

**VILLAGE OF TAOS SKI VALLEY  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday, January 28, 2014  
1:00 P.M.  
VTSV VILLAGE OFFICES**

**AGENDA AND MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order**

Public Safety Members present: Kathy Bennett, April Bender, Sheila Duffy, Roger Pattison. All members were present; there was a quorum.

Staff Members Present: Mark Fratrack, Dave Wallace, John Miller

(John Duncan and Jamie Schutz are officially off the Committee and were not present.)

**II. New Business**

**A. Discussion and consideration to form a Firewise Community Board of Directors**

This BOD needs to be formed in order to qualify as a Firewise Community. We need 3-4 directors and as many members as we can get. Kathy said she would e-mail a request for members to join. Kathy also handed out draft bylaws. These will be reviewed at the 2/5/14 Public Safety Meeting to be held at 1:00 p.m., at the Village Offices.

**B. Discussion regarding a list of requirements for eligibility as a Firewise Community**

Kathy handed out the Firewise Assessment done by the State Forestry Division on the Village of Taos Ski Valley. She also handed out a very rough draft of a WCPP (Wildfire community Protection Plan). John Miller has copies of the WCPP from both the Enchanted Circle and Taos County. John will see if he can use these WCPP's in lieu of one dedicated to the Ski Valley when applying for the 3 grants we have applications for. John will let us know. We also need to do a "firewise community education day. This will happen on cleanup day held every spring.

**C. Discussion and consideration for a possible Ordinance for residents to make their property fire-wise.**

A little premature here. Kathy will put a letter together stating what we are planning to do, i.e., "how to make your property firewise protected", etc. It would be a mass mailing hopefully in March and the letter will go to all undeveloped property owners as well. This draft letter will be reviewed at the Public Safety Meeting on February 5, 2014.

**D. Additional steps we can take to forewarn people of possible fire danger.**

**1. Siren System (it is budget time)** – Kathy will call various companies for models and style and costs and will have info ready for the 2/5/14 meeting.

**2. E911 System** – This is a reverse 911 system which can be costly and it was the consensus of the attendees of the meeting that this probably would not work as we don't know about tourists, guests, etc., renting out condos, cabins, homes during the summer months; therefore, the reverse 911 system can't call them in the event of a fire. It was decided the siren system would work better. It was thought we would need two sirens, one in the Village base area, and one in the Kachina area.

**E. More we can do to prevent wild land fires. Education Program? Documents? Mass Mailings? – Already discussed.**

**F. Discussion and consideration to pursue available Grant money.** John Miller is handling this and will have more info at the next meeting. The deadline for these three grant applications is March 7<sup>th</sup>.

### **III. Old Business**

#### **A. Possible Ordinance for residents to convert from above ground power lines to below ground power lines where it is available to them. This is a Public Safety Issue.**

After lengthy discussion it was the consensus of opinion that the Public Safety Committee strongly suggests that the Village Council mandate residents to hook up to the underground power available to them. As an example, several homes on O.E. Pattison Loop have connected to the underground power available to them; however, some homeowners have NOT connected, therefore the underground power cannot be charged until everyone has hooked in. The above ground power lines must remain for these residences, thereby creating a very real fire hazard caused by falling trees on power lines, etc.

#### **B. Reminder: Notify VTSV S&R Team & EMT's re: new Hasty pack at the substation. Dave Wallace said he would handle this.**

### **IV. Miscellaneous**

It was suggested by a Public Safety Member that the Village put out a notice/reminder to residents and businesses for next winter, that they should consider shoveling out a fire hydrant that is close to their homes, as in the case of a fire at your house, you have saved lots of time for the fire department to help you out. It's another way to protect your home in the Village and would be greatly appreciated by the Village fire department, who are volunteers and residents just like you.

#### **V. Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting**

Wednesday, February 5, 2014, at 1:00 p.m., at the Village Offices.

### **VI. Adjournment**