



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: July 7, 2020
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

COVID-19 has had a limited impact on district operations over the last month, but we continue to have several calls per week where COVID-19 was or may have been a factor. The district has also implemented a mandatory mask rule consistent with state law (cloth masks required in-station except when eating, drinking, or working alone and cloth mask required for station visitors). Personal protection for emergency response continues to include N95 respirators and full level 3 personal protective equipment including a N95 respirator, gown, gloves, and goggles or face shield for COVID-19 patients and other medical responses requiring immediate action (e.g. cardiac arrest).

Operational Activity

During the month of June, the district received 125 calls for service as illustrated below. The district experienced 12 instances in which calls were received concurrently for a total of 30 incidents affected, four instances involved three or more concurrent calls.

Incident type	June
1 - Fire	2
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	79
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	3
5 - Service Call	23
6 - Good Intent Call	4
7 - False Alarm & False Call	14
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	125

Administrative Activity

HIPAA Standard Operating Guideline (SOG): Chief Hartin completed the SOG addressing security of protected health information as required by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/ImageTrend Records Management System (RMS): A videoconference was held with Kevin Sperlong of BK2 and ICOM Director Lisa Ernst to discuss CAD data import into the ImageTrend RMS. This meeting was productive with generation of several options for improved data quality.

Operations

Coordinated Quality Improvement (CQI): The district's CQI program was submitted to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) for review and approval (anticipated by mid-August based on the department's 45-day processing timeline).

Hose Testing: Annual hose testing was completed during the month of June. Twenty nine lengths of hose failed pressure test, which is considerably higher than previous years. Firefighter Jim Huff will be analyzing age, make, and model of hose to determine if there are any common factors and incorporating this information into the district's hose replacement plan.

Type 5 Engines: Apparatus 2001 & 2003 (Brush 53 and Brush 54) have been placed in service.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

Fire & Life Safety Inspections: The district has implemented a plan to resume fire & life safety inspections in the month of July with inspections focused on higher hazard occupancies and use of a self-inspect program for lower hazard occupancies. Self-inspection surveys have been mailed to 68 low hazard occupancies.

Work continues on inspections data input into the ImageTrend RMS.

Hydrant Inspection and Testing: All 240 hydrants that have been flow tested during the last five years have been inspected during the month of June (an annual requirement). Kudos to LT Vrable and all shifts for completing this assignment in a timely manner.

Training

In-Service Training: Training during the month of June included: rope haul systems, apparatus operator training, wildland hose evolutions, EMS ongoing training and evaluation, handline deployment, and car fires.

Wildland Training: New volunteer Travis Dawson delivered practical training to complete red card qualification of additional personnel for wildland fire response. Travis brings the district extensive wildland fire experience as a qualified US Forest Service employee, qualified wildland division supervisor and analyst for the Wildland Fire Lessons Learned Center. Have a look at some of Travis's work at the lessons learned center:

<https://www.wildfirelessons.net/HigherLogic/System/DownloadDocumentFile.ashx?DocumentFileKey=9ba4b003-3cc8-2289-86cd-73aa750ab6e1&forceDialog=0>

Recruitment: Eleven potential new members are at some point in the recruitment process with two new members starting training as wildland firefighters and training as apparatus operators until the start of the next fire academy.

EMT Recertification: All members with EMT certification expiring at the end of July have successfully completed all requirements for recertification for the next three years.

Facilities

Station 53 Water System: The district has entered into a contract with King Water to perform routine testing of water quality from the district's well as required by the Washington State Department of Health.

Access Permit: The district has been granted an access permit for the new station.

Conditional Use Permit: The only element remaining for issuance of a conditional use permit is design of the septic system for the new facility. This work is currently underway (after some delay by the contractor performing this task).

Fleet Maintenance

Type 5 Engines: Both new Type 5 Engines have been placed in service. Kudos to Firefighter/Mechanic Mike Matros, LT James Meek, and CAPT Jerry Helm for their work on this project.

Other Apparatus Maintenance: In addition, Mike replaced the engine block heater on T-51 due to a coolant leak and completed multiple standard PM services on staff vehicles.