



Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue

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Professionalism • Integrity • Compassion • Excellence

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To: Board of Fire Commissioners

From: Fire Chief Jerry Helm

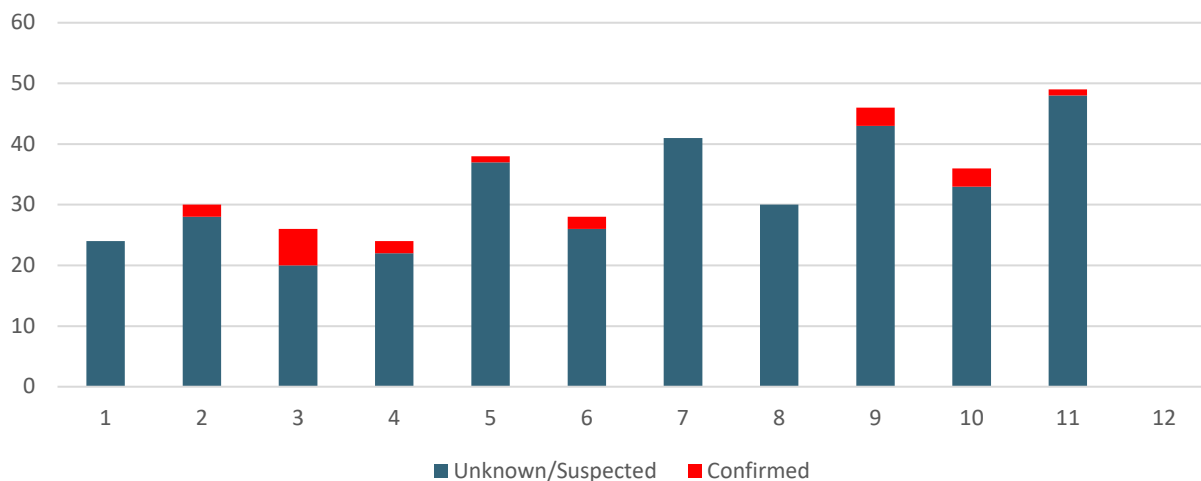
Date: December 14th, 2023

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 November, there were **48 incidents where COVID-19 was unknown/suspected and 1 with COVID-19 confirmed.**

2023 Responses Where COVID was a Factor



Operational Activity

During the previous month, the district received **171 emergency calls** detailed below. The district **had 62 concurrent incidents, impacting 36% of total incidences.** This continues to strain our current staffing level and impacted response times.

Frequency By Incident Type

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	0
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	119
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	4
5 - Service Call	16
6 - Good Intent Call	17
7 - False Alarm & False Call	8
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	7
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	171

Incident Frequency by Month



Station 53 Construction Project

Construction is nearing an end in sight.

Landscaping and sprinkler system installation is nearing completion

Paving of the parking lot should be completed by the end of this week (weather dependent)

Punch list on bedrooms and offices should start Monday which will allow us to start moving furniture in to these areas by the end of next week. The water and generator seem to still be a slow point with significant delays. Many Island County permits are slowly being completed and signed off, but a majority of the remaining ones involve water and the back up generator. External civil work should wrap up by the end of next week with construction of the retention pond. We anticipate Temporary occupancy and a big push for move in around the middle of January.

Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended multiple onsite construction meetings for station 53. Chief Helm attended the Island County Fire Chiefs, EMS council, and ICOM Fire Tac meetings. Volunteer Jim Mirabile continues work with the EMS council on revamping the EMS bylaws and we utilized the districts lawyer for review of these documents

to be paid by the EMS council. Chief Helm attended and acted as an evaluator for a captain position for Tulalip Fire Department. Significant time was spent by Chief Helm and Cathy Niiro to finalize the 2024 budget once the levy results were in. Worked with Liz Loomis on final public messaging and post-election social media post.

Training & Development

Administrative

Administered (proctored) the final series of on-line Island County BLS protocol test to District members. Administered the Narcan skill stations to all District EMT's per Dr. Baciak's protocol requirement. Continued planning for the dedication ceremony for the grand opening of Station 53. Continued planning the logistics of moving into Station 53.

Recruitment

Met with FF Travis Dotson to develop a recruitment, orientation, and training plan for the volunteer members. Dotson will take a lead role within the volunteer group to improve coordination and communications. Reviewed the curriculum for the new volunteer orientation session.

In-Service Training

Instructed classroom sessions on OTEP-required patient assessment, practical hands-on drill on vehicle stabilization and scene safety at motor vehicle accidents, and a practical hands-on drill on the use of small tools and chain saws.

Collaboration

Continued planning sessions with ICSO, Emergency Management, and WhidbeyHealth EMS on "full scale" active shooter/MCI drill that is planned for Coupeville High School in January. Reviewed the life safety and fire protection systems at the newly-renovated LDS church that is now an overnight shelter operated by the South Whidbey Coalition for the Homeless.

Other

Facilitated multi-agency post-traumatic stress debriefing session at WhidbeyHealth hospital following a fatal tractor accident this month.

FF/EMT John Lloyd participated in a week-long rope/technical rescue class with SWFE.

Crews are diligently working on their Washington State Boater Certifications and a majority of our career personnel.

Operations

Special OPS

PPE/Respiratory Protection

1. FF John Lloyd and DC Meek met with Sarah Orellano, a grant writing expert, to pursue funding for additional equipment etc for the fire district.

Radios/Pagers

Medical Supplies and CPR

1. Completed a blended CPR practical skills evaluation/certification class with CPR instructor Jessy Caselden-Hillier proctoring the skills evaluations.
2. Narcan was distributed to all BLS licensed vehicles.

Reports

1. Completed 218 NFIRS reports/QI for month of November

Other

Facilities

Station 51

Station 52

Station 53

1. New beds, lockers, and recliners were ordered and delivered to Station 53.
2. Station 53 extractor was ordered.
3. New exercise equipment was purchased and some equipment was replaced due to condition and age.
4. The SCBA compressor, M5, and T53 have been relocated to Station 53.

Station 54

1. Old E53 has been relocated from Station 31 to Station 54, a big thank you to SWFE for allowing us to store our apparatus at their facility during our station build.

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly Inspection Progress

1. A shift monthly inspections total= 3/3
2. B shift monthly inspections total= 0/8
3. C shift monthly inspections total= 0/4

Yearly Inspection Progress

1. A shift inspections totals YTD: 94% (82/87)
2. B shift inspections totals YTD: 63% (45/72)

3. C shift inspections totals YTD: 86% (55/64)

Home Safety Survey/Installations

1. Home safety survey Kineth Point, installed 5 CWIFR provided alarms
2. Home safety survey Marine Dr., installed 4 CWIFR provided alarms, replaced CO detector batteries.
3. Home safety survey Pinecrest, changed batteries in 8 smoke alarms and the batteries in 3 CO alarms.
4. Home safety survey NE Haller, replaced two hardwired smoke alarms.

CRR Programs and other inspection activity

1. Fire engine tour at ECEAP pre-school for (12) 3-5 year olds.
2. Conducted a car seat check for a 1-year old in a convertible car seat
3. A-shift met with Coupeville Elementary regarding class field trips to the Coupeville Fire Station.
4. Lt. Porter participated in a lieutenant assessment center for OHFD.
5. Lt. Porter participated in live fire training with OHFD.
6. A-shift and Debby Jackson (Thank you Debby!) spent a significant amount of time readying the Santa Mobile for our December adventures. FF Justin Burnett has spent countless hours ensuring the program goes smooth. Santa Mobile is underway and is going great with great turnouts from our community and lots of food donations for the food bank.
7. B-shift responded to a vehicle rollover on Madrona Way with entrapment, AIC Lt. Alex Majestic and Lt. Jim Huff did a great job assessing the situation and safely removing the patient through the front windshield. Driver was mostly un-injured.
8. C-Shift responded to a motorcycle vs deer, AIC Lt. John Lloyd and FF Steve Stavros took command of the scene and called for an additional ambulance. The crew did a great job recognizing extensive injuries that were not initially apparent and made a great call in calling for additional help.

Fleet Maintenance

Repair and Maintenance

1. Unit 2102 (E53) – E53's firecom issues were diagnosed and repaired, fixing issues crews were having with communication and dispatch. The water tank level indicator was also giving improper readings, this was diagnosed and repaired
2. SWFE Unit 1204 – Matros conducted repairs on the trucks air system and passed off the remaining portion of this job to SWFE's new fire mechanic.
3. Unit 1401 (Reserve) – 1401 has been moved to Station 54 after it's long stay at Station 31. Repairs were conducted on the pump master drain that was found frozen on inspection by Matros.
4. Unit 1101 (Matrix) – Diagnosed and repaired a failed startup.
5. Unit 1402 (Tahoe) – Multiple trips to Main Street Collision for parts removal. These parts are being utilized on the recently procured Dodge P/U and Tahoe.
6. Unit 2001 (B54) – Received new batteries.

Other Fleet Maintenance Activity

During the month of November FF/Mechanic Matros continued work on CWIFR's new fleet maintenance truck. This process will continue as time permits; the primary focus is to upfit the two new vehicles added to the fleet in November.