

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

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

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Pipestone Berrien Township Eau Claire Fire Department

Meeting was called to order at 1925 hours by President Rob Gruener.

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

Roll call of departments indicated 11 departments represented with 32 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$60.00 and 50/50 was \$42.00.

April minutes were presented. Motion was made by Craig Brent with support from Dennis Graham to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was verbally presented. Motion was made by Marlene Beach with support from Mike Davidson to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

There were no bills presented for payment

COMUNICATIONS:

- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth-

- Nothing to report

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams-

- Rocky reported they have been working with Palisades on upcoming drills. Will be meeting with FEMA this week.
- The Senior PGA Golf Tournament planning is in full swing. Preparing playbooks for agencies involved.
- Still working with area high schools with lock down drills.
- Have been working with Lake Twp. Fire and Baroda Fire on cross agency training with DC Cook Plant.
- Weather radio programming was a success.
- Working with AEP on Dam failure scenarios.

DNR:

- None

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson-

- Mike reported that at the May 21 Chief's Meeting they will be discussing helicopter landing zones.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- Denny had an idea to consider: label our helicopter LZ's similar to the way Chikaming Fire labels their beach markers using county #, twp. /city #, etc. He asked the departments to give him a list of possible LZ areas in your city/twp. and he will investigate and get latitude/longitude points.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- No report

Resource Directory/Webmaster: Gerry Kabelman-

- Gerry reported that he posted helicopter protocols on the web site. It has its own section.

HazMat: Rocky Adams-

- No calls for service.

Sherriff: Paul Bailey-

- Once again they will be having extra patrols in Benton Harbor
- Red Bud Track & Trail Event is coming soon.
- There was a bomb scare at the St. Joseph Martins. They were closed for about four hours while the bomb sniffing dog did his work. Nothing was found. Now have two dug/tracking dogs and one bomb/tracking dog in service.
- They will be working on designs/plans this summer for the jail expansion project.
- They will be having seatbelt and intoxication checkpoints set up throughout the county this summer.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Dan Cronin had an idea to have a t-shirt professionally designed to be used as a recruiting tool to help increase association membership. Would like to see it developed and ready for the fair this year. There was much discussion but no decision was made. Dale Stover suggested that we may need better training programs. Another suggestion was to give members reward points for showing up at meetings that could be used at the annual Christmas auction. Rob suggested that we create a Facebook page that would be managed by the officers. There were no objections so Rob said he would proceed with the Facebook page.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- "Squirts" little brother "Flash" from Niles City is available to be displayed at the fair.

Host Assistant Chief Hank Young thanked everyone for coming and introduced Mr. Patrick Mangan who presented "Disaster Preparedness 101".

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Denny Sexton with support from Dennis Graham. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Long

**The next meeting will be held on June 4, 2014
At Galien Township Fire Department
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours**