



Clark County Fire & Rescue Board of Fire Commissioners Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2017

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kolke at 4:00 p.m.

Flag salute.

Present: Commissioners Jon Babcock, Jerry Kolke, Larry Bartel, Bob Johnson, Dave Town, Ken Ayers, Dave Lester, Stan Chunn. Chief John Nohr. Division Chiefs Dan Yager, Tim Dawdy, and Mike Jackson. Recording Secretary Kathy Streissguth.

CALL FOR LATE AGENDA ADDITIONS

Nohr add quarterly updates for the strategic plan under Chief's report.

PUBLIC HEARING – LID LIFT PROPOSAL

Commissioner Kolke opened the public hearing at 4:03 p.m. Daybreak area resident Mr. Josh Soske initiated discussion on the specifics of the proposed lid lift. Chief Nohr advised there is not a written proposal at this time. The purpose of the public meetings has been to get feedback from the public regarding the district's future and opinions on the viability of a lid lift. Brief history of financial impacts to the district. Chief Nohr stated that the Woodland contract is not an issue as they are paying for the service they receive, therefore providing service to Woodland is not forcing the district to ask more money. This is also the case with the Cowlitz resort project. They have a service contract with the district and are actually paying proportionally more than everyone else at this time. We are working closely with them and they plan on paying their fair share. The district's financial issues started with the impacts of the 2008 recession. Revenue dropped almost \$1 million between 2009 and 2010. There were significant layoffs. The district's facility and equipment needs have also been deferred for many years, which is reflected in the increasing number of repair and maintenance issues with both facilities and equipment. The loss of the Battle Ground service contract is not driving the current need for money as staffing was again reduced in line with the loss of revenue. Confirmed we are continuing the partnership with District 6 for volunteers at the Fairgrounds station. Currently, there is not enough call volume in the area for either department to put a staffed unit in that location; though we may want to investigate a full-time staffing partnership in the future as the area grows. The station in downtown Ridgefield is quite old and not seismically sound. Discussion. Mr. Soske thanked for his input. No further comments. Public hearing closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Commissioner Bartel to approve the consent agenda as presented. Second Commissioner Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

Invitation to Ridgefield's August 1 National Night Out event in Abraham's Park. Planning to participate. Thank you from Ridgefield Police Chief John Brooks for use

of Station 21 for a recent meeting. Invitation to the 1:00 p.m. May 1 ground breaking ceremony for the new school in Ridgefield. Notice from Washington Survey and Rating Bureau (WSRB) that they will not recognize properties more than 5 road miles from a fire station. The district's rating is declining to a 5. Implementation of the new rating has been delayed to May 15. Will get new maps to see who will be affected by the change. Staffing Station 22 will alleviate this issue. Invitation to the Muscle Hustle on Saturday, June 17, which is a fire truck pulling contest to benefit TIP. Chief Nohr would like to put together a CCF&R team. Commissioner Babcock advised there is a free 4 hour training event on terrorist awareness on April 27.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Clark County Risk Management Group

Commissioner Bartel summarized the April 5 Risk Management Group meeting. The accident and sickness policy renewal has been preauthorized. Allowing Clark 3 to use the vendor and small works roster. New Secretary appointed following the resignation of Bill Hallanger, Cowlitz 2.

EMS Council

No meeting. No report.

Fairgrounds Fire Facility Board

No meeting. No report.

Finance Committee

Commissioner Town summarized today's meeting. Reviewed the 2016 SAO annual report and year to date 2017 financial reports.

RFA Committee

No meeting. No report.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Babcock reported he attended last week's Ridgefield City council meeting. The Ridgefield Heights project was approved. We were not able to get the city to adopt the fire code for egress. Commissioner Babcock expressed concern for future operations and accessibility in the area. Stressed the need to work with City Council to get this resolved before more projects are approved.

STAFF REPORTS

Q1-17 Strategic Plan Updates

Discussion on the first quarter updates deferred to the April 27 meeting in order to give the Board time to review the information.

Administrative Services

March report summarized by DVC Yager.

Operations

March report summarized by DVC Jackson.

Prevention/PIO

March report summarized by DVC Dawdy.

District Secretary/Chief

March report summarized by Chief Nohr.

LID LIFT PROPOSAL

Draft resolution prepared by legal counsel for the proposal of a multi-year lid lift. Motion by Commissioner Bartel to adopt Resolution No. 170413-1, a resolution placing a multi-year lid lift on the August 1, 2017 primary ballot. Second Commissioner Babcock. Discussion. The lid lift will allow the district to improve staffing, repair and upgrade facilities, repair and replace aging equipment, and revive public education programs. Commissioner Babcock confirmed there will be a voter's pamphlet. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Nohr commented on DVC Jackson's relationship with the Woodland City Council. They feel a longer term solution to the contract is needed. There is a mutual benefit for each agency in the district providing service to the City of Woodland. DVC Jackson has prepared a draft 25 year contract. City Council is very interested in a long term solution. A long term contract gives both agencies some stability while the permanent solution is researched. The contract has gone to the Mayor for review and feedback. Expecting to have something for the CCF&R Board to review in the near future.

POLICY REVIEW – TOBACCO USAGE POLICY NO. 524.11.02 & GROOMING STANDARDS POLICY NO. 524.121.08

Chief Nohr summarized the proposed changes in the two policies.

Currently the tobacco policy has different rules dependent on when people were hired. Recommendation to standardize the rules for all. Commissioner Bartel stated he opposes backing off on the tobacco-free policy. Feels it's the right thing to stand against tobacco and that life isn't always the same. Commissioner Babcock commented that he agrees about being tobacco-free, but why have a rule that we aren't able to enforce? Commissioner Town asked if the district any liability if we are treating employees differently. Chief Nohr will touch base with counsel. Commissioner Chunn stated he is not comfortable with reaching into people's personal life choices. Yes, at work is different, but we shouldn't be telling people what to do at home. Commissioner Lester – it isn't our business to dictate what people do in their personal lives.

Changes to the grooming standards specifically address tattoos. Effort to be more reflective of current societal standards, but not allowing anything offensive. The Fire Chief will make decisions on any adjustments or exceptions to the policy. Hair standards will remain unchanged.

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Babcock asked about travel arrangements for Firefighter Cushwa's State Fire Academy graduation ceremony on April 21. The event has moved to Snoqualmie at 10 a.m. Commissioner Bartel indicated he would like to attend. Those who wish to attend should contact Chief Nohr by next Thursday.

LATE ADDITIONS

None.


CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Josh Soske commented on the proposed tobacco policy - stay out of personnel lives, but no tobacco products while in uniform. Also encouraged the Board to end the gender specific rules. A common code for hair and makeup that is safe. Times are changing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.



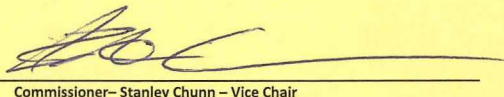
Attest, John Nohr
Fire Chief/District Secretary

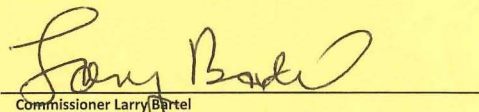


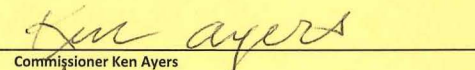
CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE CONSENT AGENDA April 13, 2017

1. Minutes
 - March 23 General Meeting
2. Pre-paid Invoices
 - \$ 133,568.84 (CCFR Benefits)
 - i. Check Nos. 5885 – 5896 dated March 30
 - \$ 2,873.34 (CCFR)
 - i. Check Nos. 17459 – 17464 dated April 1
 - \$ 886.32 (FFFB)
 - i. Check Nos. 17389 – 17390 dated April 1
 - \$ 102,078.02 (CCFR DRS & Q1-17 Payroll Taxes)
 - i. Check Nos. 5897 – 5899 dated March 30
3. Current Invoices
 - \$ 1,317.79 (FFFB)
 - i. Check Nos. 17518 – 17519
 - \$ 68,594.53 (CCFR)
 - i. Check Nos. 17465 – 17517
4. Payroll
 - March 1-31 paid March 31
 - i. \$ 424,995.25 Gross
 - ii. \$ 282,581.23 ACH net
 - iii. \$ 1,001.50 Payroll Warrant net
 - 1. Check No. 5884
 - iv. \$ 0.00 Payroll VOIDED
 - v. \$ 62,680.76 941 Tax Deposit (paid April 3)
5. March Use Tax due April 25
 - \$ 2.84 (CCFR)
6. Voided/Destroyed Claims/Payroll Warrants
 - None

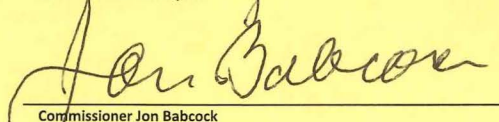

Commissioner Jerry Kolke – Chair


Commissioner – Stanley Chunn – Vice Chair


Commissioner Larry Bartel


Commissioner Ken Ayers


Commissioner James R Johnson


Commissioner Jon Babcock


Commissioner David Town


Commissioner David Lester

Staff Report



To: Commissioners, Chief Nohr
From: Dan Yager, Administrative Services Division Chief
Date: 4/13/2017
Re: March Administrative Services Update

FINANCE:

2017 Budget Amendment

The budget was updated per the amendment adopted on March 23 (Resolution No. 170323-2).

CPU Winter Rebates

We have received a total of \$1,398 in rebates from Clark Public Utilities. Breakdown by station:

Station 21	\$ 227	Station 25	\$ 72
Station 22	\$ 209	Station 26	\$ 420
Station 23	\$ 126	Station 151	\$ 290
Station 24	\$ 54		

FACILITIES & EQUIPMENT:

Station 151

Process initiated to obtain bids to reroof Station 151. As reported prior, the roof should be replaced this summer.

Station 23

During the recent repair of a leaky roof I was informed by our roofing company that Station 23 also needs to be reroofed. I am in the process of obtaining a preliminary cost estimate for consideration in a future budget.

Shop 16

Captain Rommel's 2007 Chevy Tahoe had a small dent and the reflective striping was badly faded. We have repaired the dent and replaced the striping. Additionally, deferring many maintenance issues during the downturn in the economy has our apparatus and facilities in need of many repairs and freshening up. We are in the process of making those repairs and getting our equipment back to a professional appearing state. With this project we are getting all apparatus labeled with CCF&R logos and removing those from the mergers and consolidations.

Staff Report



To: John Nohr, Fire Chief; Commissioners

From: Michael J. Jackson, Division Chief

Date: 4/13/2017

Re: Operations Staff Report- March 2017

General Operations Update

- Work and coordination with District 3 continues. Jackson met with Sorenson to review facilities, equipment, and capabilities. Daily information exchange occurring between BC's to facilitate improved coverage and response.
- All shifts have completed comprehensive walk-throughs of the ilani resort. We continue to work with tribal and resort staff to fine-tune our response plans.
- Mayor Finn in Woodland has formally requested a draft long-term contract for review and continues to express interest in formal consolidation as a long-term solution. Jackson is drafting a contract for review.
- Jackson and Lawrence are coordinating with the local Council for Aging and Disabilities to explore potential solutions and partnerships to better address low acuity medical responses.
- Updates to SOG's for standardization and configuration with Blue Card guidelines are continuing under the lead of Chief Lange. We are targeting 1-2 for update each week.
- BC's are working with Jackson to identify some needs and course of action for future promotional testing and staff development.
- Guidebook for acting BC's has been updated under the leadership of Chief Lange.
- Firefighter Cushwa is doing well at the State Academy and is set to Graduate on April 21 in King County. Details for a coordinated trip up will be provided.
- Water Tender Operators have been issued radios to improve response communication and coordinate as well as address issues pointed out by WSRB.

County Ops Group

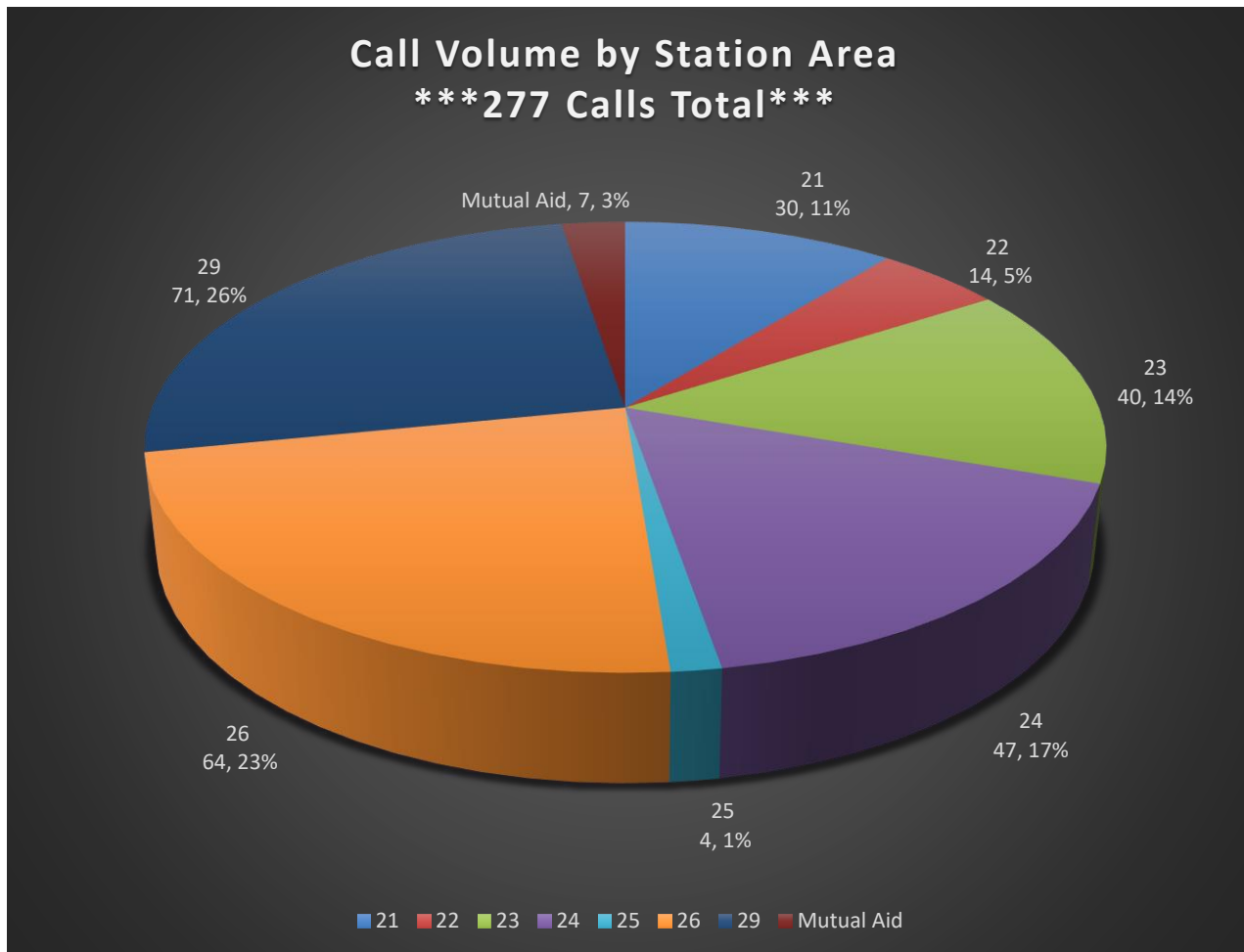
- Working to update and standardize SOG's county-wide to reflect update to Blue Card IMS.
- Met with Law Users and County Ops Chiefs to standardize procedures for response to combative persons and active threats. Standardized guidelines will be adopted in the near future.

Training – Captain Rommel

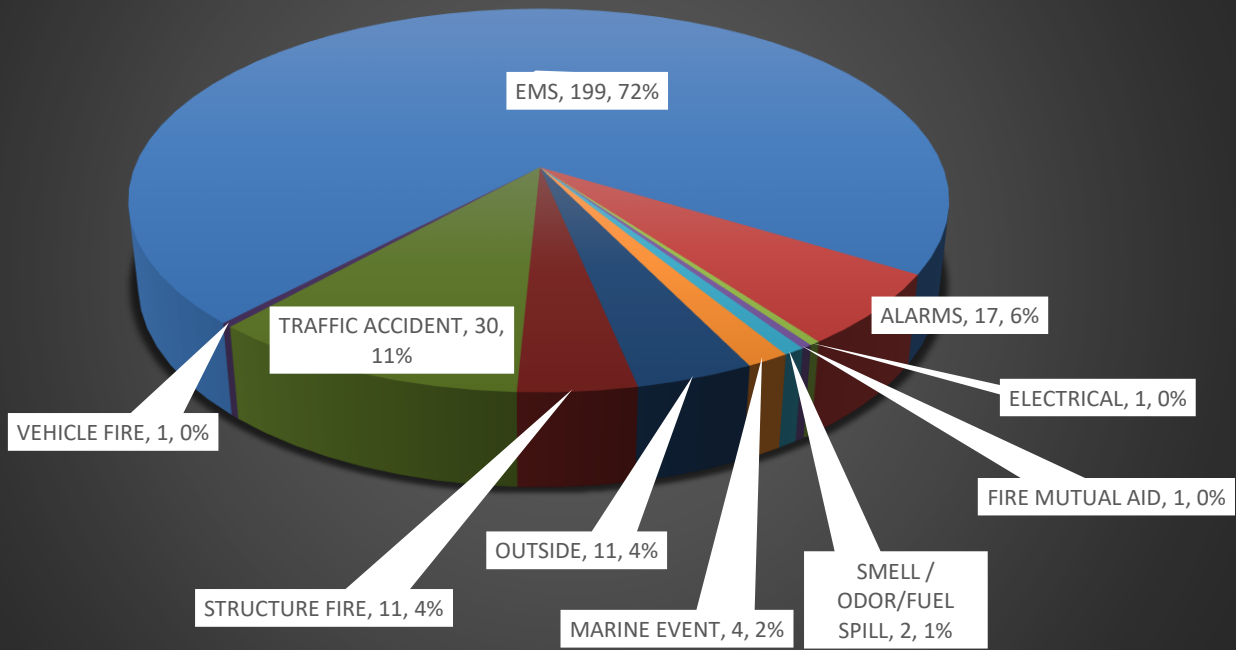
- **EMS**
 - PCEP lecture from Dr. Wittwer on Psychiatric Disorders
- **Fire**
 - Pre-Fire walk tours of the Ilani resort lead by Chiefs Dawdy and Jackson.
 - Fire simulators.
 - Search and Rescue drills lead by Firefighter Brooks.
 - Search and Rescue MCO's at house loaned to us from Woodland School District.
- **Rescue**
 - SRT members rafted down North Fork of the Lewis from Pomeroy Farm (they allowed us to use their river access) to Lewisville Park. Organized by Captains Berg & Frahler.
 - TRT members participated in rope rescue drills at the Camas Non-Woven Mill.
- **Outside Training**
 - Captain Kays and Rommel attended the Washington State Training Officers Conference in Yakima.
 - Incident management team training for members on Type 1 and 2 teams in Vancouver.
- **IFSAC Testing**
 - Assisted FD6 with Instructor 1 test.

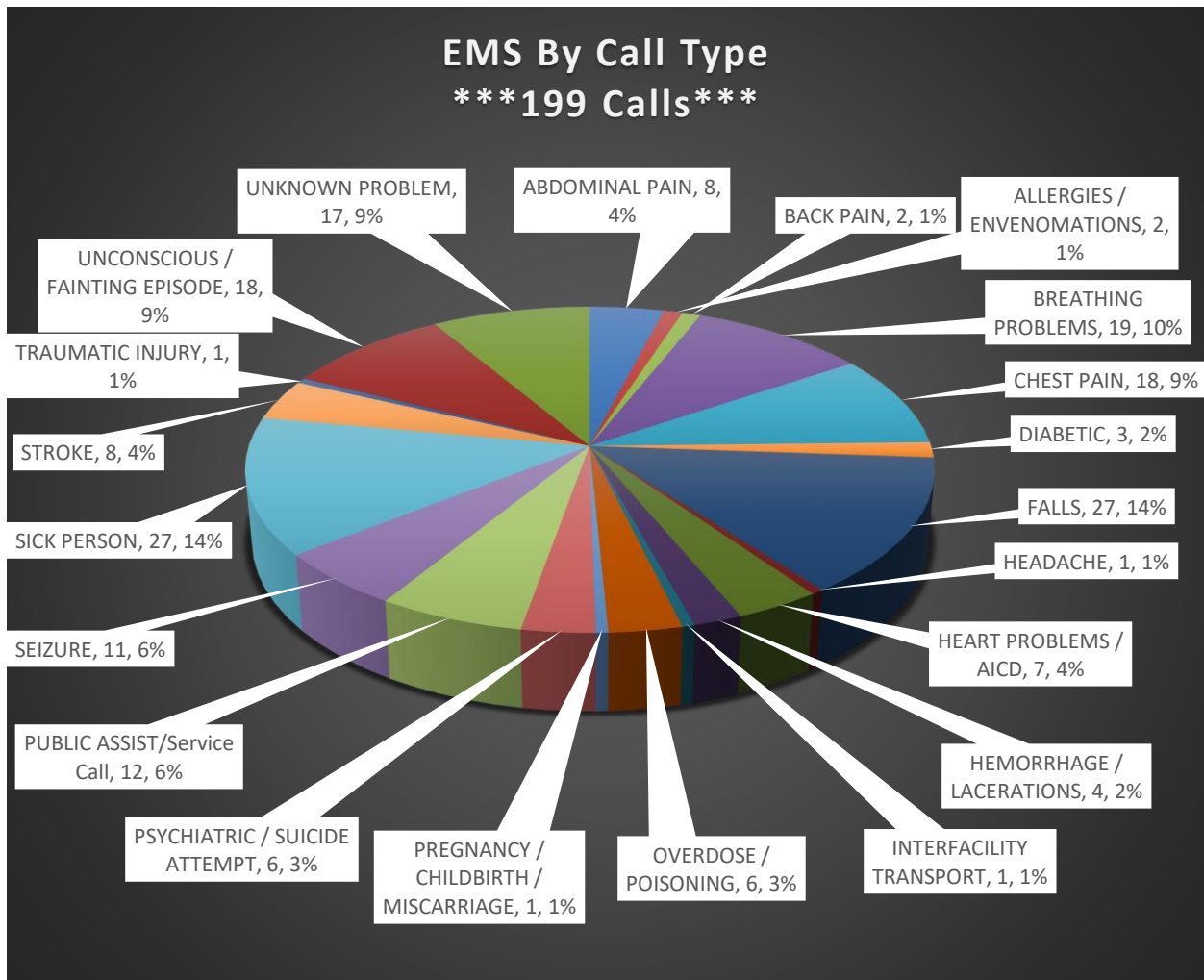


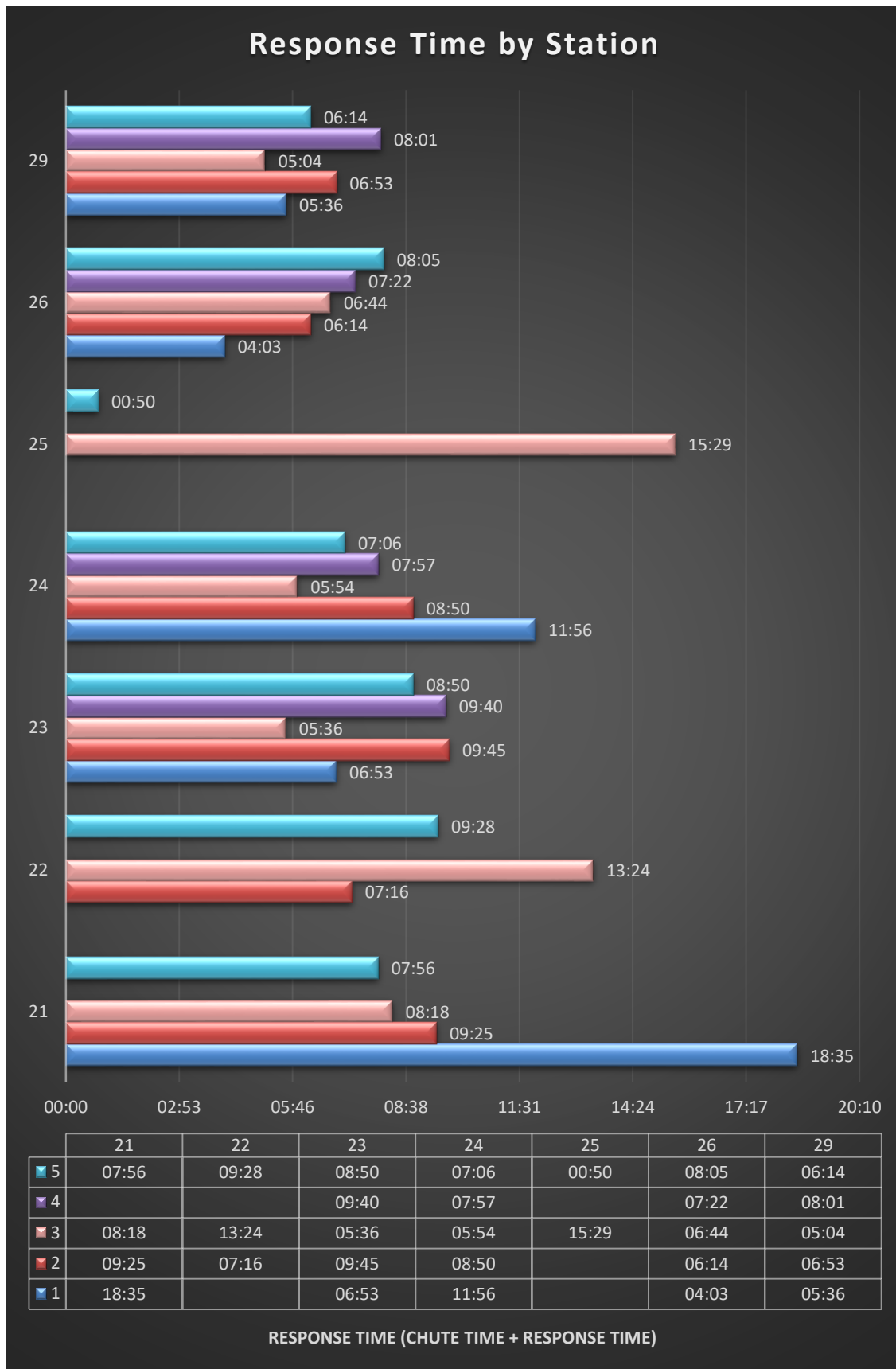
March Response Statistics

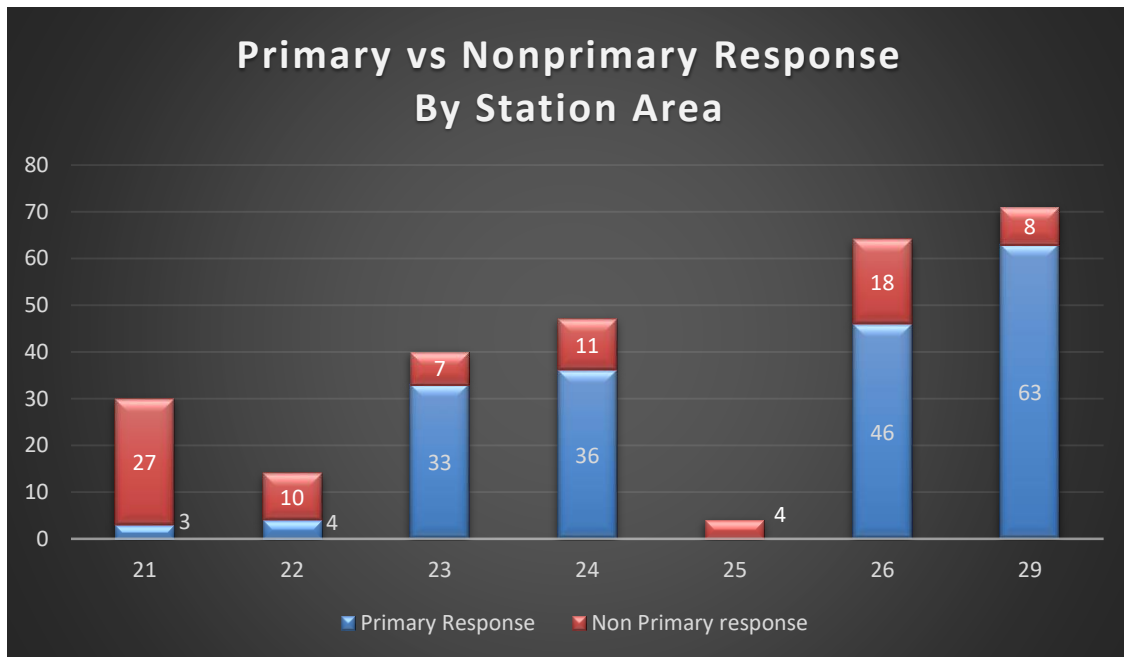


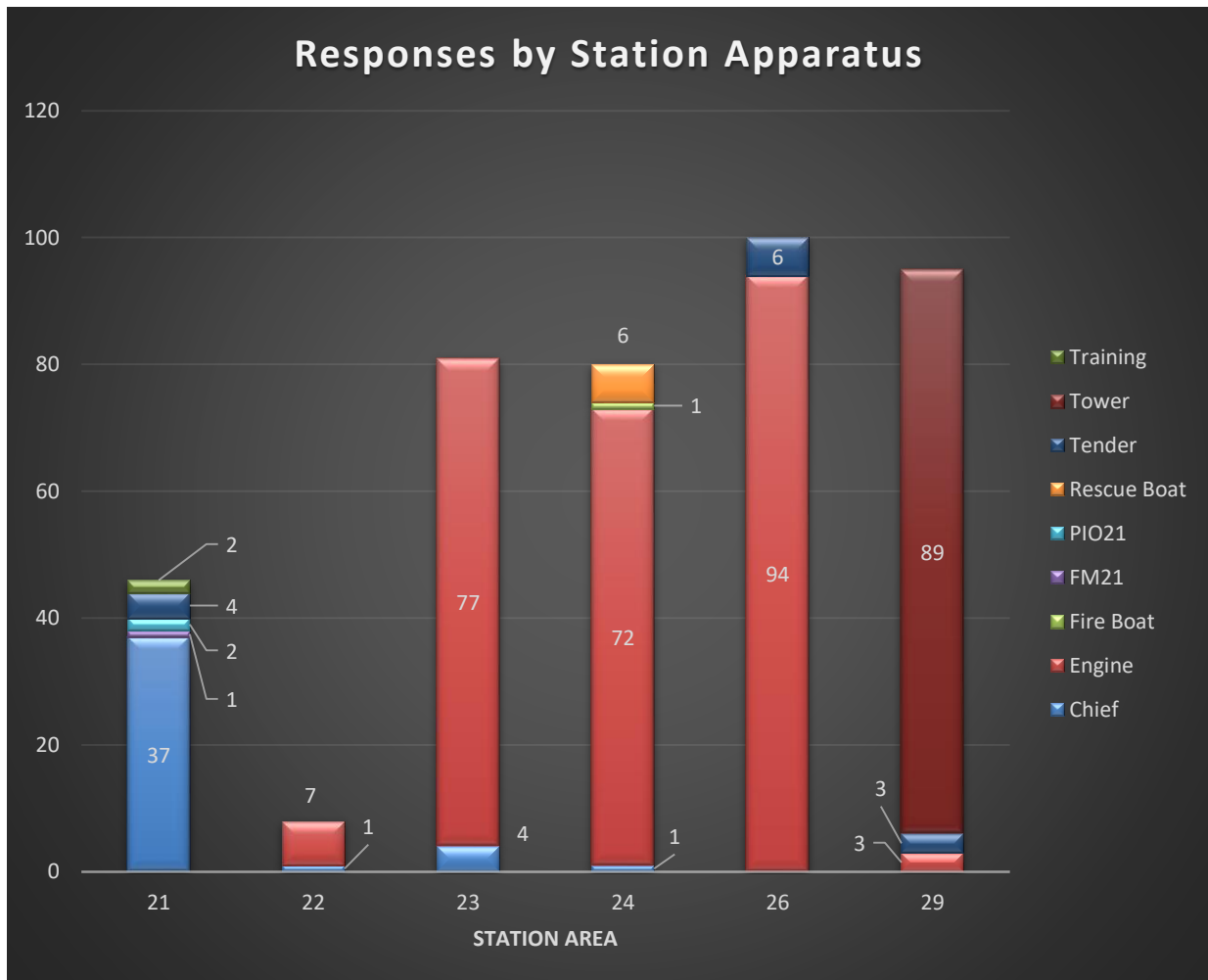
Call Type by Problem ***277 Calls Total***











Staff Report



To: Chief Nohr

From: Division Chief Dawdy

Date: 03-03-17

Re: March Fire Protection Services

Fire Responses

Structure Fire Priority 1 – Tuesday March 7th
22319 NW 11th Ave.
Acted as PIO.

Structure Fire Priority 1 – Sunday March 12th
34812 Pacific Hwy
Acted as PIO & Citizen Advocate.

Fire Alarm Ridgefield H.S (Fire in Boys Rest Room) - Monday 27th.
2630 S Hillhurst
Acted as Fire Marshal

Structure Fire Priority 1 – Friday 31st.
29418 71 Ave
Acted as Fire Marshal. Worked with CPU.

Smoke Alarms

Tom Cook was very productive during March: Besides going into homes and installed smoke alarms.

Tom Completed the Ridgefield Marina smoke alarm project.

Tom Cook was also a vital part of the fire extinguisher training at the ilani Resort.



ilani Resort

Life Safety Issues

Resolve roof standpipe issue. No roof standpipe or other fire service water source was provided to the roof of the casino. This was corrected through negotiations with Swinerton and Keating Management.

Water supply is established at the ilani Resort.
Hydrant flow testing observed.
Final commissioning of fire pump and sprinkler system completed.
Completed fire alarm system training with vender.

Test casino level fire doors.
Locate fire extinguishers in water treatment plant.
Begin tenant space inspection process.
Resolve blocked FDC & blocked fire hydrant issue.
Meet with Dan Kelly – Keating, BHC for punch list.

Train ilani Security

Fire Extinguishers Training (live fire).
Fire behavior and history of casino fires.
Approximately 70 people attended each class.

CRESA

Taught ilani Resort class for CRESA dispatchers. Class was recorded as shown to all shifts.

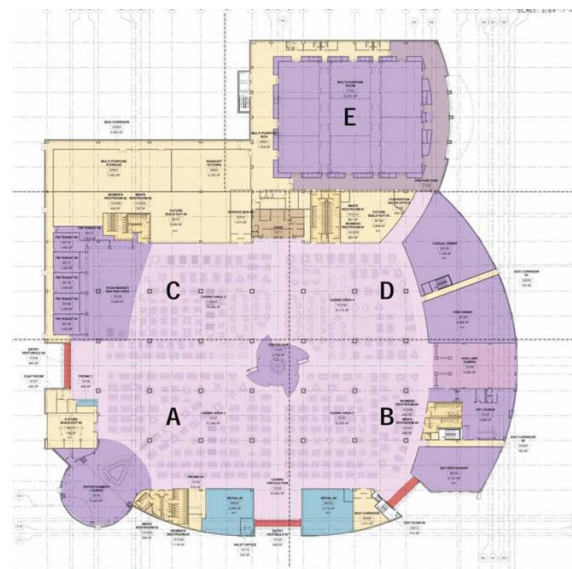
Confirm that 800Mhz radios work in all interior areas of the resort.

CCF&R Training

Complete Firefighter tours for CCF&R, CRESA and Cowlitz Fire District 1.

Pyrotechnics

Meet with Event planner set expectations for and limits for pyrotechnic displays at the resort.



La Center

No activity.

Ridgefield

Pre-Application Reviews

Keller Supply 48,000 SQ FT Commercial
Ridgefield Crossing Unknown size at this time; developer modifying

Teal Crest Development Review 63 lots
Ridgefield Heights Development Review 200 lots

Ridgefield High School Fire

Work with school principle to resolve boys restroom fire incident.



Civic Activity

Attended City Council Meetings.
Meet with Jerry Bush Ridgefield Planning Commission.

Worked with Ridgefield High School to provide work space at the Fire District for special needs student so they can meet their senior graduations requirements.

Lunch meeting with High School Principle Tony Vandermaas.

Participate in Birdfest planning.
Attended Art's Night at Ridgefield. Part of Arts Association Celebration.

Woodland

Pre-Application Reviews

Condominiums, 8 residential units, sprinkler issue.
Worked with city to resolve water meter fire sprinkler issue.
Inspect Woodland Intermediate School at principles request.
Inspect Brothers street turn-around at the city engineer's request.
Attended DRC Meetings

Public Information

Clark County Fire and Rescue seeks response time solution

Budget constraints might require levy lid lift

- By Rick Bannan rick@thereflector.com
Feb 28, 2017

Revenue constraints resulting in slower response times are making Clark County Fire and Rescue look at options to pick staff numbers back up with a ballot measure raising the fire levy likely in August, a press release from the department stated.

CCF&R had 11 fewer firefighters in 2016 as a result of lost revenue after losing a bid for a service contract with Battle Ground, the release stated, leading to \$2.4 million less in funding for that year.

The lack of firefighters meant that the district's Station 22, also known as the Charter Oak station, was no longer staffed. The most notable effect of the drop in staffing was slower response times, the release stated.

As a whole, response times went up on average 28 seconds from 2015 to 2016, according to CCF&R information.

CCF&R Chief John Nohr stressed that this average doesn't necessarily highlight some of the biggest jumps, including a full minute increase in response time for the station at Dollar's Corner — almost 20 percent longer.

"If somebody is not breathing, that's a long wait; if something is on fire, that's a long wait," Nohr remarked. In incidences such as the CCF&R Charter Oak station, response times are approaching 9 minutes, he said.

With the revenue shortfall the district is focusing on keeping emergency personnel responding to emergency calls, the release stated, meaning that savings can't be generated to replace old equipment or devise facility improvements.

"I can't choose saving for a new fire engine over laying off more personnel," Nohr was quoted in the release. "We need every person we have to respond to emergency calls."

That inability to fund improvements could lead to impacts on the department's insurance rating with the Washington Surveying and Rating Bureau, affecting the amount property owners pay in fire insurance premiums according to the release.

In an effort to get staffing levels back to where they ought to be, CCF&R is entertaining doing a fire levy lid lift to be put before fire district voters in August to increase the amount the district collects. The proposed lift would be nine cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, going from the current \$1.41 per \$1,000 rate to the maximum of \$1.50 per \$1,000.

Nohr said the levy rate was at \$1.50 for a period of time but the rate dropped to \$1.41 taxable this year due to increasing assessed valuations on properties and the state-mandated limit of a 1 percent increase in levies collected per year. Should a lid lift not be voted, the rate would further decrease to somewhere between 1.29 to 1.32 per \$1,000 as per CCF&R projections, he added.

Seven to nine new firefighters would be hired with the increased funding due to the lid lift, allowing for the Charter Oak station to return to being staffed with a minimum of two firefighters around the clock, the release explained.

Regarding reopening a station like Charter Oak, Nohr explained the benefits would ripple out to those in service "beats" of other stations, as currently unmanned stations require those from manned stations to head over when a call falls within the unmanned station's jurisdiction.

"Just adding one extra unit in the system really reduces the pull on all the other units," Nohr said.

Some of the increased revenue would also go to fund apparatus replacement to keep the insurance rating for the district where it is, the release stated.

Nohr said that the district's board of commissioners took his recommendation to hold at least two open houses for the public. The events are tentatively scheduled for March 21 at the Charter Oak station (29800 NE 112th Ave., Battle Ground) and April 23 at the administrative station (911 N 65th Ave., Ridgefield).

"I think, though, that most people, when presented the information about response times and about the cost and where the money would be spent, I think people would be in support of it," Nohr said.

Woman hospitalized after car strikes several mailboxes

By [Andy Matarrese](#), Columbian Breaking News Reporter

Published: March 2, 2017, 9:46 PM

A woman found walking in the street after a crash that forced a couple of mailboxes

through her car's windshield was hospitalized Thursday afternoon, and deputies were investigating what happened.

Deputies, firefighters and medics were called after a report of a crash around 4:15 p.m., in the 22800 block of Northeast 72nd Avenue, near Dollars Corner.

Clark County Fire & Rescue Division Chief Tim Dawdy said a woman heading north in a red sedan ran off the side of the roadway, hit several mailboxes, then hit a tree before stopping in a ditch.

A couple of those mailboxes flew through the car's windshield, Dawdy said, and they ended up inside the vehicle.

Firefighters arrived to find the driver walking down the street. The woman was ultimately taken to a hospital for possible trauma.

"The mechanism of the wreck was extreme," he said, referring to how the crash played out, even though she was up and walking. "Very often, when people have wrecks like this, we look at the mechanism and the extenuating circumstances surrounding the wreck."

Inside the vehicle, responding officers also found a small dog.

Officials were still working around 5:30 p.m. to contact a relative or friend of the driver who could pick up the dog. Dawdy said the dog appeared to be OK, despite what had happened.



The sheriff's office said the woman fell asleep and was cited for driving with a suspended license.

Fire destroys home near Ridgefield

By [Craig Brown](#), Columbian Managing Editor

Published: March 6, 2017, 11:05 PM

Fire destroyed a nearly century-old farmhouse near Ridgefield Monday night. Six people, including an infant, were able to flee the burning home.

The fire was reported at 22319 N.W. 11th Ave. at 9:40 p.m. It quickly spread throughout the two-story, four-bedroom farmhouse, which county property records indicate was built in 1920 and is owned by a La Center woman.



By the time Clark County Fire & Rescue units arrived, the house could not be saved, said Battallion Chief Tim Dawdy. Firefighters used water tenders to ferry water three miles to the fire, which they fought from outside the home due to the volume of the flames.

“The house is a complete loss,” Dawdy said from the scene shortly after 11 p.m. He described it as a “lovely old farmhouse” that had been in good condition. Nine people lived in the home, and eight of the nine were at home at the time of the fire, according to one of the occupants, Kandis McEllrath. All are safe.

The American Red Cross assisted the family, which has been left homeless. They provided assistance such as temporary housing, food, clothing, comfort kits and information on recovery services. The Clark County Fire Marshal’s office will investigate the cause. It was too early to tell Monday night how the fire started or where it might have started.

Because of the size of the fire and the distance to the fire hydrant, arriving firefighters triggered a second alarm. Clark County Fire District 6 and the Vancouver Fire Department responded and assisted Clark County Fire & Rescue at the scene.

“We’re really glad everyone made it out of the home all right,” Dawdy said, reminding people to make sure they have working smoke detectors with fresh batteries in their homes.

CCF&R plans meetings on tax rate hike plan

By The Columbian

Published: March 9, 2017, 5:59 AM

Clark County Fire & Rescue is holding two public meetings to get input on a levy lift the agency is considering placing on the August primary ballot. The public is invited to attend and share its opinions on the proposal at the upcoming meetings.

The first is scheduled for 6 p.m. on March 21 at Station 22, 29800 N.E. 112th Ave. in Battle Ground and the second meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m. on April 13 at Station 21, 911 N. 65th Ave. in Ridgefield.

The proposed levy lid lift would increase the district residents' property tax rate from \$1.41 per \$1,000 of assessed property value to \$1.50 per \$1,000. For a \$300,000 home, that would mean about \$27 more per year in property taxes — or \$450 total — should the levy increase pass. Property owners in what used to be Clark County Fire District 2, which merged with Clark County Fire & Rescue, will see a higher rate because of the Woodland-area district's recent merger.

The agency reports that response times have increased at all of its fire stations within the past year and say that's due to economic downturn and losing the \$2.4 million revenue from losing its contract with the city of Battle Ground.

Excluding calls to Battle Ground, Clark County Fire & Rescue said that it has seen an increase in emergency call volume of 10.6 percent between 2014 and 2016.

"Funding would rehire seven to nine firefighters to reduce response times and staff Station 22 in Charter Oak," Chief John Nohr said in a press release. "It also will help us address our facility and apparatus needs, which is important to maintain our insurance rating."

Fire damages shop north of La Center

Firefighters save upstairs living space

Published: March 12, 2017, 11:16 AM



A Sunday morning fire heavily damaged a home workshop north of La Center, but firefighters were able to save the upstairs living space.

Clark County Fire & Rescue was called to 34812 N.W. Pacific Highway at 9:25 a.m. after a neighbor noticed the ground-floor shop was on fire. A man was at home in the living quarters upstairs but had yet to notice the fire, said Battalion Chief Tim Dawdy.

He got out of the home safely after his neighbor sounded the alarm.

Firefighters arrived to find flames engulfing part of the shop but were able to knock it down quickly with water. The fire damage was limited to the shop; the residence has some smoke damage but is still habitable, Dawdy said.

Three fire engines, a ladder truck, two water tenders and three chiefs responded to the fire.

Curtis Eavanson of the Clark County Fire Marshal's office responded to investigate the cause of the fire and estimate the dollar loss.

Dawdy said it's important to check your home's smoke detectors to make sure they work.

Fire and Rescue to hold meetings on possible tax increase

Community input sought on 9 cent levy lid lift that could go to vote

The Reflector
Mar 14, 2017

Clark County Fire and Rescue will host two meetings to share their opinion on a possible 9 cent rise of the fire levy that would result in several new firefighters and one more station staffed around the clock should voters approve a measure that could go up to vote in August.

On March 21 and April 13 CCF&R will be hosting the meetings, each at a different fire station according to a release from the department.

The proposed levy lid lift was announced by the department last month as a possible solution for staffing issues. After being forced to cut almost a dozen officers in 2016 due to a loss of funding from a contract with the city of Battle Ground, response times in the department's jurisdiction have risen on average 28 seconds in the past year, with some stations' response times going up by as much as a minute on average.

Apart from an increase of about seven to nine firefighters, the lid lift would also allow for the Charter Oak station, one of two to host the meetings, to be constantly staffed. Currently the station is unstaffed, instead requiring firefighters to head to the station from other, staffed, locations.

If a lid lift from \$1.41 per \$1,000 of assessed value to \$1.50 — the maximum allowable for fire levies — were approved by voters the result would be an increase of about \$27 to the average homeowner, according to CCF&R's release.

Hosting informational meetings to inform the public of the need for a tax hikes was one of the ways CCF&R Chief John Nohr hoped for a successful voting measure. Another local department head, Clark County Fire District 3 Chief Steve Wrightson, has attributed the failure of a lid lift measure in his own department last summer to a lack of public information on its need.

New Rotary Club completes first Ridgefield service task

- Rotary Three Creeks
Mar 28, 2017

it is already making an impact on Ridgefield. Chartered in October 2016, the Rotary Club of Three Creeks (serving Ridgefield, Salmon Creek, Hazel Dell, Felida and La Center), has been working to identify hands-on opportunities in the communities it serves.



Nelson Holmberg and his wife Susanne were the driving forces behind getting the new club started, having seen a need for service to the area.

Seven members of the club along with kids, spouses and friends recently helped Clark County Fire & Rescue (CCF&R) install smoke detectors in floating homes at the McCuddy's Ridgefield Marina.

"Smoke detectors save lives," said Susanne Holmberg, president of the Rotary Club of Three Creeks. "The event was fun and informational. We look forward to providing more service to the communities our club serves."

The smoke detectors and training provided by CCF&R were funded by a grant, and were provided to residents of the floating homes for free.

After receiving training and instructions, the group of 14 volunteers installed smoke detectors in about a quarter of the homes in the marina. Residents served by CCF&R and the Rotary Club of Three Creeks were appreciative and enjoyed having the volunteers drop by.

Service Projects Director Steve Pash said the club will continue looking for more opportunities like this one to provide service.

"This went well," Pash said. "We were able to either hand deliver or install detectors to a number of homes and talk with others about detector safety and fire danger. We will continue to seek out opportunities like this, and would welcome another opportunity to partner with CCF&R."

Join the club

The club meets at 5:30 p.m. the first and third Thursday of each month. First Thursdays are at Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, 2211 NE 139th St., Vancouver and the third Thursday meetings are at Northwest Smile Designs on NE 179th St., Ridgefield.

More information about the Rotary Club of Three Creeks can be found on its website rotaryofthreecreeks.weebly.com, or through [Facebook.com/rotaryofthreecreeks](https://www.facebook.com/rotaryofthreecreeks).



Monthly Report

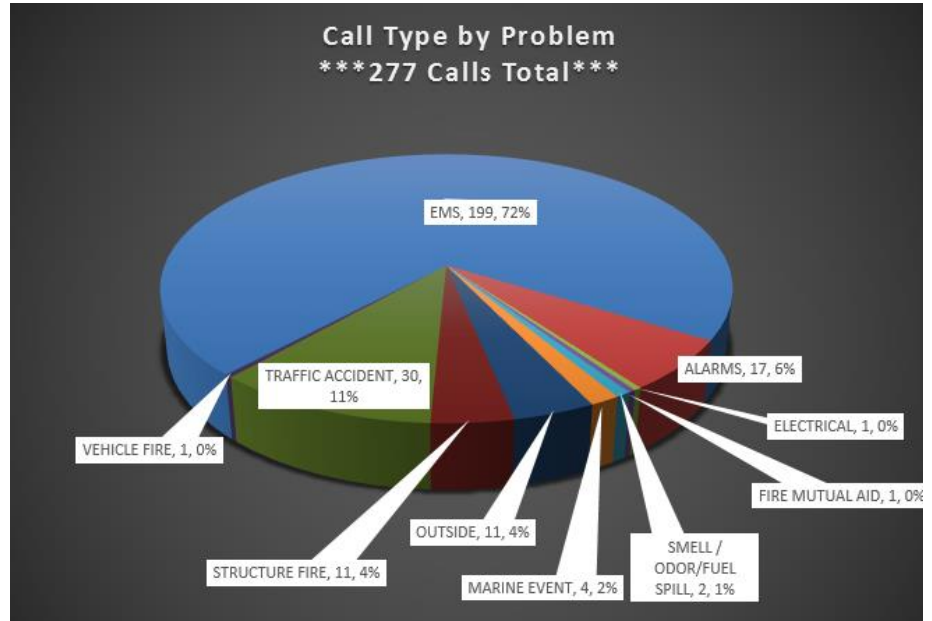
To: Commissioners
From: Chief John Nohr
Date: April 11, 2017
Re: March Report

CCF&R HOLDS COMMUNITY MEETING ON LID LIFT

CCF&R hosted a community open house at Fire Station 22 in Charter Oak on March 21st to answer questions about the possibility of a lid lift. If passed by the voters of the District, the lid lift would restore the CCF&R property tax rate from \$1.41/thousand of assessed value to \$1.50/thousand. Chief Nohr and several Commissioners were on hand to explain the need for the lid lift and ways that citizens throughout the District would benefit. In addition to staffing Station 22 on a full-time basis, funds would also be used to purchase new fire apparatus to replace some of our oldest units, critical emergency equipment, and facility maintenance and upgrades at several fire stations. Citizens in attendance asked questions on how the district provides services and why response times are critical. Chief Nohr even had the opportunity to provide a full-service tour to a family that dropped in.

FAMILY LOSES HOME TO FIRE

A Ridgefield family lost nearly everything due to a fire in their home on March 6th. Fortunately, the six adults and three children who were in the house at the time of the fire were able to get out safely. The century-old farmhouse located at 22319 NW 19th Avenue was heavily involved in flames when the first CCF&R crews arrived. Firefighters were forced to take a defensive stand due to the size of the fire. The older construction style allowed the fire to travel through void spaces and other channels which made for a very difficult extinguishment process. In addition, with no fire hydrants located nearby, firefighters were forced to shuttle water from a hydrant over 3 miles away. Firefighters worked through the night to bring the fire under control and to final extinguishment. A call went out through social media to help provide the family with clothes and other basic items. The community response was overwhelming. Fire Station 21 was used as a drop-off site, and off-duty CCF&R firefighters and their family members helped sort and package items for transfer to the family.

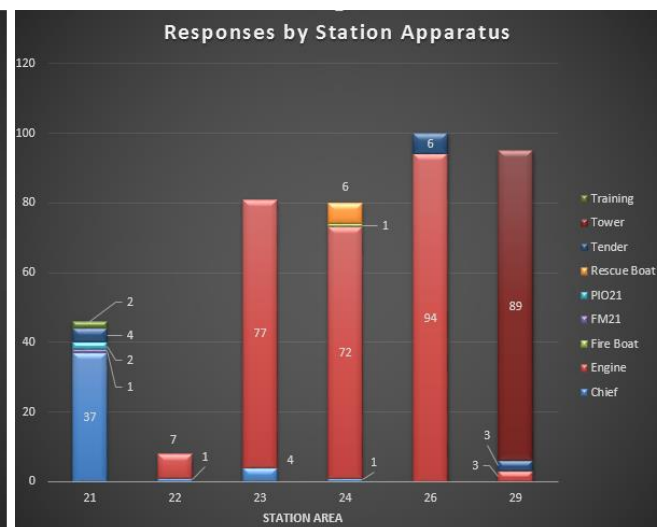
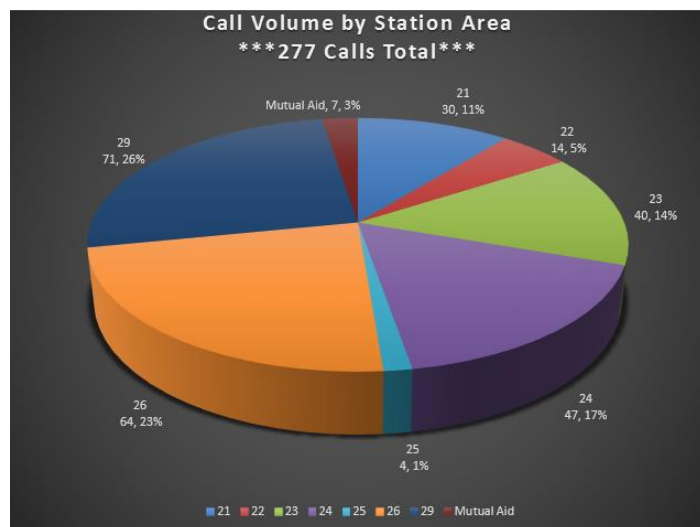


ILANI RESORT PREPARES FOR OPENING

CCF&R continues to work with our partners at the Cowlitz Tribe as they make a push to open the new ilani Resort in April. The new resort will be one of the largest and most technically advanced buildings in the District. Division Chief Dawdy has been busy ensuring that the water supply and fire sprinkler systems are in service and working properly, exits are well lit and easily identifiable, and that ilani employees have received training on how to properly use a fire extinguisher. In addition, Chief Dawdy ensured that the building has a new 800 MHz radio repeater system that will allow emergency personnel to maintain radio access when deep inside the building.

CCFR HOLDS SWEARING IN CEREMONY

On March 23rd CCF&R held a ceremony to instate personnel into their positions through a “Swearing In Ceremony”. Firefighters, Officers, and Chiefs at CCF&R take an oath to affirm that they will uphold the laws of Washington and the United States, as well as all rules and policies of CCF&R during their service to the organization. Personnel in critical positions such as Law Enforcement and Fire/EMS often take an oath to perform their duties as prescribed. This month’s ceremony included John Nohr to Fire Chief; Jason Leavitt to Fire Captain; Paul Bustamante, Matthew Cushwa and Taylor Konkright to Firefighter; Anna Jones, Dina Karpuyuk, Lorimar Valencia, Kyle Ulsh and Matthew Brandt to Firefighter-Volunteer; and Airen Elizabeth, Breta Winfield, Brian Ellis, and Jason Lattig to Firefighter-Support. Congratulations to all and “Thank you” for your service!





**RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PERMENENT LEVY LID
LIFT – PRIMARY ELECTION**

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE, PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE DISTRICT AT A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD WITHIN THE DISTRICT ON AUGUST 1, 2017 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE STATE PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD ON THE SAME DATE, OF A PROPOSITION AUTHORIZING A LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX NOT TO EXCEED \$1.50 PER \$1,000.00 OF TRUE AND ASSESSED VALUATION AND ESTABLISHING A SIX YEAR LIMIT FACTOR SUBJECT TO OTHERWISE APPLICABLE STATUTORY LIMITATIONS.

Background: WHEREAS, it is the judgment of the Board of Commissioners of the District that it is essential and necessary for the protection of the health and life of the residents of the District that fire and emergency medical services be provided by the District. Such services will necessitate the expenditure of revenues for station construction, maintenance, operations, equipment and personnel in excess of those which can be provided by the District's regular tax revenue levied at the current rate per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation of taxable property within the District.

WHEREAS, The Board of Commissioners has determined that the application of the one percent limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 will not allow the District to generate sufficient revenue to provide for the expected cost increases required to maintain and increase the level of services currently provided by the District.

WHEREAS, the funds generated by this levy will allow the District to maintain or increase the level of services and will not supplant existing funds used for the purposes identified in Section 1.

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has determined that it is in the best interest of the District that the maximum allowable levy in the sixth year of the levy authorized by this Resolution serve as the levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Clark County Fire & Rescue, Ridgefield, Washington as follows:

Section 1. In order to provide fire protection, prevention, and emergency medical services in the District, it is necessary for the District to operate and maintain emergency fire and medical service vehicles, to construct and remodel station facilities and other capital facilities, and to appropriately staff these facilities with properly trained personnel equipped with proper firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

Section 2. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of providing and maintaining adequate life protection services, facilities, and equipment as described in



**CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE
RESOLUTION NO. 170413-1**

Section 1, to maintain reserve funds sufficient to assure the continuation of such services, and to assure the improvement of such services, the District shall, in accordance with RCW 84.55.050, remove the one percent limitation on regular property taxes imposed by RCW 84.55.010 and levy beginning in 2017 and collect beginning in 2018, pursuant to RCW 52.16.130, RCW 52.16.140 and RCW 52.16.160, a general tax on taxable property within the District at a rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation subject to otherwise applicable statutory limits.

Section 3. The District previously obtained voter approval to establish the levy rate at \$1.50 per thousand of assessed valuation in 2006.

Section 4. In order to provide the revenue adequate to pay the costs of maintaining and providing the services described in Section 1 and to assure the continuation and improvement of such services beyond 2018, the District has determined that a limit factor of 106% shall be used to determine the actual levy rate, subject to the maximum statutory rate of \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation, in 2018 – 2022. The dollar amount levied in 2022 shall serve as the District’s tax levy base for purposes of applying the limit factor established by RCW 84.55.010 in subsequent years.

Section 5. There shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the District for their ratification or rejection, at a special election on August 1, 2017, in conjunction with the state primary election to be held on the same date, the question of whether or not the regular property tax levy of the District should be restored to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of true and assessed valuation in 2017 and be adjusted by 106% for the following five years, subject to otherwise applicable statutory limitations. The Auditor of Clark County, as ex-officio Supervisor of Elections, is hereby requested to call such special election, and to submit the following proposition at such election, in the form of a ballot title substantially as follows:

Clark County Fire & Rescue
Proposition No. 1
Levy Lid Lift Authorizing Restoration of Previous Property Tax Levy

The Board of Clark County Fire & Rescue adopted Resolution No. 170413-1 concerning a proposition to maintain and adequately fund District operations.

This proposition authorizes the District to restore its regular property tax levy to \$1.50 per \$1,000.00 of assessed valuation in 2017 for collection in 2018 and authorize setting the levy limit factor at 106% (not to exceed the \$1.50 rate) for each of the five succeeding years for the purposes of acquiring emergency equipment, addressing capital needs, and improving operations. The maximum allowable levy in 2022 shall serve as the base for subsequent levy limitations.

Should this proposition be: Approved Rejected




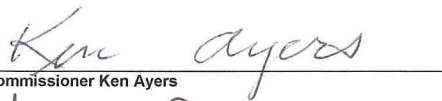
**CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE
RESOLUTION NO. 170413-1**

ADOPTED by the Clark County Fire & Rescue Board of Commissioners in Ridgefield, Washington, at a regular meeting of said Board on the 13th day of April, 2017 the following Commissioners being present and voting.

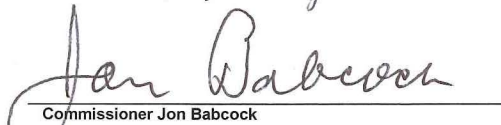

Commissioner Jerry Kolke – Chair

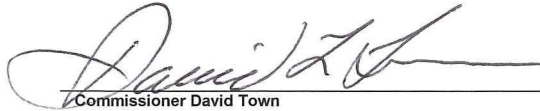

Commissioner Stanley Chunn – Vice Chair

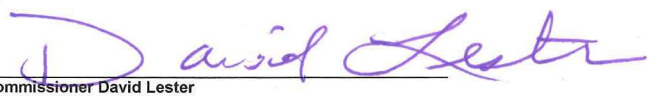

Commissioner Larry Bartel


Commissioner Ken Ayers


Commissioner James R Johnson


Commissioner Jon Babcock


Commissioner David Town


Commissioner David Lester


Attest: District Secretary