

MINUTES
PORTAL RESCUE INC. BOARD MEETING
Saturday, Sept. 21st, 2013
3:30 p.m. in Portal Rescue Classroom

1 Call to Order

President Jerry Racicot called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.. Six board members and two community members were present.

2 Adoption of Agenda

The published agenda was adopted, with the addition of items 8.2 and 8.3. Motion proposed by Jackie Lewis, seconded by Rick Beno and carried unanimously.

3 Acceptance of Minutes

Bill Wilbur, seconded by Rick Beno, moved to accept the minutes of the July 17th meeting as posted. Motion carried unanimously.

4 Reports

4.1 President: Jerry Racicot

Jerry Racicot thanked Thomas Morgan of the Arizona Dept. of Health Services for lending us a Stryker gurney, and Dennis McAvoy for his cooperation. The gurney was still in Phoenix, awaiting transport to Portal.

While attending the SATNET conference in August and Fire School in September, Jerry noticed a repeated emphasis from directors on the importance of ongoing training for fire crews and EMT personnel. Although training costs money, it makes firefighters and EMTs a more effective asset to their community.

4.2 Treasurer: Rick Beno

Rick Beno reviewed income and expenses up to September 2013. Donations are still trickling through but we are short of the amount we had hoped to have by now.

Revenue: This year, \$1,200 has come from grants, \$8,604.94 has been donated, and \$7,070 has come from fundraising efforts. Interest income now totals \$655.14, and rent \$225. Revenue to date totals \$19,378.70.

Expenses: Expenses to date include \$677.24 for office supplies, \$1,504.41 for EMS supplies, \$2,087.50 for EMS training, \$5,785.37 for EMS equipment, \$5,735.92 for fire supplies, \$1,444.97 for fire training, \$550 for fire pay, \$2,375.14 for vehicle operations, \$639 for radio operations, \$6,602 for insurance, \$1,569 for structure maintenance, \$110 for dues, \$1,150.44 for fund-raising expenses, \$1,762.37 for utilities, \$655.14 for the Rainy Day account, and \$641.20 for miscellaneous expenses. Expenses total \$33,290.21

Summary of Assets: Currently, our investments total \$125,998.60 and we have \$20,684.17 in checking. Including petty cash and earned interest, assets total \$146,953.

4.3 Fire Chief: David Newton

Since July 17:

Operations: We extinguished a power pole fire on July 31.

Training: Three trainings have been held since the last Board meeting. One was attended poorly, and two attended well, including today's on vehicle extrication. Jerry Racicot and David Newton attended a four-day class on vehicle extrication at Arizona State Fire School in Mesa.

Grants: Portal Rescue's grant application to the Arizona Governor's Office of Highway Safety was not funded. David finished up spending on the Portal Rescue VFA grant on July 31. He submitted PR's request for reimbursement for a hose, strainers and adapters, and expects to receive \$1,400.

Maintenance: We installed chocks on 3 vehicles, put a cover on the inspection port of the leach field, repaired a rear wheel seal and the brake drums on Tender 1, and put the repeater on an uninterruptible power supply.

County-wide Community Wildfire Protection Plan: A plan has been funded by the Cochise County Board of Supervisors and work on it will begin in a week.

4.4 EMS Chief: Jackie Lewis

There have been three EMT calls since the last Board meeting.

Nine EMTs attended the September meeting. Rick Beno led training.

Eight EMTs are expected to attend the CPR class, October 1. Three will train for new certification and three for recertification in the IV Therapy Class on the same date. Nine will attend the EMT Refresher Course, October 2-4.

5 Old Business:

5.1 Status of Charlene Noland's fundraiser. Charlene has not returned emails requesting updates. Item put on hold pending further contact by Charlene.

6 New Business—none

7 Addenda

7.1 It has been suggested that cell phones be supplied to Rescue 4 and the most used fire vehicles. These phones could be used to communicate with the RCO when radio coverage fails. Bill Wilbur reported that Verizon phones costing \$5.00-\$7.00 can be prepaid and are refillable. Calls, whether outgoing or incoming, cost \$2.00 per day. Verizon has relatively good coverage in the valley. Bill agreed to find out whether discounts might be allowed to a non-profit organization.

7.2 Recognition of Portal Rescue members who have recently retired, from fire or EMT service or from membership of Board.

David Newton proposed and Bill Wilbur seconded a motion to show appreciation for active members and Board members by awarding them gift certificates to the value of \$10 per year of service up to a maximum of \$50. The certificate would be awarded during the annual meeting. The motion was carried with one abstention.

8 For the Good of the Order

8.1 Chiefs' Meeting/Lunch: November 20.

Chris Wilbur volunteered to organize the catering.

8.2 Letter from Resident.

Jerry Racicot had received a letter from a resident suggesting we distribute pencils that say "Portal Rescue" and are accompanied by cards providing basic information about Portal Rescue (e.g. operating expenses and amount to be raised by the donation drive.) The resident also suggested we run a contest for a mascot and float for the parades. Rick Beno noted that we already use fire engines and rescue vehicles for parades. Further discussion tabled for next Board meeting.

8.3 Calendar.

Chris Wilbur has produced a calendar and has offered to donate the net proceeds of the sale of these calendars to Portal Rescue. The cost of the initial production would be donated by the Wilburs; subsequent print-runs would be paid for by Portal Rescue. The calendar would be sold for \$15.00 and should raise \$300-\$400 for Portal Rescue. The Board appreciated and accepted this offer.

8.4 Election information.

In 2014 four polling sessions will be held in the Portal Rescue classroom and Cochise County will be requested to pay \$50.00 per session. The Board approved the practice of requiring the County to pay for use of the classroom.

9 Adjournment

Jackie Lewis proposed adjournment. Rick Beno seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m..