

North Boone Fire District #3

03/30/2021

To All Residents of the North Boone Fire District 3:

This is the only official information to be published for our fire district. First, we are not in financial trouble! We have \$250,000.00 in the bank and another at least \$250,000.00 coming in the next month from the sale of our old fire station. We will then have another estimated \$300,000.00 coming from the sale of another building that was never used for fire department operations. We also received over \$93,000.00 in grant money from the first round of the Cares Act. The second round is now available, and we should be able to get as much as the first round or more. The Public Assistance Grant has loosened its requirements and we will attempt to get funding there as well. There is a Conservation grant that we have been invited to apply for as a recipient. We are fine!

The current Board of Trustees, and the former Board of Trustees, have both been good stewards of our money. The former Chief was a good steward of our money. I am not sure how, or why, people are saying we are in financial trouble; it just isn't true!

For some reason, people are saying we are not trained. That, too, is not correct. We have never trained more than we are right now. We have Emergency Medical classes going on now at our Poplar Grove Station. We have members going through Basic Operations Firefighter at our regional training site. We have training twice a month that is now very well attended. We will be burning a house for training on April 24th and the public can come and watch. It will be on Blaine road. For those of you who don't know me, I have been an Instructor for The Illinois Fire Service Institute at the University of Illinois for 23 years. I am co-author of all hazardous materials and incident command classes in the state. Readiness is my passion and we are training constantly.

Please remember, these paid on call firefighters and EMTs make \$11.00 an hour! Yes, minimum wage to risk their lives for our safety. We do ask a lot from them and misinformation about their readiness is hurtful!

Please understand that the only complete information about our fire department will come out of my office as the Chief of North Boone Fire District 3. Consider any other information to be incomplete and therefore inaccurate.

Dan Zaccard; MBA

Fire Chief of North

Boone Fire District 3