



## **BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

**Call to Order:** 0830-0915

**Date:** August 17, 2022

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning balance: \$4518.44. No changes last month. Ending balance: \$4518.44. Check to BCFA for coins in July. Gerry stated may have deposited check in August. Have cash to deposit from the sale of challenge coins. Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

**Communications/Bills:** Chief Mattix discussed the MEAP presentation at the LEPC meeting. MEAP is a voluntary preplan for farms. We will be looking to bring MEAP to one of our meetings in the future. Discussion on association bylaws. Frank stated final draft of bylaws have been emailed out. Per our current bylaws must be presented 30 days before vote. If any questions please contact a committee member, Frank, Allen, Brian, Jamie.

**New Chief/Visitor:** None

**Committee Report:**

**Sheriff:** None

**Red Cross:** None

**Great Lakes Drone:** None

**Dispatch/911:** **REMINDER VHF SIMULCAST WILL BE DISCOMMISSIONED END OF 2022.** Moving forward on Buchanan building. Has four vacancies currently. Has fliers. If know anyone send them her way. Have 5 full time and one part time in training. Counting those out on medical dispatch is down about 1/3 staff. Discussed what3words. See attached fliers. Globe is mapped out in ten foot squares. Each ten foot square has three words assigned to it. Is great for locating in an emergency. If download the app can input the three words and app will map you to location. Dispatch can send a link to the callers cell phone and caller can open the link and give the three words to mark callers location. Great for placed like the fair, rivers, trails, campgrounds. Not integrated in CAD, but can search for what3words.

Chief Myers asked about the new boxcards. What needs to be done to get then working. Caitlin stated not everyone gave then to her in same format. Not all in excel. Needs at least couple of days to get them completed. Gerry and Ted offered to help. If need recordings for calls let dispatch know. Then can be sent electronically now. Chief Knisley confirmed old boxcards are still currently in use. Caitlin stated yes as new ones are not out yet.

**DNR:** None

**Funeral:** Berrien Springs

**Emergency Management:** None

**EMS:**

**Medic-1:** None

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

**Med Flight:** LZ classes if needed. Who takes care of redbud? Discussions on LZ locations for redbud. Frank stated there were predesignated LZ's. One on property, Buchanan Twp. Station. Buchanan HS.

**Med Control:** None

**LEPC:** Discussion already.

**BCFA:** Next meeting September 07, in Three Oaks. November meeting will be at Sister Lakes. Fair this week. Thank you for coming. Still need help to cover shifts in fire education center. Frank and Caitlin will be working fire education center today. Will train you when arrive. Pictures provided by county fire training and

department map/patch picture provided by Berrien Springs. Gerry thanked all those who are helping. Dennis provided all the Legos on display. Thank you to Dennis.

**Training:** Discussion on upcoming BHDPS classes. No info on the county FF 1 and 2 class.

**HazMat:** None.

**MITRT5:** None.

**MABAS:** None. August meeting was cancelled. Only monthly phone radio drill.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Discussion on fireground radio use. Chief Myers asked Going to 800 FG so dispatch can listen however due to shortages in dispatch, they are unable to do that. The true issue is that we want someone to monitor the fire ground if that is correct, the easiest fix is to add a box chief to boxcards to respond to the scene and sit in command and monitor the fireground. Not trying to replace dispatch but is this of interest? Most thought this is a great idea. It just needs to be built into your boxcard. Questions on if FG are recorded. Caitlin stated 800 FG are recorded. VHF is not, 8TAC is not. Chief Chase stated after extensive work with HEI they have programed the orange button on their radios to go to a predesignated 8TAC. Bertrand also has set up their Motorola radios to set off an emergency tone on the channel/talkgroup the radio is on. Discussion on communications committee to meet and discuss.

Bertrand has three Kenwood NX5400 for sale, \$1800.00 per radio. Contact Chief Knisley if interested.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday September 21, 2022. Lincoln Twp. 0830.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned, 0915.

# BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEF ASSOCIATION

August Meeting

Meeting Date: 08/17/2022

Sign In

Place/Room: Berrien County Fair Grounds

Name	Department
Frank DeLatorre	Miles
Ben Krisely	Bertrand
Dave Fric	Three Oaks
Gerry Koblman	S.J.C.T.F.D. 1
Caitlin Sampson	BC 911
Tim Jesswein	Buchanan Twp / Miles Twp
Ted Chase	Galien
Allen Weich	Chikaming FD
Dan MYERS	<del>##</del> BSOFD
MARKE Berger	Med Flight
Brandon Chinell	Linds P <sub>2</sub>
Rob HARPER	BCTFD
Jeremy Connell	SJDPS
Mike Hartz	NBFR



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*Will you answer the call?*

## **Public Safety Dispatcher**

911 offers the excitement & pride of a career in public safety, serving our community.

It all starts with 911.



Opportunity to make a difference and  
save lives every day

Answer 911 and administrative lines

Dispatch Police, Fire & EMS

Team environment

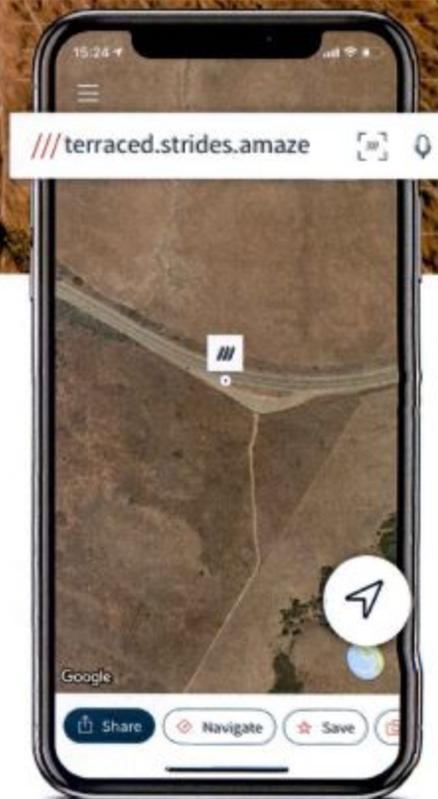
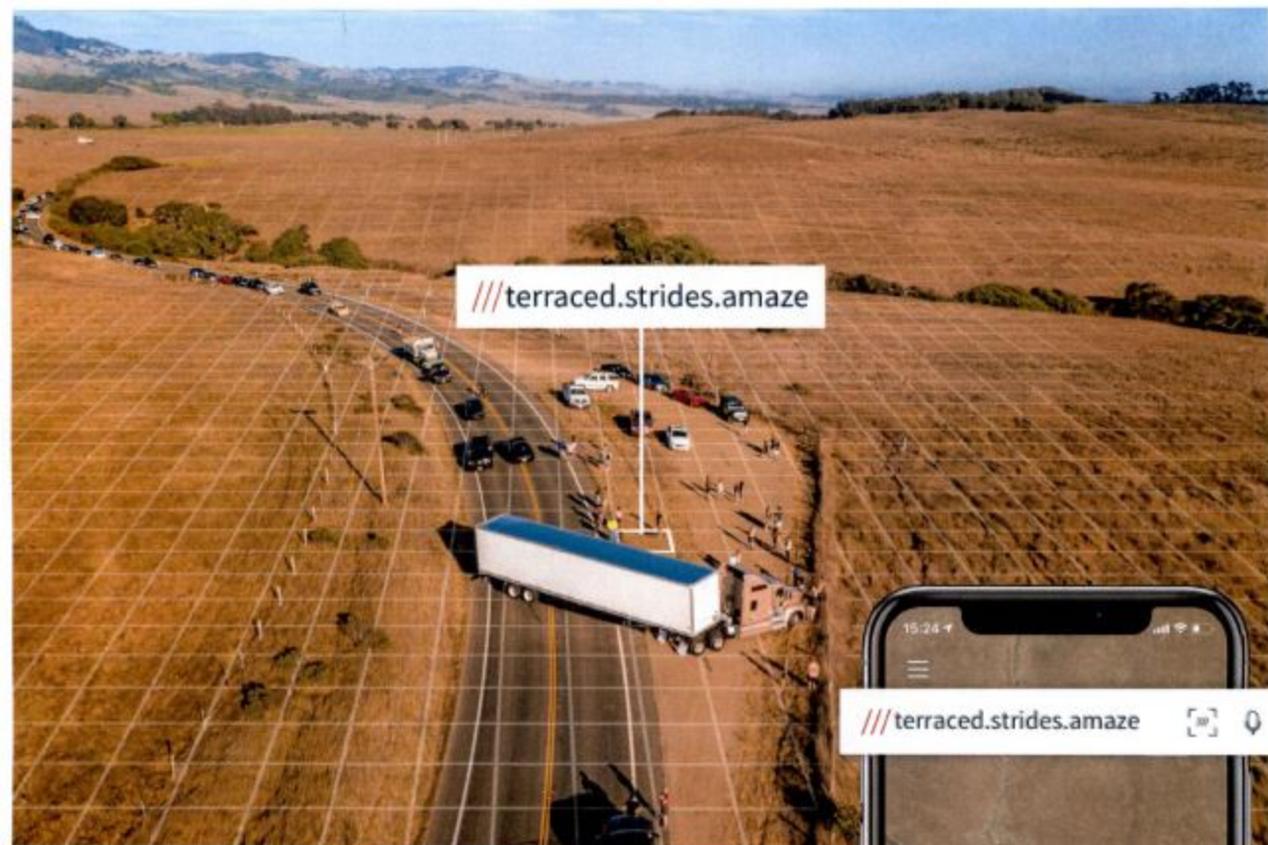
Paid on-the-job and external training

Non-traditional schedule- 24 hour/365 environment

Advancement opportunities

- Starting pay \$20.20/hour  
(\$42,028 annually + overtime & 13 holidays)
- \$24.78/hour after 1 year (\$51,534 annually)
- 5 step pay scale
- Holiday Pay & Premium
- Paid Time Off- compensatory time, vacation, personal days, sick leave
- Defined Benefit Pension Plan with 25 & out
- Deferred Compensation Program
- Health, Dental, Vision, & Life Insurance
- Flexible Spending Plan
- Employee Assistance Program





## Tell 911 exactly where help is needed with what3words

what3words is an easy way to give an exact location. Every 10ft square in the world has been given a unique combination of three words.

To give a what3words address in an emergency:

1. Open the what3words app.
2. Wait for the blue GPS dot to stabilize, then tap the current location icon.
3. Read the three words to the 911 call operator.



Search for the free app

what3words



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#Help 911  
Know  
exactly  
where  
what3words

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