



# Monthly Report

**To:** Commissioners  
**From:** Chief John Nohr  
**Date:** February 7th, 2018  
**Re:** January Report

## **CCF&R APPLIES FOR GRANT TO REPLACE CRITICAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

CCF&R has applied for a \$936,908 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to replace outdated and obsolete self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBAs). This critical safety equipment is used on a daily basis by firefighters to make entry in to smoky environments

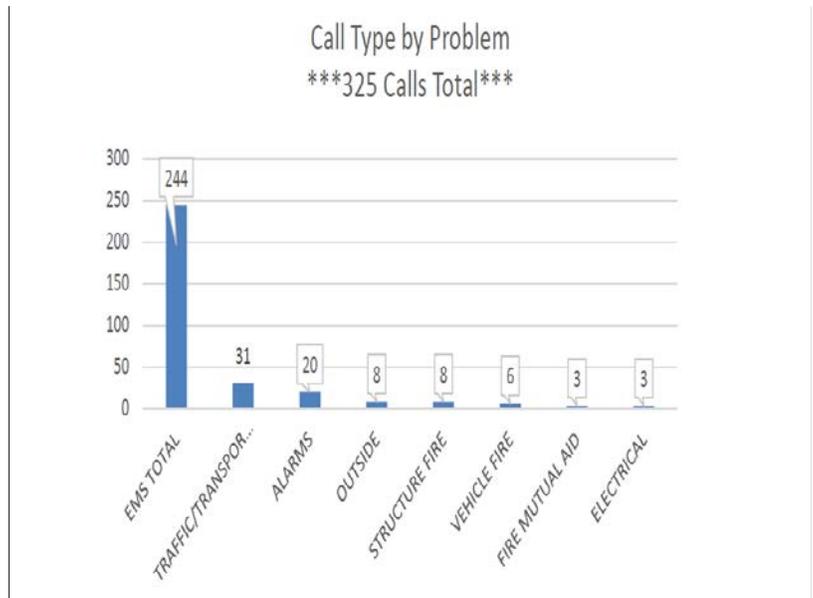
or other areas where full respiratory protection is needed. The grant, if awarded, will provide 75 SCBA back-pack units, 185 cylinders capable of holding 45 minutes of air, 84 face piece units, 12 cylinders capable of holding 60 minutes of air (for shipboard fires and special rescues), 6 new Rapid Intervention Team packs for firefighter rescues, and 3 new SCBA fill stations. The new equipment will replace SCBAs that were purchased 14 years ago with grant dollars. The primary goal of the FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) is to enhance the safety of the public and firefighters with respect to fire-related hazards by providing direct financial assistance to eligible fire departments.

## **WSRB RECOGNIZES STATION 22**

The Washington Survey & Rating Bureau (WSRB) has notified CCF&R that they will begin recognizing Fire Station 22 in Charter Oak as a staffed fire station beginning February 1, 2018. This action will result in some properties in the northeast corner of the fire district seeing their Property Protection Class (PPC) being reduced from a 9 to 5, which can result in a significant savings on fire insurance. WSRB assigns each community a Protection Class of 1 through 10, where 1 indicates exemplary fire protection capabilities, and 10 indicates the capabilities, if any, are insufficient for insurance credit. More importantly, the citizens near Fire Station 22 will now see a much faster response to fire and medical emergencies in the area. In the first full month that the station was staffed, Engine 22 responded to 47 calls for service.

## **CCF&R RESPONDS TO TRENCH RESCUE**

On Monday January 29, 2018 CCF&R responded to an injured worker who was in a 27-foot-deep sewer trench near the construction site of the new middle school on



Hillhurst Road in Ridgefield. The worker was helping place the components of a new “manhole” tube when a connection broke and the 4500-pound concrete ring fell into the hole, striking the worker. Four emergency units and three Chief Officers from CCF&R responded to the event. In addition, CCF&R received assistance from the Vancouver Fire Department and Fire District 6 during the operation. The three fire departments jointly staff the region’s Technical Rescue Team. It took rescuers approximately one hour to set up an extrication system, place rescuers in the trench with the victim, package the patient, and remove the patient from the trench. The injured worker was transported to Peace Health Southwest (the local trauma hospital) for further treatment. Trench rescues are infrequency, but are very high-risk events that require specially trained and equipped responders.



### **CRESA TO PLACE NEW ANTENNA IN THE RIDGEFIELD AREA**

The Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA) provides 911 call taking and dispatch services for law enforcement agencies and fire departments in Clark and SW Cowlitz Counties. Ridgefield Police Department officers and CCF&R responders began noticing decreased radio coverage after the move to an all-digital system in 2017. CRESA listened to the complaints of responders and is now working with Motorola to identify a spot in the Ridgefield area to place a new antenna. When up and running, the new antenna will provide increased radio function in Ridgefield and throughout the system. CCF&R thanks CRESA for responding to the needs of our emergency responders.