



Rennerdale Volunteer Fire Department

30 Suburban Ave, Carnegie Pa 15106

P: 412-276-9652

To: Members of the Rennerdale VFD

From: Thomas Kovach, President

Date: February 10, 2025

This report provides a brief overview of our fire company's activities for the past month.

Membership

Nothing new to report.

Equipment

Rescue Engine:

- Bumper replacement is on its way, and should be here within the week, will be installed in-house. \$1,000 deductible will need paid to the township for insurance to cover the rest of costs.
- Damage occurred to the roof during the Halloween parade due to down telecommunication lines, still searching for a company to repair damage.

Engine:

- I still need to purchase a camera for front deck gun operations, working with Assistant Chief to complete.
- Brow light still dead, need to take apart to find our part numbers so we can order new.

As president this past month I have had a few meetings crossing multiple things, but information is listed below of current ongoing projects from the desk of the president.

- Leary Foundation Grant was denied for gear extractor.
- The department has been painted and cleaned, we still need to paint the red tiles and doors but will wait until after the lent season.
- The kitchen door was sealed, new air duct installed to maintain a normal temperature in the kitchen so no more freezing issues.
- Our kitchen storage has been put together and fully operational to assist the kitchen team during the Fish Fry season.
- The in-house IT team has finished installation of the new door systems, security camera, and doorbell for the front pad. Lots of man hours and work have gone into this project in order to better protect our station and property so please thank Matt and Rob.
- Phone system issues have arisen at the station, currently the system is forwarded over to the president's cell phone to maintain operations. Due to this issue the board has moved to



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switch phone provider systems, and that process began over the weekend. The new system is operational as well, but we must wait until February 18th for our phone number to change to the new system.

- I have started the application/nomination process for Lowe's Hometown Heroes grant for replacing station doors and upgrades to the pond picnic areas.
- Bathroom renovations are officially completed, bathrooms were painted and stained over the weekend and base trim installed as well.
- Fish Fry preparations have taken place, and we are ready to place our first orders for the year and have set up the new website through Square for our day of operations. Everyone will need some small training, but this will help us be more efficient and better able to track profits and losses.
- The kitchen will still need a final deep clean the week prior to the first fish fry, we have received our temporary food permit from the health department.
- Cooking oil and grease trap, I contacted a company they are supposed to come collect our old cooking oil and replace our bins for free. We are still waiting for a day, also waiting for a quote on getting the grease trap cleaned out prior to the fish fry, will follow up this week.
- Pond waterfall back in full operation mode without issues, pond aeration system is running. We will always maintain the system in operational modes if the weather is above freezing, the waterfall does shut down for a few hours every early morning to allow rest time for the pump.
- Met with Presto and Kirwan to discuss Duty Crew Program, we are hoping to expand the program if funding allows. Township has projected in their 2025 budget for the three departments to get the full emergency services fee which would increase funding compared to past years, hopefully this stays true (see next bullet point).
- We found to have a discrepancy in the township funding in 2024 after having discussions with the other departments, we were supposed to be given 134K in funding but only received \$113,740.50. Currently in communications with township management and today escalated the issue to the commissioners in hopes to get a better understanding of what caused the issue.

Looking Ahead

- Please pay attention to the calendar on our website as the Chief and I are using this to keep our department schedule located in one easily accessible place and a better way to share with the community!
- We have upcoming training scheduled every Monday @ 7pm, watch out for Chief texts for additional classes.
- The next company meeting will be held on March 10th, 2025.



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Conclusion

The past year has been a learning and growing pains year with the new administration, but we are here to say we are hopeful that 2025 will be one of the best years in Rennerdale VFD history. We have laid a lot of groundwork to get ourselves in a more advantageous position so please thank all your administrative team members and their families for sparing so much time to help us over these past few months. I look forward to working with all of you and becoming a bigger family and better neighbor to our entire community!

Thomas Kovach

President, Rennerdale Volunteer Fire Department