



# GRAYS HARBOR FIRE DISTRICT #2

6317 Olympic Highway, Aberdeen WA 98520

## Fire Chief's Monthly Report

To: Grays Harbor Fire District 2 Board of Commissioners

From: John McNutt, Fire Chief

September 18, 2023

### Personnel:

Firefighter Greg Schwartz has completed his probationary process and has been presented with his firefighter shield. He is currently working on driver training for fire apparatus, and we look forward to many more years of Greg's service to the department and the community.

Firefighters Warring and Smith are still progressing through the paramedic program. Warring is 40% complete with his ride time, and once completed, he will be able to schedule his final visit back to Boston for the final eval and then schedule his National Registry testing. Smith is four months into class, and testing is going well. Other staff continue working with him to ensure he understands and gets real-world information to supplement his learning.

New volunteer firefighters and EMTs are still coming in; many have signed up for shifts. This has allowed them to get some great experience, be available to make incidents and grow their skills and understanding of the District's responsibilities.

### Safety:

One injury was reported of back pain from lifting the combi-tool during a training exercise. Proper documentation was completed, and there has been no further action needed.

The safety committee is scheduled to meet on September 19<sup>th</sup>. This will be a good time to review what has been corrected from the summer and prepare for the upcoming winter.

Chief McNutt met with a representative from WSDOT about the possible apparatus notification lights along the highway at Station 2-1. The original quote was only for one light, and this quote is out of date. The WSDOT representative would do some more research and then get back to us.

Operations:

Total Call Volume – 797

EMS – 71	YTD - 515
• Transport – 46	
• Interfacility Transfers – 0	
• Transport Refusals – 25	

FIRE – 6	YTD - 31
• Building Fire – 2	
• Wildland – 4	

Total Fire/EMS Overlapping Calls – 32 (26%) YTD – 211 (26%)

Mutual or Automatic Aid Given - 10

- Fire – 1 (EGHFD – 1)
- Wildland – 3 (AFD – 3)
- Canceled in route – 6 (EGHFD – 1, MFD – 2, AFD – 1, HFD - 2)

Mutual or Automatic Received – 6

- EMS – 5 (MFD – 5)
- Fire – 1 (AFD – 1)

Station Breakdown	YTD
• Station 2-1 – 84	552
• Station 2-2 – 27	193
• Station 2-3 – 12	46

The week of October 9 through 13 is Fire Prevention Week. Crews will be conducting safety classes throughout the week at Central Park School.

Administration

A lieutenant promotion test will be scheduled for November. The posting date will be the end of September, with a closing date in early October.

The training calendar for the rest of the year has been set. There may be adjustments as needed.

We are not planning for any shift changes for 2024. With one new paramedic and another in training, we feel it is not the time to realign and give them time to work on the new skills they are receiving.

Logistics

Facilities:

Station 2-1 – The ongoing radio issues in the station have been determined to be a problem with the location of the exterior antenna. Lt. Sande has worked with the vendor to find a solution. This will require the purchase of some supplies and rental of equipment to complete the repairs. The antenna will need to be located at the east end of the station for a better line of sight to the repeater location.

After some in-house testing, we found the CO alarm issue was the location of the control module. A test has been done with the purchase of some Faraday cloth to shield the control box, and this seems to have solved the problem of the alarm sounding with every use of communication radios inside the station. Another issue discovered during this testing was an electrical issue in the conduit near the box. We are working to get an electrician out to remedy the problem.

Station 2-2 – Quotes for the repair of the west end wall were received, and in late August, the request for an entire building siding project was finally received. This will allow us to build a budget line item for this work, depending on the available funds.

Station 2-3 – Nothing significant to report.

#### Apparatus:

M2-11 is still having a random misfire but is operational.

A2-21 needs to have the shoreline plug replaced, and an onboard refrigerator was replaced after it failed.

R2-21 is back in service after having the block heater repaired.

#### Upcoming testing schedule:

- Pump testing Oct 24-27
- Hose and Ladder testing Oct 10-13
- SCBA hydrostatic testing Sep 14
- SCBA flow testing Sep 21 - 22
- Aerial ladder testing TBD.

#### PPE/Uniforms:

The stock of uniform items for both volunteer and career staff has dropped. A review of what is needed will be performed by Firefighter Warring, and an order will be placed to restock.

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