



**BERRIEN COUNTY**  
**FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**  
**BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**



**Call to Order:** 1630-1738

**Date:** February 21, 2024

**Old minutes:** Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes by: Chief Dwan. Seconded by: Asst. Chief Kabelman. Motion passed. None opposed.

**Treasurer's Report:** January 2024 Meeting: Decembers 2023 statement: Beginning Balance: \$6233.99; Dues deposits: \$650.00; Ending balance: \$6883.99. February 2024, Januarys 2024 statement: Beginning balance: \$6883.99; Dues deposit: \$450.00; Ending balance: \$7333.99.

As of February 2024, BCFCA meeting the following agencies have not paid dues: Baroda; BHDPS; New Buffalo City; Royalton Twp; SJCDPS; These agencies are currently not members in good standing.

Motion to accept treasurers report by: Chief J. Flick. Seconded by: Chief Chairello.

Motion passed. None opposed.

Baroda and New Buffalo City checks received on February 24, 2024

**Communications/Bills:** Thank You from Retired Sheriff Bailey for the clock.

Berrien Springs will be holding a 5K run/walk in July 2024. Berrien Springs FD plans to walk in full turn out including SCBA. If any other fire departments would like to also participate contact Chief Myers.

**New Chief/Visitor:** Welcome Brian Florey, representing Lake Twp. FD.

**Committee Report:**

**Great Lakes Drone:** None

**EMS:** None: After meeting ended LT DeLaTorre announced West Michigan Aircare is going out of business April 20, 2024.

**Dispatch/911:** Caitlin unable to attend. She advised LT DeLaTorre footings for new tower have been poured. Now waiting for footings to cure. Once cured out buildings will be brought in. Reminder FD's need to move to 11FG. Several FD's still continue to work structure fires on 11F911. Question on if 11FG can be assigned on dispatch. Reminded all that all mobilization/response/size up ion 11F911 and agency to ask for 11FG once on scene if needed. Question on if 11FG can automatically be assigned for structure fire. Question on if all highway incidents can be assigned an 11UIC at dispatch so all agencies, PD/Fire/EMS can communicate together on incident. Both of those discussion's to be moved to communications committee. Discussion on recent fire in Niles Twp. Dispatched as structure fire, ended up a grill fire. Multiple page outs and multiple active911 for the call.

**BCFA:** Next meeting March 06, 2024, at New Buffalo Twp. Pancake breakfast at Niles Twp. March 10, 2024. Car show informational fliers on table.

**Training:** BHDPS tactics classes going well. BHDPS fire academy coming up. Thank You to BHDPS for the tactics classes. Discussion on possible holding a mayday skills scenario drill. BCFA hosting a resilience/self care class on March 02, 2024. Berrien Springs holding a Beyond the Line class on March 13, 2024.

Chief Chairllo discussed a new car construction class some of his members attended. There are now bolts in the A-post that need to be removed on new cars in order to perform a dash roll. Need an impact with 11-13 mm bit to remove these bolts.

**Emergency Management:** Had to cancel the ICS-300 course. K-12 behavioral threat courses coming up. PIO class on June 11-14, 2024. LEPC meeting on February 06. Discussed the Ohio train derailment. LEPC meetings: June 04; Sept 03; November 05. Emergency management has sent out training needs survey.

Currently using a virtual learning platform and having good luck with it. EM willing to work with agencies on virtual learning. If interested contact Captain Adams.



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**MABAS:** Planning coordinators meeting this month. Continue to work on updating the mission ready handbook. Time to review/update out of division boxcards. LT DeLaTorre also suggested agencies review/update our local boxcards. MABAS 101 classes being scheduled. Fire departments encouraged to attend. Detroit in discussions with MABAS for possible assistance as Detroit will host this years NFL draft.

**Other Communications:** Chief J. Flick discussed the Berrien County First Responders Community Grief lunch presented by Lori's place will be on March 22, 2024. Chief J. Flick will send out the information.

**Old Business:** Mayday policy will go in effect on March 01, 2024.

**New Business:** Chief Myers asked about ESO buying out Emergency Reporting. ESO no longer supporting ER. ER will not be compliant with the new fire reporting requirements. ESO not updating ER anymore.

Surveys: Chief Myers stated the survey went very well. Had 17 departments out of 26 complete the survey. 9-hose; 7-bunker gear; 6-JAWS. Will work on getting hose manufactures to come in. Continue to work on logo.

Input for new surveys. Email Chief Myers with surveys ideas. Future surveys will not have names.

November meeting discussion. Move November meeting up to November 13, 2024. No objections.

Discussion on departments bringing non-certified personnel to other fire scenes. Discussion on uniform probationary identification. Is it an issue? Discussion on some departments using different helmet colors.

Some use different shield colors. Discussion on leave up to the fire departments to make their policies.

Question was it addressed with the department that sent the non-certified. Sounds like a survey question.

Discussion on Mass Casualty Plan. That lead to discussion on radio use plans, and standard fire ground terms.

The committee that worked on mayday policy agreed to work on MCI policy and standard fire ground

terminology. Discussion on med control EMS, MCI response with POV. Chief Myers to follow up with BR

Beyer on it. Discussion on new med control MD response. Has vehicle with lights and siren to respond to scenes. If needed.

**Next Meeting:** **March 20, 2024, at 1630 hrs.**

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn by Chief J. Flick, Seconded by LT DeLaTorre. Meeting adjourned at 1738hrs.

