



## **BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

**Call to Order:** 0830-0926

**Date:** January 19, 2022

**Old minutes:** Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Starting Balance: \$4814.94. Check: \$300.00 for dispatchers' dinner. Ending Balance: \$4514.95. Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

**Communications/Bills:** Chief Jesswein Discussed benefit dinner for former Howard Twp. Fire Chief Ron Fazi. Flier attached.

**New Chief/Visitor:**

**Committee Report:**

**Sheriff:** Everything good. COVID is up and down in jail and department. Dave Albers is back to work at emergency management. Working on an RFP for new command vehicle. Will be opening bids on a new boat for Paw Paw Lake.

**Red Cross:** None

**Great Lakes Drone:** Lindsey had her baby. 8lb 4oz. 20inches. Mom and baby doing good. New location. See new address. See attached report. Remember with cold/winter weather call early to allow for time to check if can fly. Question: Do you have drones that can deliver AED in remote area? Answer: Yes. Have drone that can carry 25lbs.

**SEMCO:** None.

**Dispatch/911:**

**REMINDER: VHF SIMULCAST SYSTEM WILL END BY DECEMBER 31, 2022**

**\*\*It is the intention of Berrien County to dismantle and absolve itself of the county wide VHF system by December 31, 2022\*\***

Dispatch has been hit hard with COVID. Have had over 1/3 staff out with COVID. Training with new CAD system. Planning to go live February 01, 2022. If notice issues please let dispatch know ASAP.

Please get boxcards to dispatch. Dispatch currently has following departments boxcards: Benton Harbor Public Safety, Chikaming, Betrand, Buchanan Twp, North Berrien, Niles City, S.M.C.A.S, ST Joe Twp. 1, Three Oaks. If have any dispatch problems/issued please contact dispatch ASAP in order to correct the problem. Still have openings but due to COVID not bringing any new on.

**DNR:** None

**Funeral:** Berrien Springs. New Bibles delivered.

**Emergency Management:** Nothing new. End of year. Finishing up year end. Offering REP 101 classes. Looking into possibility of doing it over ZOOM.

**EMS:**

**Medic-1:** None

**S.M.C.A.S.:** Currently have stopped the infusions. Ran into some issues. Waiting on 800 radios. Working to appoint someone to start attending these meetings soon. Question on why stopped infusions. Matt Remmo stated he is on S.M.C.A.S board and stated they have stopped the infusions due to funding for the infusions has stopped.

**Med Flight:** Happy New Year. Everything going well. Available to host any zoom classes if want. LZ classes if needed.

**Med Control:** None

**LEPC:** Held meeting in December of 2021. Working on a virtual meeting policy. Reporting period opened up for 302 site facilities. Required to report to LEPC, state of MI, EPA, and fire departments. Deadline June 01, 2022. Information will be available in the sharefile when completed.

**BCFA:** Gerry out doing final inspection on new fire truck, rescue pumper. Sheriff reminded to get it up on the web.

**Training:** Sheriff stated Corey doing a good job. Corey doing training in the schools now. Chief Mattix discussed the new CR requirements that took effect on October 01, 2021. Firefighters must obtain 36 credits in three years. Officers additional 12 for 48 CE's. Instructors another 12 for 60 total credits in three years. It is the responsibility of the firefighter to document his/her training in SMOKE. The fire chief and/or training officer and/or fire department is not responsible to input/report the individuals training. Chief Harper asked how is it documented in SMOKE. No one knew. Chief Mattix stated he will be attending a roundtable meeting on March 30, 2022 to discuss enforcement of new CE rules. Training council and fire marshal office stated they will audit 10 percent of firefighters. OSHA will also enforce the CE's. Chief Mattix stated he asked the Question: Why haven't you enforced the rules that were already in place before spending money to rewrite PA 207/209? Chief Mattix stated the answer he was given: We have to come in line with IFSAC and Proboard. Chief Mattix stated these are his opinions. Now what will happen in three years? Rocky: What is process if EM providing training for fire departments. Have to apply for Q course. They are approved quite readily. MIOSHA part 74 appendix A is the OSHA recommended training courses for firefighters/officers/Chief officers/instructors.

**HazMat:** offering training

**MITRT5:** End of year wrap up. The executive board is planning to meet more often. Updating response plans. Some equipment does not meet current standards so will have to rebuild some items.

**MABAS:** in January of each year MABAS is updating/reviewing policies. One of these policies Frank brought up from a question from Brian Kazmierzak last year. The three policies up for review is Mayday/RIT/Accountability. I would like to have 3-4 members from MABAS departments to form a committee to review these policies. There are two people here today I would like to be on the committee if they are interested and I will talk to them after the meeting. If MABAS department has anyone interested in this committee please contact Mike Mattix and/or Frank DeLaTorre by January 31, 2022. So that the committee will have the month of February to review these policies. MIMABAS will be sending representatives to the IL MABAS conference in February. MABAS will have presentations at the following conferences: MSP EMHD monthly webinar, Inter-Opp conference in March, MI fire service conference in April, MI Hazmat conference in April. Battle Creek and Macomb Hazmat teams continuing MABAS validation process. Welcome Weesaw Twp. Fire to MABAS Division 3501. Weesaw signed onto MABAS in December 2021. Welcome aboard Weesaw!

**Old Business:** Chief Davidson stated he was locked out of NIFRS. Chief Davidson stated all going well with the grant. A few departments still need to submit their match. Chief Jesswein asked if anyone has received their programing yet. Frank advised Niles Fire received their grant radio yesterday. They are programed and ready to go. Chief Jesswein stated he spoke to programing unit on December 30, 2021 and they are finishing work orders from September 2021. At that time there were 210 workorders in line. If you have not submitted programing requests you are still several months out. Niles city workorder was submitted in September 2021. And just received them yesterday about four months. Frank advised departments follow up with your venders to make sure programing requests have been submitted. If not Need to submit to be completed before end of year. Chief Jesswein stated he has not even ordered mobile radios yet. Then how does that process work. Frank advised it would be a new work order to have mobile radios programed.

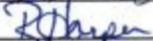
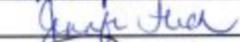
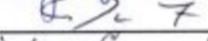
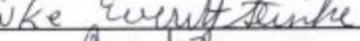
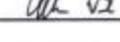
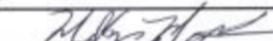
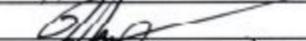
Frank discussed the BC Fire Chiefs Active911. See the attached list of departments that are on the BC Fire Chiefs Active911. If you would like to be on the BC Fire Chiefs Active911 please contact Frank DeLaTorre. The association officers/dispatch/and Chiefs that sit in the EOC have the ability to send BC Fire Chiefs active911. Frank stated after he took over as Secretary/Treasurer he was told by several fire chiefs that they only check emails on weekends or every few days. Therefore, the BC Fire Chiefs Active911 account was set up as an additional means of communication. Alerts are kept to a minimum. Again, if your department would like to be represented on the BC Fire chiefs Active911 please contact Frank.

**New Business:** Chief Davidson will be retiring on March 31, 2022. Is there any interest in Fire Chiefs Association President? Chief Harper stated Brian Kazmierzak may be interested. Chief Davidson nominated Chief Mike Mattix to take over Association President. Voting for new BC Fire chiefs Association at February meeting.

**Next Meeting:** 0830 on February 16, 2022.

**Adjourn:** 0926hrs.

**Berrien County Fire Chief's Association  
Attendance Sheet  
January 19th, 2022**

	Print	Signature	Temp	Dept.
1.	Mike Davidson			CTFD
2.	Rob Harper			BCTFD
3.	JENNIFER Flick			911
4.	JAMIE Flick			NBTFD
5.	Everett Steinke			STFD.
6.	Amanda Bronson			WTFD
7.	David Albert			DCSO / BCSO FD
8.	Allen Weich			MI-TRT-5 / Lake
9.	Ashley Munson			GLDC
10.	Matt Quinn			GLDC
11.	Mark Berger			MF
12.	Mike Mattix			NBFR
13.	Brenda Chiselle			Linch
14.	Tia Jessiman			NFD / BTFD
15.	Matt Remmo			Bertrand
16.	Paul Bailey			BCSO
17.	Joffrey Gault			BARADA
18.	Tyler Kinsey			Boland
19.	Frank DeLore			Nelly / CBFR
20.				
21.				

# GREAT LAKES DRONE COMPANY, LLC

## UAS REPORT

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

### January 2022

#### Call Volume Report

- Total Calls for 2021: 125
- Total Call 2022:7
- Calls Since Last Meeting to Date: 13
- Calls in Berrien County 2022 to Date: 2

#### Breakdown of Type of Calls 2022 to Date

- Missing Persons - 0
- LEO Assists - 1
- Structure Fires - 6
- Water/Dive Rescue - 0

#### Updates

- Our Command Unit 4585 is now in service, 800 system is still portable only until our template arrives
- We have officially applied for our Medical First Responder's license with the State of Michigan. This will allow for added scene safety on many of the scenes we already respond to. This will also allow additional resources within the county as mutual aid when needed.
- January monthly training was at Orchards Mall with the focus on interior flight operations. This training is key for structural collapse, barricaded subjects and explosive/hazmat situations. February training will focus on Ice Water Rescue. Training is held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month.
- We have brought on 3 new full-time employees to handle the additional growth, brings us to a total of 6 full time and 32 part time / on-call.
- We are moving our corporate office to Coloma due to needing more space. Notice the address change at the bottom of this report. Effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.
- Reminder of Early Activation coming into the winter weather temps, especially for missing persons reports. This allows for weather check delays and travel times if needed.

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 mailto:[Virg@greatlakesdronecompany.com](mailto:Virg@greatlakesdronecompany.com) to schedule a training with us.

134 N. Church Street, PO Box 1022, Coloma, MI 49038

888-816-9625 - [info@greatlakesdronecompany.com](mailto:info@greatlakesdronecompany.com)

Subscription Name
Agency: City of Niles FD
Agency: St. Joseph Department of Public Safety
Agency: Berrien County MCA
Agency: Weesaw Twp FD
Agency: North Berrien Fire Rescue
Agency: Bertrand Twp Fire
Agency: Watervliet FD
Agency: Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance Service
Agency: Berrien Springs Oronoko FD
Agency: New Buffalo City FD
Agency: Three Oaks FD
Agency: Berrien Springs Oronoko FD
Agency: Sodus Twp FD
Agency: North Berrien Fire Rescue
Agency: St. Joseph Twp Sta. #1
Agency: Lake Twp Fire
Agency: New Buffalo TWP Fire
Agency: Royalton Twp FD
Agency: City of Niles FD
Agency: Bridgman FD
Agency: Southwestern Michigan Community Ambulance Service
Agency: Niles Charter Twp FD
Agency: Baroda Fire
Agency: Bertrand Twp Fire
Agency: Chikaming TWP FD
Agency: North Berrien Fire Rescue
Agency: Pipestone, Berrien Twps. Eau Claire FD
Agency: Benton Charter Twp FD
Agency: St. Joseph Twp Sta. #1
Agency: Galien Twp FD
Agency: Weesaw Twp FD
Agency: Buchanan TWP FD

# Let's Help Ron Fazi!

Ron was a 20+ year veteran of the fire department and served as Chief and also as Township Supervisor. Ron was recently diagnosed with MPAL leukemia and has had extended stays in the hospital. Please help HTFD fight this battle with Ron. We will have 50/50 raffles, door prizes including a flat screen TV, Cabela's Gift Cards, & more.



ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE RON FAZI FAMILY

# SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

SAT  
12  
FEB.

Enjoy spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, beverages, and dessert.

\$10 ADVANCED TICKETS  
ADULTS \$12 - KIDS (12&UNDER) \$5

For Advanced tickets, contact a firefighter or message us on our Facebook page  
HOWARDFIREFIGHTERS

Saturday, February 12th  
TIME: 4PM-9PM

AT HOWARD TOWNSHIP FIRE STATION