

**BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION**  
**Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950**

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: [www.mi-bcfa.org](http://www.mi-bcfa.org)

Wednesday, May 2, 2012

Niles City Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19.30 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Roll call of officers indicated officers present, President Gerry Kabelman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Denny Sexton, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Rob Gruener, Sec/Treasurer Bill Long.

Roll call of departments indicated 15 departments represented with 27 members present.

The donations received for dinner is in the amount of \$71.30 and 50/50 was \$40.00.

March and April minutes were presented. Motion by Rob Gruener with support from Tom Wicker to approve the minutes. Motion Carried

Treasurers Report was submitted for review. Motion by Mike Maran with support from Tom Wicker to approve the Treasurers Report. Motion carried.

There were no bills submitted for payment

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**911 Committee: Denny Sexton –**

- Biggest discussions as of late have been the directing and redirecting of funds due to the mileages expiring soon.

**Emergency Management: Paul Bailey –**

- Busy preparing for the Senior PGA Tour Event coming up as well as several other events. There will be a Palisades and Cook Emergency Training Event this year.

**DNR:**

- None

**Chiefs' Association: Larry Lamb –**

- Nothing new to report with the training trailer at this time. Back to one meeting a month.

**Dispatch: Denny Sexton –**

- No new word on the simulcast grant. Equipment is in place just waiting on frequency approval.

**Training Committee: Tom Hall –**

- There is a need for proctors for the upcoming state FFI & II test on Saturday May 12. If you can help out please contact Tom Hall or Corey Burks. Help will also be needed and appreciated on Friday May 11, 2012 to help set up for testing.

**Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman –**

- No recent updates

**HazMat: Rocky Adams-**

- Nothing to report.

**SHERIFF: Paul Bailey-**

- Nothing to report as things are going well.

**OLD BUSINESS: -**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS: -**

- Tom Wicker stated that they are working on reconstruction of the fire house facility at the fair grounds and would like a patch from each department which would be put on display.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A moment of silence was observed for the passing of retired North Berrien Firefighters Jack Atherton (44years) and Ron Fitz Sr. (38 years).
- Gerry read a letter from Chief Burkett of Lincoln Twp about the recent Firefighter Combat Challenge at FDIC. Congratulations to Brandon Chiarello for finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> among first time contestants.
- Buchanan City Fire is celebrating 150 years this year. For a fund raiser to support the building of the Bell Memorial they are selling engraved bricks. A motion was made by Mike Adams, supported by Dave White to purchase a brick on behalf of the BCFA. Motion carried. Gerry will work on the wording of the brick.
- Chief Lamb read a Thank You to the departments that helped out with the four different fires that took place in one morning.
- Dan Cronon asked about Little Squirt and Sherriff Bailey assured everyone that the Curious Kids Museum where Little Squirt now resides has plans to continue using him to educate our youth concerning fire prevention at schools throughout the county. Firefighters please support this program when comes to your area.
- Bridgman Fire is hosting Speed Smoke Stress training at the Bridgman Weko Beach House this Saturday May 5, from 8am-1230pm.

Host Chief Larry Lamb thanked everyone for coming.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dan Grumen and supported by Craig Brent. Motion was carried

Meeting adjourned at 20.05 hours. Brian Kuemin from Griffin Pest Control was introduced and gave a presentation on "The Bed Bug Invasion".

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Long

**The next meeting will be held on June 6, 2012  
at Niles Charter Township Fire Department  
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours.**