

Seal Rock Fire District

Annual Chiefs report 2022

Staffing:

2022 was a pivotal year for Seal Rock Fire. New board policy and vision resulted in a transition in staffing and response culture. In late 2021 we had minimal staffing of one paid firefighter on shift with Central Coast fire paid staff on a Central Coast Engine housed in Waldport. In early 2022 we had an influx of previous volunteers in Seal Rock rejoin the department and their training began right away. This included a live fire training to address DPSST (Department of Public Safety Standards in Training) requirements. As the months passes we had a slow but steady influx of new volunteers. In total, through 2022 we have has 15 volunteers sign up with Seal Rock. Several of those folks didn't stay long for several reasons.

We were able to target and train 11 new Emergency Medical Responders to bolster our EMS response.

We currently have 13 volunteers trained to the FFI level.

We have had a turnover of the paid members. In March of 2022 two of the four paid responders moved on. They were from the old stand-alone days when they didn't have a volunteer response and it appeared to me that having volunteers was not a good thing for them. A third paid staffer left for another department in May. The staffing gap required me to get creative and I reached out to local responders with other departments to create a reserve pool to fill the staffing calendar. In July the last original staffer left for another department. At that point all I had was the reserve pool. The 11 reservists did a wonderful job of filling in the calendar. At the same time I changed the job description to duty officer. The position became more of an incident and response management position. This was necessary as our volunteer roster was going through a growth stage.

I hired Joe Munger to fill one of the slots. Joe was a Godsend. He quickly adapted to our new culture and began working on developing the volunteer responders.

Shortly after that one of the old paid persons wanted to come back. Thinking he was aware of our new culture I was excited to proceed inhering him back. It didn't work out.

We are now back to the 1 full time employee and 9 reservist. We have not had a gap in the duty officer position since the winter of 2022.

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Responses:

| 2022 | Total Runs | Seal Rock | CCFR | Out of District |
|-----------|-------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| January | no data available | | | |
| February | 85 | 30 | 47 | 7 |
| March | 102 | 52 | 47 | 4 |
| April | 54 | 21 | 29 | 3 |
| May | 52 | 13 | 35 | 4 |
| June | 49 | 36 | 9 | 3 |
| July | 44 | 33 | 4 | 7 |
| August | 52 | 38 | 10 | 3 |
| September | 51 | 35 | 4 | 7 |
| October | 36 | 26 | 7 | 3 |
| November | 53 | 41 | 7 | 5 |
| December | 42 | 35 | 4 | 3 |
| Jan-23 | 40 | 32 | 4 | 5 |
| total | 660 | 392 | 207 | 54 |

Incidents by type: this does not include all incidents

13 Structure fire. This includes both in district and out of district fires. Our in-district loss in value; is an estimated \$650,000.

4 motor vehicle crashes

3 vehicle fires one involving brush and trees.

317 EMS calls, ranging from lift assist to CPR and everything in between.

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Apparatus maintenance:

As we have had to make up for years of little to no preventive maintenance, we did spend a lot of money on both repairs and preventive maintenance. So far this year we have spent \$19,000 on vehicles.

Rescue 62, takes the prize with just under \$7,000 on that vehicle alone. If you recall last summer the transmission failed and we authorized the repairs from contingency. On top of that there were steering issues that needed to be remedied. This is the Ford 550 that takes the brunt of the punishment as it goes to every single call and is used by the duty officers for staff function. We still have work to do next year but it is more preventive maintenance than repair, at least as far as I know.

The freightliner engine also needed repairs which was related more towards a computer issue than any mechanical issue. That is still a bit problematic but it is in service.

Seal Rock Engines were pump tested in October and the east Lincoln engine will be included next fall as it will be due by then.

Building maintenance:

We spent a large quantity of money of the repair and maintenance of the station generators. Of the \$6,000 spent on building maintenance \$5,000 of that was for the generators. That left little for other projects. We did fix the sign at Build C in Seal Rock, as well as fixing some water intrusion into the building.

The board room sound damping project started and continues this year. The effort is well worth the time and money as now the executive sessions should be more secure.

Training:

So much of the training budget went to meet our biggest need. That need was to develop Emergency Medical Responders. From that effort we now have 11 EMR responders. We will now be able to take advantage of regional EMRR courses and is a much reduced cost to us. Our other training needs were easily met through internal talent and some outside opportunities that did not require much in the way of funds.

Our training topics this past year included:

- Vehicle Extrication
- FFI both refresh inhouse and initial course work in Toledo. This was the bulk of our efforts as it is a low frequency high risk event
- EMR and CPR
- Incident Command

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- A focus on fire behavior with emphasis on reading smoke and understanding the building construction.
- Task performance drills that emphasis the need of transitional attack from defensive to offensive. This is in line with our current composition of volunteers and is a direct result of the requirement of two in two out per OSHA standards.

We are accredited through DPSST and all our in house training meets their requirements per ORS.

Fire Marshal

We have some Fire Marshal activities that have occurred. Most of which has been in relation to driveways and access for larger subdivisions.

We have entered into an agreement with Red Cross for installation of smoke detectors. This is a program sponsored by Red Cross and we have met their training requirements.

We are also introducing a KNOX BOX program. This allows commercial and residential properties to buy a lock box to which we have a key. They then put the access code, or key into that box so we have damage free entrance in case of emergency.

Public Relations

We participated in a great deal of community events as part of that outreach to the community. From Beach comers to The holiday food drive we kept very busy all year.

Grants:

We received two grants this past year. One from the Oregon State fire Marshalls office for seasonal up staffing of responders. This program is to allow departments to more quickly and effectively respond to the wildland threat. That Grant was about \$22,000. We also received a grant from the Siletz Charitable contribution committee (the Siletz tribe) that grant was \$6,100 dollars for PPE.

Immediate needs:

PPE (structural Turnouts)

A Quantitative fit tester for breathing apparatus masks.

Development of a shower in Building C for Decontamination