

Selah Fire Department



2019 Year End Report

Prepared By: Fire Chief Gary Hanna and staff

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Message from the Chief

On behalf of the career and volunteer members of the **Selah Fire Department**, it is my privilege to present the 2019 Annual Report. The Selah Fire Department is committed to enhancing the quality of life for present and future generations of our community. We protect lives and property through Public Education, Fire Suppression, and Emergency Medical Services. Each member of our department is dedicated to serving our community with honesty, integrity and respect for each other and all we serve. We are grateful for the continued support from our community, city and district administration, elected officials, and to all city departments that work to make our community great. Without your support, meeting our missions would not be possible.

As we looked to the future we recognized several challenges for the operation and maintenance of the department. The first being funding to maintain our current level of service and second, staffing to meet the needs of a growing community. Early in the year the decision was made to put it to a vote of the people we serve. We were humbled in August when they overwhelmingly showed their support by passing a levy in the city and in the district of .35 per thousand assessed valuation. Along with existing funding sources this should safeguard the operation of the department for many years.

Our organization is focused on providing the safest work environment possible for your Fire/EMS responders. We diligently strive to be the most effective and efficient public safety organization while giving consideration to the ever changing environment and the necessary evolution of our service. As our community continues to grow, we embrace our responsibility of providing the highest level of care and service to meet the challenges and demands of our community.

Finally, with gratitude, I express my sincere thanks to all the members of the Selah Fire Department. I take great pride in representing such an outstanding group of individuals that continually demonstrate a commitment to the success of this Department.

I would like to thank the commissioners of Fire District 2 and the City of Selah Mayor and council for allowing me to serve as your fire chief.

Respectfully,

Gary W. Hanna

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 Department.

This includes the area North of Lookout Point between Selah Heights and the Yakima River, North to Adobe Hill and the hill tops South of 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 creations of both fire departments. It has saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars by eliminating duplication in administrative cost, 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.

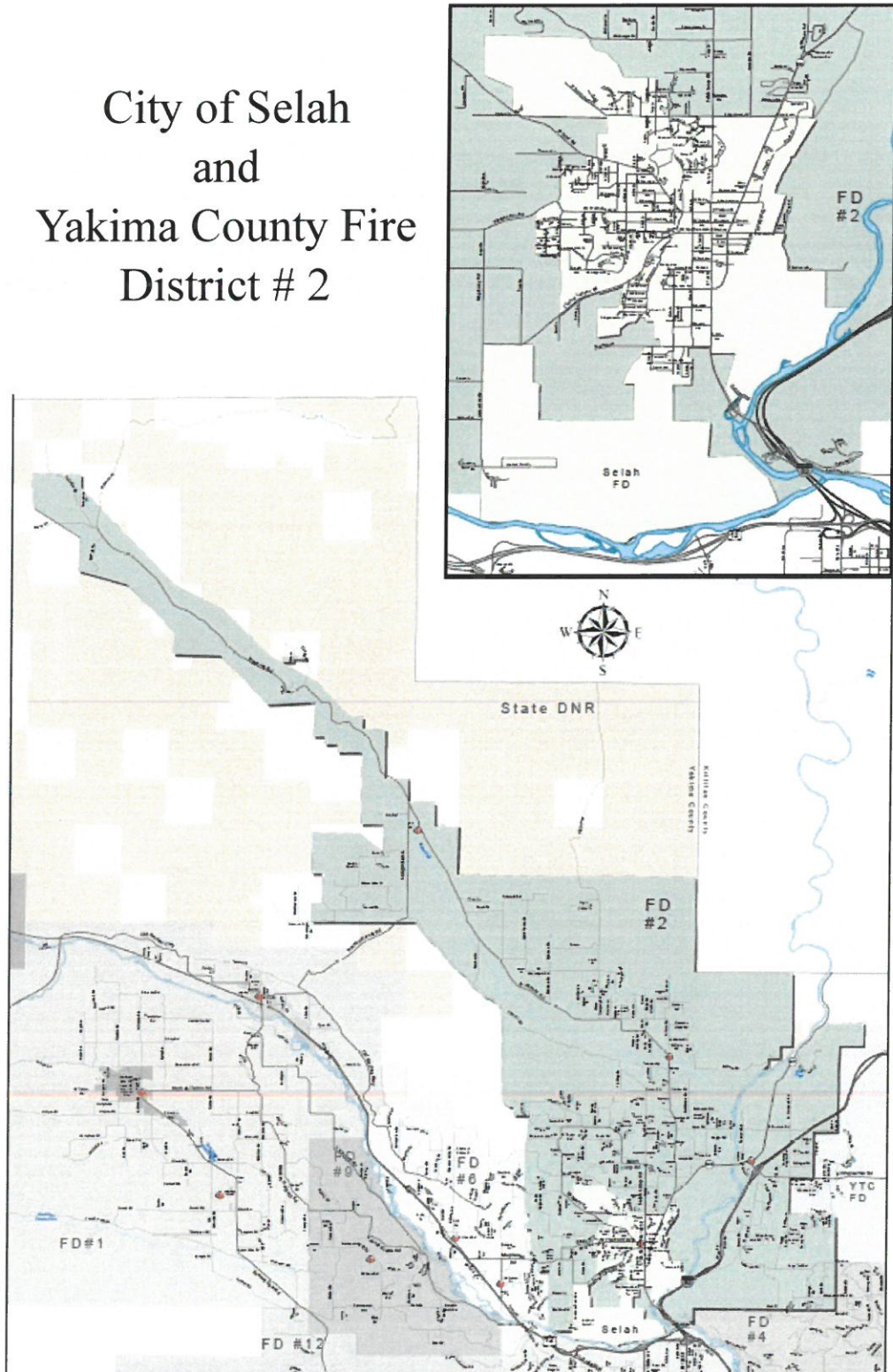
In 1940 the Selah Fire Department responded to 6 fire alarms, 4 of which were actual fires, with a total property loss of \$75.00. In 2019 the Selah Fire Department responded to 1,694 calls.

SELAH FIRE DEPARTMENT RESPONSE AREA

City of Selah and Yakima County Fire District # 2

The Selah Fire Departments 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.



FIRE 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

Council Members

Jeremie Dufault/Kevin Wickenhagen

Jacquie Matson

Rachael Glaspie/Jeremy Burke

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



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



OUR CORE VALUES

Honesty - Integrity - Respect

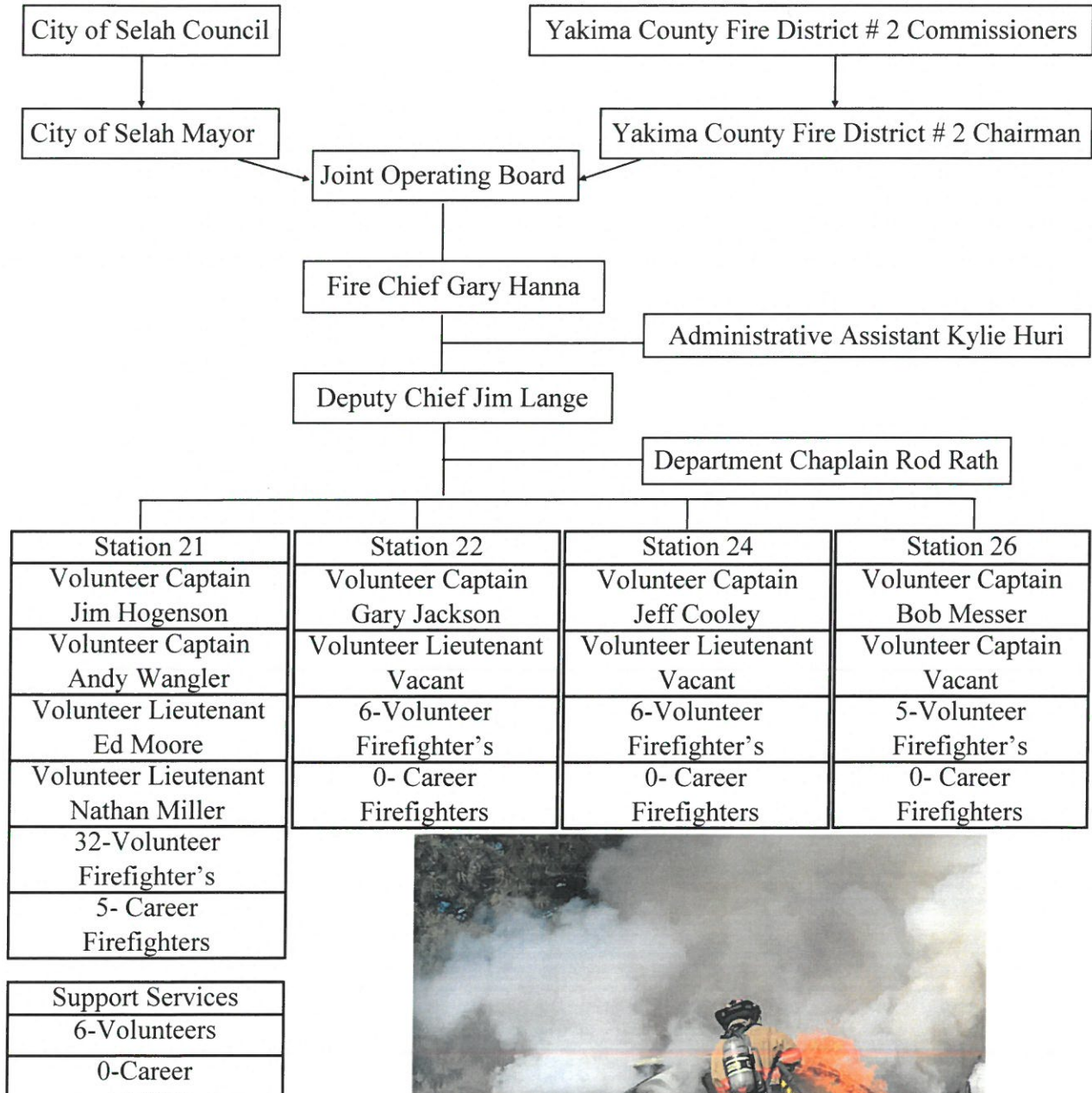
We value the public's trust and are committed to honest and ethical behavior. We hold ourselves accountable to this value. We believe in a personal commitment to the organization and community. Self-discipline is the foundation for managing behavior.

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.

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

[Dalai Lama](#)

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

The Selah Fire Department Responded to 1694 Calls in 2019

BREAKDOWN OF MAJOR INCIDENT TYPES

	Emergency Medical	Motor Vehicle	Fires in Structures	Grass/Brush Fires	Vehicle Fires	Other Fires	All Other Types	TOTALS	
City of Selah	515	30	6	3	2	6	143	705	41.6%
Yakima County Fire District #2	624	87	17	18	12	7	224	989	58.4%
								1,694	4.64 per day

Overlapping Incident's	263	16%
Mutual Aid Received	6	
Mutual Aid Given	25	



Public Education/ Community Service



*Prepared By:
Ron Cline*

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

Benjamin Franklin

Public Education/ Community Service

Fire Safety classes and Station Tours

John Campbell Primary brought 282 kindergarten students and 30 teachers and parents to the fire station. During their visit they watched a fire safety video, learned that matches and lighters are adult tools, smoke detectors save lives and that they needed to go home and have their parents test them and show them that theirs work. The kids also get to go through a fire truck and learn about the equipment and how it's used. One of our firefighters got dressed up in their bunker gear to show the kids that firefighters are there to help them and should never be afraid or hide from us.

This year we changed things up a little, the kids got to spray water from a fire hose and put on a bunker coat and helmet, they got the real deal feel of what it is like to be a firefighter. Each student was given fire safety material to take home and work on with their families, escape plans being one of the activities that they can work on to ensure that they all get out and stay out. Nothing is as important as their lives.

Selah Fire also had a number of other groups come to the station. Another 64 students and 21 adults were either given a tour or class to provide fire prevention education.

Exit Drills In The Home (E.D.I.T.H. House)

EDITH House was very successful again. 306 Second Grade students came to the fire station and learned the valuable steps to get out of their house in the event of a fire. One teacher shared that one of her students did have a fire in their home and shared that what they learned from the EDITH House experience saved their life.

EDITH House is a travel trailer configured into two sections. One half is for watching a fire prevention video from stadium like benches and fire prevention in the kitchen. The other half is where the children actually get to lay down on a bed, hear the smoke detector go off, crawl out of bed to the bedroom door, feel the door for heat, see the smoke coming from underneath the door, then crawl to the window to use their second means of escape. Students then proceed to the "neighbors" house where they call 911. Students use a phone that calls into the EDITH House operator where they are asked a series of question as if actually calling 9-1-1. The most important one being their address. This simulation gives the student the confidence in knowing that if there was an emergency they could call for help.

National Night out/Trunk or Treat

National Night out has been the fire departments night to put on an extrication demonstration. The extrication equipment is used to cut apart a car. The roof of the car is removed in a matter of minutes and doors are pried open to allow emergency responder's access to the injured patient. During this event the public is allowed to get an up close look at Engine 21, the department's newest engine.

Public Education/ Community Service

This engine carries an array of equipment including the “jaws of life” tools used in the demonstration. It’s a great night to showcase the equipment and the talents of the men and women that are trained to provide the best possible care for those in need.

Trunk or Treat has been an event for Selah Fire and Selah PD to get together to hand out candy to the children of Selah. This event provides a safe environment for our kids. Selah PD’s Missy Maki goes above and beyond to get candy donated and together we get to show how much we love our community.

Senior Lunches

This year the Selah Fire Department members were invited down to the Civic Center to help serve lunch to our Senior Citizens. Lunch is provided daily to seniors and given a meal to take home with them. While those there ate, the SFD members were able to sit down and enjoy conversation with them. It was a great way to serve and meet people in the Selah community. I hope that SFD is given this opportunity again.

Public/Fire Prevention Education

While some fire departments have had to reduce or eliminate their public education and safety programs due to funding cuts, our Selah fire department programs remain strong. Thanks to the commitment of our membership and the generosity of our local businesses through donations, we have been able to purchase all of the education materials needed to sustain our programs. These materials, along with the education we provide were given to over 800 school children, scouting groups, adults and seniors in 2019.

In partnership with the Selah High School we were able to utilize students as patients in a mass causality incident and in simulated sports injuries. This partnership provides valuable training for our membership and an opportunity to educate these young adults.

We were once again invited to participate in the Selah Police Departments citizen’s academy. Participants were given an overview of what the fire department does on a daily basis. They learned how the department operates, the array of call types we respond on and many of the behind the scene functions we perform when not responding to emergency calls.

“It’s easier to prevent a fire than it is to put one out”

“Fire Prevention through Education Saves Lives”

Other Activities

BUILDING PROJECTS

Phase I of the construction project at Station 22 at 1830 Harrison Road was completed in June. Included in the new construction was 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 included updated electrical and an emergency backup generator. The next phase of the project will be to construct an adjacent building for training props and equipment storage.

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.

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. These tests are preformed to meet NFPA and WSRB requirements and to reduce the likelihood of failure in an emergency. The department has 6 structural engines and 3.5 miles of fire hose.



It's all fun and games....Until you have to pick it up!

Training

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.



Training

In 2019, the members of the Selah Fire Department attended 4,086 hours of training. This training included; 49 Wednesday night department drills, 10 Officer meetings, 4 quarterly safety meetings, 1 annual department meeting, several certified online trainings, 24 new recruit training classes, and 34 members attended outside training courses.

The outside training consisted of:

1 member completing Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention (EVIP) Train the Trainer, 1 attending Legislative Day in Olympia, 1 served as an instructor for the annual Central Washington Inter-agency Wildland Training Academy, 4 attended classes at the wildland academy, 2 completed Advanced First Aid Boot Camp, 1 attended the National Fire Academy Incident Safety Officer course, 2 flew to Emmitsburg, MD for seven day courses at the National Fire Academy campus, 6 completed trailer and off-road UTV training, 4 obtained wildland red card certifications, 2 completed a Fire Code Inspection course, 1 gained their IFSAC Fire Instructor II certification, 1 attended a leadership class, 7 participated in a multi-company drill with other local departments, and 1 became an EMS evaluator.

Department, local, state and federal mandates require us to facilitate annual training of 4 Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) donning and doffing for time evolutions, SCBA fit testing, 6 EMS OTEP Modules and 3 EMS practical workshops, EVIP classroom refresher with a practical driving road course and rodeo, wildland refresher classroom and shelter throw practical, a fitness pack test for wildland red card holders, minimum of 2 personal protective equipment (PPE) inspections and washes, Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) training, and firefighter rescue (RIT/MAYDAY). All of these trainings were offered and attended. Selah Fire Department policy requires 50% drill attendance by its members. In 2019, 96% of all membership met this requirement.

The department hired 2 new volunteer firefighters this past year. They completed a 200 hour basic firefighter recruit school. This year's recruit school was conducted with online training, classroom lectures, and group practical evolutions. Selah Fire opened the recruit school to include 4 volunteers from the Naches area to reduce training costs, provide consistent training within the county, and to allow for manpower to facilitate realistic practical, hands-on training.

As volunteer numbers continue to decline nationwide, recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters becomes more and more challenging. We are working hard to improve our recruitment efforts, and I am pleased to say that there has been a major increase of new recruits for the 2020 year, and several applications have been turned in for probationary firefighter positions for the next recruit academy.

Finally, the training division accepted applications and held an assessment center for a Lt. Training Officer position. This was a promotional position advertised within to start January 1, 2020. After Review of the applications, interviews and the assessment center process, we are proud to announce that Firefighter Scott Willis was selected and started his new position at the start of 2020.

***Prepared By:
Deputy Chief
Jim Lange***

Fire Marshal

The Fire Marshal for the City of Selah is located at the Selah Fire Department, Station 21 on Fremont Avenue. Under the direction of this office; Fire and Life Safety Inspections are provided (at no charge) for all of the businesses in the City of Selah, plan review of developments and commercial construction are performed to meet standards of the International Fire Code, fire alarm-detection and suppression system operational tests are conducted, and pre-fire planning and fire department familiarization of our target hazard and populated locations are maintained.

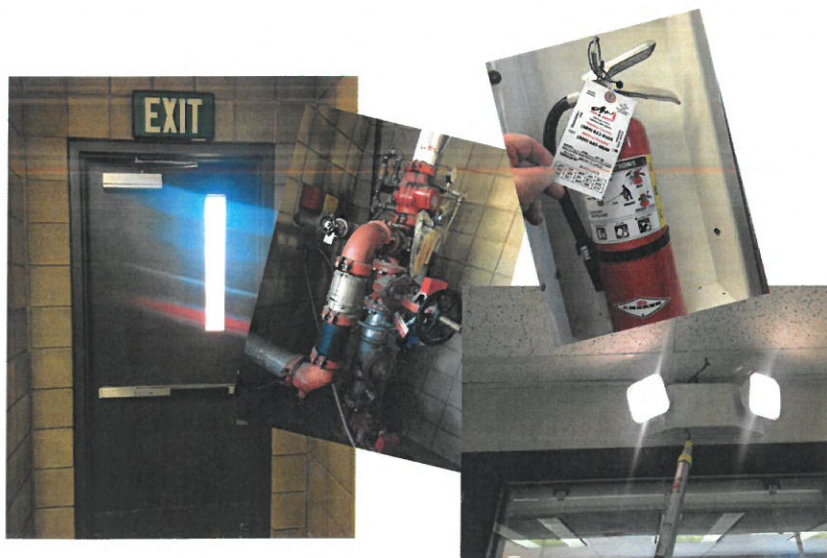
In 2019 there were 273 businesses scheduled for annual Fire and Life Safety inspections within the city. Of those, 229 initial inspections were conducted and 161 re-inspections were completed, for a total of 390 inspections performed. These inspections are accomplished by Fire Marshal and Engine Company visits. For new commercial construction inspections, the city's Fire Marshal and Building Inspector coordinate to perform inspections together, when available.

Fire department familiarization of target hazard locations are usually scheduled with local businesses during daytime hours on week days, and attended by career staff and any available volunteer members. For a few of our larger facilities, walk-throughs are scheduled during Wednesday evening drills and attended by all department members for preparation in case of an emergency.

These fire and life safety inspections are not only conducted to identify potential fire hazards, but also for the safety of employees and patrons. A few of the things we look at are:

Have the fire extinguishers been serviced and are appropriately placed. Are emergency lights functioning properly, and are exits identified and clear of obstacles. And have fire alarm systems and fire sprinkler systems been serviced and operational.

Selah Fire Department Working For a Safer Community



*Prepared By:
Deputy Chief
Jim Lange*

Apparatus and Equipment Repair and Maintenance

The department operates and maintains 22 vehicles out of four stations consisting of:

4 - Command, 6 - Engines (Pumpers), 1 - Rescue, 4 - Combination Brush/Rescues,
2 - Brush, 3 - Water Tenders, 1 - Air Support/Rehab, and 1 - Utility

COST OF OPERATION VEHICLES AND SMALL EQUIPMENT

Annual D.O.T. Inspections and Service - \$3,345

Periodic Service - \$566

Vehicle Repairs - \$5,151

Small Equipment Service - \$500

SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS (S.C.B.A.)

The department operates and maintains 42 S.C.B.A.'s,
5 Rapid Intervention Teams (R.I.T.) packs, 68 S.C.B.A.
Masks, and 101 S.C.B.A. Air Cylinders.

COST OF OPERATION S.C.B.A.'s

Annual Regulator Testing - \$2,585

Cylinder Hydro Testing (every 5 years) - \$3,800

Air Sample Tests - \$583

REPAIR AND OTHER - \$4,164



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 utilize 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 Recognitions

The annual Christmas and awards banquet for our members and their families was held December 1th 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 and recognition were presented during the evening.

YEARS OF SERVICE

5 Years – Dwight Derby

15 Years – Andy Wangler

35 Years – Jim Hogenson and Scott Jones

45 Years—Gary Hanna

Years of Service are recognized in 5 year increments.

FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Chosen by the membership
at each station.

Station 21 Jake Cleveland

Station 22 Gary Jackson

Station 24 Jose Choque

Station 26 Bob Messer

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

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

Isaac Cleverly

NEW MEMBERS COMPLETING PROBATION

Isaac Cleverly and Melissa Rodriguez

TOP RESPONDER

Member that responded to the
most incidents.

Anthony Diaz with 510 as of the
banquet

FIRE DOG GYM

Member that used the
work out equipment
the most.

Ron Cline



Winner of the Support Services Quilt Raffle, Mayor Sherry Raymond