

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

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

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

Michiana Shores Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:35 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 Secretary/Treasurer Bill Long.

Roll call of departments indicated 14 departments represented with 29 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$76 and 50/50 was \$54.

The September minutes were presented. A motion was made by Dale Stover with support from Frank DeLaTorre to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for August and September were presented. Motion was made by Dan Cronin with support from Frank DeLaTorre to approve the treasurer's reports. Motion carried.

There were no bills submitted for payment.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- Gerry reported that there may be a weak or dead battery issue with the smoke detectors Servpro donated. Please check any detectors that have already been installed for weak or dead batteries.
- Rob reported that there is a Scott Safety Field Specialist Level Maintenance Class October 25, 2014 from 0800-1200 hours at the Berrien Springs Oronoko Twp FD.
- Rob also reported that Elm will be closed for drain repair. Between Railroad and Center Streets (Deans Hill Rd/M-140 Area).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth-

- None

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams-

- Weather spotter training is scheduled for March 10, 2016 at Andrews University.
- Van Buren County / Palisades - had first drill 9/31/2014.
- The Red Cross has released their two paid staff in Berrien County and will be utilizing the Kalamazoo Office to serve the county. We sincerely thank them for their service.

DNR:

- None

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson-

- The next Chief's meeting will be October 15, 2014 at 1830 hours Lincoln Twp FD

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- Spoke of the need to have your 800 radios during large incident's. The ability to communicate with all agencies involved is a must.
- High Incident Protocol is almost complete and ready to be distributed.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- No report

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman-

- New resource directory items have been added.
- BCYF Public Education Building work has already started to prepare for next year.

HazMat: Corey Burk-

- Rocky reported on the natural gas line rupture in Benton Township. Other than communication issues the incident went well. Ended up as a one mile evacuation area. Reminded everyone that you will probably not smell the gas from a large pipeline rupture as there is no mercaptan added in the larger distribution systems.
- Gas leak in Watervliet senior apartment building. The building was evacuated.

Sheriff: Paul Bailey-

- The Sheriff sends his regards.

OLD BUSINESS:

- None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Rob reminded everyone of the need for a nominating committee for December elections.
- The tentative meeting schedule for 2016 is almost complete.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Dale Stover reported that AFG should open in a couple of weeks.
- Pancake breakfast hosted by Michiana Shores Fire will be October 7, 2014 from 0700-1200 hours.
- Dr. John Byer reported that first responders must participate in MFR-EM-SIS
- Dr. Byer also reported that the state is downsizing from 62 MCA's to 10 and then from 10 to 8 in the next 365 days.

Host Chief Garry Bendix thanked everyone for coming. He introduced Ken Grisham from Fire Q Response Verification System for the evenings presentation.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Moran and supported by Dennis Graham. Motion carried. Ken was the winner of the 50/50 and graciously donated the \$27 back to the association.

Meeting adjourned at 2115 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Long

**The next meeting will be held on November 5, 2014
at the New Buffalo City Fire Department
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours.**