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: May 9th, 2024

Subject: Chief's Report

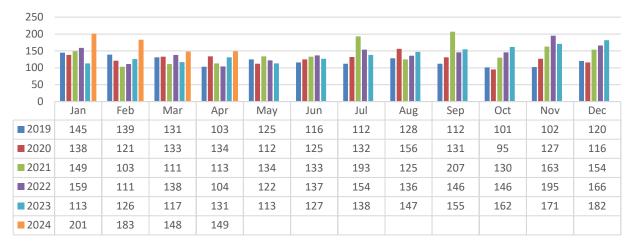
Operational Activity

During the previous month, the district received **149 emergency calls** and had **44 concurrent incidents** impacting **29% of total incidences**. This was our busiest April in the last 5 years, and now the fourth month in a row hitting new record monthly call volumes.

Frequency By Incident Type

Incident type	Frequency
1 - Fire	0
2 - Overpressure Rupture, Explosion, Overheat (No Fire)	0
3 - Rescue & Emergency Medical Service Incident	102
4 - Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	1
5 - Service Call	15
6 - Good Intent Call	27
7 - False Alarm & False Call	4
8 - Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	0
9 - Special Incident Type	0
Total	149





Station 53 Construction Project

Still working with Tiger Construction and vendors on a few last-minute punch list items. All items submitted to county, waiting for final. Permit is set to expire in the 11th and Tiger is working to complete everything in order to avoid having to renew the permit.

Other Administrative work

Chief Helm attended the Island County Fire Chiefs, EMS council, and ICOM Fire Tac meetings, and is continuing to work with the state department of commerce on obtaining our \$2.7 million dollar grant.

Completed the revised 2024 budget which we will be presented to you tonight.

Training & Development

Administrative

Began reviewing and revising the volunteer recruiting, application, selection, and orientation process with a working group of myself, Sonja Lindenstein, Cathy Niiro, Chief Meek, Travis Dotson, and Justin Burnett. The goal of the group is to streamline the volunteer onboarding process which will result in a cost savings to the District while producing a valuable and reliable roster of qualified volunteers. Steps like entry interviews, orientation sessions, physical exams, and equipment issuance will be reviewed and improved.

Completed the Vulnerability Assessment requirement of the Labor & Industries FIIRE Program. Currently working on the Safety Improvement Plan that is the next step in the grant award process. The assessment revealed a need for a dedicated washer/extractor for our SCBA. Currently, our firefighters hand-wash the breathing apparatus after a fire, exposing them to dangerous carcinogens. The grant request will be for about \$20,000 for an automated, high-efficiency washer that will be used in conjunction with our current turnout extractor.

Assisted several members with locating and registering for upcoming professional development and certification courses such as fire investigator, fire inspector, fire instructor, and National EMT registration and reciprocity.

Have been ordering replacement EMS supplies and equipment while the project manager remains on paid administrative leave.

Recruitment

We will be participating in the "Hustle With Heros" 5K race on June 22nd in Coupeville. This is a joint fundraising effort by all Whidbey Island public safety agencies with the race proceeds benefiting the Whidbey Island Boys & Girls Club. We will be staffing a information tent at the race and will be answering questions and making volunteer applications available.

In-Service Training

Conducted three "hands-on" training sessions on basic ropes and knots on 1st through the 3rd. I-COM presented a classroom session on fire communication and dispatch procedures on the 9th. We participated in an OTEP skills practice session and case review with WhidbeyHealth EMS at the hospital on the 11th. FF Kellison conducted the final orientation sessions on Marine 5 on the 6th and 13th. Travis Dotson delivered three

sessions on basic wildland safety procedures on 15th through the 17th. South Whidbey Fire & EMS presented a classroom and "hands-on" skills session on pediatric emergencies on 23rd. Had classroom and "hands-on" skills sessions on using fire suppression foam on flammable liquids fires on 29th and 30th.

Instructed two classroom sessions for the Whidbey Island Fire Academy, Property conservation and evidence preservation on the 10th and Flammable liquids fires on the 29th.

Collaboration

Met with County Coroner Shantel Porter regarding an update to the Death in the Field protocol and related training sessions on 17th. Met with County Emergency Manager Eric Brooks on the ongoing Response to Violent Incidents response plan on 24th. Coordinated with Camano Fire District 1 on a three-day marine rescue academy that four of our personnel will be participating. They will be using Marine 5 for the in-water training.

Operations

In the month of April C-Shift and I assisted Jessy Hillier at CHS with CPR assessments for students.

The Port of Coupeville granted the posting of a no parking sign at the Greenbank dog park in front of an access gate. That has been posted and will hopefully minimize blockage of the gate and provide quicker access in case of emergency.

Travis Dotson, Jake Keating and I met to discuss maintenance priorities at Station 51 and the reorganization of R51's equipment and purpose. Travis and Jake are taking ownership of Station 51 maintenance and have also reorganized R51 with additional equipment and medical supplies.

A community events binder is being created as a guide for personnel attending our community events. The purpose is to streamline the process and provide to detail to our members for events they attend as members of CWIFR. A huge thank you to Travis Dotson for his continued work as a liaison between myself and the volunteers. He has been instrumental in communicating with volunteers and getting enough people to staff events.

An EVDT cone course binder has been created to streamline the process for conducting driver training for our members.

An EVDT cone course training was provided for our members on April 27th, 13 of our members participated in the training including 6 volunteers that got the opportunity to get checked off on our light and heavy apparatus. This was also the first opportunity for our new EVDT instructors (DC Geiger, Burnett, Dotson, Kellison) to conduct a cone course. This is a huge step to get more driver qualified personnel.

IamResponding's mapping software was updated to the best of the applications ability to match our preplans. Building numbers for multi-unit occupancies, FDC's, Knox box locations, and hazards were added to the mapping software. This enables members to access critical information on their phone while enroute or on the scene of an incident.

I have started engaging with the WSRB and our District's programs to determine our status with WSRB compliance.

CWLL wanted to express their thanks for the AED purchase at Rhododendron Park and requested logos for a banner to be placed at Rhody. The District and IAFF logos have been sent to the CWLL for a future posting of the banner.

Lockboxes were installed on Station 53 in the event a crew member locked themselves out of the station.

Upcoming Events

Hearts and Hammers community event occurred May 4th. Penn Cove Water Festival May 18th. CHS Touch a Truck event for BBBS of Island County May 22nd. CHS Career Fair May 23rd. Memorial Day Parade May 25th.

Special OPS

Electric winch installed on boat trailer (winch is from old M5 trailer). M5 OOS from Captain seat failure/ air leak.

PPE/Respiratory Protection

FF Lloyd sent out 2 jackets out for warranty repair and met with MSA/Globe rep and LN Curtis sales rep. Recruits FIT tested for SCBA masks for live fire. SCBA compressor leak diagnosed and parts ordered. SCBA bottles in process of having asset tags applied to them.

Radios/Pagers

We received the charging stations for our new radios.

Medical Supplies and CPR

FF Lloyd ordered supplies for inventory and expiring medical supplies. 5 AED batteries ordered for AEDs and a new Lucas dock charger to replace broken Lucas charger. FF Dotson and Keating updated R51 medical supplies.

Reports

Rhodes reviewed approx. 150 NFIRS for completion.

<u>Other</u>

Oscar Wolken has been welcomed to B shift. He completed EVIP cone course, non-code driving time in light AO and multiple light AO skill sheets.

Facilities

Station 51

Station 52

Station 53

Performed 10 day water system validation test

Installed shower curtains in 4 bathrooms

Rerouted the test spout for the water system

Connected gas piping to the outdoor grill

Station 54

Station 54 was mowed and weedeated in preparation for the fire academy.

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly Inspection Progress

A shift completed 6/6 initial inspections for April.

B shift completed 12/12 initial inspections for April.

C shift completed 2/6 initial inspections for April.

Yearly Inspection Progress

A shift YTD 55/55 or 100%

B shift YTD 27/27 or 100%

C shift YTD 20/24 or 83%

We are down one of our three inspectors and this may be our highest percentage completed I've seen!!!

Home Safety Survey/Installations

2 smoke alarms and 1 CO provided by CWIFR installed at Russel drive in Coupeville.

Assisted homeowner in troubleshooting smoke alarms and changing 4 batteries at Fircrest Ave in Coupeville.

Installed knox box for an elderly female at 103 NW Alexander

LT Porter met with Town of Coupeville Building official Scott Austin. We discussed the need for a festival safety plan, more lead time with food truck/food tent permits, Island Defense refused to allow LT Huff to inspect, Coupeville Wharf should have the sprinkler system turned back on this week 4/15-4/19. Also discussed hazards associated with Coupeville Auto Repair, Tyee restaurant, and Coupeville School's sprinkler system.

LT Porter met with Island County building official regarding resuming Island County inspections. We received a copy of all the completed inspections by the county fire inspector and have caught up on all county inspections for the year so far.

CRR Programs and other inspection activity

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Fleet Maintenance Division

Repair and Maintenance

Unit 2102 - (E-54) - 500hr service / NFPA 1911 Inspection

Unit 2103 - (E-53) - Foam system inop. Assisted Rosenbauer warranty tech in diagnosis and repair.

Unit's 2102 - (E-54) and 2101 - (E-51) – Installed new portable radio charger's.

Programed all Neederman transponders in St-53 trucks.

Unit 1402 - (Chevy Tahoe) - Diagnosed right rear door lock issue. Part is on order.

Unit 1402 - (Chevy Tahoe) - Unit received a new windshield do to crack in drivers view.

Unit 2002 – (Brush 53) – NFPA 1911 inspection and pump service.

Other Fleet Maintenance Activity

In addition to work on the fleet Matros has been continuing to move and organize CWIFR's parts inventory to station 53.