



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: April 8, 2021
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

During the month of March COVID-19 was a factor in 20 incidents (16.67% of the total number of incidents for the month). This was a small decrease from February COVID-19 was a factor in 19 incidents (16.81% of the total number of incidents for the month). This data is reported by CWIFR members based on patient symptoms or presence of others who are symptomatic and is not based on confirmation that the patient or others involved in the incident were confirmed to have COVID-19. CWIFR continues to be alert to this disease in the community and continues work practices to minimize risk to our members and the community.

Operational Activity

During the month of March, the district received 111 calls for service as illustrated below. The district had 18 instances of incidents occurring concurrently impacting a total of 33 incidents.

Incident type	March
1 - Fire	2
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	67
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	9
5 - Service Call	16
6 - Good Intent Call	13
7 - False Alarm & False Call	4
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	111

Administrative Activity

Occupational Safety and Health Compliance Assessment: Deputy Chief Helm has completed a comprehensive (first draft) assessment of the district's compliance with Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 296-305, the safety standard for firefighters in Washington State. He was assisted in this project by AIC CAPT Meek, LT Derik Vrable, AIC LT Majestic, FF John Lloyd, FF Jim Huff, FF Kole Kellison, and Probationary Firefighter Travis Dotson. The next step in this project will be to assess any gaps between the district's occupational safety and health program and prioritization of action to bring the district into full compliance with WAC 296-305.

New District Website: The new district web site is live and Chief Hartin, Deputy Chief Helm, and Administrative Assistant Lindenstein have completed initial training in upload of documents and making web site edits. Finance Officer Niiro will be trained as we move forward to ensure that the district has redundancy in this skill set.

CPSE Excellence Conference: Chief Hartin attended the on-line conference conducted by the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE) focused on accreditation and professional credentialing. Chief Hartin and Commissioners Engle and Hutchinson have attended this conference in-person for several years, but due to COVID, this year's conference was completely on-line.

EMS Contingency Planning: Whidbey Island fire agencies work closely with WhidbeyHealth EMS in delivery of emergency medical services to the community. Recent financial challenges faced by WhidbeyHealth have raised concern and the need for contingency planning to ensure that we can continue to meet the needs of the community. All of the agencies concerned have committed to engaging in a contingency planning process to address any potential concerns and issues related to EMS delivery. EMS contingency planning has been delayed by interagency scheduling challenges.

National Research Agenda: Chief Hartin participated as a subject matter expert in the 2021 Fire Service Research Symposium. This symposium, sponsored by the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation provides guidance in setting a national agenda for fire research such as that conducted by the Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute (UL FSRI) and universities engaged in fire research throughout the United States.

UL FSRI Advisory Board Meeting: Chief Hartin participated in a virtual meeting of the UL FSRI Advisory Board. Board members received updates on current projects and upcoming initiatives.

Operations

Code Stat: The district partnered with WhidbeyHealth EMS to obtain a grant from the Island County EMS and Trauma Care Council to allow WhidbeyHealth EMS to purchase Physio Control Code Stat software that will allow integration of data from multiple devices used in resuscitation (e.g., the district's LifePak 1000 AEDs and WhidbeyHealth's LifePak 15s) to improve continuous quality improvement and resuscitation performance. Chief Hartin authored the grant application and worked with Assistant EMS Manager Sean Levine to gain approval from the EMS council.

Records Management System Evaluation: Chief Hartin met with the working group to discuss their recommendation to shift the district' records management system from ImageTrend to ESO. Firefighter Jeff Rhodes has been tasked with refining the budgetary impacts and data requirements for transition between these two systems.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

Fire & Life Safety Inspections: LT Jen Porter completed a strategy to address 2021 fire code compliance through both physical and self-inspections. The district's general order addressing operations during the COVID-19 pandemic has been updated to permit physical inspections and home safety surveys provided that appropriate personal protective equipment is used. Each shift has been provided with a prioritized schedule of inspections to catch up on those not completed in 2020 and make forward progress on 2021 inspections.

Plans Review: Preliminary consultation provided regarding code requirements and fire suppression systems for conversion of the former Kingdom Hall at the intersection of SR 20 and Morris Road from a place of worship to a homeless shelter.

Hydrant Inspection and Testing: LT Vrable completed the five-year inspection and flow testing schedule. Now that the draft schedule is complete, LT Vrable will work with the water system operators to confirm specific inspection and testing timeframes. In addition, all out-of-service hydrants (identified by CWIFR) have been marked with out-of-service rings. Note: Water system operators do not necessarily use the same system for marking out-of-service hydrants and do not notify the district when hydrants are taken out of service.

Hands Only CPR Training: AIC LT Majestic provided hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation training for Fort Casey State Park volunteers via Zoom. While this training did not include a hands-on component, we were able to provide a comprehensive orientation to CPR and use of an automatic external defibrillator.

Training

In-Service Training: Training during the month of March included hoseline deployment, rope rescue systems, on line training on back injury prevention and assessing trauma patients, and conventional forcible entry.

Island County Recruit Academy: Delivery of training for the 2021 Island County Recruit academy using a hybrid format with Zoom classroom training and in-person skills training while maintaining appropriate COVID-19 precautions concluded earlier this month and International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) testing was completed on Saturday April 3, 2021.

Lucas Chest Compression System: AIC Captain Meek provided hands-on training for all members on application of the Lucas 3 Chest Compression System. This training focused on application the Lucas device while minimizing interruption in chest compressions. Subsequent training will address integration of the Lucas with the district's normal procedure for cardiac arrest management as well as introducing this device to our partners at WhidbeyHealth EMS and the WhidbeyHealth Emergency Department.

Regional Firefighter Certification Testing: As a state certified test control officer (TCO) Deputy Chief Helm has conducted a regional test for firefighter certification integrating recruit academies being conducted by North Whidbey Fire and Rescue and Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue/South Whidbey Fire-EMS.

Apparatus Operator Training/Qualification: B Shift completed FF Kyle Rasp's assessment as a heavy apparatus operator for engines and FF Keith Dawson's assessment as a heavy apparatus operator for tenders.

Facilities

Station 53 Construction: LT Vrable met with the K Engineers and ICOM to discuss movement of the ICOM radios equipment at Station 53 prior to and after construction. LT Vrable also met with Hinton Engineering to

discuss fire suppression requirement for the new Station 53. Water availability verification was submitted to Island County Public Health (a requirement for issuance of the building permit for Station 53).

LT Vrable developed systems to allow tracking of maintenance versus repair cost and tracking maintenance requests and timeline for completion. These two systems will allow the district to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of facilities maintenance.

Fleet Maintenance

FF Matros is currently out on sick leave due to a non-work-related injury. He has provided Deputy Chief Helm with contingency plans to address any urgent apparatus repair while he is recuperating.

Apparatus Repair: T54 was sent to Freightliner for replacement of pinion shaft yoke and seal were replaced due to leakage. In addition, FF/MECH Matros worked with Cummins to replace the turbo and actuator on E53 due to sticking turbo vanes on the variable geometry turbo. Cummins will provide quotes for head gasket and oil pan gasket replacement and another quote for a complete in frame engine rebuild (data needed for mid-range planning).

Apparatus Maintenance: FF/MECH Matros is developing updated preventative maintenance schedules for the type five engines (B53 and B54) now that they are complete and fully in-service.