

WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 11

Lummi Island Fire Department

3809 Legoe Bay Road * P.O. Box 130 * Lummi Island, WA 98262
Phone: (360) 758-2411 Fax: (360) 758-2041 www.lummiislandfire.com

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

We responded to 102 incidents in 2017, the highest ever since the department was established in 1960. There are 18 members on our roster and although it may seem like a large number, there was only an average of 5 responders answering each incident for the year. It is a harsh reality that the demographics of our community have changed over the years as well as ever increasing standards set by State and Federal agencies. This is one area Lummi Island is not so unique as volunteerism in the fire service nationwide is on the decline. What the answer is for our little rock is unknown; there are many approaches out there as there are departments.

2017 saw a lot of deaths in our community; three of which were near and dear to our department.

The passing of Lynden Fire Chief Robert Spinner on July 14th signaled Whatcom County's second line of duty death (the first was Ferndale Fire Chief Clyde Eaton in 1950). I was part of the interview panel when Robert was hired by Lynden in 2010. Over the seven years he dedicated to the City, he touched many lives in the county and helped bring the fire agencies closer together. This was demonstrated by the numerous amount of fire service personnel and public that lined the streets for the processions and attended his memorial. This was the second Line of Duty memorial I have attended and although they are impressive, I hope it is the last. On August 30th, a tragic fishing accident took the life of past firefighter David Barker. David was a very close friend of mine and although we know a lot of the people we respond to, this call was extremely difficult for me and a few others. It tested my career and could have changed it had it not been for the strength and support of my fellow firefighters. Past firefighter and Commissioner Robert Busch died peacefully in his sleep on October 17th. Bob joined the department 4 years after I did and became a Commissioner the same time I became Chief. It was not long after my first budget meeting that I gave him the title of "Budget Bob". He made sure my pencil was always sharp as well as those I was purchasing from. May all three rest in peace.

In April, Michael and I attended the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis, the largest industry conference in the world with over 34,000 attendees representing 58 countries. We attended 17 classes covering Leadership Skills, Command and Control, Apparatus Purchasing, Firefighter PTSD, Live Fire Training and Fire Behavior. Michael incorporated a lot of this new information in our fire training throughout the year in addition to all the annual requirements and refreshers. This was such a great learning experience, we hope to send two members every other year.

Our medical training subjects consisted of OBGYN Emergencies, Altered Mental Status, Stroke, Mental Health for Providers, Cultural Awareness and High-Performance Trauma Management. The beginning of the year was taken up with a lot of intense training on the ResQPump and our newly acquired mechanical Chest Compression Device. We were able to arrange two special trainings during the year; Whidbey Island Naval Air Station Search and Rescue (WINASSAR) Helicopter and Bellingham Fire Department's fire boat, The Salish Star. Both events were excellent and addressed many questions we had in regards to what these agencies can bring to our assistance and how we will work together during an emergency.

Fire apparatus and facilities are the two highest capital costs for fire departments and the taxpayers that fund them. Another advantage of attending the FDIC conference was the vast display of fire apparatus and equipment. It was fascinating to see the latest technology and the different ways each manufacturer builds their products. We applied for a grant to replace our 20-year-old engine but did not rank high enough for award. We will continue reapplying for it as well as for our Bunker Gear and SCBAs as their service life draws near its end.

Our 16th Annual Open House was well attended again and highlighted by including (WINASSAR). We really enjoy socializing with the community during this event and the opportunity to show and explain the pieces of equipment we have to help us deal with most emergencies we are called to. The Disaster Prep team continued their work providing preparedness information to the community as well as hosting several Disaster First Aid classes. I want to thank the committee and members of the community involved in Map Your Neighborhood as

well as MURS. Several years ago, I requested an All Hazard Alert Broadcast (AHAB) siren from the State to alert the Legoe Bay area in the event of a tsunami. Over the past two years, nine sites had been evaluated. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure a site that addressed community concerns and the parameters of the program set by Washington State Emergency Management.

I am pleased to report an EMS Administrator has been hired by the County as outlined in the EMS Funding Group Recommendations. In addition, a new first response agreement between most of the Fire EMS agencies and Whatcom County has been completed and signed by all parties. This is a critical step for consistent data collection through a single patient care reporting software, which will provide more accurate data for future recommendations of system direction and funding needs.

Our first “box” audit with the Washington State Auditor was an interesting experience. We were required to provide the past two years of Commissioner Meeting minutes, receipts, payroll and purchase records as well as several administrative policies and procedures. We had heard the horror stories but it went very smooth and there was only one suggestion on a payroll policy, so we continue to remain in good standing with them.

Our fire season was dry but very little in the way of actual fires. I am truly impressed with the elevated awareness of this community when we post Burn Bans. The reports of smoke on the island allow us to address them early before they become larger than we have the resources for.

There were 540 individual hours spent on incidents, 252 hours inspecting the vehicles and equipment, and 1,978 hours of Fire and EMS training. The residents and visitors of Lummi Island are very fortunate to have community minded volunteers available and I am proud to be part of their team.

Below are the dedicated professional men and women who spend these hours training, ensuring vehicles and equipment are in a state of readiness and respond to any type of incident at a moment’s notice. Curt Stocker’s contributions to this department over the past 24 years are too long to list but it goes without saying, he made a difference to the community during his time on the team and we wish him well in the future. Sara Zucati was accepted for membership in 2017.

Member	Training	Rank	Years	Occupation / Company
John Granger	Firefighter RN	EMS Chief	40	Flight Nurse - Airlift Northwest
Duncan McLane	Firefighter EMT	Chief	28	Fire Chief - Whatcom County Fire District 11
John Mulhern	Firefighter EMT	Captain	24	Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Gary Poole	Firefighter IFA	Captain	13	Operator - Whatcom Chief
Micheal Lish	Firefighter EMT	Asst Chief	13	Training/Operations Officer - WCFD #11
Chris Immer	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	9	Pastor - Village Missions
Jette Baker	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	9	Co-Owner, Sail the San Juans Charter Company
Lisa Lish	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	9	Secretary - Whatcom County Fire District 11
Robert Auld	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	8	Retired Stockbroker – Merrill Lynch
Sam Bowman	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	8	Self Employed/Student Bellingham Tech
Robert Sorensen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	7	LPN - Western Washington University
Dan Ohms	FireFighter Medic	Firefighter	4	Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire
Doug Cash	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Brittany Swaen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	3	Student - Bellingham Technical College RN PGM
Alissa Daschbach	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	2	Research Scientist - WWU
Cara Blake	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	2	Student - Saint Paul’s Academy
Brian Thompson	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Attorney - United States Air Force
Sara Zucati	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Caregiver - Island Companion LLC

Your Commissioners: Wendell Terry (2007 – 2023) Ed Scott (2010 – 2023) Bill Lee (2010 – 2019)
(Start - end of current term)

<u>INCOME</u>				
<u>TAX REVENUE</u>	Budget 2017	Actual 2017	Budget 2018	
Fire - Levy	\$345,373	\$350,160	\$348,827	
EMS - Levy	\$95,350	\$96,299	\$96,758	
Timber Harvest Tax		\$236		
<u>OTHER REVENUE</u>				
Interest		\$4,177	\$1,750	
Burn Permits		\$375		
Memorials, Grants & Other		\$18,248	\$850	
TOTAL INCOME	\$440,723	\$469,495	\$448,185	

<u>OPERATING EXPENSES</u>				
Legislative Services	\$14,562	\$15,332	\$19,022	
<u>FIRE CONTROL</u>				
Administration	\$126,239	\$117,917	\$130,351	
Suppression	\$33,655	\$32,933	\$34,773	
Prevention	\$560	\$592	\$375	
Training	\$21,976	\$22,285	\$26,334	
Facilities	\$7,895	\$8,653	\$8,056	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$12,650	\$6,240	\$12,650	
TOTAL FIRE	\$202,975	\$188,621	\$212,539	

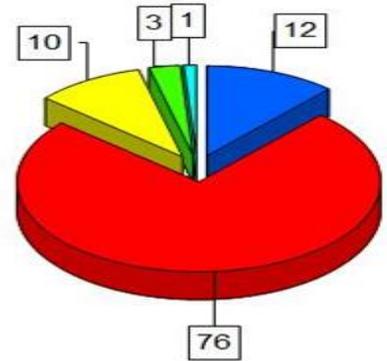
<u>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</u>				
Administration	\$46,990	\$50,125	\$45,279	
Rescue & Emergency Aid	\$25,516	\$24,257	\$26,778	
Prevention	\$230	\$212	\$625	
Training	\$17,005	\$16,105	\$17,083	
Facilities	\$4,050	\$4,831	\$4,704	
Repairs and Maintenance	\$4,850	\$4,720	\$7,350	
TOTAL EMS	\$98,641	\$100,249	\$101,819	

<u>CAPITAL OUTLAY</u>				
Improvements	\$600	\$540	\$0	
Equipment	\$17,650	\$18,325	\$150,900	
TOTAL CAPITAL	\$18,250	\$18,865	\$150,900	
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$334,428	\$323,067	\$484,280	

ACCOUNT BALANCES 12/31/2017	
EXPENSE	\$114,724
RESERVE	\$123,709
FACILITIES	\$20,962
APPARATUS	\$352,657
TOTAL	\$612,052

2017 Response Data

Fire	12	11.76%
Rescue & EMS	76	74.51%
Hazardous Conditions(No fire)	10	9.80%
Service Call	3	2.94%
Good Intent Call	1	0.98%



Average Response Time from Dispatch to On Scene: 10.49 Minutes

Last year showed that no matter what the volunteers are called for, they respond at the highest level of performance, with the utmost professionalism. Entering (or recognizing it is unsafe to enter) burning buildings, assessing, treating and transporting medical and trauma victims, sitting on powerlines, writing reports; it's all encompassing. THANK YOU!!

I am extremely grateful for their families because our members would not be able to give this community such service without their support. They put up with those inconvenient times the alarm sounds not to mention all the initial and ongoing training.

And last but most certainly not least, the community at large; your generous donations, baked goods and cards of appreciation help all of us continue doing what we do and strive to improve the service we are providing you.

Respectfully Submitted: Duncan McLane, Chief

WHATCOM COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS
215 4th Street
Lynden, WA 98264

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POSTAL CUSTOMER
LUMMI ISLAND, WA 98262