



Monthly Report

To: Commissioners
From: Chief John Nohr
Date: March 8th, 2017
Re: February Report

CCF&R BANQUET ACKNOWLEDGES SERVICE

CCF&R held its annual department banquet on February 10th at the Summit Grove Lodge. The event was well attended by district employees, volunteers, and commissioners as well as their guests. Travis Smith once again did a great job as the

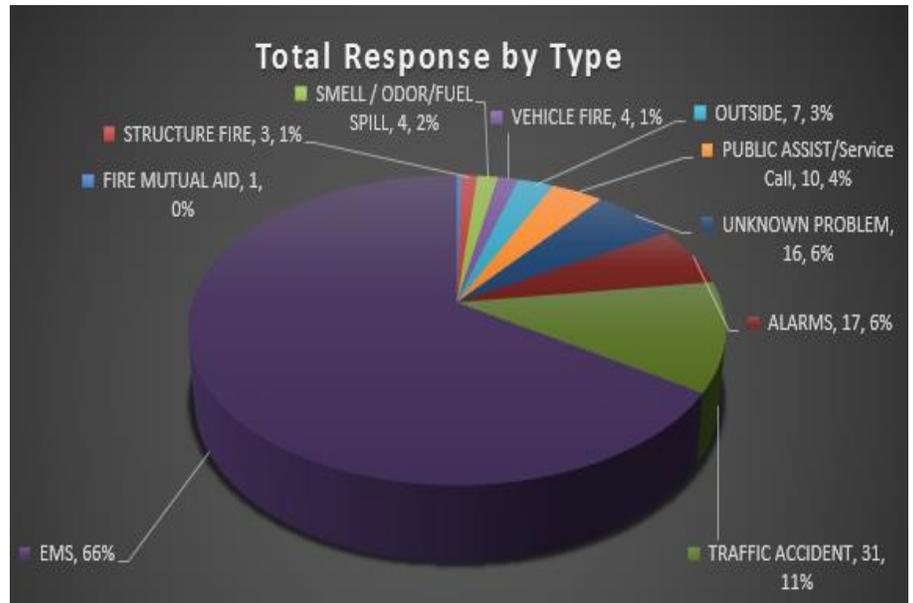
emcee for the evening. Years of Service Awards were presented to Travis Smith (15 years), Colby Gratzler (10 years), Robert Harvey (10 years), Eric Lawrence (10 years), Eino Suomi (10 years), Steve Streissguth (5 years), David Cain (5 years), Josh Gleason (5 years), and Taylor Matson (5 years). After a great dinner, guests were treated to an evening of illusions and comedy provided by Scott Anderson. Special thanks to the Clark County Firefighter's Association, Commissioner Bartel, IAFF Local-3674, and Chief Nohr for their donations toward the cost of the entertainment.

FIREFIGHTER SURVIVAL TRAINING

Firefighter rescue and survival was the training theme for the month of February. Crews reviewed past incidents requiring firefighter rescues, conducted hands on drills, and reviewed Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) procedures. RIT teams are a group of firefighters assigned to rescue fellow firefighters who become entrapped or incapacitated while suppressing a fire. The month of focused training culminated with CCF&R hosting a Firefighter Safety & Survival Class put on by the Randy Carpenter Foundation. The foundation provides survival classes to firefighters, and is named in honor of Randy Carpenter, a Coos Bay firefighter who died in a warehouse fire in 2002 after becoming entrapped when the building collapsed. Attendees represented several Oregon and Washington fire departments. CCF&R thanks the Port of Woodland for their donation of an old warehouse for use as the training site. The warehouse provided a realistic scene for the firefighters to practice their skills.

RESPONSE TIMES INCREASE IN 2016

CCF&R was busy in 2016, with nearly 3600 calls for service throughout our response area. This represents a 10.6% increase in incidents since 2014. The increase in calls contributes to longer response times, as units from farther away are needed when close-by units are tied up on other emergency incidents. Overall, the increase in response times was 29 seconds, or 8%. However, some areas noted much higher increases. For example, responses from Station 26 (Dollar's



Corner) saw an average response time increase of 20% over 2015 responses. Chief Nohr, CCF&R staff, and the Board of Commissioners are looking at options for addressing the response time increases.

CREWS PERFORM AT SERIOUS VEHICLE CRASH

CCF&R crews worked side by side with crews from Fire District 3 and Fire District 6 to save a citizen involved in a serious motor vehicle crash. The incident occurred at the intersection of NE 219th Street (Highway 502) and NE 72nd Avenue on February 21st. The crew from E26 arrived to find two vehicles involved and three people with significant injuries. Two victims in a small vehicle needed treatment, with one requiring heavy extrication. The other vehicle was a full size pick-up truck that ended up on its side with the driver’s arm pinned under the vehicle, her head up against the curb, and the cab of the truck resting precariously on the curb above the driver’s head. In addition, an infant and a dog were in the back seat of the pick-up. The infant was properly secured and was uninjured. The dog also appeared uninjured. Crews worked for several minutes to brace the truck in place and then carefully lift and crib the vehicle so the victim could be removed. All personnel on scene worked quickly and safely to ensure the victim was treated and removed as soon as possible. Kudos to everyone involved in the response to this incident!

CCF&R PREPARED FOR I-5 CLOSURE DUE TO MUDSLIDE

A mudslide covered lanes of I-5 at the northern edge of Woodland on February 16. A similar event occurred in December 2015 which resulted in the freeway being closed for several days. Thanks to the lessons learned in the 2015 incident, CCF&R was prepared to provide uninterrupted service to the citizens of Woodland if the freeway had to be closed due to the mud. Division Chief Mike Jackson jumped into action by ordering a second crew to be on duty at the Woodland fire station. This would allow CCF&R to initiate actions on a serious call in case back up crews from La Center and Ridgefield were delayed by gridlock on I-5. In addition, two less serious incidents could be handled simultaneously without calling for back up crews. Division Chief Tim Dawdy reported to the Woodland Emergency Operations Center and represented CCF&R during the planning process. Fortunately, the freeway was fully closed for only a few hours in this incident. One lane was getting through by 9 PM, with all lanes open by the next morning. However, had it been worse, CCF&R was prepared to deliver a high level of service.

