



## ECCA Volunteer Fire Department

349 CR 278 ,Tuscola, Texas 79562-2605  
Emergency: Dial 911 / Station #: 572-3987

Philip King- President  
Margie Hughes- Treasurer

Gary Young- Fire Chief  
Janel Young- Medical Officer  
Patsy Harvey- Secretary

June 16, 2022

Hello neighbors, it's dues time again for your all volunteer Fire Department ECCA VFD. We want to apologize for the late date on getting this reminder out, but we have a pretty good excuse, as we were quite busy.

As you know, we had a very large fire that broke out on Easter Sunday, and named by the Texas Forest Service as the "Easter Blues Fire". This event was in very difficult to access areas and required lots of hand work in getting into areas that were causing problems. With lots of help from our fantastic volunteers and neighbors we were able to get it under control after almost a week. We thought this event was bad, but as the old saying goes "You ain't seen nothing yet".

May 17th rolled around, weather was windy, and humidity was extremely low. What started out as a tiny little road-side fire off Highway 277, very quickly erupted into an almost 11,000-acre wildfire taking homes, outbuildings, and countless animals in its angry path. This event again named by Texas Forest Service as the "Mesquite Heat Fire" raged on for almost 11 days. Our Trucks and Equipment took a beating like never before. ECCA lost several tires on our trucks, pumps, air filters, we even had one of our trucks catch fire and was out of service for a day and a half along with lots of other equipment in the battle against this beast.

Now more than ever, we really need your help with getting our department back in shape. As you know the annual dues for the department are \$48.00, and we are most appreciative of the paying members. If you feel compelled to donate a little more please do so.

Just a friendly reminder, the elected officers and members decided some time back to pursue expense reimbursement from property owners in our service area that are unwilling to pay their annual \$48.00 dues. It's just not fair to expect most of our neighbors who pay their dues to foot the bill for department operations for those that don't pay. NextEra Energy has provided cost reimbursement to the department for four fires we responded to on their wind