



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

1164 Race Road
Coupeville, WA 98239

Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

(360) 678-3602

www.cwfire.org

To: Board of Fire Commissioners
From: Chief Ed Hartin
Date: May 13, 2021
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

During the month of April COVID-19 was a factor in 11 incidents (8.87% of the total number of incidents for the month). This was a decrease from March where COVID-19 was a factor in 20 incidents (16.67% 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 April, the district received 113 calls for service as illustrated below. The district had 9 instances of incidents occurring concurrently impacting a total of 22 incidents.

Incident type	March
1 - Fire	4
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	80
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1
5 - Service Call	15
6 - Good Intent Call	13
7 - False Alarm & False Call	5
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	113

Administrative Activity

Occupational Safety and Health Compliance Assessment: Deputy Chief Helm assessed gaps between the district's occupational safety and health program and have consolidated the recommendations in this assessment into specific action items. In most cases, the district's operations are consistent with the requirements of WAC 296-305, but there are a number of areas in which we lack documentation to support good occupational safety and health practices. Deputy Chief Helm's next step will be to prioritize these action items and establish a timeline for completion.

Operations

After Action Review: The district's coordinated quality improvement (CQI) committee hosted an after-action review (AAR) for response to a major vehicle accident at SR20 and Winterhawk Lane. Participants included CWIFR, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, WhidbeyHealth EMS, Lifeflight, and the Island County Medical Program Director (MPD). This after-action review led to recommendation of increased joint training for system improvement. CWIFR will host the first joint training in the third quarter of 2021.

Code Stat: Acting LT Majestic worked with PhysioControl to develop the capability to download cardiac arrest data from the district's Lifepak 1000 automatic external defibrillators (AEDs) and transmit this information to WhidbeyHealth EMS for integration into Code Stat. Use of Code Stat will allow CWIFR and WhidbeyHealth to analyze resuscitation performance for coordinated quality improvement.

Lucas 3 Chest Compression System: Chief Hartin, Acting Captain James Meek, and Acting Lieutenant Alex Majestic met with Dr. Krystal Baciak, Island County Medical Program Director to discuss the Lucas protocol and pilot project to be conducted by CWIFR using the Lucas 3 Chest Compression System. Dr. Baciak anticipates having a draft protocol to allow completion of staff training with a target date for start of the pilot project of July 1, 2021.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

Firewise: Chief Hartin and Deputy Chief Helm represented CWIFR at a Firewise event held at Whidbey Island Campers Haven on Madrona Way in conjunction with the Whidbey Island Conservation District and Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Fire & Life Safety Inspections: All shifts are continuing to catch up on fire and life safety inspections using a combination of self-inspection for low hazard occupancies and physical inspections for occupancies presenting higher fire risk.

Fire Investigation: LT Porter completed investigation of the commercial fire at Currents Bistro on Coveland Street in Coupeville. This investigation identified the point of origin in the kitchen and probable cause of ignition as self-heating of towels that retained organic oils after washing (which she determined is a reasonably common cause of fires in restaurants).

Training

In-Service Training: Training during the month of April included initial training on the Lucas 3 chest compression system, ladders, familiarization training on the district's new self-contained breathing apparatus, quarterly simulations for certified Blue Card incident commanders, and on-line training on pediatric emergencies.

Command Training Center: April 14-16, 2021 CWIFR held a Blue Card Incident Commander Certification lab for personnel from CWIFR, North Whidbey Fire and Rescue, and South Whidbey Fire/EMS. Participants in this simulation lab were required to complete 50-hours of on-line training and then the 24-hour simulation lab involving in-person instruction and multiple simulations involving residential, multi-unit residential, commercial, strip mall, and big box occupancies.

Facilities

Station 53 Construction: The district submitted an application for water system expansion to Island County Public Health. One more step along the way to construction of the new Station 53.

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.

Type 1 Engines: Deputy Chief Helm, Firefighter Mechanic Mike Matros, and Firefighter John Lloyd are presently at Rosenbauer America for a pre-paint inspection of the district's three new type one engines. Next steps will be final inspection and acceptance testing within the next four to six weeks.