



## **POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS**

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### **POARCH BAND OF CREEK INDIANS DONATES \$50,000 TO WAUGH-MOUNT MEIGS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**POARCH CREEK INDIAN RESERVATION**, Alabama – JULY 23, 2009 – The Poarch Band of Creek Indians announced today that it is donating \$50,000 to the Waugh-Mount Meigs Volunteer Fire Department Authority (WMMVFPA). April Sells, Tribal Emergency Management Director and Ronnie Jackson, Fire Chief presented the check to representatives from the WMMVFPA in Montgomery, AL.

“The Tribe is proud that we can give back to our local communities and when given the opportunity to make a donation that can help prevent injury or save lives we are more than pleased to do so,” said Chairman Rolin.

The donation represents a \$50,000 gift that will be used to assist in building a new fire station on Tullis Road in Montgomery County, Alabama. Mr. Jimmy Dozier of Dozier Warehouses donated an acre of land in December 2007 for the purpose of building the fire station.

“We as a Tribe are glad to donate to the Waugh-Mount Meigs Volunteer Fire Department, these funds will allow them to better serve the community by enabling them to have a quicker response time,” noted Ronnie Jackson, Fire Chief for the Poarch Band of Creek Indians.

Alma J. Bowen, President, WMMVFPA stated, “We are delighted to receive these funds from the Poarch Band of Creek Indians. The funds will be used to assist in building a fire station on the acre of land donated by Mr. Jimmy Dozier of Dozier Warehouses. This station will assist us as we continue to serve the homes, businesses, churches and other institutions in our district.”

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**About the Poarch Band of Creek Indians**

The Poarch Creek Indians are descendents of a segment of the original Creek Nation, which once covered almost all of Alabama and Georgia. Unlike many eastern Indian tribes, the Poarch Creeks were not removed from their tribal lands and have lived together for almost 200 years in and around the reservation in Poarch, Alabama. The reservation is located eight miles northwest of Atmore, Alabama in rural Escambia County, and 57 miles east of Mobile.

The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is the only federally recognized Indian Tribe in the state of Alabama, operating as a sovereign nation with its own system of government and bylaws. The Tribe operates a variety of economic enterprises, which employ hundreds of area residents. Poarch Creek Indian Gaming manages three gaming facilities in Alabama, including: the Wind Creek Hotel & Casino in Atmore; Riverside Casino in Wetumpka; and, Tallapoosa Casino in Montgomery. The Poarch Band of Creek Indians is an active partner in the state of Alabama, contributing to economic, educational, social and cultural projects benefiting both tribal members and residents of these local communities and neighboring towns.

**About the Waugh-Mount Meigs Volunteer Fire Department Authority**

The Waugh-Mount Meigs Volunteer Fire Protection Authority (WMMVFPA) was incorporated in 1995 but originated in 1993. A couple of years later, property was purchased and the main three-bay station was erected. The main station and training facility is located at 20 Line Creek Road, Montgomery, AL 36117. Currently, two substations -- one on Alexander Road and the other on Okfuski Trail -- have been built. However, two additional substations -- one in the Dozier Road area and the other in the Mount Meigs area -- are needed to reduce Insurance Service Office (ISO) rating and will assure better protection to the coverage area. WMMVFPA's fleet includes four pumpers, one tanker, one aerial/ladder truck, three emergency (rescue) vehicles, and one brush fire truck. Waugh-Mount Meigs VFPA consists of 30 firefighters/EMTs/First Responders, twelve Board members and auxiliary members. There are three Board of Directors appointed and sanctioned by the Montgomery County Commission. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office dispatches emergency calls to the County 24 hours a day, seven days a week, including holidays. The responders are all volunteers and receive no pay.

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