

CLALLAM COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No. 2



Jon C. Bugher
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NEWS RELEASE **Fire Chief Jon Bugher Announces Retirement**

Chief Jon Bugher is bidding farewell to Clallam County Fire District No. 2. After serving the District as Fire Chief for the last 17 years, he has decided that now was the time to pass his Chief's Bugles to his successor. "I felt that I'd taken the District as far as I could and it was now time for someone else to take it to the next level", said Bugher. December 30 will be his last day.

Jon began his career in the fire service when he fought his first wildland fire in 1964, then served as a volunteer firefighter in coastal Washington for many years. Prior to coming to the Clallam 2, he was the tribal Administrator for a number of tribes in Washington.

During his time with Clallam County Fire District No. 2, Chief Bugher has set the department on the path to greater safety for its members and position the District to best handle future challenges. Through his leadership, an emergency communications plan was developed and is being implemented, allowing first responders to be heard by dispatch and other responders throughout their response area, while using their portable radios. "This is crucial to the overall efficiency of a rapid response and safety of our members", said Bugher. In addition, he facilitated a feasibility study between Fire District 2 and Port Angeles Fire Department in Clallam County, a plan that he hopes will come to fruition in the future. Another key change that he made was to improve the overall volunteer firefighter training program and meeting international training standards.

"Fire Safety Starts at Home"

“Our volunteer firefighters are the greatest people in the fires service”, said Bugher. He went on to say, “The Board of Fire Commissioners and I shared a unique vision of what was needed to support these people who are the heart and soul of this fire district.” When asked what he’ll miss the most when retired he said without hesitation, “The volunteers, it has been a huge honor to serve and work with these outstanding individuals over the past 17 years.”

Other accomplishments achieved by Chief Bugher include the construction and opening of two new fire stations in the district, replacement of nearly 100% of the fire district fleet, implementation of duty squads, establishment of county public information officer working group, implementation of a regional fire investigation task force, and revitalization of the Clallam County Homeland Security Council.

Assistant Chief Phillips, who was hired in August of this year, will take over as the interim Fire Chief. “I feel extremely confident that I’m leaving the District in excellent hands”, said Chief Bugher.

Jon and his wife Beth, of 31 years, look forward to traveling the breadth and width of the United States visiting their five children and fifteen grandchildren.

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