



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

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Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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To: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Chief Ed Hartin

Date: September 12, 2019

Subject: Chief's Report

Operational Activity

The District had 128 calls for service in July with 1000 calls year to date. The District experienced 13 instances in which calls were received concurrently for a total of 28 incidents affected.

Administrative Activity

The District successfully concluded negotiations with WhidbeyHealth regarding the Interlocal Agreement to staff a BLS Ambulance through December 31, 2020 with provisions to begin discussions on continuation of this long-standing agreement midway through 2020.

The District also successfully concluded negotiations with Local 4299 International Association of Firefighters with a collective bargaining agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021.

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. Results of the perk test adjacent to existing Station 53 showed that the soil had previously been disturbed and based on conditions we will need to have another perk test during the wet winter season. Carletti will be working with the county to see if we can move the other elements of the conditional use permit forward to minimize the time required for permitting once the wet season perk test has been completed.

Chief Hartin attended the UL FSRI Advisory Board meeting on August 11th through 16th with expenses paid by UL FSRI. Chief Hartin will also be attending Coordinated Fire Attack Experiments (Strip Mall Buildings) in Fairborn, Ohio on September 14 through 17, 2019 and Blue Card Incident Command Instructor Continuing Education in Phoenix, AZ on September 18 through 20, 2019 with all expenses paid by the Chief. Chief Hartin will also be participating in the Northwest Accreditation and Credentialing Consortium meeting in Bozeman, MT on September 20 through October 1, 2019.

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 3	18
B	4 of 6	6
C	7 of 7	33

LT Jen Porter is working with the Town of Coupeville Building Official to bring the Oystercatcher, Cambey, and Tye hood systems into compliance. A Shift also completed 3 home safety surveys, installing 9 smoke alarms. A Shift also installed 10 address signs.

Volunteer Firefighter/EMT Keith Andrews and Support Services Volunteers Chuck Hathaway and Howie Weilandt assisted with community outreach at the Coupeville Arts & Crafts Festival.

Hydrant Inspections and Flow Testing: Support Services Volunteer Chuck Hathaway inspected 12 hydrants on the Town of Coupeville water system. Efforts continue to schedule inspections for all other water systems in the District that have hydrants (total of 17 systems). The manager of the Admirals Cove and Lagoon Point Water Districts systems has indicated that he does not want us to flow test hydrants on their systems. Chief Hartin will be reaching out to the Water District's Boards of Water Commissioners to discuss the operational and fire insurance rating implications of failing to inspect and flow test hydrants on a regular basis

Training

Training during the month of July included Hazmat Refresher, Live Fire (Car Fires), Master Streams, Rope Rescue, EMS Spinal Immobilization, and Apparatus Operator Skills.

The fire skills segment of the 2019 Island County Recruit Academy has been completed and hazmat training will be completed this week. North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, South Whidbey Fire/EMS, and CWIFR will conduct a joint fire academy (first time in several years) next fall.

Captain Helm has started the recruitment process to develop a pool of qualified candidates for Full-Time and Part-Time Firefighter positions and is working on construction on expanded live fire training facilities at the Training Center.

Facilities

The propane storage tanks for the backup power generator at Station 51 have been reconfigured (two 500 gallon tanks rather than a single 1000 gallon tank) to address spacing requirements. Load testing will be completed by the end of September.

Fleet Maintenance

During the month of August, 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 were delivered to Mallory in Longview, WA for construction of the Type 5 Engines with delivery of the completed apparatus anticipated in November 2019.

Firefighter/Mechanic Matros is attending the Washington Fire Mechanics Conference in Yakima, WA on September 9 through 20, 2019.