

Berrien Fire Chief's Association

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 0835 hours on 9-19-12.

ATTENDANCE: Not Available

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lamb reported no change with a total in checking of 923.34 after the \$250 Check for Bridgman Fire clears. Motion, Second with all in favor.

MINUTES – Minutes from the 8-22-12 meeting were approved. Motion & Second with all in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

911 –Dave discussed progress with the Simulcast system. Consoles are built and installed at Dispatch. The system gives us new options like stacked dispatches. It will also pick the best site. Individual sites with problems can be disabled allowing the other sites to pick up. The system runs on the microwave backbone and could increase ISO scores for dispatching. Primary 1 is down and everyone is working from Primary 2 as Channel 1 will be incorporated into the new system. Dave will be starting to train the dispatchers on the St Joe transition for the next 3 weeks which will take focus away from the Simulcast project. He hopes to have the training on the new VHF completed in the second week of October with the system up and running.

Dave will set up dates with departments to reprogram and switch in November. He expects the programming process to be a challenge and asks for departments to be patient as we migrate to the new system. Evening training and programming will be considered.

Discussions on the new tower in New Buffalo as well as possible shortcomings in the north end to make sure everything will meet those departments' needs. Additional tweaking and planning is planned. Chief Lamb asked Telrad for costs related to additional voting sites that might improve coverage in case communities wish to individually improve their areas coverage. \

Emergency Medical Dispatch now software driven. Monitoring compliance using the software. Chief Davidson discussed and issue with an accident that his department had. Dave discussed the inexperience with call-takers.

Gabe from Telrad needs contacts form all 26 departments who will be having their reprogramming performed by them. He needs to know all frequencies prior to coming out to reprogram. Chiefs- Please Contact Gabe if you will require additional channels not listed in the county frequency list. Outside counties that you mutual aid in are an example.

DNR –.

Funeral Protocol – @ Berrien.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEPC – – The EM Division will be hosting additional UIC courses after the 1st of the year to catch turnover. Especially focus on the EOC staff needed. Community Tabletops is a goal of the upcoming year. Additional NIMS classes will soon be required. IS 701, 2, 3, 4, 6. Preparations for the Palisades drill is almost complete. Practice and drills are scheduled. Rep 101 training is available to interested departments. Large Animal Training at the County EOC on October 10. 6-8 pm. NOAH's Wish Animal Rescue November 10 from 8am-4pm. Contact Corey is interested in attending.

SHERIFF- None

HAZ-MAT- None

BCFFA- Denny discussed informative program from a speaker who discussed elevators and how they related to the fire service.

RED CROSS- Thanked the group for their support with the 911 project.

BCYF - .

TRAINING – Adult program has 36 students. High School program was forced to shut down as we were unable to find a new instructor. The program could be restored if an instructor is identified. Gear and equipment donations are no longer needed at BSOFD.

MABAS- Members need to complete their contact information with Chief Lamb for Mutual Aid Net.

OLD BUSINESS - Monthly meetings still wanted by the group.

NEW BUSINESS- Baroda has used Scott 2.2's for sale. Buchanan Twp will be hosting a fish fry on October 6 from 4-8 pm.

Adjourned 1000 hrs

Next Meeting 10-17-12 at 1830 hours at Lincoln Twp Fire.
RS Larry Lamb