



Fire Department Report, September 2016

In August, We responded to 19 calls for service; 10 Medical, 1 Assist Law Enforcement, 2 public assists, 2 unauthorized burning, 2 False alarms, and 2 Mutual Aid Calls. The Department completed 308 training and response hours in August. Additionally, I completed 183 admin hours bringing the departments total hours for August in at 491. We are continuing along a trend to once again set a response record in 2016, we are currently 1 month ahead of our busiest year to date, at this pace we will easily hit 200 calls this year.

Fire Chief Hours:

In June, I completed a total of 221 hours.

Garibaldi steering committee:

The steering committee met on Tue 9/06. I was unable to attend, but I did receive a briefing from Councilor Olson.

The Committees focus remains public outreach and education. We each had approximately 12 citizens ask about the status of our departments, and the direction we need to go to address the future of the volunteer fire service. Going forward, we will be focusing on staggered open houses so that the committee can be available for question.

Chief Marugg created a model budget to start the discussion, however, it is going to be a shock to voters. Here is the tax line from his model budget;

<u>District</u>	<u>Assessed value</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Net Tax</u>
Tillamook Fire District	1,023,803,118	.69	\$698,961
Nestucca FD	987,897,782	.91	\$906,937
Nehalem Bay FD	967,152,243	1.15	\$1,112,770
Netarts/Oceanside FD	423,489,057	1.62	\$686,404
GFD/GRFD/Bay City combined	315,151,468	1.74	\$ 548,363

In my opinion, this is the bare minimum with 2 employees, a Chief and a Training Officer.

To get this accomplished, we will have to get the public involved and working with us.

We may also have to have some concessions from the Cities to get the public to approve such a measure. With regard to the City of Bay City, would it be possible to forgo the assessment of the roughly \$90,000 and \$0.81 per thousand portion of the general fund that currently goes to the Fire Department for a set amount of years? This added with the elimination of the \$0.47 per 1000 levy would result in a comparison of cost at the current funding of 1.28 per 1000 to the proposed 1.74 per 1000. Garibaldi will also be asked to do the same. We will also have to arrange for the Fire Station. It is my understanding that the Fire Equipment will follow the Fire Protection, however who owns the Stations is another matter. As you can see there is still lots to work out. Right now our biggest need is assistance with public outreach and education. How do we get the word out? The Status Quo is not possible for much longer. Garibaldi is facing it now, and we are only a couple of years behind them.

City Ordinances;

It has come to my attention that there may be some confusion or conflicting language with regard to the Fire Department and The Volunteer Firefighter's Association. In particular a statement in Ordinance 665 that states that the Association is not a part of the municipal government of the city, and a section of Ordinance 668 that states that the Chief and volunteers are not employees, except under very limited areas such as FICA. I request that the council ask staff and the City Attorney to assist in coordinating these various ordinances so that the responsibilities of the Association, and the Department are better defined. Of particular concern to me is the human resources and personnel management. Exactly where does the Department (Bay City Fire Department) end and the Association (Bay City Volunteer Firefighter's Association) begin? It was always my understanding that the Department was responsible for everything except fundraising and some charity and spending done at the request of the members. This has allowed us to purchase equipment that would otherwise be outside of our budget, and to assist community members at certain times.

Burn Complaints:

We are continuing to respond to complaints that appear to rise to a Life Safety and or Property conservation level.

Road side Conditions:

The Public works crew has been working to mitigate brush along roads and hydrants, and we appreciate it. I met with the Public Works Director and Councilor Killion, and Public works will be working on a maintenance plan to ensure that hydrants do not become such a concern in the future.

Fire Conditions:

All of the Fire Departments within the County are on a total burn ban, and we remain in a declared fire season. The current fire conditions remain at a low level for the North Oregon coast, however there is no sign of a long term weather pattern that will end fire season.

Recruiting:

We are training 6 adult volunteers to become firefighters. As you can imagine, this is a huge demand on my time, and is forcing me to not complete some administrative tasks to focus on training.

We currently have 19 adult members and 1 cadet. Our Fire qualified staff breaks down as follows; 13 entry level or above firefighters, these are individuals that are qualified with the minimum or above fire training to train in a live fire or fight a fire under direct supervision. This is a shortage as a suggested minimum number of firefighters before internal operations are initiated can rise to 20 total responders. Add to this that these individuals also fill the roles of Apparatus Operators and Company Officers, and you can see that we are stretched thin even if every member is able to respond to an incident. We can and do enhance these numbers by the way of the Automatic and Mutual Aide responses of our neighbors. We are in a time and place where an involved structure fire will always require at the least an Automatic aid call, if not a Mutual Aid request via a second or greater alarm. This is not unique to us, as all of the local departments are in the same circumstance with regard to fighting structure fires.

Our biggest opportunity, and the one for which I can see no end in sight is the lack of depth of seasoned volunteers and officers. If I am out of district, I cannot guarantee a response to a medical or rescue call. If there is a fire, one of the Officers will eventually make it to the area, but the two that can respond for large emergencies from work will be responding from the far side of Tillamook.

We are beginning an online training program with action training. We are optimistic that this web based training will allow for all of our members to increase their knowledge via a self-paced program. Hopefully, this will allow us to focus our drill time on more psychomotor and skill training of critical Fire, EMS, and Rescue skills.

As always, if you know of anyone that would possibly be interested in a position within our volunteer staff, please let them know that we are in need of a couple more members.

Respectfully,

Darrell Griffith

Fire Chief

Bay City Fire Department

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CITY OF GARIBALDI / GRFPD/ BAY CITY COMBINED

• FIRE CHIEF		\$75,000	
	FICA	10,313	
	HEALTH INS	12,000	
	WORKMANS COMP	7,500	
	PERS	<u>15,000</u>	
	TOTAL		\$119,813
• TRAINING OFFICER		\$45,000	
	FICA	6,200	
	WORKMANS COMP	4,500	
	HEALTH INS	12,000	
	PERS	<u>9,000</u>	
	TOTAL		\$ 76,700
• VOLUNTEERS	WAGES	\$ 30,000	
	QRT (SHIFT)	40,000	
	FICA	9,000	
	WORKMANS COMP	<u>25,000</u>	
	TOTAL		\$ 104,000
• OPERATIONS AND MAINTNENACE			
	A) Supplies	\$8,000	
	B) Fuel and Oil	\$6,000	
	C) Protective clothing	\$20,000	
	D) Grant matching funds	\$25,000	
	E) Fire Minor equipment	\$10,000	
	F) Equipment repair	\$10,000	
	G) Printing, advertising, notices	\$700	
	H) Contracted services	\$30,000	
	I) Telephone / internet	\$3,000	
	J) Postage and shipping	\$500	
	K) Travel and training	\$8,000	

L) Building and grounds	\$3,000	
M) Dues, licenses, subscriptions	\$ 3,000	
N) Insurance	\$30,000	
	Total	\$157,200
• EQUIPMENT RESERVE		<u>\$ 80,000</u>
	TOTAL	= \$ 537,713
COMBINED ASSESSED VALUE	315,151,468	\$548,363
	<u>1.74</u>	<u>-537,713</u>
	\$ 548,363	= \$ 10,650
		Contingency

THIS SENARIO WOULD COST PROPERTY TAX PAYERS \$1.74 PER 1,000

Comparison			
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