

Public Safety Committee/FireWise Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 4, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Call to Order and notice of Meeting

All members were present, namely Jim Woodard, Sheila Duffy, Trudy DiLeo and Neal King, and myself, Kathy Bennett. (We always welcome new members.) Others in attendance were John Avila, Fire Chief Molina, Law Enforcement Chief Virgil Vigil, Ashley, Jalmar, Scotney, Dr. Quigley Peterson and Carl Gilmore. If I forgot anyone, my apologies.

Welcome back Officer Hutter!!

Thank you Chief Vigil for re-hiring Officer Justin Hutter and Thank you Justin for returning to our Law Enforcement Department here in the Village. Our Village is fortunate to have a very strong Law Enforcement Department.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 1) Reducing Speeding on Twining Road- Chief Vigil-status on fake or real cameras

Chief Vigil is working on securing cameras with auto picture ability on Twining Road to warn speeders going up and hopefully coming down. The cost is under \$1,000 and hopefully the equipment will be here next month. Chief Vigil also said that Justin Hutter may wish to go to EMT school and they are working on a schedule. Thank you Chief Vigil.

- 2) Status of Village Sirens

Chief Vigil is working on repairing the siren damaged in December in the Kachina area and securing two more sirens, one for the Amizette area and one for mid mountain on the residential side of the mountain.

- 3) Status of Radios – Chief Molina – all same channels on all radios

Fire Chief Molina when asked if all departments could talk to each other on the same channel, he replied with talk about UHF and VHF without answering the question. Status is still unknown.

FIREWISE COMMUNITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- 1) Status of our CWPP and when is the deadline to deliver to the County – Scotney Blackburn

Unknown; no notes on this subject. Will be on next month's agenda.

2) Evacuation Plan - Village interaction with TSVI

The Evacuation plan has been updated by the Firewise BOD and the Public Safety Committee in agreement with TSVI for the use of the Rio Hondo Learning Center in the event of a wildland fire. It will be presented at the next VC Meeting.

3) How to receive a Text Message in the event of an emergency – publish

Log on to Regroup.com on your computer. Follow the directions and register to receive e-mail and/or texts in the event of a wildland fire. You will be notified by the county if you use this County Notification system. (This by the way, leaves residents in the Amizette area out in the cold, as there is no internet in Amizette.)

4) Village needs Standard Operating Procedures in the event of a Wildland Fire – Fire Department beginning with all departments in the Village on the same radio channel, IC in place, familiarization with TSVI Emergency Plan – working together with their plan

Nothing new on this subject.

5) Non-Federal Land Grant status and dates of implementation – Jalmar Bowden/Scotney Blackburn

Nothing new on this subject.

6) EMS Status – Chief Molina. **Nothing new on this subject.**

7) RSG Grant Application – Kathy – **After the meeting, John Avila said he would persue the Grant application for the RSG \$20,000 Chipper Grant which is due by April 19th. Kathy couldn't answer all the Fire Department Questions required on the application.**

Miscellaneous

The following was talked about at length. Bob Corroon talked about a consultant with Drone capabilities to photograph high risk areas and look at VTSV from the sky. An exit via Bull of the Woods was also talked about. We need to add this to the Evacuation plan somehow. Bob also talked about masks, being made available by the Village for distribution at the Learning Center in the event of overcoming smoke.

There was also a question regarding the NM National Guard; can they land here; what would be their response time; how long?

Radio frequencies were discussed. It was assumed that Mountain Channel (1) would be used in the event of a wildland fire.

It was suggested that perhaps volunteers from the Village could be fire watch people and patrol the campgrounds. We need to e-mail information regarding Regroup.com and how to signup

for text messages in the event of a wildland fire. (Central Dispatch notifies the County, and the County notifies people registered on Regroup.com.)

Dr. Quigley Peterson and Carl Gilmore stated that more advertisements need to be done to attract EMT's to the Village. Advertising in just the Taos News is not enough. Carl talked about a WFR class he is conducting in a week and said it is a baseline for EMS education. One firefighter is interested. It is a building block for EMT's.

Discussion was held between Trudy DiLeo and Jalmar regarding Insurance Issues for the Non-Federal Grant applicants.

Date, Time of next meeting

Monday, May 2, 2022 is the next scheduled meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

At about 11:45 a.m. on this date.