



BAYOU CANE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 10, 2020

Bayou Cane Fire Chief Ken Himel announced at today's District Board meeting that the department had received its grading letter from Property Insurance Association of Louisiana (PIAL). Bayou Cane was recently completed its 5 year grading and was awarded a Class 2 rating from PIAL. This is an improvement from its previous Class 3 rating.

Board Chairman Nicholas Hebert praised the suppression personnel and staff for their hard work and dedication that allowed the department to improve its grading and the effect that has on the community. Additionally, Chief Himel thanked the District Board for their continued guidance and support.

All U.S. fire departments are required to undergo the rating process every 5 years, which consists of many different factors, including but not limited to training, communications, manpower, response times, hydrant and water capabilities, apparatus and equipment, and continuing education.

Chief Himel noted that the category that had the most room for improvement was Personnel and Staffing, but that it was the costliest category for the department the increase. Board Member Ed Lawson praised the personnel present and thanked them for being able to "provide more with less."

Chief Himel advised the Board that he, along with his staff, are continuing to review all grading categories to see how the department can continue to grow and improve its rating and strengthen our current grade.

The Class 2 rating means that the homes and businesses in the Bayou Cane District may see a decrease or discount premiums for their property insurance.