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**Fire Chief Monthly Report for May 2020**

With spring here, we’ve been busy with the Flood watch, assisted the RCMP to a boat rescue and a fire at a burial site at the cemetery and riverbank by Ernie McLeod’s as well as handing out Burn Permits.

Since our local Siren is not working, I am able to send a text to all my fire fighters saying “**FIRE, FIRE, FIRE**”, which worked because they all arrived within minutes.

This month in the Fire Hall, I’ve removed all the doors to the Bunker gear lockers which will make it easier to access during a call.

I’ve handed out seven (7) Burn permits and confiscated one (1).

***Fires: (3) and Boat assistance (1)***

This month, we attended three fires and one boat assistance.

**May 1, 2020** around 315pm I got a call from the 911 Dispatcher asking for assistance in a boat rescue, I did mention to her that we don’t do any boat rescue. I radioed both Arthur and Vincent to assist with the call and met Constable Terry Boucher and Constable Dayna Basso at the Boat launch and told that we don’t do any boat rescues as we are not equipped and trained for. They got a call saying that there was four/five people in a boat coming from their camp up the river. We couldn’t see them at the Boat Launch so I took a drive to the Water Treatment plan to see if I could spot them but didn’t see them there. I left then toward the Baseball field and the boaters managed to get to shore by Catherine Bertrand’s place. Thankfully they were able to get to shore as there were ice chunks close to shore and a lot of debris. There were no signs of life jackets on any of the boaters.

I had issued a Burn Permit to Jim Kobzey later in the afternoon and gave him strict conditions to use a fire pit or enclosed barrel. He did put out the fire on the ground and used a half forty-five barrel.

I was on my way to pick up Arthur Loe, Deputy Fire Chief and Vincent Bertrand, Sr. Fire Fighter to assist me on checking the water levels later in the evening and I noticed that the fire at Jim’s was big and overloaded. I did go by and told him not to add anymore brush and be sure to contain it. I called Al Harris and he told us that he was best if we just went there with the truck to extinguish the fire. Third time we went by there I got Arthur and Vincent ready at the fire hall to pick up the pumper truck. By then Jim was belligerent and said there was no need for them to come by and put it out. I told the guys to stand down, he’s putting it out. We got back to the Fire Hall and checked on the water level again. By the fourth time we drove by there, the fire was still the same as it was the third time. Arthur, Vincent and I went to suit up and they met me at Kobzey’s place with the pumper truck and put out the fire. He was very upset and very belligerent then, but I gave him three prior warnings. I confiscated his Burn Permit and told him that if saw another fire that I’d call the RCMP.

**May 10, 2020** I received a call from the 911 dispatcher at 8:00pm requesting assistance at the local cemetery, as I was on the phone with 911, Fire Fighter Vincent Bertrand called my cell phone saying that he just got a call saying that there was a fire at the cemetery and that he was going to check it out. I told him over the radio just get to the fire hall and get the trucks ready. I sent out a text at 8:02pm to our Fire Group saying “FIRE, FIRE, FIRE”. I got to the Hall, opened Bay #2 door and started the Support Truck, got dressed and took off to the scene.

When I got out to the cemetery, Ervin “Brother” Berreault & Cecilia Burke, Dale Timbre and James Bertrand already had the fire contained. They used a pail and some ditch water to out the blaze. They went to the cemetery to put out flowers for Mother’s Day, they saw that there was a fire and immediately called 911. Al Harris came out to site as well.

Tyresha Timbre and her sister Leah later came out and was very distraught and admitted they were just out there and had lit a candle but forgot to blow it out before they left. The top of their mother’s resting area, as well as the cross was burnt and some of the ground toward the bush was disturbed but the fire. I did call the Community Counsellor Natasha Penney to check up on the girls to see if they would be ok.

**May 15, 2020**, I received a call at 11:01pm Angelina Duntra stating that there was a small brush fire out by the bank of Ernie McLeod’s place. I texted the group at 11:02pm. I got to the site and saw that there were flames on the side of the bank where they tried pushing the fire over. First on scene was Arthur and Bailey. Bailey (Rookie) was immediately put on hose as Arthur was on the pumper truck. Collin then showed up with the backup water truck. Nathan and Kayly did arrive on the support truck. Nathan took over monitoring the water truck as Arthur went to assist Kayly and Bailey on the hoses. Al got on the radio and asked if we needed the other water truck. I did get Larry to come down just to be on the safe side. Once fire was put out, we went through the area once more just to be sure it was out. We had a little debrief at the site as well as welcoming Bailey to her first fire and thanked everyone for their quick response.

***Fire Practice:*** Every Wednesday evenings we meet at 6:30pm.

**May 6th** – Five of us members in attendance which was me, Arthur, Vincent, Nathan and Kayly so we went to wash the Pumper truck, Support truck and Fire Chief’s trucks.

**May 13th** – Eight of us in total, Arthur, Vincent, Vanessa, Kayly, Nathan, William, Bailey (New to the team) and myself. We practiced and timed Donning and Doffing our bunker gear. I set up an obstacle course and we broke up in two teams of four. During this course, Vanessa was running and tripped, she did get back up and finished off the course with her teammates. Later that night she texted me and told me that her right foot is broken.

The following day I filled and completed an incident report with WCSS.

**May 20th** – Six of us were in attendance last night, Bailey, Nathan, Kayly, Arthur, Collin and me.

**May 27th** – Seven (7) of us that evening, Bailey, Kayly, William, Nathan, Arthur, Collin and me. We went down to the skate park, picked up any garbage and glass and sprayed down the ramps and park. Picked up any other trash from under the ramps. Kayly and Nathan were on hose 1 and Collin and I on hose 2, Arthur was teaching Bailey how to use the pumper truck and monitor the water levels as William was filling up the Pumper truck from the Water truck when needed. After we drained out all the hoses and put them away, we were going for a ride through town. During the ride, I got a text from Genevieve McLeod asking if we can rescue a cat, I then called her back and she said her mom’s cat is stuck in a tree. I radioed the guys and asked if they wanted to rescue a cat from a tree, they all thought I was joking. Once we got to the Barb and Morris’s place, we grabbed out the extension ladder and set up where the cat was. William, Collin and I set up the ladder and while us three were holding it in place Nathan climbed up and was able to retrieve the cat and brought it down safely and gave it to Kali. Everyone was clapping with joy once the cat was safe and sound.

***Active Members to Date:***

Evelyn Wilson William Sassie

Arthur Loe Collin Woehl

Nathan Wilson Kayly Deneron

Bailey Weber

Ivy-Lynn Marcellais (currently on Mat Leave)

Vincent Bertrand (broken foot, off for the next 6-8 weeks)

Vanessa Villeneuve (broken foot, off for the next 6-8 weeks)

***Issues: nil***

***Phone calls:***

**Fire Emergency** – 3 (boat assistance with RCMP, cemetery and riverbank)

**Google** – 11 calls

**Unknown (no answer)** – 8 calls