



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

## **Board of Fire Commissioners'**

Meeting of

**24 November 2021**

Please accept the following information. This 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. I am sorry to have to advise the Boards that as a result of the impact of the State's Proclamation 21-14, we have released a career firefighter from service with the District...
- b. Earlier this month the Chiefs interviewed six candidates:
  - i. As a result of the interviews, we made conditional offers of employment to four candidates; three have accepted and have started the necessary paperwork to move forward...
  - ii. We have also secured positions in the South King County Fire Training Consortium's 14<sup>th</sup> Fire Academy for them which starts early next year...
- c. I would like to suggest that the Board assembly its position(s) with regards to the contractual requirements of addressing the pending void being created by the retirement of the Assistant Chief of Operation...
- d. We are also preparing for the departure of our Administrative Assistant and anticipate placing a job announcement shortly...

### **2. Operations:**

- a. On November 15<sup>th</sup> the District was dispatched to a residential house fire. Upon our arrive the structure was well involved however, despite less than favorable conditions the responders not only save the building but limited the bulk of the damage to a single interior room. My thanks and appreciation to all who responded, strong work as usual...
- b. 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 17:00 yesterday our total call volume for the year is at 1,512...
  - i. This would suggest an end of year count of 1,688, well above last year's total count of 1,482...
  - ii. It appears that "Zone One Call Backs" are being thought of as a measurement tool for 'lack-of-service' exposures, the Administration with the Officers Corps will be considering/investigating how to better track and document them to reflect the circumstances surrounding them...

### **4. Training:**

- a. The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter District Training Day was completed on November 2<sup>nd</sup>...

## 5. Apparatus:

- a. As of this morning I am unaware of any apparatus being out of service...
- b. Rescue 355 has been re-designated as Support 355 so as to align it with Zone 3 vehicle designation protocols & standards...

## 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 October...
  - i. Revenues were \$5,763,570.36 or 103.100% of forecasted...
  - ii. Expenses were \$3,709,031.16 or 78.170% of the year's allowance, this represents an under-budget performance of 5.163% below target...
- b. This following nine categories represent our budgeting efforts:
  - i. *Administration-Business Support:* \$444,711.01 or 100.071% of budget...
  - ii. *Personnel Costs-Wages & Benefits:* \$2,901,456.92 or 79.128% of budget...
  - iii. *Training Costs:* \$52,985.63 or 40.802% of budget...
  - iv. *Equipment Costs:* \$58,595.30 or 52.084% of budget...
  - v. *Supply Costs:* \$21,011.88 or 72.674% of budget...
  - vi. *Uniforms & Personal Protection Equipment:* \$9,221.23 or 19.726% of budget...
  - vii. *Vehicle & Fleet Costs:* \$37,994.39 or 79.349% of budget...
  - viii. *Building & Grounds Costs:* \$143,229.65 or 60.760% of budget...
  - ix. *Disaster Preparation:* \$39825.15 or 124.454% of budget...
- c. As we discussed over the last two months, we did in October reconciled the cost to sell the Robert Bennedsen Residence against the sale price. The sale of the property generated \$752,448.99 clear, which has been moved into the Facilities Reserve Fund for future District building projects. This transaction is reflected in the month's financial spreadsheets...
- d. To solidify the District's levy for 2022 the Board needs to prepare and file its resolution with King County before the end of this month (30 Nov 21)...
  - i. We are in receipt of the County's most recent and apparently final **Levy Limit Worksheet – 2022 Tax Roll** (22 Nov 21). Numbers suggest:
    1. The Island's assessed value (AV) has climbed almost \$600,000,000 since last year to \$3,897,673,579...
    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 possible budget increase of approximately \$297,000...
    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 \$1.35/\$1,000 AV...
  - ii. In support of the above item(s) the current *Working Apparatus Replacement Schedule* has been attached to this report for your information and consideration...

## 8. Contracts:

- a. Our annual agreement for legal counsel, via Eric Quinn, has been included in the package for the Board's execution. It is my recommendation that the Board approve and authorize a 2022 agreement for such legal services...
- b. 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...
- c. *Washington State Ferries:* Communications with this agency continue to be drawn out. Our last communication with the Ferries was on Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. We are approaching a year since our last agreement lapsed...

**9. Business Operations:**

- a. Via my role as Fire Chief of the District I have been named in a lawsuit. I have not yet been formally served. Further, via our insurance provider, Enduris, the law firm of Sayre, Sayre & Fossum will be appearing on our behalf...
- b. The District is investigating the cost of implementing a new digital platform(s) to track assets and apparatus/equipment status and maintenance, it would be via our current digital reporting provider, ESO, as an additional annual subscription...

**10. Community Engagement:**

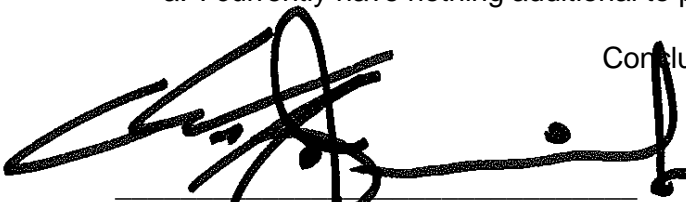
- a. Monday, representatives from VashonBePrepared and I participated in an exercise with representatives from the King County Office of Emergency Management (KCOEM) regarding the delegation of authority and support of the island in a localized natural disaster. We are advancing on several points and topic resulting from the discussions and will continue to work with the County on their support of us during various island-based emergency matters...

**11. Strategic Planning:**

- a. To keep the Board informed as to the Fire District's on-going efforts to update the District's "User Manual" (SOP/SOG Manual) 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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