

October 2, 2014

Aledo VFD receives grant to update equipment

SPRINGTOWN, Texas - A \$36,000 grant from Texas A&M Forest Service enabled Aledo Volunteer Fire Department to replace an antiquated skid unit on an older truck that was not in good repair.

“Aledo is a rural VFD but it has a pretty big response area,” Regional Fire Coordinator Keith Vaughn said. “They are also currently in an emergency service district. This new unit will help them do what they do much more efficiently.”

The new slip-on unit has several capabilities previously not available to Aledo VFD, according to Fire Chief Steven Watson.

“We’ve wanted to upgrade to having CAFS (compressed air foam system) capabilities but we didn’t really have the funding mechanism to make that happen,” Watson said. “We have increasing wildland and urban interface so it was important to get a truck with this capability for that increasing threat.”

The VFD found the grant program beneficial for not only acquiring the new slip-on unit, but also for PPE grants in the past.

“Budgets are tight for areas like ours with so much growth happening,” Watson said. “When we have a grant program it frees up our funding to focus on other departmental needs such as staffing. It’s an essential part of our capability to deliver good fire protection to our district.”

TFS passes approximately \$12.8 million along to volunteer fire departments across the state every year, helping them purchase equipment to better protect lives and property.

To learn more about this program visit texasfd.com.



Pictured: Keith Vaughn, Texas A&M Forest Service, Assistant Chief Jim Bradford, Commissioner Robert Wershay, Rena Peden, Stephen Watson, Commissioners Justin McKinley, Juston Stelzer and Mark Jack