

**Arrowhead Fire Protection District
Meeting Agenda
September 10, 2021
1:00 p.m. @ the Firehouse
2069 Spruce Road**

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Determination of Quorum**
- 3. Approval of Minutes from August 13th meeting**
- 4. Treasurer's Report**
- 5. Fire Chief's Report**
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. AVFD Auxiliary Report**
 - b. Communications Update**
 - c. Fire Bar Replacement**
- 7. New Business**
 - a. Firehouse Issues**
 - b. Equipment Issues**
- 8. Adjourn – Next Meeting – October 8, 2021**

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

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

Date: September 10, 2021

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

Location: AVFD Firehouse, 2069 Spruce Rd

Purpose: Regular Meeting

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

Absent: None.

Guests: Nancy Hale [AVFD Auxiliary/Present].

1. **Call to Order:** Chair, Darrell Wagner, called the September 10, 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 August 13, 2021 AFPD Regular Board Meeting:** Chair Darrell Wagner, asked for any additions or corrections and noted an error in the Call to Order. 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 it passed unanimously.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** All have the August financials emailed by Treasurer, Al Hale. Steve G. asked Al to go over the deposits, as there were several sizeable ones. Al went over each deposit: (A) AIA reimbursed the AFPD for their share of the water, electricity and internet. (B) Gunnison County provided our share of the disbursement of property tax money. The majority of the Gunnison County tax disbursement arrives in the February, April, June time period. Additionally, we receive a disbursement late in the year along with a share of the interest payments on the late property tax payments as well as a portion of the money collected for sales tax on vehicle registrations for the folks in the Arrowhead tax base. (C) \$70 from the picnic money which had not gone into the Auxiliary account. (D) \$4,500 from the sale of the two snowmobiles. Ken Harbert asked if the \$20,000 expenditure was for the Polaris Ranger and Al verified that it was. There being no further questions, Chair Wagner declared that the treasurer's report stands as presented.
5. **September 10, 2021 Fire Chief's Report:**

Highlights: (A) Chief Gelsomini reported a higher than normal **medical incident rate** for this year to date. (B) Training: We had a **fire fighter training** session this week. We have a two day session for **medical training** planned on the 16th and 17th of October. The October training will be the second of the two day sessions which were planned for this year. (C) **Communications:** We will continue to do our **radio checks** as we discover and address gaps in some of the communications for the various radios. We exchanged one of the Puxing radios for a Motorola this week and the Motorola radio has improved communications even inside of the home of our AVFD volunteer at the south end of Arrowhead who is not on the fire bar. We've received the additional batteries to back up the Kenwood radios. (D) There is nothing new to report on the fire house regarding any **building issues**. (E) On the **apparatus** side we are installing reflective decals consistent with NFPA standards on the wildland pickup truck (now complete), and on the red fire truck. The decal installations on the rear of the red fire truck are complete, but there is some painting required before we can complete the decal applications to the front bumper of the red truck. The white pickup truck is next for decals. We have no plans to do anything with the blue Trail Blazer first responder truck at this point since we plan on selling it either at the end of this year or in 2022, as we sold the AVFD snowmobiles this year. The time of sale will depend upon the work activity on Highway 50. (F) We've received confirmation of the approval of our request for the **\$3,000 waiver** applied to the 2021-2022 cost for the Gunnison County Telephone Company Combined Services. This will be a big help for as you recall from the August minutes the Gunnison/Hinsdale Combined Telephone Service-GHCTS (Gunnison 911/dispatch), our base user fee for AFPD was \$3,141 per year representing 6.5% of AFPD budget. The price increase increased the base user fee from \$3,141/year to \$6,000/year, increasing AFPD budget allocation from 6.5% to 12.4% annually. (G) Chief Gelsomini will discuss the **fire bar** in more detail under old business. (H) We plan on purchasing one new small, **2000 Watt generator** that

will fit into one of the left rear compartments of the red truck in the summer and on the MRU trailer in the winter time when the filing roads are closed. The generator will support two independent LED light poles to be used for on scene lighting. Chief Gelsomini plans on getting this generator purchased this weekend and tested next week. (I) We have 13 or 14 new **Arrowhead address signs** in the locate phase. An RV lot requested an additional sign and Chief Gelsomini installed that this week. We need additional reflective address numbers, which Chief Gelsomini will purchase. Chief Gelsomini has acquired additional boards on which the numbers are mounted and one of the Auxiliary volunteers is currently painting those. That concluded the overview of the Fire Chief's report. The actual report is attached below the minutes of this meeting.

6. Old Business:

A. **AVFD Auxiliary:** Acting Chair Gauthier recognized Nancy Hale, our AVFD Auxiliary Liaison. **(1) Auxiliary Treasurer's Report:** Nancy asked and confirmed that all board members and Chief Gelsomini had received the financial comparison of the picnic and boot drive. There being no questions, Nancy went on to say that the Auxiliary had done really well this year. She thanked Steve G. for all his postings on the Arrowhead Fire website with its embedded Facebook Page, which she said brought a lot of much appreciated attention to the picnic this year among the many new people on the mountain this year. There is a lot of support among both new and old property owners and they were very generous in the contributions received at the picnic. The Auxiliary did not have a meeting this month, so Nancy plans on mentioning the earlier offer by Steve G. to post events on the ArrowheadFire.Org website at the October meeting of the Auxiliary. Nancy asked if there were any questions. There being none, she concluded her presentation.

B. **Communications Update:** Steve Gauthier, Communications Manager, said the web page is up to date. All applauded the efforts Steve G. has made and how well he is keeping up with the website.

C. **By-Laws:** Steve G. reported that all have signed the updated, revised version of the By-Laws which were approved at our June 11, 2021 AFD Regular Meeting, and copies will be posted on the website, emailed to board members and Chief Gelsomini. Al Hale asked if a copy needed to be sent to DOLA and Chair Wagner said that was a good question and promised to check. Al Hale mentioned that when the by-laws of another non-profit on which he serves were updated, it was a requirement to submit a copy of the revised by-laws to the state. Chair Wagner will follow through and get back to us on his finding. The completed document will be emailed to board members and Steve G. has already posted the Microsoft Word and PDF copies on the ArrowheadFire.Org website in the digital archive space.

D. **Fire Bar Replacement:** Chief Gelsomini reported that one additional person has been dropped from the fire bar. That is the individual AVFD volunteer mentioned earlier who lives at the south end of Arrowhead near the pump house and we are successfully using one of the Kenmore radios to contact him. Chief Gelsomini has made two requests to NNTC to add an individual at 1502 Lake to the fire bar. The second request was yesterday afternoon and NNTC had said they would call Chief Gelsomini this morning. Chief Gelsomini is still waiting for the call back and if there is no plan for a DLC and that person can be added to the fire bar, we will have fifteen active users on the fire bar. The last fire bar call was before 6:00 AM last Friday and it was one of the clearest fire bar calls the Chief can remember. There were none of the "phantom users" and recordings. Chief Gelsomini has requested NNTC provide a copy of the deployment plan for the DLC's through the end of this year and through the first part of next year. That plan

will give us an idea on our time line for replacing the fire bar. **Alternate solutions to the fire bar:** Gunnison dispatch uses radio pagers. Jody, the Director at Gunnison Communications uses radio paging for direct calls to EMS and they use tone paging for those people in the fire department who are on call. Jody didn't know what procedure was in effect for outlying areas like the Ohio Valley and Sargents. She didn't know if there was some local call tree that is executed or just what procedures were being used. Chief Gelsomini will continue to track down more information. At this point it appears that many agencies are using radio paging as the primary contact procedure. Chief Gelsomini said this broaches an unpopular aspect of having to designate individuals on call. Chair Wagner asked why that necessitated 'on call' status versus something similar to our procedure now using the fire bar where the most senior person hearing the call responds and is the incident commander? Chief Gelsomini clarified that we only have four of the more expensive 800 MHz radios and someone must respond to Gunnison Dispatch on the radio. AVFD has only have four 800 MHz radios with this capability at this time. Steve G. is one of our AVFD volunteers who is assigned one of the 800 MHz radios with this capability. The remainder of the radios are tactical radios which work here within the community. The decision to incur the extra expense of acquiring additional 800 MHz radios with the features like radio tones, et al, is still being studied. Chief Gelsomini and Steve G. continue to work researching possible solutions. Steve G. said Norb Stracker suggested a telephone conferencing platform that, like all the alternatives, have good points and bad points, all a little different with their own limitations. Steve G suggested getting someone from NNTC to work with us on possible solutions. From a historical perspective, the small communities Nucla supports with phone service no longer use a fire bar. The communities of Nucla, Naturita, Gateway, all use a third party. Dispatches come from Montrose Interagency to these little communities. Chief Gelsomini is at that step now where he plans to contact these rural fire departments and find out exactly what procedures and technology is in place to replace the fire bars they once had. Chief Gelsomini will ask Kent from NNTC whether he or Nate or Cameron would be willing to work with us. Rather than trying to schedule Kent to collaborate during the October AFD Regular Meeting it would be more effective to form a committee to work with the NNTC representative and have the committee report back at the October meeting. Chair Wagner formed a fire bar replacement committee with members consisting of Chair, Steve G. with two other committee members, Al Hale and Chair Wagner. Steve G. mentioned that he and Chief Gelsomini had looked into the conference call options, like FreeConferenceCall.com, but that none had the 'dial down' capability needed. Steve G. speculated that perhaps they were avoiding getting into that realm due to the liability involved with essential/emergency services. The dial down technology exists at Air Force Bases and airports. Chair Wagner summed it up by saying we have the committee to speak with NNTC and Chief Gelsomini is going to call the small rural fire departments without fire bars to find out what they're doing. We should have more information to help select our course of action at the October meeting.

7. New Business

A. **Fire House Issues:** The AVFD has procedures in place with people trained to safely run the existing standby generator. Chief Gelsomini has concerns over potential safety risks which can occur in the event of possible failure issues and would prefer to see an automatic starting capability. If the standby generator was automated people wouldn't have to travel to the fire house to activate the generator. To be fully automatic the AVFD would need a different generator than the one we have. Our existing generator will always require someone to at least start the generator. What is the cost to install a transfer switch and electrical wiring to the various circuits and electrical modifications to address the issues on the current generator? Would this cost be such that the cost of a fully automated generator would be justified? Steve G. said he has spoken with a local Arrowhead property owner who owns Canyon Electric.

Steve G. suggested we 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. Chief Gelsomini pointed out, this fully automated generator should 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. Essential circuits shouldn't require a 20Kw generator, but to run the entire building might very well require a generator that size. Steve G. asked the question, "Is this the best use of our limited funds?" Chair Wagner countered with, "We don't know what we don't know." So all agreed we should get the estimates and include this in the AVFD long range plan. Al mentioned, for the record, that Chief Gelsomini is very careful to ensure only a competent, trained individual is tasked with hooking up our manually started generator, which keeps the safety risk low. Al and all present also agrees with Steve G. that if someone doesn't follow the procedure, it becomes a safety issue. For that reason, all present support obtaining the estimates with the intent of pursuing installation of the switch and hiring an electrician to properly connect the essential circuitry, hopefully for under \$1,600. Steve I. mentioned the generosity of the Arrowhead community and that we could always use a community fund drive to allay the impact upon the budget. Steve G. volunteered to take the lead and follow up with the property owner who owns Canyon Electric and obtain the quote on the switch and wiring installation and he will keep Chief Gelsomini in the loop.

B. **Equipment Issues:** (1) Chief Gelsomini said Drew Broughton will take the AVFD Polaris Ranger in next week for the fabrication of the topper. (2) The property at 121 Lake where our Blue Trail Blazer has been parked during past winter seasons is up for sale. Chief Gelsomini proposed we park it in the winter parking lot and periodically start it up to ensure it's running. All agreed this was a good plan making this medical first responder vehicle available for use. Chief Gelsomini will speak with Brad/the AIA about getting a reduced rate on one of the diesel parking spots with the electrical hook ups. The normal cost is \$265/year for one of the parking spots with the electrical hookups. We have been paying \$100 for the winter at the 121 Lake address.

C. **Kevin Stilley Plaque:** The board unanimously agreed that a plaque and a gift certificate for Cabelas are a good way to thank former AVFD Fire Chief Kevin Stilley for his extraordinary service and contributions to the AVFD/AFP. Wherever Kevin is enjoying himself he can shop on line and use the certificate, determined to be in the amount of \$200. Chief Gelsomini will contact Becky Stilley to confirm dates and get the information for Steve I who will obtain a price and proof of the recommended plaque. The board will provide input and final approval at that time.

B. **Moment of Silence in Honor of All Who Lost Their Lives on 9-11:** Before adjourning, Chair Wagner paused for a moment of silence to honor our heroes and all who lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

8. **Adjourn – Next Meeting – October 8, 2021.**

Respectfully submitted,
 Stephen Isle
 Secretary, Arrowhead Fire Protection District

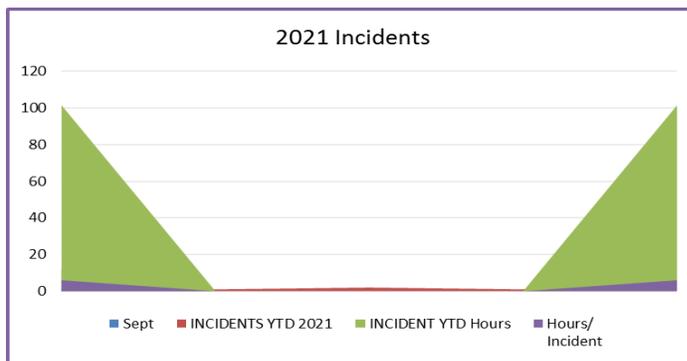
Arrowhead Fire Chief Report

Date of Report: **September 09, 2021**

Wildland Fire Level Status: **MODERATE**

Part-I Emergency Incidents

	Sept	INCIDENTS YTD 2021	INCIDENT YTD Hours	Hours/ Incident
Medical Aid & Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	12	101.50	6
Arrowhead Wildland (vegetation, brush) Fires	0	1		
Structure Fires (Commercial & Residential&Fire Pit& Power Outages&Gas Leak)	0	2		
Search Rescue	0	1		
2021 YTD Total		16	101.50	5.97



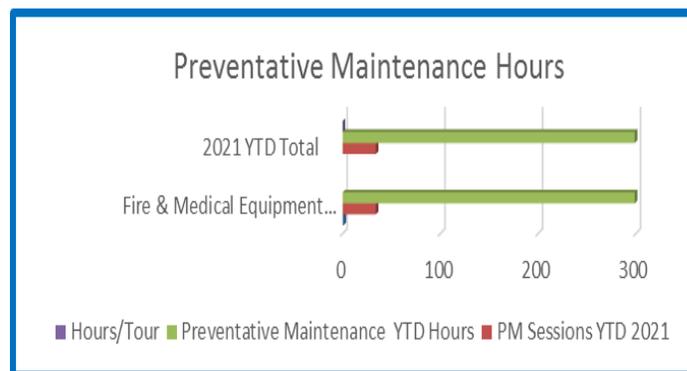
Part-II Department Training

2021 Training			
Groups	Resources	YTD Training Hours	YTD Training Sessions
Patrol	4	24.00	5
Awhd Dispatch	6	51.25	9
First Responder	12	311.65	10
Firefighters	14	201.00	16
AVFD Combined	36	587.90	40



Part-III Preventative Maintenance

Description	PM Sessions YTD 2021	Preventative Maintenance YTD Hours	Hours/Tour
Fire & Medical Equipment Preventative Maintenance	34	298.90	
2021 YTD Total		34	298.9



Part-IV Incident Overview – 2021 (YTD)

- YTD Medical – 12
- YTD Fire/Search-Rescue – 2
- YTD Commercial Power Loss - 2

Part-V Training overview – September/2021

- Medical – Tuesday – Patient Updates, Radio Communications
- Saturday 10/16 & Sunday 10/17 – two medical training
- Firefighting – Tuesday 09/07 Interior Attack fundamentals
- Dispatch – Patient Updates, Radio Communications

Part-VI Personnel: (staffing): **23 (FF-FR-Dispatch)**

Fire Fighters = (9)

Arrowhead Dispatch = (6)

First Responders = (8)

Part-VII Grounds - Building Inspections:

1. Summer project – no new updates at this time

Part-VIII Fire 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. Reflective decals applied to rear, front pending
 - b. White Fire Truck – operational
 - c. Blue Brush Truck – operational
 - i. Reflective decals applied
 - d. Blue EMS – operational
6. Snow Cat:
 - a. Operational (used for patient transport if needed), stage at AIA equipment building
7. Polaris-Ranger – leaving Arrowhead for summer retro fit - topper
8. Snowmobiles: Sold to Arrowhead Resident

Part-IX Interagency & County & Association Meetings:

1. Gunnison OEM training – zoom meeting sessions

Part-X Communications:

1. Additional Kenwood radio batteries received as spares.
2. Gunnison/Hinsdale Combined Telephone Service (Gunnison 911/Dispatch)
 - a. Hardship waiver for base user fee - \$3,000.00
 - b. Next meeting 09/29/2021
3. NNTC transition to DLC network devices, impact to Fire Bar
 - a. At this time AVFD has 15 active fire bar members (includes summer residents)
 - b. Working with Kent VP w/NNTC for DLC deployment schedule/location for Q3 & Q4 2021, and calendar 2022

Part-XI Medical:

1. Local hospitals: Gunnison, Montrose, St. Mary's experiencing increased hospital occupancy rates as Covid-19 cases increase.
2. Last incident call Friday 09/03; required use of new LZ by CareFlight. AVFD procedure worked as planned/trained with landing, patient transfer, and departure.

Part-XII Budget:

1. SCBA – purchase plan is to wait until later in 2021, for fund availability
 - a. ~\$8k for two (2) new MSA G1 back packs w/mask (2)
 - b. ROI will donate four (4) cylinders 45 min 4500psi, if available at time of purchase.

Part-XIII Miscellaneous:

1. Planned purchase supporting scene lighting:
 - a. One (1) 2000w Predator Generator - \$560.00
 - b. Two (2) LED Light Poles (four LED Lights, two/tripod), ~9000 lumens total
2. Hwy-50 Update
 - a. Daily updates sent to AVFD team along with emergency notifications, for medical incident response plan, ground, or flight.
3. Address sign installation, update
 - a. Installation priority

- i. Existing poles requiring new address sign only – none at this time, all installed
- ii. New address signage requiring new pole
 - 1. Locates needed for telephony, power and water
- iii. Current status
 - 1. Completed installation sign only at filing road - 12
 - 2. New pole at inside property driveway - 4
 - 3. New Pole & Sign at filing road = 14