

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 16, 2019

Retreat Volunteer Fire Department advances towards computerized firefighting

CORSICANA, Texas — Retreat Volunteer Fire Department added a new 2019 tanker/pumper with many computerized updates to their fleet. Thanks to this new addition Retreat VFD was able to donate two of their serviceable apparatus to other small fire departments.

“This new tanker/pumper is quite an upgrade from our 1975 manual truck,” said Fire Chief Hunter Smith. “It will help meet the need for adequate water supply in an area that doesn’t have fire hydrants.”

The new apparatus has a 3,000-gallon water tank, foam capability, monitor and surround scene lighting, all controlled from inside the cab. It will be a first-out for structure fires and vehicle accidents.

“The tanker can transport five firefighters to the scene along with the tools needed for a fast attack on a structure fire or with rescue tools for a vehicle accident and if needed can be a big blocker for traffic,” said Smith.

Department personnel are in the process of being trained to become familiar with the various computerized options.

The purchase was made possible thanks to a \$200,000 cost share grant through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program administered by Texas A&M Forest Service.

Retreat Volunteer Fire Department has been serving their community since 1983 and has open enrollment for anyone wishing to volunteer. An application may be obtained online at retreatfire.com and click on the “How to Join” tab.

Texas A&M Forest Service is committed to protecting lives and property through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program, a cost share program funded by Texas State Legislature and administered by Texas A&M Forest Service. This program provides funding to rural Volunteer Fire Departments for the acquisition of firefighting vehicles, fire and rescue equipment, protective clothing, dry-hydrants, computer systems and firefighter training.

For more information on programs offered by Texas A&M Forest Service, please visit <http://texasfd.com>.

