

# EAST COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE

## ***2021 Fire District Annual Report***



**HEADQUARTER STATION 91**

**600 NE 267TH AVENUE  
CAMAS, WA 98607**

***“Be open, honest and ethical  
in all our actions, activities  
and communication”***

***“Be fiscally responsible with  
the resources provided”***

## 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 Fire District's 2021 Annual Report.

This last year was challenging for many reasons, not the least of which was providing emergency services to our community in the midst of a continuing pandemic. I am pleased to say that East County Fire and Rescue has held steady with our mission and values through this unprecedented time. Covid-19 challenged every aspect of the departments operations and forced changes in our daily routine. Training was modified or cancelled along with our typical interaction with each other. Our members successfully met all the challenges that were put in front of them and we continue to accomplish our intended goals throughout the year.

- Maintained a class 5 rating with the Washington Surveying & Rating Bureau. (WSRB)
- Adapted to the ever changing safety protocols surrounding Covid-19.
- Changing our response plans to respond smaller apparatus to EMS calls.
- Maintaining appropriate staffing levels through several abnormal circumstances.

Firefighters and Staff did an excellent job staying within budget in all of the program areas in 2021. The Fire District continues to be fiscally sound and will continue to focus on examining what we do and how we do it. We look forward to any future challenges and will respond appropriately for all residents who live in or visit our service area.

I am grateful for the support of our Commissioners and all of our Members that help to ensure that the safety of our community remains priority one. I am optimistic that there will be better days ahead but know that it will take well disciplined folks all moving forward together to face any challenges that may come our way.

Sincerely,

Michael Carnes  
Fire Chief



## 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.**

Our Board of Commissioners in addition to their regularly scheduled monthly meetings actively participate as members in sub-committees that cover various needs of the District. Some of the needed topics the designated committees worked on consisted of the following:

- Communications with our neighboring elected officials
- Ongoing review of our annual insurance coverage and costs
- Ongoing review of our safety programs
- Exploring possible outside resources of revenue
- Active participation in the East County Ambulance Advisory Board



**Michael Taggart**



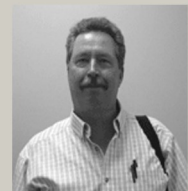
**Sherry Petty**



**Martha Martin  
Board Chair**



**Joshua Seeds**



**Mike Berg**



## A Firefighters Oath

I do solemnly swear to do my duty as a Firefighter for East County Fire and Rescue to  
the best of my ability

To serve my commanding officers with respect and dignity

To serve the citizens of East County Fire and Rescue with compassion,  
courage and integrity

To uphold the laws and constitutions of the United States of America and  
the State of Washington

So help me God



## 2021 Administration and Operations

- ◆ The Fire District worked through some challenging staffing issues in 2021. We had a member go out on a medical leave for an extended period of time which required existing staff to work extra shifts so that we could keep our Mt Norway station and our Fern Prairie station open and response ready. All ECFR members did an outstanding job by stepping up to fill the voids while our member recovered. We promoted a temporary Captain to help with shift supervision and promoted a part time firefighter to full time to help fill shifts and save the Fire District some unbudgeted overtime costs.
- ◆ Our administrative staff began working on a robust cross training program early in the year to help prepare for our Administrative Specialist retirement. Linda Durrett retired at the end of 2021 after working 33 years with the Fire District. We will miss Linda's extensive administrative knowledge but wish her well in her future endeavors.



- ◆ The Fire District had several big ticket items that were needing replaced this year. Our computer server at Station 91 was one of those items. Our old server was installed in 2008 and was no longer supported by the manufacturer. It was critical that we get this replaced this year to make sure we were protected from possible cyber security threats to our system. Also, staff worked with our vendors and we were able to replace several out dated work stations with rebuilt desk top computers that saved taxpayer dollars.



## 2021 Administration and Operations (cont.)

- ◆ Staff needed to look at replacing our vehicle extrication hydraulic tools “Jaws of Life” that are on our first out engines. They have reached their “end of life” and are getting extremely expensive to maintain. We replaced one set of tools (spreader, cutter and ram) with the latest technology. Our new tool operates with a battery pack and is much faster to deploy on the scene of a motor vehicle collision. This “E-Draulic” tool has been put into service on Engine 91. Staff will look at purchasing another set of tools for Engine 94 in 2022.
- ◆ As planned, ECFR purchased another new crew cab squad chassis (F550) this year to be put into service at Station 94. This new squad will be identical to the squad purchased last year for Station 91. Due to delays caused by Covid-19 the new squad will not go into service until early 2022.
- ◆ The Fire District also needed to make some repairs to our facilities this year. Two large expenditures were needed. We needed to replace a large hot water heater at Station 91 and the other was to replace the HVAC system at Station 94. Both these projects were challenging and delayed by the ongoing issues pertaining to Covid-19. The Fire District also scheduled the conversion of all of the outdoor lighting at Station 91 to LED in 2021. We converted all the parking lot lights and the outdoor lights above the apparatus bays and man doors. This changeover will help to lower electrical costs.
- ◆ The Fire District continues to work with neighboring agencies that help build healthy relationships. We worked with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in 2021 with agreeing to partner with them to stage a Type 6 Wildland Engine at Station 93 this summer. This helps DNR with logistics and allows the District to have an extra engine staged in our coverage area during fire season.
- ◆ We continue to share training opportunities with the Camas/Washougal Fire Department utilizing multi-company drills that use the burn prop at the ECFR Station 93 and the training tower at the CWFD Station 42.
- ◆ Staff was able stay within budget in all program areas. ECFR Members, Staff and Commissioners continue to meet monthly (strategic planning workshops) to discuss operational strategies for the future that contribute towards keeping the fire district financially sound.



## Safety Report

ECFR 2021 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 the meetings.

ECFR had zero on the job injuries in 2021. This is the 2nd year in a row of zero on the job injuries. The Fire District is very proud of our members and it knows the amount of effort that it takes to keep everyone safe 24 hours a day, all year long.

ECFR's Emergency Support Team (EST) typically trains once per month on rehab and scene support. Assistant Chief Jacobs oversees our Apparatus Operator Program and the EST Program. We had a total of 5 rehab responses in 2021. The group continues to cross train with both rehab and tender drills throughout the year. The 2021 EST/Tender Operator group consisted of Doug Ball, Pam Maxey, Tad Crum and Assistant Chief Bob Jacobs.

Submitted by Assistant Chief Robert Jacobs





# 2021 Year-End Training Report

Submitted by Firefighter/EMT Adam Webster

## **1353 Total Hours of Training**

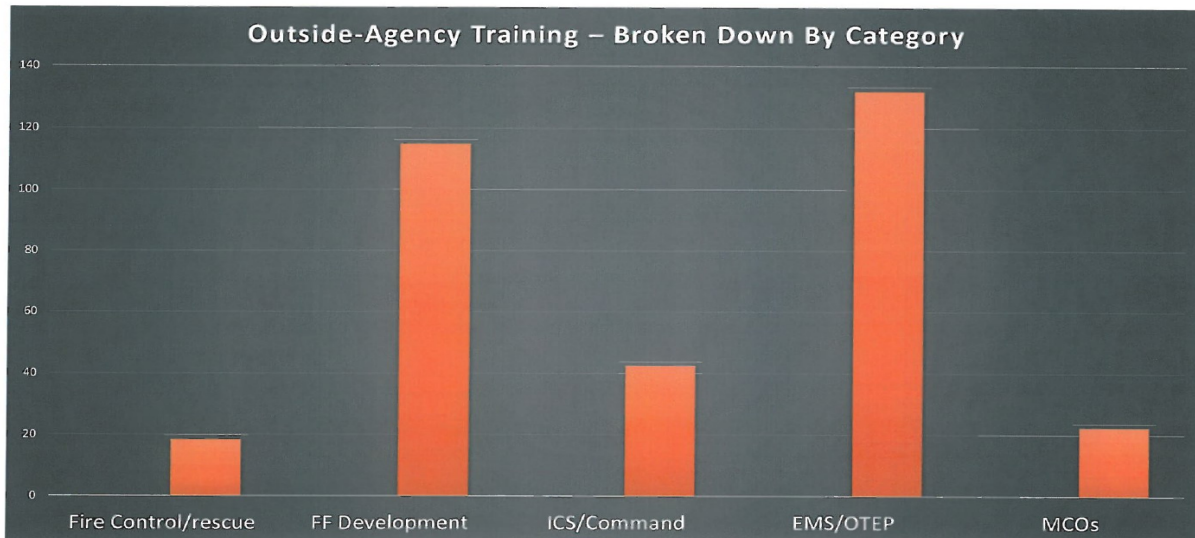
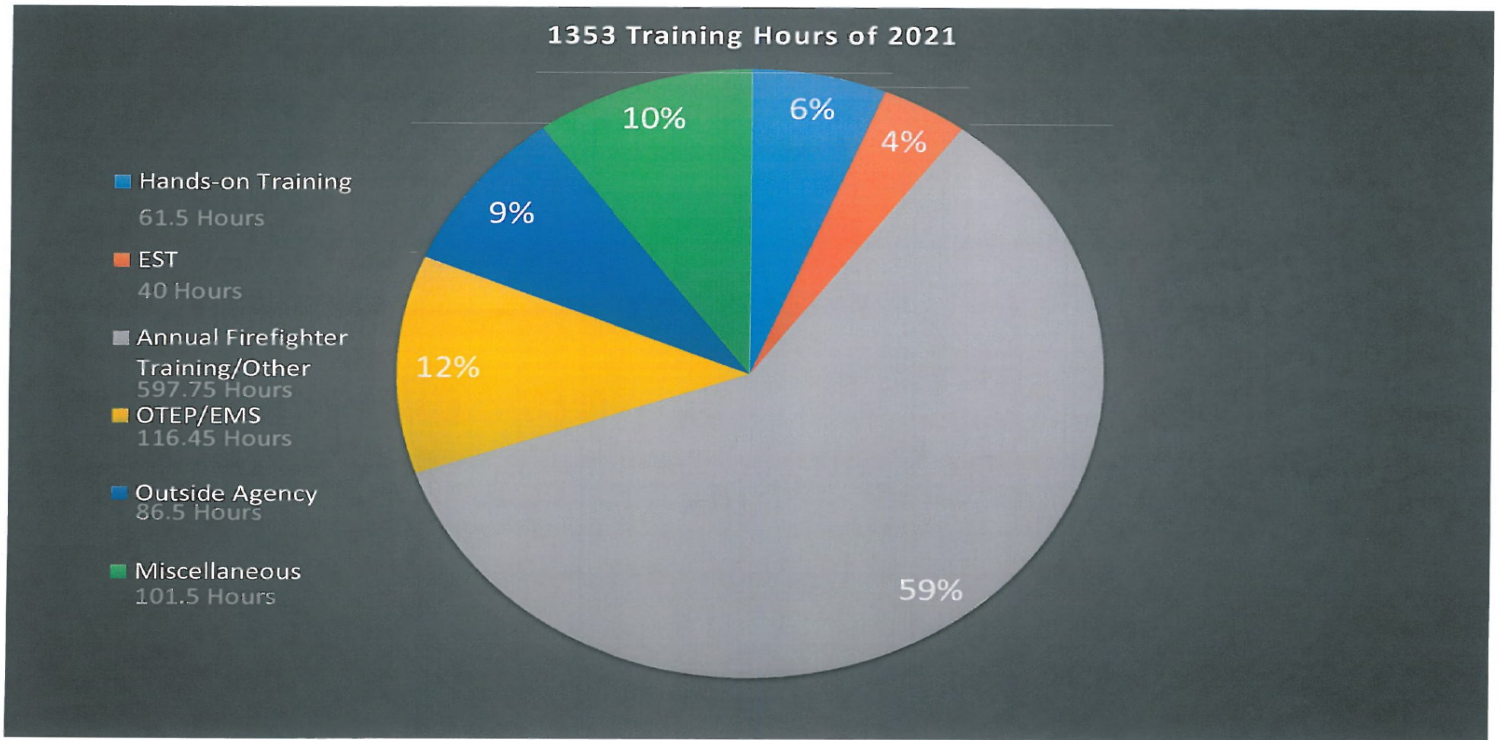
- Like 2020, members faced difficulty with training shortages due to COVID-19
- There was no scheduled volunteer firefighter academy for this year

## **9 New certifications were earned during the calendar year to line staff members:**

- IFSAC Fire Officer I
- IFSAC Fire Officer II
- Hazardous Materials Incident Commander (IC)
- ICS 300—Command for Expanding Incidents
- Blue Card/Command Classes
- IV Technician (3)
- Hazard Zone Incident Commander (IC) (Blue Card)



# 2021 Firefighter Training



Agencies where training was attended:

- North Country EMS
- Clark County EMS/Incident Command
- South Kitsap Fire
- Camas Washougal Fire
- WSP Fire Academy

## 2021 Staff Milestones

Alex Harrington	Full-time Firefighter/EMT	10 years of service
Adam Webster	Full-time Firefighter/EMT	5 years of service
Jacob Davis	Volunteer Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
Daniel Kent	Part-time Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
Drew Gustafson	Volunteer Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
Ryan Kempf	Volunteer Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service
Andrey Kotov	Part-time Firefighter/EMT	1 year of service



New Members to Join the ECFR team in 2021

Cody Parry

Austin Taylor

Jordan Vazquez-Hunt

Debbie Macias

ECFR Stations

Station 91



- Engine 91
- Tender 91
- Squad 91
- Unit 92
- Unit 93
- Unit 94

600 NE 267th Ave  
Camas

Station 92



- Engine 92

4909 NE 292nd Ave.  
Camas

Station 93



- Engine 93
- Engine 95
- 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



Completed the sale of  
Station 95 to the City of  
Washougal in 2021

211 39th Street  
Washougal



2021 Department Organization

