

CONGRESSMAN BOUCHER ANNOUNCES FEDERAL FUNDING FOR HAYSI FIRE DEPARTMENT

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\$48,000 Federal Grant Will Purchase New Firefighting Equipment

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□□□□□□□□□□(Washington, D.C.) – U.S. Representative Rick Boucher announced today that, at his urging, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, through its Rural Development Agency, is providing a federal grant of \$48,000 to the Town of Haysi to purchase new firefighting equipment for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department.

“This allocation of federal funding will enable the purchase of new equipment for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department, providing an added measure of safety for its members,” Boucher said.

With the benefit of the federal funds, four new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) units and twenty air canisters, which can be inserted into the SCBA units in the event that oxygen in the original cylinder diminishes, will be purchased. The new air canisters will replace older models that no longer comply with federal safety rules. Additionally, six new sets of turnout gear will be purchased to replace older gear that has become worn due to age. The Department will also purchase one thermal imaging camera to be placed on the Department’s

new truck.

The Haysi Volunteer Fire Department has 22 members, all of whom serve on a voluntary basis. The Department provides fire protection to 150 square miles in Dickenson County including the Town of Haysi and its surrounding areas.

“I am pleased that the Rural Development Agency is providing this funding for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department. □ It is important to ensure the safety of our region’s fire department personnel by the best equipment and training possible. This provision of federal funds is a necessary step in protecting the people who protect us,” Boucher said.

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