

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

May 1st, 2019

Chikaming Township Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:38 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

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

Roll calls of departments indicate 17 departments represented with 51 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$162. The 50/50 amount was \$117/\$56.

The April minutes were presented. A motion was made by Chris Huston with support from Dave White to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of April was presented by Sec/Treas Dennis Graham. The balance in checking is \$5,722.03 and the money market is \$8,742.88 for a combined total of \$14,464.91. Check no. 283 wrote in April has cleared. A motion was made by Chris Burks with support from Mike Essig to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment: A request to pay \$275.00 for the IRS 1023 document fillings to Jim Scholtz. A motion made by Denny Sexton with the support Mick Oldenburg to approve payment. Motion carried. Payment presented.

Communications: A moment of silence was observed for James Flick from Three Oaks with 43 years of service, Glenn Fisher from Saint Joseph Charter Twp. With 19 years of service, and Ron Leatz who served on Saint Joseph Charter Twp. in the late 50's and 60's.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Denny Sexton

- Going over the High Incident Protocol (HIP) incident from April 14th.

Emergency Management: Rockey Adams

- Weather radio programming at Meijer in Benton Harbor May 18th.
- CERT June 4th in Berrien Springs Train the Trainer
- Working with all local Utilities on Energy sustainment during prolonged emergency's in Kalamazoo.

- Looking in on where we are on HAZMAT certifications for each department.
- D. C. Cook Exercises with IC

DNR: Ben Osterland

- No Report

Chief's Association: Chief Mike Davidson

- The grant is floating and no word yet
- Get those HAZMAT questionnaires sent back in
- Next Chief's meeting is May 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Landing Zones: Steve Shedd

- No report

EMS: Frank DeLaTorre

- Red Bud season starting
- Dispatch can call Med Control for a on duty doctor who is on call for high risk emergency's by active 911.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton

- High Incident Protocol

Training Committee:

- FF I&II practical May 11th, helpers need to be there by 7:30 a.m. There are 11 high school and 13 adult students. The skill sheets handed out are guidelines for the students how to study for the upcoming test.
- RIT training May 24th-26th.
- National Fire Academy State Weekend July 27th-28th with a June 14th register deadline. Web site has more information on cost and courses.
- Fill out those annual training survey's
 - Look on SMOKE for officer training classes, and more new classes that have been added.

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman

- Lincoln Twp. has named Brandon Chiarello as the new fire chief.
- Department patch logos have added to the Fire Station site.
- More added to the Page of Honor.

HazMat: Cory Burks

- Anyone who is interested in becoming a member on the HAZMAT team please contact Cory for more information.
- Team trained with the National Guard, State Police, Kalamazoo, and St. Joseph county.
- Decon setup trainings.
- Any Department in need of refresher trainings contact Cory for more information.
- News from Mich. State Fire Marshal that it is very important to report any fluids on the ground at accident scenes. This shows the need for HAZMAT funding

Sheriff: Paul Bailey

- Attending Victim Services in Lansing

Old Business:

- We are very close to our application for not for profit being complete.

New Business:

- The fascia and garage door on the Fire Education building at fair grounds needs replacement and with the need to upgrade the front of the building by July, a first proposal to receive quotes was presented, estimated at \$2,000.
- Two-sided Challenge coin were presented to the attending Association members by President Kabelman. The request to buy 300 coins was approved by the Fire Chiefs Association at their April meeting. The cost for 300 is \$720 plus \$30 for shipping which will be split between the two Associations. A motion to pay \$375 towards the purchase of the coins was presented by Frank DeLaTorre with the support of Mike Essig. Motion carried.

Announcements:

- May 4th – Buchanan Twp. Fish Fry – 3 pm – 8 pm.
- May 5th – Benefit for Kent Churchill, North Berrien Sta. 1, 2-5 p.m.
- May 19th – Lincoln Twp. Pancake Breakfast – 8 am – 1 pm.

Host Chief Mike Davidson thanked everyone for coming and have a safe year!

The evening program was presented by First Responder Task Force

The winner of the 50/50 was Dennis Graham who donated it back to the association.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dave White and supported by Chris Burks. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 20:40

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec/Treas

The next meeting will be held on June 5th, 2019

Covert Twp. Fire Department

Meal at 18:30 hours and the meeting at 19:30 hours