

## Berrien Fire Chief's Association

12-21-11

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 1838 hours.

**ATTENDANCE:** Davidson-CTFD, Burkett-LTFD, Koebel – RTFD, Stiles-Eau Claire, Todd-STFD, Knuth – BFD, Heyn-LTFD, DeLaTorre-SMCAS, Gabe-Telrad, Agens-BC911, Jones –WFD, Burks – BCEM, Lamb-NFD, Adams-BCFD, Stover-BSOFD, Holland –SJT#2

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – The Trailer Grant Check has been cashed leaving \$1557.17. Motion & Second with all in favor.

**MINUTES** – Minutes from the November meeting were approved. Motion & Second with all in favor.

### **COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS** –

Chief Stover was asked to present an invoice for reimbursement for supplies and costs related to the Trailer Campaign. Chief Stover only asked for 50% however a motion by Chief Knuth received support with all in favor to reimburse the total of \$284.00 to Chief Stover.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**911 – DUE BY 12-31-11** - Dave discussed the status of the simulcast project. Hope to have the new transmitters up by March. He needs the worksheets sent out on BC Chiefs just after last month's minutes returned to him or Gabe so that reprogramming will go smoothly. Information on numbers, model, make, any additional frequencies, etc, must be in by the end of the year. Dave wants to make every effort to make sure that everyone's differing needs are met. Recommendations to check with other counties that you mutual aid with to see if they have selected their narrow band channels were also offered. Please don't wait for Gabe to walk through the station door to lay out your departments individual radio configurations.

Dave updated the group on the progress with Dispatch's Emergency New Medical Dispatch Software, Pro-Q&A. So far our dispatchers seem to like it. Basically, when calls are received the data entered is automatically transferred to the new system when it is determined that the call is medical in nature. The system then continues to prompt the dispatcher to ask the correct questions based on the nature of the complaint assuring that nothing is missed. Captain DeLaTorre from SMCAS said that he appreciated the information that is now coming across his MDT in his ambulance. Denny added that they may be seeing the data showing up on the Rip-n-Run. Denny also said that he would look into the settings on R&R to see if he could set it up to send the follow-up report following the Fire Department Clearing instead of waiting until all other agencies have cleared. Denny has also removed the past call feature on some of the addresses that are regularly visited to save paper. Frank wanted to make sure that this feature would remain on the MDT as it is a valuable tool for responding EMS agencies.

Dave brought up the issue of information security. Currently tapes of calls are issued to any department member that requests. In this day and age of information sharing and

social media any information that is put out there can quickly hit the web and in some cases could cause increase liability issues for agencies and even compromise investigations. He would like to limit who can request data from the dispatch center to departmental leaders to assure security concerns are met. Many Chief's expressed similar concerns citing they had internal policies relating to the issue including specifically social medial. In the end, Director Agens will send out a questioner to Chiefs allowing them to include those officers in their organization that would be authorized to request the information.

**DNR** –.NONE

**Funeral Protocol** – None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** – Captain Burks sent out copies of the current TIC/CASM plans to all Chiefs for review. Please review the data and get them back to Cory. Feel free to call him with any questions that you may have. He is also looking at the pagers and comparing them to the original number in 2009. He plans to annually update these items so that the information remains current. Cory also let everyone know about two grants now available for 800 radio equipment. The first is open to all disciplines. So don't forget your street departments, utilities, school transportation, etc. The second is open to EMS agencies, now on any level MFR and UP. You can receive your own quotes if you like or simply put together a request listing the type radio, any brand is fine, and accessories you would prefer to receive. He reminded everyone to include everything you might need including remote mic's, spare batteries, charger, installation, etc. Both require a 20% match from the receiving agency. Requests should be submitted to Cory in the next 30-60 days to be considered. Please call Cory with any questions. He will send out additional information on the program.

**LEPC** – No meeting this month due to the holidays. Next meeting will be on January 17<sup>th</sup> with a special guest from Chicago office of the EPA.

**SHERIFF**- Sheriff Bailey was not able to be at that meeting but did want to express his sincere thanks to everyone in Fire and EMS for their service throughout the year. He also wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year. It was also added that the Fire Service owes our Sheriff a great debt of gratitude for his behind the scenes work in the Trailer Fundraising Project. He is credited with cultivating over \$50,000 of support from the local community. Thanks Sheriff for all you do.

**HAZ-MAT**- None

**BCFFA** - The Christmas Party was a huge success. Apparently there was an epic battle over golf clubs but all the details were not available.

**BCYF** –. None

**TRAINING** – Cory stated that the class is now down to 32 students but seems to be holding there. They are currently on break until the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of January. Cory encourages departments to continue to work with their members to assure they are getting all of the experience they need.

Chief Knuth announced an educational opportunity that his department is doing in January at the High School. It is one of the requirements to be NFPA compliant in RIT. It is 8 hours and includes Lunch for only \$49. Call Rich if you're interested.

**MABAS-** Larry discussed the media that he sent out to MABAS Chiefs in the last few days. Additionally he asked that we appoint a Plan Coordinator that will help to represent our Division as well as serving as a backup to the MABAS Coordination Center. Additionally, they are asking for a Division Communication Representative that will serve to guide the development of the MABAS from a Communication Standpoint. Finally, Chief Davidson recommended that the MABAS 3501 Group begin to meet again so that we can capitalize on the momentum. Larry will schedule a meeting in January for the Group.

**OLD BUSINESS** -.Chief's Stover and Davidson updated the group on the Trailer Project. Again they thanked the Sheriff for his help with grants from Whirlpool, Leeko, and DC Cook for 10, 10 and 25 K respectively. Currently the committee has received \$167,218.06 in pledges with all but \$55,000 received. The trailers were ordered in the first part of November, and though it will be tight, the New Jersey Company is working to have them done by the April 17 start of FDIC in Indianapolis. Gerry Kabelman offered to put status photos of the project during construction on the web site. Chief Stover will check into that possibility. Mike reminded everyone that though we have received the cost of the match it will be important to raise enough money to support operation of the trailer well into the future. The roughly \$8,000 PM fee will be paid up for several years. Chief Knuth reminded everyone that the Committees work has just begun. Trainers will need to be selected. Currently 20 slots are available. Mike asked departments to provide those individuals that they feel would be fit for this service. Policies will also need to be developed, scheduling, etc. Rich recommended that a big event be held when the trailers do arrive to say thanks to everyone who donated. Possibly tie it in with a countywide move up drill to avoid justification, have a truck from every agency at the event. Media coverage will also be coordinated and Gerry agreed to put information on Donors on the web page.

Bruce will pay Kidde with the remaining proceeds being maintained in the Chiefs account. He also reminded Chiefs to make sure that they get donors who need them their receipts by the end of the year. Finally AFG Logo was approved to be used on the trailer. It was suggested the Chief's Association Logo be retooled and included on the Trailer. Anyone with input on the new Logo should contact Chief Davidson or Lamb.

**NEW BUSINESS-** Chris Corteville sends his best to all the Chiefs from Florida.

Adjourned 2004 hrs

RS Larry Lamb