

# **BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: [mi-bcfa.org](http://mi-bcfa.org)

December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **Lake Township Fire Department**

Meeting called to order at 19:01 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Officers present: President Gerry Kabelman, 1st Vice President Craig Brent, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Donnie Johnson, and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham.

Roll call of departments indicate 14 departments represented with 45 members present. Donations collected at the meal totaled \$162.00.

The minutes for the month of November was presented. Motion made by Matt Johnson with support from Joe Dyniewski to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of November indicated the balance in checking is \$2,794.80 (Treasurer's NOTE; anonymous donation of \$2,000 was received to be split between the BC Firefighters Association and BC Firefighters Training Committee. A check for \$1,000 has been presented to the BCFTC.) Money market balance is \$21,270.46. A balance of \$115.67 in the car show account. Combined total of \$24,180.93 A motion made by Tom Wicker with support from Denny Sexton to approve the report. The motion carried.,

### **Bills Submitted and BCFA Announcements:**

- No new bills submitted.
- Finalizing the 2024 Meeting Calendar. New Buffalo Twp. Sta. 2 will be hosting March and April. We have commitments through June 2024.
- A motion made by Doug deBest with support from Frank DeLaTorre to purchase a Retirement gift for Sheriff Bailey in the amount not exceeding over \$200. The motion carried.

### **Communications:**

- SMCAS hosting a K-9 resuscitation kit class Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>
- BCFA JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup> MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT CORWELL HOSPITAL
- Saint Joe Twp. Leadership class Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>. Information on our web site.
- Berrien Springs hosting ICE Rescue class Jan.27<sup>th</sup>. information on SMOKE and our web site.

### **Chief's Association:**

- Next Chief's Meeting is on December 20, 2023. (This is a 8:30 am morning meeting.)

### **Training Committee:**

- FF I & II class started. 15 registered in the class.
- High School class started. 8 registered in the class representing many departments in Berrien County.
- Ice Rescue class Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Check-in on SMOKE for more information and to register on the trainings offered in our local area.

### **MITRT5**

- The earlier the request for response when needed will ensure assembly and arrival times to the incident.

### **Landing Zones:**

- 2024 calendar has been released.

**Resource Directory/Website:**

- QR code department available to show applications online. More can be added
- Need updates on equipment changes. Been seeing about a-lot of grants and donations to departments but not receiving official updates from them.

**Sheriff:**

- The members of the Berrien County Firefighters Association welcomed Interim Sheriff Chuck Heit to the meeting.
- A retirement open house will be held to celebrate the retirement of Sheriff Paul Bailey. Wednesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm F.O.P. #96 at 2665 Niles Ave. (Presentation at 2:30 pm)

**Old Business:**

- Elections for the President and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President to serve from December through August 2024.
- Elections for the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Secretary/Treasure to serve from December through August 2025.
- Nominating Committee reports no new candidates opposing the four running positions currently being held.
- Motion made by Doug deBest with support from Frank DeLaTorre to Re-elect Kabelman, Brent, Johnson, and Graham to their currently held positions. Motion carried.

Host Chief Harold Heyn welcomed and thanked everyone for coming. The Annual auction took place after the meeting. (A total of \$2,292 was raised during auction. Thank you!)

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Matt Johnson and supported by Donnie Johnson carried meeting adjourned at 19:22.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dennis Graham*  
*Sec / Treas*

**The next meeting January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024**  
**Corewell Lakeland Saint Joseph**  
**6:30 Meal**  
**7:00 BCFA Meeting**