

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Lake Rayburn Fire Department receives \$218,000 grant for new truck

**May 11, 2017 — BROOKELAND, Texas** — Lake Rayburn Fire Department recently received funding for a new tender through the Texas A&M Forest Service's Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program. The new apparatus will help increase the department's capacity to save lives and property.

"This truck is replacing a 1993 vehicle that did not have any of the current features that make the new truck a safer and more effective firefighting machine," said Lake Rayburn FD Fire Chief Brett Holloway. "This new truck carries more water, has a Compressed Air Foam System, LED scene lighting, compartment lighting, a drop tank and lots of storage space for all of our firefighting and rescue equipment."

The department purchased a pumper tanker capable of supporting initial attacks and water shuttle operations.

This apparatus has a Kenworth chassis and is outfitted with a 1250-gallon water tank and a CAFS unit that will aid with any type of fire suppression. The foam system will allow the firefighters to coat the fuel and smother the flames while increasing the efficiency of the water.

"We have some fire hydrants in the community but when we get out 3 to 4 miles we have to rely on tenders for the water," said Holloway. "This will be the first truck that rolls when we get a call because of its reliability performance."

The pumper tanker recently made its first run in response to a structure fire.

Lake Rayburn FD has been serving its community of 4,000 since 1984. The 20 volunteers not only respond to calls in their 83-square-mile protection area but also do mutual aid response with surrounding departments. Anyone wanting to volunteer and give back to their community are invited to attend a weekly Monday night meeting at 6:30 p.m. The meeting is held at the fire department located at 2420 Wingate Blvd.

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 VFDs 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>.

