

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

July 10th, 2019

Donald C Cook Training Center

Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

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

Roll calls of departments indicate 16 departments represented with 40 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$98. The 50/50 amount was \$32/\$16.

The June minutes were presented. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Denny Sexton to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of June was presented by Sec/Treas Dennis Graham. The balance in checking is \$6,175.78 and the money market is \$8,743.97 for a combined total of \$14,919.75. \$470 was raised from the commemorative coins. A motion was made by Chris Burks with support from Frank DeLaTorre to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment: A bill of \$238.38 submitted by President Kabelman for the fair prizes, \$120 for stick-on badges, and a 75 yr. Commemorative banner for Smokey the Bear for \$32. A motion to pay the amount of \$390.38 was made by Mike Essig with support from Frank DeLaTorre. Motion carried. Checks presented.

Communications:

- A moment of silence was observed for Don Kilgore of Berrien Springs who passed away June 1st.
- The Association recognized Joel Arbanas of the Baroda Fire Department for passing the Michigan Fire Fighter certification.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 / Dispatch: Denny Sexton

- Distortion on page channel being addressed at the St. Joe tower. High heat temperatures have been causing problems also.

Emergency Management: Rockey Adams

- The CERT July 17th-18th. Only 5 seats available. Register on MI Train.
- 3 Rescue Task Force Training classes are planned in Aug.- Sept. Watch for dates.
- D. C. Cook Exercises with EOC starts July 30th with drill 1, August 13th for drill 2, and the evaluated exercise on August 27th which is invitation only.

DNR: Ben Osterland

- No Report

Chief's Association: Chief Mike Davidson

- Next Chief's meeting is July 17th at 18:30.
- No news on the radio/pager grant.

Mi-TRT5: Allen Weich

- Grain bin accidents can happen any time of the year. Team ready to assist.

EMS: Frank DeLaTorre

- The Red Bud 4-day event had 33,000 in attendance. 6 riders, 4 spectators that were transported to the hospital and 18 heat related, or minor medical treatments done. A cooling tent was available.
- Frank DeLaTorre shared his experience on receiving the Star of Life award, his trip to Washington D. C., and meeting other recipients from the US and South America.

Training Committee: Chris Burks

- Annual Training survey forms have been sent out and need returned by August 1st.
- Live Burn Training Day to be held on July 21st for the graduating class. Sign up deadline is July 16th. Sign in form available on the BCFFTA website.
- Fireground Survival & RIT class Sept. 19th-22nd. Registration deadline is Sept. 1st. More information on web site.
- Advanced Vehicle Stabilization-Rescheduled-August 31st (0800-1500)

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman

- Box cards added to Directory for Bertrand, Lincoln Twp., and Three Oaks.

HazMat: Dave Albers

- Open invite for those interested in joining the Hazmat team and for hazmat trainings

Sheriff: Paul Bailey

- There were only 2 arrests at Red Bud and 10 at Silver Beach over the 4th holiday. All the local fireworks were safe.
- The Jail project is running behind schedule.

Old Business:

- 501C submitted to the state to solicit funds and awaiting approval.

New Business:

- The garage door at the Fire Education Center replacement cost of \$1200 was presented as a motion by Gerry Kabelman to pay for the door and with the support of Ryan Klaer the motion carried. A check for ½ of the amount (\$600) was written as down payment.
- First reading of a proposal to support the burn trailer in the amount of \$1000 towards a seed fund to continue free operation for fire departments. Vote planned for September.

Announcements:

- Bridgman Summer Street Dance-July 12th-13th.
- Michigan Propane Assoc. Classroom training are Bertrand Sept. 4th. Berrien Springs Sept. 12th. Lawton Sept. 17th. Baroda Sept. 18th. St. Joseph Sept. 19th. Outdoor Training at St. Joe Sept. 21st. Register on BFS SMOKE To receive certificate you must attend one classroom and the outdoor trainings.

Host Fire Protection Manager Justin Turner thanked everyone for coming and thanked his crew for their help in set up and food preparation. A check was presented to the Association for \$800 towards the purchase of two 55-inch TV's for the Fire Education Center by AEP. He also introduced the program given by Scott Weiderwax on FLEX

Sheriff Paul Bailey won the 50/50 drawing and it was donated back to the Association.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Chris Burks and supported by Frank DeLaTorre. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 21:04.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec/Treas

**The next meeting will be held on August 7th
Berrien County Fairgrounds
Korn Dogs at 18:30 hours and the meeting at 19:30 hours**