

DIXON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY TEAM MEETING 04/05/2023

Meeting held at Station 1 and ZOOM. Called to order at 19:06

Members Present: Steve Jenison, Adam Mackie, Ron Monsour, Amanda Sena, Eloise Martinez, Wayne Archuleta, Mick Oram, Liz Riedel, Frances Griego, Kyle Kline, Tom Minnich, Jesse Nichols, Aaron Greenwald, Don Ticknor, Celestino Archuleta

Agenda approved. March 2023 minutes approved.

Officer Reports

Rescue Chief – Amanda Sena

5 - EMS calls in March 2023. Everyone that needed to renew their EMT licenses have all been renewed. The EMS Fund Act Application has been submitted.

Fire Marshal Report – Ron Monsour

4 – Fire call in March 2023 – The first call was a mutual aid for Taos, which was a MVC. The weather was a blizzard and the NM68 horseshoe was terribly slippery. Ron took Engine 2 and unfortunately slid and got it stuck. Thanks to Adam, we now carry kitty litter for hazmat spills, which is also very good for gaining traction and being able to be unstuck! One other issue we had was lack of communication due to the fact we did not know what frequency they were using until arriving on scene. The second was a small fire at mile marker 4. Someone threw ashes on the side of the roadway. The third was for a mutual aid for a vehicle fire at mile marker 68. This call was cancelled. The last call was for a smoke/carbon monoxide detector going off.

Ron and Mick attended the meeting for the Regional Chiefs and Rio Arriba E911 Dispatch meeting. EMS is working hard to upgrade a lot of their systems. They have a lot of new personnel and dispatchers. Ron stated there are a lot of repeaters that these dispatchers have to work with. They go through extensive training. Most upgrades are difficult to implement in rural and mountainous areas. One thing that is very important and helpful to is to inform dispatch which repeater you are using.

There will be a way to get all time stamps of every call. They can all be emailed to the District Chief (Dixon 31).

Deputy Chief/Safety Officer – Adam Mackie

Adam and Steve responded to a call for a residential fire/carbon monoxide alarm. Adam stated that when responding for this type of call to respond POV to investigate to confirm there is a fire. We should all know that carbon monoxide alarm is 85 decibels with four beeps every five seconds. Smoke alarms are three beeps every five seconds. If we here the four beeps at the home we should immediately open windows, get out of the house and proceed to station to pick up one of the gas detectors. Currently we have two gas detectors. One detector is out for repair and the other is on Engine 1. The owner did not have gas heating and there was nothing registering when close to the gas range. Adam noticed the carbon monoxide readings were higher in the living room where her wood stove was located and the closer they got to the can full of ashes the higher the detector read. The owner had cleaned out her fireplace and put the ashes in a can. This is one of the common causes of high concentrations of carbon monoxide in homes. Carbon monoxide alarms do not have a single threshold, they have stacked thresholds. If the carbon monoxide detector reads over 300 it will go off in 3 minutes. This will make you sick quite quickly. The carbon monoxide detector will go off in 50-60 minutes at a reading of 50, 10 minutes at a reading of 100.

Steve stated we can detect if carbon monoxide has been absorbed into the blood of patients with our cardiac monitor pulse oximeter, which can measure carboxyhemoglobin levels.

Carbon monoxide levels in blood will cause these symptoms; 5% - Normal, 10% - headache,(or smoker), 20% - nausea and shortness of breath, 30% - vision problems, unable to think straight, bad headache, 50% - seizures.

Adam has upgraded our carabiners with NFPA certified locking carabiners. He has purchased four new life jackets that are one size fits all to replace life jackets on brush 1 and engine 2. The life jackets that were on brush 1 and engine 2 are now with the water rescue equipment. All the throw ropes have all been replaced on brush 1, engine 2 and the raft. The old throw ropes will be used for utility ropes located on engine 1, engine 2 and tender 2. The old ropes are not to be used for life safety. Adam purchased a small electric pressure washer. All the hose testing has been completed and those that are damaged will be replaced.

The Fire Marshall inspection was cancelled and postponed indefinitely. This month's company training was cancelled due the death of Windy Berghofer.

We did have a large showing of personnel for the Wild Land refresher training and the naloxone / fentanyl / xylazine training. All recruit training has been completed and Jesse, Kyle and Peter that are probationers will be responding to fire calls. We are waiting on Mick to reprogram radios so that they can be issued.

Scheduled Training:

- April 12, 2023 – 6:30 PM Maintenance of tools and apparatus.
- April 16, 2023 – DVFD Open House in memory of Windy Berghofer and Bob Cornelius from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at Station 1. (Company training cancelled instead we will have community outreach event.)
- April 19, 2023 - If anyone needs to brush up on any of the apparatus or any equipment feel free to set up a time with Adam for training.

Adam and Alex will attend chain saw sawyer training in May.

Chief Report – Steven Jenison

RAC VFD Chiefs meeting was held earlier this month and the Agua Sana Fire Station with the Rio Arriba Fire Chief. There was a good turnout. The meeting was informative, and issues were discussed that the Rio Grande Fire Department had with central dispatch.

A notice went out from the Fire Marshals' office about the annual renewal of the fire fund applications. This will be taken care of by the Director of RA County Fire and Emergency Services.

The purchase of the chipper is slowly moving forward. The money \$50,000.00 is now in our budget. Anthony Alvarez has found us one at Iron Mike's in Phoenix, Arizona. We submitted the purchase requisition to Rio Arriba County for the amount of \$36,000.00, with the remainder of the money to be used to purchase spare blades and a shipping container to store it. Since the money came from the NM Legislature as capital outlay money it now has to go to the NM Department of Finance and Administration for approval.

CWPP and Firewise USA plan is nearly finished. Ecotone will be writing a final report for review. Steve and Alex have a meeting tomorrow with Gabe Kohler with the Forest Stewards Guild to discuss how to move the CWPP into our application to become a Firewise USA community. We have fulfilled all the other necessary criteria needed.

Alex Amend has prepared another NM Association of Counties grant application that is due Friday, April 7, 2023. This will be submitted once we receive two letters of support for Jemez Mountain Electric Cooperative and Embudo Valley Regional Acequia Association. This will enable us to do more chipping projects like we did last summer.

Our EMT – First responder course in Hernandez is halfway through with 14 students still enrolled. The summer EMS-First Responder course will be held here at the Dixon fire station and starts the first week in June, through the first week in August on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 6:00 – 10:00. The UNM enrollment mechanism starts April 10, 2023. You must first enroll at UNM Taos. Once enrolled you should get assistance from UNM personnel to sign up for the class. Sign up early class fills up fast.

No news yet regarding the FEMA grant application to purchase quick attack vehicle. We hope to know by mid May.

One of the recommendations in the CWPP is for Dixon Fire Department to be able to act as an emergency command center in the event of any local disasters, like the flooding event we had last summer. In order to facilitate that possibility, there are a couple of things we needed to have. One is an office which is almost complete and will have a computer we can all use. We do have new locking cabinets. There will be only couple of people with the keys for the files, since we have personnel files, patient records and financial sensitive material.

Frances mentioned that at the community meeting last night that fire department offices should have a phone that has a message directing any fire or medical emergency to call 911. Our phones currently have that message.

April 16, 2023 we will have open house/pot luck in memory of Windy Berghofer and Bob Cornelius. Several family members will be attending. Eloise will post a food listing on the bulletin with names of who is bringing what food items. If you are not on the list add your name with what you would like to bring. Steve will arrange with dispatch for last call. Adam will get some volunteers to wash the apparatus. We should all be here at station one by noon on April 16, 2023.

May 7, 2023 we will hold our Annual Pancake Breakfast. Kathy will order usual items ordered. Steve will get with Taos Roasters for the donation of coffee that they usually provide and get with Lou Malchie on the raffle. Wayne will confirm with Dixon Elementary school for use of their facility. Eloise will follow up on tables and chairs. We will have DVFD supporter t-shirts and mugs for sale. Steve recommended out of DVFD funds we pay someone from the school to help us clean up afterwards.

The Youth Cadet Program will be held the week of July 17, 2023. Need to reserve rafting trip soon with Kathy.

DVFD will be covering Good Friday for the Chimayo pilgrimage with Rescue 3 and four EMS personnel, to include Steve Jenison, Frances Griego, Ron Monsour and Gilly Valdez. We will be there from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 20:15