

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

August 5th, 2020

June Online Zoom Meeting

Meeting called to order at 19:04 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

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

Roll call of departments indicate 11 departments represented with 16 members present online.

The treasurer's report for the months of July was presented. The balance in checking is \$5,821.65 and the money market balance is \$8,749.96 for a combined total of \$14,571.61. Check number 299 written for \$25 to the State of Michigan for 501C3 extension has cleared. Check number 297 written for \$2391.74 for the Fire Education Center building material to Gerry Kabelman has cleared. A motion was made by Denny Sexton with support from Dave Albers to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Communications:

Update on the Fire Education Center; The building material has been purchased and delivered to the fairgrounds. A workday is being planned for August 17th, at 9 am to start on the project. Anyone is welcome to come help us replace the front panels on the station to brick panels.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911/Dispatch: Denny Sexton

More area departments like North Berrien, Watervliet, and Eau Claire are now on 800mhz dispatch. Sister Lakes Fire Department has plans to switch to 800mhz. A new micro tower to boost the reception in northern part of the county is being added by the Watervliet hospital. There have been questions regarding how the pagers are being programmed and how they are receiving and recording call messages. These issues are being addressed. Cross boarder 800 MHz connections with Indiana are still moving forward.

Emergency Management: Rockey Adams:

- Covid-19 – updates by BCHD -- county has slight incline
- Assessments being made how hospitals would handle a contaminated person.
- Palisades Exercise -- digital remote with FEMA Planned.

Chief's Association:

Next Chief's meeting is on August 19th at 08:30.

Landing Zone: Mark Berger

Landing zone hands on trainings have started back up

Training Committee: Cory Burks

- RIT classes are planned for October 1st and 2nd from 18:00 to 22:00 and on October 3rd and 4th from 08:00 til completion of the days objectives. Register on SMOKE or on the BCFFTC web site.
- Online Farm Tractor & Machinery Emergency Awareness Training on Aug. 12th & 18th and Sept. 9th & 14th. ----- 3 hr webinar ----- pre-registration required at www.estagrescue.org

Resource Directory/Web: Gerry Kabelman

- Updating the web site and directory with new information
- A 800mhz pager usage power point is on the web site
- Click on the fire stations on the web site to listen to each departments pager tone. This feature has been recently added to help get the tone sound on the new 800 MHz pagers

Announcements:

Berrien County Fair Food Drive

Friday August 28th 3-7

Saturday August 29th 11-7

Sunday August 30th 11-5

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Denny Sexton and supported by Mark Berger. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 19:38.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec / Treas

**The next meeting on September 2nd
At North Berrien Sta. 1
Meal at 18:30 and the meeting at 19:30**

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING IS A TENTATIVE PLAN

**WITH THE OPTION OF HOLDING A
ZOOM MEETING IF NEEDED FOR THE MOUNTH OF SEPTEMBER**

WE WILL SEND OUT A E-MAIL ON THE INFORMATION