

**BILL NO. 2014-003**

**ORDINANCE NO. 7945**

**A SPECIAL ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NEVADA, MISSOURI CONFIRMING  
NEVADA FIRE DEPARTMENT RURAL FIRE RESPONSE/PROCEDURES POLICY.**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEVADA, MISSOURI,  
THAT:**

**Section 1.** At the request of the Fire Chief, the city rural fire response and procedure policy is confirmed and brought current, as set out in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

**Section 2.** This special ordinance confirmation of policy is provided to establish general guidance for the fire department, however the chief is authorized to issue such other and supplemental policy or procedure guidelines as he or she may determine necessary and appropriate, consistent with law and city policy.

**Section 3.** This policy shall be included the Fire Department Policy and Procedure Manual and will guide the Fire chief or his or her acting officer in charge on questions relating to rural fire protection service.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Nevada, Missouri, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2014.



(seal)  
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Seth Barrett, Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_

Bev Baker, City Clerk

Nevada Fire Department  
Exhibit "A"  
Rural Fire Response/Procedures Policy  
February 4, 2014

**Purpose:**

This program is established by the Nevada City Council in an attempt to make rural fire protection as self-supporting as possible. The policies and procedures covered hereunder will govern the operation of the program.

**Areas to be Covered:**

- 1. Vernon County Calls involving threat to human life.** Response will be made at any time to Vernon County calls in which the caller reports a life is involved. If upon response, the department finds that a life isn't involved, the fire will only be fought if conditions below are met.
- 2. Requests from Missouri Highway Patrol, State Forestry Department, or other state agencies.** Response will be made, as equipment and staffing are available, to calls for assistance from the Missouri Highway Patrol, Missouri Forestry Department or other state agencies.
- 3. Vernon County Communities.** Response will be made, as equipment and staffing are available, to calls for assistance from communities that have a need for our assistance and have so requested the same.
- 4. Requests from Vernon Count Sheriff's Department and Vernon Count Ambulance District.** Response will be made as equipment and staffing are available, to calls for assistance from Vernon County Sheriff's Department or Vernon County Ambulance District.
- 5. Structures within 5 mile perimeter with paid member service charge.** Response will be made to any property located within five miles of the Nevada Fire Department (NFD), 316 W. Cherry, for which the annual rural fire charge, as established by the Nevada City Council, has been prepaid. A map showing this area is kept at the fire station.

**6. Non member occupancy.** Response to non-member occupancies within the fire protection area is discouraged, and in cases involving threat to human life the council authorizes the fire chief or his officer in charge on duty to act reasonably and responsibly with the means at hand and the circumstances attending the emergency. The Fire Chief or acting Chief on duty is authorized to make decisions based on the existing circumstances, the type of emergency, the distances and staff and equipment involved, staff and equipment availability, and always, the threat to human life as well as all other known relevant considerations, recognizing that the city's first responsibility is to the citizens and property located within the city of Nevada, Missouri.

**Payment:**

1. Annual rural service charges will be reviewed and approved by the Nevada City Council in March of each year to cover the cost of rural fire protection.
2. The payment of this annual service fee must be made by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year in order that protection will be provided for the ensuing period, July 1<sup>st</sup>- June 30<sup>th</sup>. This payment must be made at Nevada City Hall, 110 S. Ash, Nevada, Mo.
3. If the payment isn't received by June 30<sup>th</sup>, a \$25.00 late fee will be applied to the annual service charge.
4. If for some reason a rural member lets their coverage lapse and chooses to sign up again at a later date they will be charge for the entire years coverage cost (no pro-rated charges will apply).
5. If a new member signs up after the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline they will be charged a pro-rated amount based on the month they sign up.
6. The annual membership charge will provide protection for one dwelling and 1 continuous acre of land and non-commercial outbuildings within this area. If protection is desired for a separate tract of land and outbuildings located thereon, and additional annual payment will be required for each such tract. Vacant land contiguous with original property may be covered at \$1.00 per acre.

7. If the tract of land is being used for farming or agriculture purposes and no dwellings are present a minimum charge shall be applied. This charge will be the same as the above mention, dwelling and 1 continuous acre. Additional acreage will be charged at the same rate of \$1.00 per acre.
8. Commercial properties will be charged based on the amount of structures located on the tract of land being protected.
9. Non-Member responses will be charged:
  - A. \$100 for responding to a fire call or alarm;
  - B. \$500 for each hour or a proportional sum for each half hour spent on the scene for the purposes of combatting a fire; plus
  - C. An amount equal to one year's subscription or membership fee.

**Rural Fire Response-Equipment:**

1. It is the policy of the city that adequate equipment be kept reasonably available for an emergency within the city. Any part or all of the equipment sent outside the city may be called back in by the Chief or officer in charge on duty in an emergency in the city if the emergency is believed to warrant it.

2. The Fire Chief or acting Chief on duty is authorized to make decisions as to dedication or recall of equipment based on the existing circumstances, the type of emergency, the distances and staff and equipment involved, staff and equipment availability, and always, the threat to human life as well as all other known relevant considerations.

**Rural Response- Staffing:**

1. It is the policy of the city that adequate staffing be kept reasonably available for an emergency within the city. Any part or all of the staff dispatched outside the city may be called back in by the Chief or officer in charge on duty if an emergency in the city is believed to warrant it.
2. The Fire Chief or officer in charge on duty is authorized to make decisions as to staffing based on existing circumstances, the type of emergency, the distances and staff and equipment involved, staff and equipment

availability, and always, the threat to human life as well as other known relevant considerations.

**Mutual Aid Responses:**

1. Responses may be made to assist another fire department operating within the five mile rural response fire protection area to a non-member. However, if NFD responds to a call for assistance and the primary fire department doesn't respond with the proper fire apparatus, the home owner will be billed as if we responded as the original responding fire department in accordance with current billing practices.