



Monthly Report

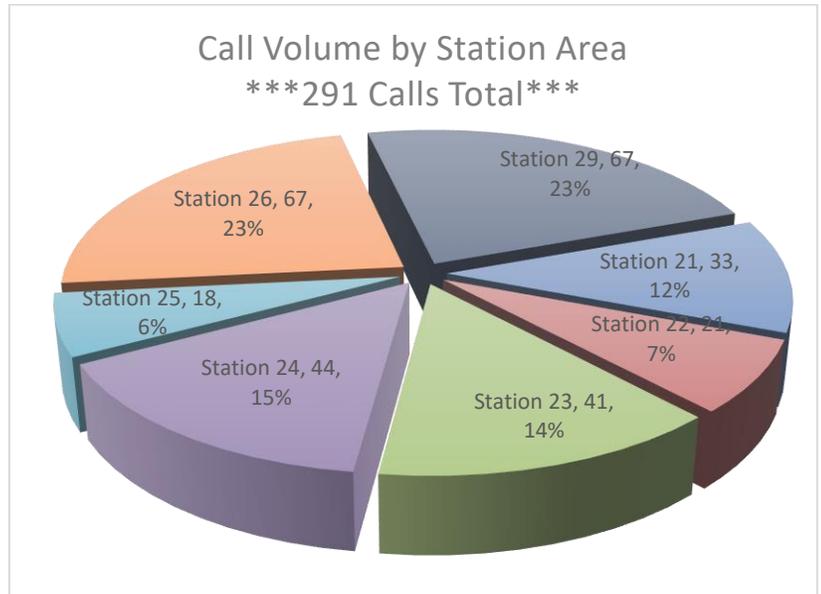
To: Commissioners
From: Chief John Nohr
Date: December 11th, 2017
Re: November Report

EMERGENCY RESPONSES KEEP CCF&R BUSY IN NOVEMBER

CCF&R crews responded to 298 calls for service in November, including three significant working structure fires. On November 15th at just past noon, crews responded to the 6200 block of NW 389th on an outbuilding fire. The first unit on scene reported a fully involved garage with fire spreading to two mobile homes. Crews worked hard to hold the fire to the structure of origin with only minor damage to the exposures. CCF&R was assisted by three units from Cowlitz County FD#1. On November 25th at 5:33 AM, crews from CCF&R, CCFD#6, and the Vancouver Fire Department responded to a working house fire in the 18100 block of NE Delfel Road. E26 was first on scene and reported heavy fire. The occupant was barely able to get out of the structure before being overcome by smoke. He was awakened by the smell of smoke. CCF&R reminds everyone to have a working smoke detector in their home. On November 28th at 1:06 PM CCF&R crews were dispatched to an attic fire at a floating home in the Ridgefield Marina. Fire Boat 24 arrived to find smoke pushing from the attic space of the structure. While the fire boat stretched attack line and pumped water, land based crews made their way down the dock and used the lines off the fire boat to extinguish the fire. Thanks to the quick response and solid tactics, damage to the building was limited to one end of the attic space.

FIREFIIGHTERS VOTE FOR SCHEDULE CHANGE TO HELP OPEN STATION 22

The career firefighters at CCF&R voted on November 27th for a one-year trial of a new schedule that will allow the opening of Fire Station 22 in Charter Oak in January. Firefighters currently work a schedule of 24 hours on duty followed by 48 hours off duty, with 17 Kelly Days, which places the annual hours worked at 2512 per year. With the new schedule, the firefighters will work two consecutive 24 hour shifts, for a total of 48 hours, followed by 96 hours off duty. The number of Kelly Days is reduced to 13 days per year. This is a net increase of 96 hours worked per employee. CCF&R will use these extra shifts, combined with the hiring of three additional firefighters in February, to help staff Station 22. Once the station is up and running on a full time basis, CCF&R will be requesting a re-rate from WSRB to help reduce insurance rates for residents in the northeast corner of the district.



NEW RADIO TOWER IN RIDGEFIELD WOULD IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS

CCF&R receives emergency dispatching and radio communications services from the Clark Regional Emergency Services Agency (CRESA). CCF&R and the Ridgefield Police Department have identified radio coverage problems in downtown Ridgefield. There is currently work going on to identify an additional radio tower site in the Ridgefield area to improve radio communications throughout the region. Since the digital radio cutover in October 2016, there have been areas identified throughout the county where communications need to improve, with the Ridgefield area being one of the most significant. The CRESA Administrative Board has authorized CRESA staff to work with Motorola on solutions. Current estimated cost to CRESA is \$1.2 million.

CCF&R TO HOLD INTERNAL PROMOTIONAL PROCESS

The Promotional Exam for Captain was announced on November 28, 2017. Firefighters choosing to go through the process have until Monday, December 11, 2017 to submit their resume and application packet. The promotion exam will be the week of March 5-9, 2018 and will include a written test, emergency simulator, interview panel, and other components. The Captain position is the front-line supervisor of the fire company and is critical to help CCF&R accomplish its mission. We anticipate promoting up to six captains in Spring 2018.

CCF&R SPREADS THE MESSAGE OF SAFETY DURING THE HOLIDAYS

The holiday season can result in significant fire safety challenges for the fire department. From hot-oil turkey cookers to candles on Christmas trees, and everything in between, there are many opportunities for the season of festivities to turn into a season of tragedy. In an effort to remind citizens about fire safety during the holidays, CCF&R placed targeted social media messages on our Facebook page. In addition, Division Chief Jackson and part-time Prevention Division assistant, Tom Cook, have held fire extinguisher training courses for our partners at the ilani Resort and the Woodland Public Works Department.

