11/20/2019

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission

Manager/Fire Chief's Report

Brian Kroes

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I would like to thank all members of the Board here tonight for attending this meeting, and to welcome once again to the CPFRC Board of Directors, Joanne Chelick from the Village of Rycroft who will be replacing James Verquin as one of the Directors for the Village of Rycroft.

Since our last meeting, we've had viewed the *Feasibility Study* as presented on October 1st, by Murray Heinrich from Palisades Consulting.

To date, our yearly call volume has been 114 incident calls. which in turn, is down by 22% from 2018. So far this year we have attended 54 Medical calls, 14 Motor Vehicle Incidents, 28 Fires, and 18 Monitored Alarms.

The training program is moving forward with practical evolutions enabling skills signoffs for the firefighter competencies to the NFPA 1001 level 1 and 2 standards and are expecting 6 firefighters to complete their NFPA 1001 level 1 very soon. We are now working with the College of the Rockies to facilitate the exams for the *International Fire Service Accreditation Congress* (IFSAC).

Our training officer is moving the training program along and on schedule. The Medical First Responder training is ongoing, and the team meets on a regular basis, working on scenarios to enhance their skill level. The same is true for the Low/Steep angle rope team. This dedication of our Volunteer Firefighters is second to none, always wanting to enhance their skills for the betterment of the Communities we look after.

We've begun our second annual recruit program as of November 5th and it should run until graduation on March 7th. We would love to see the Board of Directors attend this and perhaps someone give a little speech on what these new recruits mean to the Community. This year we've extended the training time to a 20-week regional recruitment program, which will include at least two live fire burn sessions, and Auto Extrication sessions to take place on a weekend soon. Birch Hills County is an integral part of this program and bringing our two departments closer together.

This year we also must celebrate the Jr. Firefighter program, which has with 6 students enrolled in the program. Saddle Hills, has 4 students and Central Peace acquired 2 for this training. This is a step in the right direction for the department, as we are now investing in our future for Volunteer Firefighters, in the region.

We're in the early stages of design for a Mock emergency response to CF Industries with officials of that company for all over Canada and the United States.

The Central Peace Firefighters Association has been working hard. This year's New Year's Eve Gala is in full gear planning, looking for donations for the silent auction items and sponsorships. Should be another great event and this year it will be held at the Rycroft Ag. Centre, with tickets available shortly. Father's Day weekend will be the 2nd annual Central Peace Firefighters Association golf tournament and is quickly becoming as popular as the New Year's Eve Gala. Great times at both venues and we hope to see you there.

Points of Interest and Accomplishments since the last meeting:

- Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission Health and Safety Committee enacted.
- Completed the theory and practical evolutions for NFPA 1002 Driver Training as required by NFPA 1451 Sec. 5 – Driver Frequency.
- Received Donation from the Village of Rycroft for the New Year's Eve Gala
- Feasibility Study Completed and Presented to the Board of Directors and Firefighters
- Alberta Task Force 1 – Continuing Training Completed
- Central Peace Fire and Rescue -CISM Team Deployed to Slave Lake
- Sent out via news paper on Fire Pit renewals Through the Town of Spirit River
- RCMP have called us out for a drone deployment 3 times

Recruitment:

Regional recruitment begins November 5th, 2019 – 5 Recruits for Birch Hills County and Central Peace Fire and Rescue.

Jr. Firefighter program began November 5th, 2019 – 6 Students for Saddle Hills County and Central Peace Fire and Rescue

Plans for recruitment next November, with 5 on the waiting list for CPFR and 6 on the list for Birch Hills County.

Equipment Purchases or repairs:

- CVIP Inspections completed for the Fleet
- Pump tests completed on all Engines and passed
- Homoltro Heavy Extrication Tools and equipment serviced and tested.

Meetings:

- Meetings with Palisades Consulting over the length of the study.
- Public Presentations to Camp Wanago and the Schools
- Alliance and Pembina Pipelines presented to the Fire Department
- Ongoing discussions with Alberta Transportation for driver training and Air Brakes

Summary:

In summary, things are still moving at a very steady pace. We have a very busy schedule this year once again with some great training coming up. The Board is welcome to come and observe our Live Fire Training in Wanham at the Live Fire Training Facility, date to be determined.

As our mutual aid partners work with us, we are developing a stronger network of firefighters as each training opportunity or incident passes. The past regional recruit program has further brought our fire departments closer, using trainers and officers from both departments. This in the long term will build a better fire department for all.

Members of the CPFR are doing great jobs in and out of the Communities, educating schools, attending as Designated Drivers for private events, as well as Medical First Responders at various events.

The Central Peace Firefighters Association is growing, and we now have people taking the lead of some very important community involvement exercises and public events, and once again, bringing us to the next level of commitment and for our fire department and the Community.

Thank you,

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