

EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

2019

Fire District Annual Report



Into the Future

Headquarter Station 91

600 NE 267th Avenue

Camas, WA 98607

“It is not the strongest of the species that survive, not the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change”

Charles Darwin

STATEMENT FROM THE CHIEF

Board of Commissioners and Citizens of East County Fire and Rescue –

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of East County Fire and Rescue (ECFR), it is my pleasure to present the department's 2019 Annual Report.

The Fire District strives each year to improve our knowledge, skills and ability so that we may provide the best possible service to the residents of East County Fire and Rescue. Our residents supported the Fire District in 2019 by approving the funding needed to continue and improve our efforts into 2020. We appreciate the confidence that you have in our Fire District and it's members and for allowing us to provide your emergency services in the most efficient way possible.

2019 was another busy year with 936 calls for service. 627 of those calls were medical emergencies and 309 for fire services.

We are a combination fire department that currently staffs with 10 career firefighter/EMT's, 6 part-time firefighter/EMT's, supplemented by volunteers and college interns operating out of two stations.

Commissioners and staff continue to work on strategic planning that will require change that moves us forward into the future. Annexations continue to influence our decision making and in 2019 we entered into a sale agreement with the City of Washougal for Station 95 located on 39th Street. The commissioners and staff have agreed that this is a stranded asset located in the City of Washougal and doesn't fit into our future operational plans.

As always, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our members and staff for their hard work, leadership and accomplishments in 2019. If you have any questions or comments about our operations, you can contact me at mcarnes@ecfr.us.

Sincerely,

Michael Carnes
Fire Chief
East County Fire and Rescue



ECFR Commissioners

Board Of Commissioners:

**Per State Law, Fire Commissioners are elected to set Agency policy,
adopt an annual budget and oversee the Fire Chief.**

A five-member Board of Commissioners administers East County Fire & Rescue. The board meets twice each month, on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 PM—usually at Station 91 (next door to Grove Field). Commissioner Meetings are open to the public.

Mike Berg started as commissioner in 2010 and his current term expires in 2021.

Martha Martin started as commissioner in 2012 and her current term expires in 2023.

Sherry Petty started as commissioner in 2015 and her current term expires in 2021.

Michael Taggart started as commissioner in 2015 and his current term expires in 2025.

Joshua Seeds started as commissioner in 2018 and his current term expires in 2023.



Michael Taggart



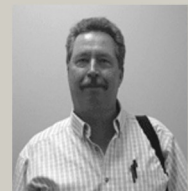
Sherry Petty



**Martha Martin
Board Chair**



Joshua Seeds



Mike Berg

2019 Open House



One of ECFR's biggest outreach to the residents of the Fire District each year is our Annual Open House. It was held in July, 2019 and was well attended. One of the popular events of the Open House was a patient extrication drill. Crews used the "Jaws-of-Life" to extricate a patient out of a simulated car accident. Captain Danny Burch narrated the simulation in real time and the attendees were very impressed with the ability to see the crews do the work and to see it up close. This event is great for the family. Some other attractions were a bouncy house for the children, ice-cream sundaes were provided by the local IAFF labor group. Folks also got to learn how to safely use a fire extinguisher.

Photos Courtesy of Commissioner Martha Martin



2019 Administration and Operations

- ◆ In 2019 we completed our first full year on Facebook. We post information about the Fire District on a regular basis. Generally our topics consist of fire prevention information, updated burning regulations and other current information happening in the Fire District and occasionally, a short bio of one of our current members. Please find and follow us on Facebook.
- ◆ This year we have surplused two support vehicles that had become too expensive to maintain and had reached the end of their useful lifespan. Our plan is to sell them in 2020, possibly through a local auction company. We have discussed replacing the chassis on 2 of our Type 6 Engines (Squads) this next year. These new squads will be used for our EMS responses as well as brush and grass fires. We will transfer the current water tanks, the pump as well as the tool boxes from the old chassis to the new chassis. This will save an significant amount of money on the total cost of the upgrade.



- ◆ Staff worked on 2 grants this year for replacing “old and worn” operational equipment. One grant is for replacing the suction units on our EMS vehicles (these are used to help clear/clean out airways on medical patients). The other grant was to help pay for a set of hydraulic extrication tools (the Jaws-of-Life). These are very expensive tools that are instrumental in helping us remove trapped patients from vehicle accidents. We were not granted any funds in 2019 but will re-apply in 2020.

2019 Administration and Operations (cont.)

- ◆ Our Fire District residents approved a fire levy “lid lift” this fall. The lid lift brings us back up to the statutory limit of \$1.50 per \$1000 of assessed value. We want to again thank our residents for their approval. This fire levy is the Fire District’s only consistent source of revenue that we receive each year. It had been over 10 years since we last asked the voters for a fire levy lid lift. The lid lift will help us to maintain 24/7 staffing at the Fern Prairie Station 91 and the Mount Norway Station 94. Due to very tight budget restrictions over the past few years, we have delayed needed maintenance at Station 93 (Sunnyside area) and at Station 94. This lid lift will allow us to start on some of the needed repairs in 2020.
- ◆ Commissioners and staff have completed an extensive review of all fire district policies. All policies have been brought up to date. This was a great accomplishment in 2019.
- ◆ This year a couple of our ECFR firefighters made the national news when while working a structure fire along side CWFD, they were given an assignment to assist in the extinguishment. They noticed an American flag on a flag pole close to the burning structure. Once the firefighters had performed their assignment, they wanted to save the flag from being destroyed by fire. Together they brought the flag down and respectfully performed a flag fold and stored the flag in the cab of a fire engine. This was caught on a cell phone camera which made its way to the media and it took off from there. I can confidently say that these firefighters who didn't know they were being filmed, would perform with professionalism in this manner on any given day. This is a great representation of all of our firefighters and it reflects the state of our culture here at ECFR. I am very proud of all of our folks!
- ◆ Staff worked hard again this year to stay within budget in all program areas. We continue to meet monthly to discuss operational strategies for the future that keeps the fire district financially sound.
- ◆ 2020 will be full of new challenges. We’re looking forward to implementing the changes that will contribute to our success of providing the most efficient way of delivering emergency services to all of the residents of East County Fire and Rescue.



Safety Report

ECFR 2019 safety committee consisted of Assistant Chief Bob Jacobs, Volunteer Firefighter Tad Crum, Captain Danny Burch and Commissioner Mike Berg. The committee continues to meet every other month. They review accident and incident reports, near miss reports, station inspections, and shift safety meeting minutes. An on shift firefighter is also invited to attend each meeting.

ECFR had 1 injury in 2019 that resulted in lost time from work. There were no other injuries for the year. Our members always keep safety in the forefront of every day and we are very proud to support an excellent safety record.

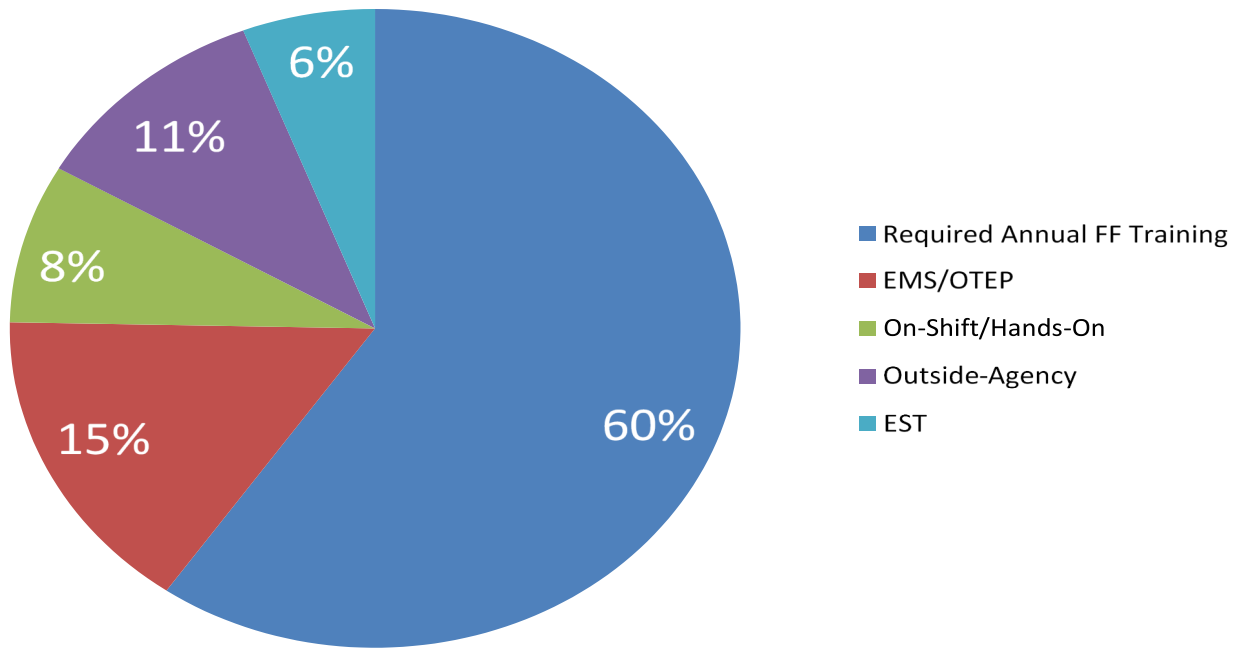
In 2019 the EST Team made substantial changes to our Rehab/Air unit. They combined the equipment of the Rehab unit and Air unit into a single apparatus. This saves the district in operational and insurance costs. The Emergency Support Team (EST) group trains once per month on Rehab and scene support. In 2019 The EST group consisted of Doug Ball, Pam Maxey, Linn Jacobs, and Assistant Chief Bob Jacobs.

Submitted by Assistant Chief Robert Jacobs



2019 Year End Training Summary

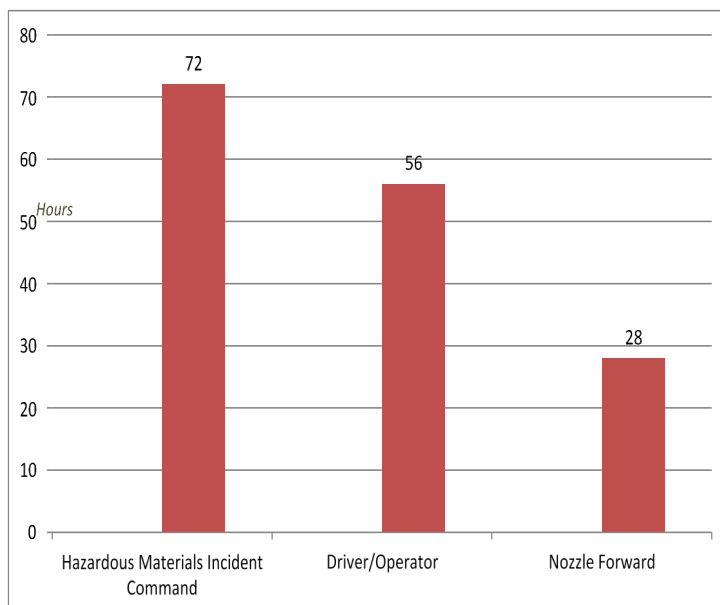
1440 Total Training Hours



Annual Required Firefighter Training, 864 hours

EMS Training, 226.5 hours

Outside-Agency Training, 156 hours



Hands-on scenario Training, 116.5 hours

EST Training, 85 hours

New Certifications:

Hazmat Incident Command, 5 Members

Driver/Operator, 2 Members

2019 Staff Milestones

Jacob Schaff	Part-time Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
Cody Sorensen	Part-time Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
James Troutman	Captain Firefighter/EMT	10 years of service
Linn Jacobs	EST Member	15 years of service



New Members to Join the ECFR team in 2019

Doug Ball

Marvin Rodriguez

Alexander Felton

Jesse Hebert

ECFR Stations

Station 91



- Engine 91
- Tender 91
- Squad 91
- Unit 92
- Unit 93

600 NE 267th Ave
Camas

Station 92



- Engine 92

4909 NE 292nd Ave.
Camas

Station 93



- Engine 93
- Tender 93
- Squad 93
- Rehab 93

121 NE 312th Ave.
Washougal

Station 94



- Engine 94
- Tender 94
- Squad 94
- Tender 95

1808 SE 352nd Ave.
Washougal

Station 95



Selling this Station
to the City of
Washougal

211 39th Street
Washougal

2019 Department Organization

Update 9-23-2019

