## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Ozona Volunteer Fire Department receives a \$14,900 equipment grant**

OZONA, Texas — The Ozona Volunteer Fire Department received an equipment grant through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program administered by Texas A&M Forest Service.

The grant was used to purchase radios, wireless microphones and charging stations. All are critical pieces of equipment for communication during emergency response.

"The Bluetooth wireless microphones allow the firefighters to communicate using the mic only," said Ozona VFD Fire Chief Brian Morrow. "It has the same features as the APX radios. The radios can be left within a short distance of the firefighters and they can use the wireless mic to communicate with command or a fire dispatcher. The biggest advantage is there are no wires attaching the radio to the microphone."

Firefighting is inherently dangerous. There are always risks and the potential for an unanticipated situation. Reliably communicating with other firefighters at the scene can help increase safety and precision when fighting a fire.

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 <u>http://texasfd.com</u>.



