

# WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 11

## Lummi Island Fire Department

3809 Legoe Bay Road \* P.O. Box 130 \* Lummi Island, WA 98262

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## 2012 ANNUAL REPORT

At the end of 2011, the District was awarded a \$240,000 regional grant from FEMA to replace all the ambulance cots in Whatcom County. Every fire agency in Whatcom County helped out by participating in product research, demonstrations, and the bidding process. Everyone invested many hours to complete the project but the ergonomic design and greater weight capacity of the new cots alone made it worthwhile.

Tammi Lynch served as Financial Officer and Secretary to both the Chief and Commissioners for the past 5 years. In August, Tammi accepted a full time job and had to step down. It was a pleasure having Tammi as an employee, and we wish her well in the future. Lisa Lish, Island resident, volunteer EMT and Firefighter was hired part time to replace Tammi. The District received a good audit report for the 2008 and 2009 calendar years from the Washington State Auditor's Office. It included the comment: "It is clear the District has a firm hand on its operations and controls over district assets". As Financial Officer, Tammi played a large roll in the success of the Audit.

With a new County Executive and new City of Bellingham Mayor, the progress for a new EMS system paused. It took them a few months to become familiar with what had been accomplished before they resumed deliberation on the future system. Instead of one contract for both administration and service provider, one contract will be specific to administration, and a separate one for each service provider. Commissioner Busch has been involved with the issues of EMS since he was first elected Commissioner in 2001 and was one of the few that were asked to help the new Executive and Mayor get up to speed and help with the frame work of the contracts.

There are constant challenges to keep up with the ongoing changes and maintain compliance with all the federal guidelines and state statutes that regulate the District. Although overwhelming at times, 90% of them are designed for the safety of the firefighters and public they serve. With the increasing demands for administration duties and recognizing that future demand will consistently expand, the Board of Commissioners increased the Chief's time to 40 hours per week to help meet these needs. This year, the Board will be looking at different funding models for the ongoing and future needs of the department, including the impact on taxpayers.

The Federal Communication Commission set a mandate several years ago that all public service agencies shall be narrow band compliant by January 1, 2013. With a grant in 2009, our entire communication system was replaced to meet the mandate. Unfortunately, the system that activates the siren had been overlooked. While addressing this issue, we built a small radio room to house the station radio, MURS (Disaster Prep) system, and a little desk space for HAM Operators in the event we are completely cut off from the mainland. The biggest challenge to narrow banding was getting all county fire agencies on the same page so the switch over could occur in a matter of minutes. There was more agency coordination with frequencies and programing that I had ever seen before. I seriously doubted we could pull it off. Somehow we did and there were very few glitches considering the enormity of the project.

Using 2010 aerial photos of the island and mapping software, we created a new map of the District with every known address on it. In addition, we created map books for every vehicle. These allow responders to pin-point incident locations before heading out the door and to have more detailed information at their fingertips when they arrive.

After 15 years of service, the engine developed a pump leak, a job that could not be done here at the station. Fire District 21 was kind enough to loan us an engine for the duration of the repairs. Luckily we did not need it.

We continued bringing our newest folks up to speed with a fundamentals class in addition to the Thursday night trainings. Our EMS instructors continue to provide us with excellent training and skills practice. The American Heart Association published new CPR guidelines in 2012 focusing more on continuous compressions.

In 2012, the volunteers dedicated over 2,050 hours serving you; 378 hours on emergency responses, 1,324 hours on-going training, and 348 hours on weekly truck inspections. They spend many more undocumented hours writing reports and putting apparatus back in service after each call.

Listed below are the unpaid professionals who dedicated their time to your community in 2012. Please note the years of service for each and the group's wide range of professions. I appreciate and feel very lucky to have true community-based responders; many other departments in the county have members who serve only 3-5 years before moving on. Following the membership list, I am pleased to provide a snapshot of the 2012 financial activity, the 2013 budget, fund account balances at the end of 2012, and the emergency response data from 2012.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Years</b>	<b>Occupation / Company</b>
John Granger	Firefighter RN	Medical	35	Flight Nurse - Airlift Northwest
Ernie Pearson	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	27	Operator - Whatcom Chief
Duncan McLane	Firefighter EMT	Chief	23	Fire Chief - Whatcom County Fire District 11
John Mulhern	Firefighter EMT	Captain	20	Deckhand / Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Curt Stocker	Firefighter FR	Asst. Chief	20	Driver – Heston Hauling
Bob Busch	Firefighter FR	Firefighter	19	Retired Engineer
Jim Lane	Paramedic	Medical	13	Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire
Tom Lutz	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	10	Furniture Maker – Heartwood Joinery
Micheal Lish	Firefighter EMT	Lieutenant	8	Electrician - Gateway Controls
Gary Poole	Firefighter IFA	Lieutenant	7	Deckhand / Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Lisa Lish	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	6	Secretary - Whatcom County Fire District 11
Chris Immer	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	5	Pastor - Village Missions
Robert Auld	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Stockbroker – Merrill Lynch
Sam Bowman	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Student - Western Washington University
Jette Baker	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Co-Owner, Sail the San Juans Charter Company
Laura Camarillo	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	3	Lead RN - NW Endoscopy
Robert Sorensen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	3	Student - Bellingham Technical College
Patrick Slimane	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	3	Laborer

<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>TAX REVENUE</b>	<b>Budget 2012</b>	<b>Actual 2012</b>	<b>Budget 2013</b>
Fire - Levy	\$ 139,490.08	\$ 140,666.70	\$ 140,282.83
EMS - Levy	\$ 35,639.57	\$ 35,903.72	\$ 34,246.68
Timber Harvest Tax		\$ 508.11	
<b>OTHER REVENUE</b>			
Interest		\$ 1,297.44	
Burn Permits		\$ 350.00	
Memorials & Other		\$ 2,753.14	
Sale of Surplus		\$ 237.50	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 175,129.65</b>	<b>\$ 181,716.61</b>	<b>\$ 174,529.51</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Legislative Services	\$ 12,843.00	\$ 8,405.51	\$ 13,034.00
<b>FIRE CONTROL</b>			
Administration	\$ 52,264.00	\$ 55,946.97	\$ 67,660.00
Suppression	\$ 33,761.00	\$ 30,208.81	\$ 30,266.00
Prevention	\$ 400.00	\$ 264.49	\$ 350.00
Training	\$ 14,010.00	\$ 3,963.99	\$ 12,818.00
Facilities	\$ 6,775.00	\$ 9,638.99	\$ 7,305.00
<b>TOTAL FIRE</b>	<b>\$ 107,210.00</b>	<b>\$ 100,023.25</b>	<b>\$ 118,399.00</b>
<b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</b>			
Administration	\$ 30,148.00	\$ 29,947.81	\$ 37,822.00
Training	\$ 12,395.00	\$ 7,730.96	\$ 9,285.00
Facilities	\$ 3,802.00	\$ 3,730.85	\$ 3,920.00
Rescue & Emergency Aid	\$ 14,852.00	\$ 13,107.88	\$ 15,957.00
<b>TOTAL EMS</b>	<b>\$ 61,197.00</b>	<b>\$ 54,517.50</b>	<b>\$ 66,984.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>\$ 181,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 162,946.26</b>	<b>\$ 198,417.00</b>
<b>CAPITAL OUTLAY</b>			
Land	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 15,909.84	\$ 15,925.00
Improvements	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 162.68	\$ 1,000.00
Equipment	\$ 28,950.00	\$ 7,591.86	\$ 25,677.00
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$ 46,250.00</b>	<b>\$ 23,664.38</b>	<b>\$ 42,602.00</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 227,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 186,610.64</b>	<b>\$ 241,019.00</b>
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES 12/31/12</b>			
	EXPENSE	\$ 84,326.62	
	RESERVE	\$ 170,818.75	
	FACILITIES	\$ 11,850.81	
	APPARATUS	\$ 4,312.79	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 271,308.97</b>	

## 2012 Response Data

TYPE	TOTAL	PERCENT
Fire	4	7%
Rescue & EMS	34	56%
Hazardous Conditions(No fire)	3	5%
Service Call	10	16%
Good Intent, False and Special Type	10	16%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61</b>	

THANK YOU volunteer firefighters! These two mere words do not express my full appreciation for all the time spent preparing for and responding to our community. The dedication these volunteers give this community is truly an inspiration. And thank you to the families of the volunteers that put up with the Thursday night and occasional Saturday trainings and when they are called to duty, be it in the middle of the night, holiday dinners or other inopportune times. Your support is very important to our success.

Last but certainly not least, I want to thank the businesses, organizations and individuals on the Island for their continued support including the various baked goods, cards and donations. It really means a lot. We are always looking for anyone interested in making a difference in someone's life by joining the emergency response team. Please call us or show up at 6:30 pm on one of the first four Thursday evenings of each month.

Respectfully Submitted: Duncan McLane, Chief

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POSTAL CUSTOMER  
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