

Brady village, fire officials discuss new fire hall

Written by Deb Egenberger

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Planning process just beginning.

The Brady Volunteer Fire Department has out-grown its small, aging fire hall and village officials are planning to do something about it.

Village board members met Oct. 21 with fire department representatives and rural fire board members during a special meeting.

They began what will be a series of discussions about the possibility of constructing a new hall or remodeling and adding to the existing building.

“We know there are a lot of options,” said rural fire board secretary Ray Blede. “We need to draw up some plans, a list of wants and needs, so we have a better idea of what we’re working toward.”

The current building’s five bays are not large enough to house all of the fire department’s equipment and additional gear is necessary to keep the village updated.

The department also does not have a meeting room, Blede said, forcing trucks to be parked outside when members gather monthly.

Blede said the rural fire board, fire department and village are working together to secure grant

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money to help fund a construction project.

The rural fire board is the taxing entity which acquires property taxes from area rural residents.

Blede said the rural board has saved some money to put toward the project but he's certain there isn't enough to purchase land and pay for construction.

The village and fire department share responsibility for the current building, Blede said, with the village paying utilities and other costs.

"We're not sure how the cooperation will work but we know we need everyone to work together," Blede said.

A new fire hall or even a remodeled and expanded one won't be something that happens overnight, he said. Other fire departments have been working on similar projects for years.

"I'm betting it will be two or three years down the road," Blede said. "Right now we're just gathering information."