



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Call to Order: 0830-0945

Date: August 16, 2023

Presentation: Great Lakes Drone/Rescue. See attached information. Calls to date: 253

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes Chief Mattix. Seconded by Chief Steinke. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Starting Balance: \$6247.00. Deposit: \$173.91. Ending balance: \$6425.91. Motion to accept treasurers report by Chief Mattix. Seconded by Dave Albers. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills: Chief Myers thanked Chief Knisley for recruiting. Bertrand set up a booth at the Burn Run for recruiting for all departments. Frank Discussed the recruiting project that Gerry Kableman is setting up. He set up a QR code and if department send applications or links to applications he can attach to the recruiting notice.

New Chief/Visitor:

Committee Report:

Great Lakes Drone: See attached.

EMS:

Medic-1: Expansion in north county going well. Currently in Phase 1; one unit at the NBFR Coloma Station. Phase2 will have unit at Watervliet EMS station and at NBFR Hagar station. Hopefully early 2024. Has hired five additional so far. Plan to add a third car in central area in future.

S.M.C.A.S.: None

Med Flight:

Med Control: None

Dispatch/911: Staffing still down. Five vacancies currently. Attended MABAS 101 dispatcher training. Good training. Better education for dispatch team. Discussed the notice on the tower updates. Towers will be in site trunking during updates for simulcast. Ground analysis has been completed and waiting on results. Planning for third site just in case. Mayday committee has met and discussed all departments having boxcards for dispatch to automatically dispatch additional help. Chief Myers reminded that we are not here to force you to have boxcards, however, Chief Myers will be contacting department that do not have boxcards to follow up and help everyone get on same page.

Communications Committee: See attached. Chief Myers thanked everyone on communications committee. Chief Myers stated the discussion on AHJ paged first and then auto aid is to speed up dispatches. Caitlin stated this is still a discussion item.

BCFA: Gerry thanked everyone that has signed up to work the fire education center. Gerry passed smoke detector request form around. Put in number of smoke detectors in column by your department. Discussed possibility of purchasing old fire truck to renovate into a funeral truck. Issues to think about: Insurance/storage/maintenance/drivers. Discussion on Steve Torres has an old fire truck that was renovated for party drinks called Turnout Tapps. Steve has advertised will do funerals also. Next meeting September 06, 2023 at Chikaming. Starting at 1730. Program: Step up and Lead. Will be a 3-4hr training. Please stop by the Fire Education Center. Have a 911 phone simulation set up.

Training: See BHDPS fliers. Berrien County FF 1 and 2 class starting in December.



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Emergency Management: Captain Adams stated working on finishing up public and workers reception centers training. Thank you to everyone who participated in the Niles and Berrien Springs events. Currently waiting on FEMA report on the events. Next exercise cycle will be a hostile action event. Upcoming ICS events: ICS 300: October 23-27 and December 06-08. ICS 400: November 20-21 and December 14-15. Working to bring CERT back. TIER 2 sites have been uploaded into the share file. If you need access to the share file contact Michael Troop. Question on RTF, Rescue Task Force. Trying to bring back.

MITRT5: None

MABAS: Plan coordinators meeting this month. Continuing to work on regional response coordinators training. Moving forward with IMT through MITF-1. Continuing to work on AVI training and EMS boxcards. MABAS 101 training continuing. MITF-1 has sent a water rescue team to Vermont to assist with the flooding. Working with MAAS/Regional Medical Coalition to use MI-MABAS to deploy ambulances.

Other Comments:

Radio Cache: Chief Myers discussed the cache radios are in and currently in use at the fair. Chief Myers asked if BCFCFA would be interested in purchasing identification stickers for radios. Sheet of 100 for \$70.00. Motion by Asst. Chief Kabelman, to purchase identification stickers for cache radios. Seconded by Chief Mattix. Motion passed. None opposed. Chief Myers will work on sign in/out sheet. Captain Adams reminded about radio ID's. Will get cache radio ID's to dispatch.

Caitlin asked if radio IDs can be on sign in/out sheets and shared with dispatch when radios are in use.

Med Flight: Chief D. Flick stated Three Oaks Fire has preplanned LZ and some are on private property. If damage occurs does it fall back on pilot? Three Oaks has written permission from private property owners for LZ, Chief Myers stated PA207 would cover that as well.

Chief Myers discussed issues with moving bodies before ME gives ok to remove bodies. Must have OK from ME before body removal. Questions contact Chief Myers.

Chief Chairello discussed mayday policy. Should have draft mayday policy by next meeting. NIOSH recommends emergency button active. Strong command presence. Boxcards for MAYDAY so dispatch can send next alarm level. Document broken down into small sections.

Old Business: Discussion on meeting times. Will attempt afternoon meetings. **Meeting times at 1630 in September/October/February 2024/March 2024.** Posted in TexCom. Remember you are allowed to send a representative per the bylaws. Will need to fill out representative form.

New Business: Chief J. flick discussed a recent issue his township clerk brought up in regards to replacement value of departments vehicles. Suggested not depreciating department vehicles and looking into insuring vehicles for replacement value.

Sheriff introduced future new sheriff.

Chief Steinke discussed the SCBA grant Sodus/Benton Twp/SJT1and2/ for \$809,000.00 Covers airpacks and compressors. Congratulations! Chief Myers stated BSOT and Baroda will be doing an airpack grant in the spring if anyone interested. Caitlin discussed the MGU (Michigan Gas Utilities) grant. Small grant \$2000.00 for first responders. Grants are in TexCom.

Sherriff: The fair dedicated a new bench outside security office for Dick Mann.

RIT Packs make sure you have connections/adapters for neighboring departments.

Chief J. Flick will be placing hose order. If interested in ordering hose get with him ASAP.

Sherriff: MIOSHA showed up at Lake Twp. Does anyone have a list of what they look for?

Next Meeting: AFTERNOON MEETING: September 20, 2023 AT 1630HRS.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Chief Weich. Seconded by Chief Mattix.

None opposed. Meeting adjourn: 0945.



Great Lakes Rescue

MISSION READY

Facts Sheet BCFA 2023

- 1) **Do you have signed response service agreements with municipalities?**
 - a) Yes, we have signed agreements with five county governments and are negotiating three county agreements currently. We also have ten local municipal agreements for response services and three medical first responder agreements with local municipalities.
- 2) **Do you have liability insurance?**
 - a) Yes, we have a 2 Million Dollar Commercial General Liability, a 1 Million Dollar Vehicle Fleet Liability Policy, a 1 Million Dollar Commercial Umbrella Coverage, a 1 Million Dollar Workers Compensation Liability and a 1 Million Dollar Aviation Liability Policy. Anyone who has an agreement with us receives a certificate of insurance naming them as covered by our policies.
- 3) **What licenses/accreditations does your business have?**
 - a) Our business has several state and federal certifications and licenses, here are some examples...
 - i) State of Michigan Medical First Responder License - 111133
 - ii) State of Michigan Applicators License - 110080
 - iii) Federal Aviation Administration Certificates – GLDG764Q
 - iv) Federal Aviation Administration Exemptions – FAA-2020-1065
 - v) Federal Aviation Administration Waivers – 107W-2022-00689
 - vi) Centers for Medicare & Medicaid CLIA – 23D2245850
 - b) Our business has several approved and pending accreditations as listed here...
 - i) MABAS Type 1 UAS Team – April, 2022
 - ii) ULSA Aquatic Rescue Agency – Pending (Expected October 2023)
 - iii) USLA Lifeguard Agency – Pending (Expected April 2024)
 - (1) USLA Accreditations are based on performance evaluations over a period of time of operations and thus takes time monitoring our operations.
- 4) **Are there professional organizations you are actively involved with in public safety?**
 - a) Yes, we belong and actively participate in the following organizations.
 - i) Michigan MABAS
 - ii) Berrien County Medical Control Authority
 - iii) Michigan State Police Working Drone Group
 - iv) Law Enforcement Drone Association (LEDA) only 2 private companies approved within the association, and we are one of them.
 - v) National Search and Rescue Association (NASAR)
 - vi) United Life Saving Association (USLA)
 - vii) Michigan Public Safety Drone Association (MPSDA)
 - viii) Michigan Sheriffs' Association
 - ix) National Sheriffs' Association
- 5) **What are the standards that you train to for response staff?**
 - a) This varies based upon staff roles, however listed below are common core components for training.
 - i) NIST for Public Safety
 - ii) NASAR
 - iii) USLA
 - iv) ASTM
 - v) NFPA 2400
 - vi) NREMT



Great Lakes Rescue

MISSION READY

- 6) **Is your agency recognized outside of the local area?**
- a) Great Lakes Drone Company is recognized globally for various subject matter expertise. Specifically in public safety we have listed below some of our speaking events and work we have done consulting outside agencies in public safety response & mitigation.
- i) Speaker at the National Public Safety UAS Conference - 2023
 - ii) Speaker at the Michigan State Police 911 Innovation Conference - 2023
 - iii) Speaker at the Colorado Public Safety UAS Summit – 2022
 - iv) Speaker at the Michigan Sheriffs Conference - 2022
 - v) Speaker at Native American Fish & Wildlife Society – 2021, 2022, 2023
 - vi) Provides training for Native American Society nationally.
 - vii) Worked with the following agencies on UAS integration, training or consultation as examples.
 - (1) Las Vegas Metro PD
 - (2) Maui Fire Department
 - (3) State of Hawaii
 - (4) Los Angeles County Fire Department
 - (5) Department of Defense
 - (6) NASA
 - (7) US Secret Service
 - (8) Sri Lankan Military
 - (9) US Forest Service and Department of Interior
- 7) **How is this response model sustainable?**
- a) This concept initially started in late 2018 and has continued to evolve. Initially it was free from 2018 until 2021 for two reasons. 1) We can't ask for financial compensation for something new that no one understands the value of and 2) our call volume was manageable as a business write off. It was in late 2020 and early 2021 our services became more requested and geographically expanded. We continued to build on a shared resource model but built in an annual fee based on cost over the previous years for operations. This has now become the standard of our operations as a shared public/private partnership of resources and experience. This allows us to recoup the cost of operations through an annual subscription and fee schedule, donate and invest in the tools and resources we offer for a better, more cost-effective response to the communities we all serve. Instead of one agency fronting the costs for an internal operation to this extent with the resources we provide, we have several agencies pitching in a small amount for equipment and experience most agencies cannot fund on their own or have the statistics to justify the expenses related to the program we offer.

August 03, 2023

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Initial dispatch on boxcards:

- A few agencies with multiple agencies on initial dispatch.
- Chief Myers spoke with one agency and they will be updating boxcards.
- Caitlin needs an email to make changes.
- Discussion on DPS agencies having multiple agencies on initial dispatch.
- Dispatch has to select 10 resources to dispatch DPS department.
- Don't want to use 11PG911.
- Discussion on utilizing an 11PGXXXX that is currently in use.
- Caitlin to look into reallocating an 11PGXXXX that is not in use.
- Discussion on a two stage dispatching process: first AHJ department then auto aid.
- Caitlin to look into a two stage dispatch.
- Look into adding paging talkgroup to radios and scan.
- Have PSO's carry pagers!
- Dispatch researching dispatch alert software.

- 11PG911 use:

- Discussion on 11PG911 use: HIP; storm alert; DC Cook; EMS strike force.

- Mobilization radio traffic:

- Mobilization radio communications need to be limited to: Clear on call; enroute; On Scene; Clear of scene, for first apparatus.
- Please move other traffic to proprietary talkgroup or Tac channel.
- Needs to be a department training/radio discipline issue.
- Discussion on working on a training video.
- Disregard Pages: At agency request limited to one page out.
- Active911 can be used to disregard agency members as well.
- Dispatch has started shorting dispatch wording.

- MAYDAY Procedure:

- Reviewed the draft mayday proposal.
- Communications Committee felt the draft was lengthy and seemed to try to blend three policies into one.
- Communications Committee recommended to Caitlin to have MAYDAY committee first work on MAYDAY communication procedure.
- Dispatch to ask command if would like next box alarm level.
- Discussion on FG operations on non monitored talkgroup/channel.
- Discussion on adding additional person to monitor radio traffic. This can be added to boxcard response.



The MPSCS in conjunction with our vendor Motorola Solutions Inc will be performing work at the below sites in preparation for simulcast integration. This work will require the site to be in Site Trunking.

Subscribers will hear and see the Site Trunking alerts on their mobiles and portables when affiliated on these sites during the below dates and times. Subscriber devices will prefer the surrounding Wide Area Trunking sites provided they have sufficient signal.

To allow for issues such as system usage, dispatch emergencies, and weather events (fading), the window for completing this work is scheduled as follows:

5402 (Coloma)	8/21/23-8/25/23 from 8AM (0800) to 4PM (1600)
5304 (Sumnerville)	8/28/23-9/1/23 from 8AM (0800) to 4PM (1600)
5404 (Sawyer)	9/4/23-9/8/23 from 8AM (0800) to 4PM (1600)

Dispatch centers are encouraged to review their backup plans and have them in place prior to the outage event.

If you have an active emergency prior to the scheduled outage time at a tower site, please contact the NCC and request they temporarily delay until the emergency has stabilized. If the site outage has started, the site will not return to wide trunking until the work has completed.

The MPSCS NCC may be contacted at [\(888\) 554-4622](tel:8885544622) or [\(517\) 333-5050](tel:5173335050) if you have a question regarding the operation of the MPSCS or need assistance preparing for this event.

*Please do not forward this email. Forwarding may remove you from this distribution list and prevent



PERFORMANCE UNDER PRESSURE: BUILDING A REALITY-BASED TRAINING PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

FRIDAY SEPT. 8TH, 2023 - 0830-1700hrs
Todd Center - Lake Michigan College

Enhancing human performance is being used in professional sports and the United States Olympic teams to get an edge on the competition. Firefighters are tactical athletes who need tools/skills to accomplish high-speed problem-solving under pressure. This open and honest lecture provides the attendees with information on how their bodies and minds react when the fear response is activated, how to mindfully react to this response, and reach optimal human performance. The instructors will provide insight into Mindfulness and "Psychological Flexibility" to guide us in becoming higher performers on the fireground. Using our Reality Based Training model with mental skills coaching techniques, attendees will walk away with a roadmap on how to train and develop skills and abilities to perform under pressure.

Rob Blasetti is the Operations & Training Chief for the Englewood, FL Fire Department. Prior, he was a Lieutenant assigned to the Field Training Section of the Fire Academy at a large metro fire department in Northern Virginia and a member of the VA-TF1/USA-1 Urban Search and Rescue Team. Before moving to Virginia, Rob worked for the City of Cape Coral Fire Department in Florida, where he held the Battalion Chief of Operations position with extra Special Operations responsibilities. Since 2006, Rob has been sharing with firefighters around the country the effects environmental and mechanical stress has on decision-making on the fire ground and how to build training programs to succeed on the fireground. Rob has taught at numerous international, national, and regional conferences, including FDIC. Blasetti is a presenter for the National Olympic Committee for sports psychology and Athena Institute for Education and Research Conference on Psychology.

REGISTRATION: bkazmierzak@bhcitcity.us - \$25 includes lunch

IMPROVING FIRE INSTRUCTOR EFFECTIVENESS



COME JOIN US

SPECIAL HAZARDS TRAINING BLITZ!

AEP - Electrical Emergencies

MGU - Gas Emergencies

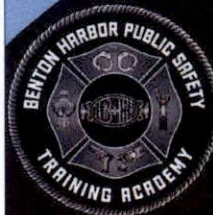
Medic 1 - Stop the Bleed



SAVE A LIFE

MONDAY AUGUST 21st, 2023 1800-2100

Lake Michigan College - Todd Center



TO REGISTER: bkazmierzak@bhcitcity.us

TRAINING IS FREE!



Quarter Auction

SUNDAY

October 15, 2023

Preview: 1:30 – 2:00 pm

Auction Starts: 2:00 pm

**North Berrien Fire Rescue
Station 1
170 Washington
Coloma MI 49038**

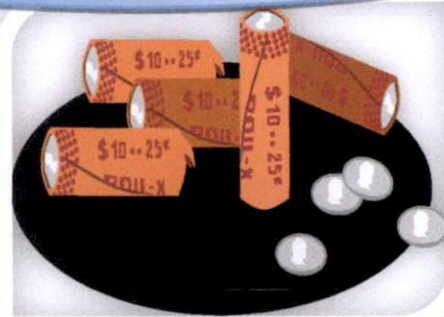
Tickets \$5.00

Available in advance or at the door
ALL IN PADDLE price to be determined

Here's how it works: Upon checking in, you will receive a numbered paddle. All the participating vendors provide items valued from \$10-\$100 for auction. When an item comes up for bid that you are interested in, you place the appropriate number of quarters in the basket in the middle of your table and raise your paddle.

**\$10 - \$24 = 1 quarter
\$25 - \$49 = 2 quarters
\$50 - \$74 = 3 quarters
\$75 - \$100 = 4 quarters**

Once the bidding has closed the auctioneer picks a random numbered ball. The individual with the matching numbered paddle that bid will win. If the matching numbered paddle did not bid say "no bid" and the auctioneer will pick another ball until there is a winner.



PARTICIPATING VENDORS

- * BEEMER'S BLANKETS
- * ORIGINALS BY MARILYN
- * PAPER PIE
- * THIRTY ONE
- * TROUBLE IN LAWS
- * TUPPERWARE
- * YOUNG LIVING

MORE TO COME!!

PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

**North Berrien Fire Department
Ladies Auxiliary**

There will be a snack bar with food and beverages for purchase. Please no outside food/drinks.
There will also be raffle tickets for sale so bring a few extra dollars 😊

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact: Julie Carter (269) 876-0910 or Michelle (269) 332-7229