

# WHATCOM COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT NO. 11

## Lummi Island Fire Department

3809 Legoe Bay Road \* P.O. Box 130 \* Lummi Island, WA 98262  
Phone: (360) 758-2411 Fax: (360) 758-2041 www.lummiislandfire.com

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

2016 ended up with 82 responses, breaking last year's record. There are 18 members on our roster and although it may seem like a large number, there were less than 6 responders answering each incident for the year, on average. Unfortunately, two members left the Department due to work and family time commitments: Zach Little and Pattie Bolyard. Both made a difference to the community during their time on the team and we wish them well in the future. One new member was accepted in 2016: Brian Thompson. Brian, Cara Blake, and Alissa Daschbach are currently taking their EMT class.

In addition to all the annual fire training requirements and refreshers, we delved into some new science on fire fighting in today's residential environment. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Underwriters Laboratories (UL), and New York City Fire Department (FDNY) performed a series of experiments in 2012 to study the effect different ventilation and suppression techniques have on structure fires. Our fire training was based on the results of these experiments as we try to find more efficient firefighting tactics with our limited manpower and water.

We also learned how to perform CPR on a firefighter with full bunker gear and breathing apparatus on. It involves four additional responders that have to coordinate each step and have good communications. With sudden cardiac death being the leading cause of line-of-duty deaths, this is a skill that we would rather not use but if needed, could make a big difference. Our medical training subjects consisted of Teamwork and Communications, Sick vs Not Sick, Airway Devices, Abdominal Pain, Comas, Burns and Pediatric Emergencies.

About 10 years ago, several Whatcom County Fire Agencies participated in a National Institute of Health trial looking to improve long term neurological function after sudden cardiac arrest. As a result of the trial, the Food and Drug Administration approved a new CPR device called the ResQ Pump in 2015. Whatcom County Medical Program Doctor Marvin Wayne has made this a standard of care for Whatcom County. Our training on the Pump has been extensive, because of our low call volume and responder turnout. One of the challenges is the additional effort (about double) it takes to perform chest compressions because we pull up on the chest as well as push down. This device requires more responders to be deployed effectively, because fatigue is a leading cause of poor compressions.

While the trial study and the science behind it indicates it is the best tool for the job, it is dependent on the human resources which power it. If we do not have those resources, we will not deploy it and will revert to manual compressions as we always have. In September, we received a Federal Emergency Management Agency grant in the amount of \$25,714 for an Automatic Chest Compression Device to ensure consistent and quality compressions on CPR calls with low responder turnout. While this seems like an answer to the low manpower challenge, it is not a replacement for the ResQ Pump, as it does not pull up on the chest. This is another important tool in our tool box to help us provide the best care with a shrinking workforce.

During the installation of the mobile computers from the 2015 grant, it became very clear our IT infrastructure in the station needed improvements as well as replacing most of the office computers. While this is not a direct suppression tool or life saving device, it is critical to providing the best support for the field operations the volunteers conduct.

I continue to serve on the EMS Technical Advisory Board representing the EMS Trauma Care Council. With the voter approved funding for Whatcom EMS, there is a lot of work ahead to ensure the funds are spent appropriately. I am pleased to report in the past three years I have seen significant positive changes in the working relationships of all EMS agencies.

We remain in good standing with the Washington State Auditor’s office, after a clean 2014 audit. We are now subject to a more detailed audit process with the increased tax revenue. The Apparatus Replacement Fund has been growing and is ahead of schedule allowing us to purchase a small SUV and pickup from Whatcom County’s surplus list. The pickup will be a sign truck primarily but available to take wildland gear, equipment and personnel up the mountain and other areas not accessible by our larger response vehicles. The small SUV will be the “Town” vehicle to help save on fuel costs.

Although the 2016 fire season in Washington State was small compared to 2015, Lummi Island did not have a fire free season. There was a relatively small fire by Inati Bay that was difficult to access. With luck, the winds were calm and it was spotted early in its development, allowing our volunteers to get on top of it as quickly as possible. The Department of Natural Resources has a camp ground just south of Inati Bay, accessible only by boat. Their outdoor burning rules can contradict ours at times, causing several reports from Eliza Island about smoke on Lummi throughout the Burn Ban. It is nice to know our island neighbors to the east are watching out for our safety.

156 individual hours were spent inspecting the equipment and vehicles to ensure they are ready to respond to you in your time of need. 1,555 hours of were spent sharpening skills to operate vehicles and equipment, training on fire suppression as well as continuing medical and trauma education. In addition to the hours of training, responding to calls accounted for 417 hours.

Below is a list of the dedicated professionals who train and respond to any type of incident at a moment’s notice. The residents and visitors of Lummi Island are very fortunate to have community minded volunteers available and I am proud to be part of their team.

The 24-hour duty officer contact number is **360-739-0358**, and is for NON-emergency situations only.

Member	Training	Rank	Years	Occupation / Company
John Granger	Firefighter RN	EMS Chief	39	Flight Nurse - Airlift Northwest
Duncan McLane	Firefighter EMT	Chief	27	Fire Chief - Whatcom County Fire District 11
John Mulhern	Firefighter EMT	Captain	24	Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Curt Stocker	Firefighter IFA	Captain	24	Quality Inspector - Bham / WC Housing Authority
Michael Lish	Firefighter EMT	Asst. Chief	12	Training/Operations Officer - WCFD #11
Gary Poole	Firefighter IFA	Captain	10	Operator - Whatcom Chief
Lisa Lish	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	10	Secretary - Whatcom County Fire District 11
Chris Immer	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	9	Pastor - Village Missions
Robert Auld	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	8	Retired Stockbroker – Merrill Lynch
Sam Bowman	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	8	Self Employed
Jette Baker	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	8	Co-Owner, Sail the San Juans Charter Company
Robert Sorensen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	7	LPN - Western Washington University
Dan Ohms	Firefighter Medic	Firefighter	4	Retired Paramedic / Firefighter - Bellingham Fire
Doug Cash	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	4	Purser / Operator - Whatcom Chief
Brittany Swaen	Firefighter EMT	Firefighter	3	Student - Bellingham Technical College RN PGM
Cara Blake	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	2	Student - Saint Paul’s Academy
Alissa Daschbach	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	2	Research Scientist - WWU
Brian Thompson	Firefighter IFA	Firefighter	1	Attorney - United States Air Force

**2016 FINANCIALS****INCOME**

<u>TAX REVENUE</u>	<b>Budget 2016</b>	<b>Actual 2016</b>	<b>Budget 2017</b>
Fire - Levy	\$341,953	\$345,414	\$345,373
EMS - Levy	\$94,406	\$93,956	\$95,350
Timber Harvest Tax		\$795	
<u>OTHER REVENUE</u>			
Interest		\$1,759	
Burn Permits		\$300	
Memorials, Grants & Other		\$39,083	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$436,359</b>	<b>\$481,307</b>	<b>\$440,723</b>

**EXPENSES**

Legislative Services	\$14,637	\$10,710	\$14,562
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FIRE CONTROL

Administration	\$119,957	\$119,324	\$126,239
Suppression	\$40,517	\$27,691	\$33,655
Prevention	\$525	\$395	\$560
Training	\$24,235	\$20,390	\$21,976
Facilities	\$7,430	\$6,830	\$7,895
Repairs and Maintenance	\$11,550	\$9,490	\$12,650
<b>TOTAL FIRE</b>	<b>\$204,214</b>	<b>\$184,120</b>	<b>\$202,975</b>

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Administration	\$43,392	\$42,584	\$46,990
Rescue & Emergency Aid	\$21,335	\$19,846	\$25,516
Prevention	\$230	\$533	\$230
Training	\$15,893	\$15,159	\$17,005
Facilities	\$3,720	\$3,538	\$4,050
Repairs and Maintenance	\$4,175	\$2,285	\$4,850
<b>TOTAL EMS</b>	<b>\$88,745</b>	<b>\$83,945</b>	<b>\$98,641</b>

**CAPITAL OUTLAY**

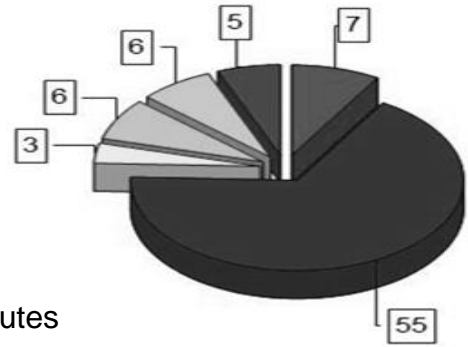
Improvements	\$6,850	\$3,727	\$1,100
Equipment	\$9,100	\$44,072	\$17,150
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$15,950</b>	<b>\$47,799</b>	<b>\$18,250</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$323,546</b>	<b>\$326,574</b>	<b>\$334,428</b>

**ACCOUNT BALANCES 12/31/2016**

EXPENSE	\$112,120
RESERVE	\$122,383
FACILITIES	\$18,108
APPARATUS	\$212,498
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$465,109</b>

### 2016 Response Data

Fire	7	8.54%
Rescue & EMS	55	67.07%
Hazardous Conditions(No fire)	3	3.66%
Service Call	6	7.32%
Good Intent Call	6	7.32%
False Alarm & False Call	5	6.10%



Average Response Time from Dispatch to On Scene: 11.12 Minutes

This Fire Department would be nothing without the dedication of the volunteers. I am proud of the hours they put in to keep their skills sharp, ensure the apparatus are ready to respond, write reports, wait for PSE on downed powerlines, attend to medical and trauma incidents, enter burning buildings and many other tasks all while performing their duties safely.

I would be amiss not to recognize the families that support the volunteers. The support they give during initial EMT, occasional Saturday and Thursday night trainings is as important as the time the volunteers give. Additionally, I do not need to mention the disruption when the alarm sounds during a good night's sleep, a holiday meal or romantic evening. Thank you, families, for your support and understanding.

Lastly, huge thanks for the generous donations, cards and baked goods. The support is much appreciated and motivates us to continue finding ways to improve the level of service we can provide.

Respectfully Submitted: Duncan McLane, Chief

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Lynden, WA 98264

## LUMMI ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

POSTAL CUSTOMER  
LUMMI ISLAND, WA 98262