SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT

2018 Annual Report

- History of Selah Fire Department
- Partnerships
- Fire District 2 Commissioners
- City of Selah Mayor, Administrator and Council
- Organizational Chart and Staffing
- Breakdown of Major Incident Types
- Training
- Prevention and Education
- Other Activities
- Vehicles and Vehicle Amortization Plan
- Awards
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 its 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.
Chairman - Brad Helms
Commissioneer - Ken Pendleton
Commissioneer - 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 MITIGATE THE KNOWN AND
UNKNOWN EMERGENCIES THAT WILL OCCUR

As first responders to fires, public safety and medical emergencies, disasters and ter-
rorist 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 or-
ganization 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 organiza-
tion. We respect those that came before us and will strive to make the organization
better for those who follow.
## 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% |
|                      |                    |                         |                     |                   |              |               |                |        |     |
| Overlapping Incident’s | 305              |                         |                     |                   |              |               |                | 1,700  | 4.65 per day |
| Mutual Aid Received  | 11                |                         |                     |                   |              |               |                |        | 0.8% |
| Mutual Aid Given     | 47                |                         |                     |                   |              |               |                |        | 2%  |
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 |
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 department's 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 Humpheries, Fletcher Larson, and Zack Willette