

**Arrowhead Fire Protection District
Meeting Agenda
March 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 January 8th meeting**
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
- 5. Fire Chief's Report**
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. COVID-19 Issues**
 - b. Communications update**
 - c. Polaris Ranger Purchase**
 - d. Review By-Laws**
- 7. New Business**
 - a. Evacuation Plan**
 - b. Gunnison County Election Cycle in November 2021**
- 8. Adjourn – Next Meeting – April 9, 2021**

**Conference Dial-in Number 1-712-770-5569
Participant Code: 478279#**

**ARROWHEAD FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Date: March 12, 2021

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

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: None.

- 1. Call to Order:** Chair, Darrell Wagner called the March 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 board members present (at either the fire house or on the conference call line), for the meeting.
3. **Approval of Minutes for the January 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting:** Chair Darrell Wagner asked for any additions or corrections. There being none, he asked for a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Steve G. made the motion and Al Hale seconded the motion. Motion carried and the minutes for the January 8, 2021 Regular Board Meeting were approved as submitted.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** All have the February-March financials distributed by Treasurer, Al Hale. There being no questions, Chair Wagner declared that the treasurer's report stands as submitted.
5. **March 12, 2021 Fire Chief's Report:**

Highlights: (a) **Highway 50 Construction:** The March 12, 2021 Fire Chief's Report included a question and answer session with the Gunnison County Emergency Response Teams. Chief Gelsomini advised that this was an internal document for the board and asked for us not to share as it was not a stand-alone document without proper context. He will respond to our questions providing that context. Chief Gelsomini had a meeting at the AVFD this past Tuesday for two hours with Joe Callaway, Lead Project Engineer for the Federal Highway Project. Joe will be on site for the road work on Highway 50 along with the civilian contractor.

(b) **Covid-19 Protocol Update:** A recent medical incident was first reported as a possible Covid-19 related and prompted a protocol update which Chief Gelsomini has in draft and plans to distribute to team members.

(c) **AVFD Fire Chief's continuing education:** with Gunnison Fire and Crested Butte will be on pause after the Highway 50 Construction begins due to the difficulty returning to Arrowhead after the 'window' hours.' Once the initial phases of the project are completed, this will be evaluated again.

(d) **2 ½" Nozzle:** Darrell placed the two nozzles (the 1 ½" he took with him and the 2 ½" nozzle which he picked up from Don Distenfanso (Chief Gelsomini's contact for surplus property from the Denver area at the Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control), near the computer in the AVFD office.

(e) **Apparatus and Tools:** The new windshield cutter should be delivered by now and in the storage container in town. Chief Gelsomini will check the shipping status and pick it up if it is there.

(f) **Interagency Meetings:** During the April time frame the expanded number of organizations will begin meetings. This includes the BLM, USFS and Colorado Parks and Wildlife.

(g) **Medical:** Continuing positives on Covid testing and cases in Gunnison County, but none resulting in hospitalizations. The Arrowhead Mountain Lodge (AML), had two potential exposures from people outside the area. The premises were cleaned according to protocol. A Super Bowl party at Arrowhead resulted in Covid positive cases and several people refused to be tested. That is part of the reason for the update in Covid response protocol mentioned earlier regarding emergency response calls that may present as Covid cases.

(h) **Medical Supplies:** Chief Gelsomini has ordered some replacement medical supplies and PPE for Covid responses. All are at his house until he picks up the gowns in Gunnison and then he will put them all in the back of the Ranger. The sled that used to have the PPE on it has been repurposed and now carries the Motor Vehicle Accident (MVA) response materials and equipment. The cargo sled will be pulled by the Ranger to the site of the incident. Training is scheduled this next Tuesday to familiarize first responders with the layout of this equipment on the cargo sled. The snow cat will follow the Ranger which is pulling the cargo sled. The snow cat can be used to stabilize the accident vehicle as needed and/or transport patients at the MVA scene requiring medical attention.

(i) **Highway 50 Project Concerns:** +One concern is the USPS and the post office boxes at the intersection of the Alpine Plateau Road with Highway 50. Joe Callaway explained during the Tuesday meeting with Chief Gelsomini at the AVFD that the new postmaster at the Cimarron Office told him these **mail boxes cannot be moved more than once**. If true, that would mean they couldn't be moved back once they've been relocated. Chief Gelsomini will try to verify whether this is true by contacting the postmaster in Montrose. **Mail delivery and pickup** for the number of people residing at Arrowhead is an issue that has not been adequately addressed. +Chief Gelsomini reported there is a **Mutual Aid Agreement** being worked out between AVFD, Gunnison EMS (Gunnison EMS Team), and Montrose EMS (Montrose Ambulance) to address the contingencies where one of the other or both the route to Gunnison and/or Montrose are impassable due to the construction on Highway 50. Chief Gelsomini will be working on the **training and exercises** required in preparation for the handoff of patient(s) to one or the other teams. The list of excuses the Federal Group has had for why these various contingencies are not within their project scope has been frustrating. Chief Gelsomini will try to handle any questions. As Darrell mentioned, in the past, the Cimarron employees always said the Montrose Postmaster was in charge and indeed, Nick Morgan, has indicated his role in supervising the Cimarron folks as well as those in Montrose, Delta and elsewhere on numerous occasions in the past. Steve Gauthier noted that Eva at the Cimarron Office and the USPS has the responsibility for moving the mail boxes if they have to be moved at all and this is not really in our purview. Therefore, their physical location is an issue between the USPS and the contractor for the Highway 50 construction work and has been highlighted for the past two years. The contractor appears unconcerned that trucks legal using the Highway 50 may be illegal on the detour route via Highway 92 (in excess of the 72 foot limit/weight limitations). **Three Fish Road improvements required for emergency evacuations** is an issue being worked and will be addressed again at the AIA Meeting on March 20th. The AIA is concerned over liability and the property owner on the downhill side is uncooperative. But the head in the sand approach won't work with the potential emergencies. Steve I. mentioned that Congressional inquiries might help put a spotlight on the many moving parts not adequately addressed in this Highway 50 Construction Project. Chief Gelsomini said in meetings held already this proved ineffective.

6. **Old Business:**

A. **COVID-19 Issues:** . Chief Gelsomini covered this earlier in his Fire Chief Report regarding the updating of the AVFD Covid-19 Response Protocol and the lack of hospitalizations and most recent scares and actual cases of Covid-19 at Arrowhead following a Super Bowl Party at the home of an Arrowhead resident. The number of AVFD volunteers and other residents who have or are receiving their Covid vaccinations is no doubt a mitigating factor.

B. **Communications Update:** Steve Gauthier, Communications Manager, reported the web site is up to date and he is becoming a 'Facebook wizard.' Other than that, Steve G. said he has nothing to report.

C. **Polaris Ranger Purchase:** Steve G. highlighted the advantages of the 2017 Polaris Ranger over the 2019 Polaris Ranger which have become crystal clear since previous meeting. An additional discussion will follow in the next meeting regarding the purchase of the Warne Winch and fabricated aluminum topper for \$1,500. The topper is an enclosure covering the rear cargo area and they are made by Gary's son. The AVFD Ranger topper will have a rear as well as two side doors for equipment access. Steve G. restated the motion for clarification: **The motion is to finalize the purchase of a used 2017 Ranger Polaris from Jim Gelsomini for the low, low price of \$20,000 to include the wheels the tracks and accessories (brush guards for the axles now stored in the block house).** The motion was seconded by Steve I. and passed unanimously. We'll have another conversation about the winch and the topper and make another motion at that time. Chief Gelsomini will create a Bill of Sale and Darrell will send AI

Hale an email with the purchase price and the legal description and authorizing AI to make the payment so AI will have a record of this until the minutes come out prior to the next meeting. Dollar value for replacement for the insurance coverage will be approximately \$35,000, per the consensus including tracks, et al. The OHV sticker will be handled by Chief Gelsomini. OHV stickers come out and are renewed in March each year. According to Colorado Parks and Wildlife you need a Winter OHV sticker as the one you get for your snowmobiles if you have tracks. When Chief Gelsomini goes into Gunnison for his next training session he will check on Colorado Parks and Wildlife regarding an exemption. Gunnison Fire has no stickers on their vehicle and Gunnison Sheriff has the tag but gets it for free. So Arrowhead should be eligible for the same exemptions. More to follow.

D. **Review By-Laws**: Steve G. has had to attend to a family emergency for the past several weeks and has not had the opportunity to create the document highlighting changes. Steve G. will have this for the AFD BOD members by the April meeting.

7. **New Business**

A. **Evacuation Plan**: Chief Gelsomini will update the AFD Board once he has a conversation with the AIA BOD on improving the Three Fish Road egress down to the gate. The intent is to be able to get down this road with a low center of gravity vehicles while taking Arrowhead evacuees down this road in groups in the event of a wild fire or other emergency requiring emergency egress only while leaving the Alpine Plateau Road open for emergency vehicles. Last year we had three incidents of lightning strikes with possible smoke requiring access to this area. There are two gates: The first at the border of Arrowhead property and the private property owned by the Jardine family. The other is near Jim and Linda Squirrell's house on the far western side. Chief Gelsomini has a key to the first gate as a result of the lightning strikes. Ron Slocumb, foreman of the Jardine property, gave Chief Gelsomini a key to the second gate. The locked gates will not stop an emergency evacuation. A break-a-way red fire department lock is an option. Donny Squirrell has keys and uses this route to get his equipment up to Arrowhead each year. Arrowhead property owner, Doug Cox, also has a key. Chief Gelsomini will discuss and update the AFD Board on this subject at the April meeting.

B. **Gunnison County November 2021 Election**: Chair Darrell Wagner asked if we were still considering the Mill Levy increase for the next election in November 2021. All indicated the climate was not right for asking for more money in the current political climate after this past election. The Gallagher Amendment was repealed and that was positive. All agreed we should wait a year and see what repealing the Gallagher Amendment does for us financially before taking further action.

8. **Adjourn – Next Meeting – March 12, 2021.**

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen Isle
Secretary, Arrowhead Fire Protection District

Attachment:
Fire Chief's Report for March 12, 2021

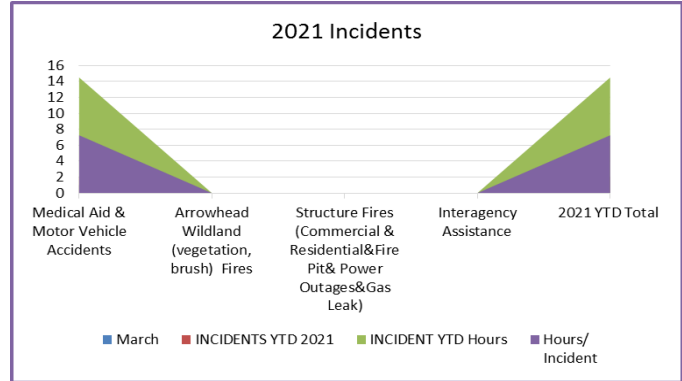
Arrowhead Fire Chief Report

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

Wildland Fire Level Status: **n/a**

Part-I Emergency Incidents

Description	March	INCIDENTS YTD 2021	INCIDENT YTD Hours	Hours/ Incident
Medical Aid & Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	2	14.50	7
Arrowhead Wildland (vegetation, brush) Fires	0	0		
Structure Fires (Commercial & Residential & Fire Pit & Power Outages & Gas Leak)	0	0		
Interagency Assistance	0	0		
2021 YTD Total		2	14.5	7.25



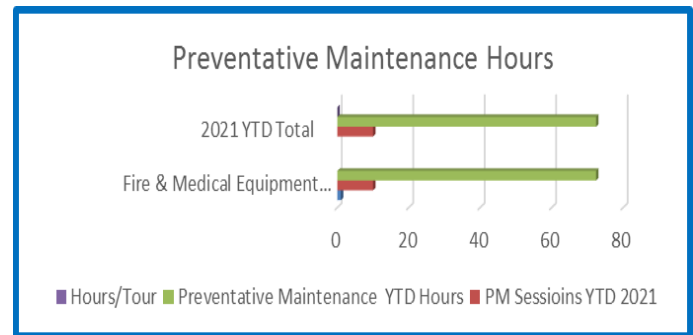
Part-II Department Training

2021 Training			
Groups	Resources	YTD Training Hours	YTD Training Sessions
Patrol	4	13.00	2
Awhd Dispatch	6	14.75	2
First Responder	8	124.15	6
Firefighters	14	40.50	6
AVFD Combined	32	192.4	16



Part-III Preventative Maintenance

Description	PM Sessions YTD 2021	Preventative Maintenance YTD Hours	Hours/Tour
Fire & Medical Equipment Preventative Maintenance	10	72.40	
2021 YTD Total		10	72.4



Part-IV Incident Overview – 2021 (YTD)

YTD Medical – 2
 YTD Fire – 0
 YTD Commercial Power Loss - 0

Part-V Training overview – March//2021

Medical – Pit Crew CPR, Patient Assessment System (PAS)
 Firefighting –

Jim continuing fire education, weekly training with Gunnison Fire. Join training will cease with start of Hwy-50 project, unable to return during night time hours.

- MVA – 12 hours (four, three-hour sessions)
- RT-130 Wildland refresher (one, three-hour session)

Dispatch – joint training with medical & firefighter

Part-VI Personnel: (staffing): **24 (FF-FR-Dispatch)**

Fire Fighters = (10)

Arrowhead Dispatch = (6)

First Responders = (8)

Part-VII Grounds - Building Inspections:

1. Fire House – no new updates

Part-VIII Fire Apparatus, Tools & Equipment:

1. Tools – operational
 - a. MVA hydraulic pump Honda motor returned to service
2. Firefighting structure gear: - operational
3. Hoses:
 - a. Fully operational
4. Mobile Response Unit (MRU) – operational
5. Fire Trucks:
 - a. Red Type 3 – winter storage - firehouse
 - b. White Fire Truck – off mountain winter storage
 - c. Blue Brush Truck – off mountain winter storage
 - d. Blue First Responder – on mountain winter storage
6. Snow Cat:
 - a. operational
7. Polaris-Ranger – operational
 - a. Medical equipment sled – operational
 - b. Patient sleds – operational
8. Snowmobiles:
 - i. Black/Gray snow mobile – storage on mountain
 - ii. Red snow mobile – storage on mountain
 - iii. Cargo/patient sleds – operational

Part-IX Interagency & County & Association Meetings:

1. Gunnison OEM training – zoom meeting sessions

Part-X Communications:

1. No new updates

Part-XI Medical:

1. COVID-19 Updates
 - a. Covid-19 PPE gear bag staged in Ranger Interior
 - b. Gunnison County Situation Report a/o 03/11/2021
 - i. Positive – 1,479
 - ii. Negative – 17,812
 - iii. Deaths – 5
 - c. Arrowhead –

- i. Lodge confirmed exposure, shut down wiped down rental building and main building.
 - ii. One 911 incident from employee, transport to Gunnison Hospital with another lodge employee
2. Ranger Equipped with two portable 50 gal containers with all medical response gear
3. Monthly AED checks completed YTD 2021
 - a. All AED's operational

Part-XII Budget:

1. No new updates

Part-XIII Miscellaneous:

1. Don Distenano Colorado State Fire resource, watching for the following items:
 - a. 2 GPM nozzles 1.5"
 - b. MVA stabilizing struts – 2
2. Hwy-50 Update
 - a. Met with Joe Callaway Federal Highway Lead Project Engineer Tuesday-3/09 1PM
 - b. Emergency Response meeting Gunnison Wednesday, 3/10 10A Gunnison notes attached to AFPD email with Fire Chief report.
3. Second Fire Station update:
 - a. No new updates