

THE OAKRIDGE JOURNAL

ORIA EMPHASIS

The ORIA Board of Directors (BOD) has mailed out ballots to each landowner requesting that they vote on whether or not to modify the current lease agreement with the Oakridge Volunteer Fire Department. *This modification is to change the stipulation in the lease that ORIA had enacted with OVFD stating that OVFD would not begin construction until all of the funds had been collected because the new facility was to have been built where the current pole-barn building currently stands. The change would be to allow OVFD to begin building immediately as the new facility will not require the current building to be dismantled until the new one is built because the position of the new facility on the property will be along the north property line.* OVFD has raised approximately half the needed funds and are ready to begin building.

Your landowner vote is needed by January 9, 10 AM. The terms of the lease agreement state that any change to the agreement must have landowner approval. If approved, OVFD and ORIA will revise the current lease and then construction of the fire station can begin. We must modify the lease prior to construction.

If the ORIA BOD collects 118 or more yes votes, the fire department can begin construction on the new community center/fire department building immediately (to at least a completed dried-in stage). If the ORIA BOD does not collect at least 118 yes votes, nothing will change and the current lease will remain in effect as is.

We wanted to give everyone a chance to receive the ballots (mailed prior to the Christmas holiday). This gives landowners plenty of time to mail the ballots and make the deadline. If you have not received your ballot (or if you have misplaced it in the Christmas rush), please contact an ORIA Board Member to receive a ballot.

Both ORIA and OVFD are in favor of the proposed change to the lease agreement.

Again, **the deadline for votes to be submitted is January 9, 10 AM, the day before the January ORIA Board meeting.** Thank you for participating and submit-



The ORIA Officers' positions are:
James Leavesley - President
Tyler Poli - First Vice President
Sam Kelly - Second Vice President
Amy Hardy - Treasurer
Deanna Jeske - Secretary

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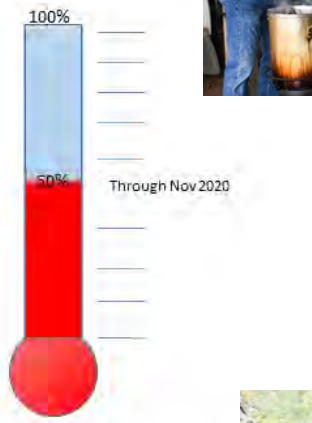
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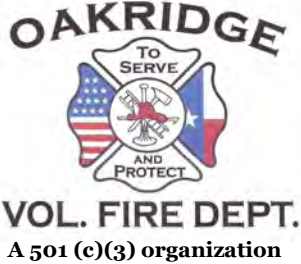
OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

OVFD sends a big thanks to our community for your support over the past year. We held our first ever “Turkey Fry & Pies” on December 23rd. And we wish to thank Landa Bosley (our Oakridge neighbor) of Landa’s Back Porch Gardens (Weimar, TX) for the gift of poinsettias! What a beautiful gift!

We expect 2021 to be an active year for OVFD. With your landowner votes, we hope to begin construction on the new fire station/community center in the near future. 50 % of the necessary funds have been raised for the building.



OVFD Construction Fund



OVFD Mailing Address: 1904-A Oakridge Road, Weimar, TX 78962

oakridgefiredepartment@gmail.com Also join us on Facebook!

OAKRIDGE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

OVFD will continue to have fundraisers and we will need volunteers to help us continue on toward our goal of completing the building and to continue serving our community and surrounding area here in Colorado County, Texas.

We invite our community to come along side us in this building effort. And we will need more than monetary donations. We will need your expertise in many areas. If you have a skill, please contact one of the OVFD Board members and let them know as we will be needing construction assistants throughout the building process.

If you are able to join the department as a firefighter, contact us. We will provide training.

Did you know the purpose of the Auxiliary is to support the fire fighters especially when they are called out to a fire that requires long hours of work and many resources; a fire that requires food and drink so fire fighters can be replenished. Have you ever tried putting on bunker gear during 95-degree heat & humidity? If you have, you understand how quickly body fluids & nutrients can be expended and how important it is for a firefighter to have needed supplements in those situations. This is what our Auxiliary does! Auxiliary members are on standby to prepare and take needed food & drink supplies to our firefighters. Additionally, Auxiliary members support the firefighters during fundraising events because, frankly, it takes many people to successfully pull off a fundraiser. If you have the availability to serve on the OVFD Auxiliary, please contact Deanna Jeske (deannajeske@yahoo.com) or Angie Konvicka (ruacajun2@yahoo.com) for more details.



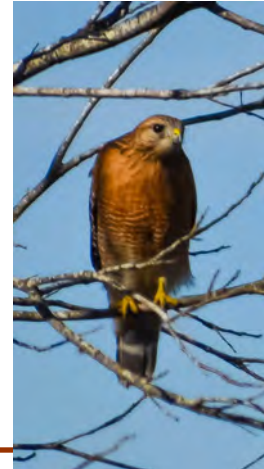
2020-2021 OVFD BOARD & OFFICERS

- Vernon Wallace, President
- R. C. Lumpkin, Vice-President
- Gary LaVergne, Secretary/Treasurer
- Wayne Wolfford, Fire Chief
- Jay Johannes, Captain
- Mark Prasatik, Lieutenant
- Douglas Mason, Chaplain

A 501 (c)(3) organization

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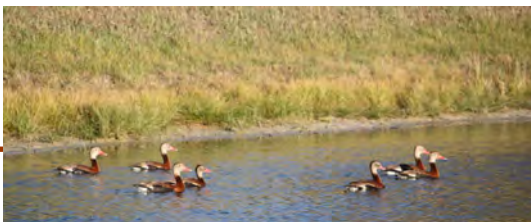


UPDATE FROM ORWMA PRESIDENT:

Wow, what a year 2020 has been! Due to the pandemic, just about every event we had planned ended up getting canceled. The CCWMA (of which ORWMA is a part) Spring Banquet was the first to be canceled. ORWMA generally plans at least one habitat related seminar per quarter, but all these were canceled. The April Fish Fri & Shrimp Boil, the July Ice Cream Social, the November Youth Hunt and the December Christmas Party were all casualties of the Corona Virus.

We did manage to get the August Spotlight Surveys done as well as hold the September Doe Permit Meeting. Deer season is continuing, and we have 8 deer checkers available. Douglas Mason and the Hog Busters continue to check traps daily. The hog count through November 30th is 729 hogs removed from traps. This does not include hogs harvested by individual landowners. Starting next year, we are asking all landowners to report their harvest numbers to Douglas at 979-732-7116.

Also, next April, we will begin rolling out the changes to the MLDP (Managed Land for Deer Program) and how it is going to affect Oakridge Ranch. This was presented to us at the September Doe Permit Meeting by Mark Lange, our Wildlife Biologist. We plan on having several meetings about this and hope that Mark Lange will be able to attend and help answer your questions.



Oakridge Ranch WMA Deer Checkers 2020-2021

- Douglas Mason 1036 Hickory 979-732-7116
- Jack Jetton 1190 East Branding Iron 281-910-1432
- David Mitchem 1848 Oakridge Road 979-484-9240
- Kenneth Taylor 1139 East Branding Iron 713-305-0530
- Doug Jeske 1091 Deer Trail 281-932-7751
- Vernon Wallace 1629 Oakridge Road 713-444-0217
- Wayne Wolford 1175 Buffalo Bend 281-799-4662

Other Numbers:

- Leanne Winkenwerder Game Warden 979-732-7929
- John Kohleffel Game Warden 979-732-7945
- Mark Lange Wildlife Biologist 979-484-2583
- Sheriff's Department 979-732-5522

www.orwma.org Also join us on Facebook!
oakridgewildlifemanagement@gmail.com

Mailing Address: 1904-B Oakridge Road, Weimar, TX 78962