



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: Fire Chief Jerry Helm

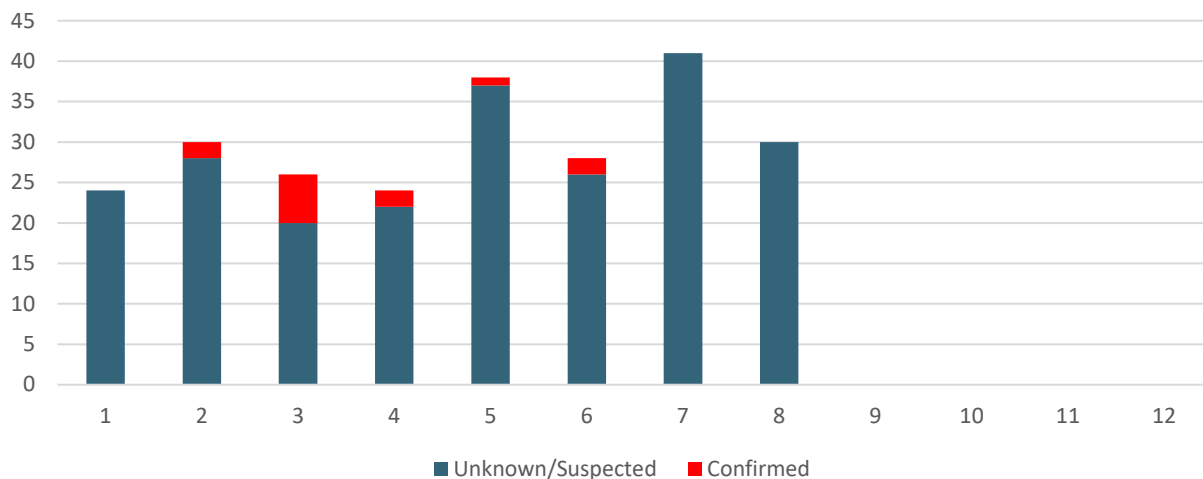
Date: September 14th 2023

Subject: Chief's Report

COVID-19

As illustrated below, COVID-19 has had an ongoing impact on incident operations, but the frequency with which our members encounter it continue to fluctuate through the year. During the month of July, there were **30 incidents where COVID-19 was unknown/suspected and 0 with COVID-19 confirmed.**

2023 Responses Where COVID was a Factor



Operational Activity

During the previous month, the district had its busiest month of the year and received **147 emergency calls** detailed below. The district **had 40 concurrent** incidents, **impacting 27% of total incidences.** Although we are back to our typical percentage of concurrent calls, this continues to strain our current staffing level and impact response times for a large proportion of our calls.

Frequency By Incident Type

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	1
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	104
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	0
5 - Service Call	13
6 - Good Intent Call	23
7 - False Alarm & False Call	6
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	147

Incident Frequency by Month



Station 53 Construction Project

Construction is moving along nicely. Sheetrock is nearly taped and primed. Some cabinets are installed, Ceiling tile grid is up, and exterior siding are nearly complete. Grading, sidewalks, and curbing work are ongoing, septic system is installed and PSE has started the three-phase power upgrade by dropping off and installing the new underground power vaults.

Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended onsite construction meetings for station 53. Monthly planning meeting with Liz Loomis and the public communications team. Chief Helm attended the Island County Fire Chiefs, EMS council, and ICOM Fire Tac meetings. Had a collaborative meeting with Whidbey Health and ESO about collaboration and online patient report platform integration. Levy and fire department presentation to Windermere Relators of Whidbey. Volunteer Jim Mirabile continues work with EMS council on revamping the EMS bylaws. Contract negotiations with IAFF local 4299 continued with agreement on the new comparable agencies. We are still on track to meet our goal to ratify a new contract by the end of the year. Multiple staff participated in the ribbon cutting of the new boys and girls club. Chief Helm met with the new Island County Fire inspector and put him in touch with Lt. Porter for further collaboration.

Training & Development

Administrative

Transitioned with DC Mirabile into new role and responsibilities until his departure (on August 11th). Set up computer accounts, completed HR paperwork, received uniforms and PPE, and configured assigned duty vehicle and MDC.

Recruitment

Assisted FF Burnett with volunteer recruitment and orientation. There are currently six volunteer “recruits” in the process of getting equipment, initial training, and District policies and operations.

In-Service Training

Assisted DC Mirabile with presenting the new Island County BLS protocols, including skills stations on cardiac emergencies, medical emergencies, trauma, cardiac arrest & CPR, and spinal immobilization. Assisted Lt. Jen Porter with Tuesday night drill on pre-connect stretches. Began preparing curriculum for upcoming Marine 5 orientation series of classes. Began planning and preparation to assist Division Chief Joe Dilley (SWFE) with upcoming EMT Academy.

Collaboration

Had meetings with Captain Craig Anderson (OHFD), Division Chief Joe Dilley (SWFE), Dr. Krystal Bakciak (MPD), Rob May (WH-EMS), and Deputy Chris Garden (ICSO), Captain Chad McCoy (CIFR), to re-establish working relationships and lines of communications for future projects.

Other

Completed pre-employment psychiatric evaluation, medical evaluation, stress test, and drug screening successfully. Reinstated Washington State EMT certification. Firefighter Steve Savros completed his engine apparatus operator task book with help from the shifts. Monthly CPR class conducted with AIC Lt Majestic and Volunteer CPR Instructor Jessica Caselden.

Operations

Special OPS:

Took delivery of Marine 5 on Monday 9/11/23-
Issues with the trailer brakes caused a challenge in getting it home, Working with the trailer manufacturer for warrantee work.

PPE/Respiratory Protection:

Nothing to report

Radio/Pagers:

Submitted Pager purchase order for approval

Medical Supplies and CPR

Completed AED pad recall issue

Reports:

FF Rhodes has conducted review of 134 NFIRS reports for the month of May.

Other:

Ordered pager parts and issued 6 new volunteer's pagers

Submitted hose purchase order for approval

Facilities

Station 51

Had the ignitor replaced on the water heater at station 51

Station 54

Hung up one of the heaters at station 54

Station 52

Nothing to report.

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly Inspection Progress:

1. A shift monthly inspections total= ?
2. B shift monthly inspections total= ?
3. C shift monthly inspections total= ?

Yearly Inspection Progress:

1. A shift inspections totals YTD: 66/75 or 88%
2. B shift inspections totals YTD: 35/53 or 66%
3. C shift inspections totals YTD: 33/44 or 75%:

CRR Programs and other inspection activity:

1. FF Kellison and FF Burnett coordinated and planned a CWIFR bbq, sponsored by Local 4299
2. Home Safety survey conducted on Shorebird Lane
3. Smoke alarm battery change on Alexis Lane
4. A shift gave a fire station tour to pre-school 8/26/2023
5. LT Porter met with new Island County fire inspector: working to coordinate inspections and give him CWIFR inspection data

6. LT Porter conducted a website requested B & B inspection at Float on Inn on Front Street in Coupeville
7. LT Porter coordinated adding smoke alarms and updating the fire alarm system for the Kineth House, a newly opened VRBO
8. LT Porter coordinated several alarm system finals and one sprinkler system final inspection with the help of Town building official Scott Austin
9. A shift delivered 4 address signs and installed 2 more

Fleet Maintenance

During the month of August FF/Mech Matros coordinated warranty work on the Rosenbauer trucks with U.S. Fire LLC, and performed limited preventative maintenance and repairs on CWIFR's fleet due to taking vacation leave. Unit 2102 (Valkyrie) and Unit 2101 (Loki) had their warranty repair and cab modifications completed at U.S. Fire LLC and are back in service in the district. CWIFR'S new service truck is being outfitted and will be receiving some warranty work in September.

Other smaller repairs and services included have been:

- Unit 1801 – 4-wheel Alignment
- Unit 2101 – Pre trip inspection
- Unit 2102 – Post trip inspection
- Unit 0701 – NFPA 1911 inspection and service.
- Unit 2103 – Check engine light – No drivability issues, nothing found in diag. Cleared codes and test drove. OK at time of test.
- South Whidbey Unit E36 - Type I engine emergency repair – No start – Camshaft position sensor failure. Coordinated repair through Cummins NW on behalf of South Whidbey Fire.
- Unit 2301 – Service Truck - Transitioning into new truck and warranty repairs (on going).