



SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

## Chief's Report

September 26, 2024

### **Mission**

Save Lives, Protect Property, Safeguard the Environment, and Take Care of People

### **Vision**

We will be a proactive regional emergency services leader by partnering to provide safe communities for people to live, work and explore.

### **Guiding Values**

Respect, Accountability, Integrity, Teamwork, Service

## OPERATIONS

### Significant Alarms

#### **Hazmat Response**

The East Battalion had a three alarm hazmat response. Crews and the hazmat techs did an excellent job! Special thanks to the Office of the Fire Marshal for loaning FM71 (SDFM Bowen) to the incident to be our Hazmat Group Supervisor. Units B31, E31 and E41 were initially dispatched on a first alarm hazmat incident reported by WSP while on scene of a non-injury collision with a chemical spill. HZ72 and M31 were requested to respond to assist.

B31 arrived to find a low to moderate speed rear-end collision with two vehicles on the shoulder. Occupants of both vehicles were ambulatory and with WSP. The rear vehicle was a semi-truck with front end damage and the front vehicle was a passenger truck pulling a trailer. There was blue liquid pouring from the seams of the damaged rear trailer door. The liquid was running to the shoulder and pooling along the grass.

B31 assumed SR2 Command and set an initial exclusionary zone of 300 feet in all directions. B31 was able to have the WSP officers and the vehicle occupants move to the west where E41 was blocking SR2. The command post was located at the east end of the incident. WSDOT eventually closed SR2 at each end of Roosevelt Road.

Firefighters were successful in containing the spill and the incident was turned over to the Washington State Patrol.



## **Training**

### **Blue Card Incident Management Train the Trainer Course**

Granite Falls hosted a five-day Blue Card Incident Management Train the Trainer Course that we had several members attend. We look forward to utilizing these additional instructors that will make us more self-sufficient in our incident management training in the future.

### **IFSAC Instructor 1 Certificate Course**

The Training Division hosted an IFSAC Instructor 1 Certificate Course at Station 71. We had multiple SRFR members attend looking to further their career development. The Training Division is looking at bringing in more classes that will help our members receive the qualifications needed to fulfill acting requirements and then move through the promotional processes.

## **Health & Safety**

### **Cancer & Cardiac Screening Event**

The first Cancer & Cardiac Screening Event concluded on September 20. The event had a total of 184 participants with 77 coming from SRFR. We had the largest turnout of all the agencies participating. Thank you SRFR for your help in making this successful and for caring about your health!

### **SCBA Pack & Bottle Identifiers**

The Health & Safety Committee reviewed and recommended SCBA pack and bottle identifiers to increase safety on emergency scenes. The pack and bottle identifiers will make it easier to identify fire companies in low light conditions or when faces are obscured with a mask. The goal is to get these purchased and installed by the end of 2024.

## **SUPPORT SERVICES**

## **Community Relations**

### **Public Education**

#### **Monroe Senior Center Firefighter Spaghetti Dinner**

Snohomish Regional Fire & Rescue proudly served a spaghetti dinner for the Monroe Senior Center fundraiser on September 20. A special thank you to DC Titland for helping organize this annual event. DC McConnell, FM Bowen, FM Dahl, BC DiMonda, LT Mattern, DO Edmundson, FF Beard, FF Litten, FF Marty, and PIEO Mongillo helped cook, serve, and clean up. Around 90 people were in attendance and our services were well received.

### **Disaster Preparedness Class**

PIEO Mongillo hosted an online Disaster Preparedness class on September 11.



### **SRFR E81 at the Lake Stevens Sno-Isle Library Groundbreaking**

E31 visited the Lake Stevens Library groundbreaking celebration. It was well attended and Sno-Isle made a nice video with our crews included.

### **Chamber of Commerce Membership Meetings**

The September 4 Sky Valley Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Assistant Chief Messer and Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen. The topic for September was the City of Sultan Economic Development Comprehensive Plan & Snohomish County Tourism Plan Updates.

The September 10 Monroe Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Schaub, Commissioner Steinruck, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Chief McConnell, and Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen. The topic for September was Economic Development including updates from Patrick Doherty, Economic Development Coordinator for the city of Monroe.

The September 11 Lake Stevens Chamber Membership Luncheon was attended by Commissioner Elmore, Commissioner Steinruck, Assistant Chief Lundquist, Assistant Chief Messer, Deputy Chief Rasmussen, Deputy Chief McConnell, Deputy Fire Marshal Bowen, Deputy Fire Marshal LeDuc, and Program Specialist Larson. The topic for September was Chats with the Chiefs including updates from both SRFR Assistant Chief Lundquist and LSPD Chief Beazizo, as well as an update from Lake Stevens School Superintendent Templeton.

### **Public Information**

Social Media Snapshot: August 14 – September 21, 2024

- 66 Posts
- 202 New Followers/Accounts
- 236,868 Impressions/Engagement/Clicks
- 21,196 Total Followers

Internal Media:

- DEM Community Wildfire Protection Plan Survey
- Guns & Hoses
- Everett Water Rescue Mutual Aid
- Open House Promos
- Recruit Run
- Admin Specialist Job Posting
- Lateral Firefighter Job Posting
- Brett Bergeron Treads Water
- Labor Day
- OK Mill Rd FRC
- Hot Weather Tips
- Harper's Generosity



## SNOHOMISH REGIONAL FIRE & RESCUE

- Hose Training
- Remembering 9/11
- Pinning of New DCs and AC
- Clearview FRC
- HWY2 Hazmat

### Earned Media

9/3 KIRO "Stubborn fire rips through, destroys house in Snohomish" <https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/stubborn-fire-rips-through-destroys-house-snohomish/NIPGSUZM3RFA3LWFVPQHACV5BE/>

9/3 Snohomish Tribune "Firefighter treads water 24 hours to fundraise for MS" <https://www.snoho.com/news/2024/sep/03/firefighter-treads-water-24-hours-to-fundraise-for-ms/>

9/18 Herald "US 2 reopens in Monroe after herbicide spill" <https://www.heraldnet.com/news/hazardous-materials-spill-closes-us-2-in-monroe/>

9/18 KIRO "Highway 2 reopens after truck spills gallons of herbicide mix near Monroe" <https://www.kiro7.com/news/local/truck-crash-spills-20-gallons-herbicide-mix-onto-highway-2-closing-lanes-near-monroe/EIP2JMJCCVEGVGRVCY3MNK3OAA/>

8/29 Local Firefighter to Tread Water for 24 hours for charity. <https://myeverettnews.com/2024/08/29/local-firefighter-to-tread-water-for-24-hours-for-charity/8/29/local-firefighter-to-tread-water-for-24-hours-for-charity/>

Brett's story also made The Arc on KOMO but not published on the web.

### Logistics

#### **Capital Facilities Report**

##### **Station 83**

The Station 83 remodel is nearing completion. Logistics started moving things in and setting up Station 83 on Monday, September 23. We plan on having crews back into the station on September 30. We received our temporary certificate of occupancy (TCO) on the 24. There will be contractors on-site for a month or so finishing up the exterior and other small items. We are very much looking forward to getting our crews back into the station.

##### **Station 31 Shop Remodel**

GenCap continues to make great progress. This week the walls are going up on the shop remodel. The roofers continue to work on the Station 31 roof. They will be working in the area above the apparatus bays this week. Thank you to the crews and staff for enduring the loud



banging noises above all your heads and working through some leaks we experienced during the rain.

### **Station 32 Property**

Our due diligence study period is coming to an end, and we have a few test fits for the new station. We are optimistic that the property will work for our needs of a future station.

### **Station 81**

BN Builders have been working on test fits for 81 and presented some at our BN Builders weekly meeting on September 25.

### **Station 72**

We continue to pump the septic tanks weekly and monitor the levels. Crews are doing a great job of watching water usage. After a review of the contract from our attorney and some suggested changes, we have Donna Breske and Associates on board to design our sewer and water hookup for Station 72. Once we have the design, we will work on getting a company on board to do the work.

### **Admin Building**

The OFM and IT Division have made the move to the new areas in the Admin Building. The Training Division will soon follow. During the first week in October, we will complete the kitchen/break room in the new area. The DC's have started the move into the South East Conference Room at Station 31.

## **BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

### **Human Resources**

Human Resources is currently supporting the following Divisions & Committee with the current hiring processes:

Training, Operations & Hiring Committee:

1. Driver/Operator - The written test and two components of the Assessment Center have been completed. The two remaining components of the Assessment Center occur the week of September 30. There are a total of thirteen employees going through the Assessment Center.
2. CARES Specialist – First Round interviews were pushed back to the week of September 30 due to unforeseen circumstances. There is one employee scheduled for first round interviews.
3. Special Operations Teams – Position announcement has closed and minimum qualifications are being reviewed. Thirty-two employees submitted letters of interest for the three teams (Water, Rescue Tech, and HazMat).
4. Lateral Firefighter – Position announcement closes Sunday, October 6. The first round of interviews is tentatively scheduled for the week of October 21, 2024.



5. Lateral Firefighter Paramedic – Same as Lateral Firefighter.

#### Administrative Division:

1. IT Administrative Assistant – A New Hire offer has been made and accepted. New Hire, Jerit Smith, starts on Tuesday, October 1, 2024. Additional information/bio on our new employee will follow. Welcome Jerit!!
2. Leaves Administrative Specialist – First round interviews are September 25 and 26. There are thirty (30) candidates scheduled for first round interviews.
3. Confidential Support Assistant – Chief's interview scheduled for October 1.

#### **Cultural Leadership Team**

The Cultural Leadership Team (CLT) is looking at revamping our Leadership Meeting structure with a change to occur starting in 2025. The change will consist of five meetings per year that will start in January and occur every odd month but will exclude July because of summer vacations. The purpose is to communicate department information more often on a regular cadence. Some components that will be new include a question-and-answer session and leadership training. This could be provided by in-house resources or outside talent.

The CLT has several subcommittees that work on topics that require much research and thought. Here is a list of the current subcommittees and the members that lead these groups. The CLT encourages you to reach out to the CLT email or the leads of these committees if you would like to give feedback. The CLT is currently seeking new members for the new year of 2025. This is a great opportunity to be a part of what can make SRFR better.

- 360 Degree Evaluations - Sam Langheld
- Rebranding (Mostly complete) - Jamal Beckham
- Station Pride Project - Joe Basta
- Leadership Training - Joe Basta
- Officer Development Academy - Jeremy Karapostoles
- Employee Photos & Bios - Kaitlin King
- Merger Survey - Brian Kees

Take care and stay safe,

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief