

## **Portal Rescue Incorporated Board Meeting**

**April 16, 2008**

**1.0 Call to Order:** 6:03 PM

**2.0 Adoption of Agenda:** Approved by all present.

**3.0 Acceptance of the Minutes:** Minutes from the March 16, 2008 PR Board Meeting and Annual Elections accepted.

### **4.0 Reports**

#### **4.1 President's Report: Maya Decker**

4.1.1 President Decker expressed Portal Rescue's appreciation to Bill Wilbur for posting notices of upcoming organizational meetings at four sites in Rodeo, NM: the Post Office, Rodeo General Store, Rodeo RV Park, and the Mountain View Laundromat. Decker said she would mail hard copies of minutes to anyone who requested them.

#### **4.2 Treasurer's Report: Shela DeLong (Any resident who wishes a hard copy of the April budget may request one from Shela by contacting her at 558-2334)**

**4.2.1 REVENUES:** Treasurer DeLong reported that Portal Rescue was currently expecting \$29,650 in revenues from grants, most of it from the Fire Fuels Reduction Grant. Funds from FEMA and RFA grants, which Portal Rescue applied for and expects to receive awarded were not included in this calculation. In addition, in March the organization received a \$100 donation to the Emergency Medical Service, and \$1,384 from fundraisers. DeLong noted that upcoming fundraisers –sales of the Portal/Rodeo Phonebook, the Bird-a-thon in May, and the Chili Cook-Off also in May – will bring in additional revenues.

#### **4.2.2 EXPENDITURES:**

**4.2.2.1 Maintenance and Operations:** DeLong reported that Portal Rescue had already exceeded, by \$177.50, its \$400 expenditure budget for Maintenance and Operations; EMS supplies accounted for much of the expenditures over budget. She recommended that Portal Rescue increase the budget for this expenditure category. Board members agreed to study expenses in this category for an additional month and revisit the issue at the May Board meeting.

**4.2.2.2 Vehicle Operations:** Of the \$5,000 donation earmarked for the repairs and upgrades to Brush Truck 6, \$1,426 was spent in March, DeLong reported. This truck will be kept near Sulphur Canyon to serve as the first- response vehicle in that part of Portal Rescue's coverage area. In addition, said DeLong, the organization recently received a \$13,000 bill for pump repair and other repairs to Engine 2. DeLong said the repair company had agreed to accept the amount in two payments. President Decker noted that the Portal Rescue checking account currently held only \$8,553, because a) the organization has paid workers on the Fire Fuels Reduction Program before receiving the grant funds from the state; and b) PR recently paid \$951 for brake cylinder repairs to Engine 2 performed after the pump work was complete. After discussing whether to withdraw money from the organization's

investment account or pay the bill in two installments of \$6,500, the Board voted unanimously to pay half now and the second half as soon as possible in May.

Portal Rescue vehicles for a FEMA database. (See Appendix A)

#### **4.3 Fire Chief's Report: Barney Tomberlin**

At the request of Cochise County, Tomberlin and PR Assistant Fire Chiefs Geoff Bender and Mitch Webster recently updated the list of

4.3.1 Twenty Portal Rescue firefighters attended the joint Wildlands Firefighting Training on March 29.

4.3.2 Tomberlin and Portal Rescue EMS Chief Jeff Gee recently accepted from Wal-Mart a \$500 donation in the form of two, \$250 gift cards; these will be used to purchase incidentals such as batteries, drinking water, etc. for their departments.

4.3.3 Tomberlin reported that Portal Rescue members were meeting on Thursday nights at Portal Rescue to continue work on Brush Truck 5, including upgrades and changes to the vehicle's electrical and plumbing systems. EMS Chief Gee expressed appreciation to Bob Dearing, a community member who has put in many hours on his own and with PR members to prepare the truck.

4.3.4 Portal Rescue recently traded a trailer which we no longer use for a diesel fuel tank from Larry Rivers. Tomberlin said the tank resides on Jeff Gee's property, has a 500 gallon capacity, and now contains 200 gallons. There is also a 500 gallon gasoline tank that has 200 gallons in readiness for the coming fire season.

#### **4.4 EMT Chief's Report: Jeff Gee**

4.4.1 Gee reported that the brush clearing planned under the Fire Fuels Reduction Grant was about half done. The crew had removed brush from 35 homes so far and planned to visit another 25-35 properties. He expected that Portal Rescue would receive part of the grant money within the next few weeks.

4.4.2 On April 14, Gee submitted an application for a grant from the Southeast Arizona EMS Regional Council. He asked for \$1,600 to cover the costs of training EMTs; in addition, he requested funds for aids to train EMTs in the use of an Automatic External Defibrillator, administration of intravenous lines, and the use of a Combi-Tube. In addition, said Gee, some of the grant money might be used to pay for a new gurney for the organization's new ambulance, Rescue Vehicle 4.

4.4.3 Gee reported on several issues regarding readiness to respond to medical calls. He thanked firefighter Lance Schultis, who was working to repair a fuel line on Rescue Vehicle 3. Work on Portal Rescue's new helispot is almost complete, and Gee plans to ask all three med-evac agencies, LifeNet, LifeLine, and CriticalAir, for donations of \$500 each to pay for gravel for the helispot.

4.4.4 Gee and Portal Rescue EMT E.T. Collinsworth recently certified to administer IV lines; EMT Rick Beno was scheduled to take the IV certification course in May. EMT Walter Schoepfle was scheduled to attend Disaster Event Training in Tucson later in April. Six EMTs – Gee, Collinsworth, Schoepfle, Beno, Ken Joens, and Lee Dyal — have been certified in the use of the Combi-Tube, an advanced device for ensuring the patient has a patent airway. Gee noted that effective IV administration and use of the Combi-Tube were both "very important advanced skills to have in a rural area."

#### **4.5 Fundraising: Maya Decker:**

4.5.1 Decker reviewed upcoming Portal Rescue fundraisers, the Bird-a-thon to be conducted on May 10 in conjunction with the National census on Birds, and the Chili Cook-Off on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Kim Gee is the lead organizer for the cook-off. Decker noted that she was planning to visit businesses in Douglas to obtain pledges from them for the Bird-a-thon. Gee suggested that Portal Rescue also submit articles about these fundraisers to the Douglas newspaper. After some discussion, the board voted unanimously that, in the course of these publicity efforts, Portal Rescue would promote May as "a fundraising month" for the organization.

4.5.2 Decker reported that the Sew-What Pie Festival, another event held to raise funds for Portal Rescue, was scheduled for Aug. 30 in the Rodeo community center. More information on this will be available soon. Delane Blondeau is preparing posters for that event.

#### **5.0 Old Business**

**5.1 First Annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon:** Decker recommended that the First Annual Volunteer Recognition Potluck Luncheon, which the board had originally voted to hold on April 26, be postponed until some time in September, noting that Portal Rescue members had too many organization-related activities in March and April to make the original date feasible. The board voted unanimously to hold the luncheon at **12 noon on Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008.**

#### **6.0 New Business**

**6.1 2008/09 Schedule of Portal Rescue Board Meetings:** The board voted unanimously to continue to hold its meetings at 6 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month.

**7.0 Addenda: Portal Rescue's Relations with Rodeo:** Firefighter Bill Wilbur commented that, in his experience, many residents of Rodeo, NM, are not aware of the ways in which Portal Rescue serves their area, and discussed ways in which to raise awareness. Decker noted that the number of fire and EMS calls to Rodeo is reported every year in Portal Rescue's annual newsletter. Further questions were raised about the process by which Portal Rescue and the Rodeo Fire Department cooperate in response to fire calls. Tomberlin explained that, since being elected Portal Rescue Fire Chief, he had met three times with Rodeo Fire Chief Ramon Escobar, and that the two chiefs were working on a mutual aid agreement. In the meantime, joint training sessions in addition to the one held March 29 were being planned. Tomberlin and Gee stated that a number of steps were being taken to ensure a fully cooperative relationship between Portal Rescue and the Rodeo Fire Dept., including clarification of protocols for responding to calls.

**8.0 For the Good of the Order:** No additional commentary.

**9.0 Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.; motion by Maya Decker, seconded Barney Tomberlin

**Appendix A: Vehicle Inventory FEMA Report**

<b>PORTAL RESCUE INC.</b>						
<b>Vehicle Fleet</b>						
<b>Portal Rescue</b>						
<b>Unit Name</b>	<b>Engine Type</b>	<b>Plate</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Make</b>	<b>VIN #</b>	<b>Note</b>
Tender 1	Type 3 Tender	G487FE	2004	Kenworth	2NKMH28X24M066387	
Engine 2	Type 3 Engine	G488FE	1985	Ford-F700	1FDPK74N5GVA03606	
Rescue 3	EMS	G489FE	1988	Ford-F700	1FDKE30N5JHB19899	
Rescue 4	EMS/Rehab	G483FE	1992	Ford-F350 4x4	1FDKF38M1NNA50153	
Brush 5	Type 4 Brush	G490FE	1967	Kaiser Military 6x6	12410375	Being Equipped
Brush 6	Type 6 Brush	G491FE	1992	Ford-F250 4x4	1FTHF26H2NLA18614	
Tender 7	Type 3 Tender	G486FE	1979	FMC Ford	F82CVEB4298	
Tender 8	Type 3 Tender	G485FE	1985	International	1HTLDUGN2FHA60940	Under Construction
Brush 9	Type 6 Brush	G484FE	1984	International	1HDLA1RM2	