

Berrien Fire Chief's Association

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 1834 hours on 10-17-12.

ATTENDANCE: Lamb-NFD, Davidson-CTFD, Koebel-RTFD, Maynard-SJTFD#1, DeLaTorre-SMCAS, Woodward-NBFR, Carl Jr.-ECFD, Jones-WFD, Jesswien-BTFD, Knisely-BTFD, Burkett- Lincoln, Knuth-BFD, Stover-BSOTFD, Sheriff Bailey, Burks-BCSD-EM,

TREASURER'S REPORT – Lamb reported no change with a total in checking of \$923.34. Motion, Second with all in favor.

MINUTES – Minutes from the 9-19-12 meeting were approved. Motion & Second with all in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS – North Berrien School Bus Extrication Class, November 11 9:30 am. Coloma. 16 Openings left, (Call 269-208-0948 Steve, or 269-208-0968 Doug)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

911 –Dave reported that we are on track with the Simulcast System. Telrad switched antennas at the Coloma MDot Garage to a higher elevation. North Berrien and Watervliet tested the system. Improvements on shore line were noted. Paw Paw Lake has some issues. All in all good improvement reported in Coloma. Issues in Downtown Watervliet marginal on portable. Chief Jones reported virtually no coverage in that area but the pagers seem to work. New Buffalo still not resolved but we seem to be closing in on a solution. Gabe has begun to schedule departments to switch to the new frequency.

Department that use telrad can call and schedule with Gabe. Those using SMR or some other vender can call them to schedule. Once scheduled please call Dave Agens so that he can plan to make the change with dispatch.

The Backup system in not complete but should be up and running soon. Pager programming was discussed. Each department will have to plan to their own setup. Dave discussed 800 rebanding program which will be in December 7 or 10th. Dave is looking to lock in 2 locations in the county. Each agency will receive a letter in the mail and once complete they will receive a check for their time.

Dave also discussed the high incident plan for the County. During large scale events there may be a need to switch to a separate channel and leave pagers open until the high traffic event clears. We need to work to come up with a plan to use the communication equipment that we have as effective as we can in these types of events. Continued discussion will follow.

The MADAY Channel was discussed. This is a simplex channel that will be on 4 of the towers that can be monitored by Dispatch. It would be used in theory by a downed firefighter that couldn't get out over the normal scene channel.

With all the changes it was recommended that we develop a pocket guide to communication that would highlight use on the new system, high use plan, command protocol, etc.

DNR –.

Funeral Protocol – @ Berrien.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEPC – – Corey described his team's effort with the Palisades exercise.

NOAH's Wish will present a Class November 10. They deal with large animals Call Val Grimes with questions.

Corey will begin to push out the annual resource typing sheets. He also discussed working with Gerry Kabelman to combine the resource typing with the resource directory after the first of the year.

SHERIFF- Discussed EOC and our performance. Berrien County is held in high regard throughout the EM community. He shared the sad news that Deputy Mike Moore had lost his battle with cancer. He asked that we keep his family in our prayers.

As with everywhere the Sheriff discussed his budget challenges. He shouldn't lose any road personnel thanks to some juggling with K-9 and the Drug Unit.

HAZ-MAT- None

BCFFA -. Denny is still working on the elevator incident in Benton Twp. St Joe had also discussed the use of their Parking Garage unit.

RED CROSS- None.

BCYF -. None

TRAINING – None.

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

OLD BUSINESS -.None

NEW BUSINESS- The November Meeting will be held on 11-28-12 at Lincoln twp Fire, 0830 hrs.

Adjourned 2015 hrs

Next Meeting 11-28-12 at 830 hours at Lincoln Twp Fire.

RS Larry Lamb