

**Portal Rescue Incorporated Board Meeting
Wednesday, July 18, 2012**

1.0 Call to Order

President Jerry Racicot called the meeting to order at 6.30 p.m. Seven board members were present.

2.0 Adoption of Agenda

The published agenda was adopted without change, except for the addition of Item 7.1—Community Awareness Bulletin (motion by David Newton, seconded by Jackie Lewis, vote unanimously in favor).

3.0 Acceptance/Correction of Minutes

Jerry moved to accept the minutes from the May 16, 2012 meeting. Bill Wilbur seconded the motion and the vote was unanimously in favor.

4.0 Reports

4.1 President's report

President Jerry Racicot noted that the EMTs are doing a great job and so are the firefighters, with the community expressing appreciation for their work.

4.2 Treasurer's report

Treasurer Bill Wilbur reported that community members have been inundating the Portal Rescue email address with messages containing political information or linked to political websites. He asked them to refrain from doing this, because these messages make it difficult to find emails that deal with legitimate Portal Rescue business. Bill stated that ill health made it unlikely he could continue as Treasurer for much longer. He was grateful for the help that Jackie had been giving him with his duties as Treasurer.

Bill reviewed income and expenses (year-to-date) 2012.

Revenue: This year, \$6,650.75 has come from grants, \$ 10,273.08 has been donated, and \$6,540.70 has come from fundraising efforts. Interest income now totals \$728.17, and \$472.50 has come in as fire income. Counting some other minor categories, revenues to date total \$25,383.05

Expenses: Expenses to date include \$ 2,587.02 for office supplies, \$1,521.70 for EMS supplies, \$3,249.09 for EMS training, \$178.05 for EMS equipment \$1,532.68 for fire supplies, \$1531.18 for fire training, \$707.01 for fire equipment, \$6,653.77 for vehicle operations, \$6,042.97 for radio operations, \$5,304.40 for insurance, and \$3,000.00 in refunds to EMS students now affiliated with Portal Rescue. Including some other minor categories, expenses total \$33,471.36.

Summary of Assets: Currently, our investments total \$64,647.49, and we have \$86,565.14 in checking. Including petty cash and earned interest, assets total \$151,232.63.

4.3 Fire Chief's report (David Newton)

"Since the last Board Meeting, May 16th 2012:

No Operations. We've had wildfires start as late as September in previous years, but this year's fire season has essentially ended with no income from fire suppression.

The Rodeo-Portal Mutual Aid agreement has been signed by all parties. It expires March 2017.

Training: SAR Overview on June 23rd. Timothy Barrett had two days on State Forestry's training engine.

Maintenance: New front tires and taillights and battery cut-off switch for Brush 5. The leak on Tender 7 has been patched and has not leaked for a month.

Donation: Several 5 gallon pails of foam concentrate mysteriously appeared in the garage one day.

Thank you.

I have an August 13th deadline for the 2013 VFA Grant program. Because that occurs before the next board meeting I'll be asking the Board via email to okay the grant submission."

4.4 EMS Chief's report (Jackie Lewis)

"We had a good turnout of community members, EMTs and Firefighters for the Search and Rescue (SAR) orientation. Lee Dyal is following through with the people interested in getting more involved and with the Cochise County SAR team.

Thirteen of fourteen EMTs were at the June meeting. Next meeting is Saturday, July 21st at 9.00 a.m. There have been nine EMT calls since the last meeting. We are working on reducing on-scene times and radio communications. The new EMT's are doing a great job with patient care as well as the required paperwork.

Ten EMTs are attending the Southern Arizona Trauma Conference on August 9th-10th.

Rescue 4 had three belts replaced and Freon replaced in the A/C.

Rescue 3 had the heater core replaced, stop-leak and Freon added to the A/C."

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Status of new tables and Treasurer's computer

Jackie Lewis reported that new tables had not been purchased yet and the Board agreed to defer such purchases. A new computer had been purchased for the Treasurer and was working well.

5.2 Insurance Coverage connected with the Rodeo-Portal Mutual Aid Agreement.

Bill had contacted Clifton Insurance and was advised that the Portal Rescue policy covers Portal Rescue members if they operate out-of-state, and presumably Rodeo's insurance covers their members if they operate in Arizona. Portal Rescue's policy does not cover Rodeo's members.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Assign filing of AZ Corporation commission annual report to board member.

Jerry proposed and David Newton seconded the motion that filing should be assigned to the secretary. The Board agreed unanimously.

6.2 Accept resignation of Ken Joens and Rick Beno as EMTs, effective June 5.

Jackie proposed and Reed Peters seconded the motion that the resignations be accepted. The Board agreed unanimously. Jerry noted that Ken and Rick will still be firefighters.

6.3 Discuss lodging for Southern Arizona Trauma Conference Network (SATNET).

Jackie noted that the budget would only cover the cost of accommodation for rooms shared by two EMTs. It would not cover the cost of rooms shared by one EMT with a spouse who wasn't also an EMT. There would be a shortfall of \$20.00 per night, per room, for a total of \$292.00. The Board discussed the pros and cons of having Portal Rescue pay this shortfall. No decision was made as to whose responsibility it should be to pay the extra charge because a community member offered to make a donation covering the shortfalls for this year's conference.

6.4 Request for national registry-approved Wilderness EMT training by three EMTs.

John Yerger outlined the curriculum, cost and benefits of a nationally approved Wilderness EMT training course for EMTs in our area. ("Wilderness" is defined as any area one hour or one mile beyond a spot the ambulance can reach.) Wilderness training would provide more flexibility to our EMTs than they currently have. Our EMTs, as opposed to Wilderness-trained EMTs, are at all times required to follow protocols established by our agreement with Tucson Medical Center; however, these protocols are not necessarily suited to wilderness operations. Wilderness-trained EMTs who are also Portal Rescue EMTs would be able to follow the appropriate wilderness protocols but, unfortunately, would not be covered by the agreement with Tucson Medical Center while working in wilderness-mode.

Jackie said that additional wilderness training would benefit our EMTs if they were able to get alternative coverage (such as Cochise County Search and Rescue) while operating in wilderness-mode, and then revert to normal Portal Rescue protocols when they finished the wilderness phase of their operations. At present, however, the budget for training was exhausted.

The Board noted that Jerry and Timothy Barrett and John Yerger were willing to be trained, and encouraged their initiative but deferred discussion of this item for the December agenda.

7.0 Addenda

7.1 Community awareness bulletin on Portal-Rodeo website.

Howard Topoff suggested that Portal Rescue post a monthly bulletin discussing responses to environmental and health hazards such as shingles, dehydration, drowning and snakebite. David Newton favored a quarterly rather than a monthly bulletin. He and Jackie would tell Board members what topics they had selected. Community members would be advised when the bulletins were posted on the Portal-Rodeo and Portal Rescue websites. Articles in the bulletin wouldn't necessarily be written by the Chief responsible for that issue, but would be attributed to their sources.

7.2 Posting of Agenda

Maya Decker wanted to know why the agenda for the meeting had not been e-mailed to the Portal Rescue community list. Secretary Harold Farmer said that hard copies had been posted on the board outside the Portal post office and in the library. In future the agenda would also be e-mailed to community members and posted on the Portal Rescue and Portal-Rodeo websites and in the Rodeo post office.

8.0 For the Good of the Order

Jackie noted that sandbags were still available. Bill cautioned that some of these were disintegrating.

9.0 Adjournment

Bill moved for adjournment at 8.10 p.m.; David Johnson seconded the motion, and the President, hearing no dissent, declared the meeting adjourned at that time.