



Lake Stevens Fire &
Snohomish County Fire District 7
Improving Service Together



Chief's Report 10.8.20

COVID-19

District personnel remain focused on the District's mission of saving lives, protecting property, safeguarding the environment in a fiscally responsible manner. Given the current COVID-19 outbreak, extra attention has been given to the safety of our personnel and the District's response to care for our communities. We have been working closely with our Snohomish County regional partners including the other fire/EMS agencies, Snohomish County EMS, DEM, Dept. of Health, hospitals, the cities we serve, the school districts we serve, and others.

- There is one employee with no symptoms in quarantine due to an off-duty exposure.
- Labor disruption is stable
- Daily training is ongoing for all responders regarding personal protective equipment (PPE), decontamination, and response protocols
- The Infectious Control Task Force (ICTF) continues to work with the Safety Committee, Operations, Logistics, Technical Services, and Administration to monitor and develop best practices with the goal of maintaining a healthy environment for all employees and citizens.
- COVID 19 testing is now being performed by Everett Fire for all Snohomish County Fire/EMS Responders.
- The District is evaluating the 10.6.20 update to the Governor's Safe Start-Stay Healthy Plan.

Policy & Procedure

- Lexipol staff are working on completing the cross-walk between existing policy and procedures and Lexipol content. No completion date given.
- Staff began working in Lexipol to update our text entities and Mission, Visions, Values.
- The District is seeking 6 team members for the staff policy and procedure committee. Emails have been sent to section/division heads asking for a nomination.

Health & Safety

- The District is in the process of completing annual firefighter physicals.
- An order has been placed for the first round of MSA Altair 5x gas monitors and Galaxy G2 calibration stations. These will monitor for O2, LEL, CO, CO2, H2S, HCN.
- ICTF and SCFCA Force Protection are both in maintenance mode.
- The Health and Safety Division is working with Healthforce to provide onsite flu vaccines. Details will be provided soon.

Accreditation/Standards of Cover

The Accreditation Team is working on finalize geographic planning zone and risk assessment methodology. This is the foundation of the risk assessment process for the Standards of Cover. We are receiving advice from other Districts that are similar to SRFRR to develop regionally consistent and contemporary methods for completion. Pending Board approval, August of 2022 is projected start date of the Accreditation Process.

Washington Survey and Ratings Bureau

An inspection of the District has been requested by the Washington Survey and Ratings Bureau and is planned for October 2021.

Community Risk Reduction

The Burn Ban has been lifted for Unincorporated Snohomish County.

Emergency Medical Services

- Staff are working on SRFR standardization of Basic Life Support EMS Kits and Cardiac Monitors. Advanced Life Support Kits have been standardized.
- Staff have developed a proposal for the replacement of aging Heart Monitor/Defibrillators. The proposal was introduced to the Board on 9.24.20.
- We are partnering with Snohomish County Emergency Management, ESF4 on the possibility of opening vaccination sites at the Wash State Fair Grounds. Phase 1 would be for essential workers. Phase 2 for the public.
- County EMS Chiefs are revisiting the idea of Pulse Point for Snohomish County.
- The District has begun a transition to a new EMS Training Platform. We will move from King County EMS Online training to ESO EMS Academy on 1.1.21. Effective 1.1.21 KCEMS will no longer provide their training platform agencies outside of King County.

Operations

SRFR Operations are working with Snohomish County Emergency Management ESF4 and ESF13 to continue collaboration on the COVID 19 response along with planning and surveillance for potential Civil Unrest events related to the presidential election.

Wildland Mobilizations

SRFR currently has 12 members on mobilizations. We are anticipating the return of eight members today, 10/20, from California including one Engine with four firefighters, one Brush Truck with three firefighters and one Strike Team Leader.

Training

- The Training Consortium is planning for two firefighter recruit academies in 2021. The first, FA 2021-1 is scheduled to start February 22nd.
- The Target Solutions buildout has started for the consortium to include Hazmat and Tech Rescue training.
- A SRFR Pump class is in progress at the SCFD 4 training site. Chief O'Brien and SCFD 4 Chief Don Waller toured the site together and observed an excellent class. SRFR is very thankful to Chief Waller and SCFD 4 for the partnership in training.

Regional Collaboration

Staff have been meeting with leadership from SCFD 4 to discuss possible enhancements in partnership. Topics include training, EMS, and special operations. We look forward to working together.

Organization Team Structure Update

We have made an adjustment to the District Organizational Chart effective immediately. Given the importance of community affairs and public information for the District, we have moved the Public Information Officer to a general staff position reporting to the Fire Chief. This structure reflects the organizational structure of the National Incident Management System and other public organizations.

Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue Patch and Logo

Saturday, October 12 is the official rollout of the new patch and logo for Snohomish Regional Fire and Rescue. Thank you to the Rebranding Team for their excellent work and to our community, Commissioners, and the entire SRFR team for patience and support through the process.

Strategic Planning

Thursday, October 1, the SRFR Strategic Planning team met and made some great progress developing a draft mission statement and supporting values.

Draft Mission

- Save lives, protect property, safeguard the environment, and take care of people

Draft Values

- Teamwork
- Respect
- Accountability
- Service
- Integrity

The Team will continue to develop supporting definitions for the Values, begin vision statement work, and develop goals and objectives.

The District's Community Leader Advisory Committee (CLAC) first meeting will kick off on October 27, 2020. The CLAC is made up of 28 representatives from the area we serve consisting of citizens, business leaders, government officials, fire commissioners, county council members, and Washington State legislators. We plan to set up two to three meetings with the CLAC lasting 1.5 to 2 hours. These meetings will be oriented to check in with the Community regarding the strategic planning progress of the internal workgroup and seek the following input and feedback:

- The District's strengths, opportunities, weaknesses, and threats
- The District's Mission, Vision, Values, Goals and Objectives and overall Strategic Plan
- How we can better serve everyone in the district
- Other topics as needed

Meritorious Actions by Firefighter Paramedic David Hanson

From Battalion Chief Bill Wirtz to Firefighter Paramedic David Hanson:

On October 1, 2020 the District was dispatched with Sky Valley Fire units to an MVCE (Motor Vehicle Collision) in Gold Bar with reports of a truck on its side, on fire, with two potential seriously injured and entrapped passengers. Two ALNW helicopters were requested based on mechanism of injury and potential for burns.

Emergency intervention in this event started with you Firefighter Paramedic David Hanson, as a Good Samaritan/Duty to Act: You were off duty and rolled up on the collision while traveling home and prior to Fire/EMS arrival. You observed the truck down a hillside and quickly went into action. The vehicle was on its side and two people were trapped and entangled inside the truck that was on fire. You apparently found a metal concrete spike near the truck and proceeded to make an opening in the front windshield for patient extrication as other bystanders were using fire extinguishers to hold back the fire.

You were able to cut the seatbelts and extricate both victims out through the windshield, and with the help of bystanders, up onto the shoulder of SR2. You then performed triage, patient stabilization, and assisted with ALS treatment upon arrival of EMS units. Once your treatment was concluded, and because of limited Sky Valley Fire personnel, you ended up as the engineer on the pump panel of E53 so their personnel could extinguish the well-involved vehicle fire.

On behalf of the District, I want to recognize and thank you for your professional actions, the impact they had on the positive outcome for both patients, and the positive reflection for our organization. You were truly amazing and a heroic!

Annexation (City of Lake Stevens/Snohomish County)

The District has remained engaged in the proposed annexation process by the City of Lake Stevens to annex an area in South East Lake Stevens.

Harborview-UW Paramedic Training

The District has one Student Paramedic participating in the Harborview-UW Paramedic Training Program. Class began Monday 09/28.

Advanced Life Support Interlocal Agreement (ALS ILA)

An initial draft of a standardized draft Advanced Life Support Interlocal Agreement is scheduled to be completed by 10/20/2020. The goal of the ALS ILA is to provide a standardized agreement for all the Districts served by SRFR.

Supervising Physician

Dr. Ryan Key has notified the District that she will be stepping down as a District Supervising Physician effective 1.1.21. Dr. Talley will remain as the District's Supervising Physician. Staff are working to update his contract.

We gratefully thank Dr. Key for her service to our Community. She is an excellent mentor, teacher, and physician. We will miss her presence on the team.

Mask Distribution

The District took delivery of 18,000 masks intended for public use. Staff are working to develop a streamlined a distribution plan.

New Career Firefighters

Five new career firefighters started the academy on Monday 8/31 and will be completed by Thanksgiving. They are progressing well.

Recruitment

The District is currently recruiting entry level firefighters. The application period was open until 10.4.20. More detailed information can be found on the District's website. The District projects a need for eight replacement firefighters in 2021.

Washington State Auditor

The Washington State Auditor will begin an audit process for the District for 2019 on 10.12.20.

2021 Budget

Staff continue development of a proposed 2021 Budget for SRFR. *Transparency and Stability* highlight the process. Following Senior Staff Approval in October, the draft Budget will go to the Finance Committee for review and approval. The draft Budget will then be presented to the Board for review and final approval. The deadline for Budget approval is 11.27.20.

Thanks to all for your dedication and care for the Community!

Kevin O'Brien, Fire Chief