

**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, February 5, 2013

Three Oaks Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 1930 hours by President Rob Gruener.

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

Roll call of departments indicated 14 departments represented with 40 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$107.00 and 50/50 was \$64.00.

January minutes were presented. A motion was made by Marlene Beach with support from Dennis Graham to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was verbally presented. A motion was made by Tom Wicker with support from Chief Mike Davidson to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Gerry Kabelman with support by Dennis Graham to pay the bible invoice of \$372.81. We will be reimbursed for half of the cost by the Chiefs Association. Motion carried.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- A moment of silence was observed for past Chief Carl Franzon who had 51 years with the Sawyer Fire Department.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**911 Committee: Rich Knuth**

- None

**Emergency Management: Corey Burks-**

- None

**DNR:**

- None

**Chief's Association: Mike Davidson-**

- The next meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup> at 0830.
- Simulcast is almost wrapped up.
- Starting to work on scheduling for training trailer. Will be refreshing trainers in the month of April.

**Dispatch: Denny Sexton-**

- Radio techs were in last week in preparation to switch completely over to the new simulcast. Adjustments were made to an antenna to improve tone receiving in St. Joseph area.
- Reminded everyone when transmitting into the portable radios to key mic, pause, and then talk.

**Training Committee: Corey Burks-**

- Nothing to report.

**Resource Directory/Webmaster: Gerry Kabelman-**

- Reported that the LINKS page is quickly filling up. Gerry is open to ideas on how to separate items into various groups, different pages, etc. Please pass on your ideas.

**HazMat: Rocky Adams-**

- Assisted Benton Township with a semi tanker over-turned carrying nitrogen.

**Sherriff: Paul Bailey-**

- Thanked everyone for their time and service.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- The audit of the treasury books is complete. Thank you to Dennis Graham and Dan Cronin for taking care of this.
- Rob reported that he is still working on the changes to the constitution. Rob will send the changes to Gerry to be posted on the web site. A motion was made by Rob Gruener with support from Chief Chris Huston to table the vote on the constitution changes until everyone has had a chance to look at them. They can then be voted on at the March meeting. Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Chiefs please complete the pay comparison sheets and get them to Chief Bruce Stover.
- USDOT has free "Emergency Response Guide Book" Apps – Cargo Decoder
- Emergency Extrication Training March 19, 20, 21. See flyer on BCFA website.
- There is work being done to standardize Helicopter Landing Zones.
- Pipeline safety training Feb. 11 at the Mendal Center.
- Chief Mike Davidson introduced new firefighter Greg Nelson. Chief Dave Flick introduced new firefighter Joe Burk.

Host Assistant Chief Dave Flick thanked everyone for coming.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chief Dave Flick with support from Chief Mike Davidson. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2000 hours to a natural gas/propane awareness program by Steve Kraai from SEMCO Energy.

Respectfully submitted,

*Bill Long*

**The next meeting will be held on March 6, 2013  
At American Red Cross  
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours.**