

The 2022 Beulah Fire Protection and Ambulance District Report to the Community

Chief's Report – Bryan Ware

The District saw another steady year for service in 2022 with the agency responding to 299 calls. Of those the District responded to mutual aid requests within Pueblo County 32 times and received mutual aid assistance from outside agencies on 3 occurrences. One of those mutual aid requests for outside help to Beulah came on April 12, 2022 when Beulah Fire was dispatched at 3:45 am to a reported structure fire on Pine Drive. The first unit arrived on scene 5 minutes after being dispatched to find 2 fully involved structures and a wildland fire running to the south. Pueblo County Fire Chiefs have created wildland and structure strike teams and task forces to aid in assisting other agencies with large scale events. A wildland task force was activated to this event and against adverse conditions and significant wind events, this fire was able to be contained to the immediate area of its origin and initial growth. The actions taken by the Beulah firefighters and our mutual aid partners that day were simply amazing.

Currently the District has 477 homes located in areas that are classified as wildland urban interface (WUI) mostly surrounded by the San Isabel National Forest. With this high number of homes being threatened by potential wildfires the District has an aggressive outreach program that conducts home mitigation inspections, consults with local partners on ways to offer mitigation work, and in 2023 will be submitting grant applications with a multitude of organizations in order to fund mitigation work with the goal of getting the Beulah community to meet Firewise Standards and recognition. One aspect of the mitigation inspections is to determine if property owners have mitigated efficiently enough that firefighters could safely provide structure protection in a wildland fire event. The April 2022 Pine Drive fire is a great example of how the environment we all live around can affect our homes safety, whether the fire originates in a wildland environment or from a structure or vehicle fire. Mitigation makes a significant difference in your home's survivability. If you would like a member to come conduct a walk through of your property for a mitigation inspection you can reach out to our office and schedule an appointment.

The District had three new volunteers join the agency in 2022. Hunter Richardson, Gia Taylor and Dylan Levar have all come onto the agency as firefighter/EMTs. Currently the agency has 22 members yet is always looking to bring new volunteers on. New members are assigned a training officer who walks them through the process of orientation which typically takes about a year to complete. All the training from wildland firefighting, structure firefighting, hazards materials response, low angle rescue, vehicle extrication, and Emergency Medical Technician can be accomplished at Beulah Fire at no cost to the new member. Beulah Fire will be hosting a new member recruitment open house on **Saturday, February 25, 2023, from 9 am – 11am at Station 1**. If you or anyone you know might be interested in joining, please come down and see what the agency is about and what you can do to help serve your community.

The Pueblo County Sheriff's Office Emergency Services Bureau hired a wildland firefighter crew during the summer of 2021. This crew was not only tasked with responding to fires within Pueblo County but also assisting communities with wildland mitigation. This allowed the District to continue the slash collection site on the west side of Station 1 which was a huge success. We had over 600 drop offs which the wildland crew would then chip or burn. The need for a local slash pile has become evident and as such, we will continue the slash drop off year-round. As a reminder please do not drop off piles of pine needles or other materials that are not natural debris.

As always, I would like to thank all our citizens for all their continued support. We look forward to 2023 and wish everyone a healthy and joyful year.

Wildfire Community Mitigation Day
Saturday, May 20, 2023
9:00 am – 12:00pm
At the Beulah Fire Station 1
Come learn about how you can mitigate
around your home.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVES
Dates for the 2023 blood drives have yet to
be set, but once determined notices will be
placed on our social media pages.

Call 485-2367 to schedule your donation.

2022 Statistics

EMS

Total EMS Responses: 174

Total Transported: 111

Types of Calls

Traumatic Incidents	26
Medical Incidents	148
Difficulty Breathing	10
Chest Pain	15
Cardiac Arrest	1
Deceased	5
Stroke	5
Other	112

FIRE

Total Fire Responses: 132

Types of Calls

Structure Fires	4
Wildland Fires	23
False Calls / Smoke Scares	31
Rescue Calls	27
Service Calls	28
Utility Problem	5
Other / Stand By	12
Severe Weather	2

Total Number of Responses: 299

Some EMS responses require a fire response as well, generating a response count, but this does not increase the overall total number of responses counted for 2022.

Treasure's Report

2022 Income		ADDRESS MARKERS Is your address properly marked at the end of your driveway? When seconds count, being able to locate your home is crucial. Reflective address markers can be purchased at Beulah Fire for \$ 20.	2022 Expenses	
	\$ 758,806			\$ 757,232
Pueblo County Property Tax	\$ 269,413		Professional Expenses	\$ 6,917
Building Bond	\$ 117,989		Department Expenses	\$ 70,994
EMS Billing/Fire Deploy	\$ 129,308		Building Loan	\$ 117,389
Fire Contracts	\$ 3,062		Administration	\$ 220,515
Cash Donations	\$ 9,213		Insurance	\$ 24,722
Investment Income	\$ 6		Office Expenses	\$ 38,327
Grant Income	\$ 162,923		Grant New Ambulance	\$ 201,907
Reimbursement	\$ 13,812		Capital Projects/Reserve	\$ 13,663
Savings / Sales of Assets	\$ 37,262		Training	\$ 43,374
In-Kind Donation	\$ 15,818	DOLA Reserve	\$ 19,424	

Assistance to Firefighters Grant – Water Tender Apparatus

In July of 2022 the 1990 tender/pumper that Beulah Fire had purchased from a New York department in 2013 had a failure of the driveshaft into the pump gear box taking the unit out of service. The District Board of Directors and the apparatus committee weighed the cost benefit of having the \$ 40,000 repair completed on the 1990 tender/pumper and felt that placing such significant funds into an apparatus that is 33 years old was not being fiscally responsible with District funds. Other items that were factored into that decision were other mechanical repairs that have been completed on this apparatus to include a leak in the metal tank, replacement of the dump shoot and mechanism, and continual pump repairs over the past few years. The Beulah Fire Auxiliary was able to assist the District with covering the cost of making repairs to the drive shaft so that the truck could still be driven and can dump water, yet has no pumping capability.

The District has applied for a FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) to fund 95% of the cost to purchase a new tender/pumper. The new apparatus that has been designed would have a 3000-gallon water capacity and a 1250 gallon per minute pump allowing the new apparatus to meet the needs of the District. The new apparatus would cost \$ 543,402 with the District being responsible for \$ 25,876 if awarded the grant. Grant announcements will begin in the summer of 2023 and roll through till early 2024.

Visit the District's Website for more information www.beulahfireambulance.org or follow us on facebook