



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Call to Order: 0830-0938

Date: September 21, 2022

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

Treasurer's Report: Starting balance: \$4518.44. Check 1049 for \$724.50 to BCFA for half of challenge coins. Ending balance: \$3793.94. Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills: Sodus Fire had an issue with Gobal chemical. They received a phone call from global Chemical about gear wash. Now have 12 gallons and a bill for \$1200.00. Be carful if receive a phone call from Global Chemical.

North Berrien Fire Auxiliary Quarter Auction.

Niles Township Fire holding pancake breakfast on Sunday September 25 from 0800-1100.

Buchanan Township will have fish fry on Saturday, October 22, 2022 from 1500-2000.

BYLAWS: Updated bylaws have been completed and sent out for the 30 day review. Frank explained that because of consensus to have 2022-2023 dues paid together, he went by 2021 dues paying members. Has ballots made up and list of 2021 dues paying members. Frank called out member department names and handed out ballots. Motion to move forward with vote by BHDPS. Seconded by Chikaming. Discussion on wording mailed out verses emailed, and capitalization of word association. Frank stated we should add emailed and correct capitalization. These changes will not change intent of presented bylaws. Amended motion to accept and vote on presented bylaws with discussed changes, by BHDPS and seconded by Chikaming. Updated bylaws passed: 15 yes; 1 no. Bylaws will be emailed out to all.

Committee Report:

Sheriff: Late due to shooting in Niles last night. Apologized for being late due to shooting in Niles. Sheriff stated he and MSP are working with Niles PD and providing additional patrols. No one wants to talk in fear of retaliation. MSP crime lab coming in as well. SD has 7 openings with 6 currently in police academy. Hopes to put 3 more in academy in January 2023. Sheriff pulling one detective at a time for patrols as well as th chief deputy and himself for road patrols.

Red Cross: None

Great Lakes Drone: Great Lakes Drone not here as setting up for the motorcross of nations at redbud this weekend. Matt gave Frank a report: 111 responses so far this year. 37 SAR; 9 Water rescue/recovery; 20 structure fires/FD assists; 39 LEO responses; 6 public assists. 18 responses in Berrien County. GLD assisted on a gas spill on Paw Paw Lake on September 04, 2022 where a boat decided to pump 20 gallons of gas into the lake. GLD was able to provide an aerial view of the spill with measurements of 600 feet long and 20 feet wide. GLD was able to provide live image to County Hazmat via a text link as well.

Dispatch/911: **REMINDER VHF SIMULCAST WILL BE DISCOMMISSIONED AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.**

Continue to lose staff. 7 in training and 5 open positions. Caitlin is working the floor to fill in the open spots. Dispatch is just treading water. If have issues, missed apparatus please contact on duty dispatch supervisor ASAP with issue. If need recording of a call please contact Jen. Discussion on getting the updated boxcards in place ASAP. Chief Myers stated he and several other chiefs have stated they will be willing to come up to dispatch and make up the binders for dispatch as well as help get departments boxcars in correct format. Continuing to move forward on new tower planned to be completed around November 2023. Plan to move into new dispatch center in 2025. Discussion on using 11BCPAGE. Several departments are ready to start using 11BCPAGE. Discussion on sending out message vis BC Fire Chiefs listserve to poll departments if ready to use 11BCPAGE. Question on 11BCPAGE? Frank explained 11BCPAGE will allow dispatch to move pages

off 11F911. 11BCPAGE will be 800 version of VHF paging channel, allowing departments to monitor department dispatches in the county.

DNR: None

Funeral: Berrien Springs

Emergency Management: Working on communications exercises. Looking at ability of responders to communicate with EOC, system coverage, and back up systems. Discussed the COW (Communication On Wheels) takes about 2 hours to get COW up and running. Discussing active shooter with schools. Working on getting rescue task force back up and running. EM down staff just like everyone else. Test the wireless emergency system WEA last week. Tested a 1.5 mi radius around jail. Surveys not in yet. This system can be used for small local notifications such as evacuations, shelter in place, etc... The WEA works on cell phone with no opt in required. Unlike the county's B-Warn system. The B-Warn system members have to sign up for. Contact dispatch for these activations. Give dispatch address or intersections and distances. It is the IC responsibility to make sure the message that goes out is what the IC wants put out. Not dispatches responsibility to come up with the emergency message!

BHDPS, SJCDPS, Lincoln Township, Benton Township, SJ Township, all have been holding quarterly training. This quarters training will be active shooter training. Fire Marshal Kazmierzak opened up the training to EM and all fire departments. Training will be Monday night at Spectrum Lakeland Hospital.

EMS:

Medic-1: Nothing

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

Med Flight: October 01, 2022 LZ class at Buchanan township. 1200-1300. LZ Classes if need them.

Med Control: Gearing up for busy weekend with Redbud MXON. Adding extra staff at Spectrum Lakeland Niles. Are there any IC talkgroups? Would need to check with S.M.C.A.S.

LEPC: Conservation district still has the farm preplan. MAEAP program. Frank stated he has information and planning to invite MAEAP to one of the BC Fire Chiefs meetings.

BCFA: Light attendance at August meeting. Gerry thanked everyone that helped at the fire education center. There were a lot of new people helping this year. Thank You to Chief Weich for bringing the MITRT 5 trailer to September meeting. Frank stated weather may of played into less people at August meeting as he was planning on attending but when the storms came in was on calls from storm damage.

October meeting at Watervliet on October 05, 2022.

Training: Fire Marshal Kazmierzak stated only 2 seats left in the Electric vehicle class. Instructor class is finishing up. Benton Harbor City will be building a training center. FO2 will be starting. All classes have been posted. Discussion on Lion batteries and the fire hazards they present. Can't throw Lion into trash.

Discussion on dummy plug for electric vehicles. Called EVSTOP. Only two types of plugs. Vehicle will not move when plugged in and the dummy plug will also keep vehicle from moving. Unknown how FD can get dummy plugs. Discussion on just letting electric vehicles just burn. Fire Marshal Kazmierzak stated fire departments should have discussion with Corey Burks as the disposal of the electric vehicles fires are a hazmat.

HazMat: Offering training. Team offering firefighter sharing program. Contact Corey if interested. Sheriff stated Corey will be retiring in December 2022.

MITRT5: Had quarterly training last week. Chief Weich stated he will be transitioning off of the team.

MABAS: Been a busy Year for MABAS. MMR, Mobile Medical Response, has now joined MABAS. ERAIL, Emergency Response to Accidents Involving Livestock, is still interested in partnering with MABAS to provide support for these types of accidents. Continuing to work on training videos: Ordering MRP, building boxrds.

Fire department mutual aid and MABAS TF1 videos in process. October exercise will involve our division 3501. On October 03, 2022, the division 3501 UAS/drone team will be activated.

In February 2023 there will be an exercise titled Grand Illusion. The exercise will be a down aircraft. More info upcoming. Continue to work on wildland validation. 35 firefighters in Michigan have completed the classroom portion of course. DNR still in CIOVID protocols and has not been able to do the hands on portion of the class. There will be a MABAS UAS training/workshop here in division 3501 on October 15, 2022. The training will be at the Watervliet airport. MABAS has had presentations at the following conferences: Fire Inspectors conference; Michigan Municipal Treasurers Association Conference; MEMA conference. The following counties are now new divisions: Lapeer county; Shiawassee County; Tuscola County; The following counties have signed onto MIMABAS, but still need minimum number of departments to complete divisions: Isabella; Metcosta; Antrim; Marquette; Delta/Schoolcraft; UP Chiefs; Wexford; Otsego. And upcoming

meeting with Charlevoix. MITF1 has received reimbursement from hurricane Dorian. Still waiting on Ida reimbursement. MITF1 called out to Flint for building collapse. Initial request came in from PD. Once fire IC contacted red center MABAS MITF1 responded and cleared the building in 5-6 hours. MITF1 is accepting new members for the taskforce. MABAS department with interested persons may apply. Applications need to be in by October 01, 2022. Applications available on the MIMABAS website. Validation process continues in 2023 with Macomb Tech Rescue, Grand Rapids Tech Rescue, Traverse City Hazmat, Midland Hazmat. As teams become validated MIMABAS will be working with MSP EMHSD to provide a list of validated teams, as the MIMABAS validated teams will be the teams called up when needed. Red Center continues to work/train dispatch centers on participation on monthly drills and training as necessary.

Old Business: Reminder NIFRS Reports. Frank thanked chief Allen Weich, Chief Jamie Flick and Fire Marshal Kazmierzak for their help on updating the bylaws. Chief Mattix thanks as well.

New Business: On November 09, 2022 Berrien Springs police and fire offering a community preparedness class.

Next Meeting: 0830, Wednesday October 19, 2022, Lincoln Township Fire.

Adjourn: 0938



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
ATTENDANCE SHEET

DATE: September 21, 2022

NAME	SIGNATURE	DEPARTMENT
Doug MYERS		BSOFD
Al DuBATO		SPECTRUM
EVERETT STEINKE	Everett Steinkie	STFD
MARIS Berger		Mid Flight
Bin Knisely		Bertrand
Tim Jesswein		Mks Twp / Buchanan Twp
Brian Kazmierczak		BHDPS
Brandon Chinell		Lincoln
JAMIE FLICK	Ju F	WISTFD
JENNIFER FRIED	Jennifer Fried	911
Gosy Kabelman		S.J.R.T.F.D. #1
Jeremy Cornell	Jeremy Cornell	STIDPS
Joson Wilen		Medic 1
Allen Weich	Allen Weich	Chickaming
Raul Feilley	Raul Feilley	FLSO
Bill Whitney	Bill Whitney	WFD
Frank DeLorenzo		MILES
Mike Matley		NBFK



Quarter Auction

SUNDAY

October 16, 2022

Preview: 1:30 – 2:00 pm

Auction Starts: 2:00 pm

**North Berrien Fire Rescue
Station 1
170 Washington
Coloma MI 49038**

Tickets \$5.00

Available in advance or at the door
ALL IN PADDLE price to be determined

Here's how it works: Upon checking in, you will receive a numbered paddle. All the participating vendors provide items valued from \$10-\$100 for auction. When an item comes up for bid that you are interested in, you place the appropriate number of quarters in the basket in the middle of your table and raise your paddle.

\$10 - \$24 = 1 quarter
\$25 - \$49 = 2 quarters
\$50 - \$74 = 3 quarters
\$75 - \$100 = 4 quarters

Once the bidding has closed the auctioneer picks a random numbered ball. The individual with the matching numbered paddle that bid will win. If the matching numbered paddle did not bid say "no bid" and the auctioneer will pick another ball until there is a winner.



PARTICIPATING VENDORS

- * BEEMER'S BLANKETS
- * COLOR STREET
- * LULAROE
- * ORIGINALS BY MARILYN
- * PERFECTLY POSH
- * SAGE MOON DESIGNS
- * SCENTSY
- * TROUBLE IN LAWS
- * TUPPERWARE
- * USBORNE BOOKS

PROCEEDS BENEFIT:

**North Berrien Fire Department
Ladies Auxiliary**

There will be a snack bar with food and beverages for purchase. Please no outside food/drinks.

There will also be raffle tickets for sale so bring a few extra dollars ☺

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact: Julie Carter (269) 876-0910 or Michelle (269) 332-7229



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