



Vashon Island Fire and Rescue
10020 SW Bank Road PO Box 1150
Vashon WA 98070 206.463.2405 206.463.2954 fax
www.vifr.org administration@vifr.org

**CHIEF'S
REPORT**

Board of Fire Commissioners'
Meeting of
26 January 2022

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. In the last two months the District has lost 67 years of experience:
 - i. On December 31st, Chief Larsen retired ending his 35 years of service for the community and with Vashon Fire; 30 years as a volunteer, 15 years as the District's Facilities Manager and five years as the District's Interim Chief and then Assistance Chief of Operations...
 - ii. Also retiring, earlier this month (15 Jan 22) Firefighter Buxton retired after 32 years as a first responder for the District; 12 years as a volunteer followed by another 20 years as a firefighter and EMT...
- b. Searches are underway for an Administrative Assistant and an Assistant Chief of Operations at this time and additional hiring plans are being developed...
 - i. In support of the search for a new Assistant Chief the District has contracted with Prothman to organize our offer, search, and selection process. Various members of the staff are meeting with Prothman on the February second, and I understand that appointments are being organized for the Board...
- c. Equally, we are processing several promising new volunteer members. Specifically:
 - i. Six (6) new volunteer EMT's who will be starting the District's EMT Academy known as the "Red Shirt" program,
 - ii. Three (3) new volunteers who will start the County's EMT Academy to secure their certificates to join our EMS responder forces,
 - iii. One (1) new volunteer interested in serving as a Firefighter, and,
 - iv. One (1) new volunteer interested in serving as a Fire Support member...

2. Operations:

- a. Early this month the District implemented mandatory Point of Care COVID-19 Testing (POCCT) for health care providers before starting shift. To date six asymptomatic responders has tested positive and been sent home. Additionally, two other responder were quarantined for a known exposure off duty (with one ultimately testing positive) and yesterday, for a possible 'in-house' exposure, a member of the Administration was sent home to quarantine for 10 days. As of today, three career responders and a member of the Administration are quarantined...
- b. For the landslides of the 7th the District activated VashonBePrepared and engaged various agencies of the County to monitor the situations. For the continuous rainfall I asked that VashonBePrepared and the Emergency Operations Center team maintain

itself in a state of readiness should we see additional landslides. We communicated regularly and fortunately the weather seems to have passed without greater incident...

3. Dispatches:

- a. We ended 2021 with a total of 1,675 dispatches. A review of the types and nature of these calls is being investigated for the annual report...
- b. As of shift change (07:30) yesterday morning our total call volume for the year was at 83...
 - i. This represents a slow start to the year with an average of less than four dispatches a day and a year total forecast of only 1,212, over 450 calls below last year's total...
- c. Earlier this month the island saw no less than four landslides (07 Jan 22). The District was dispatched to one at the north end and though no life was lost the did destroyed a house...
- d. On the 11th we were again dispatched to a landslide into a house south of Burton on Quartermaster Harbor; the occupants were able to self-exit and address their needs...

4. Training:

- a. I have nothing significant to report on at this time...

5. Apparatus:

- a. Unfortunately, during the winter weather, the brush truck was involved in a minor accident that caused damage to another vehicle and is resulting in a claim against the District. Brush 355 sustained no damage in the accident...
- b. As of this morning I am unaware of any apparatus being out of service...

6. Facilities:

- a. Design discussions with the architect of record are moving forward with regards to the expansion/renovation of the Duty Quarters of Station 55...
- b. There appears to be some evidence of a possible skylight leak within the southeast corner of Station 55's lobby. Action is being considered.

7. Financials:

- a. The attached spreadsheets represent the end of 2021 balances for the Operational Fund as well as the reserve accounts. Please accept the following summary representing the 2021 actual revenues, and expenses in relationship to the budget...
 - i. Revenues were \$6,365,579.56 or 113.868% of forecasted for the year...
 - ii. Expenses were \$4,483,913.67 or 94.501% of the year's allowance, this represents an under-budget performance of 5.499% below target...
- b. This following nine categories represent our total expenditures for last year:
 - i. *Administration-Business Support:* \$503,786.47 or 111.304% of budget...
 - ii. *Personnel Costs-Wages & Benefits:* \$3,511,847.27 or 95.775% of budget...
 - iii. *Training Costs:* \$103,921.45 or 80.025% of budget...
 - iv. *Equipment Costs:* \$59,359.45 or 52.763% of budget...
 - v. *Supply Costs:* \$23,966.30 or 82.893% of budget...
 - vi. *Uniforms & Personal Protection Equipment:* \$12,432.74 or 26.596% of budget...
 - vii. *Vehicle & Fleet Costs:* \$48,255.32 or 100.778% of budget...
 - viii. *Building & Grounds Costs:* \$172,469.35 or 73.163% of budget...
 - ix. *Disaster Preparation:* \$47,875.32 or 149.610% of budget...

c. The District ended 2021 with cash assets of \$5,932,235.24. In further support of the end of year the following numbers represent the end of 2021 balances for each of our seven funds/accounts:

i. <i>Operational Fund/Account:</i>	\$2,106,956.46
ii. <i>Cash/Imprest Fund/Account:</i>	\$2,000.00
iii. <i>General Reserve Fund/Account:</i>	\$1,158,103.16
iv. <i>Fleet Reserve Fund/Account:</i>	\$812,892.82
v. <i>Facilities Reserve Fund/Account:</i>	\$1,351,881.01
vi. <i>Equipment Reserve Fund/Account:</i>	\$442,513.78
vii. <i>Volunteer Emergency Responder Incentive Fund/Account:</i>	\$57,888.01

8. **Contracts:**

- a. In support of the changing workplace and necessary, and requested, modifications to the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) we are preparing for the Board no less than three Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) for attachment to the CBA. Specifically:
- MOU 22-001: **Additional Time for POCCT**. This memorandum has been approved by the Local's Executive Board and is presented to you for your review, consideration, and authorization....
 - MOU 22-002: **Out of District Training Instructors**. This memorandum has been approved by the Local's Executive Board and is presented to you for your review, consideration, and authorization....
 - MOU 22-003: **Juneteenth**. We have opened discussions on this topic however have not yet come to agreement nor documented the actual Memorandum of Understanding on this new holiday to be offered as previously dictated by the Board...
- b. Regarding the District's on-going efforts to establish its compliance with the RCW requiring interlocal agreements for services only one agency continues to be problematic:
- King County Housing Authority*. This agency remains uninterested/defiant with regards to its legal compliance with the RCW. 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 January 14th, 2022, at which time we agreed to apply the previous contractual sums toward 2021's services. We are continuing to discuss and review the information provided to better understand the use of 2004 costs and the changes in areas. Our contract renewal remains a year pass due, however, the above action will address those costs, all be it as a much lower fee that we believe appropriate. We continue to work to secure an Agreement...
- d. *King County Public Health*: We have begun discussions with the County to renew our lease for the Medics that work out of Station 55...

9. **Business Operations:**

- We are continuing to participate in the Labor & Industries' (FIIRE) program to reduce time loss as well as related compensation/insurance coverage rates...
- AT&T is currently in violation of a contractual obligation of our Agreement, and we are working to correct the matter with them...

10. **Community Engagement:**

- Once again, I would like to offer the various community members and volunteer emergency response teams for all their assistance and support. In addition to their on-going COVID-19 efforts there was never a delay or hesitation in their stepping forward to

assistance and support the community in general and the District specifically during the weather induced landslides across the island...

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles H. Krimmer', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Charles H. Krimmer, Fire Chief
Vashon Island Fire & Rescue
1 206 463 2405 (Office) Extension 301
1 206 300 0952 (Mobile)