

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: www.mi-bcfa.org

Wednesday, September 7th, 2016

Buchanan Township Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:35 hours by President Rob Gruener

Roll call of officers present: President Rob Gruener, 2nd Vice President Patty Cattes and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham. 1st Vice President Mike Moran was absent.

Roll calls of departments indicate 13 departments represented with 30 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$78. The 50/50 was \$28/\$14.

The August minutes were presented. A motion was made by Denny Sexton with support from Cory Burks to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for August was presented. A motion was made by Mike Davidson with support from Cory Burks to approve the treasurer's reports. Motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment:

- Gerry Kabelman presented receipts for supplies bought by Gerry and Dennis Graham for the Fire Education Center. A motion was made by Danny Crone with support from Denny Sexton to reimburse Gerry for \$34.55 and Dennis for 41.56. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION: President Gruener read a resignation letter from 2nd vice president Mike Moran.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth-

- Text 911 is now active.

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams-

- AFG opens Oct.11th at 8 am and closes on Nov. 18th at 5 pm.
- Check E-mails – some have full mail boxes and getting bounced back. List as not spam.
- Disaster declaration was granted for Berrien and Cass Counties. Areas included are Niles, Buchanan, and New Buffalo.
- EAS upgrades –due to skip and additional narrow band.
- AVI training at Brandywine was a success. Will be developing additional training and procedure recommending based on these training sessions.
- Commercial UAS (drones) Guidelines -<55lbs.- No night flights,-Less than 400ft altitude- Cannot fly over people not directly participating in the operation-Give notice if within 5 miles of airport-Remote pilot airman certificate or Pilots license-16yrs old- Preflight inspection and ops check.- FAA registered- more information can be found at : b4ufly mobile app.

DNR:

- No Report

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson

- Next Chief's meeting Wednesday Sept. 21st at 08:30 at the Lincoln Township Fire Station.
- No August meeting. Waiting on more department pager and radio wish lists.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- Working on Radio issues and mapping software.
- Testing continues on 800 MHz pagers.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- 23 student's registered-room for 30. High school class has 9.
- January Instructor class planned with limited openings.
- Burn trailers set up for Baroda/Lake twp. now and coming back to Berrien Springs in October.

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman-

- A moment of silence was given in honor of Brandon Ross Kableman
- Gerry thanked everyone for their support and their help during the fair

HazMat: Cory Burks-

- No Report

Sheriff: Paul Bailey-

- Discussed briefly the courthouse shooting
- Working with the boys and girls club to have a deputy assigned
- Fallen deputies being Honored
- House Bill 215 (line of duty benefits) goes before the House and State Senate on 9/8/16

OLD BUSINESS:

- Request for a nominating committee for 2017 officers
- 2nd Vice president Cattes announced not running for reelection

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Bertrand Open House September 17th, 11-3pm
- Wesaw Twp. holding pancake breakfast October 9th, 7-11am
- Buchanan City holding a 911 event starting at 7pm
- BuchananTwp Fish Fry October 8th, 3 to 8pm

Host Chief Jesswein thanked everyone for coming and to his staff for all their help in preparation for the dinner. Evening program: The Salvation Army has services available to assist Fire Departments during emergencies.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Codi Shepard and supported by Cory Burks. Motion carried.

Mike Davidson was 50/50 winner and donated winnings back. Thankyou!

Meeting adjourned at 20:24 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

**The next meeting will be held on October 5th, 2016
At Chickaming Township
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours.**