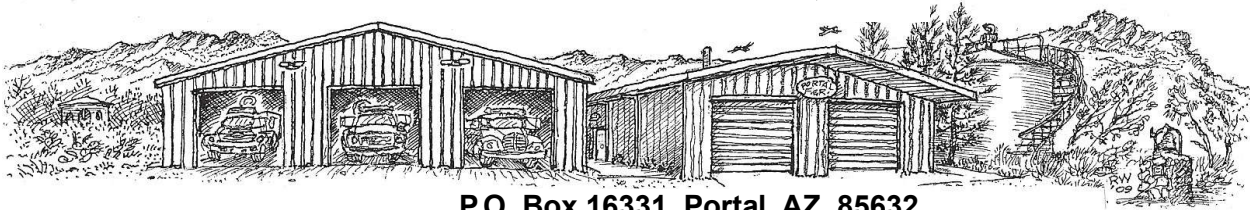


# Portal Rescue,



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

## Board Meeting (Virtual – July 29, 2020)

**Attending:** Board members Cary Booth, Victor Shawe, Ali Morse, Dinah Davidson, Jackie Lewis, David Newton, and Carolyn Nordstrom, and community member Susanne Apitz.

### 1. Call to Order

President Cary Booth called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm.

### 2. Logistics and Etiquette for Virtual Meeting

Cary briefly reviewed how muting would be handled and how speaking delays are expected.

### 3. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved (Cary) and seconded (Jackie) that reinvestment of CD rollover funds at Edward Jones be added to the Treasurer's Report (see section 5.4.3.2., below). The motion passed unanimously.

### 4. Acceptance of Minutes of the previous (May 6) board meeting

Acceptance of the minutes was moved (Cary) and seconded (Ali), with the reservation that Dinah would make two minor changes that Ali requested for the Treasurer's Report. The vote to accept was unanimous.

### 5. Reports (Inclusive of Project Updates)

#### 5.1. Vice President (Victor Shawe)

5.1.1. Victor thanked board members for attending the small event honoring Bill Wilbur's many years of service to the organization. Bill was presented with a one-of-a-kind coat and hat rack with a plaque honoring his many contributions. Ron Christensen made and contributed the rack and helped to install it at the Wilbur's residence. Thank you, Ron (and Bill)!

5.1.2. Bill and Victor will meet with Deborah Herczog in the classroom next weekend to install the hearing loop.

#### 5.2. Fire Chief (David Newton)

5.2.1. Fires: On July 14, PR responded to a brush fire in Paradise with five fire-fighters in three vehicles. Thanks for handling this late night (lightening-strike) event go to

Victor Shawe, Andrew Wasser, Alina Downer, and Lee Dyal, as well as to Jackie Lewis and Bonnie Bowen for radio communications. The fire was handed off to the Forest Service the next morning, and an engine crew from AZ State Forestry stayed two more days mopping up the 7.6 acre burn.

- 5.2.2. Training: We're getting decent attendance at our now twice-a-month training sessions.
- 5.2.3. Vehicles: Brush 236 has new tires and was on its first fire on July 14th. A problem with one of the repaired U-Joints was re-repaired by Lance Shultis at no charge.
- 5.2.4. The Hazardous Fuels Reduction Grant was not funded. AZDFFM was looking to fund larger projects treating more acreage than our small organization could fund in advance of reimbursement. Dinah expressed thanks to Fire Chief Newton for his willingness to help out with this application and his many (often unrecognized) contributions to the organization.

### 5.3. EMS Chief (Jackie Lewis)

- 5.3.1. We have responded to 10 calls since the last board meeting. Thanks to Carolyn Nordstrom and Barbara Roth, as well as to Victor Shawe and Alina Downer for driving Rescue 4. Responses included two with no patient contact, one refusal, one driven privately to hospital, one Air Medical, and five patients transferred to Douglas Fire EMTs.
- 5.3.2. David worked with Alina so she can now drive Rescue 4, assist with the gurney, and cover radio communications. He also stepped in during a vehicle check to help and answer questions. Thank you, David!
- 5.3.3. A new battery for the gurney was purchased and installed.
- 5.3.4. Junior epipens and other supplies have been ordered and should be here early next week.
- 5.3.5. The Hidalgo County EMT class has been capped at comparatively low numbers due to Covid, and is full and not open to AZ EMT candidates. The class at Cochise College's Douglas campus is also capped and full. Two night classes at the Sierra Vista campus will meet on Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs. A placement test is required, but Jackie hasn't yet verified whether students with a degree might be exempt, nor does she know the cost. One class per week will be attended online and the other in-person. Registration must be completed by the first day of class (August 17). For any local student attending, Portal Rescue would reimburse costs of gas.

### 5.4. Treasurer (Ali Morse)

#### 5.4.1. Checking Account:

- 5.4.1.1. Revenues to date this year are \$22,239.89, and expenses have come in at \$22,495.32 with a notable June expense in the Brush 6 category for tires and balancing ( $\$2,063.57 + 138.81 = \$2,202.38$ ).

5.4.1.2. PR received an anonymous donation of \$5,000; with additional donations of \$1,130 the total for July was \$6,130.

5.4.1.3. Expenses exceed income by \$255.43.

5.4.2. Balance Sheet (incl. all bank accounts):

5.4.2.1. Edward Jones

5.4.2.1.1. The total value of our Edward Jones accounts is \$112,920.94 (Money Market = \$97,349.89 + Muma Endowment = \$15,571.05) and includes \$1,698.66 YTD interest.

5.4.2.1.2. Victor moved, seconded by Jackie, to reinvest \$88,000 from matured CD (currently in Money Market) into 3 new CDs of 1 yr, 3 yr. and 5 yr. (\$17,600, \$35,200, and \$35,200 respectively). The vote in favor was unanimous, but Ali was encouraged to also seek recommendations from Vicky Merritt, our financial advisor at Edward Jones.

5.4.2.1.3. Remaining liquid assets are adequate for the remainder of the year, and we will not be applying for other fuel reduction grants. Adequate time remains to structure finances around any future grant opportunities.

5.4.3.2 Washington Federal:

The total value of our accounts is \$53,251.28 (Checking = \$19,924.11 + Rainy Day Fund = \$33,327.17) and includes \$310.80 YTD interest.

5.4.3. PR assets currently total \$166,329.22 (including \$135 in petty cash, \$22 in stamps, all investments and cash).

5.4.4. Jackie volunteered that, in Ali's absence, she had completed and submitted the annual workman's comp audit.

5.5. Member at large (Carolyn Nordstrom)

Nothing to report, except being very impressed by the work all have done.

5.6. President (Cary Booth)

Our lawyer has approved the SEACOM document but, before signing it, is awaiting final confirmation of the date to be recorded. We will then sign to confirm agreement to do dispatching through SEACOM at no expense to us.

## 6. New Business

6.1. The Board formalized the online vote to continue the Covid-era policy of not renting Portal Rescue's classroom until the next board meeting, when the subject will be revisited. Exceptions exist for Red Cross Blood drives supervised by our EMT chief, and for

classroom use for any urgent Portal Rescue business. Cary advanced the motion, seconded by Dinah, and the vote was unanimous.

6.2. David proposed that Aaron Smith be confirmed as a Portal Rescue Fire Fighter. He has taken the basic wildland course in Prescott, but not the pack test. David's motion was seconded, and the vote in favor was unanimous.

### 6.3. Completion of Treasurer's term

6.3.1. Ali discussed a personal need to attend family in California and thanked Dinah and Jackie for covering the Treasurer's obligations during her recent visit there. She can fulfill her obligations through the next board meeting but will leave Portal by mid-October / early November.

6.3.2. We need to identify a Community Member or Active RO member (serving as a Community Member) to replace her through at least the end of her term in March 2021. Several people were suggested as possibilities, but most have not yet been consulted. We should move on this soon because of the requirement for officers with signing authority to visit Washington Federal together. Ali will check to determine Covid-related practices at the bank, and Jackie will be available for training the new Treasurer. We should get together by email in advance of our next meeting.

## 7. Fundraising

Given the possibility that Covid could affect our capacity to hold "Soup's On", our major fundraiser, the Board began a discussion of fund-raising for 2020-2021. Victor pointed out that socializing is as important as the food itself at the February event, limiting possibilities for altering Soup's On in ways compatible with best practices to thwart the virus. A few alternatives were discussed, and Carolyn suggested we keep soliciting input and ideas from community members. Jackie felt we need to decide by our November meeting, leaving ample time for planning should the event move forward. She also suggested that the donation solicitation mailed to the community in October include a special request to give generously, given the circumstances.

## 8. Website development

8.1. Cary reviewed some suggestions for improvements to Portal Rescue's website.

8.2. We should consider what to do with the old Facebook account, formerly curated by Tim Lawson. Should we update it or shut it down and delete the "Follow on Facebook" reference?

8.3. Cary will circulate a Google Doc on which Bonnie Bowen has already commented and ask that we review the changes and comment by email.

8.4. Ali suggested that the site remind community members that they can donate to Portal Rescue via Amazon Smile.

**9. September board meeting**

The meeting was scheduled for September 17, at 6:00 pm AZ time.

**10. For the Good of the Order**

Next Blood Drive (August 21): Appointments (contact Jackie) are required, and 25 of 31 are already filled. All Covid practices will be in force, and blood will be tested for antibodies, with results promised within 2 wks.

**11. Adjournment**

At 8:01 pm, Cary moved to adjourn. Jackie seconded his motion, and absent objections, the meeting was adjourned.