



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN



Call to Order: 1634-1746

Date: September 20, 2023

PRERSENTATION: Presentation by Sandra Dyja from the First Responder Task force. Sandra gave her annual First Responder Benefit Association presentation. Sandra's contact information is attached.

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

Treasurer's Report: No changes. Starting and ending balance: \$6420.91. Motion to accept treasurers report by Chief D. flick. Seconded by Chief Harper. Motion passed. None opposed.

Bills: Chief Myers submitted bill for locking cabinet for the cache radios.
Cabinet: \$129.97. Cache radios in cabinet charged and labeled.

Communications: Discussed the MPSCS advisory on subscriber radio end of life notice. (see attached.)
AFG SCBA pack grant, congratulations to Sodus; Benton township, ST Joe Twp 1 and 2, on the pack grant.
Berrien Springs, Buchanan Twp, Baroda, planning on going in on a pack grant. Listed in Texcom as well.
Boxcards: Chief Myers read over the boxcard list from dispatch. (See attached list.)

New Chief/Visitor:

Committee Report:

Great Lakes Drone: See Attached.

EMS:

Medic-1: Director Wiley stated all is going good. Staffing is good. 20 students for EMT class.
Expansion in north county going well. Now have a contract with all municipalities they serve.

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

Med Flight: None

Med Control: None

Dispatch/911: Still waiting on the geological study to come back. They have until October 13, 2023. Currently have 3 in training and 5 openings. Current staffing: 13 with 5+ years; 3 with 2 years; 9 with less than 2 years. If you have any issues please contact supervisor right away.

BCFA: Gerry thanked everyone that participated in the 911 event. Raised \$9000.00. distributed between ST Joe, Benton Twp., ST joe Twp. Next meeting October 04, 2023 at Eau Claire. Working on smoke detectors 1000 smoke detectors and 200 CO detectors.

Training: BHDPS offering Strategy, tactics class. Does class meet FO1? No the stated redid FO1 and new FO1 has no strategy/tactics to it so this course is taking place of that. Course mostly hybrid. 2 in person classes and 1 Saturday. Rest hybrid. Will be recorded as well so if miss a session can go back and watch it.

Emergency Management:

MITRT5:

MABAS: None

Other Comments: NIFRS: Because we fall under the AFG grant we need to make sure NFRS are completed. If you do not have them done it not only affects your department but other departments in the county as well. BHDPS will be having a SCBA flow test on SCOTT packs in late October/November. \$30.00 per pack if interested contact FM Kazmierzak.

Additional grant information uploaded to the grant zone in Texcom. If you know of a grant that is not listed in Texcom please share that info with Chief Myers.

North Berrien Fire Auxiliary quarter auction fundraiser. See attached flier.

North Berrien Fire Auxiliary also selling challenge coins \$15.00. Please see Frank if interested.



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Old Business: Discussed/reviewed mayday policy. Discussion on emergency button setting. Emergency button set with delay. Older radios can not be set with delay. Activate emergency button on both radio and speaker mic. Must have radio IDs sent to dispatched and updated with dispatch when assigned radios are changed. Have until end of year to get emergency buttons programed and have training.

Mayday committee will develop training and training materials, possibly a train the trainer course as well.

Mayday committee will send out an updated draft with discussed changes.

Executive Board, Thank you to the mayday committee.

Discovered need for additional policies example: communications.....

New Business: Discussion on radio communication, Lead unit contacts dispatch. Other units advise command or initial unit responding they are enroute. Chief Myers asked about command officers. Are command officers in CAD? There are some situations, especially with the on call departments, when command officer goes enroute first or the truck goes enroute first. If command officer goes direct units talk to command officer. If not unit talks to dispatch. After initial unit enroute additional responding units do not have to call dispatch, however we have noticed dispatch will answer the units. That is good to know dispatch is listening. If departments stay on 11F911 for working fires dispatch is to ask department to move to a fireground.

FM Kazmierzak asked with our new radios that affiliate with the system, do we need to do radio checks. The new radios show signal strength, side button shows affiliated tower. If you feel need to do radio checks use your proprietary talkgroup. Discussion on fireground. Galien had a structure fire and a mutual aid company asked about a fireground and one was assigned and Galien command had no idea a fireground was assigned.

Next Meeting: **October 18, 2023 at 1630 hrs, Lincoln Twp.**

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by FM Kazmierzak. Seconded by Chief Harper. None opposed. Meeting adjourn: 1746hrs.

Department	Box Cards Y/N	Date Last Updated
Baroda	Y	4/1/2018 (Old Version)
Benton Harbor	Y	Update Pending
Benton Twp	N	
Berrien Springs Oronoko Twp	Y	12/1/2022
Bertrand	Y	?
Bridgman	N	
Buchanan City	Y	01/2016 (Old Version)
Buchanan Twp	Y	1/1/2023
Chikaming	Y	01/2019 (Old Version)
Eau Claire	N	
Galien	Y	1/18/2023
Lake Twp	N	
Lincoln Twp	Y	3/15/2023
New Buffalo City	Y	<i>Shared with NB Twp</i>
New Buffalo Twp	Y	11/10/2022
Niles City	Y	? (Old Version)
Niles Twp	Y	6/5/2020 (Old Version)
North Berrien	N	
Royalton	N	
Sodus	N	
St. Joseph City	Y	Pending
St. Joseph Twp 1	Y	1/4/2023
St. Joseph Twp 2	N	
Three Oaks	Y	1/1/2023
Watervliet	N	
Weesaw	N	



POWERED BY



Department Name: _____ County: _____ Date: _____
Name & Title: _____ Cell #: _____
Department Address: _____ Office #: _____
Number of Employees: _____ Email Address: _____
(including non-sworn and clerical)
How soon you would like your department served: _____
Contact person to schedule Name & Title: _____
(if not yourself) Cell Number: _____ Email: _____



Sandra Dyja
Lead Coordinator
(248) 904-5656
sdyja@frtf.us



FRTF.us | help@FRTF.us | (888) 757-2322





Great Lakes Rescue

August 2023 Report

Response Review

UPDATES



1. Total calls in Allegan County 2023: 15
2. Total calls in Barry County 2023– 7
3. Total Calls in Berrien County 2023– 128
4. Total Calls in Calhoun County 2023– 1
5. Total Calls in Kalamazoo County 2023– 57
6. Total Calls in St Joseph County 2023– 30
7. Total Call in Van Buren County 2023– 42
8. Total Calls in 2023 to Date: 280
9. Numbers are as of August 31st, 2023

During a recent response with SRT we encountered a suspect using a drone for counter surveillance of Law Enforcement. Fortunately our pilots and SRT identified the concern early enough to mitigate the situation and take the suspect into custody without incident or detection by the suspect. The below photo shows our drone watching the suspect fly his with no knowledge we had eyes on him. In the photo below you can see the suspects screen for the drone he was flying.



On August 17th, 2023 GLR responded with NBFR on a possible structure fire with smoke in the garage. On initial arrival FD staff noted light smoke in the garage and eves but unknown location of the fire. Within 30 seconds of the drone being the area the source of the fire was located allowing firefighters to make an immediate stop without further spread or damage.



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**

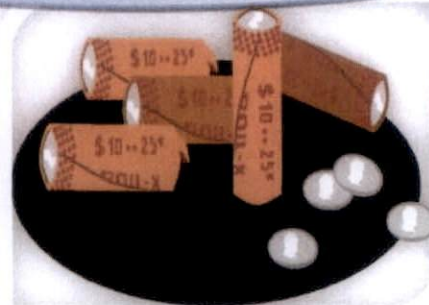
Tickets \$5.00

**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



Approved Subscriber Radio End of Life Notification

MPSCS announces the end-of-life notification for previously approved subscriber radio models, noted as “*legacy models*.” These identified models lack support for the growth of MPSCS and ongoing interoperability and encryption standardization efforts.

Several of these subscriber radios began production life in 2002 and have been end-of-life for manufacturer support and ineligible for firmware enhancements since 2014. Several of these models cannot support the minimum number of channels required to maintain a standard statewide interoperability templates, nor can they support any additional growth of MPSCS. Additionally, these models cannot support encrypted interoperability, since they can no longer be upgraded to support MPSCS recommended encryption algorithms ARC4 (ADP), DES-OFB, and AES-256 at a hardware level necessary to maintain interoperability.

Effective January 1st, 2024, the following legacy models will NO LONGER be eligible as “NEW RADIO ADDS” to MPSCS for ANY REASON or “INTER-AGENCY TRANSFERS,” when advanced functionality is required.

Advanced functionality is defined as, but not limited to TDMA, IV&D, and encryption.

ALL Inter-agency transfers are REQUIRED to meet the current minimum MPSCS specifications at the time of transfer, prior to approval of the transfer. Please see the [current approved radio list](#) for minimum subscriber radio requirements.

MPSCS RPU will continue to honor reprogramming requests for these legacy models if, software support is available under DTMB security policies, and the software is supported by the manufacturer to allow customers time to coordinate life-cycle replacements.

It is the intent of MPSCS RPU to **cease all programming of these legacy models by January 1st, 2026.** Agencies may continue to utilize these legacy models on MPSCS as programmed after this date; however, MPSCS would no longer provide programming support on these models thereafter.

Legacy Models Affected	
Portables:	Mobiles:
Motorola XTS-2500	Motorola XTL-2500
Motorola XTS-5000	Motorola XTL-5000
EF Johnson Viking VP600	EF Johnson Viking VM600
EF Johnson Viking VP900	EF Johnson Viking VM900
L3Harris XG-15P	L3Harris XG-25M
L3Harris XG-25P	L3Harris XG-75M
L3Harris XG-75P	L3Harris XG-100M
L3Harris XG-100P	Tait TM9100
Tait TP9100	
BK Technologies KNG-P800	

If there are any questions concerning this advisory notice, please contact the MPSCS Radio Programming Unit:

Phone: 517-333-2720

Email: MPSCS-RPU@michigan.gov

Reference Links:

[Approved Subscriber Radios, Pagers, Dispatch Consoles, and Encryption Keyloaders](#)

[Approved Customer Programming Software & Recommended Firmware Versions](#)

[Minimum Subscriber Radio Encryption Recommendations](#)