

# SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT

## 2018 Annual Report



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## DEPARTMENT HISTORY

On January 8, 1940, the Selah Town Council signed Ordinance #90, which provided for the organization, maintenance and regulation of a fire Department in the Town of Selah, Washington. Thus was born the Selah Fire Department.

S.C. Justice was appointed as the Fire Chief of the new department, consisting of 1 truck, 5 officers and 14 volunteer firefighters.

In 1946 a Rural Fire District (RFD) later to be known as Yakima County Fire Protection District #2 was formed and manned by the Selah Fire Dept. This included the area North of Lookout Point between Selah Heights and the Yakima River, North to Adobe Hill and the hill tops South of the Wenas Lake Dam.

East Selah was annexed into Yakima County Fire Protection District #2 in 1960 and the upper Wenas Valley in 1975, creating a combined area 26 miles long and 7 miles wide at its widest point.

The City of Selah and Yakima County Fire Protection District #2 legally combined their fire departments in 1966 creating the department that now exists. This move was one of the most progressive actions taken since the creation of both fire departments. It has saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars by eliminating duplication in administrative costs, equipment and building needs, operational costs and utilization of manpower.

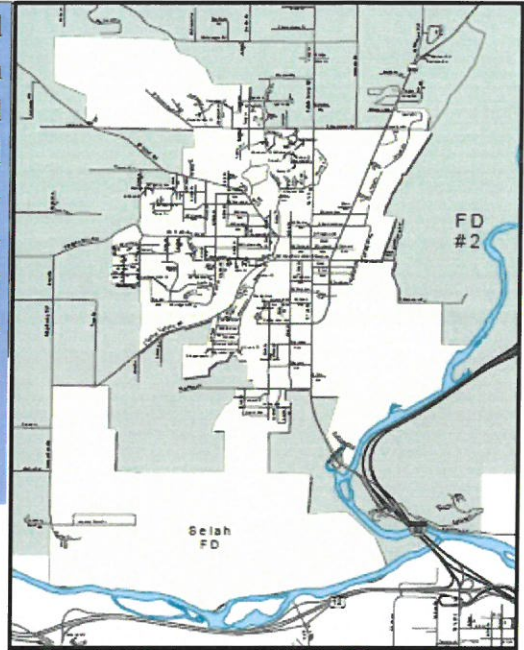
From this simple beginning, the department now serves an area of 65 square miles and an estimated population of 20,000.

In 1940 the Selah Fire Department responded to 6 fire alarms, 4 of which were actual fires, with a total property loss of \$75.00. In 2018 the Selah Fire Department responded to 1,700 calls.



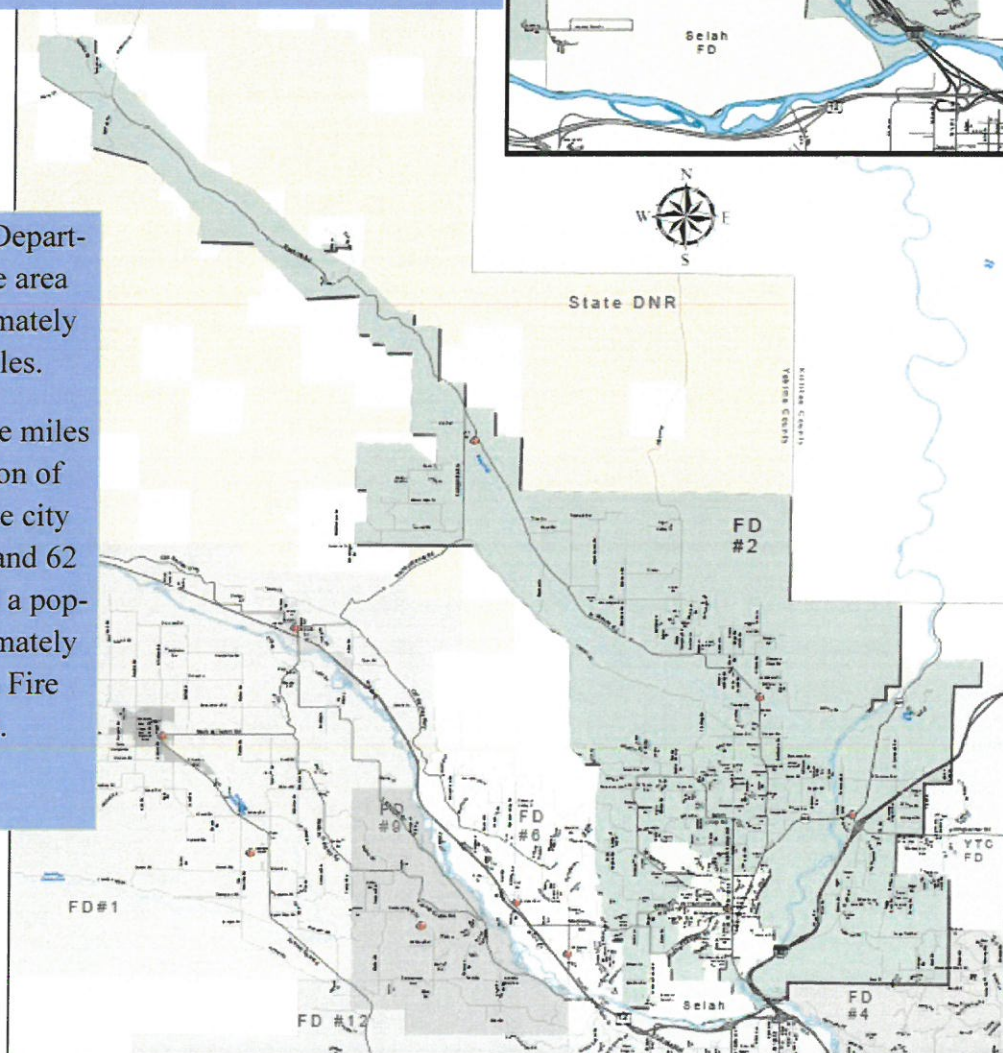
## BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES THROUGH STRONG PARTNERSHIPS

Long before combining agencies to reduce cost and duplication of services was the norm, the City of Selah and Yakima County Fire Protection District #2 could see the value. Today we hear terms such as regional fire authorities (RFA's) and mergers all across the nation. They are, in essence, just new terms to accomplish what we saw in 1966 as a partnership that simply made sense. Although this partnership, like any, has had it's challenges, especially in poor economic times, it remains strong and intact today.



The Selah Fire Department's response area covers approximately 65 square miles.

Roughly 5 square miles and a population of 7,300 within the city limits of Selah and 62 square miles and a population approximately 12,000 within Fire District #2.





## YAKIMA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT # 2 COMMISSIONERS

Chairman - Brad Helms

Commissioner - Ken Pendleton

Commissioner - Rex Reed

Secretary - Shelly Bartlett

The Fire Commissioners form a board elected by the public to represent their fire district.

Yakima County Fire District 2 commissioners serve six-year terms staggered every two years. Any resident, 18 years or older, who lives within the district boundaries are eligible to run for an open position on the board.

All regular meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month at Station 21, 206 W. Fremont Avenue. Meetings are open to the public and offer residents an opportunity for citizen input.

### SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT'S DISTRICT STATIONS

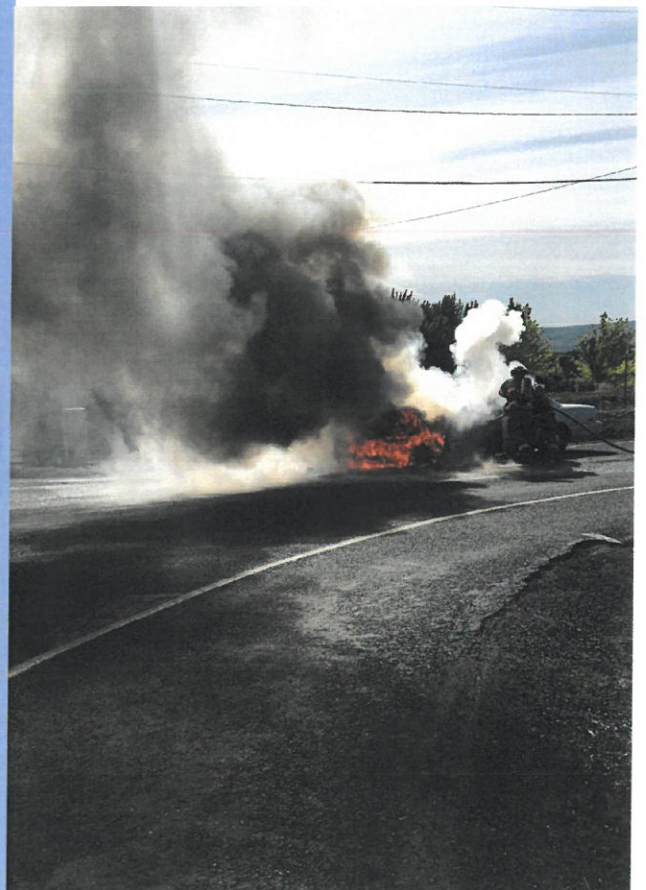


**STATION 22**  
1830 Harrison Rd.  
Yakima, WA 98901

**STATION 24**  
4251 N. Wenas Rd.  
Selah, WA 98942



**STATION 26**  
121 Fink Rd.  
Selah, WA 98942





## CITY OF SELAH MAYOR, ADMINISTRATOR AND COUNCIL

Mayor Sherry Raymond  
City Administrator  
Don Wayman

### Current Council Members

Jeremie Dufault  
Jacquie Matson  
Rachael Glaspie  
John Tierney  
Roger Bell  
Diane Underwood  
Russell Carlson

Selah has a strong Mayor,  
council form of government.



## SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT'S CITY STATION



**Station 21**  
206 W. Fremont Ave  
Selah, WA 98942



In order to carry a  
positive action we  
must develop here a  
positive vision.

Dalai Lama



## SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

**OUR MISSION IS THE PROTECTION OF LIFE AND PROPERTY, AND TO REDUCE THE FREQUENCY AND MAGNITUDE OF PERSONAL TRAUMA AND PROPERTY LOSS. TO EFFECTIVELY MIGIGATE THE KNOWN AND UNKNOWN EMERGENCIES THAT WILL OCCUR**

As first responders to fires, public safety and medical emergencies, disasters and terrorist acts, the Selah Fire Department protects the lives and property of residents and visitors within Yakima County Fire District 2 and the City of Selah.

## OUR CORE VALUES

### *Honesty - Integrity - Respect*

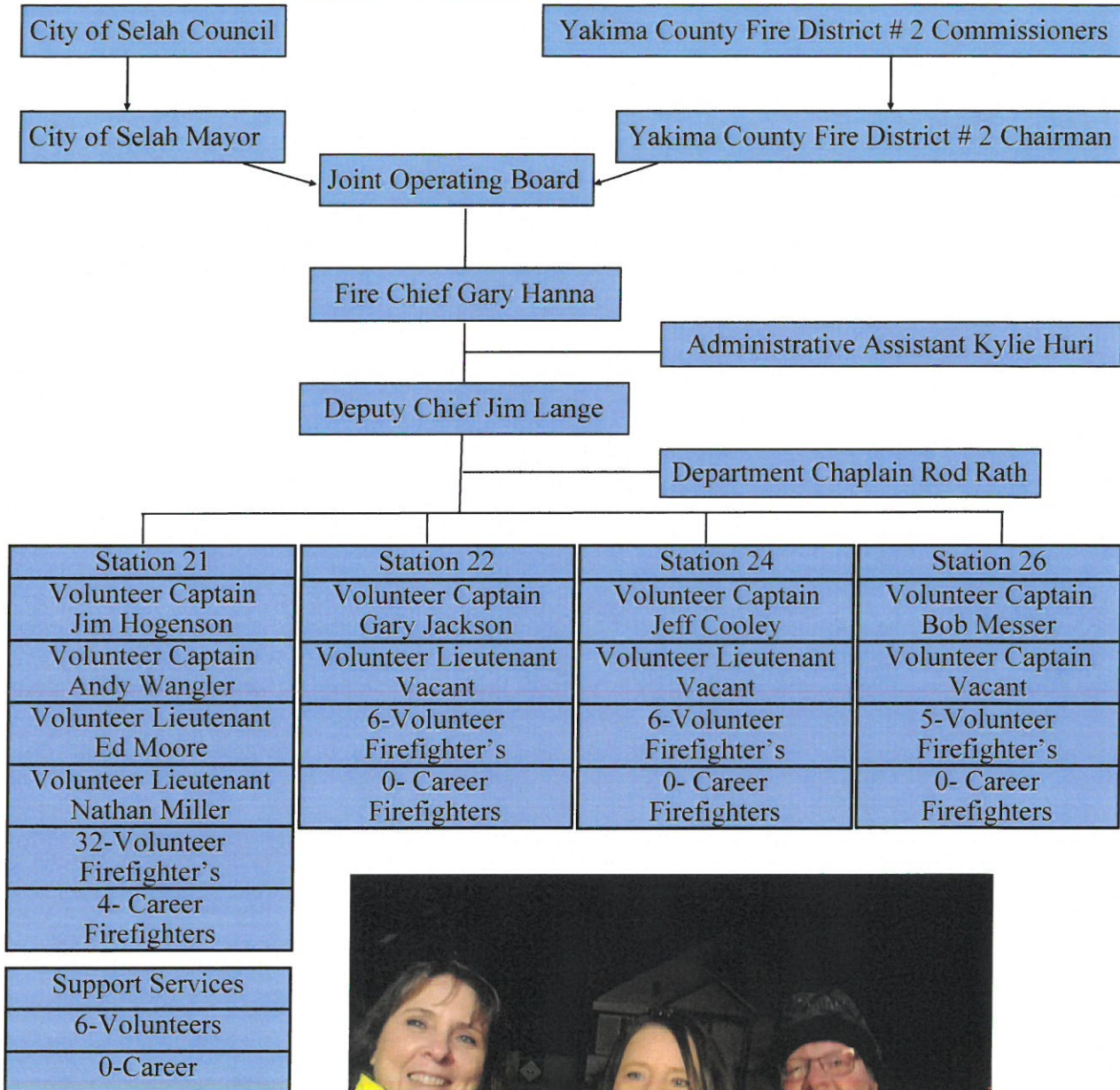
We value the public's trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior. We hold ourselves accountable to this value. We believe in a personal commitment to the organization and community. Self-discipline is the foundation for managing behavior.

We are a fire department family. We are committed and accountable to each other because our lives depend on it. We value the role each member plays in our organization. We respect those that came before us and will strive to make the organization better for those who follow.





## FIRE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND STAFFING LEVEL



Only those who have  
learned the power of  
sincere and selfless  
contribution experience  
life's deepest joy:  
true fulfillment.

*Tony Robbins*





## CALLS FOR SERVICE

### BREAKDOWN OF MAJOR INCIDENT TYPES

	Emergency Medical	Motor Vehicle Accidents	Fires in Structures	Grass/Brush Fires	Acres Burned	Vehicle Fires	All Other Types	TOTALS	
City of Selah	499	24	18	3	1	2	150	696	41%
Yakima County Fire District #2	601	73	20	65	5656	28	217	1,004	59%
								1,700	4.65 per day
Overlapping Incident's			305	18%					
Mutual Aid Received			11	0.8%					
Mutual Aid Given			47	2%					





## TRAINING

We continue to hold recruit training on Thursday evenings to provide new members with a one on one training environment. This also allows them to have sole access to equipment to facilitate their training needs. All other members hold training sessions on Wednesday evenings. Training sessions typically last 1 1/2 to 2 1/2 hours.

Training is designed to incorporate training requirements set forth by multiple regulatory agencies including, but not limited too, Washington State Department of Health, Department of Labor and Industries, NWCG, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)



Total of Class Hours (interdepartmental and outside the department)	769
Total of Personnel Training Hours	5,461



TRAINING IS A NEVER-ENDING JOURNEY IN A FIREFIGHTER'S CAREER OF SERVICE.

TO BE KNOWN AS A FIREFIGHTER IS A TITLE OF PRIDE, BORN OF ACCOMPLISHMENT, TRAINING, AND COMMITMENT TO OTHERS.





## FIRE PREVENTION AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Public education encompasses a broad spectrum of activities for children, adults, service groups and businesses. In addition to many station tours, we conducted fire safety education for pre-school and kindergarten classes, scouting groups, and Exit Drills In The Home (E.D.I.T.H.) training to second graders and school assemblies. All total, education of some type reached 733 children and 69 adults from our community.



We conduct annual fire and life safety inspections of all of the 244 businesses within the city of Selah. We also work with the county Fire Marshal's Office on businesses and developments in Selah's rural areas. While sometimes misunderstood by business owners these inspections are designed to give their employees and customers a safe environment in which to work and do business. Unfortunately the codes and standards used to provide for our safety are too often the result of a tragic loss of life when not followed or have not yet been developed. Tragedies such as the MGM Grand fire in 1980 that killed 84 guests. The Happy Land Social Club fire in 1997 that killed 87 people. And the Station Night Club fire in 2003 that killed 100 people to name just a few.

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.

Benjamin Franklin





## OTHER ACTIVITIES

### HYDRANT INSPECTION AND TESTING

The fire department inspects, tests, lubricates and exercises the valves on all of the 393 fire hydrants within the city and private systems within the district on an annual basis. We also conduct fire flow testing every 5 years or as needed when changes are made to the water system. These are necessary to determine the maximum flow the water system can provide in the event of a fire. These calculations are used to determine the maximum square footage of residential and commercial buildings in a given geographical area. They also provide hard data to the cities engineering firm to enhance their computer model of the cities water system.

### A GROWING DEPARTMENT

In 2018 the fire district commissioners began to see the fruits of their labor. After years of conservative budgeting and diligent saving, construction began on an expansion of Station 22. Station 22, located at 1830 Harrison Road is Selah Fire Department's second busiest station. The original 1,600 sq. ft. fire station housed two vehicles and had a small meeting room. Looking ahead at future needs of the department and potential growth in the area, the expansion will add almost 3,000 sq. ft. to the existing building. Included in the new construction is a reconfiguration of the existing building, room to accommodate two additional vehicles, a larger meeting room, a gear room, a decontamination room, new restrooms and a three room dormitory. The project also includes updated electrical and a backup generator. When completed, this station will also be used as the primary training facility for new recruits. And with an expanded lighted parking area we will be able to conduct evening training sessions for the entire department. The project is scheduled to be completed spring of 2019. An open house will be scheduled sometime early summer. Hope to see you there!

### PUMP AND FIRE HOSE INSPECTION AND TESTING

Pump testing of our structural engines, and pressure testing, inspection and cleaning of fire hose is preformed annually to meet NFPA and WSRB requirements and to reduce the likelihood of failure in an emergency. All total the department owns 3.5 miles of fire hose and 6 structural engines.



## VEHICLES AND VEHICLE AMORTIZATION PLAN

The Selah Fire Department maintains a fleet of 22 vehicles. Revenues obtained through the Public Safety Utility Tax and additional funding from Fire District 2 have provided us the ability to establish an amortization program for equipment replacement. With a life expediency of 10 to 25 years depending on the type of vehicle and volume of use, we will need to replace one or more vehicles every year to maintain a dependable fleet and stay in compliance with national standards. In 2018 we purchased a new 3,100 gallon water tender to replace a 1984 1,500 gallon home built tender. This new tender is housed at the city station (Station 21). In addition to this report, I have included an updated copy of the departments 10 year Capital Improvement Plan. The plan covers vehicle and equipment amortization, facility and personnel needs, overall health of the department and an assessment of what we anticipate for future needs.



The Selah Fire Department takes great pride in being fiscally responsible and working within the budget we have been entrusted.

We will continue to spend your money wisely and work within the confines of our budget and provide all services that it allows.

Ultimately the citizens of our community dictate what is important to them and what level of service is acceptable.



## AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

The annual Christmas and awards banquet for our members and their families was held December 19th at the Selah Civic Center. There were approximately 150 in attendance. A good time was had by all and nobody went home hungry.

The following awards were presented during the evening.

### YEARS OF SERVICE

5 Years – Jake Cleveland, Colton Holbrook,  
Blake Reeves  
10 Years – Guthrie Lambert, Shane Suhadolnik  
15 Years – Donald Sharp  
35 Years – John Shipley  
40 Years—Gary Jackson, Bob Messer

### ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Chosen by the officers and given annually to the most outstanding new member.

The 2018 recipients were  
Anna Taylor, Jose Choque

### FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Chosen by the membership  
at each station.

Station 21 Colton Holbrook  
Station 22 Anna Taylor  
Station 24 Jeff Cooley  
Station 26 Bob Messer

### TOP RESPONDER

Member that responded to  
the most incidents.

Colton Holbrook with 390  
as of the banquet

### FIRE DOG GYM

Member that used the work  
out equipment the most.

Josh Redtfeldt

### NEW MEMBERS COMPLETING PROBATION

Amy Holbrook, Anthony Diaz, Andre Dubois, Anthony East,  
Matt Beers, Brandon Humpherys, Fletcher Larson, and  
Zack Willette

