

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 26, 201

Groesbeck Volunteer Fire Department receives \$200,000 grant

GROESBECK, Texas — Groesbeck Volunteer Fire Department replaced an older truck with a new 2019 large brush truck thanks to a cost share grant through the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program administered by Texas A&M Forest Service.

“The primary use for this apparatus will be wildland firefighting but it can also be used for a quick attack on structure and vehicle fires,” said Assistant Fire Chief Catlin Samuels. “The truck has a 500-gallon water tank, foam capability, scene lights, side storage, remote controlled bumper monitor and sprayers. We also had a spotlight attached to the remote monitor to help with search and rescue.”

The new brush truck has more capabilities and is easier on the budget. It will carry wildland gear and rescue equipment.

“This truck is built to get the job done without having to take our other trucks out and it will need less maintenance since it is new, making it cost effective,” said Samuels.

The department members completed training and the truck is now in service.

“With fire season fast approaching, this truck will be very helpful not only to the community that Groesbeck VFD serves but also in mutual aid throughout Limestone County,” said Matthew Schlaefer, Texas A&M Forest Service Regional Fire Coordinator. “It is decked-out with all the bells and whistles that will give the department an advantage when fighting fires.

Groesbeck Volunteer Fire Department has served their community since 1891. They currently have open enrollment for anyone wanting to give back to the community by volunteering as a firefighter. To request an application call Assistant Fire Chief Samuels at (254) 424-7808.

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>.

