

**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, 2014

Chikaming Township Fire Department

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

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

Roll call of departments indicated 18 departments represented with 53 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$144.00 and 50/50 was \$75.00.

Copies of the November, December, and January minutes were presented. Motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Corey Burks to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was verbally presented. Motion was made by Dennis Graham with support from Craig Brent to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

There were no bills presented for payment

**COMUNICATIONS:**

- A Thank You was received from Firefighter Doug Bell for all of the assistance he and his family have received from the firefighting community.
- There will be a BullEx BULLseye Demo Tuesday Feb. 18, 2014 at 3:30pm Saint Joseph Twp. Station 1.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**911 Committee: Rich Knuth-**

- Nothing to report

**Emergency Management: Rocky Adams-**

- Rocky reported that they have been working on active shooter/mass casualties dispatch protocol. Sgt. Ron Bush has been in Lansing training. Deputy Karen Klug has been working with the county schools on lock-down drills and also with the assisted living facilities.
- The Senior PGA Golf Tournament planning is moving forward.
- There is upcoming pipeline safety training at the Mendel Center Feb. 12 @ 5:30pm.
- The firefighters training council has been assisting with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes.
- Also been working with Medic 1 on Rep. 101 training.

**DNR:**

- None

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

- Mike reported that at the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evening Chief's Meeting, 6:30 pm, they will be discussing ways to enhance our paging capabilities.

**Dispatch: Denny Sexton-**

- Denny reported that next week they will be replacing all radio dispatch consoles with new Motorola Models that were purchased through a grant submitted by Chief Lamb.
- May soon have new telephone equipment coming to dispatch.

- There is an opening for a call taker in dispatch.

**Training Committee: Corey Burks-**

- Corey reported that there have been several FF I&I classes cancelled due to weather. They will be made up and everyone will be prepared for the testing.
- Looking at conducting a farm equipment rescue/medic class sometime around June.
- The training committee has been assisting the Sheriff's Department with CERT Classes. 24-30 hours of basic awareness training.

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

- Gerry reported that he is constantly updating the web page so please check from time to time.

**HazMat: Rocky Adams-**

- Rocky reported that they have been fielding calls about tractor trailer diesel spills due to the weather.
- During incidents out of area it seems that surrounding departments are having a hard time finding the correct radio channels to communicate. Rocky encouraged everyone to practice with neighboring departments.

**Sherriff: Paul Bailey-**

- Sherriff Bailey's words of wisdom "Drive slow-stay out of the ditch". Paul reported that the department has two dog trainers in training and will be receiving a tracking/bomb dog.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Dennis Graham and Dan Cronin have volunteered to audit the financial records for 2013. Thank you.
- Dan Cronin reported that the Berrien County Youth Fair Fire Education Committee has been working on several concepts. A history of fire communications, each department submitting old equipment, and displays for a day.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- None

Host Chief Mike Davidson thanked everyone for coming.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Denny Sexton with support from Dennis Graham. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned to a presentation by DNR Allegan Fire Officer Paul Rodgers. Paul discussed what the DNR can do to assist and what equipment and manpower are available. Paul can be reached in his office at 269-673-5819 or online at rogersp5@michigan.gov.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Bill Long*

**The next meeting will be held on March 5, 2014  
At Covert Fire Department  
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours**