

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 30, 2021

Melvin Volunteer Fire Department increases fleet capacity as winter fire season peaks

MELVIN, Texas – Melvin Volunteer Fire Department replaced a 35-year-old truck with a new 2020 custom built brush truck thanks to local support and a cost share grant through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program.

“This truck will be one of our urban interface apparatus,” said Melvin VFD President Ceth Holubec. “The truck is equipped with a 657-gallon water tank and has foam capability making it very beneficial when responding to brush and house fires in our rural community.”

The department offers fire service to their community and to a 64-square-mile area that includes homes, ranches and outbuildings and serves in mutual aid with other fire departments.

In 2020 Melvin Volunteer Fire Department helped contain the Waldrop Fire that covered 1,000 acres. At the same time, Placid Community VFD had a crew on the Gate 5 Fire that was spreading in the northwest side of McCulloch County. Melvin VFD took over response calls that came in for Placid Community VFD, freeing that department’s crew to continue to fight and contain the massive 13,000-acre Gate 5 Fire.

Melvin VFD’s new apparatus is in service and ready for response.

“We would like to thank Texas A&M Forest Service for having grant opportunities available to volunteer fire departments,” said Melvin VFD Fire Chief Cole Holubec. “This addition will greatly benefit Melvin, McCulloch County and the surround area.”

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>.

