

Berrien Fire Chief's Association

11-09-2011

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 1835 hours.

ATTENDANCE: Davidson-CTFD, Burkett-LTFD, Koebel – RTFD, Maynard-SJTFFD#1, Flick – TOFD, Young-TOFD, LaBaBard-BC911, Stiles-Eau Claire, Todd-STFD, Knuth – BFD, Heyn-LTFD, DeLaTorre-SMCAS, Gabe-Telrad, Gillespie-TelRad, Agens-BC911, Jones –WFD, Klug-BFD, Burks – BCEM, Lamb-NFD, Long-SFD, Adams-BCFD, Stover-BSOFD

TREASURER'S REPORT – After the payouts for the Funeral Gloves and the Trailer Grant we should be at \$1457.34. Motion & Second with all in favor.

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

COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS –

With all of the projects currently in progress a motion was made that we hold Chiefs Meetings temporarily every month. We will continue to meet in the mornings on (Jan-Mar-May-July-Sep-Nov at 0830 hrs, with the months of (Feb-April-June-August-Oct-Dec) meeting in the evening at 1830 hrs. All meetings would remain at LTFD on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. All in favor. Next Meeting at Lincoln Twp Fire on December 21st at 1830 hrs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

911 – Dave reported that we have been successful with finding our second repeater pair that has been holding up our move to install the new system. He asked that we revisit the com's plan in preparation for the upcoming changeover. Additional discussions need to be held so that we are ready to move to the new frequencies. Gabe asked that chiefs provide a detailed communications equipment list, including model and number, so that he can assure that he has the correct equipment to reprogram the units. Much of the information should be available in the TIC plan. Gabe would check with Ron to access the information. He also reminded everyone that Minitor 4s will no longer be usable under the new system as they are not narrow band compliant. Telrad needs the list by the end of the year. The Communications subcommittee will also meet to put the details of the final plan together.

Dave also discussed the New EMD program his Dispatch Center is working into they're system. It is mostly geared toward EMS but could have applications for fire as well down the road.

We also discussed the need for guidelines for Special Dispatch Messages. As we come together he would like guidance on which types of messages will be performed over the countywide frequency as it will soon be truly transmitted countywide. (IE Training Reminders, Trucks in and Out of Service, ETC). Several chiefs discussed the benefits of using texting to send out special messages. More discussion to follow.

DNR –.NONE

Funeral Protocol – Good Shape with Bibles and gloves are in.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – The National EAS test was held. Some issues evident. Some stations didn't break in as designed. Corey is waiting for results from Fed's. Additional test will most likely follow.

LEPC – Meeting Scheduled for next Tuesday. Lisa McCarty will discuss MDOT's Strategy for winter weather.

SHERIFF - Sheriff Bailey reported that the boat was being repaired and will be back in service in the spring. He discussed future Budget issues facing all of our services, accidents, and a rise in break ins. He

is also committed to the Burn Trailer project and has made calls to get us funding for the project. He will coordinate with Chief Stover.

HAZ-MAT- None

BCFFA - White elephant @ Lake Twp on the 1st Wednesday of December. Don't forget you cash and wrapped gifts.

BCYF -. None

TRAINING – Skip announced issues with registration in the State System by students. He has spoken to the students in question about the issue and they will make individual contact with their local Chief if affected.

MABAS- Larry discussed the survey being sent out by MSP-EMD to the locals EM's for their opinions on MABAS. Corey should be hearing about it shortly. Region 6's survey has caused some issues.

OLD BUSINESS -. The Fill the Helmet Campaign was reported to have gone very well. Also the event at the Saint Joe Football game was equally successful. It was even suggested to make the event an annual event.

Chief Flick asked about the Storm Station Recall proposal. The discussion ended with it remaining a local department issue. The temporarily staffing of departments so that dispatching can flow better still remains and issue that warrants additional discussion before spring.

Chief Davidson announced the current tally of our Trailer Fundraiser at \$88,000. He is optimistic that he will be able to order the unit upon his return from hunting camp. Chief Burkett has several items that were donated that he would like to tie into a raffle. If anyone has any other items, IE, I-Pad, Large Gift Certificate, or similar type of prize that could be included please let him know. It is the hope that if we order the unit soon, its construction time could line up for display at FDIC, which in turn could lead to added bells and whistles from the manufacture. Once compiled a list of donors will be published to our ranks so that we might show them our patronage.

NEW BUSINESS-

Chief Stiles discussed an issue with workers comp and self employed people. He recommends that Chiefs discuss all benefits of these individuals if injured.

Chief Koebel questioned the group about responding to lines down. He expressed concerns with long wait times for AEP and the possibility of billing them. Dave Flick discussed an occurrence that his department had. His attorney advised that they could tape of the area and clear the scene. There were several opinions in the group with the consensus being it was up to the local department. Additional research might be warranted.

Chief Heyn discussed the retirement of Norm Zelmer after 58 years of service. He was a past Chief and will surely be missed. We wish him all the best.

There is an Amkus Cutter /Spreader and Power Unit for sale for \$8,500. Call Lincoln Twp for more info.

Adjourned 2027 hrs

RS Larry Lamb