

# **BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: [mi-bcfa.org](http://mi-bcfa.org)

December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Galien Fire Department**

Meeting called to order early at 19:31 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

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

Roll calls of departments indicate 14 departments represented with 37 members present.

Donations received for the dinner were in the amount of \$131.00.

The November minutes were presented. A motion was made by Corey Burks with support from Donny Johnson to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of November was presented by Sec/Treas Dennis Graham. The balance in checking is \$4,566.29 and the money market balance is \$8,745.80 for a combined total of \$13,312.09. A motion was made by Denny Sexton with support from Ted Chase to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

**There were no bills submitted for the month of December.**

## **Communications:**

- A moment of silence was observed in honor of Kevin Aldridge. Kevin served on Niles Township Fire Department and the D. C. Cook Nuclear Fire Brigade.
- Our Web page is hosted by Ryan Klaer and he has donated the yearly web fee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **911 / Dispatch: Denny Sexton**

- Working on next gen 911 system.

### **Emergency Management: Sheriff Bailey**

- Shoreline erosion – Ariel pictures taken – Watching closely

### **DNR: Ben Osterson**

- No Report

### **Chief's Association: Chief Davidson**

- Next Chief's meeting is on December 18<sup>th</sup> at 08:30 am.
- There is a Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> deadline on the purchase of G5 pagers. Prices are increasing. Match funding from the county available

### **Mi-TRT5: Allen Weich**

TRT5 team will demo at the January meeting

### **Landing Zone- Mark Berger**

- Offering LZ classes

### **EMS: Frank DeLaTorre**

- Cold winter weather is here – Stay warm – Stay safe

### **Training Committee: Cory Burks**

- Looking forward for 2020 and the classes being offered.
- 12 Firefighters went through the latest RIT class held on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Adult and High School classes are doing well.
- HART has served during classes and trainings and is locally available county wide.

### **Web Page/Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman**

- No new updates.

### **HazMat: Cory Burks**

- Upgrading to a Type II level. There are only a few teams at this level in the State of Michigan.
- Purchasing new fire protection turnout gear.

### **Sheriff Bailey**

- Started Phase II on the jail remodel with a June completion date.
- **Lock your vehicles.** Keep home access doors locked. Thieves are using the garage door opener to gain access to the house. Many break-ins happening throughout the county with 8 arrests made.
- Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

### **Old Business:**

- Frank DeLaTorre of the nominating committee announced that Gerry, Dave, and Dennis are running for re-election unopposed. Craig Brent and Kevin Burkhard are running for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. After a paper ballot vote, Craig was re-elected. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre and supported by Mike Essig to re-elect the other 3 officers to hold their positions for 2020. Motion carried.

### **New Business:**

- Serve Pro has announced an interest in handing out both smoke detectors and CO detectors. Asked the Firefighters Association to collect the money and purchase the product and they will distribute them. This is an opportunity to grow the current program of just smoke detectors. More information needed on the legal guidelines.

### **Announcements:**

- T-shirts (\$25) and wrist bands (\$5) are available for supporting dispatcher Damon in his fight against cancer. The flyer is posted on our web site. The fundraisers held at the FOP lodge and the Wood sign paint work shop at the fairgrounds had great turnouts. The 35 people expected turned into 50 attending the paint work shop.

Host Chief Ted Chase thanked everyone for coming and announced the beginning of the Christmas Auction.

### **Our total for the Christmas Auction was \$2777.10.**

Thank-you to all the businesses and members for their support to make this event a success.

On behalf of the BCFA officers **Merry Christmas!**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Allen Wiech and supported by Cody Shepherd. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 22:10.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dennis Graham*

*Sec/Treas*

The next meeting will be held on January 8<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Wed.)

Lake Twp. Fire Department

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