



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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CONTACT: WILL HOLFORD OR BARBARA TURNER
(512) 332-7955

BLEIBLERVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES \$25,000 DONATION

(BLEIBLERVILLE) – Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, in partnership with the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), awarded a \$25,000 Community Development Partnership Grant to the Bleiblerville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD), which will be used to expand the fire station, to include additional meeting and function space.

“Courage is one of Bluebonnet’s Foundation Values,” said Vance Hamilton, Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative community representative for the Brenham area, “With this grant, Bluebonnet and LCRA are demonstrating their commitment to helping the Bleiblerville Volunteer Fire Department put that Foundation Value into play as they protect the people who depend on them.”

The Bleiblerville Fire Department was founded in 1999 and protects and serves a 50 square mile area in northern Austin County, Texas. The department was started to help fill in the gap between existing departments and reduce response times. Today the department boasts a general membership of well over 100 with 35 firefighters. Included in this number are one EMT and three first responders. The BVFD is a state recognized first responder organization.

“The BVFD’s strength comes from our community and help from organizations like Bluebonnet and LCRA.” BVFD President, Steven Doty said, “The people of Bleiblerville have believed in this department from its inception and it has grown tremendously in the last seven years. They have proven time after time their dedication to their community.”

The Community Development Partnership Program provides economic development and community assistance grants to cities, counties, volunteer fire departments, regional development councils and other nonprofit organizations in the Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative and LCRA electrical and water service areas as part of their effort to give back to the communities they serve.

Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative owns and maintains about 11,000 miles of power lines, located across more than 3,800 square miles within 14 Southeastern Texas counties. Bluebonnet's service area stretches from Travis to Washington County and from Milam down to Gonzales County. For more information about Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative go to www.bluebonnetelectric.coop. Photo, Left to Right: Kevin Ignasiak, Cliff Brast, Justin Hold, Vance, Carl Kokemor, Byron Balke, Gary Shupak, Greg Giebel, Cassie Malinowski, TJ Schulz, Charles Sandoval, Steve Doty, Lori, Terry Shupak, Marian Balke, Larry Reese, Joe Chovanec, Willie Stoerner, Jerrell Schovajsa, Nathan Phillips, Michael Duron, Danny Chovanec

