

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION
Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: www.mi-bcfa.org

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

Berrien Springs Oronoko Fire Department

Meeting was called to order at 1937 hours by President Rob Gruener.

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

Roll call of departments indicated 18 departments represented with 41 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$58.00 and 50/50 was \$48.00.

August minutes were presented. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Dennis Gramh to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

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

There were no bills presented for payment.

COMUNICATIONS:

- Frank DeLaTorre reported that there will be a MABAS-MI Inter Division Response Exercise on September 15th. North Berrien Coloma Station will be the county staging area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth-

- No report

Emergency Management: Mike Bradley-

- Mike reported that they have completed the "Force on Force" exercise with DC Cook security.
- Planning has started for next year's Senior PGA.

DNR:

- None

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson-

- Mike reported the next meeting will be September 18th @ 0830 Lincoln Twp. Fire Department.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- Still waiting on grounding cable repairs on the south county tower.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- Corey reported that they are gearing up for the FF I & II Class. The high school class is now down to nine students.

Resource Directory/Webmaster: Gerry Kabelman-

- Nothing new to report.

HazMat: Rocky Adams-

- Rocky reported they assisted the City of St. Joseph to keep a spill of sanitizer out of the river. Also assisted Berrien Springs with a nitrogen truck crisis.

Sherriff: Paul Bailey-

- Corey reported that the Sherriff sends his regards.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Denny Sexton acknowledged our need as an association to give back to the American Red Cross who continually assists us when needed. A motion was made by Denny Sexton, supported by Bruce Cole to donate \$20 for each association member for a total of \$600 to the American Red Cross. Motion Carried.
- Gerry Kabelman stated that he would like to see the association support and assist with using the north fire station at the fairgrounds as a place to display fire items or do demonstrations during the fair. There are grants available to help out. A motion was made by Gerry Kabelman, supported by Denny Sexton to appoint a committee to investigate the possibilities available with the north fire station at the fairgrounds. Motion Carried. Current volunteer committee members include Gerry Kabelman, Denny Sexton, Dennis Graham, and Dan Cronin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Baroda Fest will be September 6th. All departments are encouraged to participate in the parade.
- September 7th is the American Red Cross Ride to Remember. Royalton Fire will be the escort for the World Trade Center Beam. The Beam will be permanently put on display in front of the Benton Harbor Fire Department in May of 2014.
- Penn Twp. Fire is hosting a "Not All Hose is Created Equally" class September 10th from 1400-1600 hours.
- Lincoln Twp. Fire is hosting an extrication class October 5th. Please contact Scott Wiederwax.
- Medical First Responder Class September 3rd – October 27th @ Bridgman Fire Department.
- Company Officer I & II Series @ Three Oaks Fire Department starting September 18th.
- Saturday October 5th Buchanan Twp. Fire will be hosting a fish fry from 4pm-8pm.

Host Chief Bruce Stover thanked everyone for coming. A special thank you was given to the wives for dessert.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mark Graham with support from Mike Davidson. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2010 hours to a walkthrough of both training trailers.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Long

**The next meeting will be held on October 2, 2013
At Bertrand Twp. Fire Department
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930**