

Berrien Fire Chief's Association

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 1832 hours on 6-20-12.

ATTENDANCE: Davidson-CTFD, Lamb –NFD, Long-SFD, Sirk-RC, Burkett-LTFD, Maynard-SJT#1, Burks-BCEM, Jones-WFD, Woodward-NBFR, Klug-BFD, Stover-BSOFD, Keobel-RTFD, Sexton-BC911, DeLaTorre-SMCAS, Agens-BC911, Carl-ECFD, Ham-NTFD.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lamb reported no change with a total in checking of 1,173.34. Motion, Second with all in favor.

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

COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

911 –Dave discussed the new frequency, 151.1050 Primary 1 will be the new receive frequency. Full frequency lists will be available as we go forward. The Multiplex box has to be retuned to accommodate the new frequency. Telrad has ordered parts and will hope to be testing soon. Acceptance testing will follow with the implementation phase coming after a training program.

Dave discussed the commissioners' decision to increase from .2 to .45 mil for 911 funding. Future equipment was not included so Dave will attempt to get needed hardware updates through AFG. Niles will fiduciary a regional grant to update the counsels in both Niles and Berrien. This next generation equipment will have a variety of new capabilities. Though Dave will continue to finalize the amount of the grant he expects it to be in the neighborhood of 1.2 million. The 20% match will be covered by 911 user fee credit system. A motion and second was made with all in favor to support the Regional Central Dispatch Communication Primary and Backup Radio Equipment Upgrade.

Dave discussed the MPSCS user group meeting. Rebanding will be coming up to separate from Cell carriers. Nextel and Sprint are funding a late fall to reprogram 800 radios. All radios will have to be touched and departments will receive \$50 per radio for their trouble. We will have to invoice the program following all installs. Dave also discussed that the group is still working on boarder interoperability. Denny discussed the growth of radio communication in Michigan. We currently have 60,521 mobiles and portables on the system. Selection of the reprogramming sites is still in the works.

DNR –.Still busy working on the UP Fires.

Funeral Protocol – @ Berrien.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – Corey discussed his recent absence due to an injury and his appreciation for all the support from the Emergency Community. He discussed the radio grant still in the process and pending for additional 800 equipment requested late last year. He is beginning to hand out the updated ERG's to departments. He discussed his recent attendance at the RAD conference. He said that the NRC has rewritten the Rep Manual which will come out shortly once FEMA approval is received.

Smart Phone Emergency Weather program called CMAS will be available soon after a few bugs are worked out. Several other programs now on the market. He will be having a National weather service event pushed back to June 30th and moved from Martins to Walgreens in Niles and Saint Joseph. Less we forget will be held this weekend.

A discussion regarding the Burn Bans we have been seeing in Indiana. Apparently, locals cannot put burn bans in place on their own. Under Michigan Law the governor is the only one who can do it. We can stop signing permits per our DNR supervisor.

The DNRs web site has been taken out of service. Call Allegan or Plainwell Office with questions.

LEPC – Sgt Barnett gave presentation about the mercury spill at Buchanan High School. New Hard Rock Café will be opening soon at 4 wins.

SHERIFF- Chris Corteville was in town and said hello.

HAZ-MAT- None

BCFFA -. Still having limited turn out. Blue Card was the program in Niles Twp. Coloma coming up.

RED CROSS-.None

BCYF –. None

TRAINING – The Training Committee will be planning for the upcoming trailer training program. Looking at the weeks of the 17th or the 24th currently. The meeting will be held in Berrien Springs next Wednesday at 1900 hrs. They have submitted for a 501.3.c application with help from Marlene Beach. Finally, FF1&2 applications for this coming cycle will have a short turn around to get everyone signed up.

MABAS-. The State is asking each division to appoint a Plan Coordinator and a Communication Representative. The Mutual Aid Net Questioners need to be filled out. Chief Lamb is concerned that we will begin to fall behind.

OLD BUSINESS -.Bruce, Ron, Rich, and Mike were in New Jersey to get a look at the new trailer which is due to ship on June 27th. It's very big and looks great was the consensus. The search and rescue trailer included will arrive approximately 2 weeks after the first. An informational packet was also displayed. Ron Discussed the August 4th date at the Meijer in Stevensville. The program will get started at 10 am to dedicate the new trailer and celebrate its arrival with all of the donors. All departments are asked to provide personnel and equipment to the event. They are still looking for a departmental chaplain who would like to help out. They are planning a big event with displays, speeches, including Bagpipers from South Bend City Fire. FEMA AFG staff will also be on hand. An agenda for the event will follow.

NEW BUSINESS-. Dave Agens discussed Lisa McCarty's request that MDOT is notified if a lane is being blocked over 30 minutes. Call dispatch and they will let them know.

Adjourned 0945 hrs

Next Meeting July 18th at 0830 hours at Lincoln Twp Fire.

RS Larry Lamb