

LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

**La Veta Fire Station
100 Birch St
La Veta, Colorado
MINUTES**

May 8, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Present: Directors Schmidt, Brunner, and Lacy, and Valdez were in attendance. Director Alt joined via zoom.

Staff: EMS Director Dave Mower and Fire Chief Ron Jameson, were in attendance.

Guests: Jim and Laura joined via ZOOM. Tucker Shrout, Cindy Jameson, Cavin McCay, Justin Jameson, Lukas Dearmin were in attendance.

Call to Order – Pledge - Roll Call

Appointment of new Board Members

- Oath of Office of Vonnie Valdez as a member of the La Veta Fire Protection Board
- Oath of Office of Tucker Shrout as a member of the La Veta Fire Protection Board

Election of Offices

- Mickey Schmidt – Chairman
- Tucker Shrout – Vice President
- James Alt – Treasure
- Vonnie Valdez – Secretary
- Mike Lacy – Director

Approval of Agenda

- Amend the agenda to add 1 item to Old Business, e. new procedure for making significant non-emergency decisions by the board. Motion to approve the agenda with amendments made by Lacy. Seconded by Shrout. Motion carried.

Minutes

- Minutes from April 10, 2025: Motion to approve the minutes made by Valdez. Seconded by Lacy. 2 abstain Alt & Shrout. Alt was unable to confirm his changes to the minutes. 3 Aye. Motion Carried.

Public Forum

-

Guests, Correspondence, and Presenters

-

Treasurer's Report (attached)

- Motion to accept Treasurer's Report as read made by Valdez. Seconded by Lacy. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Report (attached)

- No Questions

EMT Director's Report (attached)

- Haley Jameson Medical Leave: Motion to approve the request for leave of absence for 90 days for Haley Jameson retroactive to 3/1/2025 (original date of application) made by Lacy. Seconded by Shrout. Motion carried.

Administrator's Report (attached)

- No Report submitted (report Schmidt read was from last month)

Old Business

- Election Update: Bond for New Members: C. Jameson: Oaths have been taken and emailed to the county clerk. Schmidt: Passarelli is searching down the bond issues. Alt: We should have that with the SDA Pool. Schmidt: We received the bill from C. Jameson. It is not over the amount we approved, so I will submit it for payment.
- Bank Signature, Credit Cards and Debit Cards: Schmidt:
 - Signatures; We need to cut down on signatures with the bank. Valdez: I would recommend 3 people. Schmidt: I recommend Alt, Passarelli and myself. Alt: We overachieved, and it was over kill. I support your recommendation. Motion that we have the Treasurer, Chairman and Administrative Assistant be on the signature cards, made by Valdez. Seconded by Shrout. Roll Call Vote. Alt, yes. Lacy, yes, Schmidt, yes. Shrout, yes. Valdez, yes. Motion Carried.
 - Credit Cards/Debit Cards: Schmidt: We found out if we apply with someone like Capital One, someone has to use their social security number and basically be the owner of the business. Do we want to stick with finding a reward card and have a board member responsible? Or go through the bank? Valdez: I think we will stay with the bank and go from there. Motion to get credit cards through First National Bank in Trinidad made by Shrout. Seconded by Valdez. Shrout: I amend my motion. I make a motion to get credit cards through First National Bank of Trinidad for Fire Chief, EMS Director and Administrative Assistant with a monthly limit of \$5,000 each. Seconded by Valdez. Roll call vote. Alt, yes. Lacy, yes. Schmidt, yes. Shrout, yes. Valdez, yes. Motion carried.
- Tabor Question: Schmidt: We have talked about a levy of sales tax for the fire district. Do we want to put a question on the ballot in November for an increase in sales tax? Alt: Yes. Schmidt: The district currently only gets money from property taxes. This would apply to anything that is sold in the district. How many of us want to try to float this question in the November election? How much do we want to ask for? Valdez: Alt, what are your thoughts on how much we want to ask for? Alt: If we add an amount that will cause the overall

taxation to be over 10%. I believe we are just over 9%. If we push that threshold, I believe we will get some severe pushback. Valdez: Are there any other entities going for a tax increase? Schmidt: Not that I know of. The town, on a 1%, generates a little over \$200,000. We would get the town and Cuchara. At .5% would be in the area of \$150,000. Jameson: What I like is our visitors help pay for the services we provide. Alt: I think that gives us enough wiggle room operationally. Anything over we can pump up our reserves. In my mind that is sufficient to give a degree of comfort to our financial posture. Motion to put a question on the ballot for November 2025 for a sales tax of .5% by Valdez. Seconded by Shrout. Alt: I would reword the motion to not focus on the percent. We should aim for a sales tax increase that achieves somewhere in the neighborhood of \$125,000 to \$150,000 additional revenue. Schmidt: There's no way to really know that. We can make estimates of it. I don't think we can put a question that says we want a sales tax increase that will yield \$150,000. Alt: That's not what I'm saying. Instead of saying we want a sales tax of .5%, since we don't know what that will achieve. All we are voting on here is let's go to the next step. The next step will be to find out how much of a sales tax we will need to harvest \$150,000 in revenue. Now the ballot question can be completely different. The ballot question can say the specific percentage. Let's agree on what our target is and back into a percentage increase. Valdez: Didn't we talk about wanting to increase the tax over 10%? Schmidt: If we want to spend the money to do this, we have to make it worth our while. In the town the museum receives .5% sales tax. They are capped at \$100,000 a year. The rest goes into the general fund for the town. We would have the town and Cuchara. Alt: I'm ok for the sake of moving forward on the .5%, but I ask that we put a TBD. Schmidt: None of this is in stone till we have the ballot question and approved by the state. Till it gets drafted and passed, it is all subject to change. Motion and second on the floor to seek a .5% sales tax through a ballot question on the November 2025 vote. Roll call vote. Alt, yes. Lacy, yes. Schmidt, yes. Shrout, yes. Valdez, yes. Motion carried.

- DEO: Schmidt: Do we want to ask Cindy Jameson to continue as our DEO at the rate of \$25 per hour. Motion to retain Cindy Jameson as our Election Official for the ballot question to be voted on in November at \$25 per hour made by Lacy. Seconded by Shrout. Roll call vote. Alt, yes. Lacy, yes. Schmidt, yes. Shrout, yes. Valdez, yes. Motion Carried.
- The Computer Kernel Addendum Agreement: Schmidt: I contacted the attorney to look over the agreement. We got the addendum and sent it on to The Computer Kernel. Hayden with the Computer Kernel asked to take off the ADA part on the addendum. Passarelli stated that our website technician handles the ADA part on the website not our IT. I am looking to see what you all think. Alt: For the board this has to do with what gets posted on our website. Benny is responsible for anything getting posted to our website therefore he is required to keep it ADA compliant. In my opinion, yes, we should strike that from the contract. Motion to sign the agreement and addendum to the agreement with The Computer Kernel with the provision that item 6 will be struck from the agreement made by Shrout. Seconded by Valdez. Roll Call vote. Alt, yes. Lacy, yes. Schmidt, yes. Shrout, yes. Valdez, yes. Motion carried.
- New procedure for making significant non-emergency decisions by the board: Alt: I recommend that we kick this down the road and take the action to pull together wording that we would agree to for a policy change. I would like to offer a recommendation next month. Schmidt: My position is we don't need more policy to tie our hands more. Alt we can put this on the agenda for next month. Valdez: I agree with Schmidt. We do not need to be bottle-necked with more policies. Shrout: I feel we need it so we can get more information

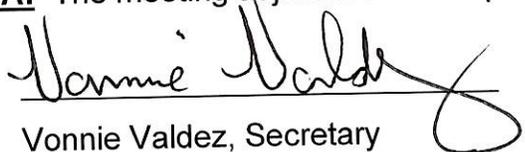
that we might need for a decision. Valdez: We do not rush into decisions. We tend to drag some stuff along for months. Shrout: Maybe we need to change it with a time frame. Jameson: The process is already there for the board to say let's table it. More policies make it so we can't get anything done. Valdez: If Alt can come up with some great wording, I am willing to look at it. Shrout: If Alt can come up with some examples, then we should look at it. Schmidt: The problem with that is we only get one person's opinion. You have one that thinks it's spur of the moment. The other might think it is cut and dry. Shrout: It needs to be on the agenda, then we have time to look at it before the meeting. The items that come up at the meeting to add to the agenda. Schmidt: If you have a proposal for the next meeting let Passarelli know, and she will put it on the agenda. Otherwise, I don't feel we need to keep adding it to the agenda for no reason. Alt: As a matter of fact, I intentionally did not add this to the agenda. Schmidt: The only reason it got added was we agreed it would be there from the last meeting.

New Business

- Resignation of Board Member Lacy: Lacy: I will bring my letter to Passarelli, but I am resigning effective tonight. Schmidt: We need to publish the vacancy. In the past we would accept letters of interest to fill the seat. We have to fill it in 90days or the Board of County Commissioners may appoint a replacement. We would advertise in the World Journal and post it in the window. Motion to declare a vacancy and advertise for letters of intent to fill that vacancy for 4 weeks with a due by date of June 6, 2025 made by Shrout. Seconded by Valdez. Motion carried.

Executive Session – not needed.

* **MSA:** The meeting adjourned at 8:16pm


Vonnie Valdez, Secretary

2025 Actuals vs. Budget

APR				JAN-APR				TOTAL 2025	
Actuals	Budget	Variance		Actuals	Budget	Variance	Budget	% of Budget	Remaining
			Revenue						
			311 . Current Property Tax	83,716	56,372	27,344	192,161	43.6%	108,445
20,624	18,741	1,883	312.1 . Current Tax Interest	11	198		700	1.5%	689
0	63		312.2 . Back Taxes	182	55		200		
	18		312.3 . Back Tax Interest	15	9		32		
	3		312.4 . Miscellaneous Taxes		818		3,000	0.0%	3,000
	273		312 . Other Taxes - Prop tax backfill				0		
	357		312 . Other Taxes				0		
0	714		Total 312 . Other Taxes	288	1,072		3,932	5.3%	3,724
1,911	1,751		313 . Specific Ownership Taxes	6,532	6,903	-371	20,910	31.2%	14,378
22,535	21,206	1,329	Total Revenue from Huerfano County	90,456	64,347	26,109	217,003	41.7%	126,547
			320 . Interest						
5			320.1 . Checking Interest	24				100.0%	-24
128			320.10 . ColoTrust - Legal Exp. Int	516					
267			320.5 . Colo Trust - Operating Interest	1,144					
107			320.6 . ColoTrust - Capital Reserve Int	432					
124			320.7 . ColoTrust-Primary Cap Reserve	497					
11			320.9 . ColoTrust - Organizational Fund	43					
			320.4 . COLOTRUST Interest						
642	650	-8	Total 320 . Interest	2,656	2,790	-134	6,050	43.9%	3,394
			330 . Donations						
			330.1 . LVFPD Auxiliary	750					
			330.4 . LifePack 15	450			2,400	18.8%	1,950
200			330 . Donations - Other	1,200	1,300	-100	2,400	50.0%	1,200
200	300	-100	Total 330 . Donations	56	0	8,292		100.0%	-56
			350 . Misc Charges, Sales & Services	8,292	0	8,292			
			360 . Charges/Income - Fire Dept						
26,875			371 . Gross EMS Charges	66,351				100.0%	-66,351
-13,264			372 . Billing Adjustments	-36,092				100.0%	36,092
			373 . Write-offs - EMS					100.0%	-20
			374 . Refunds						
			375 . Collections	20				0.0%	0
			376 . Revenue Adjustment						
			370 . Charges/Income - EMS Dept - Other						
13,611	11,902	1,709	Total 370 . Charges/Income - EMS Dept	30,278	41,573	-11,295	136,785	22.1%	106,507
			380 . Grants & Designated Revenue						
			381 . Fire Grants						
			382.2 . EMS general grants				3,500	0.0%	3,500
			382.3 . RETAC Income				3,500	0.0%	0
			383 . Station Grants				10,000		10,000
			385.1 . USDA Grant				0		0
			388 . Federal Fire Participation				0		0
			Total 380 . Grants & Designated Revenue	0	0		13,500	0.0%	13,500
			390 . Miscellaneous Income						
254	0		701 . Fuel Tax Refund						

2025 Actuals vs. Budget

APR				JAN-APR				TOTAL 2025	
Actuals	Budget	Variance		Actuals	Budget	Variance	Budget	% of Budget	Remaining
0	27	27	626 - Public Education		82		300	0.0%	300
			628.1 SCBAS						
			628.2 Pumps						
			628.3 Gas meters						
			628.4 Hose testing						
			628.5 Other (Pneumatics, etc)						
0	1,029	1,029	628 - Annual Testing-SCBA, etc.	0	3,088	3,088	11,323	0.0%	11,323
			629 - Capital Outlay						
			620 - Fire Department - Other	200				100.0%	-200
2,034	3,713	1,679	Total 620 - Fire Department Expenses	23,480	16,579	-6,901	68,338	34.4%	44,858
			630 - EMS Department						
			631 - EMS Expense - other	419				100.0%	-419
			631.1 - EMS Medical Supplies	4,983				100.0%	-4,983
915			631.2 - Other medical expenses	3,436				100.0%	-3,436
1,637	1,293	-1,260	Total 631 EMS Expenses	8,838	6,620	-2,218	16,967	52.1%	8,129
2,553	1,000	0	632 - EMS Director Salary	4,000	4,000		12,000	33.3%	8,000
1,000	3,085	785	633 - EMS Incentives/Salaries	11,903	11,324		36,000	33.1%	24,097
2,300	348	-878	635 - EMS Billing Fee	2,029	1,837		4,620	43.9%	2,591
1,226			636 - EMS Equipment						
			636.1 - EMS Fuel	1,278	1,423		4,147	30.8%	2,869
458	340	-118	636.2 - EMS Equip Repairs	1,593	2,167		7,000	22.8%	5,407
818	604	-214	636 - Other	1,091			4,000	0.0%	4,000
1,276	944	-332	Total 636 - EMS Equipment	2,871	4,681	1,810	15,147	19.0%	12,276
			637.1 Paramedic Class	-1,141				100.0%	1,141
50	0	-50	637 - EMS Training	-1,141	545		2,000	0.0%	300
50	182	132	Total 637 EMS Training		82		300	0.0%	300
0	27	27	638 - EMS Public Education		1,364		5,000		
0	455	455	639 - Annual Testing and Calibration						
8,404	7,334	-1,070	Total 630 - EMS Department Expenses	28,501	30,453	1,952	92,034	31.0%	63,533
			650 - Grants & Designated Fund Exp.						
			650.1 - Grant Writing		2,500		2,500		2,500
0	2,500	2,500	651 - Fire Grants		5,000		10,000		10,000
			652 - EMS Grants						
			652.1 - RETAC						
			653 - Station Grants						
			657 - Federal Fire Participation						
			658 - Water Conservancy Grant						
0	0	0	Total 650 - Grants & Designated Fund Expenses	0	0		12,500	0.0%	12,500
23,325	20,697	-2,628	Total Expense	108,113	88,735	-19,378	359,104	30.1%	250,991
13,916	13,361	555	Net Ordinary Income	25,176	21,450				
			Other Income/Expense						
			702 - Other Income Misc	0	0				
			Total Other Income	0	0				
			Net Other Income	0					
13,916	13,361	555	Total Net Income	25,176	21,450				

Savings, Reserves and Loans

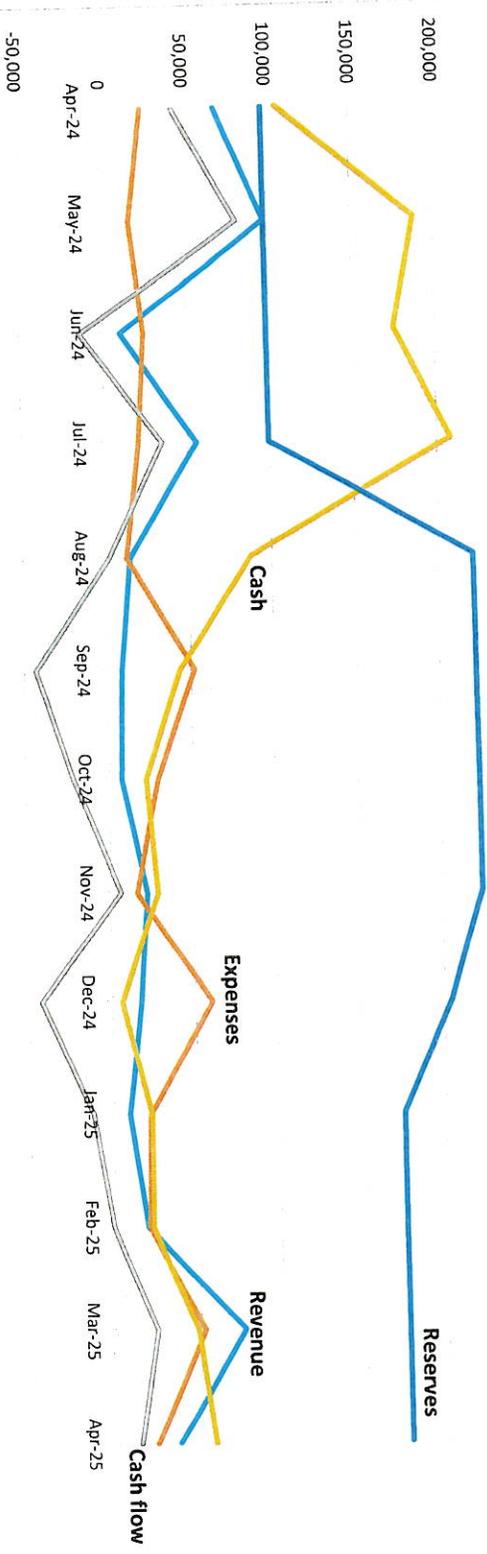
	Balance				Δ	Int Rate
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr		
70-715-5	22,480	22,558	48,590	58,443	9,853	0.10%
Checking (FNBT)	100	100	100	100	0	
Petty cash						
Colotrust Reserve Accounts						
8001	73,249	73,501	73,776	74,043	267	4.39%
Operations						
8002	29,460	29,561	29,671	29,779	107	4.39%
Cap Reserve (Stipends)						
8003	33,892	34,009	34,136	34,260	124	4.39%
Cap Reserve (Primary)						
8005	2,928	2,938	2,949	2,960	11	4.39%
Cap Reserve (Organizational)						
8006	35,207	35,328	35,461	35,589	128	4.39%
Cap Reserve (Legal)						
Operating Accounts Total	95,829	96,159	122,467	132,587	10,120	
Capital Reserve Accounts Total	<u>101,487</u>	<u>101,836</u>	<u>102,217</u>	<u>102,587</u>	<u>370</u>	
Total Funds	197,317	197,995	224,684	235,174	10,490	

Building Loans	Note holder	Rate	Term	Ending	Balance	Payments	
						PI	Frequency
	San Isabel Electric Ass'n (REDG)	0.00%	10 yr	2026	40,000	2,500	Monthly
	Fowler State Bank	3.75%	25 yr	2040	451,566	38,041	Annual

next interest eval 10/2025

	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25	Mar-25	Apr-25	AVG
Revenue (\$)	68,975	98,126	10,703	55,592	14,398	8,793	7,577	22,098	17,363	9,428	19,730	77,307	37,241	34,410
Expenses (\$)	25,075	16,918	24,776	20,632	12,488	51,980	29,235	15,906	59,874	21,810	20,620	52,776	23,325	28,878
Cash flow (\$)	43,900	81,208	-14,073	34,960	1,910	-43,187	-21,658	6,192	-42,511	-12,382	-890	24,531	13,916	4,833
Cash balance (\$)	106,233	187,798	175,225	208,135	87,169	43,551	22,190	28,382	5,871	22,580	22,658	48,590	58,543	78,225
Reserve balance (\$)	97,649	98,097	98,533	98,986	220,379	221,332	222,275	223,263	203,999	174,737	175,337	175,994	176,631	168,247
Total Funds	203,882	285,895	273,758	307,121	307,548	264,883	244,465	251,645	209,870	197,317	197,995	224,584	235,174	246,472

13 month rolling trend



La Veta Fire Protection District Check Detail

April 2025

Date	Name	Account	Amount
04/10/2025	United States Treasury	216 · Federal Withholding, etc	-4,470.26
04/07/2025	QuickBooks Payroll Service	2110 - Direct Deposit Liabilities (Payroll)	-4,337.84
04/15/2025	San Isabel Electric - REDLG	609.3 · New Stn. - SIEA REDLG Principal	-2,500.00
04/10/2025	BoundTree Medical	631 · EMS Medical Supplies/Expenses	-2,363.64
04/14/2025	MGPM, PC	604 · Professional & Legal Services	-2,000.00
04/03/2025	Tressan R Passarelli	601 · Salary - Administration	-1,785.00
04/08/2025	Meagan Owens	633 · EMS Incentives/Salaries	-1,135.00
04/04/2025	Cappellucci's Fire & Safety Co. Inc.	602 · Administrative Expense	-1,092.93
04/30/2025	Systems Design West	635 · EMS Collection Fee	-1,076.83
04/03/2025	David E. Mower	632 · EMS Director Salary	-1,000.00
04/03/2025	Ronald C Jameson	622.2 · Fire Chief Salary	-988.00
04/08/2025	David E. Mower	633 · EMS Incentives/Salaries	-935.00
04/02/2025	Southern Tire Mart	636.2 · EMS Equip Repairs	-800.48
04/02/2025	La Veta Propane	606 · La Veta and Cuchara Station	-744.04
04/15/2025	San Isabel Electric	606 · La Veta, Cuchara Station and other	-543.47
04/02/2025	Valero Fleet	636.1 · EMS Fuel	-421.65
04/18/2025	International AS	625 · Training	-415.00
04/10/2025	Colorado Department of Revenue	217 · CO Withholding	-363.00
04/30/2025	Gobin's, Inc.	602 · Administrative Expense	-346.57
04/08/2025	Lukas E Dearmin	633 · EMS Incentives/Salaries	-315.00
04/08/2025	Susan M Alt	633 · EMS Incentives/Salaries	-260.00
04/25/2025	CenturyLink	606 · La Veta and Cuchara Stations	-191.43
04/10/2025	Airgas USA LLC	631.2 · EMS Other Medical Expenses	-189.05
04/17/2025	IAFC	621 · Expenses	-186.25
04/30/2025	CSFFA	602 · Administrative Expense	-172.00
04/08/2025	Sam's Club	602 · Administrative Expense	-163.16
		624.1 · Fire Dept Fuel	-159.22

La Veta Fire Protection District
Deposit Detail
April 2025

Date	Account	Amount
04/10/2025	311 · Current Property Tax	\$20,624
04/16/2025	1499 - Undeposited Funds	\$9,367
04/30/2025	371 - Gross EMS Charges	\$4,094
04/10/2025	313 · Specific Ownership Taxes	\$1,911
04/30/2025	320 · Colo Trust - Interest on Reserves	\$637
04/30/2025	701 · Fuel Tax Refund	\$254
04/01/2025	330 · Donations	\$200
04/30/2025	320.1 · Checking Interest	\$5

1499 - Undeposited Funds are Accounts Receivable

Chiefs Report 5-8-2025

Department meetings

Second Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM.

Dept Restructuring

No meeting 5-10-25 Propane training day.

Training for the month

Truck inventory on all wildland engines

Truck and equipment

Grant

Need to be looking for more grants

Volunteers

No new applications

Fire Calls

1 Mutual aid

1 False alarm

1 Fire call

Burn Permits

12 for the month.

County information

CAD system is not working properly Response Master can not be put on line till the repair has been completed estimate 5-15-2025.

Stations

Time and Miles

Hours 68

Miles 156

LA VETA FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
FIRE TRAINING 2024

DATE	TRAINING	R. Jameson	David Steffan	E. Guadagnoli	J. Jameson	Dave Mower	B. Jameson	Stephen Ames	D. Chimenti	H. Jameson	L. Dearmin	T. Holliday	Cavin McCay	T. Passarelli	S.Morningstar	TOTALS
11/16/24	DM/SCBA Training	7	7	7	1		7		7	7			7		7	57
12/14/24	District Meeting/Fire Train	7	7		7	7			2	7			7		7	51
1/11/25	Past Fires/Fire Burning	7	7		7	7		7	7				7	7	7	70
2/6/25	FI-110 Canon City		9										6		6	9
2/8/25	Railroad Training	6	6			6									6	30
2/22/25	Dept Meeting	2	2		2	2							2			10
2/25-2/27/25	S-230,S231				16											10
3/8/25	Dept Meeting	1	1		1		1	1		1	1		1	1	1	10
3/8/25	RT-130 Refresher	6	6		6		6	6		6	6		6	6	6	60
3/18/25	SCBA Fit & Training	2		2	2	2	2	2		2	2		2	2	2	22
3/25-3/27/25	WUI Conference KC	24														24
4/7-4/8/25	NEPA Structure Training	16	16		16		16								1	64
4/12/25	Dept Meeting	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	11
4/12/25	Wildland Engine Pumping	6	6		6	6	6	6		6			6	6	6	60
TOTALS		85	68	9	65	31	39	23	16	30	30	0	39	23	36	478

La Veta Fire Protection District
EMS Monthly Report
April 2025
Board of Director's Meeting
May 8, 2025

Training: Training for April was held on 4/8/2025. Training consisted of operational training for the use of the new communications system called "Pulsara". Training was done by the Pulsara Rep.

Maintenance: The only maintenance item for April was the purchase and installation of a matching tire for R-1 after the blowout in March.

EMS Equipment: The calibration and inspection of the EMS equipment discussed at the April BOD meeting has been extended due to LifeMed Safety being unable to perform the work. The entire staff resigned and left the owner by himself. Therefore, I am working with Boundtree Medical, who also provided a quote that was very competitive, to schedule and perform the inspections and calibration.

Personnel: I have been notified that Emily and Trevor Holliday will be moving out of the district sometime over the next couple of months. Emily will not be able to fulfill her Tuition Agreement as previously discussed. She has been given the amount required to pay for the training and intends to pay the amount over a few (2-3) Payments. Also, Haley presented me with a request letter for a 90 day leave of absence due to Medical issues in March prior to the March BOD meeting. Her request did not get discussed; however, I spoke to Mickey about it, and we meant to take care of it at the April meeting making it retroactive to 3/1/2025. Since that did not occur, I am requesting that her request be officially accepted for the record, retractive to 3/1/2025. If she needs more time we can discuss that in the future.

Gabe Vigil has taken and passed his NREMT written exam. He is currently applying to CDPHE for his State certification and will soon be running calls and working shifts.

Pulsara: Pulsara is up and active and works very well. We continue to learn about all the things available to us. I have received and have installed WiFi Hotspot devices from FirstNet in all 3 Ambulances. We are now able to do all PCR/ Communications to SPRHC digitally.

EMS Calls: There were 15 calls for service in April. 11 Patients were transported to SPRHC. 4 calls resulted in no transport. (see attached report)