



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

1164 Race Road
Coupeville, WA 98239

Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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Report to the Commissioners 04/10/14

Recognition

Distinguished Budget Presentation Award: The District has received notice from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada that we have received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for our 2014 Annual Budget. This is an exceptional achievement and I would like to recognize all of our members who contributed to this success. A copy of the letter from the GFOA is attached.

Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) Fellow Grade: The IFE recently recognized CWIFR Chief Ed Hartin with the grade of Fellow. This grade is awarded to those who have demonstrated significant individual responsibility and exceptional contribution to the fire engineering profession over an extended period of time.

Emergency Response Activity

	March		2014	
	Total	%	Total	%
Fire	0	2.94%	9	5.56%
Overpressure, Rupture, Explosion, Overheat-No Fire	0	1.47%	1	0.62%
Rescue & EMS	61	52.94%	149	54.32%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1	5.88%	17	9.88%
Service Call	2	7.35%	12	6.17%
Good Intent (Canceled En-Route, Mistaken Alarm)	20	25.00%	51	19.14%
False Alarm/False Call	12	4.41%	19	4.32%
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Special Incident Type	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total Incidents	96		258	

In March medical responses, CWIFR arrived prior to Whidbey General Hospital (WGH) EMS 50.00% of the time. 35.71% of the time that WGH EMS arrived first, CWIFR assisted on-scene and 28.57% of the time, WGH EMS canceled CWIFR units prior to arrival.

During the month of March, CWIFR experienced three instances in which multiple calls for emergency service were received concurrently (total of 6 incidents). Each instance involved a medical response concurrent with either another medical response or false alarm.

Recruitment/Training

Recruitment: One EMT (currently certified) is completing the entry process. In addition, four potential firefighters and one potential EMT are beginning the recruitment process.

The Web site is proving to be a useful tool for recruitment as we have received four on-line applications expressing interest. However, two of the four live outside the District boundaries and one was a college student looking for a summer job.

Fire & Rescue Training: Throughout the month of March, 38 hours of in-service training were delivered on a variety of topics including:

- Initial operations at structure fires
- Car fires & water supply for the Island County Recruit Academy (ICRA)
- Supply hose evolutions & forcible entry (ICRA)
- Ground ladders & search and rescue (ICRA)
- Ventilation (ICRA)

EMS Training: Throughout the month of March, two hours of Ongoing Training and Evaluation Program (OTEP) were completed.

Prop Construction: AIC CAPT Helm constructed a sprinkler prop for use during the ICRA and for in-service training in property conservation, the use of sprinkler tools, and salvage covers.

School Shooting Exercise: On Wednesday, March 26th, Deputy Chief Michael participated in school shooting table top exercise facilitated by the Island County Department of Emergency Management. Deputy Chief Michael, Coupeville School District administrators, and Coupeville Town Marshall Rick Norrie went to South Whidbey Island Fire/EMS headquarters to participate in the exercise. South Whidbey Island Fire department staff, South Whidbey School District administrators, and Island County Public Works employees were all present as well to participate in the exercise. Additionally, Oak Harbor Fire Department members, NAS fire department members, Oak Harbor Police Officers, and Oak Harbor Public Works employees were all participating in the exercise from the Oak Harbor Fire Station.

The exercise was conducted by video teleconferencing between the two locations. Both sites came up with a number of questions and concerns as a result of the exercise. It is anticipated that the table top exercise will be used as the ground work for field training exercises. All members in attendance felt the table top provided an excellent opportunity for organizational leaders to interact together, and to consider issues that need to be addressed in order to be better prepared for a significant event such as a school shooting.

Community Risk Reduction

Careage of Whidbey: On Wednesday, March 5th, Deputy Chief Michael checked on the status of Careage of Whidbey's emergency preparedness plan. Careage of Whidbey Director Kevin Jorgenson reached out to Deputy Chief Michael late last year to review the Careage of Whidbey's emergency preparedness plan. Deputy Chief Michael reviewed the plan and shared that there were several areas of concern including the lack of a plan for transporting patients from the facility in the event of a major emergency incident (i.e. a substantial fire, or significant earthquake), and the lack of formal agreements

temporarily housing residents. Deputy Chief Michael recommended to Director Jorgensen that he should meet with Island Transit to discuss the feasibility of establishing a transportation agreement, and that he should also meet with the other care facilities on the island to discuss the potential of creating temporary housing agreements with each of them.

On the 5th of March, Director Jorgenson shared that Island Transit was not willing to explore a transportation agreement due to concerns they had about entering into such an agreement with a private facility. Director Jorgenson shared that he had reached out to the other care facilities on the island to discuss the potential of entering into temporary housing agreements with them. All of the facilities initially expressed reluctance due to the fact that they did not believe their license would allow them to house many of the patients that reside at Careage of Whidbey. Director Jorgenson shared that he checked with the state and found out that the state would allow Careage of Whidbey residents to be temporarily housed at other care facilities following significant emergency events even if they are not licensed to deliver the level of care the residents require.

Deputy Chief Michael and Island County Deputy Emergency Management Director Eric Brooks will be meeting with Director Jorgenson on Wednesday, April 30th to further assist Director Jorgenson with his emergency preparedness plan.

Coupeville School District Hands Only CPR: Beginning in the 2013-14 school year, RCW 28A.230.179 requires each school district that operates a high school to offer instruction in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Instruction in CPR must be included in one health class as a requirement for graduation.

Earlier this year, a teacher from the Coupeville School District reached out to Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue (CWIFR) for assistance with this requirement. CWIFR and Whidbey General Hospital (WGH) EMS delivered CPR instruction to approximately 70 students. Although the training went well, CWIFR recognized a need to streamline how the training is delivered.

CWIFR has scheduled a meeting on Friday, April 18th will Coupeville School District Assistant Principle/Athletic Director Lori Stolee, WHG EMS Paramedic Robert May, Acting Lieutenant Alex Majestic, and Deputy Chief Michael to discuss how the interests of each of the organization can best be met. It is anticipated that the meeting will help construct an agreement that will be used for years to come in order to training Coupeville School District students in hands only CPR.

Pheasant Run Community: Following the meeting that occurred with the Pheasant Run Homeowners Association on Thursday, February 10th, Deputy Chief Hartin, Deputy Chief Michael sent out a follow up letter that addressed the items of concern identified during our walk through with the Board members of the Pheasant Run Homeowners Association. The letter will be distributed to all members of the community, and the District has high confidence that the items needing attention will be addressed.

Immediately following the walk through of the Pheasant Run Community, two separate homeowners requested home safety surveys. Although the District does not yet have a formal home safety survey program in place, materials constructed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and another fire department were used to conduct the surveys. The District anticipates implementing a home safety survey program in early 2015 as part of the community risk reduction work currently in progress.

Shift Activity

A Shift reports the following activity:

- 24 hours of in-service training completed including vehicle fires, initial operations at structure fires, apparatus operator qualification, hose line deployment, and patient assessment.
- 5 hours of physical training
- 1 Fire and Life Safety Inspection and 7 re-inspections Completed
- 1 Special event inspection (Mussel Festival)
- 1 Home safety survey completed

B Shift reports the following activity:

- 17 hours in-service training completed. Training focused on initial operations at structure fires, apparatus operator qualification, FDQ strategy and tactics, EMS kit familiarization, and EMS OTEP.
- Completed 6 hours of physical training
- 5 Fire & Life Safety Inspections
- Completed physical inventory of Aid 53 (MERV)

C Shift reports the following activity:

- 24 hours in-service training completed. Training focused on initial operations at structure fires, and apparatus operator qualification.
- Completed 3 hours of physical training
- 20 Fire & Life Safety Inspections
- CPR Recertification class
- Hands Only CPR class for Central Whidbey Little League

Facilities Maintenance

Competitive negotiations completed with Rice Fergus Miller for a study examining District facilities at Station 51, 53, and 54 (inclusive of the training center) for a cost not to exceed \$61,660 for time and materials. Additional information is provided in the 1st Quarter Budget Adjustment.

Apparatus Maintenance

During the month of March fleet maintenance consisted of regular preventive maintenance services and some repairs to equipment. We have started the process of our annual National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1911 inspections on the fleet. FF MECH Mike Matros has identified two alternatives for fleet maintenance software and will be completing an assessment of each to make a purchasing recommendation. Reconditioning of E-51's front seats is scheduled with the upholster for the week of April 14, 2014.

Repairs/Service: Specific repair and service activity in the month of March included:

- Brush-54: One of the pump bearings failed. I removed the pump and sent down to F.S.R. for overhaul. The rebuilt pump will be installed this week.
- Engine 51: Repaired electrical issues on the pump panel lights, alleyway step lights and rear spot light. Repaired the windshield wiper sprayers to normal operation.

- Tender 51: Repaired electrical issue with Portable A's charging system.
- Brush 53: Started repairs to the pump engine. It needs exhaust work and has a fuel issue that will need to have the carburetor overhauled.

FF MECH Matros has completed the EMT class field observation requirements with the Whidbey Paramedic units and been able to keep an above 90% average in the class. Mike also attended a three day class at the Oregon's Fire Mechanics Conference in Salem on fire pumps. This was a prep class for the F-3 exam on fire pumps which he passed at the end of the class. This test will be the next EVT test needed for the EVT II certification. As soon as EMT class is complete Mike will be focusing attention on the next two ASE tests that are needed for EVT certification.

Administration

East Jefferson Fire & Rescue and Port Ludlow: On Friday, March 7th, Deputy Chief Michael and Firefighter Meek went to East Jefferson Fire & Rescue and Port Ludlow to look at the equipment carried on their apparatus. It is CWIFR's goal to identify the tools, equipment, hose loads, etc. that should be carried on like apparatus. A review of the District's apparatus indicates that there is some variation between the tools and equipment currently carried on like apparatus. In 2015, an effort will be made to ensure that all like apparatus are carrying the same things in the same location. The trip revealed a handful of things that CWIFR should consider carrying on apparatus. Several items will be requested during the 2015 budget process.

Medical Physicals: The District received two separate proposals for pre-employment and annual medical physicals. One proposal was received from Whidbey Community Physicians, and a second proposal was received from North Island Medical. There was a \$148.00 dollar cost difference in the pre-employment medical physicals offered by the two companies, and a \$130.00 cost difference in the annual medical physicals offered by the two companies. The District has selected Whidbey Community Physicians as the provider for both pre-employment and annual medical physicals. The decision was based both on cost, and the anticipated level of customer service the District believes it will receive from Whidbey Community Physicians. A contract is currently being drafted, and the District expects to enter into a formal agreement with Whidbey Community Physicians in early April.

New Engine Construction: AIC Captain Helm and Chief Hartin have worked extensively with the engineering staff at Spartan Emergency Response Vehicles (ERV) to ensure that the design of the pump panel supports the overall design theme of the new engine. Simplicity and ease of use with limited staff are a key aspect of the design. There were several challenges surrounding the type of valve controls used and placement of these controls in a logical sequence. However, in the end, we were successful at working with Spartan ERV and Hale (the pump manufacturer) to achieve the intended result.

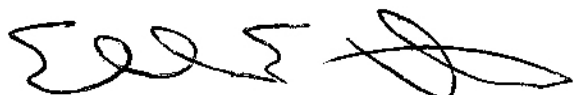
Water Tender Refurbishment: Work on the water tender refurbishment project is ongoing. True North Emergency Vehicles has completed the body (below the tank) and mounted the pump on the tender currently in the process of refurbishment. Delivery of the tank is pending and is the last phase of construction. A specific delivery date for the refurbished apparatus has not yet been provided.

External Activity

Chief Hartin and Commissioner Cheryl Engle attended the Commission on Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) Excellence Conference in Henderson, NV on March 9-13, 2014. This conference provided an excellent opportunity to examine both continuous improvement strategies and the process of Fire Department Accreditation.

Chief Hartin is representing the District at the Fire Department Instructors Conference April 8-12, 2014 where he is presenting on Taking Scientific Research to the Street. Chief Hartin will be on Paid Time Off (PTO) April 24-27, 2014, presenting on 3D Firefighting and Reading the Fire in Winkler, MB.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Hartin', followed by a stylized flourish or checkmark.

Edward E. Hartin, MS, EFO, FIFireE, CFO
Fire Chief