

## **CDH-Vergas Fire Board**

The CDH-Vergas Fire Board met on February 6, 2023, 7pm, at the Vergas Fire Hall.

### **In attendance:**

Duwayne Sonnenberg, Hobart Supervisor  
Terry Hockett, Hobart Supervisor  
Russ Berstly, Hobart Clerk  
Daryl Haarstick, Dora Supervisor  
Joe Gerold, Dora Supervisor  
Jeff Zitzow, Fire Chief  
Tyler Schmid, Asst. Fire Chief  
Theresa Harthum, Rescue Captain  
Larry Hoffmann, Hobart Supervisor  
Karen Lehman, Treasurer  
Julie Bruhn, City of Vergas, Secretary

### **1. Follow from November 30, 2022 meeting.**

- Jeff Zitzow reported 6% of the 10% budget increase will be going to the Truck Fund.
- No action from the Township Boards and City of Vergas regarding further funding for the Truck Fund. This will need to come forward with more specifics as to costs and CDH-Vergas Fire & Rescue budget specifics. Will look at this further to respond to replacement need of engine 2 in 2025. Estimated cost, at this time, of a new engine is \$600-700 thousand. Karen noted currently \$13,730.20 in the truck fund.

### **2. Audit Meeting January 30, 2023**

Two discrepancies identified from the conducted audit. One discrepancy was duplicate entry of Candor Township 2<sup>nd</sup> Qt payment and other was a receipt coded to the wrong account. Discrepancies reconciled.

### **3. Rescue Annual Report**

- There were 103 rescue calls in 2022, up from 90 in 2021.
- Calls were mostly on days (60%)
- Calls largely reflect Medical (70%), followed by Lift/Assist (20%), MVA, (6%) and Fire Standby (2%), and 5K Race Standby (2%).
- Breakdown of locations for calls were City of Vergas at 33%, Candor at 27%, Hobart at 23% and Dora at 17%.
- There are 21 rescue members, 7 of which are also firemen. Recruited 4 new members this year.
- There is a new training center for rescue staff; Lakes Country Emergency Education & Consulting in Perham. Overall cost of \$2,000.00 for the year

### **4. Fire Annual Report**

- There were 44 fire calls in 2022, however due to report lag time, only 38 are in the report summary. Slight increase from 39 calls in 2021. The calls reflect 427 fire hours.
- Major response categories were 9 (24%) MVA calls with no injury and 8 structure fires (21%). Several other single type category events.
- Fire calls are predominantly occurring during the middle of the day. 12pm- 4pm is the time frame for 29% of the calls.
- Responded to 11 mutual aid calls, consistent with 2021.
- There was no data breakdown by city and township locations.
- There are 24 active firemen. There were 4 retirements in 2022 and recruited 3 new members.
- Purchases in 2022 included 3 sets of turnover gear, cordless jaws, boat, and new cordless tools in engine 1.
- Jeff Zitzow again voiced concern regarding the Truck Fund and the need to increase what is in the fund.

Next meeting will be in the spring, date to be determined. This is the realignment meeting with new members and assignment of officer positions

Respectfully Submitted:  
/es/ Julie Bruhn, Secretary