

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

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

Wednesday, February 1st, 2017

Galien Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:27 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Roll call of officers present: President Gerry Kabelman, 1st Vice President Dave Albers, and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham. 2nd Vice President Craig Brent was absent.

Roll calls of departments indicate 18 departments represented with 44 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$132. The 50/50 was \$52/26. A donation of \$50 was also presented to the Association towards our 2016 annual auction.

The January minutes were presented. A motion was made by Cory Burks with support from Denny Sexton to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for January was presented. A motion was made by Chris Huston with support from Cory Burks to approve the treasurer's reports. Motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment:

- None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth-

- No Report

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams-

- **Area Schools-** The Appellate Court has ruled that schools have the right to ask a person w/a pistol in open carry & possess valid cpl to leave. A cpl with pistol concealed must stay in vehicle and only for drop off and pick up. Open Carry with no valid cpl is a crime.
- **ICS 300/400-** Looking for feedback of those interested in a 3 Saturday series for 300 then break a few weeks, then 2 Saturday's for the 400. Contact Ron Bush at Sheriff's Dept. for more info.
- **EAS/IPAWS-** FEMA has been out all week assessing our EAS system. We will be the first in the nation to have IPAWS evaluated by FEMA REP unit. The IPAWS allows us to send alerts similar to Amber Alerts to cell phones!
- **First Net-** Public Safety Broadband target date for MI to begin bidding for contractors is November 2017. Build will begin in Detroit and the UP (to cover international boarders). West coast will be next after that. To pay for the build, narrow banding to 6.25 kHz efficiency will happen! This will allow for certain spectrums to be sold to help pay for the project.
- **Radios/Pagers-** There are grant opportunities. Contact Ron Bush for more info. A 20% local match. It is competitive, (no guarantee that it will be approved) 1st come/1st served. This ONLY includes MPSCS devices (800mHz)
- **Pipeline Safety Training** - Tue. Feb. 7th at the LMC Mendel Center, dinner starts at 5:30.p.m.RSVP
- **REP 101-** Sat. Feb.18th, 8 a.m.-5p.m. with a 1 hour lunch period. Lunch is provided. Be held at LMC Bertrand Crossing. Register at www.bertrandfire.net or by calling (269)876-7685.
- **Weather Spotters Training-** March 14th at Andrews, starting at 6:00 p.m.
- **D.C. Cook PRC Drills-** at Coloma High school- Drill 1 April 3rd, Drill 2 April 24th, Drill 3 May 8th. Graded Exercise on May 22nd.
- **D.C. Cook EOC-** Drill 1 April 17th, Drill 2 May 2nd, and Drill 3 May 18th. Graded Exercise May 23rd.

- **Wide Area Search Course-** Tuesday June 20th, Wednesday June 21st, and Thursday June 22nd from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at the Berrien County Fairground Youth Memorial Building. Must register by June 15th.

DNR:

- No Report

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson:

- Next Chief's Meeting Feb. 15th at 8:30 am.
- State Fire Marshal Julie Secontine has announced that state training funding is linked to the NFIRS reports being submitted. This makes it very important that these reports be complete and submitted! The NFIRS Administrator Rhonda Howard oversees these reports.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- Checking and updating Emails
- Rip and Runs have improved, report any problems to dispatch.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- The FF I and II class going well, classes through the end of March with practical's in April.
- High School class also doing well. Encourage getting the word out to encourage new students for next year's class.
- Committee wants to send 4 trainers to Indy in June for a RIT class and asking the Association to split the cost of sending them.

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman:

- A lot of training information posted on the web site, 10-12 new links on Asbestos.

HazMat: Cory Burks-

- Adding and training new members and will be hosting trainings in the coming months.

Sheriff: Paul Bailey-

- **Geo- shield-** information sharing software being used by the tri- county area (Berrien, Van Buren, and Cass).

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Audit committee's report for 2016 was read and a motion to approve the report and pay the Secretary\Treasurer for 2016 was made by Mike Davidson with the support from Cory Burks. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

Announcements:

- None

Host Chief Ted Chase thanked his crew for setup and Kendra and Jen for the deserts. He also extended a thank you to everyone for coming and introduced our presentation for the evening to Bill McAllister of the Michigan Region 5 Technical Rescue Team.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris Huston and supported by Cory Burks. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 20:55 hours.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Graham

The next meeting will be held on March 1st, 2017

Lake Twp. Fire Department

Dinner will be at 18:30 hours, followed by the meeting at 19:30 hours.