



## Whatcom County Fire District 11

*Lummi Island Fire Department*

*3809 Legoe Bay Rd, Lummi Island, WA. 98262*

*Phone: 360-758-2411 / Fax: 360-758-2041*



### **2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

2022 saw a lot of changes to the district. The District offered and delivered it's first Firefighter Training Academy in nearly 20 years. I want to thank the dedicated Instructors that helped make the Academy a huge success: Assistant Chief John Granger, Captain Gary Poole, Lieutenant Lisa Lish, Lieutenant Chris Immer, Lieutenant Sam Bowman, Firefighter Alissa Daschbach, and Assistant Chief Darren Branum (WCFD 1). The volunteers participating spent over 240 hours of classroom and practical skills training. When they weren't studying from the 1486 page textbook, they were out on the drill grounds pulling hoses, forcing open locked doors, learning how to attack fires, and making rescues from second and third story windows along with a host of other critical Firefighting skills. The academy also participated in the roadside cleanup as a "break" from training. The pride I feel for the effort and dedication that these volunteers invested in their personal growth, and to better serve our community cannot be expressed in words. Thank you so much to Loren Conroy, Michael Godshall, Nick Kluge, Kelsey McLane, Leah Paisano, and Brittany Swaen.

I want to extend a special thank you to the "FRIENDS OF FIREFIGHTERS" project. This group deserves special gratitude for providing snacks, treats, and meals for the responders during and after fire academy. I can't tell you all how much your kindness and willingness to serve us means to us all. THANK YOU!

The Initial Attack Engine spent most of 2022 in Tacoma at Hughes Fire Apparatus due to a pump failure. Now that it has a brand new pump, it's projected replacement date will likely change allowing the District to build our apparatus replacement funds for other future apparatus needs.

Thanks to your generous support of our Fire and EMS levies, we were able to make some much needed upgrades to our turnout gear; replacing our 16 year old gear. The new turnouts fit better, are lighter, and more comfortable while providing a much higher level of protection than the old. We have also been working to standardize equipment on the Initial Attack Engine and the Frontline Engine. This gives our Volunteers the option to respond in either apparatus depending on the location, driveway accessibility, and/or severity of the call.

The back to back flood events of late 2021 and again in 2022 in Whatcom County were certainly memorable. Despite the elevation and topography, Lummi Island was not spared the wrath of flood waters during both events. Beach Avenue in Scenic Estates is still impacted by these events and we are hopeful that permanent repairs will be successfully completed in 2023. The District responded to multiple flood related calls during both events; from pumping out a crawl space full of water to pushing water out of a kitchen, and even building diversion chutes to direct heavy flowing water away from homes and into more appropriate runoff areas. I can honestly say these were some of the most unique calls that I have responded to in my career and I am proud of our responders who left their own homes to help out our neighbors in this time of great need.

Our limited number of responders is a reality that we continue to face. While we gained one responder in 2022 (Jack Wilson), we saw four members step down due to work and/or family time conflicts. Thank you to Doug Cash, Gabel Bredy, Kayla Venema, and Brittany Swaen for your 23 combined years of service to the community. Please visit our website and check out the requirements of becoming part of our team.

In the near future, I will be working on a needs assessment of the District's aging and inadequate facility, which continues to be of concern. This will help to identify future facility needs, which may include updated bathrooms with showers and decontamination areas, a kitchen area for preparing food, sleeping quarters, updated office and storage spaces along with a larger more accessible training room for District and public use. All options will take careful financial planning.

We had an increase in participation in our Disaster Preparedness Division in 2022. The Division is led by Assistant Chief John Granger, and retired Firefighter / EMT Joan Moye. We were happy to grow the Division to 9 members with Isaac Colgan, Bruce Coury, Lane Davis-Coury, Sandra Fukumoto, Susan Hutton, Julia Lowe, Rich McConnell all joining in 2022. Bruce & Lane had to step down due to other commitments and will be missed. Good luck Bruce & Lane!

Our three year box audit for 2019, 2020, & 2021 with the Washington State Auditor was a gleaming success, and finished with **0 findings**. I want to thank our District Secretary, Lisa Lish for keeping the District running smoothly and appropriately managing the financials, working with me to ensure that we have good policy, and just generally keeping the District safe and transparent so that we can continue to provide 911 service to the Island.

**Please help me thank the professional volunteer responders listed below who selflessly serve our community.**

<b>Years</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Occupation / Company</b>
<b>45</b>	<b>John Granger</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Assistant Chief</b>	<b>Retired Flight Nurse - Airlift Northwest</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Michael Lish</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Chief</b>	<b>Fire Chief - Whatcom County Fire District 11</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Gary Poole</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Captain</b>	<b>Operator - Whatcom Chief</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Lisa Lish</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>	<b>District Secretary - Whatcom County Fire District 11</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Chris Immer</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>	<b>Pastor - Village Missions</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Sam Bowman</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Lieutenant</b>	<b>Self - Employed</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Dan Ohms</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Senior Firefighter</b>	<b>Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Alissa Daschbach</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Medical Writer / Editor</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Kjerstin Secord</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Educator</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Loren Conroy</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Housekeeper</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Leah Paisano</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Shellfish Biologist</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Nick Kluge</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Water Distribution Manager</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Michael Godshall</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Creative Director</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Kelsey McLane</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Deckhand - Whatcom Chief</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Jack Wilson</b>	<b>Firefighter EMT</b>	<b>Firefighter</b>	<b>Self - Employed</b>

**None of this would be possible without the support and assistance of the Board of Fire Commissioners.  
It is an honor to serve this community alongside you.**

**Whatcom County Fire District 11 Board of Fire Commissioners:**  
**Wendell Terry - serving since 2007**  
**Bill Lee - serving since 2014**  
**Dan Ohms – serving since 2021**

	<b>Budget 2022</b>	<b>Actual 2022</b>
<b><u>TAX REVENUE</u></b>		
Fire - Levy	\$564,899	\$564,884
EMS - Levy	\$80,116	\$106,908
Timber Harvest Tax	\$150	\$468
<b><u>OTHER REVENUE</u></b>		
Burn Permits	\$125	\$450
Grants & Misc.	\$11,900	\$20,519
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$657,190</b>	<b>\$693,229</b>
<b><u>TOTAL LEGISLATIVE</u></b>	<b>\$25,436</b>	<b>\$11,920</b>
<b><u>FIRE CONTROL</u></b>		
Administration	\$100,994	\$99,973
Operations & Response	\$67,085	\$53,476
Prevention	\$300	\$123
Disaster Preparedness	\$11,000	\$8,211
Training	\$12,833	\$10,496
Facilities	\$8,865	\$10,694
Repairs & Maintenance	\$7,725	\$20,512
<b>TOTAL FIRE</b>	<b>\$208,802</b>	<b>\$203,485</b>
<b><u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL</u></b>		
Administration	\$43,454	\$43,229
Operations & Response	\$78,030	\$72,662
Training	\$14,342	\$8,690
Facilities	\$4,480	\$4,620
Repairs & Maintenance	\$9,425	\$2,385
<b>TOTAL EMS</b>	<b>\$127,427</b>	<b>\$131,586</b>
<b><u>CAPITAL &amp; EQUIPMENT</u></b>		
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$135,755</b>	<b>\$121,060</b>
<b><u>OTHER</u></b>		
Apparatus fund	\$112,000	\$112,000
To reserve	\$25,000	\$25,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$634,420</b>	<b>\$605,051</b>

LUMMI ISLAND, WA 98262

POSTAL CUSTOMER

# WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 11 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

Lummi Island, WA 98262

PO Box 130

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT 11

I am proud to be part of a team that responds at the highest level of performance and with the utmost professionalism. Our team never knows what the next call will be; trauma, medical, fire, powerlines, or motor vehicle incident. Yet they leave at a moment's notice for the chance to serve others. I am truly humbled by this group of extraordinary people whom I call my "Fire Family".

Special mention and THANKS to the families of our Volunteers. Without their support, our members would not be able to give this community such exemplary service. Special thanks to you - the community at large. Your generous donations, baked goods, and cards of appreciation help all of us here to strive to always improve the service that we provide to you.

**THANK YOU!**

Very Respectfully Submitted,

Michael A. Lish

Fire Chief ~ WCFD 11

