

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



September 29, 2008

Information Regarding Clackamas Fire District #1

Entry Level Firefighter/Paramedic Opportunity

Do you know anyone who would like to be a firefighter with Clackamas Fire? We will present an Entry Level Firefighter/Paramedic testing packet to our Civil Service Commission for approval at the next meeting on September 29, 2008. Definite dates have not been determined, but we are anticipating the process to begin with the announcement for applications late in 2008 (November-December) with testing potentially being held in January 2009. At that time, an application will be available on the Fire District's website, www.clackamasfire.com.

EMS Medical Director of the Year Award

The Fire District's Physician Supervisor, Dr. Craig Warden, has been selected to receive the EMS Medical Director of the Year Award from the Oregon Health Division EMS Section. This award honors an Oregon licensed physician who has served with distinction as an EMS physician supervisor or on-line medical control physician. This award also honors a person who has made a special contribution through such activities as systems development, continuing education, quality assurance, medical community liaison, etc. This award will be presented at the Oregon EMS Conference on October 10 in Bend, Oregon.

New Board of Directors' Officers

At the September 15, 2008 Board of Directors' meeting, new officers were elected. They are:

Chairperson – George Warren
Vice Chairperson – Don Trotter
Secretary/Treasurer – Dave McTeague

Their term of office will run from September 15, 2008 until the September 21, 2009 board meeting.

Volunteer Firefighters Receive Certifications

At the September 15, 2008 Board of Directors' meeting, Volunteer Coordinator Ron Smith presented the following Vol-

unteer Firefighters with their Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) certifications that they earned during the past quarter.

Matt Job – Firefighter 1
Steve Montez – Firefighter 1, Mobile Water
John Scrutton – Firefighter 1
Josh Traff – Firefighter 1

The following Volunteers were not able to attend the meeting, but also earned their DPSST certifications:

Mike Hess – Pumper Operator
Blake Meyer – Firefighter 1
Stacey Peringer – Firefighter 1
Scott Vallance – Mobile Water Supply Operator, Supply Operator, Firefighter 1

Civil Service Commission

The Board of Directors approved the reappointment of Civil Service Commission members Jim Dille, Thomas Nelson and Ed Pederson. This volunteer position has a term of four years. Each of these members has served at least 25 to 30 years. The Commission regulates the wages and working conditions of public employees and promotes their work. We appreciate their commitment to the Commission and the Fire District.

Training Opportunity

The Training Division has scheduled night drills to take place at the Pleasant Valley Golf Club in their clubhouse. The District will be using the building for the next few months for training purposes. This is a great opportunity for not only Clackamas Fire, but neighboring fire agencies to train.

Smoke Alarm Campaign

On September 20, 2008 the District participated in a smoke alarm campaign at the Driftwood Gardens Mobile Estates off 82nd Avenue. This was done in partnership with the Clackamas Rotary and the Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation. The Foundation provided the funding and the District and Rotary provided the manpower to install the smoke alarms. To date, this program has installed over

1,400 smoke alarms in many mobile home parks in the Fire District.

Access Road

On September 29, 2008 Fire District Staff will be meeting with representatives from the Oregon City United Methodist Church. They will be finalizing a sales agreement for the new access road the Church needs, which is next to the South End Fire Station.

Annual Fire Prevention Safety Fair

The 27th Annual Fire Prevention Safety Fair took place at the Danielson Hilltop Mall in Oregon City on Saturday, September 21, 2008. This year was a little scaled down due to busy crews on the four-alarm fire the day before. Engine 12, Engine 13, Truck 25, Old Red and the Safety Trailer from the Fire Prevention Division were on hand to participate in the Fair. Many of the regular vendors and partners were present such as Oregon Impact, American Medical Response, Oregon City Police Department, PGE, Willamette Falls Hospital, Joes Sporting Goods, Buds Towing, C-COM and many others.

The Clackamas Emergency Services Foundation donated hundreds of bike helmets and 10 bicycles to many happy citizens. This event continues to educate and enlighten the citizens of Clackamas County and the surrounding area.



Safety Fair Participants

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Fire at International Wood Products

On Wednesday, September 17, 2008, at 8:30 p.m. Clackamas Fire responded to a fire at International Wood Products located on Mather Road. It quickly went to a four-alarm fire with crews responding from Portland Fire, Gladstone Fire, Borning Fire, Lake Oswego and TVF&R to help gain control of the fire. Arriving crews were met with a wall of fire 50 feet by 50 feet on the north side of the building. This fire could be seen for miles. The location of this fire was a holding or storage yard for product being shipped or product that arrived from the rail line. The product that was burning was plastic composite decking material, vinyl siding, vinyl fencing and OSB siding and plywood. If that wasn't enough, it was stacked high and tight. This made it very difficult to get water and foam to the fire to cool and extinguish it. Thousands and thousands of gallons of water with some foam were applied with little effect. This fire burned for 42 hours before it was brought under control with track hoes and help from Port of Portland Truck 815 and their 800 gallons of Class B foam. Everyone involved did a great job.



Fire at International Wood Products

Ammonia Leak at Fred Meyer Distribution Center

An ammonia leak at Fred Meyer Distribution Center on Saturday, September 20, 2008, was one more call to cap off a busy week at the Fire District. A forklift driver accidentally broke a one-inch pipe that carries anhydrous ammonia (used as refrigerant gas) into the meat and deli section of the warehouse. He was transported to the hospital and released. Since it was a Saturday night, there were very few employees working. Engine 8, Engine 1, Engine 6, Heavy Squad 5, Truck 4, Battalion Chief 2, Battalion Chief 3 and Haz-Mat 3 from Gresham were there working for many hours to mitigate the leak. Haz-Mat crews were able to get the ammonia turned off and eventually able to clear the gas from the warehouse. This could have been a very bad call, but due to the fact that there were very few employees on site and the safety minded crews and command handled this call professionally and methodically, it was over without much attention.

Program Highlight – Update of Strategic Plan

The following is an update of the Strategic Plan from Battalion Chief Tim Dahl.

I want to offer a big “thank you” to those of you who completed our customer survey this month. Approximately 100 completed surveys were submitted and are now being tabulated and summarized by a consultant to help guide the Fire District in the

strategic planning process currently underway. Thank you also to the citizens who attended our community meeting on August 28, 2008 in Oregon City. Though we did not have the turnout we had hoped for, those in attendance offered important information about what they would like to see from their fire/EMS/rescue provider. The information gained from both of these activities will be highly regarded in the subsequent activities in the planning process, and ultimately in our day-to-day operations.

The last couple weeks have been busy ones for the strategic planning process. On Monday, September 8, 2008, the Board of Directors met in a special work session to further discuss their vision and broad goals for the Fire District to use for setting its course for the next several years to come. This meeting confirmed our existing mission statement, “*To safely protect and preserve life and property.*” In addition, several “vision statements” were brainstormed, which were transmitted to our staff for further development.

Almost three dozen staff members met for two full days on September 10 and 11, to explore and discuss the mission and vision statements, and to expand them in to “guiding principles” (values). Various exercises took the staff members on a journey that yielded a list of the District’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats. By the end of the second day, we were applying objectives to the mission and vision statements. Staff left the workshop weary, but satisfied that they had helped build a foundation for the future, a destination for us to steer toward.

The Oregonian has published several articles regarding our strategic planning process. These and other information regarding our planning process can be accessed via our webpage www.clackamasfire.com, under the “about us” tab.



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LOCAL STATION ACTIVITIES

See station summary.

District-wide

Total number of calls during August =
1,406

Total number of calls January – August
2008 – 10,568