



CURRY COUNTY
VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS
NOMINAL FEE STIPEND PROGRAM POLICY

Robert Thornton, Chairman

Brad Bender, Vice-Chair

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December 17, 2024

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PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a Nominal Fee Stipend Program which compensates members of Curry County's volunteer fire departments in order to improve training, competency and recruitment and retention of volunteers

1.0 STANDARD

This policy was approved by Resolution 2024-97 to enable Curry County to pay a ***"Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Incentive Nominal Fee Stipend"*** for volunteer firefighters and EMS responders. This is NOT an hourly wage rate of pay. This is paid to the Volunteer Firefighters and EMS Responders for their participation in Department meetings, trainings (preplans, hydrant testing) and response to emergency calls.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY

1. Volunteers who wish to participate in this Program must fill out an Incentive Program Application indicating their membership status and understanding of the program.
2. Participating members must fill out a W-9 form.

3.0 PROGRAM FEE RATES

Subject to available funding, the base stipend for the Nominal Fee Program shall be \$150.00 per month for participating Fire Chiefs for completion of monthly NFIRS and administrative duties to maintain compliance. Additionally, the base stipend for participating members shall be \$25.00 per emergency call, training, or meeting. The base stipend for participating members who have IFSAC Firefighter 1 certification **or** who are licensed as an EMS provider within the State of New Mexico shall be \$28.00 per emergency call, training, or meeting. The base stipend for participating members who **are both** licensed EMS providers and have IFSAC Firefighter 1 shall be \$30.00 per emergency call, training, or meeting. It is the hope that volunteers will become knowledgeable and competent in structural firefighting, emergency medical services, wildland firefighting, and other fire and EMS specialty areas.

4.0 ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

Eligible activities will include district business meetings*, training** and response to emergency calls***.

***District business meetings are those where the financial affairs, goals and objectives of the fire district are discussed.**

****To qualify for this program training shall be a minimum of two (2) hours in length and shall be scheduled in advance. Vehicle and equipment maintenance checks do not qualify as training.**

*****The volunteer must attend a call and participate with documentation noted on the NFIRS report as proof of attendance and participation.**

5.0 LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS COURSES

Active members are eligible for lump sum payments upon completion and licensure/certification or recertification of the following courses:

BLS CPR and First Aid	\$20.00
BLS CPR and First Aid Recertification	\$25.00
In District Drivers Training (2 hours per apparatus)	\$20.00
FEMA NIMS Online Courses – 100, 200, 700, 800	\$10.00
Certified Emergency Vehicle Operations Course	\$25.00
Wildland S-130, S-190, L-180	\$40.00
First Responder	\$50.00
IFSAC Vehicle Extrication	\$50.00
IFSAC Hazmat Operations	\$75.00
IFSAC Firefighter I	\$150.00
IFSAC Firefighter II	\$175.00
EMT Basic	\$150.00
EMT Intermediate	\$175.00
EMT Paramedic	\$200.00
Other courses as pre-approved by the County Fire Marshal/Chief (up to \$150.00)	

If a member is going to operate apparatus that has a weight greater than 26,001 lbs., they will require upgrading their New Mexico Driver's License to a Class E. A **one-time reimbursement fee of \$18.00 will be paid to the member.**

6.0 PROBATIONARY MEMBERS

Once the prospective member has been approved for membership in a department and has completed six (6) months of the twelve (12) month probationary period, then he/she is eligible to participate in the Nominal Fee Program.

7.0 PAYMENT

Payment will be made quarterly. Eligible members must sign a pay voucher monthly and return it to their District Chief. The fully completed forms, signed by the firefighter and the District Chief, **must be** submitted to Curry County Fire Administration by the **FIFTEENTH (15)** day following the end of the calendar quarter. These dates are listed below:

First quarter ends March 31st. Forms are due by April 15th.

Second quarter ends June 30th. Forms are due by July 15th.

Third quarter ends September 30th. Forms are due by October 15th.

Fourth quarter ends December 31st. Forms are due by January 15th.

No volunteer will receive any payment under this Program unless all forms and all supporting documents necessary for participation in this Program have been completed and are on file with the County.

8.0 ONE-TIME CERTIFICATION REIMBURSEMENT

In order to recognize those individuals who have attained a certification prior to the start of this incentive program, a one-time reimbursement of the highest certification level attained will be given to the individual during the individual's first disbursement. For example, if the member has FF I and FF II, the individual will be reimbursed \$175.00.

9.0 AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

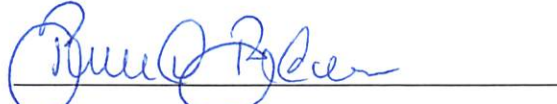
This program is funded through a grant. Payment is contingent upon sufficient availability of funds in the Nominal Fee Account.

Adopted and Approved by the Board of Curry County Commission on the 17th day of December, 2024

THE COUNTY OF CURRY, NEW MEXICO



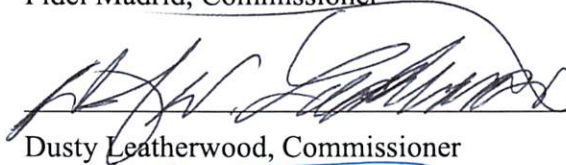
Robert Thornton, Chairman



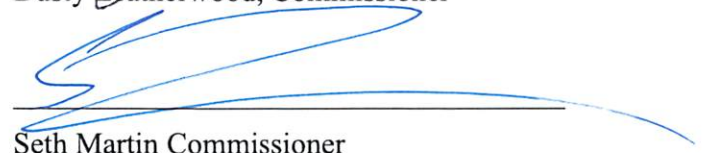
Brad Bender, Commissioner



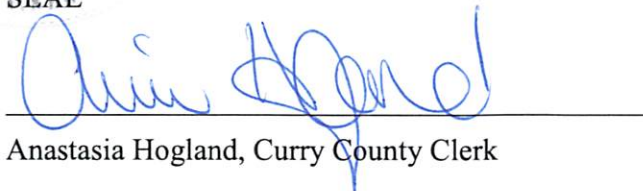
Fidel Madrid, Commissioner



Dusty Leatherwood, Commissioner



Seth Martin Commissioner



Anastasia Hogland, Curry County Clerk