



BERRIEN COUNTY
FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION
BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Call to Order: By President Myers @ 0830hrs

Date: March 19th, 2025

Presentation(s):

- **Kris Burks, Barbie's Cookies** – selling cookies to raise money for Dispatcher Appreciation Week. Using the fundraiser to purchase vests and stocking caps. See card in minutes to purchase cookies.

Old minutes:

- Old minutes emailed out by Secretary/Treasurer Kazmierzak
- Motion to accept old minutes by: Chief Weich
- Seconded by: Chief Gowen
- Motion passed: None opposed.

Treasurer's Report:

February Starting Balance: \$6451.98, February Ending Balance: \$6426.14

- Motion to accept treasurer report by: Chief Harper
- Seconded by: Chief Steinke
- Motion passed: None opposed.
- The following depts still owe their 2025 Dues:
 - Baroda
 - DC Cook
 - Royalton Twp.
 - Weesaw Twp.

Bills:

- None

Communications:

- Discussion on posting new apparatus prices to TextCom
- **DNR Annual Agreement** – make sure it gets sent in, it needs to be updated every 5 years.
- **Blossomtime** – apparatus **MUST** register ahead of time if you are
- **National Fire Sprinkler Class** – June 18th – 1000-1400 @ LMC after BCFA meeting. Meeting will be moved to LMC Todd Center for that date.
- **Upgrading alarms** – when you upgrade from an alarm to a fire, ask for your automatic aid response.

New Chief/Visitor:

- N/A

Dispatch/911:

- Dispatch Appreciation Week is April 13th
- **Watervliet Tower** - has been delayed due to a damaged AC unit
- **Box Cards** – Box Cards are in for all but 2 departments (Eau Claire & Benton Twp.). Depts **MUST** turn in Box Cards as it is part of the BCFA SOG and Dispatch Mayday Procedure.
- **CAD Mobility** – waiting on some final quotes
- **Pager Issues** – discussion of adding bigger antennas, can be purchased from SMR and Tele-Rad

Communication Committee:



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- Met Monday, March 17th
 - MCI Guideline discussion
 - EMS still not moving to Firegrounds on fire scenes.
 - Discussion on Medic 1 only sending a supervisor on lift assists and requesting fire
 - Discussion on Medic 1 transporting 7 pts in one ambulance
 - Discussion on Medic 1 only sending a supervisor for fire stand-by when ambulances are available
 - Fireground Use – FG5 still not recorded by Berrien County. Only 5 firegrounds, need to be only used for Complex incidents.
 - Currently, 5 firegrounds, 3 UICs, discussed renaming them to Operations/Tactical Talkgroups to be used by ALL disciplines.
 - Indiana Critical Connect

CAD Committee:

- Trying to solidify quote
- Two departments withdrew
- Site License vs. Individual Licenses
- Discussion on funding

SOG Committee:

- **Mutual Aid Agreement** – Jeremy will reach out to her attorney
- **Passport Accountability** – Information sent out, still working on policy
- **MCI** – continuing to progress

BCFA:

- Discussion on Marijuana Grow Response Class at Watervliet
- **Next Meeting** – April 2nd @ Weesaw Twp. – Anhydrous Ammonia and Propane Safety
- **Car Show** – June 28th – Fire truck bounce house for the kids
- 8-10 depts need to update their resource directory – get with Gerry

Training:

- Search @ LCTFD – March 22nd, 0830-1630 – 3 spots
- BHDPS Fire Academy starts May 13th

Emergency Management/Sheriff's Office:

- N/A

MABAS:

- MABAS Callout – Feb 25th, Western Wayne Tech Rescue
- Michigan MABAS Director stepping down
- Working on out of division box cards

Other Communications:

- North Berrien Trivia Night – March 22

Old Business:

- **Scene Watcher App:**
 - Android has launched



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- Still in BETA phase
- Updates in early May
- Log all app issues on this Google Doc:
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JaXuz6lbnKh1PRJuWx1sG0SMcrEs3uFTbMazjbbBd14/edit?usp=sharing>

New Business:

- NFPA membership discussion
- Dispatcher Appreciation Week of April 14th
 - Motion to spend \$300 with Barbie's Cookies fundraiser for dispatcher appreciation week, by Chief Jessawine
 - Seconded by: Delatore
 - Motion passed: None opposed.
- Scene Watcher Quote - \$500 to make upgrades, up to \$700
 - Motion to spend \$700 on app changes by Chief Chiarello
 - Seconded by Chief Gowen
 - Motion passed: None opposed.
- Executive Committee Expense Threshold of \$300 to spend between meetings without body approval. It must be unanimous between the three Executive Board members.
 - Motion to spend \$300 by e-board between meetings by Chief Harper
 - Seconded by Chief Chiarello
 - Motion passed: None opposed.

Next Meeting:

- Wednesday, April 16, 2025 – 0830hrs @ Lake Twp.
- Pancake Breakfast at Sodus, April 6th

Adjourn:

- **Motion to adjourn** by Chief Gowen
- **Seconded by** Chief Chiarello
- None opposed. Meeting adjourned @ 0936hrs

'Barbies Cookies'

Cookie Shack

Owner: **Kristina Burks**

Mgr: Tyler Burks

E-mail:

Barbiescookieshack@gmail.com

Phone: 269-757-3081

Cookies available for special Occasions





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MEETING AGENDA 3/19/25

- **Call meeting to order**
- **Presentation –**
 - Barbies Cookies
 - State Public Safety Inspector Mauricio Barrera
- **Approval of minutes**
- **Treasurer's Report**
 - Bills
- **Communications**
 - General Communications
 - Truck Purchasing Request
 - DNR Annual Agreements
 - Blossomtime Parade
 - June Meeting – Live Fire
 - Upgrading to a structure fire
 - New Chief's
 - Visitors
 - Medic 1
 - Dispatch/911
 - Communications Committee
 - CAD Committee
 - Policy Committee
 - Berrien County Firefighters
 - Training
 - Training & Certification Requirements
 - Emergency Management/Sheriff
 - MABAS
 - Other Communications
- **Old Business**
 - Scene Watcher now available on Android
- **New Business**
 - NFPA Membership
 - Dispatcher Appreciation Week
 - Scene Watcher quote
 - Executive Committee expense threshold
- **Next Meeting – 4/16/25**
- **Adjournment**