



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

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Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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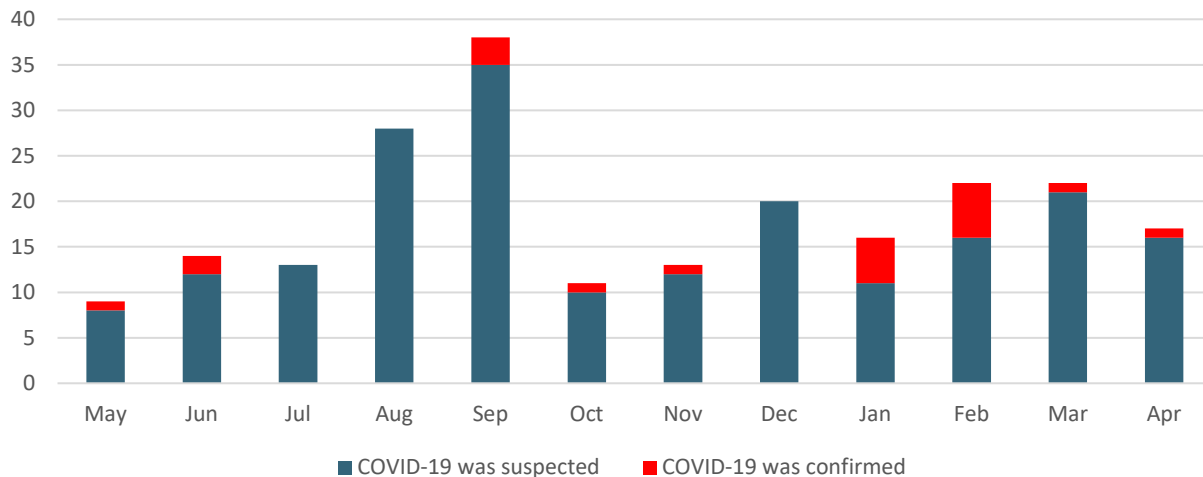
To: Board of Fire Commissioners
From: Chief Ed Hartin/Deputy Chief Jerry Helm
Date: May 12, 2022
Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

During the month of April COVID-19 was a factor in 17 incidents (16.34% of the total number of incidents for the month). In March COVID-19 was a factor in 22 incidents (16.06% 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. COVID-19 continues to be a concern, particularly with the prevalence of the delta and emergence of the omicron variants .

As illustrated below, COVID-19 has had an ongoing impact on incident operations, but the frequency with which our members have encountered this disease has fluctuated through the preceding year.

May2021-April 2022 Responses Where COVID was a Factor

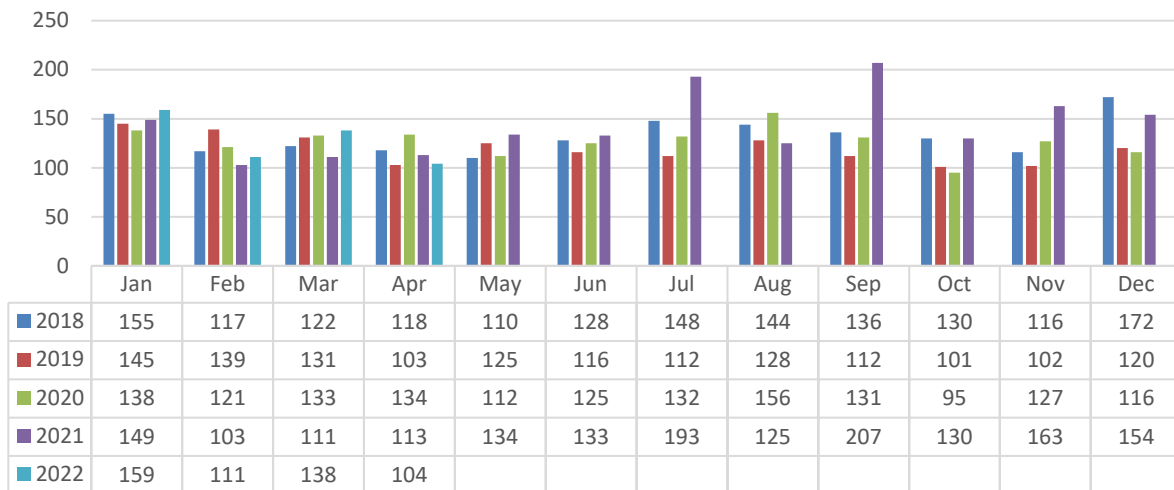


Operational Activity

During the month of February, the district received 104 calls for service as illustrated below. The district had 8 incidents occurring concurrently impacting a total of 19 incidents. **Frequency By Incident Type**

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	0
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	65
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1
5 - Service Call	19
6 - Good Intent Call	13
7 - False Alarm & False Call	8
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	104

Incident Frequency by Month



Administrative Activity

GFOA Distinguished Budget Presentation Award: The district has received its ninth consecutive distinguished budget presentation award and for the first time has received special recognition in the area of performance measures. This award demonstrates the district’s commitment to excellence in public budgeting and continuous improvement.

Workload Assessment: Deputy Chief Helm and LT Porter presented work in progress to district staff (executive staff and shift lieutenants) at the April staff meeting. Discussion identified some overlap between divisions and categories of members (e.g., part-time and volunteers). Participants identified several challenges with the prioritization categories of required, best practice, and not required due to overlap between not required and best practice. Division managers were tasked with identifying the five most important activities/tasks within their divisions as a next step in refining the workload assessment and establishing a framework for

prioritization. Finance Officer Niiro was tasked with review and addition to the administration list of tasks and activities.

Leadership Training: The district rolled out the Echelon Front Extreme Ownership Academy and a reading and discussion program for all full-time members in the month of April. We anticipate working our way through the foundation courses and the text Extreme Ownership by the end of November 2022.

Staffing: Firefighter Jim Huff is on light duty and we have hired Dalton Martin (part-time firefighter) as a temporary full-time firefighter to maintain staffing on C Shift. In addition, firefighter Derik Vrable was medically separated from employment with the district in April. The district advertised for the position of professional development division chief and received a single application from Battalion Chief Jim Mirabile who is the training chief with Prince William County Fire & Rescue in Virginia. Jim will complete the assessment center for this position on May 17-18, 2022.

Accreditation: Chief Hartin was selected for the peer team that is conducting a site visit to the Metro West Fire District (suburban Saint Louis, Missouri). Chief Hartin is participating in the site visit virtually between May 9th and 26th.

Collective Bargaining: Chief Hartin & Deputy Chief Jerry Helm continue negotiating with Local 4299 with the intention of reaching agreement on a one-year collective bargaining agreement to run from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. Upon completion of this agreement the district and the local will commence negotiations on a multi-year (typically three year) agreement.

Operations

Standard Inventory: Lieutenant James Meek continues work to prepare the district's type five engines for the upcoming wildland fire season and refinement of the standard type one engine inventory.

QA/CQI: Firefighter Jeff Rhodes audited 136 National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) incident reports.

Kudos! Firefighters Burnett and Martin "tuned" three of the district's new Halligan tools. The process of tuning makes significant improvement in the performance of this basic forcible entry tool.

Community Risk Reduction (CRR)

Fire Code Inspections: During the month the following fire code inspections were completed:

- A shift completed fifteen physical inspections with five of seven April inspections completed. For the year-to-date A shift has completed fifty three of fifty-six annual inspections (37 of which are at Camp Casey) for a 95% completion rate.
- B shift completed eight physical inspections with eight of eleven April initial inspections completed. For the year-to-date B Shift has completed nineteen of twenty-three inspections for an 83% completion rate.
- C shift completed three physical inspections with zero of four April inspections completed. For the year to date C shift has completed eleven of 24 annual inspections for a 43% completion rate. Lieutenant Jim Huff is currently on light duty and will be working to improve C shift's completion rate.

Interlocal Agreements: Lieutenant Porter and Chief Hartin meet with other Island County fire chief's and Island County Planning Community Development Director Mary Engle to discuss revisions and updating of the interlocal agreement between the county and the fire districts for fire inspection services.

Home Safety Surveys/Smoke Alarms: Home safety survey conducted with installation of seven hard wired smoke alarms purchased by the homeowner and changed the battery in one carbon monoxide alarm.

Fire Academy Presentation: Lieutenant Porter delivered four hours of community risk reduction training for the Island County Recruit Academy.

Hydrant Program: Chief Hartin and Lieutenant Porter reviewed the district's hydrant program with Firefighter Justin Burnett.

Training

In-Service Training: April in-service training focused on fundamental skills across a range of disciplines with training in trailering skills, communications and tactical ventilation, vehicle stabilization, leadership, water supply troubleshooting, high performance trauma management, Blue Card residential fire simulations, and rope rescue. On-line training focused on fire prevention. Chief Hartin has extended additional effort to support each of these training sessions with a written training bulletin and other instructional materials as appropriate based on the topic.

Recruitment: Firefighter Burnett has been doing an excellent job in recruitment and maintaining contact for new volunteers as they move forward through the recruitment process. The district has approximately six new members that will be moving forward with initial training (not counting the members attending the recruit academy).

Fire Academy: Deputy Chief Jerry Helm continues coordination of the district's participation in the Island County Recruit Academy. Participants will graduate from the academy with completion of firefighter one and two and hazmat awareness and operations at the end of the month. The district has three members who will be completing the academy and one member that we share with South Whidbey Fire/EMS..

BEFO: No, it is not a new offering from McDonalds or Taco Bell. BEFO stands for Basic Exterior Fire Operations. This training program was developed by the New York State Academy of Fire Science as the basic level for volunteer firefighters in New York. CWIFR has been exploring adaption of this course to meet the needs of the district in providing a quick (80-hour) jump start for members who join the district off-cycle from the fire academy. We will be exploring delivery of this program jointly with the neighboring districts to increase capacity and engage new members more quickly in emergency operations. The district will likely deliver a pilot test of this course within the next several months.

Ladder Rescue Prop: Chiefs Hartin and Helm, assisted by Firefighter Kellison have nearly completed a prop for ladder rescue training adjacent to the pump house at the training center. A key feature of the ladder rescue prop will be to provide the ability to perform ladder rescue training while complying with the Washington Department of Labor and Industries fall protection requirements. This prop will be used for in-service training in May.

Qualification & Certification: Firefighter Kolton Kellison and Deputy Chief Jerry Helm have completed the requisite training for single resource boss and have been issued task books. Firefighter John Lloyd and

Lieutenant James Meek are currently working on their wildland firefighter type one task books. Firefighter Lloyd has completed the requisite training for single resource boss and Lieutenant Meek will complete the requisite training for single resource boss one this week. Once certified at the wildland firefighter type one level Firefighter Lloyd and Lieutenant Meek will be issued task books for single resource boss. Increasing our members level of qualification improves service delivery capability and also allows the district to expand our internal capacity to deliver wildland fire training.

Lieutenant Jim Huff recertified as a Blue Card IC.

Facilities

Station 53 Construction: The district has a firm price for the Station 53 building permit (\$20,189.41) and anticipate issuance of the permit as soon as the voucher is processed and a check issued by the county. All bid documents are ready and waiting to be release with a bid opening 30 days later.

Station 53 Move Out: Work has begun on the Station 53 move-out with archive records and house signs being moved to Station 54. Work will continue to accelerate on this project as we finish out the month of May and in the first part of June.

Grounds Maintenance: The Kubota seat and throttle were repaired by Lieutenant Jim Huff and Firefighter John Lloyd. Based on Lieutenant Huff's recommendation, the district will be keeping the Kubota tractor (with a bit of preventative maintenance) and purchasing two (not three) John Deere mowers for grounds maintenance.

Fleet Maintenance

Professional Development: During the month of April FF/Mech Matros attended the Washington State Fire Mechanics conference after two years of cancellations due to COVID. The conference was scaled down in order to resume the normal September Washington Fire Mechanic conference held annually in Wenatchee. The conference focused on sets of two-day lectures on specific testing topics. While at the conference he focused his studies on taking recertification exams on Aerial Fire Apparatus and Allison Transmissions. He completed and passed these exams on the final day of the conference through the EVT Certification exam process.

Preventative Maintenance: Work on district vehicles included scheduled preventative maintenance on Unit 1402 (502). Assessing and repairing the districts car trailer to make it roadworthy and Unit 0701 (T-53) received new rear tires. New steer tires for the district tenders were ordered months ago, unfortunately due to supply chain problems he is still waiting for them to arrive. Work with Rosenbauer on the new Type I engines continues pertaining to warranty and modifications to design as the trucks are in service.

Kudos! Last week we experienced a potentially disastrous event. Fuel delivered to the Coupeville (Island County) Road Shop was contaminated due to gasoline in the diesel tank and diesel in the gasoline tank. Apparatus 1402 (Deputy Chief Helm's vehicle) experienced malfunction of the fuel injectors and burnout of the catalytic converters due to the presence of diesel fuel in the gasoline. In addition, Apparatus 1801 (Chief Hartin's vehicle) and Apparatus 2103 (Engine 53) also received contaminated fuel. Firefighter Mechanic Matros and Deputy Chief Jerry Helm immediately acted to drain and replace the fuel to prevent further damage. Without this immediate action, the consequences could have been disastrous and costly.