

RFA GOVERNANCE BOARD REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

4:00 P.M. – Tuesday, May 11, 2021 View live via Facebook: http://www.Facebook.com/RentonRFA

- Call Meeting to Order
- Roll Call
- Agenda Modifications
- Announcements, Proclamations, and Presentations
 - <u>Proclamation for Emergency Medical Services Week</u>
- Public Comment

Members of the audience may comment on items relating to any matter related to RFA business under the Public Comment period. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per person pursuant to the rules established under Section 8 of the Bylaws.

- Consent Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2021 Regular Meeting
 - Approval of <u>Vouchers:</u> AP Check Register 3/16/2021 4/15/2021 Payroll Check List 3/1/2021 – 3/31/2021
- Signing of Vouchers
- Board Committee Reports
 - Budget and Finance Committee
 - Operations and Capital Committee
- <u>Chief's Report</u>
- Division Reports
 - Administration
 - Administrative Specialist Hiring Update
 - EMS/Health & Safety
 - Treat and Refer Application Update
 - KCFD#20 CARES Service & Vaccination Sites for the Skyway Community
 - Support Services
 - Facilities: Station 11 & 16
 - Fleet: Chassis Issues
 - Planning: Accreditation Progress

- Response Operations
 - Training
 - Haz-Mat and Tech Team Will: Confined Space/Area Rae
 - Dive Team: Rescue Boat Operator Training (RBO)/Swiftwater
 - Newly Promoted Engineer Carpenter is at the Pump Academy
 - Tech: Low Medium Stokes
 - Block 1 Fundamentals Training
 - o Attic Fire Tactics
 - o 21/2 Deployment
 - Forcible Entry
 - Accountability
 - Public Outreach
 - North Collage Ride Along
 - Children's Day Celebration at Renton Stadium
 - Significant Incidents
 - (4/17) 161st CMD Residential Fire
 - (4/28) 187th CMD Residential Fire
- Office of the Fire Marshal
 - <u>2021 OFM Quarterly Report</u>
- Correspondence
 - King County Public Health Letter of Appreciation
 - Aid 13 Crew Thank You Email
- Unfinished Business
- New Business
- Good of the Order
- Executive Session

Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g), to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.

- Future Meetings:
 - Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 9:00 a.m., Budget/Finance Committee Meeting, Video Conference
 - Tuesday, May 25, 2021, 10:30 a.m., Operations/Capital Committee Meeting, Video Conference
 - Tuesday, June 8, 2021, 4:00 p.m., Governance Board Regular Meeting, Video Conference
- Adjournment



Renton Regional Fire Authority Proclamation

WHEREAS, the American College of Emergency Physicians recognizes the week of May 16-22, 2021, as Emergency Medical Services Week in celebration of the federal Emergency Medical Services System Act of 1973; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services are among the most important services provided to Renton residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, rapid access to effective emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, Renton Regional Fire Authority teams operate through regional cross-jurisdictional and collaborative partnerships to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, Renton Regional Fire Authority has implemented the new FDCARES program to reduce the number of low-acuity 9-1-1 calls and improve reliability; and

WHEREAS, the EMS physicians, nurses, medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, educators, administrators and others, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, Renton Regional Fire Authority contributes to a regional EMS partnership that achieves the nation's best cardiac arrest survival rate, now up to 50 percent, and the region's reputation as the best place in the world to survive a heart attack.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board hereby proclaims the week of May 16 to 22, 2021, as

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK

in the City of Renton in recognition of the value and the accomplishments of our emergency medical services providers.

In witness whereof, the Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board hereunto sets their hand and causes the seal of Renton Regional Fire Authority to be herein affixed this 11th day of May 2021.

Ruth Pérez, Board Member

Marcus Morrell, Board Member

Myron Meikle, Board Member

Kerry Abercrombie, Board Member

Randy Corman, Board Member

Ryan McIrvin, Board Member

Linda Sartnurak, Board Member





Renton Regional Fire Authority 18002 108th Ave SE

Renton, WA 98055 Office: (425) 276-9500 Fax: (425) 276-9592

MINUTES RFA Governance Board Regular Meeting 4:00 P.M. – Tuesday, April 13, 2021 Video Conference

CALL TO ORDER

Governance Board Chair Pérez called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

<u>Governance Board Members Present:</u> Kerry Abercrombie (Fire District 25) Ruth Pérez, Chair (City of Renton) Marcus Morrell, Vice Chair (Fire District 25) Ryan McIrvin (City of Renton) Myron Meikle (Fire District 25) Randy Corman (City of Renton) Linda Sartnurak (Non-Voting Advisory Position, Fire District 40)

Administrative Staff Present:

Fire Chief Steve Heitman, Assistant Fire Chief Roy Gunsolus, Chief Administration Officer Samantha Babich, Deputy Chief Chuck DeSmith, Fire Marshal Anjela Barton, Deputy Chief Mark Seaver, Battalion Chief Aho, Lieutenant Hyslop, Fleet Manager Brice Callaway, Facilities Manager Scott Murphy, IT Technician Wyatt Humphreys and Administrative Supervisor Christine Noddings.

Public Present:

Jim Nelson (D.A. Davidson) and Scott McJannet (KL Gates, LLP).

AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There were no agenda modifications.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

There were no announcements, proclamations, and presentations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Meikle and **SECONDED** by Board Member Corman to approve the consent agenda for April 13, 2021. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

SIGNING OF VOUCHERS

The members of the Finance Committee signed the voucher approvals for April 13, 2021.

GOVERNANCE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES April 13, 2021 Page 2 of 6

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no Board Committee reports.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Heitman's report included the following:

- Recognition Awards: Chief Heitman congratulated Members of the Year and Top Company Awards for 2020.
- Retirements and Promotions: Effective April 1, Lt. Andy DeLeuw retired after 32 years of service and Eng. Jeff Richards retired after 36 years of service. To fill their vacancies, Jonathan Sarreal was promoted to full-time Lieutenant, and the RFA conducted "Rule of Three" interviews on March 22 to promote Firefighter Kelly Carpenter to Engineer. Both promotions are effective April 1.
- Congratulations are in Order: Job well done to Firefighters Victoria Berg, David Braun and Anthony Parker who passed their 3A JATC test. They only have one more to go to achieve Journeyman status. In addition, Firefighter Daniel Yun successfully completed his 2B step and Firefighters Sean Hartman and Brandon Ross completed their 2A step.
- Northeastern University First Responders Mental Health Focus Group Event: On March 12, Chief Heitman participated in an event sponsored by Northeastern University focused on mental health issues faced by first responders and training/education needs they have. The intent of this group is to identify the public mental health issues and situations first responders confront in the performance of their duties; and develop training programs to address gaps in current training for these issues.
- RRFA/KCFD 40 Contract Negotiation Update: Negotiations with KCFD #40 continue to move forward in a positive manner. The latest negotiation session was used to identify and clarify performance metrics and to ensure the formula used for calculating annual costs for service is accurate, including areas that have been annexed by the City of Renton. There are three more meetings scheduled at this point.
- Recruit Update: On March 29, AC Gunsolus and Chief Heitman met with the Academy Cadre to discuss documented issues with one of the RFA's recruits. After meeting with the training officers and meeting with the recruit, Chief Heitman made the decision to separate the recruit from the RFA.
- Governance Board Notification: Per the RFA's procurement process and policy, Chief Heitman notified the Board of the following purchases:

Holmatro Cordless Extrication Set – \$38,462.60 Life Scan Physical Additional Testing – \$34,956.00

DIVISION REPORTS

Administration

• Lieutenant Exam Process Update: Eight members applied, with one getting promoted between the time of application and the date of this meeting. They have all passed the written exam and are preparing for the promotional assessment center that starts on April 21st.

EMS/Health & Safety

• RRFA Mobile Vaccination Partnership with Community Members: The Johnson & Johnson vaccine is currently on pause. The Mobile Vaccination Unit (MVU) is reaching the vulnerable

population of the Renton community that was struggling to schedule appointments. Skyway has been added to the map for scheduling a weekly vaccine site in that area beginning at the end of April. The MVU has given over 1,000 doses to this population.

- On-boarding new CARES RNs (Yasmin and Krista): Renton now has three bilingual RNs. Yasmin starts on April 16th with the Renton CARES unit.
- CPR Consortium Update: Renton RFA is working with the CPR Consortium group to establish consistent communication to the public regarding when CPR classes will be offered again, per the Governor's direction. We plan to start up again in unison with Puget Sound RFA and Valley RFA.
- Future Women in EMS/Fire Workshop: This workshop is designed to offer women the opportunity to don equipment, pull a fire hose, and hear testimonies in an effort to invite females to consider the fire service as a career. This month's workshop will be hosted by Puget Sound RFA, and Renton RFA will be hosting the event next Spring.

Response Operations

- Training Updates: Station 17 crews received Wildland Operations training. Wildland technicians received their Red Card technical-based refresher training. Multiple companies participated in vehicle extrication drills. All crews received their Q1 EMS training on Endocrinology. The HazMat team had a drill with Seattle Fire Department on metering drugs with live samples. And the technician team worked on their boat control line drills.
- Public Relations: Renton RFA provides standby service for each of the football games at the Renton Stadium. The RFA has also started back up with a new phase for the North Seattle Community College ride-along program, which gives EMT students the opportunity to experience the field with Renton crews.
- Significant Incidents:
 - 03-10 179th CMD Residential Fire
 - 03-10 125th CMD Residential Fire
 - 03-12 Seneca CMD Residential Fire with Exposures
 - 03-13 Sage CMD Commercial Fire
 - 03-19 300 Blk of S Grady Way Shooting

Support Services

- Station 11 Remodel Update: Renton RFA has been working with the architect to finalize documents by end of next week. Once completed, the RFA will advertise a request for bids for 30 days with construction planned to begin shortly after.
- Sump Pump at Station 11: Facilities Manager Scott Murphy received bids last year for a new sump pump at Station 11 and was able to budget this year to complete the replacement. The bid chosen will cost Renton RFA roughly \$16,000, saving the RFA \$30,000.
- Vehicle Purchases: Renton RFA is partnering with Fire District 20 to purchase aid units to receive a group rate discount.

Office of the Fire Marshal

- Quarterly OFM Report: FM Barton offered to answer any questions the Board may have regarding the report provided in the meeting packet.
- Regional Fire Marshal Food Truck Inspection Checklist: There is now a regional inspection program available for mobile food facilities that is launching June 1st that will provide a standard inspection that participating fire jurisdictions in King County will recognize. Food trucks with a passing inspection from another jurisdiction receive a discount on their permit fee for operating in Renton.

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- Arson Fires: Renton RFA responded to a string of four back-to-back arson fires on Easter Sunday morning. The RFA partnered with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives to bring in an arson unit to assist in the fire investigations. The RFA developed a taskforce with Skyway Fire Department, Tukwila Fire Department, King County Sheriff's Department, as they all responded to similar calls. It is believed there is one arsonist involved. Since the arsonist seemed to target vehicles, notice was provided to nearby homeless camps in an effort to bring awareness to those living in their vehicles, which was well received by the community.
- Fatality Fire: On April 9th, a gas leak leading to the furnace caused the home to catch fire. The RFA visited the neighborhood for two days following the incident to pass out flyers and provide resources, encouraging residents to have their furnaces checked with the idea that the homes in the development were built by the same contractor using the same furnace model.
- Red Lion Update: The RFA has completed several inspections that show staff is staying on top of things. Some fire code violations are to be expected based on the nature of the approx. 235 residents of the facility. All non-ambulatory residents have been moved to the ground floor.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chief Heitman shared a thank you letter received by a student from Auburn Mountainview High School, Kassia Bulanov.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Employment Contracts

The step tables in employment contracts for the E-Team need adjustment for longevity pay. Renton RFA would also like to update other changes including updates to the pay scale to 2021 rates, new service credit language, updated term dates, removing the option to deposit remaining holiday and vacation hours into a VEBA HRA account, and changes to sick leave cash out.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvin to approve the changes to the employment contracts as presented. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Purchase of New Aid Units

As part of their Capital Fleet Replacement Plan, Renton RFA is due to replace two of the aid units. The new aid units are in line with the Zone 3 Spec. KCFD #40 is purchasing a matching aid unit at the same time, which gives Renton RFA the benefit of a multi-unit discount of \$3,000 per unit. KCFD #20 (Skyway) is also purchasing an aid unit with the order. Cost includes new safety features specific to Horton and also travel to the factory for acceptance. These are replacement vehicles, so equipment such as computers, monitors, modems, and mounting brackets will be reused. DC Seaver shared a video demonstrating the enhanced restraint system for EMTs.

GOVERNANCE BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES April 13, 2021 Page 5 of 6

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member Meikle to approve the purchase of two new aid units in 2021 and authorize the Fire Chief to sign. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Purchase of New Brush Rig

With the new addition of \$266,000 into the Capital Fleet fund from the completed Station 15 project. This gives Renton RFA the ability to move the brush rig replacement up from 2024. They will not surplus F091, as they have two stations, 16 & 17, with significant wildland urban interface exposure. Renton RFA will keep a brush rig at each of these stations and train the crews at Station 16 to the same wildland level as Station 17. This gives them the opportunity to deploy outside of their area, gaining experience for personnel while still maintaining coverage within station jurisdiction.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member Meikle to approve the purchase of the new brush rig in 2021 and authorize the Fire Chief to sign. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Station 16 Architect Contract

Renton RFA's current architect, Broderick, is under contract for tenant improvements. With the upcoming plan to swap properties with King County and build a new Station 16, the RFA needs to secure a new architect firm to cover this expanded scope. In March, the RFA published a request for qualifications and received 5 packets to review and score. The architectural firm, TCA, was selected, as they hit all qualifications.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member Meikle to allow Renton RFA staff to proceed with a contract for architectural services with TCA. **MOTION CARRIED** (6-0)

KCFD #20 CARES ILA

Fire District 20 would like to enter into an ILA with Renton RFA for CARES services in their area. From available data, the RFA understands that the call impact to CARES 314 would be one additional per 12-hour shift. This call load increase does not negatively impact the RFA's service to the Renton RFA's area.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member Meikle to approve the inter-local agreement between Renton RFA and Fire District 20 for CARES services and authorize the Fire Chief to sign. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Bond Counsel Letter of Engagement

Renton RFA has met with bond counsel recommended by Attorney Snure to begin the process of issuing a bond for the Station 16 replacement. A letter of engagement is required in order to proceed.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvin to authorize Renton RFA staff to enter into a letter of engagement with K&L Gates, LLP. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

Reimbursement Resolution

The attached reimbursement resolution would allow the RFA to reimburse their operating fund for expenses incurred for Station 16 prior to the bond being issued.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvin to approve Resolution 2021-02 to designate certain expenditures for reimbursement from the proceeds of bonds to be issued in the future. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

D.A. Davidson Letter of Engagement for Bond Underwriter

Renton RFA met with bond underwriting recommended by Attorney Snure to begin the process of issuing a bond for the Station 16 replacement. A letter of engagement is required in order to proceed.

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member Abercrombie to authorize Renton RFA staff to enter into a letter of engagement with D.A. Davidson & Co. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

GOOD OF THE ORDER

There was no good of the order.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency.

Executive session was called at 5:16 p.m. for 20 minutes. At 5:36 p.m., another 10 minutes were requested, then another 2 minutes. The meeting reconvened at 5:48 p.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS

- Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 9:00 a.m., Budget/Finance Committee Meeting, Video Conference
- Tuesday, April 27, 2021, 10:30 a.m., Operations/Capital Committee Meeting, Video Conference
- Tuesday, May 11, 2021, 4:00 p.m., Governance Board Regular Meeting, Video Conference

ADJOURNMENT

A **MOTION** was made by Board Member Corman and **SECONDED** by Board Member McIrvin to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED (6-0)**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m.

Ruth Pérez, Board Chair

Christine Noddings, Board Secretary

VOUCHER APPROVAL FOR MAY 11, 2021 MEETING

AUDITING OFFICER CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, do herby certify under penalty of perjury that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered or the labor performed as described herein, that any advance payment is due and payable pursuant to a contract or is available as an option for full or partial fulfillment of a contractual obligation, and that the claim is a just, due and unpaid obligation against the Renton Regional Fire Authority, and that I am authorized to authenticate and certify said claim.

Auditing Officer:

Steven C. Heitman, Fire Chief

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The vouchers below have been reviewed and certified by individual departments and the RFA's Auditing Officer as required by RCW's 42.24.080 & 090, and a list of vouchers has been provided for review by the Finance Committee.

The undersigned members of the Finance Committee of the Renton Regional Fire Authority do hereby approve for payment accounts payable vouchers totaling \$1,749,024.38, payroll vouchers and direct deposits totaling \$1,300,526.18.

| A/P VOUCHERS | Payment Date | Numbers | Amount |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Checks | 03/16/2021 - 04/15/2021 | 13047-13140 | \$732,498.24 |
| EFTs | 03/16/2021 - 04/15/2021 | | \$356,049.64 |
| Bank Drafts | 03/16/2021 - 04/15/2021 | | \$659,541.50 |
| AR Refund Checks | 03/16/2021 - 04/15/2021 | | \$935.00 |
| TOTAL A/P | | | \$1,749,024.38 |
| | | | |
| PAYROLL VOUCHERS | | No. of Vouchers | Amount |
| Direct Deposits | 3/25/2021 | 184 | \$643,241.93 |
| Payroll Checks | 3/25/2021 | 1 | \$0.00 |
| Direct Deposits | 4/9/2021 | 180 | \$657,284.25 |
| Payroll Checks | 4/9/2021 | 0 | \$0.00 |
| TOTAL PAYROLL | | 365 | \$1,300,526.18 |
| | | | |
| TOTAL CLAIMS | | | \$3,049,550.56 |

Renton Regional Fire Authority Governance Board:

Ruth Pérez, Board Chair

Myron Meikle, Board Member

Marcus Morrell, Board Vice Chair

Ryan McIrvin, Board Member

Randy Corman, Board Member

Kerry Abercrombie, Board Member



RENTON REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

 DATE: May 11, 2021
TO: Kerry Abercrombie (Fire District 25) Randy Corman (City of Renton) Myron Meikle (Fire District 25) Ryan McIrvin (City of Renton) Marcus Morrell (Fire District 25) Ruth Pérez (City of Renton) Linda Sartnurak (Non-Voting Advisory Position, Fire District 40)
FROM: Steve Heitman, Fire Chief
SUBJECT: Renton Regional Fire Authority Chief's Report

1. Congratulations are in Order

Job well done to Firefighter Sean Leahy for completing his 3A JATC test. He only has one more to go to achieve Journeyman status.

2. Promotions/Retirements

Assistant Chief Gunsolus will be retiring as of June 30th. Prior to joining Renton Fire, he served 3 years with Northshore Fire Department. On May 1st, he celebrated 31 years of service with Renton Fire. Chief Gunsolus has been an integral part of our organization, and his contributions will always be valued and remembered. He will be greatly missed.

Bryan Estibal and Andrew Facchini were promoted to Engineer effective May 1st. We had three successful candidates from the Lieutenant promotional exams and will be hosting "Rule of 3" interviews for battalion chiefs on May 12th, for captains on May 13th, and for lieutenants on May 17th. Civil Service will certify the list during the next meeting on May 18th. Engineer promotional exams were announced on May 10th. The written exam will take place on July 12th and the assessment center will take place at the end of August.

3. National Purchasing Partners (NPPGov) Contract Renewal

The King County Medic One/EMS Division Medical Supply Contract with Life Assist is up for renewal in June 2021. Instead of renewing, they have the opportunity to join a medical supply cooperative purchasing agreement with NPPGov that was awarded via a formal RFP process with a state lead agency that offers discounts on specific items that were identified by KCM1 and the EMS Division based on their/the region's needs. Renton RFA has joined this cooperative purchasing agreement and will see a significant savings on medical supply costs.

Chief's Report May 11, 2021 Page 2

4. Unincorporated King County Fire Ban Update

In April, the King County Council voted 5-4 in favor of a fireworks ban for unincorporated King County, which will not take effect for one year, and begin in May 2022.

5. Member Update

We separated service with one more recruit who did not meet standard qualifications during the Academy.

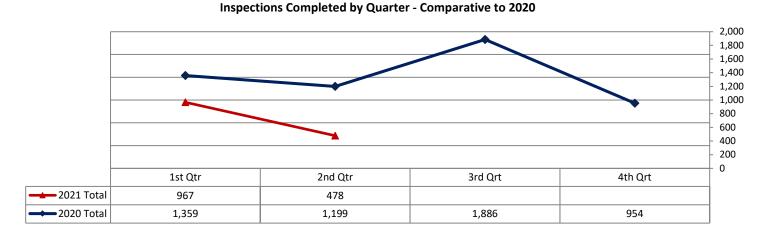
6. Citizens Advisory Panel Vacancy

Silke Prelog has announced she will be leaving the Citizens Advisory Panel (CAP) to relocate to Miami. Silke represented the Benson Hill area of our community and we thank her for her hours spent as a member of the CAP, as well as her countless hours of volunteerism within the Renton community. This vacancy is advertised on our website and social media pages. We will bring the applications to the Board once they have been received, so a new member of the CAP can be chosen.

Office of the Fire Marshal 2021 Quarterly Report

April

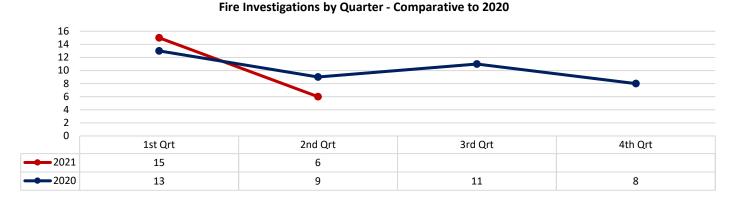
Inspections



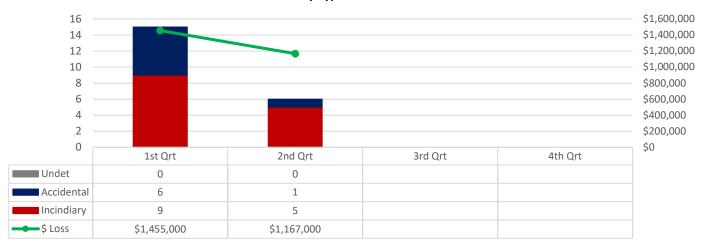
Staff have completed 1,445 inspections (business, multi-family, IFC permit, special, complaint & re-inspections) in 2021.

Fire Investigations

Staff have investigated 21 fires in 2021. Dollar loss estimated at \$2.6 million.

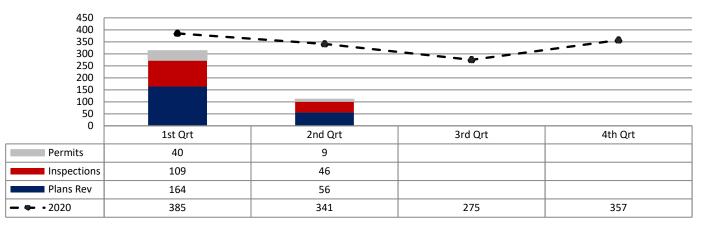


Fires by Type & Dollar Loss

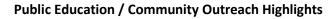


Plans Review, Construction Inspections & Permits

Staff completed 220 plans reviews, 155 construction inspections, and issued 49 fire systems and/or fire construction permits.

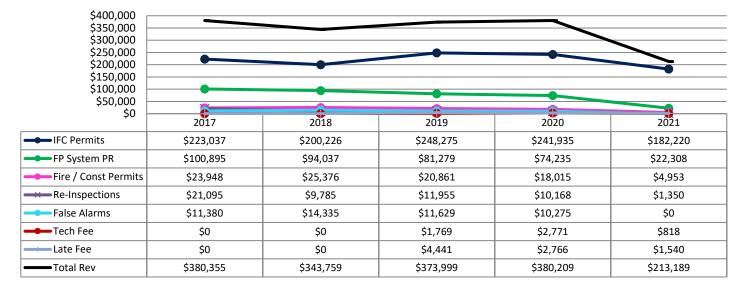


Plans Review, Construction Inspections & Permits by Quarter - Comparative to 2020



- Safety tips provided to 30 Renton Homeowners Association groups, with BCs attending two meetings via Zoom.
- Finalized plans for the annual Scout Night event we host in partnership with Renton PD (scheduled for May 26th at the Renton Community Center)
- DFM Ferguson attended training for Juvenile Firesetter Intervention at the National Fire Academy in Maryland
- Firefighters provided fire prevention materials the Dia del Nino / Children's Day celebration at Memorial Stadium with over 500 families participating.

Revenue \$201,952 has been collected to date in fees in 2021. (Reflects revenue through April 2021)



OFM Revenue by Year (2017-Present)

Emergency Medical Services Division

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1200 Seattle, WA 98104-1818 **206-296-4693** Fax 206-296-4866 TTY Relay: 711 www.kingcounty.gov/health



April 26, 2021

Chief Steve Heitman Renton Regional Fire Authority 18002 108th Ave SE Renton, WA 98055

RE: Letter of Appreciation

Dear Chief Heitman,

I'd like to <u>thank you</u> for your support in helping staff the fifth bi-annual **Future Women in EMS and Fire Workshop**. We were very grateful to be back in person after a hiatus in 2020 due to COVID-19. The event turned out to be a tremendous success, undoubtedly because of the amazing people who showed up prepared, committed, and ready to inspire. **Kelly Carpenter, Kayla Eychner and Lindsey Ris** all modeled impressive mentoring and leadership skills and represented the Renton Regional Fire Authority in a highly competent and professional manner. I hope you are able to share my recognition and sincere appreciation as they certainly deserve our deepest gratitude.

We are looking forward to the fall workshop in October 2021 hosted by Kirkland Fire Department and hope you will continue to support our efforts by sending instructors to this regional recruitment and mentoring event. Again, thank you for your advocacy and leadership as we continue to pave the way for exceptional women to play a greater role in the EMS/Fire system in our region.

Sincerely,

Michele Plorde, Director Emergency Medical Services Division Public Health – Seattle & King County

cc: Jenny Shin, EMS Division



Good morning Chief!

I hope you are well, I apologize I haven't reached out since we met in December! I did have a lovely meeting with Loretta!

I wanted to tell you that I met Tanner and Pat from aid 13 last night! My brother was cutting up cougar gold cheese and the knife slipped. Quite a bit of blood to begin with! I wasn't entirely sure if we would need the ER so I called. They came out and WOW! These guys are class acts! Their response time was great, their overall attitude, kindness towards my brother who felt so silly and as if he was wasting their time. Just phenomenal! They welcomed us to call anytime we need them and took care of Mark so we could avoid waiting at the ER and a hefty bill. We are so grateful!

Today, our first responders aren't appreciated enough and I want them to know how awesome they are. I'm sure they just see this as another call and part of their job, but man I wish we could've done a BBQ for them right there. I am confident that if we ever need to make an aid call we will always get the very best from any of our surrounding stations. But I feel like 13 is really special. We love and appreciate how hard you guys work along side each other and our PD. I hope you get a chance to pass this onto them! We have nothing to love and respect for you guys. Thank you for all you do!

Can you believe it's May already?! I hope you're well! Take care!

Respectfully,

Julia Plyler