

# **BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION**

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

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

Wednesday, April 4th, 2018

Sodus Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Dave Albers.

Roll of officers present: 1st Vice President Dave Albers and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham. President Gerry Kabelman and 2nd Vice President Craig Brent were absent.

Roll calls of departments indicate 15 departments represented with 43 members present.

The donations received for dinner was in the amount of \$144.00 and for 50/50 were \$68/\$34.

The March minutes were presented. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Chris Burks to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The March treasurer's report was presented. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Chris Burks to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

## **Bills submitted for payment:**

- None

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **911 Committee:**

- No Report

### **Emergency Management: Rocky Adams**

- Flooding activities: Low interest loans made available through the SBA Disaster Loan Center for residents and businesses affected by the flooding.

### **DNR: Steve Schrader**

- No Report

### **Chief's Association: Mike Davidson**

- No Report
- Next Chief's meeting is April 18<sup>th</sup>, at 08:30 a.m.

### **Landing Zones: Steve Shedd**

- One LZ has submitted so far and looking for more as the weather starts getting better.

### **Dispatch: Denny Sexton**

- Automatic mutual-aid is growing in our area and gathering updated information needed for dispatching those departments.

### **Medical: Dr. Beyer**

- Would like to see cyanide antidote kits (Cyanokit) carried on local ambulances, but due to the very expensive cost per kit, the support of serviced communities needs to help with the cost in purchasing them.

### **Training Committee: Chris Burks**

- Committee members have been training on the new Forcible Entry Prop and departments are already showing interested in training with it.
- High School class is going well and they have a practical on April 13<sup>th</sup> with EMS and law enforcement CTE students.
- High school class has a practical on April 20<sup>th</sup> at Bertrand Fire's training tower.
- The Saturday class is going well. Encourage all departments with students in the class to help with the practical days when they are scheduled.

**Resource Directory/mi-bcfa.org Website: Gerry Kabelman**

- Resource Directory was just updated April 4th. Make sure your department's information is up to date in the Resource Directory!
- Check the website at mi-bcfa.org for listed local trainings that are being offered!

**HazMat: Cory Burks:**

- No Report

**Sheriff: Paul Bailey**

- Law enforcement and school groups are asking state legislators to support the MASA School Safety Reform Plan by providing grant programs.
- Red Bud planning two large events this year.
- Keeping Silver Beach this summer.
- Credits to the Watervliet and North Berrien Fire Departments for all their ongoing efforts in searching for the missing kayaker.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 2017 Audit records handed over to the Audit Committee for review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**Announcements:**

- Bertrand Township pancake and sausage breakfast on Saturday April 14<sup>th</sup>, from 8-11am.
- Sodus Township pancake breakfast on Sunday April 15<sup>th</sup>, from 7 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Lincoln Township pancake breakfast on Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>, from 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.

Host Chief Bill Long thanked everyone for coming and his crew for their help set setup. Chief Long also thanked Benton Township Fire Department for their help in the Evacuation of the Meadow Streams trailer park during the flood. The presentation for the evening was presented by Berrien County Sheriff's Department on active shooter training.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Frank DeLaTorre and supported by Bob Adams. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 21:23 hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dennis Graham*

**The next meeting will be held on May 2<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Three Oaks Fire Department  
Meal at 18:30 hours and the meeting at 19:30 hours**