



AITKIN COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE VOLUNTEERS

PROUDLY SERVING THE CITIZENS OF AITKIN COUNTY AND SURROUNDING AREA SINCE 2006

Date: January 14, 2022

Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Attn: Becky Sovde
209 2nd St NW
Aitkin, MN 56431

Dear County Chair Wedel and County Commissioners:

The Aitkin County Search and Rescue Volunteers is an all-volunteer organization falling under the jurisdiction of the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office. We assist the Aitkin County Sheriff by providing search and rescue services for missing or lost persons on land, on foot and aided by the use of our personal ATVs/UTVs and Snowmobiles within Aitkin County. We are also available to provide mutual aid services to neighboring counties across the region and other aid as directed by the Aitkin County Sheriff.

The Search and Rescue Volunteers operate on donations from Townships, Cities, local businesses, private citizens and grants. Funding an organization like ours requires a reoccurring flow of funds for training, equipment and operating expenses.

This year we are continuing to seek funds to outfit our volunteers with up-to-date search equipment.

Aitkin County SAR is the volunteer arm of the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office and as such are not a 501C3 but instead are allowed to receive and, **public entities are allowed to grant**, donations to us under Minnesota State Statute 144.7401 Subd. 4 as follows:

Subd. 4. Emergency medical services person. "Emergency medical services person" means:

- (1) an individual employed or receiving compensation to provide out-of-hospital emergency medical services such as a fire-fighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, licensed nurse, rescue squad person, or other individual who serves as an employee or volunteer of an ambulance service as defined under chapter 144E or a member of an organized first responder squad that is formally recognized by a political subdivision in the state, who provides out-of-hospital emergency medical services during the performance of the individual's duties;

If you have any questions or are in need of more information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you, in advance, for your consideration and support continued.

Sincerely,

Jim White - Lieutenant
Aitkin County Search and Rescue Volunteers
(218) 831-2436 aitkincountysar@gmail.com

Please make checks payable to:

Aitkin County SAR Volunteers
Attn: Sue Coffman
218 1st St NW
Aitkin, MN 56431-1260