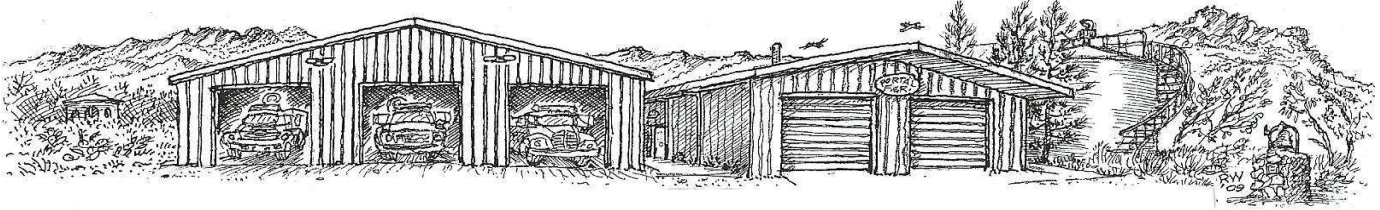


# Portal Rescue, Inc.



**P.O. Box 16331, Portal,  
AZ 85632  
(520) 558-2206**

## **Board Meeting – March 20, 2022**

**Attending (based on sign-up sheet) - Community Members:** Susanne Apitz, Delane Blondeau, Cary Booth, Cheryl Booth, Dinah Davidson, Bob Downs, Lee Dyal, Pat Espenak, Fred Espenak, Marilyn Forestell, Bud Johnson, Debb Johnson, Barb Miller, Howard Topoff, Bill Wilbur, and Jeanne Williams.). **Active members:** Bonnie Bowen, Alina Downer, Rolf Koford, Michele Lanan, David Newton, Carolyn Nordstrom, Larry Rivers, Barbara Roth, Victor Shawe, Aaron Smith. Jackie Lewis (Active Member) and Alice Wakefield (Community Member) attended virtually.

- I. Call to Order  
President Cary Booth called the annual meeting to order at 2:00 pm.
- II. Agenda  
Cary asked for one minor adjustment to item V.G (Challenges for holding Soup On). He posed this as a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, Carolyn seconded his motion and the vote in favor was unanimous.
- III. Approval of Minutes of January 12 Meeting  
Cary moved to accept the minutes without amendment, Victor seconded the motion, and a unanimous vote followed.
- IV. Reports
  - A. Fire Chief (David Newton)
    1. Operations – none
    2. Training
      - a) Attendance was good on February 19th and poor on March 2nd.
      - b) Many firefighters have completed their annual wildland fire refresher course.
      - c) Helicopter operations training is scheduled for March 26th. (It was canceled on March 25 due to unavailability of helicopter.)
    3. Vehicles - All vehicles except Brush 5 are in service.
    4. Grants
      - a) We received our Rural Fire Capacity grant worth \$1314 for equipment. We'll pay half of that.
      - b) There's been no word yet on our Mobile Radio Grant.
  - B. EMS Chief (Jackie Lewis)
    1. Calls
      - a) PR responded to five calls in January, three in February, and one in March.

- b) Fully half of our calls have been for air evacuation; weather precluded two of those.
    - 2. Training
      - Alina and Michele attended the Airway Lab in Tucson.
    - 3. Jackie thanks the many folks who have helped out in her absence:
      - a) David, for replacing the broken dash bezel on Rescue 4
      - b) David and Bonnie for updating the locator form, and Bob Downs for helping get it into the hands of new property owners
      - c) Bonnie for taking over EMT supply orders
      - d) All EMTs: Alina, Barbara, Carolyn, ET, John and Michele for the pride they take in Portal Rescue and personal care they provide to each person in need.
      - e) Cary for taking on the more difficult challenges as Board President.
  - C. Treasurer (Alice Wakefield, report current as of 18 March 2022)
    - 1. Assets
      - a) Washington Federal: the total value of our Washington Federal account (Rainy Day Fund) is \$34,282.11.
      - b) Edward Jones (all accounts)
        - (1) The total value of our EJ accounts is \$157,497.75.
        - (2) Components of this total are: Money Market (\$54,523.99); two bonds (Citigroup Global and Canadian Imperial Bank) and three CDs of 2-yr or 3-year maturity dates (\$102,973.76).
      - c) Portal Rescue financial assets total \$192,587.42, including \$760 in petty cash, \$47.56 in stamps, and all investments. Two outstanding checks total \$644.24.
  - D. Member at Large (Carolyn Nordstrom)
    - 1. Carolyn is stepping down from PR board.
    - 2. She had nothing but praise for an organization covering an area 1500 sq miles (including Animas), and doing so very well.
  - E. Vice-President (Victor Shawe)
    - 1. Pickleball is up and running and involves people as far away as Animas.
    - 2. We have recovered all the money spent on equipment, painting, etc.
  - F. President (Cary Booth). Nothing to report, but see V.B. below.
- V. Continuing business
- A. Classroom policy
    - 1. The classroom will be open for events with the following requirements.
      - a) Masks will be required if social distancing cannot be maintained. They are optional when distancing is achievable.
      - b) Windows and doors will be open for ventilation.
      - c) Snacks may be served if people are spread out while eating.
      - d) Classroom policy will continue to respond to changes in the Covid environment.
    - 2. Dinah put the combined policies into a motion, seconded by Jackie, and passed unanimously.
    - 3. Bonnie Bowen (keeper of the classroom calendar) reminded the Board

that we will need to update the agreement to be signed by classroom renters.

- B. Chiricahua Community Health Centers, Inc.
  - 1. Ana Gonzales (CCHCI board member and Director of Mobile Services), and Dr. Darlene Melk (pediatrician and Chief Medical Officer), gave brief remarks and treated us to a tour of the new (and very compact! image below) mobile unit that will offer services on Mondays from a base at Portal Rescue station. The goal is to begin service by an internist and an NP by the end of April. PR facilities, including restrooms, would be used as a check-in and waiting area.
  - 2. CCHCI can see anyone regardless of ability to pay; they accept all types of insurance (their main revenue source) but operate on a sliding scale for those who self-pay. Their goal is prevention, i.e., primary care that keeps patients out of hospitals, but they can also do acute care if needed. They will bring vaccines and will do labs on site. They will refer patients to specialists if the need for specialized care is not urgent.
  - 3. Appointments will be scheduled each 30 min, and though the organization prefers advance scheduling, some same-day slots may be available. Patients can schedule by phone or self-schedule online (48 hrs in advance), or they may call at 6:30 AM to ascertain availability that day. Details of CCHCI contact information will be provided at a later time.
- C. Change of tax accountants  
Alice will do taxes herself and solicit reviews from other board members.
- D. Ambulance donation (no update)
- E. Phone book
  - 1. Solicitations of resident information and advertising are moving along.
  - 2. Bob Downs has made efforts to greet new people and put them in touch with various community services.
- F. Update to treasurer policy
  - 1. The policy for dual signatures was rewritten in email communication to permit regular suppliers and EMT and Fire Chiefs to (with proper documentation) receive checks with a single signature. Jackie noted that USPS was mentioned twice in the list of organizations with which PR regularly does business. David requested removal of Action Communications and addition of IFC Radios and Lone Mtn Communications. Bonnie Bowen should be added as a representative of the EMS Chief, because she has been handling EMS orders.
  - 2. Carolyn moved to adopt these changes, Dinah seconded her motion, and the vote in favor was unanimous.
- G. Soup's On
  - 1. Barbara spoke briefly about the history of this issue. Chris Wilbur worked hard with the FDA, the AZ Health Dept. and Cochise County Health Dept. to assess whether there was a way forward to do Soup's On in the original format. Bottom line: it would be impossible to comply with the restriction that food must be prepared in a commercial kitchen.
  - 2. There was brief discussion about trying to do the event this spring in the Rodeo Community Center (too soon), or as a one-day event in September

(conflicts with Heritage Days and Oktoberfest, and snowbirds would still be away). It was decided that we would wait until next winter and hope to do a big (normal) event either at the Rodeo Community Center or the Chiricahua Museum, on and immediately after President's Day weekend again.

3. Victor advanced this as a motion, Jackie seconded his proposal, and there was unanimous agreement among board members.

## VI. New Business

### A. BBQ

1. As an alternative event, Dinah proposed a BBQ at PR Station, with phone invitations targeting new arrivals to the community. Using contact information from Bob Downs, volunteers Chris Wilbur, Marjorie Murphy and Barb Miler would make the phone calls. The idea was to introduce new folks to Portal Rescue staff and to welcome some young blood into the organization.
2. The measure passed by acclamation, with May 7 as the suggested date. The event was later expanded to include an invitation to the Portal-Rodeo community as a whole, and a requirement to RSVP in order to know how many hungry people to plan for.

### B. Election of a new board member (Alina Downer)

1. Carolyn introduced Alina to the group and praised her to the hilt. She is both an EMT and Firefighter, and highly qualified to both serve on the Board as a representative of our Active Members and replace Carolyn as our Member at Large.
2. Carolyn nominated Alina, and active members elected her. Welcome Alina!
3. Prior to this meeting, active members had unanimously reelected the existing EMS and Fire Chiefs.
4. Following the meeting, board members agreed that they would keep their present positions with the organization.

### C. Date of May meeting

The next board meeting will be hybrid (with in-person and virtual options) on Tuesday, May 17 at 6:30 pm.

## VII. For the Good of the Order

- A. The next blood drive will be held on Friday, May 13th. There are currently lots of open spots and an urgent need for blood.

### B. Open Mic

1. Emergency public alerting plan
  - a) It was suggested that, to respond to emergencies such as fires and floods, the community needs to update its emergency plan. Responsible people are needed to obtain contact information and to organize the efforts in their respective neighborhoods.
  - b) A phone tree plan has lapsed and should be updated. Perhaps we can tap into the County alert system? Note that cell service can go down during an emergency though.
  - c) After the meeting, Cary suggested that a committee be appointed to get this effort moving.

2. Locator book: the locator book used by Portal Rescue is as current as we can make it. We need to promote greater participation in any way we can.
3. Resignation (after this year) of the editor of our Newsletter  
After 10 years of excellent and yeoman's service, Pat Espenak needs to move on to other things. She and Fred (layout editor) have volunteered to guide a new person through the process this year. Step right up, volunteers! And grateful thanks to Pat (and Fred)!
4. Debb Johnson has previously suggested other fundraisers for PR. Rummage sales have been organized to profit Sew What?. Debb Herczog is working very hard to renovate the annex to the book storage area. The plan is to store donations in this 'Community Thrift Shop', and to bring out items during Saturday Farmers' Markets. Especially valuable items would be advertised in advance. Half the money could go to Sew What? and half to Portal Rescue, or donors could designate profits for one or the other organization.
5. Hearing loop – now that forums may begin again in the classroom, the hearing loop will need to be in place and operational.

VIII. Adjournment

Cary moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:56.

