



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION



BCFCA Minutes 12/21/2022

1. Called meeting at 8:30 AM
2. Minutes approved Harold Heyn & Doug Myers
3. Treasurers Report \$3,73.94 dues coming no bills approved Doug Myers & Rob Harper
4. Communications - Berrien Springs hosting Bleeding/Control
5. Chiefs/visitors - Jason Wiley new director Medic-1.
6. BCFCA Nominations to be voted on at January meeting:
 - Secretary/Treasurer: Frank DeLaTorre
 - Vice President: Jamie Flick: Brandon Chiarello
 - President: Brian Kazmierzak
7. Sheriff: 6 new graduates from police academy, Mike Troup new SGT emergency management.
8. Red Cross
9. Great Lakes Drone: see your email
10. 911 still 4 openings, more going into training, tower in Buchanan delayed 3- 6 months due artifacts found. Probably 2024. Other sites being looked at.

Caitlin stated 911 Board has 3 positions open for BC Fire Chiefs representation.

The following expressed interest and will be voted on at the January meeting:

Frank DeLaTorre

Doug Myers

Brandon Chiarello

Jeremy Connell

Allen Weich

Auto aid agreements must match initial response on box cards.

New response type developed into CAD: Jaws & Manpower

Extensive discussion on definition of structure fire.

A Structure Fire Discussion Group was created to meet and come up with definition, (Smoke &/or Fire):

Brandon Chiarello

Jeremy Connell

Brian Kazmierzak

Jamie Flick

Doug Myers

Caitlin Sampsell

11. DNR - nothing

12. Funeral Protocol - unknown

13. Emergency Management - nothing

14. Medical - Al DiBrito: new protocols coming.

15. LEPC - nothing

16. BCFA - Next meeting on Jan. 4th Benton Twp Station #1

17. Training - Adult Class at Berrien Springs started, BHDPS class graduation Jan 6th.

18. Hazmat - Dave Albers - training available for departments as needed, be sure to thank your commissioners for supporting Hazmat.

19. MITRT5 – Allen Weich stepped down from the team. Don Wise is the local team leader for now.

20. Old Business - Association dues coming in.

Extensive discussion on 11BCPAGE. Most agencies have it in radio/pager and/or both. Frank motioned dispatch start using 11BCPAGE immediately. Decision that dispatch will start using 11BCPAGE on February 01, 2023. Reminder 11BCPAGE is NOT a paging talkgroup. Departments DO NOT need 11BCPAGE to be dispatched. Weather you have 11BCPAGE in your radios/pagers or not, will not change/effect the way you get dispatched. Departments WILL still get dispatched via their normal paging talkgroup (11PGXX##). Having 11BCPAGE allows you to get the HEADS UP (noisy neighbor) and hear the other agencies get dispatch.

21. New business – Discussion on amending the bylaws as the new bylaws do not address the issue of unable to hold nominations/elections due to lack of quorum. Suggested adding Article 10.5: If unable to hold nominations at the November meeting and/or elections at the December meeting due to lack of quorum, or any other unforeseen circumstances, nominations and elections are to take place at the next regularly scheduled association meeting. To be discussed again at the January meeting as a 30 day notice is needed to change amend bylaws and January meeting is before the 30 day notice.

Twice issues with helicopters not being able to land because of drones in the areas.

