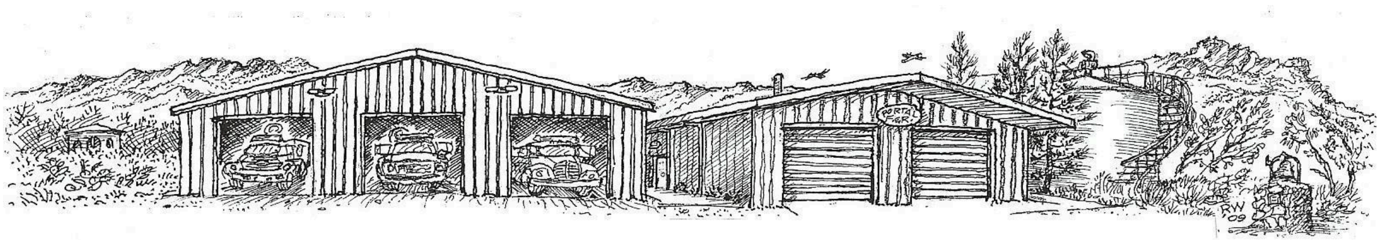
# Portal Rescue, Inc.



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## Board Meeting Minutes

Thurs July 23, 2026 6:00 PM (Arizona time) Portal Rescue Classroom
Board: Cary Booth, Aaron Smith, David Newton, Jackie Lewis,
Alina Downer
Community: Dinah Davidson, Paula Peters

1. Call Board Meeting to order at 6:09 PM AZ
2. Adoption of agenda
    a. David requested “6a. Accept Applicant as a firefighter” be struck from the agenda for this meeting.
    b. Cary moved to accept agenda as modified, Alina seconded, none opposed.
3. Approval of Minutes of Board meeting on May 14, 2026 found at https://portalrescue.com/gallery/PR_Board_Meeting_Minutes_2026-05-14.pdf
    a. David moved to accept as written, Cary seconded, non opposed.
4. Reports - inclusive of updates on projects or tasks not included in agenda below
    a. Fire Chief: David Newton
        i. Uninhabited residential structure fire on May 26. Thanks to Rodeo for mutual aid.
        ii. All vehicles in service
        iii. New fire pump on brush 9
        iv. Grant application for new ambulance submitted and we should know by end of September if we were awarded the grant.
        v. Ambulance bay air compressor failed.
        vi. New parking signs have arrived.
        vii. Replaced battery on main repeater. Thanks to Laura Stratton for purchase and delivery of the battery. Old battery moved to GMRS repeater.
    b. EMS Chief: Alina Downer
        i. 8 calls since previous meeting. Were able to respond to all calls despite low number of available EMTs.
        ii. Thanks for assistance from fire fighters on the calls.
        iii. Training
            1. 1 EMT attending upcoming trauma conference;
            2. Laura and John attending airway lab
            3. TMC online training - good attendance
        iv. Both vehicles in service.
        v. Rescue 4 AC performed poorly on last call.
        vi. Equipment upgrades: 2 new stethoscopes, replacement of miscellaneous medical equipment, oxygen cascade system upgrades
    c. Treasurer: Jackie Lewis
        i. See appendix A for treasurer report
        ii. Jackie will work with Edward Jones to purchase a $30k CD to reinvest the funds of the CD that

just matured.

iii. Workman's Comp audit due 8/7/26. (Emailed and return receipt with signature USPS mailed on 7/31/26)

d. Member without Portfolio: Jeff Cooper
    i. Absent. No report.
e. Secretary: Bec Webster
    i. Absent. No report.
f. VP Report: Aaron Smith
    i. Planning to prioritize getting AC replacement estimates given recent AC unit electrical failures.
g. President: Cary Booth
    i. As previously discussed, Startlink Mini was acquired. Need to set service to standby, and need to get the unit to Jeff to work on assembling a case for it

5. Continued Business
    a. Building project progress
        i. Responders Lounge
            1. No updates.
        ii. Fire Building storage
            1. No updates.
    b. Land search for radio tower status update
        i. David committed to reach out to Penni to assist with coordinating a meeting with the land owner.
    c. Starlink Mini for Emergency Vehicle communication in remote areas.
        i. Discussed during President's report.
    d. Continued discussion on Portal Rescue joining Cochise County Adopt a Roadway for a portion of Portal Rd.
        i. Given input from Howard on what he has learned about the county program, the board agreed to abandon the thought of joining Adopt a Roadway program. David made the motion, Jackie seconded, none opposed.
    e. Continued discussion regarding how PR may assist PR patients with no family or friends in the area and who have been transported some distance away for treatment to return to the Portal area to be reunited with their property.
        i. TMC and Banner already have programs to assist patients that do not have a ride home in getting a ride home. Patients need to let the discharge nurse know when getting discharged that they need a ride and the hospital should provide a ride.
        ii. Portal is too small (infrequent customer) for the Lyft program that was previously identified as a possible solution.
        iii. Local service groups may be able/willing to supply rides if needed.
        iv. Concerns raised about adding additional work on already taxed Portal Rescue volunteer members. The current line of thinking is that having a business card with relevant information that PR volunteers could give the patient. Patient or family can make one phone call to communicate needs to another local community service group phone tree that can then take the support effort forward. Jackie will contact Kathleen & JJ about setting up a phone tree for rides home. Dinah will work with community members to set up a phone tree for pet care.
        v. It will be up to community service groups to develop the service, policies, etc. Portal Rescue will simply initiate the process.
        vi. Topic will be tabled for future meetings until service groups have formulated call trees and processes and are ready to engage Portal Rescue on the specifics of the handoff - business cards with service details, initial number for call tree activation, and details to be collected and conveyed.
        vii. Discussion was had regarding what to do with the sizable donation that was requested be earmarked for this service to be established by Portal Rescue. Given we will not be directly providing the service, but will instead hand off assistance to other service organizations in the

community, it was recommended to contact the donor to find out if she would like to have PR refund the donation to her so it can be used by another local organization. Once other local community organizations have completed their policies and planning for this service and presented it to Portal Rescue, Jackie will reach out to the donor to discuss refunding the donation and providing the donor with the names of the service organizations that she could donate to in support of their offering this service.

6. New Business:
    a. Purchase new compressor for the EMS Bay.
        i. Cary moved to purchase the air compressor David and Jackie identified for purchase in the event that the air compressor Cary intends to donate does not meet PR needs. Alina Second. None opposed.
    b. The Chiricahua Gallery would like to donate 10-15 blue chairs like we used to have to PR.
        i. PR has a chair rack dolly available for 10 chairs and there is room in the classroom for the stack of donated chairs.
        ii. The chairs are blue like we used to have with slightly more comfortable seat padding.
        iii. They would like them to be available in the event one of the local service groups need them.
        iv. Jackie motioned to accept 10 chairs, Cary seconded, none opposed.
    c. Need to reduce the donated medical equipment stored in the bay balcony - approval to donate to another organization (no idea which one at this time)
        i. Medical equipment donations need to be approved by Portal Rescue. Please no unapproved drop off of medical equipment. Our storage space is limited. Jackie will send email to community.
        ii. Equipment in excess of community needs and PR storage capacity will be donated by Portal Rescue to the local hospice supply held at Maya's or other organizations in the county..
    d. Discussion regarding grant requirements, timelines, what to spend them on.
        i. Buffet grant going through Cochise County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) to be divided between about half of the county's fire departments. .
            1. No formal communication has been received regarding Buffet grant.
            2. There are timelines for CCSO , but timelines for us are not clear at this time.
            3. We are expecting a Memorandum of Understanding from CCSO
        ii. Used ambulance pricing has come down from Covid times, now typically under $250k
        iii. Jackie wishes to carry less money on the books (2 years vs 3 years budget) and the budget amounts to come down.
        iv. We have been maintaining a large budget for needed capital expenditures that haven't been made (new used 4x4 ambulance, land, structure, tower, and equipment for radio repeater.
        v. Discussion about the need for a newer brush truck becoming more urgent.
        vi. We have an old fire vehicle fleet. It would be nice to have a fleet completely composed of vehicles from this century.
        vii. Other wishlist items: Facility generator, repeater, ropes, new road sign for Portal Rescue
        viii. Mention of sign spurred tangential discussion regarding election campaign signs on Portal Rescue property. Portal Rescue is a non-partisan organisation. It is unacceptable for campaign signs to be placed on Portal Rescue property. Cary to send an email to the community on the matter.
        ix. Luthold grant submitted for extrication PPE.
    e. Portal Rescue Fall BBQ Date selection.
        i. Date: Oct 3, 2026
        ii. Extensive discussion on cost vs benefit, community engagement, new community member engagement.
        iii. Objective: Primarily volunteer recruitment. How do we get fresh volunteers from the community to lighten the load on community members that carry a heavy volunteer load.
        iv. Lack of participation of active members last year was an issue.

v. Lack of clear communication to the community that the event was a potluck was an issue.
vi. Lack of results from this event recruiting volunteers calls into question the value of the event to Portal Rescue as an organization, and not just another event that the same PR volunteers work time and again with no value add.
vii. Alina thought changing up the event format and activities may be worthwhile for better active member participation and community member draw.
viii. Proposals of making it an open house or symposium, both options with finger food snacks provided. Cary to send out a save the date.
ix. At this time, the board is leaning towards a forum/symposium format with 5-10 minute talks with 5 minutes Q&A per talk presented by various Portal Rescue members. Social hour and food after the presentations are complete: Premade food trays of finger foods. Bathroom breaks at the top of the hour.
x. Possible printed packets with forum outlines/key points and 2-3 door prize baskets.
xi. A substantial increase of participation from Portal Rescue members over last year's participation is a hard requirement for this event to move forward.

7. For the Good of the Order
    a. Blood Drive updates
        i. 28 donors, 28 units collected
        ii. 123 units year to date
        iii. Major blood shortage.
        iv. Blood staying close to home in Tucson sector.
    b. Community open mic
8. Adjourn 8:19PM AZ

**Appendix A:  Treasurer's 2026 Year-to-date Report**

**Jan 1 thru July 23, 2026**
**Beginning Checking Balance:  $155,825.71**

**INCOME:  $34,117.70**
Donations:   $15,955 (includes deposits to make)
Fire Income:
Fundraising Inc:   $9,793.29 (includes donated expenses)(includes deposits to make)
Grants:   $3,183.40
Interest Deposit:  $7,315.80
Misc Inc:  $21.21
Phone Book Sales: $120.00
Rent:  $100.00

**EXPENSES:  $34,476.76**
Chief's Meetings:
Dues:
EMS Supply/Equip:  $1,556.02
EMS Training:
Fire Supply/Equip:  $6,550.96 (*50/50 grant above)
Fundraising Exp:  $2,477.01 (includes donated expenses)
Heli Membership:  $3,080.00
Insurance:  $3,281
Legal:  $322.50 (2 years document review)
Misc. Exp:
Office:  $1,449.41
Radio Ops:   $691.55
Structure Maint:
Uniforms:  $1,693.73
Utilities:  $2,445.18
Vehicle Ops:  $3,851.04

**EDWARD JONES CURRENT BALANCE:**
Money Market Checking:  $90,399.09

**EDWARD JONES CDs**:  **$300,0000**
Wells Fargo (3.75%) $30K – 9/18/26
Bank America (3.55%) $40K – 10/14/26
Wells Fargo (3.75%) $30K – 11/27/26
MCNB BK & TR CO (3.5%) $40K – 1/15/27
American Express (4.15%) $40K – 1/22/27
*Morgan Stanley (4.15%) $15K – 1/22/27
*Dedicated MUMA – interest use only
State Bank India NY (3.9%) 30K – 4/8/27
Goldman Sachs (3.7%) 15K 1/27/28
Morgan Stanley (4.0%) 30K 4/10/28

**CHECKS TO DEPOSIT ($2,191.00)**:
Donations:  $2,100.00
Fundraising Inc (cans):  $91.00

**CASH TO DEPOSIT:**
Donations:  $180.00

**ADDITIONAL CASH ON HAND**
Petty Cash on hand:  $119.30
Gift Certificate to Animas Merc:  $30.00
Excess stamps on hand:  $140.40

**BELOW NUMBERS INCLUDE DEPOSITS NOT MADE**
Total Income to date:  $36,488.70

**INCOME OVER EXPENSES TO DATE: $2,011.94**