

DIXON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY TEAM MEETING 11/03/2021

Meeting held at Station 1 and ZOOM. Called to order 19:05

Members Present: Kathy Miller, Steve Jenison, Adam Mackie, Ron Monsour, Eloise Martinez, Liz Riedel, Mick Oram, Wayne Archuleta, Frances Griego, Carl (Jimmy) Berghofer, Windy Berghofer, Amanda Sena, Alex Amend, Aaron Greenwald, Anthony Alvarez

No members of the Public requested to join the meeting.

Agenda approved as amended. Nomination of Carl Berghofer to the DVFD was added to agenda. October 2021 meeting minutes approved with one correction.

Officer Reports

Rescue Chief – Amanda Sena

12 EMS calls in October. There was an inspection scheduled for Rescue 3 on October 17, which has been cancelled and rescheduled for December 3, 2021. Amanda will do a complete inventory and inspection before the event happens to restock, remove expired supplies and to go through the checklist provided. Amanda will be placing an order for some new N95 masks and anything else we might need. Amanda asked that if anyone can think of anything we might need for Rescue 3 to let her know before November 12, 2021. Steve stated he spoke with Melinda who is from the EMS region 3 office who will be doing the inspection and she stated that date is subject to change.

Fire Marshal Report – Ron Monsour

2-Fire calls this month. The one fire was the downed power line. The other fire was a mutual aid for water and personnel for a structure fire at mile 17 on NM 75 in Vadito which was quite complex.

Deputy Chief/Safety Officer – Adam Mackie

The fire in Vadito was a very large two-story building with an attic and basement and a sloping roof. The building was being used as a residence (used to be a store). By the time DVFD arrived the roof had collapsed. DVFD responded standard operating procedures for mutual aid, one tender and one engine with one additional tender, six personnel five in bunker gear and one in wildland gear. Adam went over standard protocols and proper PPE for assisting in a fire. If you don't have bunker gear or SCBA you can still assist in wildland gear but be advised they must keep away from the hot zone and can assist in other essential functions. Adam and Alex Amend reviewed in detail how the team responded and some of the issues and problems they dealt with. It is important to note that you should feel safe when entering a fire. If an Incident Commander orders you into a situation, you don't feel is safe, you can refuse the assignment, but you must follow county standard operating procedures.

Adam mentioned two quick safety protocols:

- Do not wear your bunker gear helmet while driving it can cause great injury if in an accident.
- When you are dealing with swarms of bees like the ones at the stump fire last month, you can use the foam gun on the bees which makes them unable to fly and sting!

Scheduled Training:

- November 10, 2021– 6:30 PM Maintenance of tools and apparatus.
- November 14, 2021 – No meeting. Joint training will be held in Abiquiu on Nov. 21
- November 17, 2021–6:30 PM Practical and recruit training-Introduction to SCBA & Hazmat
- November 21, 2021 – 10:00 AM– 2:00 PM Practical and recruit training SCBA in Abiquiu

Adam has spoken with the safety coordinator of Jemez Electric Coop to come and give us a talk on electrical safety. The colder months for training we will work on having psychological support training.

Pump test were done on all the apparatus, except Tender 2 was tested before delivery and Tender 1 was repaired last year and passed the pump test, but the technician had the wrong adapter so he was unable to test Tender 1. It will be tested at a later date. Both Engines passed the pump test. This is necessary every year for our ISO rating.

The hand-held stream lights on Engine 2 are not working properly and have been sent out for repair.

Adam has submitted for a VFA grant, Volunteer Fire Department Assistance grant. This is federal monies which are administered by the New Mexico Department of Forestry that can be up to \$20,000.00, which is matched with 10% of whole budget. Money will be used for PPE, wildland jumpsuits, 5-gallon drums of foam and foam cassettes for the foam guns. We will also purchase other equipment needed to bring us up to the resource mobilization plan standard which is necessary when responding for mutual aid on federal land. GPS units, handheld weather stations for each piece of apparatus and any other miscellaneous items needed or replaced.

Chief Report – Steven Jenison

Steve has almost completed writing and submitting a grant to the New Mexico EMS Bureau for Special Project funding. This would be for a larger stock of equipment and supplies to help teach EMT First Responder courses in Rio Arriba County as well CPR/AED/First Aid courses. Once finished he will submit the grant by November 19, 2021 requesting \$44,300.00 worth of equipment and supplies required for the courses. Steve will agree to offer and EMT First Responder course once a year somewhere in Rio Arriba County for the next five years.

The Firewise USA Community planning process has been reinitiated. In attendance were Susan Herrera, NM State Representative and James J. Martinez, County Commissioner and Chair. Steve clarified with various people in Firewise and Judith Chaddick who runs the Firewise USA Community program for Alcalde/Velarde, that Firewise USA is not a mechanism for funding support. It is simply a recognition of a community to try to mitigate the risks of wildfires. It does allow you to use that credential to apply for funding. Susan Herrera suggested that she would use some of the capital outlay money she receives as a legislator to purchase a chipper to help get rid of excessive yard waste.

Anthony Alvarez was invited to discuss what the Firewise community can do and our best options as a community in terms of purchasing a chipper.

- Education – Ignition sources, how fires start and how to avoid them.
- To reduce fires in community.
- To minimize damage done to property and lives.

It is important to teach community to burn less. Don't burn leaves, weed, trash etc. It was recommended to purchase a tub grinder because they sift out metal and rocks rather than a woodchipper which does not. This would be centralized in the community while a contractor will pick up piles in a prentice loader, knuckle boom, that loads it in this apparatus and takes it to be chipped at the centralized location. The contractor would be responsible for maintaining the apparatus.

Steve stated in order to attain Firewise recognition, the community needs to show a certain level of volunteer activity in the community toward their goals that is equivalent to 1 volunteer hour per every household in your community. There are 774 households in our fire district. So, this means we are meant to match \$21,500.00 approximately. Steve explained in depth what would be required of the community and how we would reach this goal and attain Firewise recognition.

Anthony will be presenting this idea to Susan Herrera.

Dixon Studio Tour is this weekend it is recommended we have Rescue 3 posted near the Elementary School so it is more centralized and easier to get through traffic. It would be a good idea to have someone with Rescue 3 and have a boot out to accept donations.

Burn ban flags will be posted one in front of Station 1 and the other at Station 2.

Steve will look into purchasing zipper front hoodies with the DVFD circular logo.

Carl Berghofer was nominated and voted in unanimously to join the DVFD as a Responding Probationer. Carl Berghofer was sworn in.

Meeting adjourned at 20:28