



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION



Call to Order: 0830-1020

Date: September 15, 2021

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Caitlin submitted correction: there are 3 openings/vacancies and correction on IS Shawn's name. Frank will correct and send out correction with Septembers minutes. Motion to accept old minutes and seconded.

Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Starting Balance: \$4464.94; Dues Deposit \$100.00; Ending balance: 4564.94

Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills: Chief Myers thanked everyone that helped at the fire last night.

Buchanan Twp. Fish Fry 1500-2000 on October 16, 2021

New Chief/Visitor: Welcome new Sodus Chief Everett Steinke.

Steve McCarthy from SEMCO. Steve is the Public Safety Liaison for SEMCO. Steve will be the point of contact for the SEMCO franchise area. Steve's information will be added to the resource directory.

Motion to add SEMCO to BC Fire Chiefs Association, and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

MPSCS: Frank explained the need for the association to have a signed MPSCS agreement for the three MABAS radios.

Committee Report:

Sheriff: None

Red Cross: None

Great Lakes Drone: See attached

Dispatch/911: Caitlin reminded everyone: **VHF SIMULCAST WILL END BY DECEMBER 31, 2022.** Sodus Fire now on 800 paging. Pride Care and S.M.C.A.S. are still on VHF paging. Need to move them to 800 paging ASAP. Pride Care conducting 800 pager testing and hope to move soon. VHF back up systems are starting to be disconnected. There is now a paging talk group to monitor dispatches. 11BCPAGE will be placed into multi-select for paging. You will not hear tones on this talk group. Will only hear dispatches. Talk group is intended for monitor ONLY, and is set up to be in monitored in scan lists. Communications committee recommended 11BCPAGE be placed in zone B [position 2. An updated MPSCS fire 800 radio template with 11BCPAGE was sent out with August minutes. Department Paging talk group is now allowed in department base radios and command portables. Make sure templates are set up appropriately. If you have any questions please contact a communications committee member. Reminder to let Caitlin know of any signal issues.

Caitlin stated expecting to hear on south county proposals soon. No update on appropriation funding.

Watervliet tower testing completed July 21, 2021. Over 300 test were completed with only four bonks on tower. New surcharge rules released. Tower enhancements are now allowed. Reminder of county low interest loans for 800 mobile radios. Caitlin asked for 800 radio lists to be sent to dispatch. Dispatch keeps a log of radio IDS as well as can input radio aliases into dispatch computers. Dispatch will be having one retire on September 23, 2021. There will now be: 4 vacancies, and 4 in training. Reminder to get box cards to dispatch. Dispatch only has about half of departments box cards.

DNR: None

Funeral: Berrien Springs

Emergency Management: Dave Albers is working on chemical facility inventory TIER 2 facilities. EM takes all the information and inputs it into a shared form that is then shared out via the sharefile. The information is also plotted on MARPLOT and CAMEO, as well as updated in dispatch with markers. Everyone have Emergency Response Guides? Contact Dave Albers if need more. These facilities are updated yearly and tend to be a year behind. Companies are still required to have SDS on hand as well. Question on farms. Farmers must report as well. Question on distilleries. Three Oaks is considering allowing an aging distillery. It will keep 7000-7500 barrels of whiskey on hand.

Hazard mitigation plan continuing. Surveys will be sent out These surveys are ways to identify critical infrastructure and help build the plan to lessen the risk of harm to people and keep critical infrastructure operating.

EMS:

Medic-1: None

S.M.C.A.S.: None

Med Flight: All good

Med Control: COVID cases in hospital are down. 29 in hospital on September 11, only 20 as of today.

LEPC: Just met for the first time yesterday Captain Adams and Ashley ran the meeting. Three fire chiefs have retired with no replacement on LEPC. Chief Davidson and Chief Mattix were only fire representatives. Frank DeLaTorre was S.M.C.A.S. representative. Application for new S.M.C.A.S representative submitted and Frank was moved from EMS representative to fire representative. Captain Adams reminded that LEPC term is three year terms and if retire you are still on that term unless miss the designated number of meeting or replacement.

BCFA: No quorum for September meeting. Planning on meeting at New Buffalo Twp. in October. There will be meal/meeting and program will be the new truck and station. Discussion on challenge coins. Have about 45 coins left between chiefs association and firefighters association. Originally ordered three hundred and spit cost between both associations. Discussion on changing design to keep people buying them. If change design there would be a mold/design cost. Discussion on looking at other vendors. All about challenge coins was mentioned. Gerry requested we stay with a made in USA vender. Any special anniversary coming up? BC Fire Chiefs 60 years was last year.

Discussion on car show in St Joseph Charter Township June 18, 2022 at the St Joseph soccer fields. Looking for fire departments to send apparatus and fire fighters to help at the car show. Hoping to bring back old ST Joe Twp engine that has been converted into a beer/soda dispensary. Looking for events for the old engine on June 17 and 19 to help offset costs. Question on challenge coins with car show logo and county firefighters association logo.

Training: BHDPS leadership sponsored class at Spectrum Lakeland on Monday September 27, 2021. Class is free and open to all public safety, fire/EMS/police. BHDPS will be offering the following courses: fire academy/EVOC/pump operator/fire instructor.

Al DiBrito advised everyone the hospital new education center is now open and available to everyone.

Education center has the ability to stream events in or out and can accommodate social distancing.

HS class will start book content in October. Currently setting up students with gear. 15 in class. If you have a student in the HS class please check in with them. Will be attempting to do outside hands on portions before weather turns cold. Question on burn trailers. Burn trailers are available to use.

HazMat: None all good.

MITRT5: None

MABAS: MITF1 went to Louisiana for hurricane Ida. There were 45 members of MITF1 that deployed to Ida. Zero injuries. 100% negative COVID tests. Over the three day period MITF1 assessed 9,000 structures, 800 human interactions, and covered 125 square miles. MIMABAS had request's for engine strike team and tanker/tender strike teams, as well as individual firefighters. MIMABAS chose to pass on the engine and tanker/tender strike teams due to the distance and wear and tear on apparatus traveling that far. MIMABAS did attempt to fill the firefighter request. MIMABAS was able to mobilize 90 firefighters. MIMABAS 90 firefighters were on standby for deployment if needed. In the end the 90 firefighters from MIMABAS was not called up. September 2021 marked the end of the fiscal year for MIMABAS. MIMABAS goals achieved in 2021: Training videos for UAS/MIMABAS Red Center COMMS/ What is MABAS video; The following drills: Q1 EMS strike team drill, Q2 Brush strike team drill, Q3 crew transport drill. Upcoming Q4 Tanker/Tender task force drill. Updated the MIMABAS MRP to include UAS resource. Division dispatch center meetings.

EXE/Plan coordinator training was held on December 11, 2020. MIMABAS mapping location of each division station and dispatch.

FY2022 goals: training videos on: MRP on logistics and ordering, developing box cards, creating MIMABAS division, MIMABAS field communications, Red center exercises, regional exercises, building IMT MRP. MIMABAS working with Detroit fire signing onto MABAS. This partnership will enhance Detroit Fire special ops capabilities.

There will be a demo day at the MIMABAS MITF1 mobilization center on September 24, 2021. MSP sending 20-25/Detroit Fire-06/LARA-05/Selfridge-04/Oakland CountyEM-02.

Discussion on hazmat situation in Flat Rock. Incident involved downriver/Western Wayne/Washtenaw/Macomb/Oakland north and South/ and Livingston. There was some confusion on available resources. This incident showed the need for special ops teams (hazmat/tech rescue) teams to be validated in MIMABAS. Both Bureau of fire services and MSP expressed the need for hazmat and tech rescue teams to be validated in MIMABAS.

Old Business: Radio grant. No PO or price quotes from 10 departments. Match invoices for departments with quotes have been sent out. Must pay match invoice first. Once match invoice paid, payments for PO/Quotes will be paid. Payments will be done in two week increment's. Are the 10 remaining departments planning to participate? If your department went over allotted amount your department is responsible for the overages. There may be possible additional funds for participating departments. If you give grant radios out to additional agencies it is your departments responsibility to know where they are and account for them at all times. We can be audited at any time.

NIFRS reporting. Please keep up on reporting. Latest report on table. Some discussion on report discrepancies.

Sandra Dyja is contacting department chiefs. Phone calls will be coming from Pontiac MI number.

New Business: Brian Kazmierzak discussed being careful of what you say over the radio. BHDPS had an alarm call last night and the Berrien County Police/Fire facebook page had it as a SWAT stand off. Need to be careful and watchful of social media.

Berrien Springs will be having a pancake breakfast 0730-1130 on October 10, 2021.

Three Oaks will be hosting a pancake breakfast for the ACC riders 0600-1100 on September 26, 2021.

Discussion on the emergency button on 800 radios for fire/EMS. Communications committee had a meeting following August BC Fire Chiefs meeting. Emergency button was main topic of discussion. The committee felt it best to leave emergency buttons on 800 radios for fire/EMS agencies, exception BHDPS and SJDPS. The communications committee made this recommendation based on the following: Firefighters work in teams of two or more/there is a very high likelihood of accidental emergency button activations due to the activities of firefighting/extrication/salvage/overhaul/trainings. Also, the fact that BC Dispatch also monitors emergency button activations for both Berrien and Van Buren counties. Therefore, the communications committee is recommending that fire/EMS agencies not activate the emergency buttons on fire/EMS 800 radios. Again, this is a recommendation and the communications committee would like to open the floor for discussion on the topic. Brian Kazmierzak stated NFPA also recommends not activating the emergency button on fire radios for many of the same reasons. There were no objections to the communications committee recommendation that emergency buttons on fire/EMS radios be left inactive. Caitlin reminded all the importance of having a list of your departments 800 radio ID/s on hand and given to dispatch. If a department decided to have the emergency button activated on their 800 radios the department **MUST** keep a list of 800 radio ID's, keep that list updated, and provide a copy of the radio ID list to BC Dispatch. BC Dispatch can not ignore a radio emergency alert. Discussion critical connect. Caitlin stated she should have more information on critical connect in October. Discussion on the 50 radio ID's from Indiana. IPSC is putting critical connect first. Discussion on departments that mutual aid with Indiana departments will still need the Indiana talk groups in their radios to be able to communicate with Indiana departments. BC Dispatch will only be able to patch talk groups when critical connect is activated. Frank discussed a recent event with 8CALL90. Frank was in Indiana and witnessed an MVA at Cleveland and Portage roads. Frank attempted to use 8CALL90 as had been mentioned some time ago that ST Joe County dispatch monitors 8Call90. Well they do not. Frank spoke to MSP region 5 dispatch in Negaunee MI.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2021 Lincoln Twp. Fire Department 0830hrs.

Adjourn: 1020hrs.

**Berrien County Fire Chief's Association
Attendance Sheet
September 15th, 2021**

	Print	Signature	Temp	Dept.
1.	Mike Davidson	<i>Mike Davidson</i>		Chikaming
2.	Al Dibets	<i>Al Dibets</i>		MCA/SPECTRUM
3.	Lindsay Nitz	<i>Lindsay Nitz</i>		GLDC
4.	Ashley Munson	<i>Ashley M</i>		GLDC
5.	Dave Fink	<i>Dave Fink</i>		9 of 2
6.	Jennifer Fitch	<i>Jennifer Fitch</i>		BCPSCC
7.	Shawn Beards	<i>Shawn Beards</i>		BCPSCC
8.	Dan Myers	<i>Dan Myers</i>	BSIFD	BTFD/AMES Twp
9.	Harold May Jr	<i>Harold May Jr</i>		Lake Park
10.	Rob Hyndee	<i>Rob Hyndee</i>		BTFD
11.	Mike Mattiuz	<i>Mike Mattiuz</i>		WBFR
12.	Frank DeLaforte	<i>Frank DeLaforte</i>		Miles Fire
13.	JAMIE FLICK	<i>JAMIE FLICK</i>		NDTFD
14.	Matt Remus	<i>Matt Remus</i>		Bertrand
15.	Brandon Dickel	<i>Brandon Dickel</i>		BTFD
16.	Amanda Bronson	<i>Amanda Bronson</i>		Wesaw
17.	Gary Kukulman	<i>Gary Kukulman</i>		S.S.C.T.F.D. #1
18.	R Stovace	<i>R Stovace</i>		
19.	Everett Blunkie	<i>Everett Blunkie</i>		Lodus
20.	Teal Chase	<i>Teal Chase</i>		GALIEN
21.	Caitlin Sampell	<i>Caitlin Sampell</i>		BC911
22.	JEFF GANE	<i>Jeff Gane</i>		BAPDH
23.	Brian Kazmierzak	<i>Brian Kazmierzak</i>		BHDPS
24.	Bill Whitney	<i>Bill Whitney</i>		WFD
25.	MARK Berger	<i>Mark Berger</i>		Med Light
26.				
27.				

GREAT LAKES DRONE COMPANY, LLC

UAS REPORT

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

September 2021

Call Volume Report

- Total Calls 2021: 88
- Calls Since Last Meeting to Date: 7
- Calls in Berrien County 2021 to Date: 40

Breakdown of Type of Calls 2021 to Date

- Missing Persons - 35
- LEO Assists - 15
- Structure Fires - 25
- Water/Dive Rescue - 11

Updates

- Equipment update:
 - 4581 housed at Chikaming Township.
 - 4580 housed at North Berrien
- Reminder, early activation makes everything easier on all of us, we would rather disregard then be behind possible opportunities to intervene at the right timeline. This is especially relevant for water rescues. We assisted on two calls this past month that early activation turned the call around.

Training Update

- Contact us by email at Lindsay@greatlakesdronecompany.com to schedule a training with us.

2618 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville, MI 49127

888-816-9625 - info@greatlakesdronecompany.com

FIRE MPSCS TEMPLATE

	Zone A	Zone B	Zone C	Zone D	Zone E	Zone F
1	11E911	11F911	11F911	11P911	STATW1	8CALL90
2	11ECEMS	11BCPAGE	11E911	11COMN	STATW2	8CALL90D
3	39PRIDE	8TAC91D	11P911	11METN	STATW3	8TAC91
4	11EMED1	8TAC92D	11F	11COMS	STATW5	8TAC91D
5	11ESMCAS	8TAC93D	11FG1	11METS	STATW6	8TAC92
6	11E3OAKS	8TAC94D	11FG2	11HD	STATW7	8TAC92D
7	11NILES	7TAC51D	11FG3	11ROAD	STATW8	8TAC93
8	11STJOE	7TAC52D	11FG4	11EMER	AIRLZ1	8TAC93D
9	11WATER	7TAC53D	11FG5	11MARIN	AIRLZ2	8TAC94
10		7TAC54D	11UIC1	11AC111	DNREEM5	8TAC94D
11		7TAC55D	11UIC2	11EQUA		7CALL50D
12		11F	11UIC3	4WINDS11		7TAC51D
13		11F	11SPEV1	4WINDS14		7TAC52D
14		11F	11SPEV2			7TAC53D
15		11	11			7TAC54D
16		11	11			7TAC55D

	Zone G	Zone H	Zone J	Zone K	Zone L	Zone M
1	EVENT1	EVENT16	EVENT 47	EVENT 63	EVENT 79	MABAS DISP
2	EVENT2	EVENT17	EVENT48	EVENT 64	EVENT 80	MABASCC1
3	EVENT3	EVENT18	EVENT49	EVENT 65	EVENT 81	MABASCC2
4	EVENT4	EVENT19	EVENT50	EVENT 66	EVENT 82	MABAS1
5	EVENT5	EVENT20	EVENT51	EVENT 67	EVENT 83	MABAS2
6	EVENT6	EVENT21	EVENT52	EVENT 68	EVENT 84	MABAS3
7	EVENT7	EVENT22	EVENT53	EVENT 69	EVENT 85	MABAS4
8	EVENT8	EVENT23	EVENT54	EVENT 70	EVENT 86	MABAS5
9	EVENT9	EVENT24	EVENT55	EVENT 71	EVENT 87	
10	EVENT10	EVENT25	EVENT56	EVENT 72	EVENT 88	<i>For MABAS</i>
11	EVENT11	EVENT26	EVENT57	EVENT 73	EVENT 89	<i>member departments</i>
12	EVENT12	EVENT27	EVENT58	EVENT 74	EVENT 90	<i>departments only</i>
13	EVENT13	EVENT28	EVENT59	EVENT 75	EVENT 91	
14	EVENT14	EVENT29	EVENT60	EVENT 76	EVENT 92	
15	EVENT15	EVENT30	EVENT61	EVENT 77	EVENT 93	
16	DYNRGRP		EVENT62	EVENT 78	EVENT 94	

	Zone N	Zone O	Zone P	Zone Q	Zone R	Zone Y	Zone Z
1	R5SPEV1	CHOPHP1	11PG	11P911	80F911	<i>For Future</i>	<i>For Future</i>
2	R5SPEV2	CHREG1	11PG	11INCMD	80E911	<i>Indiana 800</i>	<i>Indiana 800</i>
3	R5SPEV3	CHREG2N	11PG911	11OPS	80COM		
4	R5SPEV4	CHREG2S		11INTEL	80EMER	<i>Only for Fire</i>	<i>Departments along</i>
5	R5SPEV5	CHREG3	Page Talkgroups	11CMD1	80SPEV1	<i>the Indiana</i>	<i>state line</i>
6	R5SPEV6	CHREG5	Receive Only	11CMD2	80SPEV2		
7	R5SPEV7	CHREG6	Except for base radios	11TEAM1	80SPEV3		
8	R5SPEV8	CHREG7	and command radios	11TEAM2	14P911		
9	R5SPEV9	CHREG8		11TEAM3	14F911		
10	EMMD1	MEDCOM5		11TEAM4	14E911		
11	EMMD2	MCC5		11TEAM5	14COM		
12	EMMD3			11TEAM6	14SPEV1		
13	EMMD5			8TAC91D			
14	EMMD6			8TAC92D			
15	EMMD7			8TAC93D			
16	EMMD8			8TAC94D			