**Hydrant Inspections and Flow Testing:** Volunteer Firefighters Frank Gesing and Dalton Martin completed 39 hydrant inspections (15 for B Shift and 24 for C Shift). It is anticipated that the pace of hydrant inspections will increase given permission to complete this work on the Town of Coupeville municipal water system (largest in the District). Efforts continue to schedule inspections for all other water systems in the District that have hydrants (total of 17 systems).

### Training

Training during the month of July included Wildland Refresher Training, Hazmat Awareness Refresher, Machinery Rescue, Apparatus Operator Training (Trailer Operations), Cardiac Arrest Management, Fireground Operations, and Extrication.

### Facilities

The backup power generator has been installed at Station 51 and is operational. Additional work includes reconfiguration of the propane storage tanks and load testing which will be completed by the end of September.

### Fleet Maintenance

During the month of July, Firefighter/ Mechanic Mike Matros continued a major effort into catching up with completion of annual National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1911 inspections and preventative maintenance.

We have received word that the Dodge 5500 chassis/cabs will be delivered for construction of the Type 5 Engines in the next month with delivery of the completed apparatus anticipated in November 2019.