

Berrien Fire Chiefs Association Meeting
January 20,2016

Called to Order: 8:40 am

Treasurers Report: \$2013.51 Approved

Minutes: Minutes from 12-16-15 approved

Communications/Bills: None

Committee Reports:

Sheriff: not present but running for re-election

Red Cross: None

DNR: None

Funeral Protocol: None

911: Trying to improve connections at New Buffalo. May us State microwave from Sawyer to N. B instead of T-1 phone line. Also looking at moving NB to Grand Beach. Looking at Cost and Time.
Issues with Comcast connections.

New phone system is up and operating. The next phase is texting. This has to be set up with each carrier (4) and tested before implemented. Time frame not determined. Texts will travel through internet to system.

New CAD Service: Problems continue. Rip and Runs not working, Mapping not working as should for dispatchers. Many issues still exist that slow down dispatches as they have to navigate the screens. Buchanan Twp has and still receives Call for Service (CFS) form instead of a rip and run. Looking into issue. Departments can call in for times, but please delay if dispatch is handling multiple calls or a major event.

Dave brought up that Buchanan City has two box cards for train incidents. One for freight and one for passenger trains. Would like some consistency across county for train incidents. Questions was; do we need two separate categories and how to build off box cards.

Rocky/Dave working with AEP to improve the communications and their response times information. May is Tele-Communication week. Supervisor, dispatcher and call taker of the year for each center. Suggested that both associations go together and purchase meat/cheese/vege trays for all dispatcher on each shift. Further discussion next month.

First of February, dispatch to assign 800 talk group to responding EMS units for clear communications between EMS, Fire and police. The intention is to reduce the relaying of information through dispatch to the different responding entities. Bob Hale from Medic 1 said they have been advising all staff on procedure. This is 30 day trial then will evaluate from that point.

Watervliet was having connection problems with Kenwood 800 radios connecting to system. Had to send in. Chief Jesswein suggested setting radio by a window, turn on, turn volume down and let it set. Over time (maybe an Hour) radio will/may reset it's self and re-establish connection on its own. Has work for several departments.

Emergency Management:

Rocky looking for or we need to develop a plan as to where we would move individual fire departments if needed, during a major incident when an individual station no longer can be used.

See attached sheets for **important** upcoming training. Berrien county has the bctraining@listserve.com established so department training officer (you supply name(s) and contact info) for listing all upcoming training in the county.

Medic1, SMACAS:

Bob Hale said Medic 1 ready for the radio protocol trial. Frank: Cass county using active 911. Suggested that MABAS members meet before or after Chiefs meetings. Next Chiefs meeting at night. Turn Idea over to Chief Lamb for possible meeting at 5:30 before chiefs meeting.

Medical control needs a county wide policy for MFR departments relative to ephi Pens.

LEPC:

See attached training info sheets. No other info.

FF Association:

Re-elected existing officers for new term.

Training:

Both FF 1 & II classes going well. Watervliet has Grand Rapid's driving simulator and if interested in using contact Chief Jones. Chief Jones has it for 60 days.

New Business:

Chief Stiles has stepped back from being Chief of Eau Claire, Berrien and Pipestone Townships Fire Department. Chief Stiles was presented a certificate from Association. Tom has been very instrumental in development of the fire service in Berrien County. Tom is continuing as a active member of his department.

Next Meeting: February 17th at 18:30

Adjourn: 11:05