

VERNONIA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

VRFPD Board of Directors Offer Their Thanks

We would like to take some time out of our monthly space in *Vernonia's Voice* to thank the community individually, as your elected board members, for passage of the recent operating levy. The fire service is constantly changing in ways that effect our district and we acknowledge the trust you have put in us. I thought it would be appropriate to start this with a rededication of our core mission to the district. We meet as board and fire personnel every month on the second Tuesday at 7 pm. Come by and see us sometime. Comments from the public are accepted in the beginning of every meeting.

"It is the mission of the Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District (VRFPD) to preserve life and property, promote public safety and better serve our community through preparation, awareness and perseverance." This was put to test for me personally in October 2003, when the fire and medical personnel of the station, saved my life.

~ Joel R Glass, Chair VRFPD

I would personally like to thank all of the people in the District for supporting our Firefighters. They would not be able to do their jobs nearly as effectively without your support. Watching this team grow and work together has been amazing and I can't thank them enough for what they do for the community and I really have no words to express my gratitude to the community members of Vernonia Rural Fire District.

~ Michaela Demeter

Thank you very much for your recent support in the passing of Local Option Levy 5-279. Your support is crucial to the District's success and we are grateful. We will work hard to ensure that each tax dollar is used to grow the District's resources and response capabilities so that we can continue to provide the service that you deserve and expect.

~ Jesse Harbour



I want to thank all of you living, working, and volunteering here for your support of our fire district with the passing of our recent levy. 2020 has been a difficult year financially for many in our community. I look forward to being a part of the changes that this will allow the Vernonia RFPD to make in assuring that our community's needs continue to be met in an efficient and timely manner. Thank you all for your support.

~ Ben Davis

Wildland Training

As many of you know, wild-fire season is coming up quick. It may not seem like it with the rain we have been getting, but many of the fire departments around the state are already fighting wildland fires. VRFPD has been taking a proactive approach by training on techniques used during wildland firefighting.

During wildland fire situations the firefighters do what they can to "line" the fire with either a

hand dug line, or what we call a "wet line" which is a hose line that surrounds the fire. We have been using drill time to work on our progressive hose lay techniques so that we can effectively line the fire with a hose line full of water.

A progressive hose lay consists of what we call a "trunk line" with a wye and "lateral lines" that come off the trunk line. The trunk line is the main supply hose that car-

ries water around the fire with 1 1/2" hose in 200 foot stretches. The laterals are what we use to actually fight the fire. Laterals are made of 100 foot sections of 1" hose. The point of having the laterals connected 200 feet apart is so the hose lines will be able to touch on either end of the trunk line. Our volunteers deploy these hose lays with "hose packs" or pre-made hose lines that are ready to deploy out of a backpack configura-

tion with all the appliances we need to make the progressive hose lay.

This training was intended to piggyback off the larger training we had in the Apiary area with multiple departments this spring. We used what we learned at that training to better ourselves as a department. The more we practice these skills the better prepared our volunteers and paid staff will be when we go on the real thing.

Resident Volunteer Program Update

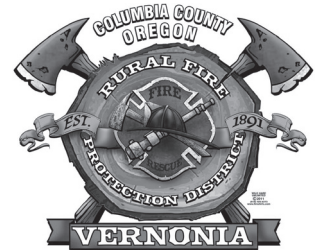
Promises are made to be kept, and we're doing that. Just last week we opened the recruitment period for our Resident Volunteer Program in cooperation with Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire Protection District. This program will give six college students real-world, hands-on training and experience, as well as assist them financially with their course work in Fire Science, or Emergency Medicine. The application period is open until July 24 of 2020 with application reviews, interviews, and background checks taking place after. We hope to have students moved in, sometime in August! Thank you to our community for everything you do, for supporting us, and believing in us!

Rob Davis
Operations Division Chief

Calls responded to June 1-30

Fire	0
Emergency Medical Service	41
Hazardous Condition	1
Service Call	7
Good Intent	1
False Alarm	2
Total	52

VOLUNTEERS WANTED



VERNONIA RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

VRFPD is currently accepting applications for Volunteer Fire Fighters

- You must have a High School Diploma or G.E.D., a valid Oregon Driver's License, and be at least 18 years of age

- Currently, you must be able to attend weekly training on Monday nights

- Willing to attend the Fire Academy

- Live or work (employer willing to let you respond to calls) within VRFPD's District

- Applications can be picked up at the Fire Station



Here's What We Do!

VRFPD

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503-429-8252

Rob Davis

Volunteer Recruitment & Retention
Vernonia Fire & Mist-Birkenfeld Fire
503-429-8252 (Vernonia)
503-755-2710 (Mist)