



Vashon Island Fire and Rescue
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**CHIEF'S
REPORT**

Board of Fire Commissioners'

Meeting of
27 October 2021

Please accept the following information. The report's focus is to provide the Board with an overview of Vashon Island Fire and Rescue, as well as point out noteworthy topics, since the Board's last regularly scheduled meeting.

1. Personnel:

- a. The Governor's Proclamation 21-14 when into effect on the 18th and has impacted the agency...
- b. It appears that for District's compliance with the State's mandates we will see little additional impact by the Federal mandates anticipated to go into effect on December 8th...
- c. The difficulties of the times continue to stress our operational and administrative staff. In addition to the difficulties of the pandemic, at home and at work, the problematic nature, trials, and tribulations of exposure investigations, staffing shortfalls & overtime fatigue, and the combination of several serious events & topics over the last three months is evident and weighing heavily on the organization...
- d. The possibility of a COVID-19 related exposures to administrative staff was explored on the 11th, however, for the use of appropriate protocols, lack of symptoms, and negative testing no exposures were evident...
- e. Independently of the above another exposure of a member of the administrative staff took place off duty. They tested positive for COVID-19 following symptoms presenting themselves on the 16th and were required to remain away from the office through the 26th. For the use of appropriate protocols, lack of symptoms, and negative testing no additional exposures were found however another member of the administrative staff was required to quarantine for two and a half day and continue POC testing for another week...
- f. On the 21st the crews had their sixth direct contact with a COVID positive patient. For their protocols and application of appropriate PPE it was determined that there was no exposure during the call...
- g. On the 12th, 13th, & 21st we held interviews to continue the District's efforts to establish a Firefighter Hiring List. We currently have approximately 39 on the list of which 12 received second interviews with the Captains for 'placement rankings.' Early next month the top six candidates we advance to Chiefs' Interviews so as to establish their final rankings on the list...

2. Operations:

- a. The District continues to apply standing regional COVID-19 protocols both in the stations and in the field to prevent the spread of, or exposure to, the coronavirus...

3. Dispatches:

- a. As of 09:00 this morning our total call volume for the year is at 1,364...

- i. This would suggest an end of year count of 1,660, 112% greater than last year's total count of 1,482...

4. Training:

- a. We have been made aware of a potentially significant increase in the cost of membership with the South King County Fire Training Consortium (SKCFTC) and the Administration is again reviewing/considering the program's importance and value to the agency as well as how best to take advantage of their services...
- b. The 4th Quarter District Training Day is scheduled for November 2nd...

5. Apparatus:

- a. As of this morning I am unaware of any apparatus being out of service...
- b. Rescue 355 was out of service briefly with a broken leaf spring. Both rear springs were replaced, and it is again fully operational. There were no negative outcomes because of it being out of service...
- c. The new aid car's (A06) delivery date remains undefined, and we are currently assuming it to within the first quarter of 2022...

6. Facilities:

- a. Currently, I have nothing specific to report on regarding our grounds or facilities...

7. Financials:

- a. Please accept the following summary of the current financial spreadsheets representing the 2021 budget and revenues and expenses through the end of September...
 - i. Revenues were \$4,077,221.24 or 72.934% of forecasted...
 - ii. Expenses were \$3,261,193.90 or 68.732% of the year's allowance, this represents an under-budget performance of 6.268% below target...
- b. This following nine categories represent our budgeting efforts:
 - i. *Administration-Business Support:* \$353,506.66 or 79.547% of budget...
 - ii. *Personnel Costs-Wages & Benefits:* \$2,584,280.40 or 70.478% of budget...
 - iii. *Training Costs:* \$51,702.30 or 39.813% of budget...
 - iv. *Equipment Costs:* \$47,523.79 or 42.242% of budget...
 - v. *Supply Costs:* \$19,749.36 or 68.307% of budget...
 - vi. *Uniforms & Personal Protection Equipment:* \$8,235.28 or 17.617% of budget...
 - vii. *Vehicle & Fleet Costs:* \$33,241.96 or 69.424% of budget...
 - viii. *Building & Grounds Costs:* \$126,027.85 or 53.462% of budget...
 - ix. *Disaster Preparation:* \$36,926.36 or 115.395% of budget...
- c. The last of the planned transfers of funds into reserve accounts was completed in September. \$100,000 was moved into the General Reserve Fund and \$150,000 was moved into the Fleet Reserve Fund. These transfers are represented in the provided spreadsheets...
- d. We are still addressing various account coding issues/topics to identify the final funds from the sale of the Benndesen House that will be transferred to the Facilities Reserve Fund. Such will be completed and identified with October's reconciliation next month, at this time it appears the transfer will be approximately \$752,000.00...
- e. With the end of year approaching the Board needs to formalize the 2022 budget and should provide its directions, desires, and aspirations for the 2022 budget to the Administration for consideration, discussion, and/or incorporation...
 - i. We are in receipt of the County's third (25 Oct 21) and still preliminary **Levy Limit Worksheet – 2022 Tax Roll**. Preliminary numbers suggest:
 - 1. The Island's assessed value (AV) has climbed almost \$600,000,000 since last year to \$3,899,756,056...

2. For this increase the maximum budget increase of 6% supersedes the application of the maximum tax rate of \$1.50/\$1,000 AV and will result in a preliminary budget increase of approximately \$356,000...
 3. Using the above increase to the budget the Fire District's tax rate will drop from its current \$1.50/\$1,000 AV to approximately \$1.36/\$1,000 AV...
 4. It appears that no prorating of the \$5.90 Aggregate Limit is likely for any of the island's taxing districts in 2022...
- ii. In support of the above item(s) the current *Working Apparatus Replacement Schedule* has again been attached to this report for your information and consideration...

8. Contracts:

- a. Regarding the District's on-going efforts to establish its compliance with the RCW requiring interlocal agreements for services:
 - i. *King County Housing Authority*: No progress has been made with this agency...
- b. *Washington State Ferries*: Communications with this agency continue to be drawn out. Our last communication with the Ferries was on Thursday October 14, 2021. We are approaching a year since our last agreement lapsed...
- c. Regarding other contractual efforts, you all have been presented with a Memorandum of Understanding (21-003) to attach to the current Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Union; The Local and the Administration agree with the terms defined within it and are hopeful that the Board will execute the memorandum...

9. Business Operations:

- a. I currently have nothing of significance to report on regarding current/recent business operations and efforts...

10. Community Engagement:

- a. I attended the VARSA board meeting digitally via a Zoom meeting on the 11th...
- b. I attended the **VashonBePrepared** board meeting digitally via a Zoom meeting on the 12th...
- c. I attended the Vashon Health Care District Board and Annual Report Meeting digitally via a Zoom meeting on the 14th...
- d. Tuesday evening (19 Oct 21 @ 19:00) I attended a Zoom Meeting with various Island Taxing Districts. We discussed various topics impacting those agencies present. No decisions were made...

11. Strategic Planning:

- a. To keep the Board informed as to the Fire District's on-going efforts to completely update and/or revise the District's "User Manual" (SOP/SOG Manual: the document containing all the rules and regulations directing and guiding the organization) please accept the attached "In The Works" Document representing the status of various Articles...

12. Miscellaneous:

- a. I currently have nothing additional to present, represent, or discuss with the Board...

Conclusion of Report



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