

January 23, 2017



Fire Chief's Report

- 1) Community Presentations – I have presentations on Feb 2nd for the Mabana Flames (1030) and for the Madrona Flames (1500) and Feb 8th for the Rotary club (1200). I'll be presenting my Strategic Plan talk. Any interested in attending with me just let me know.
- 2) Annual Report – The 2016 annual report will be sent out for review this week. We can talk about it at the next board meeting. It's also known as HB1756 which is not accurate but that's the name of the original legislation requiring an annual report. Send me your comments, questions, or requested changes. It's designed as a vehicle to let citizens know how a fire department is doing only with respect to response times.
- 3) Multi company training – We are going to be trying out a new procedure for multi-company training. North County, City of Arlington, and Camano will be helping to cover each other's Districts while training at the Sno 4 training center. This will involve us staffing St 99 on some days and E99 staffing our St 1-3 some days.
- 4) Ambulance status – It's been a little tough to keep any of our reserve ambulances in service. I will be sending out a status update on our current vehicles. What I would like to do is propose that if we sell one or both properties currently on the market that we purchase another Braun ambulance. We asked them for a quote and they are willing to give us the same price on a 2017 model as they did for the 2016 we purchased last year. We would have to confirm with legal counsel as to bid requirements.
- 5) Expanding the shop – I had a request from one of our local chiefs about looking in to accelerating the time in which their vehicles can be serviced. He was very adamant that they were happy with the quality of the work, it was just the timing on getting things done. We prioritize our vehicles which can result in outside work being pushed aside. The question is then, Do we add a mechanic to do more outside work? Jay and I have talked extensively about this. In my mind the only way we could do this if there is a benefit to our district. At a minimum there can't be a cost for us. One interesting idea that we have come up with is a maintenance COOP. Departments could pay in each year to be a part of this group. Enough to cover the salary of an additional mechanic. This payment would be credited for labor hours, parts would still be extra. No refund if they don't use their allotment of hours. I think that it would be critical to have North County involved to make it work. What I would like to have from the board is approval to investigate this proposal.
- 6) Hiring or replacing updates – Paramedic, MSO, and CP. I am still not sure whether we will have none, one or two paramedic openings this year. The first thing we have to do is send a letter to the medics on our RIF list. None were interested last year so I don't expect that to change. As for the MSO position we will be holding a modified assessment. We need to revise the job description first which Ken and I are working on. One of the issues which needs to be resolved is the need for the person to be a Lt and if so, an operationally qualified officer. The Community Paramedic position will also be open in June. I will send out

a request for anyone interested in the position to contact me. It will be a day time position as it is now, Mon through Friday.

- 7) CAS audit review – The audit of our healthcare management company is complete. We will be reviewing the results soon.
- 8) Budget Audit review – The audit is complete we are trying to set up a time to review the results with State personnel.
- 9) Point in Time homeless count – This will occur this Thursday. Unfortunately we have a lot of other things going on that day and it turns out the cadets were not allowed to participate this year. I will follow up with the class organizers to see what the issue might be.
- 10) Stanwood / Camano needs assessment – Jim Reinhardt and I attend a community forum last Thursday evening to discuss community needs. It was a very well-attended meeting. Jimmy Grierson and Safe Harbor personnel ran the meeting. We had the opportunity to briefly talk about our Community Paramedicine program and got some great feedback. There is a need for all of the various groups which provide services in this area to work together. That is the same conclusion we had in our opening Community Paramedic meeting. Affordable housing still seems to be a primary concern although from our view it was healthcare. I'm looking forward to working with this group.