**DIXON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTMONTHLY TEAM MEETING 9/04/2024**

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

**Members Present:** Steve Jenison, Adam Mackie, Eloise Martinez, Ron Monsour, Amanda Sena, Kathy Miller, Mick Oram, Liz Riedel, Alex Amend, Frances Griego, Tom Minnich, Jessie Nichols, Quin Nichols, Larry Gonzales, Zandria Kline, Brianna Lucero.

Kevin Duckworth was present at meeting.

September 2024 agenda approved. August 2024 minutes approved.

Fire budget and EMS budget have not yet posted. County stated that possibly by next month budget should be loaded. The original fire budget amount to be carried over was $33,000.00. A representative from the State Fire Marshal’s office went to finance department to review the books and stated that our actual fire funds to be carried over was $132,000.00. Once this year’s budget is loaded our total with carryover is $250,000.00. Our EMS budget does not allow us to carry over budget to the following year. Steve was notified we left $1,000.00 unspent for last fiscal year. He is going to ask Rachel Marquez carry over the $1,000.00. This fiscal year’s EMS budget once loaded will be $48,500.00 which should be loaded by the end of next week. Additional monies will include $201,010.00 toward the purchase of a new ambulance.

We must recertify with the EMS Bureau to be able to qualify for funding. We had a deadline of August 9, 2024, to have this process completed. DVFD EMS did meet this deadline. This process was not an easy process.

Adam stated with the deadlines and procedures set forth by Rio Arriba County makes it difficult to purchase required Wildland gear, and equipment for apparatus very difficult to do because of the short time frame given to us. He will continue to work hard to get things ordered and delivered.

With regards to EMS budget we need to start thinking what we need to order.

**Officer Reports**

**Rescue Chief – Amanda Sena** - 8 - EMS calls in August 2024. Zachary Enriquez is our new Rio Arriba County Deputy Fire Chief. He will be overseeing the EMS side of the RAC Fire & Emergency Services office. Zachary will be working on trying to straighten out the issue with pharmacy and keeping our medications up to date.

They are proposing a hub and spoke system where there would be three places that have the medications. We could possibly be the hub for medications for Dixon, Ojo Sarco, and Chamita. Abiquiu could possibly be the hub for the Northern part of county. The county is proposing a Pyxis System. A computerized box will be used where you identify yourself and what drugs and amounts you are being taken out.

Steve has asked that we be able to carry at least midazolam for patients with seizures (status epilepticus) and fentanyl for treatment of severe pain.

We have $268,000.00 to purchase a new ambulance. Siddons-Martin, Braun Northwest and Osage are current ambulance vendors that are registered with the state. We will give our specifications to these vendors and see who can fill all the specifications needed with the money we have available and request quotes from these vendors to be filled in a reasonable amount of time. We do not have to go through formal bidding process according to Bonnie Brown-Cordova at RAC. It’s possible that one of the vendors may have a demo that fits our needs which sells at a discount and can be delivered in a short amount of time. We would like a Power-Load system, but this significantly increases the price. If we can’t get the Power-Load we could possibly retrofit the ambulance at a later date. We will request in the specifications to have a medication safe much like the Pyxis installed as part of the ambulance when submitting for quotes for purchase of the ambulance. Our contract pharmacist Anthony Catalanotto is very supportive.

EMS academy is offering a series of online refreshers. EMS responders only need to attend one day, basics two days, intermediate two and a half days and paramedics three days. Steve has proposed this upcoming class be done here at the station. The link is provided for registration. We pay registration fee and will be reimbursed by the DVFD. License renewal can be found on NMEMS licensing portal. If you do not have an account, you should set up an account ASAP. They will notify you when your license expires.

**Fire Marshal Report – Ron Monsour -** 2 - Fire calls in August 2024. Both fire calls were for visible smoke. No fire was found at any location. DVFD responded to one detector activated which was also a false alarm.

**Deputy Chief/Safety Officer – Adam Mackie** - Adam discussed two different dramatic hazmat scenarios. The first was a boiling liquid evaporative vessel explosion involved in what is called a torch event. We viewed a very intense video which showed a propane tanker explosion. Adam went over the safety hazards and the standard operating procedures for dealing with this type of emergency. He went over the injuries that resulted in people to include firefighter personnel being way to close to the tanker. Every DVFD personnel are required to take the basic Hazmat Awareness Course which teaches how to use the Emergency Response Guide (ERG). Using the ERG will give you standard operating procedures to follow for different hazmat situations. The second video was an accident that happened in Los Angeles that killed two firefighters. This involved a very large vehicle such as an eighteen-wheeler. One of the large tires exploded killing the firefighters. Adam explained how this occurred and how to approach this type of event.

Adam has purchased and has available new structure gloves for anyone who may need some.

**Scheduled Training:**

* September 11, 2024 – 6:30 PM Maintenance of tools and apparatus.
* September 8, 2024 – Monthly Training – 411 Training on Engine 3.
* September 17, 2024 – First due training at Station 1 at 11:00.
* September 18, 2024 – 6:30 PM Practical and new recruit training. Notify Adam if you need some one-on-one.

Adam sent an email emphasizing some driving features that are very useful. He encourages everyone to get themselves familiar with Engine 3 which has quite a few features that are very different from our other apparatus. Adam or Steve would be more than happy to train you and take you for a guided practice session.

Engine 3 is basically ready for structure fires. The only things missing are some short hoses and foam adapters and equipment. Wildland fires, it is not quite ready Adam needs to load hand tools. He is still waiting on fire shelters. Rescue, Adam still needs to load the Holmatro tools, but is waiting for the straps needed to tie them down.

Adam will work on replacing the rescue struts on 242 for easier use.

Adam stated he is holding off on having Engine 3 out as first out on fires because we need to think very carefully because of the incidents response guidelines. Standard Operating Procedures states that we respond with certain apparatus according to different accidents or fires.

**Chief Report – Steven Jenison –** Those who attended the Picuris Fire games had much fun. We won second place for a prize of $500.00. We look forward to attending next year.

Steve is working on negotiating a mutual aid agreement with Espanola Presbyterian EMS to be able initiate transport of patients. He wants the agreement in writing. The last update to this agreement was written 26 years ago.

Mick stated installation of the Dixon repeater at Embudo station it is progressing very well. He is working diligently to get this done. He said he has made more progress in the last six month than in the last 20 years.

Steve submitted the grant application to the State Fire Marshal’s office in August to fund an addition to our current building to house Unit 242 and the chipper. This will also include a bathroom so that we can shower after fires to decontaminate. We would also be able to store our bunker gear. We hope to frame an area for room for bunk rooms.

We are still waiting on word for the EMT Basic class that is supposed to start sometime in September. Garrett Martinez would be the instructor.

No updates for improvements to our fitness center.

United Way of Northern New Mexico grant cycle is now open. Steve will apply to support next year’s youth cadet program.

Larry came up with the idea of having a Halloween costume party for people and pets this year for Halloween. Petsense and Pizza Nine will be sponsoring this event in Dixon. We have already advertised and made fliers. He is looking at having Halloween Carnival with games so the children can win prizes and a best costume for people, pets and people pets combined. The date is October 26, 2024, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Larry will provide the prizes for the pets and the DVFD will provide prizes for people. Please notify Larry or Steve if you would like to help and be available for this event.

With grant monies provided from NM Association of Counties Steve has signed a contract to meet with an implementation specialist to set up a NIXLE notification system for Dixon specific area. Steve will advertise this on different media to have people sign up.

We are also going to be redoing our website with the help of Jeff Spicer. Our emphasis will be on how to reduce their risk on Wildland fires. If you are interested in helping to make decisions as to what this website should look, notify Steve.

We have a new Big Tex dump trailer to haul the chipper. This was purchased with money from capital outlay received from the State Legislature.

Steve recommends that we start scheduling at least 3 chipper projects when the weather cools down. He proposes only one day on the weekend.

Meeting adjourned at 20:30