



Chief's Report 1.28.21

Covid-19

In addition to the continued monitoring, protective measures and education, the current emphasis is to support vaccinations for our employees.

The COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic at Evergreen State Fairgrounds has been very successful and is operating when supplies are available. As of 1/27/21 we have administered over 7,000 vaccines in 10 days of operation. With support of the Snohomish County DEM, The Snohomish County Health District and Dr. Cooper, the site is operating through a partnership of Snohomish County Fire Departments. We are planning two additional sites at the Arlington Airport and "Boom City" in Tulalip. A Fire Operations Center will be opened next week to support operations of the multiple sites.

The Logistics Division is helping Snohomish County with the distribution of pandemic supplies. This week we will have organized and delivered 100,000 N95 masks, 1,500,000 medical gloves and 132,000 surgical masks to all the Snohomish County Fire Departments. We will be organizing and delivering gowns and face shields in the near future.

Per SFRF policy, the District provides employees 80 hours of Emergency COVID leave to be used for COVID related illness, isolation, and quarantine. Until January 1, 2021, the Federal Government provided reimbursement for the costs of Emergency COVID leave through CARES Act funding. It is unknown if the funding will be restored. The District continues to offer the Emergency COVID leave to our employees and will evaluate the relevance and costs on a monthly basis.

House Bill 1159 (Commissioner Size)

1/20, Commissioner Schaub, Commissioner Elmore, and Chief O'Brien virtually testified in the State House of Representatives Local Government on behalf of House Bill 1159 which provides for the expansion of a board of fire commissioners from five to seven. On 1/25 the bill successfully passed in committee and will be moved to the House Floor.

Chaplain Program

Staff are in the process of updating the District's Chaplain program. We are looking at similar programs in the region and will seek to update a program that fits SFRF.

Retirements

This month we honor the retirements of B.C. Derik Millich, D.O. Ed Mahrt, and Lt. Jeff Larsen. Flag ceremonies will be held for each following their last shift. We thank all of them for their dedicated service to our communities. Congratulations Derik, Ed, and Jeff!

We also wish to thank the Honor Guard and Pipers for their support of the flag ceremonies. Their dedication to uphold the traditions of the fire service helps ground and connect SFRF to those before us and supports the importance of respect, discipline, and comradery.

Battalion Chief Promotion

Following the retirement of B.C. Derik Millich, Captain Joe Basta has been promoted to Battalion Chief. B.C. Basta will begin his new job on February 3, on Delta Shift, North Battalion. Congratulations B.C. Basta!

Fire & Life Safety

Lake Stevens City Council approved local ordinance updated building and fire code to 2018 series with local amendments. Local amendments included:

1. Use of fire walls to separate buildings
2. Exempt use of private residential/shared access roads to be used as fire apparatus access roads
3. Extend no parking – fire lanes signs from 50' to 100' spacing
4. Changed terminology in sprinkler standard from “structure” to “building”.
5. Repealed sprinkler sections of LSMC and changed to add requirements to 903 of the IFC.

We will resume annual fire inspections on February 1st. We plan to inspect over 2700 annual inspections.

New tablets have been ordered for Fire & Life Safety. These are cellular iPads and will be used for inspections and pre-fire planning.

APX Data is up and running for pre-fire planning. We are working with IT for district-wide rollout. Once complete our Pre-fires will auto-populate after dispatch on MDCs.

Accreditation

We have completed the first team meeting with new SRFR members. An education presentation was given and we reviewed risk analysis methodology. The Core Team and category managers are building their teams based on the 10th Ed of the Fire and Emergency Services Self Assessment Manual (FESSAM).

We plan to begin writing our FESSAM on 3/1/21 with an anticipated completion date of 11/1/21.

We look forward to delivering the Accreditation presentation to the Board of Fire Commissioners Regular Meeting on 1/28/21.

Standards (Policy and Procedures) Committee

The first team meeting was on 1/14/21 and served as Lexipol training and committee kick-off. We will begin sending standards for review on 2/1/21.

Standards is the term we will use for policies and procedures. The Standards are broken in 5 tiers, level 1 being the most critical. Standard champions will be given 2 months to review each tier of standards.

We are targeting 12/31/21 for completion of the review and update of all district standards.

Health & Safety Transition

We are ordering a second Portacount Fit Testing unit and MSA Altair 5x gas monitors and calibration stations.

Staff are in the process of completing OSHA 300/300A forms. This is our illness/injury log and summary and will be posted from February 1st to April 15th per WISHA.

Commercial Driver Training

Zachary Lewis (Logistics Technician) will start his Commercial Driver's License Training on March 1st and will finish on March 26th. After March 26 all three Logistics Technicians will have their Class A Commercial Driver's License.

District Boundary Signs

We are hoping to have pricing by the end of January for replacing approximately 60 Fire District Boundary Signs with the new SRFR name and logo.

Snow Preparation

The Logistics Division has been preparing for the winter snow (if we prepare we won't get any). All facilities have been stocked up with snow shovels and ice melt. Working with Support Services Division we now have 2 large plows on pick-ups and a plow on our side-by-side (gator). Let it snow!

Station 83

We have the conceptual plans and pricing for the station 83 improvements. This is going to the Board of Commissioners for discussion.

Capital Facilities Plan

The Capital Facilities Comprehensive planning is moving along. We have started task 2 of 3. We will be setting up a meeting that will include the Capital Facilities Committee and the Senior Staff to work on establishing the thirty thousand foot level planning.

Station 71 Septic

We are still working with our attorney, Mitch Cogdill on the Station 71 septic issues and cost sharing with Flower World. More to come on this issue.

Asbestos Abatement

We have completed the asbestos survey and received costs for abatement on station 81 and the future station 84 site. This will be going to the Board of Commissioners for approval.

SCBA Compressors

The 17 year old SCBA compressor at station 31 is no longer working and needs to be replaced. We originally received quotes to replace this but after discussion with the operations Division we are going to move the 3 year old SCBA compressor from station 72 to station 31. This will give us a SCBA compressor in each Battalion (station 31, 71 and 81). We are going to get pricing for a mobile SCBA compressor and fill station. We are hoping to have something put together for the Board of Commissioner discussion at their meeting on February, 25th.

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief