

**Arrowhead Fire Protection District
Meeting Agenda
November 12, 2021
1:00 p.m. @ the Firehouse
2069 Spruce Road**

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Determination of Quorum**
- 3. Approval of Minutes from October 8th Meeting**
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
- 5. Fire Chief's Report**
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. AVFD Auxiliary Report**
 - b. Communications Update**
 - i. Fire Bar Committee**
 - c. Firehouse Issues**
 - i. Emergency Power**
 - ii. Overhead Doors**
 - d. Equipment Issues**
 - i. Ranger Enclosure**
 - e. Draft Budget for 2022**
 - f. AIA Agreement for 3 Fish Road**
 - g. Kevin Stilley plaque**
- 7. New Business**
 - a. Fire Chief Succession Committee**
 - b. Recruitment Committee**
 - c. End of Year Resolutions**
- 8. Adjourn – Next Meeting – January 14, 2021**

Conference Dial-in Number 1-712-770-5569

Participant Code: 478279#

ARROWHEAD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: November 12, 2021

Time: 1:00 P.M. (MST)

Location: AVFD Firehouse, 2069 Spruce Rd

Purpose: Regular Meeting

Attendees: Darrell Wagner [Chair/Present]; Steve Gauthier [Vice Chair/Present]; Stephen Isle [Secretary/Phone]; Al Hale [Treasurer/Phone]; Ken Harbert [Board Member/Phone]; Jim Gelsomini [AVFD Fire Chief/Phone].

Absent: None.

Guests: Carla Vavrik [AVFD Auxiliary/Present].

1. **Call to Order:** Chair, Darrell Wagner, called the November 12, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Arrowhead Fire Protection District to order at 1:00 PM, Mountain Daylight Time.
2. **Determination of Quorum:** A quorum requirement was satisfied with all five of our board members present (two at the fire house; three on the conference call line), for the meeting.
3. **Approval of Minutes for the October 8, 2021 AFD Regular Board Meeting:** Chair Darrell Wagner, asked for any additions or corrections and proceeded to note an error on page 4 under 'Old Business' item A. AVFD Auxiliary, it was "Chair Wagner, not "Acting Chair Gauthier," who recognized Carla Vavrik. Secretary Isle made the correction. Steve Gauthier made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected. Al Hale seconded the motion. Chair Wagner put the motion to a vote and the motion carried.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Al Hale emailed the October financials and the draft budget for 2022. There being no questions on the October financials, Chair Wagner declared that the treasurer's report stands as presented.
5. **November 12, 2021 Fire Chief's Report:**

Highlights: (A) Chief Gelsomini highlighted that the **wildland fire level status** remains at the **moderate** level. We had a small brush fire reported this week in Gunnison County where it's a bit drier than at Arrowhead. Chief Gelsomini noted that there are hunters parked in dry grass high enough to reach the vehicle exhaust which is a risk exposure we'll have to live with a bit longer until we get a better snow cover or the hunting season is over. Chief Gelsomini opted not to cover the charts as all can see the data there on his Arrowhead Fire Chief Report. There were no questions on the charts or the training.

Successful AVFD Repeater Test: Chief Gelsomini said there was additional radio capability that materialized on Wednesday of this week. Further AVFD field operational testing validated the use of the adjustments which were made to the repeater system at the AVFD fire house two to three weeks ago just prior to the successful test from "W" Mountain. Previously high levels of output on the AVFD Repeater were shutting down functionality. Carrie was here at AVFD from

'2-Way' and Carrie brought the transmit range down and since then we've had some very clear and much improved transmissions on our AVFD repeater channel. On an operational tactical field test, there was a fairly good interaction between the Arrowhead Patrol Team down on the Beaver Slide and the AVFD person at the top of the Beaver Slide using the AVFD "talk around" channel. The radio communications went well as the traffic on the Alpine Plateau Road was being monitored during an event which transpired late on Wednesday afternoon. Al Hale asked Chief Gelsomini if this type of check and adjustments described should be scheduled semiannually or annually as routine preventative maintenance to correct any negative drift over time. Chief Gelsomini confirmed that there is indeed drift over time and that he has notes to remind himself to speak to Chris about a scheduling a maintenance review on this every other year with more frequent checks if AVFD experiences gaps or voids in the transmissions on both the AVFD repeater channel and the AVFD 'talk around' channel. Chief Gelsomini noted that depending on the outcome of a thorough decision brief (considering all factors), the fire bar exercise/issue, we might be using these radio channels differently. Chief Gelsomini plans to factor that into the budget not for 2022 but for 2023. Treasurer Al Hale said he made a note of that to ensure we didn't forget.

AVFD Personnel Utilization: Most of the Fire Chief's Report is self-explanatory, so Chief Gelsomini stuck to issues he wished to highlight unless there were questions. One such issue was Part VI - the AVFD Personnel Utilization Year to Date (YTD) total hours, which **now exceeds 1,269 hours**. Chief Gelsomini thanked Steve G. for reporting this on the Arrowhead Fire dot Org and AVFD Facebook Page, where the Arrowhead community has the opportunity to see just how many hours AVFD volunteers put in annually. The 1,269 hours covers the time is invested in the AVFD training, preventative maintenance and incident response time.

Battery Failure: Under Part IX – Fire & Medical Apparatus, Tools & Equipment, Chief Gelsomini mentioned the battery failure on the First Responder Vehicle. Steve G. picked up a new battery on Wednesday and it was installed by Steve G. and Gary Broughton. Chief Gelsomini said the First Responder Vehicle started right up when he checked it yesterday (Thursday). Kudos to Steve G. for picking up and installing the new battery!

Technical Test Validates Handheld Radio Option: Part XI – Communications – As mentioned, the radio test from "W" Mountain (Gunnison Airport) was successfully completed on the AVFD repeater channel. Subsequently, Chris from '2-Way' simulated a Gunnison Dispatch radio communication from Grand Junction to Chief Gelsomini's assigned handheld radio (Kenwood 2312), located at the home of Chief Gelsomini. The transmissions and receptions at both ends between Arrowhead and Grand Junction were received clearly. This test worked better than expected and proved part of the feasibility from a technical standpoint: the radio piece of the puzzle. With the subsequent performance of some operational evaluations we will know if the AVFD has the option of using the handheld radios to receive communication from Gunnison Dispatch over the repeater channel to replace the fire bar at Arrowhead. At this point our options include continuing to use the existing fire bar to some degree.

Conference Bridge Option: Regarding options for replacing our fire bar, Chief Gelsomini has also contacted a conference bridge company which provides a call center service. The call center would receive the call from Gunnison Dispatch and use a couple of different methods (paging or telephony), to contact a group of individuals identified as those the AVFD wants to receive these emergency dispatch calls. Steve G. asked if this conference bridge company had experience in this type of service for fire department emergency dispatch calls. Chief Gelsomini

said they have experience handling 911 calls for small fire departments. More information to follow on the call center capabilities and reliability factors involved in this option.

Operational Test of Handheld Radios: Chair Wagner asked Chief Gelsomini what exactly is involved in the next steps in operational testing of the handheld radio option to validate it as a possible solution to replace the fire bar. Chief Gelsomini said that the operational evaluation would involve placing the repeater channel on the four console positions at Gunnison Dispatch before executing a simulated emergency dispatch call from Gunnison over the AVFD repeater channel to Arrowhead. Chair Wagner asked if there would be a cost involved for this operational testing piece. Chief Gelsomini confirmed it would most likely involve a cost, although he did not know at this time what that cost might be for this operational testing piece. There would also be a cost for '2-Way' to go to Gunnison to program the four consoles at Gunnison Dispatch with the repeater channel and to add the AVFD repeater channel to the Gunnison County Emergency Office radio which is physically located up on "W" Mountain. Chris at "2-Way" is already involved in this as well as in the 'DC' solution* at the AVFD fire house.

*[*The 'DC' Solution: Using a couple of rectifiers the battery powering the repeater will still be charged using AC power, but the rectifier itself will be powered by the DC battery enabling us to work without 'AC' when there is a power failure at Arrowhead.]*

Chair Wagner asked whose court the ball is now in awaiting a decision? Chief Gelsomini said from the feasibility standpoint, the next step is for him to contact Chris at '2-Way' (who will be back in the office on Monday), to find out when he might be available to go back up to Gunnison so Chief Gelsomini can coordinate with Gunnison Dispatch on a date when Chris could put the AVFD repeater channel on at least one console as a test point for Gunnison Dispatch to use in the test.

From a technical position, this handheld radio option would be the easiest solution to replace the AVFD fire bar because use of the radio by Gunnison Dispatch is already the routine standard for Gunnison Dispatch. The tougher part of the change is for AVFD personnel at Arrowhead. The AVFD personnel who now answer the fire bar will have to answer a radio page from Gunnison Dispatch and let Gunnison Dispatch know when Arrowhead is enroute while using that same radio channel to contact other members of the AVFD response team in order to execute a response to the incident. When the response team arrives at the incident site, the response team must then place their radios on the AVFD channel/'talk around' channel which has about a mile of 'line of sight' communication capability to communicate tactically at the incident. That keeps the on-site tactical dialogue from cluttering the airwaves around Gunnison. There is a learning curve involved to improve the radio skills and adjust to the protocol that would be required of AVFD volunteers.

The "DC" power solution to the AVFD repeater: Using a couple of rectifiers the battery powering the repeater will still be charged using AC power, but the rectifier itself will be powered by the DC battery enabling us to work without 'AC' when there is a power failure at Arrowhead. Chief Gelsomini is pursuing this regardless of which option is selected regarding fire bar replacement because it avoids potential damage to the repeater with AC power outages and AC power surges (because the repeater is always using DC battery power). Chair Wagner and Steve G. confirmed all are on board with the DC power solution for the repeater and just awaiting the cost figures.

AED Enclosure Heaters: The existing mat heaters in the AED enclosures along our filing roads are beginning to fail. It is ideal to keep the core battery and the charging battery on the AED's at 60 degrees Fahrenheit in the AED enclosures. The existing heaters are failing so Chief

Gelsomini is looking at other options, to include a terrarium mat heater which is designed to remain at 78 degrees, but may not hold up at the rugged below zero winter temperatures found at Arrowhead. The AED positioned at 105 Aspen Trail is being used in a test for the new types of AED enclosure heater being considered. Chief Gelsomini has purchased seven (7) new digital thermometers powered by a small watch battery and with a display you can read through the window for all the AED enclosures with units in a test phase being conducted at the fire house. The used of a \$5 outlet adapter which doesn't allow current to pass unless the temperature inside the AED enclosure is below freezing, with a light to signal anyone passing by might also be a useful consideration.

6. **Old Business:**

A. **AVFD Auxiliary:** Chair Wagner recognized Carla Vavrik, our AVFD Auxiliary Liaison. **(1) Auxiliary Treasurer's Report:** Carla reported that the Auxiliary has \$28,709 and change in their account and the big event coming up is the Auxiliary AVFD Christmas Party beginning at 5:00 PM on December 11, 2021. There is a flyer that is ready for distribution and Steve G. is going to put it on the Arrowhead Fire.Org/AVFD Facebook Page. Steve G. readily acquiesced to Carla's request that he use his color printer to produce several color copies of the flyer and Carla said she would put them up around key places at Arrowhead where they could be seen. When Carla asked Chief Gelsomini if there was a safe maximum capacity they needed to ensure wasn't exceeded, he responded that not taking into account Covid issues/restrictions the maximum number safely allowed is 60 people in the one main meeting room. Chair Wagner validated there are at least 60 chairs between the cushioned chairs and the folding chairs. Carla said there were 82 people in there for the party 6 -7 years ago. Expanding into the bay is problematic because, in addition to the extra cleaning up required, and the fire trucks, et al, that were put outside would be there for at least 24 hours and there is plumbing and anything with liquid in it could freeze depending upon the temperatures. Carla is limiting the attendance to 60 people, so folks are encouraged to call and make reservations.

Wednesday, December 9th at 11:00 AM the Auxiliary plans to put up the Christmas tree in its traditional place in front of the white board, but not over the electric heaters. The Auxiliary meeting to finish planning the Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 1:00 PM and Carla said she will get that change on the wording about the \$18,000, as requested by the board at our last AFD Board Meeting in October.

B. **Communications Update:** Chair Wagner stated the Fire Bar Update had already been covered in the Fire Chief's Report. Steve Gauthier, Communications Manager, continues to do an outstanding job on the web page/Facebook page.

i. **Fire Bar update:** Today's Fire Chief update focused mostly upon the handheld radio option, Here, because of the importance of the issue and for the sake of context and continuity is the October 8, 2021 update describing some of the background on the fire bar replacement issue:

Chief Gelsomini did contact Kent Tomlinson at NNTC and discussed considerations of a telephony based solution. If we choose that option the AVFD would put a piece of equipment in the NNTC cabin at Arrowhead as opposed to the far distant offices in Nucla which would require also using Tri-State and Century Link for transport. NNTC has experienced a lot of issues with their fiber optics in the last several years. Having any AVFD required equipment located in the NNTC cabin at Arrowhead also plays into the NNTC strategy for 2022 where the current plan is to enable the remote switch enabling intra-mountain calling in a way similar to the old Nortel DMS switch which used to provide the telephony services. So if we lost fiber we could still conceivably make our intra-mountain calls. This telephony solution will continue to be explored by Chief Gelsomini. No further work on the DLC's which threaten the current Fire Bar is planned by NNTC until June of 2022. To get a better picture of how other communities have survived the loss of the Fire Bar technology, Chief Gelsomini has spoken with Greg, the fire chief at Gateway and Jeff, at EMS out of Nucla as recommended to him by Chris at 2-Way Radio. Greg and Chris are very pleased with the radio solution replacing the fire bar / telephony solution. However, they are set up more like Gunnison as combination departments

(with fire, EMS and a radio dispatch), where radios seem more efficient. Two tone radio paging is used effectively in Montrose and Grand Junction as well. They are able to respond with multiple units and the response is much more immediate. Chief Gelsomini emphasized that all these fire departments have a much different structure than our AVFD. The next step is the radio test discussed in the Fire Report section. Chair Wagner thanked Chief Gelsomini on behalf of the board for all the work he has done and continues to do on this Fire Bar replacement project.

C. Fire House Issues:

i. **Emergency Power:** Chair Wagner asked Chief Gelsomini is we had gotten any further on the research into fixing our Emergency Power issue? Chief Gelsomini said the only progress since the October AFD board meeting was from the garage door perspective. We did find the appropriate APC unit, but Chief Gelsomini still needs to get the weight on that APC unit. [APC by Schneider Electric (formerly American Power Conversion Corporation) is a manufacturer of uninterruptible power supplies, electronics peripherals, and data center product.] Chief Gelsomini did get the high voltage electrical part of that. So now he has the male and female receptacles, as well as the short pigtail that plugs into the APC unit. So now he will cut the holes in the walls in the north panel in the bay area to proceed with the installation. On the DC Solution (discussed under today's November 12th Fire Chief Report), we'll take care of the Command Room for both the short term and the long term, from a power standpoint. The long term solution depends ultimately on what the AFD wants to do as far as power back up for the building, which is a longer term discussion. Chief Gelsomini liked Steve G.'s idea of installing a couple of LED lights that are DC run by the DC Solution that is for the radio as well as Chair Wagner's idea for another DC powered Exit sign with LED lights. LED lights draw very little power and will not be detrimental to the DC solution. Per the October minutes Steve G. volunteered to contact Annie Grace's father, a Generac sales person. Steve G., back from New York, will work to obtain an estimate on the cost for the long term solution with a generator the size of the propane powered generator at the NNTC cabin.

Here, because of the importance of the emergency power through an uninterruptible power source (UPS), issue and for the sake of context and continuity is the October 8, 2021 update describing some of the background on the fire bar replacement issue: Al and Chief Gelsomini have worked on a UPS solution. An uninterruptible power supply (UPS), also known as a battery backup, provides backup power when your regular power source fails or voltage drops to an unacceptable level. A UPS allows for the safe, orderly shutdown of a computer, but can also be used to power a garage door opener and connected equipment. The size and design of a UPS determine how long it will supply power. Additionally, "My Spool" (<https://myspool.com/content/power-alert>), is a service that provides temperature, humidity and power alerts. It plugs into an outlet without a GFI outlet behind it. That device costs about \$85 without shipping, but they're out of the product until the end of October. It will send alerts to several individuals. Power Failure Alert purchased on MySpool.com comes with support for 1 telephone number and up to 5 email addresses for alert notifications. Chief Gelsomini would like to have someone on the mountain as well as off the mountain on the alert list in case there is a WiFi problem on the mountain. All notification services are included by "My Spool" free of charge. For the fire station garage doors, all four outlets are on a single circuit with no GFI. Mechanically the garage doors are very hard to get up and down manually. Intercept that circuit coming down to the north panel, place a duplex receptacle there that can support a UPS that's plugged into it and an Alert Module. Insert a new duplex outlet to the 20 amp circuit. Plug in the UPS and operate one door at a time which presents a very small load. The doors are one solution that are very easy and this solution can be implemented this year.

In the command room the panel feeds are more complex and we need to investigate a different solution to have enough power over a 2 hour period. Changing the lighting in the command room to include more LED lighting is part of the solution. Chief Gelsomini estimates a cost of \$1,500 to \$2,000 for a solution for the command room.

The fire house garage doors are a relatively inexpensive UPS solution. Solving the power requirements for critical components in the command room requires a back-up generator with a manual transfer switch. But that still doesn't handle the base board heating.

Two pronged short term solution: (1) UPS for the doors; (2) The back-up generator for the command room needs the installation of a manual transfer switch rated for exterior use costs and should cost approximately \$200. However, the installation of a manual transfer switch requires a licensed electrician. Norb provided the name of a reliable electrician he recommends: Canyon Creek Electric. Steve G. has used him and Chief Gelsomini and Steve G. again reviewed the short term installation of the manual transfer switch versus the ideal 'long term' but currently unaffordable solution of installing a larger, more automated generator from Generac which could power the entire fire house making it usable as a community shelter should the need arise.

We continue to pursue a two pronged approach: (1) Contact our local resident who owns Canyon Electric and obtain an estimate on the upgrade of our existing generator; (2) Contact Annie Grace's father, who is a Generac Home Generator Representative, and obtain an estimate on the cost of installing a fully automated generator to run essential circuits at the fire house during electrical failures. This fully automated generator must be large enough to run the building and not just and essential circuits because in an evacuation the fire house would likely be used as a collection point/evacuation center where residents would gather for shelter, food, care and preparation prior to further evacuation. In this plan, we go beyond the essential circuits to a 20Kw generator which can run the entire building, electric heating and kitchen appliances. As Chair Wagner has said before, "We don't know what we don't know." So Chief Gelsomini will work with Steve G. who will provide the contacts required to get the estimates and include this in the AVFD long range plan.

Chief Gelsomini highlighted that we will need to have a propane tank installed at that point for the fuel solution to power the generator, just as NNTC has done for the back-up generator at their cabin on Aspen Trail.

Our immediate concern is an interim solution to support the critical functions taking place at the fire house. The estimates are needed for the long term solution must address the need to use the building as a center/community shelter where there is heating and the ability to use the kitchen appliances, like the stove for food preparation when the commercial power source is not available in an emergency.

Steve G. will forward contact information to Chief Gelsomini on the recommended electricians from New York, where he is currently located.

ii. **Overhead Doors:**

Remains tabled.

Per the October meeting: Although our fire house garage doors were in compliance with the standards at the time they were installed (2005-2006 time frame), there are additional safety features on new installations which are worth considering for a retrofit. Installing the current standard for electric eye/safety switches, mechanical clutches, door tune up could cost up to \$2,500. Even a current system is not idiot proof. It was determined to leave this issue on the table and determine when to address it as it fits into our collective establishment of budget priorities for 2022.

D. **Equipment Issues:**

i. **Ranger Enclosure:** Chief Gelsomini said the Ranger is estimated to be ready by the end of next week, either before or just after Thanksgiving, based upon discussions between Chief Gelsomini, Gary Broughton and his son Drew Broughton in White Water, where his finishing work on the fabrication/installation of the topper.

ii. **Chairs and blinds issue:** Carla suggested, based upon her observations on the Ultraviolet deterioration of the existing blinds at the firehouse, that the AFD Board ask the Auxiliary to purchase new blinds. Chief Gelsomini asked that they be cellular shades versus traditional blinds. There was a suggestion made that we ask the AIA to pay half, based upon their position as the leasor and their regular usage of the facility the AIA BOD, AIA Design Review, AIA Patrol and other non-AVFD users. It was noted that the AVFD uses one rolling chair at the desk where the radio is and Chair Wagner said he would speak to the AIA Board President, Lowell, about replacing the two damaged rolling chairs. The stationary metal kitchen chairs with cushioned seats and steel backs are what the AVFD and AVFD BOD use. Carla and the AVFD Auxiliary will take care of the shades.

iii. **Lights and radio out of first responder vehicle:** Gary Broughton and Steve Gauthier will be removing the lights and radio from the first responder vehicle on Tuesday. The lights will go down country with the blue brush truck and Drew can look at installing the lights with the control panels as well. The radio will be installed here at the AVFD over the winter.

E. **Draft Budget for 2022:** Chair Wagner offered Chief Gelsomini the opportunity to speak about SCBA's as a prelude to the 2022 Budget issues. Chief Gelsomini referred to the information contained in the email he sent to the board members yesterday discussing the cost, savings and benefits. Chief Gelsomini is hoping to purchase the SCBA equipment using 2021 funds. We recovered the full value of the Polaris Ranger purchase at \$20,000, this year as well. Treasurer Al Hale highlighted that if you look at the 2021 Budget end of year count, you'll see Al's guess on how we were going to end the year. However the actual amount will likely be

greater than the \$7,000 shown. The other money that will help with the SCBA purchase in 2021 is under the Ranger line, Al had guessed we would purchase the Ranger for \$20,000 and put another \$6,000 into it for the topper (fabricated rear enclosure), but Chief Gelsomini indicated the topper will be less than expected, which provides additional funds beyond that \$7,000 which can be used to help purchase the SCBA equipment in 2021 for the \$9,000 Chief Gelsomini expects it to cost us using ROI. Additionally, there is that extra line item of \$28,000 below for 'contingencies' to cover unanticipated expenses in 2021. So the SCBA purchase leaves us still well within the budget plan for 2021 funds. Since ROI generally ships us the equipment, we also have the option of splitting the cost between 2021 and 2022 funds by arranging for ROI to invoice the purchase with payments of half in December 2021 and the remaining half to be paid in January 2022, splitting the payment over two different years. Annual audit is in February or March and the only place they become concerned is if you exceed what was budgeted for the year. In that case a resolution is required to justify the expenditures. However, because we set up that line item of \$28,000 for contingencies to cover unanticipated expenses, a formal resolution is not required. If the board would like, we can make a motion authorizing Chief Gelsomini to proceed with the expenditure of the money required to purchase the SCBA equipment, but it is not required by statute. We did do a formal motion on the purchase of the Polaris Ranger because of the amount of money and we had not specifically budgeted for that purchase. Since it is \$9,300 and we can afford it using 2021 fees, Chair Wagner determined it was good to cover the purchase with a motion. Steve G. summarized the end game of having six kits and three spare tanks for each and endorsed the plan to purchase the SCBA and tanks requested by Chief Gelsomini. Steve G. made a motion to spend \$9,300 on two MSA G1-SCBAs, backpacks with primary and backup cylinders as outlined in the Fire Chief's Report (Part XIII – Budget: 1. SCBA – Purchase Approval Request), and to pay for them this year. Chair Wagner seconded the motion and the motion carried. Chief Gelsomini is going to attempt to get these on the delivery truck coming up next week on Thursday, November 18, 2021, from ROI to accomplish the annual flow tests on the AVFD existing SCBA's.

Chair Wagner offered Treasurer, Al Hale, the opportunity to address some budget issues in the latest version of the 2022 Proposed Budget. AFD Board Members offered kudos to Al for the fine job on the budget. Chair Wagner asked Al to make the changes to this year's budget based upon the decisions just made today on the \$9,300 approved purchase and after the November financials are received and the final Gunnison County valuation document is received in December, to please send Chair Wagner a signed copy which he will then sign and forward to the State of Colorado.

Chair Wagner asked and Al Hale made a motion to approve the 2022 Budget as presented. Steve G. seconded and the motion carried. Steve G. will publish the copy signed by Chair Wagner and Treasurer Al Hale on the Arrowhead Fire dot Org website.

F. AIA Agreement for 3 Fish Road: Chair Wagner reported that he had contacted and had an initial 10 minute conversation with the attorney who he had spoken to previously about the Mill Levy issue and elections last year. Chair Wagner spoke to him about the proposed agreement and sent him a copy of the proposed AIA Agreement for 3 Fish Road as well as our question on the liability issue during an actual evacuation across the properties. However, he has changed law firms and hasn't been good about returning phone calls. So there has been no response to date from the attorney in spite of two calls by Chair Wagner indicating he would like to have an update to provide the board at today's meetin. Our choices are to give up and go to another attorney, or to continue attempting to follow through with this attorney – or for the board to just make an uninformed decision. Chief Gelsomini offered that given the time of year there really is

no urgency for an immediate response to this issue and the proposal from the AIA. Chair Wagner said he had sent an email to the AIA President (Lowell), indicating it would be discussed at this meeting. The proposed agreement sets a bad precedent and appears to be an attempt to shift legal responsibility and liability to the AFPD. Hence the liability question for the attorney. We know that the Gunnison County Sheriff is the authority having jurisdiction to sign the Evacuation Order. We know that he will rely upon the expertise of the AFPD/AVFD to provide the informed alternatives and when it's clear the Alpine Plateau Road is not available due to the incident, we would proffer the 3 Fish Road option across the private property to the west. Then the sheriff gets to open the gates across the private property however they choose to. Steve I suggested we might be covered under some Colorado State Statute that says in an emergency we would not be held liable anyway. Steve G. said that they learned in a recent medical class that there is no limit of liability in emergency services for paramedics, EMS, first responders. In fact, paramedics carry their own malpractice insurance because the state doesn't provide them any protection. But it is the sheriff who signs the evacuation order. The consensus was to find out what the attorney has to offer and be armed with more information with respect to possible sovereign immunity. Chair Wagner will follow through with the attorney and delay any response to the AIA before we hear from the attorney between now and the January 14, 2022 AFPD Regular Meeting.

G. **Kevin Stilley Plaque**: Piano black and the proposed inscription looked fine to all and all concurred we should go ahead with the plaque as seen by all in the email.

7. **New Business**

A. **Fire Chief Succession Committee**: At some point we need to consider who our options are for the eventual successor to Chief Gelsomini. Chair Wagner asked Chief Gelsomini if he might write up a job description. Chief Gelsomini would like to see the AFPD/AVFD avoid placing someone in the steep learning curve he has experienced. Chief Gelsomini even offered the idea of perhaps pairing two individuals, one from the fire experience for the fire side and the other with the medical first responder experience for the medical piece. What was the skill set of past fire chiefs at Arrowhead? Arrowhead was smaller and most of them had no experience and learned with on the job training. Steve G. asked Chief Gelsomini how he felt about putting out a job posting that said our fire chief would like to retire, so we are actively pursuing a fire chief replacement? Chief Gelsomini would absolutely entertain that course of action. He pointed out that when Kevin Stilley came back into the Fire Chief position in 2012 after the previous Fire Chief left abruptly, it took almost two years before the AFPD found Fire Chief Jim Gelsomini to take the job in 2014. It would be ideal to have the time to allow a period for a smooth transition. Steve G. asked if the person filling the job of Fire Chief had to be a full time resident? Chief Gelsomini said the continuity issue that arises even when key individuals are gone even for short periods of time makes that a bad idea if that person is going to be the Incident Commander on fire calls. The gap in critical experience gained by a fire chief who was not an Arrowhead resident would be a serious handicap and a hindrance to optimal performance. Chief Gelsomini offered the alternative that if the fire chief were not an Arrowhead resident, the assistant fire chief would be the resident. The other key factor is that since Chief Gelsomini has been an all volunteer fire chief the fire chief salary hasn't even been a line item on the budget. Al offered that the last time we paid a fire chief salary it was \$18,000 per year and that is likely half of what the starting salary would be now. The salary issue is a considerable cost and could approach half of our total budget. Steve G. will create a draft job posting and run it by the AFPD Board and Chief Gelsomini at the next meeting.

B. **Recruitment Committee**: The Recruitment Committee basically consists of all of us (the AFPD Board, Fire Chief as well as Carla). Vice Chair Steve G. has been doing research, to include something similar to the type of arrangement that was made with Annie Grace. This path is now being worked with two very good people, Jennifer (EMT Basic Certification), and Norb (EMR Certification), while they are off the mountain this winter. There are some arrangements factored into the 2022 Budget to offset some of these expenses. Steve G. added that we have had some recent success and have added volunteers to the list who have already begun attending training meetings: **Medical**: Lizzy Hadlock; Cindy and Forrest Olivier; Peggy and Mike; **Fire Fighter**: Dennis Roberts. Two younger employees working at the Arrowhead Mountain Lodge have expressed interest and enthusiasm. The tenure of employees at the lodge is often short, but hopefully this will not be the case. We also have two board members who will need to be replaced in 2022: Chair Darrell Wagner and Secretary Steve Isle. Potential replacements are being discussed.

C. **End of Year Resolutions**: Chair Wagner had checked and found it was legal for the Chair to make his own motion under Robert’s Rules of Order, so he proceeded to make the motion to approve Resolutions 2021–1, 2021–2, 2021-3, as well as the meeting dates for next year. Ken Harbert seconded the motion and it was approved. Al Hale will sign and forward to Chair Wagner who will work with Vice Chair Steve G. to forward them to DOLA.

8. **Adjourn – Next Meeting – January 14, 2022.**

Respectfully submitted,
 Stephen Isle
 Secretary, Arrowhead Fire Protection District

Arrowhead Fire Chief Report

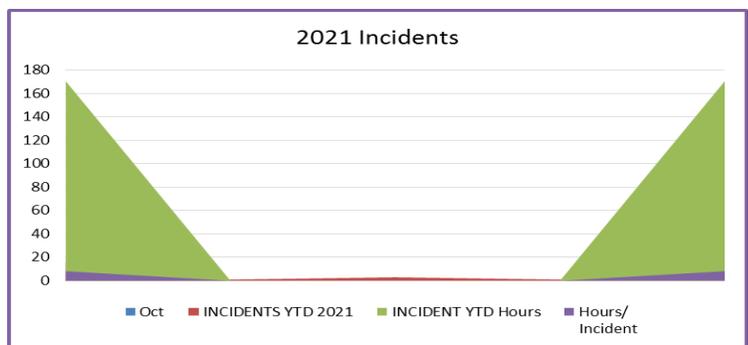
Date of Report: **November 12, 2021**

Wildland Fire Level Status: **MODERATE**

NOTE: Fire Danger signs planned removal end of October

Part I - Emergency Incidents

	Oct	INCIDENTS YTD 2021	INCIDENT YTD Hours	Hours/ Incident
Medical Aid & Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	16	170.50	8.12
Arrowhead Wildland (vegetation, brush) Fires	0	1		
Structure Fires (Commercial & Residential&Fire Pit& Power Outages&Gas Leak)	0	3		
Search Rescue	0	1		
2021 YTD Total		21	170.50	8.12



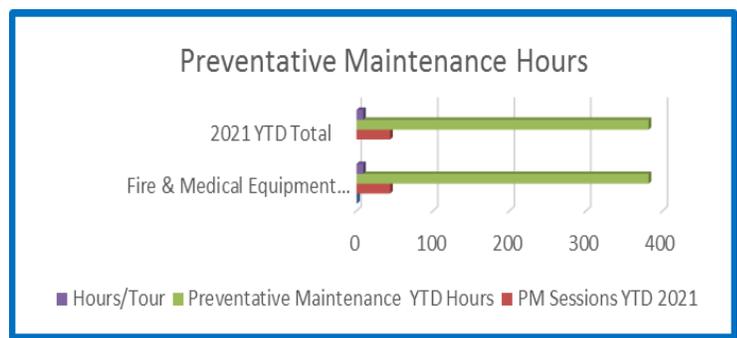
Part II - Department Training

2021 Training			
Groups	Resources	YTD Training Hours	YTD Training Sessions
Patrol	4	49.00	7
Awhd Dispatch	6	51.25	9
First Responder	12	410.65	15
Firefighters	14	206.00	18
AVFD Combined	36	716.90	49



Part III - Preventative Maintenance

Description	PM Sessions YTD 2021	Preventative Maintenance YTD Hours	Hours/Tour
Fire & Medical Equipment Preventative Maintenance	44	381.65	8.67
2021 YTD Total	44	381.65	8.67



Part IV - Incident Overview – 2021 (YTD)

YTD Medical – 16
 YTD Fire/Search-Rescue – 3 (two calls reporting CO alarms, investigated advised owner for corrective action)
 YTD Commercial Power Loss - 2

Part V - Training overview – November/2021

Medical – Tuesday, 11/09 – Review PAS, SOAP Note, and ATMIST report to responding Gunnison EMS Medical Unit
 Firefighting – Tuesday 11/02 - SCBA – monthly verification of control unit power, flow test.
 Dispatch – Radio check Tuesday 11/02 from vehicle mounted radios. Radio use Wednesday 11/10 – assisting AIA Patrol and Road maintenance during event on Beaver Slide. Handheld and vehicle radios no exceptions noted.

Part VI - AVFD Personnel Utilization YTD-2021

Training Hours (medical & fire) – 717
 PM Hours – 382
 Incident Response Hours – 170 (includes AIA Patrol Hours)
TOTAL HOURS 2021 YTD – 1,269

Part VII - Personnel: (staffing): 19 (FF-FR-Dispatch)

Fire Fighters = (12) – certain FF have dual roles a First Responders
 Arrowhead Dispatch = (4)
 First Responders = (9) – certain First Responders have dual roles as firefighters

Part VIII - Grounds - Building Inspections:

1. Garage door bottom seal – purchase and install before winter season

Part IX – Fire & Medical Apparatus, Tools & Equipment:

1. Tools – operational
 2. Firefighting structure gear: - operational
 3. Hoses: fully operational

4. Mobile Response Unit (MRU) – operational (staged in FH for summer)
5. Fire Trucks:
 - a. Red Type 3 – operational
 - i. Portable 2000W generator staged on apparatus
 - ii. Scene lighting staged on apparatus
 - iii. New reflective decals added to rear & rear following NFPA standard
 - b. White Fire Truck – operational
 - i. New reflective decals added to rear following NFPA standard
 - c. Blue Brush Truck – operational
 - i. New reflective decals added to rear following NFPA standard
 - ii. Install light bar from 2005 Trail Blazer – 2022 project
 - d. Blue EMS – operational (received update from property owner at 121 Lake Road, EMS vehicle will be parked in garage for winter season 2021-2022, home off market)
 - i. Battery failure – had to purchase new and install - complete
 - ii. Radio – planned removal of radio completed in house
 - iii. Light bar - planned removal of radio completed in house
6. Snow Cat:
 - a. Operational (used for patient transport if needed), stage at AIA equipment building
7. Polaris-Ranger – departed Arrowhead for topper retro fit
 - a. Install radio from Trail Blazer in Ranger for operation starting winter season 2021-2022.

Part X - Interagency & County & Association Meetings:

1. Gunnison OEM training – zoom meeting sessions

Part XI - Communications:

1. Radio test from “W” Mountain (Gunnison Airport) successfully completed
2. 2-Way Communication followed test from “W” Mountain by simulating a Gunnison Dispatch radio communication from Grand Junction to Kenwood 2312 handheld unit at Jim’s house. Tx/Rx worked better than expected.
3. No new updates from Gunnison Comm Board meeting

Part XII - Medical:

1. AED
 - a. AED positioned at 105 Aspen Trail, heater still in test phase for new type of heater at firehouse.
 - b. Purchased 7 new digital thermometers for all AED enclosures, with units in test phase at firehouse.

Part XIII - Budget:

1. SCBA – purchase approval request
 - a. 2 – G1 SCBA backpacks with primary cylinder (4500psi 60min) = \$8,000.00 (discount price), \$4,000.00ea
 - b. 2 – Spare cylinders (4500psi 60min) = \$1,300.00 (discount price), \$650.00ea

Total discounted price = \$9,300.00

NOTE: List price G1 SCBA \$6,789.00 * 2 = \$13,578.00 (savings = \$5,578.00)

List price cylinder-4500psi 60min = \$1,189 (savings = \$1,078.00)

Total Savings = \$6,656.00

G1-SCBA remaining warranty year = 14

Cylinder-4500psi 60min remaining warranty years = 14

Cylinder-4500psi 60min years before hydro test = 4

Part XIII - Miscellaneous:

1. Hwy-50 Update

- a. Daily updates sent to AVFD team along with emergency notifications, for medical incident response plan, ground, or flight.
 - b. Contractor preparing work space along Hwy-50 winter closure
2. Address sign installation, YTD-2021 – no new updates.