



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: June 6, 2021
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

During the month of May COVID-19 was a factor in 10 incidents (5.86% of the total number of incidents for the month). This was a decrease from May where COVID-19 was a factor in 11 incidents (8.87% 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 May, the district received 134 calls for service as illustrated below. The district had 21 instances of incidents occurring concurrently impacting a total of 43 incidents.

Incident type	March
1 - Fire	2
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	96
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	2
5 - Service Call	7
6 - Good Intent Call	15
7 - False Alarm & False Call	12
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	134

Administrative Activity

ICOM: Chief Hartin, Deputy Chief Helm, and AIC CAPT Meek met with ICOM Director Lisa Ernst to discuss implementation of the Spillman Fire Premise (Pre-Plan) module. CWIFR initiated the effort to get ICOM to purchase this module for the computer aided dispatch system and will be pilot testing implementation of this module over the next several months to determine the optimum method for importing pre-plan data and making this information accessible in the field.

Performance Feedback System: Chief Hartin completed orientation training on the district's revised performance feedback system. Revision streamlined the districts prior values-based feedback system to reduce staff workload while providing a valuable framework for supervisors and members to have critical conversations regarding work performance and professional development.

Part-Time/Full-Time Firefighter Recruitment: Deputy Chief Helm is facilitating the recruitment process for firefighter. The district currently has one part-time vacancy and one full-time vacancy. These processes will establish a pool of qualified applicants for these and future positions.

UL Advisory Board: Chief Hartin participated in a virtual meeting of the Underwriters Laboratories Firefighter Safety Research Institute Advisory Board.

Operations

After Action Review: The district's coordinated an after-action review on the commercial fire at Currents Bistro which was attended by B Shift and the district's command officers along with command officers from North Whidbey Fire and Rescue. This review determined that the agencies involved in this incident worked well together, but reinforced the importance of continued joint training, particularly in the area of command and control.

Coordinated Quality Improvement (CQI): The CQI committee began the process of reviewing a random sample of electronic patient care reports on a monthly basis along with targeted review of high acuity calls such as cardiac arrests and major trauma incidents.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

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. Administrative Assistant Sonja Lindenstien is scheduling physical inspections for each shift, saving time for shift inspectors. In addition, LT Porter is representing CWIFR on an Island County Fire Chief's working group to improve fire and life safety code enforcement and related Island County Fire Marshal functions.

Fire Alarm Systems: LT Porter followed up on issues related to the fire alarm system at the Inn at Penn Cove (residential over commercial occupancy) that were identified during an automatic alarm response.

Plan Review: LT Porter completed sprinkler and fire alarm plan review for 10 NW Front Street.

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).

Car Seat Safety Inspections: LT Porter completed two car seat safety checks.

Home Safety Surveys: B and C Shift completed a total of four smoke alarm installations/smoke alarm battery changes.

Other Community Risk Reduction Activity: LT Porter is working with Island County Emergency Management to develop and present workplace safety training for county employees.

Training

In-Service Training: Training during the month of May included wildland training at Ft. Casey with a focus on progressive pack deployment and tactics, shoring and stabilization, positive pressure ventilation, fire protection systems support, pediatric skills assessments along with a variety of on-line training.

Wildland Training: FF Travis Dotson delivered RT 130 the annual refresher training requirement for red carded wildland firefighters. In addition, FF Kolton Kellison completed the requirements for qualification as a Wildland Firefighter Type I and FF John Lloyd completed the training requirements to begin his Firefighter Type I task book.

Apparatus Operator: FF Keith Dawson completed all requirements for qualification as a Heavy Apparatus-Tender Operator.

BLS Evaluator: FF Jeff Rhodes completed certification as a BLS Evaluator. Chief Hartin, LT Jen Porter, and FF Holly Slothower completed recertification requirements for BLS Evaluator.

Supraglottic Airway Training: District EMTs were trained in the use of the King Airway prior to the state Department of Health's specific curriculum requirements. Deputy Chief Wendy Moffatt of South Whidbey Fire/EMS, a Senior EMS Instructor delivered the state mandated training for the district's EMTs.

Facilities

Station 53 Construction: The district received approval 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 has been on light duty as of May 10, 2021 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 traveled to 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.