

CCA Meeting Minutes – August 12, 2012

Present: 19 Carson area residents and 1 guest at the Quonset, Noon

The meeting started with old biz, followed by introducing our guest Rick Chavez, Taos Co. Road Superintendent, who also attended our last meeting in April.

Roads: Rick explained that the road department is stockpiling pit run on our Fire Dept land from the BLM pit off of John Dunne Road. This material will be used for improving South Carson Road with new and replaced culverts. Because Carson residents need to get in and out of Carson, the roadwork will be done in small areas at a time. Adding new culverts and replacing existing culverts with larger ones is the main focus; the end result should be no more drainage problems. This project will take several months, but needs to be finished before winter so we can garage our fire trucks on our land.

Land: The land grant from Rick Hill for our FD has now been deeded to Taos Co. The County waived the \$150 fee due to the fact we have a 501(c)(3), and now that property is free and clear and ready for use by the FD. Rick Chavez has already installed a culvert and a driveway there. Meanwhile, the CCA Board is in the process of getting a temporary fire station sited near where the permanent one will be. Once we have a permanent building, we can use this temporary one, (25' x 30'), for storage and for events. Possibly even the fair next year. This building will house both the brush truck and the pumper/tanker. As soon as it is erected we will run electricity and set up propane for heating. There will also be dusk-to-dawn lights. We will compare pricing between Coast-Coast Carports and SLV.

Equipment: We are getting a fully loaded EMT truck from Allan Siegel in Sipapu. The Public Regulation Commission still needs to release it. Since our last meeting in April, we now have a 1987 Brush Truck in excellent condition. And thanks to Rick Chavez, Taos County donated a portable trailer that can be hitched to the brush truck. This enables us to keep all of our fire gear in one spot and ready to go. We need to paint lettering on our trailer. Perhaps Maye Torres will do this. We also have 5 new radios, thanks again to Rick Chavez, and they will soon get programmed. Taos Co. has been very helpful to us.

Treasurer's Report: \$5422.04 currently. We have received *many* donations so far this year, esp. from landowners who live here only part-time; approx. \$600-\$700. We should also be receiving about \$1700 from UPS soon for the lost elephant stools that were supposed to be shipped to an LA Auction house.

Elections: this year the positions of Secretary, Treasurer, and 2 Board Members are up for re-election. Bob Logue made a motion, which passed, to keep the status quo for these positions for the coming 2-year term as we are in the midst of getting our FD together and the people currently in these offices are key to making this happen.

Evacuation Plan: the Phone Tree is important, but not everyone in Carson has a phone. The FD can organize a committee to go door-door, but what's really important for the FD to be aware of is the particularly vulnerable people who have ambulatory issues. Rick Chavez suggested we contact the Local Emergency Planning Committee in Taos. Once an emergency is declared, a lot of paperwork is generated. We should invite Eletha Trujillo to our meetings to help w/ evacuation plans, etc. She is also the one person who applies for grants for just the type of things we need here. If there is a major disaster, the EOC will be activated. They have resources to help others and us. Their monthly meetings are the first Wednesdays at noon. Elisabeth Maier proposed we create a task force to address the issue of the infirm people here in Carson, and meet with Eletha and Rick. Terry Wolff brought up the point about the poor roads in 3 Peaks, 2 Peaks, Starr, etc. Carson roads are being repaired because we are more susceptible to fire here because of the trees.

Cattle fencing: the Forest Service and Tres Piedras are applying for a grant to fence out the roaming cattle. The Forest Service wants at least 6 people in Carson who live along the F.S. property line to sign a petition. Catherine Logue brought up the concern that the fencing may not be a failsafe, and that the language needs to be clarified about the responsibilities of the cattle owners and the responsibilities of the people who own the bordering properties. Evidently cattle owners are responsible for their cattle roaming on private land if there are 5 rows of barbed wire or more on the fences. All cattle must have a tag and a brand. Jim Defibaugh wrote the Gov. about this problem, and Nibs saw 30+ cows in Sec.17 with no identification. We will see if the F.S. gets the grant to build fencing and go from there.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20pm. Total meeting time 1h: 20m.