

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



January 30, 2008

Fire District Information Regarding the Area

Update on Oregon City Annexation

Planning continues as the Fire District prepares for the opening of the South End Fire Station in July. The Board Capital Projects Committee will be meeting on January 30 to discuss an IGA for the facilities in Oregon City and the opening of the South End Station.

Firefighting Testing Completed

Entry level firefighter testing took place January 7-11. Out of 67 candidates, 56 completed and passed all components of the process. Interviews with 28 candidates will be conducted February 4-6. The District will be hiring 18 firefighters to fill positions that will be created with the opening of the South End Fire Station as well as replacing those who will be retiring.

Chief's Award of Appreciation

Chief Kirchhofer presented the Chief's Award of Appreciation to three citizens at the board meeting on January 28. William Gifford, Amber Holveck and Margy Lynch were part of the Political Action Committee for the Oregon City Annexation. They were recognized for their contribution in helping with the annexation process and their on-going contributions to our community.

Executive Officer Appointed to National EMS Advisory Council

The District's Executive Officer, Kyle Gorman, has been appointed to the US Department of Transportation's National Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council. This is for a 2-year term. His expertise and advice will be beneficial to the Federal emergency medical services (EMS) programs.

Regional Radio System

Chief Kirchhofer attended a regional radio system planning meeting on January 16. Discussions included the governance model, ownership and operation of a regional radio system for the future of emergency service communication. Eventually, all emergency responders will be moved off the 800 megahertz spec-

trum and onto a different spectrum that will not be affected by cell phone users.

Surplus of Equipment

The Board of Directors approved the surplus of the 1982 Water Tender housed at the Clarkes Fire Station. All firefighting equipment will be removed and the District will surplus it as a non-firefighting water tender.

New Water Tender

A new water tender was purchased in November and arrived at the beginning of January. (See photo below). It will be located at the Beavercreek Fire Station.



Insurance Increase

The Board of Directors also approved at the January 28 board meeting to increase the District's insurance liability umbrella from \$5 million to \$10 million as a result of the Clarke vs OHSU court ruling. This ruling affected the tort liability protections for state and local governments. Prior to this ruling, a state law capped insurance awards at \$200,000.

Physician Supervisor's Report

Dr. Craig Warden, who currently heads the Pediatric Emergency Medicine Clinical Services at OHSU, has been the Fire District's Physician Supervisor for the past three years. He oversees the emergency medical services training for our firefighters. Dr. Warden interacts with the firefighters through meetings, informal gatherings, training sessions, and ridealongs. He presented his annual Physician Supervisor's report at the January 28 board

meeting. He reported that the EMS program was doing well and that the Fire District's service remains excellent. He also reported that there were no major quality issues during the past year. He shared that "personnel remain dedicated to providing excellent medical care and customer service."

EMS Performance Improvement Committee

- Received much needed administrative support
- More chart reviewers have been enlisted in peer review
- Due to the Fire District's success with the King airway (device used to help patients breathe), it is now used throughout the tri-county area. We have had increasing success in resuscitating patients in cardiac arrest.
- Fire District continues to participate in the Resuscitation Outcome Consortium (ROC) studies in cardiac arrest and trauma. We provide information regarding our patients and are receiving excellent data on our performance.

EMS Committee

- This committee has been very active in assessing new medical devices and standardizing medical kits.
- Pet resuscitation kits are available on all engines due to the efforts of the Burmese Mt. Dog Club of Oregon and Milner Veterinarian Clinic. These first aid kits for pets will help firefighters treat and resuscitate pets that have been involved in a fire. Equipment includes oxygen masks designed specifically to fit most dogs and cats.

Advanced Life Support (ALS) Consortium

- System Enhancement funds from the County are continuing to be used to help place automated external defibrillators (AED) in locations throughout the County. These funds are

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also paying for online medical control for the County.

Annual Paramedic In-services Training

- These training classes were well attended. Presentations were given by Meridian Park Hospital.

Training

- Drills at the District's Training Center continue to be well-conducted by the District's excellent trainers.
- Plans are being made for an all-day off-duty paramedic training class in the spring to cover pediatrics, trauma and a equipment refresher courses.
- Firefighter Curtis Guttman was named EMS Educator of the Year at the State EMS Conference last fall.

Foundation Scholarship

The Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation sponsors college scholarships to students who have chosen to pursue a course of study related to emergency services professions. Applicants for the scholarship must be a high school senior, high school graduate and/or continuing college student and must be one of the following: 1) an employee or volunteer of Clackamas Fire District #1 who has been so employed or volunteered for a minimum of three (3) years; or 2) the children of that employee/volunteer and/or the children of deceased or retired employees/volunteers; or 3) people residing within Clackamas County. Applications and further eligibility requirements are available at the Administration Office. Completed forms are due by May 1, 2008 at the Administration Office. Please spread the word.

Program Highlight – Information Technology Services (ITS)

The Information Technology Services (ITS) Division of the Fire District currently maintains and supports over 500 devices throughout the District. These consist of computers and laptops, switches, routers, servers, Blackberries, mobile data computers (MDC), Nextel Phones, printers, and fax machines.

ITS has been working to improve internal communications for the Fire District. On January 28, the District's intranet service became available and useable for employees. This intranet service will allow employees to share District information and computing resources. It will also help facilitate working in groups and for teleconferences.

District-wide

Total number of calls during December = 1,295

Total number of calls January – December 2007 = 15,404

A listing of the annual statistics for the entire Fire District is attached.