

PIID Meeting - July 14, 2020 – PIVFD Trustee Report:

1. Our P25 digital radio system is now live with CREST. We have 3 portable and 3 mobile radios now all tuned into the system. The CREST technician was brought over to certify everything and to make sure it is working to specs. Steve was told that the PIVFD was the first of all the Gulf Island fire departments to go ahead with this. The P25 radios will add clarity and range to our communications and they will have the potential for us to receive more than just voice data.
2. The Paver Project remains unfinished. The contractor was unable to complete laying the poly sand between the joints and he could not do the final seal coat as the weather was just too awful last October. We had deducted the costs for this unfinished work from the contract price. Steve has tried multiple times to have the contractor return to Piers with no success. We may decide to place the poly sand ourselves and perhaps forego the seal coat. The plan is to give the contractor another month to complete.
3. Risk Management and Safety officer **Pauline Olesen** is once again launching Rapid Attack Team (RAT) training this year with the focus on teaching a small cadre of part time fire fighters how they can provide Sprinkler Protection Units to island properties which might be in the path of a wildfire. They can also protect adjoining properties if we have a structure fire. The equipment required for this very valuable and forward looking initiative is being paid for by the UBCM grant Pauline successfully obtained.
4. Captain **Derek Morrison** is in the course of completing the installation of sprinkler protection at the old Fire Hall. This building has taken on more and more importance over the past few years and is now the hub for all of our forest fire fighting activities. Having this building “sprinklered” serves two purposes: it protects this valuable community asset and it provides a good demonstration platform for islanders to see how quickly and inexpensively they can protect their own properties.
5. Over the course of this summer, Captain **John Hall** will be running an island wide program promoting the purchase and placement of fire extinguishers in every golf cart, pick up truck, tractor and front-end loader, etc. on Piers. Our best results are always found when we have early detection of a fire (in the incipient stage) and a rapid response. If every single vehicle on Piers has a working fire extinguisher on board, any one of us can put that small fire out immediately - before it becomes a much larger problem.
6. Our new forestry trailer has been purchased and is now in the metal fabricators shop in Sidney being fitted for our particular needs. We hope to have this in service within 30 days. This trailer can be pulled with a regular golf cart into the centre of the island on any one of the major trails. We will now be able to use either a golf cart or the tractor to carry our forestry equipment. Derek and **Kelly Stevenson** picked up the trailer in the Fraser Valley and brought it home for us.
7. Saanich Fire Department were kind enough to offer us some of their older fire hose at no cost. We picked up over 4000 linear feet of hose from Saanich. This means we can put hose right across the island if needs be – a tremendous advantage if disaster should strike.