



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

Chief's Report

March 23, 2022

OPERATIONS

Significant Alarms

On March 12th, the East Battalion (Monroe) and North Battalion (Lake Stevens) had fires occurring simultaneously.

The first fire was in the East Battalion. It was a commercial fire in a 60' tall grain sorter that was being dismantled. Due to limited water supply at the location and access to the fire, crews used multiple water tenders, and an aerial device to extinguish the fire.

Herald Article: <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/tower-catches-fire-at-monroe-construction-firm-no-injuries/>

At the same time as the above fire, the North Battalion had a residential structure fire. Crews from Station 82 arrived and quickly extinguished the fire with help from Marysville and Snohomish. It was a small outbuilding that was fully involved and had extended to the main structure. The crews contained the fire to the attic and a bedroom of the house. All occupants safely evacuated the house prior to arrival of any fire department units.

On March 13th, E76 and M76 assisted South County Fire on a residential fire. E76 arrived first, and found a heavily involved residence. E76's crew established command began fire control from the exterior. M76's crew was assigned to search the structure. The search crew encountered high heat and advanced fire conditions in the structure. The crew did their best to search the residence but were forced out due to the high heat. South County arrived and assumed command, and along with the Station 76 crews controlled the fire. Both members of the M76 crew suffered from minor burn injuries due the fire conditions they encountered.

On March 17th, crews in the West Battalion (Clearview/Maltby) responded to a residential fire. E73 arrived first and found a two-story house that is currently being renovated. E73 found the house filled with smoke. The crews found the location of the fire, and initially attempted to extinguish it from the exterior. The line was redeployed to the interior for final extinguishment. Due to the renovation occurring in the house, the fire was able to easily spread and caused significant damage to the house. The speed and efficiency of all SRFR crews in extinguishing the fire prevented this from becoming a total loss. No injuries to SRFR members or civilians were reported.



Fire Suppression / Special Operations

The SNO911 dispatch center had a planned CAD upgrade scheduled overnight on March 7th, to the morning of March 8th. During this upgrade, the dispatch center was staffed with fire department representatives, and all agencies were advised to plan for their own Fire Operations Center, or FOC. SRFR staffed their FOC, at Station 31, with an additional Battalion Chief. Overall, the upgrade was a success.

Emergency Medical Services

Staff attended the monthly Sno911 DRC/DNC meeting to discuss dispatch criteria.

Staff attended the monthly Providence Hospital Stroke Quality Committee and Code Stroke IR Workgroup to collaborate with regional partners.

Staff met with representatives from FirstPass to conduct updates to the system for QA purposes.

Training & Safety

Health & Safety will be working with Operations to review a recent fire response that resulted in minor burns to two SRFR firefighters. We will be assessing our PPE and fire ground operations to seek continuous improvement.

The Force Protection Group continues to meet and navigate the changing landscape of COVID restrictions. We anticipate that changes will be slow and incremental as we work our way towards a new normal for health care providers. For now, all employees are still masking when in public spaces.

Health & Safety is working with the Admin Team to develop a return to the office plan for all employees.

Training, Operations, and Health & Safety will be attending the CPSE Excellence Conference to gain a broader understanding of the accreditation process and the governing bodies.

March 17, staff attended the Snohomish County Fire Recruit Academy evaluations. All SRFR recruits and company officers are performing at a high level.

PLANNING

Welcome PIEO Peter Mongillo!

Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue welcomes our new Public Information and Education Officer Peter Mongillo to our team. Peter was born and raised Washington and feels blessed to work in the community he loves. Peter was a local Photojournalist for 20 years, most recently with KOMO News. Peter is a father of two girls that attend Lake Stevens schools. He is an avid angler, classic Volkswagen enthusiast, and an all-season outdoor explorer. Welcome Peter!



Community Relations

This year the city of Lake Stevens will be partnering with Gloria Martin to provide our Lake Stevens community with a Health & Wellness Festival. This new opportunity will replace the Health & Safety Fair that has been organized by fire and police in the past.

The Lake Stevens Health & Wellness Festival has been scheduled for Sunday June 26th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at North Cove Park & The Mill, downtown Lake Stevens.

We have scheduled our annual Lake Stevens Guns 'n Hoses Softball Challenge for 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, August 9 at the Lake Stevens Community Park. Our Monroe softball game with Monroe PD has been scheduled for Noon on Sunday, May 1 at Lake Tye Turf Field. Many thanks to Lieutenant Scott Rybar for coordinating our SRFR teams!!

We look forward to connecting with our communities this summer!

Public Education Updates:

School YTD: 2nd Grade Classes Visited: **31 out of 77**

- March 3rd - March 16th
 - Mill Creek Elementary: **4**
- Scheduled: **9 (2nd Grade) & 5 (9th Grade Hands Only CPR)**

Adult & Senior Safety Classes YTD: **4**

- We had our Home Fire Safety class on **March 9th**
- The next class is Disaster Preparedness on **April 13th**

Social Media Snapshot: March 3rd - March 16th

- **21** Posts
- **44** New Followers/Accounts
- **20,696** Impressions/Engagement/Clicks

Public Education Specialist Kaitlin King submitted the Spring 2022 Newsletter to the printer. It should drop in mailboxes the first week in April. This newsletter features: The Water Rescue Team, Chief's Message, Window Falls Safety, and Bike Helmet Safety.

Public Education Specialist Kaitlin King is working with our webmaster to update our SRFR website with current content on the following pages:

- Public Information
- About Us Section and Recruitment/Employment Pages



LOGISTICS

March 14, staff met with leadership from Granite Falls Fire Dist. 17 and their project manager to tour their new training and storage facility that are under construction.

March 16, staff met with architect Rice, Fergus, Miller to begin planning for future capital facilities projects, notably Station 83, the Shop, Station 81, Station 32, and Station 72.

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Finance

We are finishing up the 2021 fourth quarter financial report and expect to present it at the next finance committee meeting.

We are working on budget amendment #1 for 2022. This should include updated beginning fund balances for 2022, 2021 encumbrances, and the budget reinfusion plan.

We have completed the January 2022 budget and actual report and are beginning the February 2022 bank reconciliations.

Administration

Cultural Leadership Team (CLT)

March 22, staff met with Dr. Pat Sikora to plan for the recruitment and launch of a Cultural Leadership Team (CLT). The CLT will include employees from all levels of the organization to help the District improve and support a positive internal culture. More information about the CLT will be forthcoming.

Vaccination Mandate Comprehensive Accommodation Review

On August 9, 2021, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 21-14 requiring state employees and health care and long-term care providers to be fully vaccinated after October 18, 2021. SRFr is complying with the Governor's Proclamation. As an ongoing analysis, staff are engaged in an evaluation of the district's ability to modify accommodations provided to unqualified employees. Criteria currently under review includes the following:

- The lawful and regulatory requirements contained in Governor Jay Inslee's August 9, 2021, Proclamation 21-14 requiring state employees and health care and long-term care providers to be fully vaccinated after October 18, 2021
- The Vaccine Mandate Accommodation MOU with Local 2781
- Recommendations from the CDC, Snohomish Health District, and MPD Dr. Eric Cooper
- Legal review
- Operational impacts



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

- Health and safety impacts
- Logistical impacts
- Risk management impacts
- Community impacts
- Internal culture impacts
- Financial impacts
- Insurance coverage
- Review of other agencies' accommodation policies
- Analysis of possible accommodation change
 - Day shift assignment
 - Operations assignment
 - Maintain status quo
 - Sustainability of possible accommodation change

Staff expect to have an update regarding this analysis by May 1, 2022.

Thank you to our responders, staff, for their great work and dedication!

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief