

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 11

Lummi Island Fire Department

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2013 ANNUAL REPORT

The volunteers responded to 59 different incidents in 2013, including EMS, wild land fires, structure fires, power lines, hazardous conditions, service calls and false alarms. 279 man hours were spent responding, taking actions and returning to the station. The volunteers spend many more undocumented hours writing reports and making sure the apparatus and equipment are ready for the next call.

As required by Federal and State regulations, annual testing was completed on all our fire hose, self-contained breathing apparatus, ladders, pumps and defibrillators. I am happy to report there were only two sections of hose that had to be repaired. None of the apparatus experienced any major problems; however we did increase the rear lighting and installed hose bed covers on both the engine and tender for safety reasons. At the beginning of the year, Washington Department of Natural Resources awarded us \$5,677 (50% matching grant) for 7 portable radios. In April, FEMA awarded us \$51,348 (95% matching grant) for a new heart monitor/defibrillator and to replace our oldest one. The heart monitor has the most current cardiac technology in the pre-hospital setting with the capability to send data directly to the hospital. In addition, it allows us to review call data for training and improved patient care. We came in under budget and with the remaining funds we purchased several CPR manikins, an additional defibrillator, and a bone drill for our Advanced Life Support (ALS) personnel. The volunteers spent a total of 468 hours inspecting the vehicles and equipment throughout the year to keep up on equipment locations and ensure everything was ready to respond to your requests for help.

The county wide ALS transport system moved forward when Whatcom County, City of Bellingham and Fire District 7 negotiated contracts for service. As with any new system that splits responsibilities from one agency to three, there were obstacles to overcome and unforeseen matters to deal with. The contracts were approved and signed in December. On or about July 1, Fire District 7 will replace one of the ALS ambulances in the county that currently is provided by Bellingham Fire Department.

The Civic Club generously donated funds to clean up the old flowerbeds, trim and prune the bushes and put down new gravel in front of the station and across the street near our live fire training prop. In the spring we noticed carpenter ants had invaded the building across the street causing structural damage. It was a great opportunity to gut and reroof it to make it more usable for storage.

After many years battling a rare disease, Scott Blanchard passed away in November. Scott joined the Department in 2007 and was a quick study in developing his firefighting skills and receiving his EMT certification. Scott's energy was an inspiration to us all, always ready and willing to get the job done. While his time on the department was short, his impact will be long lasting. Ernie Pearson retired after 28 years of dedicated service; Ernie always had a calm demeanor about him no matter how severe the call may have been. Bob Bush also retired from the department after 21 years and 12 years as a commissioner. His engineering and management experience was very beneficial when it came to the design, construction and acquisition of our firefighting fleet and ambulance.

We began a Cadet program at the end of the year for 16 – 18 year olds and already have two active members. We hope this experience is rewarding for them and they choose to become full members when they turn 18.

Ongoing fire training focused on a wide range of topics including report writing, positive pressure ventilation, logistics, ladders, scene size up, hand tools, traffic control, emergency vehicle driving, hazardous materials, and pumps to name a few. EMS topics included cardiac, altered mental status, abdominal, pediatric, soft tissue emergencies, infectious disease, and sick/not sick decision making. Including two Saturdays and Thursday evenings, the volunteers gave 1,355 hours to the community to maintain and improve their knowledge and skills required in this profession. We did three live fire exercises in our fire training prop including one with Fire District 17 (Sandy Point) in late spring for several of their members.

For the 8th consecutive year the Board of Commissioners chose not to take the 1% revenue increase allowed by statute. The Board had several special meetings to start discussing future funding options to keep up with the increasing costs. Bill Lee was elected to the Board for six years beginning January 1, 2014. I look forward to working with Bill in the future as the department moves forward.

Below is a list of the unpaid professionals that respond to any type of incident at a moment's notice. This community is very lucky to have these dedicated and community minded folks at their disposal and I am very proud to be part of their team.

Member	Training	Rank	Years	Occupation / Company
John Granger	Firefighter RN	Medical	36	Flight Nurse - Airlift Northwest
Ernie Pearson	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	28	Operator - Whatcom Chief
Duncan McLane	Firefighter EMT	Chief	24	Fire Chief - Whatcom County Fire District 11
John Mulhern	Firefighter EMT	Captain	21	Deckhand / Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Curt Stocker	Firefighter FR	Captain	21	Driver – Heston Hauling
Bob Busch	Firefighter FR	Firefighter	20	Retired Engineer
Jim Lane	Paramedic	Medical	14	Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire
Tom Lutz	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	11	Furniture Maker – Heartwood Joinery
Micheal Lish	Firefighter EMT	Captain	9	Electrician - Gateway Controls
Gary Poole	Firefighter IFA	Captain	7	Deckhand / Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Lisa Lish	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	7	Secretary - Whatcom County Fire District 11
Chris Immer	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	6	Pastor - Village Missions
Robert Auld	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	5	Stockbroker – Merrill Lynch
Sam Bowman	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	5	Student - Western Washington University
Jette Baker	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	5	Co-Owner, Sail the San Juans Charter Company
Laura Camarillo	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Lead RN - NW Endoscopy
Robert Sorensen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Student - Bellingham Technical College
Patrick Slimane	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	4	Laborer
Eric Immer	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Laborer
Dan Ohms	Firefighter/ Paramedic	Firefighter	1	Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire
Zach Little	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Laborer - Natures Path
Shelly Head	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Home Care Aid - Take My Hand
Doug Cash	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Carpenter - Sexton Construction

2013 Financials

INCOME			
<u>TAX REVENUE</u>	Budget 2013	Actual 2013	Budget 2014
Fire - Levy	\$140,282.83	\$139,986.20	\$140,238.00
EMS - Levy	\$34,246.68	\$34,197.30	\$34,247.00
Timber Harvest Tax		\$328.23	
<u>OTHER REVENUE</u>			
Interest		\$852.55	
Burn Permits		\$350.00	
Memorials & Other		\$6,050.84	
TOTAL INCOME	\$174,529.51	\$181,765.12	\$174,485.00
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Legislative Services	\$13,034.00	\$8,541.62	\$11,625.00
<u>FIRE CONTROL</u>			
Administration	\$67,560.00	\$60,676.35	\$74,161.00
Suppression	\$21,166.00	\$17,409.56	\$21,031.00
Prevention	\$350.00	\$449.09	\$650.00
Training	\$12,818.00	\$3,983.94	\$16,818.00
Facilities	\$6,580.00	\$6,624.83	\$6,580.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$9,925.00	\$8,905.13	\$5,755.00
TOTAL FIRE	\$118,399.00	\$98,048.90	\$124,995.00
<u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</u>			
Administration	\$37,822.00	\$31,331.98	\$40,242.00
Rescue & Emergency Aid	\$10,467.00	\$9,003.52	\$11,333.00
Training	\$9,285.00	\$6,098.95	\$9,829.00
Facilities	\$3,920.00	\$3,669.37	\$3,620.00
Repairs and Maintenance	\$5,490.00	\$3,134.47	\$4,255.00
TOTAL EMS	\$66,984.00	\$53,238.29	\$69,279.00
CAPITAL OUTLAY			
Land	\$15,925.00	\$15,909.69	\$0.00
Improvements	\$1,000.00	\$926.00	\$5,725.00
Equipment	\$25,677.00	\$8,379.83	\$5,600.00
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$42,602.00	\$25,215.52	\$11,325.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$241,019.00	\$185,044.33	\$217,224.00
ACCOUNT BALANCES 01/01/14			
EXPENSE		\$59,537.27	
RESERVE		\$181,722.24	
FACILITIES		\$13,077.48	
APPARATUS		\$7,579.48	
TOTAL		\$261,916.47	

2013 Response Data

TYPE	TOTAL	PERCENT
Fire	7	11.86%
Rescue & EMS	35	59.32%
Hazardous Conditions(No fire)	1	1.69%
Service Call	11	18.64%
Good Intent Call	1	1.69%
False Alarm & False Call	4	6.78%
	<u>59</u>	

Average Response time: 9.83 Minutes

To the volunteers; mere words cannot express my full appreciation for all the time you spend preparing for and responding to our community. But I will say them anyway; THANK YOU! The dedication you give this community is truly an inspiration. And thank you to the families 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 and certainly not least, I want to thank the businesses, organizations and individuals on the Island for their continued support including the donations, cards and various baked goods. It really means a lot. We are always looking for anyone interested in making a difference in someone's life by joining this 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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