

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

October 6th, 2021

New Buffalo Twp. Sta. 2

Meeting called to order at 19:15 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.

Donations collected at the meal totaled \$106, and the sale challenge coins totaling \$40.

Roll call of departments indicate 14 departments represented with 40 members present online.

Due to low turn out for the September meeting at the fairgrounds no business meeting was held.

The treasurer's report for the month of September was presented. The balance in checking is \$8,221.03 and the money market balance is \$8,754.77 for a combined total of \$16,975.80. Check number 310 written for \$25.00 to the State of Michigan for our 501C processing fee was written and has cleared. A motion was made by Mike Davidson with support from Bob Adams to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Bills presented

A bill \$80 was presented from Artfx sign company by President Kabelman for the BCFA sign for the back wall of the fire education center. A motion to pay the \$80 to Artfx was made by Jamie Flick with support by Rob Gruner. Motion carried.

Expense bills for the August fire education center at the 2021 fair will be presented at the November meeting.

Communications

- Berrien Springs Pancake Breakfast Sunday Oct. 10th, 7-11 a.m.
- Buchanan Fish Fry Oct. 16th 3-8 p.m.
- Posters printed for the June 18th, 2022 Benefit Car Show were presented. All the information can be found on the mi-BCFA.org website.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911/Dispatch: Kris Burks

- All fire departments are operating on 800 mhz now.
- Due to staff shortages in dispatch please stand by when asked by the dispatcher when multiple calls are being handled on multiple frequencies at once.
- 5-million dollars from bill past through Senator LaSata for a new south county tower.

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams:

- Collecting information from each municipality on a primary liaison and a backup liaison for the Municipal Contact Management. This will include their 24hr contact call numbers.
- LEPC quarterly meeting held on Sept 14th was well attended and is working on adopting a virtual meeting policy because of canceled meetings due to COVID.
- D.C. Cook Tabletop Exercises were a success on September 20th-24th. These were virtual meetings with FEMA.

Chief's Association:

- FEMA grant approved for portable radios.
- The fee for using vhf on the towers has increased and this may aide getting it shut down sooner.
- Next meeting October 20th. No November meeting. Next meeting will be December 15th.

Landing Zone: Mark Berger

Landing zone classes welcome to any local department

Training Committee:

- Classes start Oct. 9th. The 15 high school class represents 6 school districts. There are 15 in the adult class.
- Meet the Chiefs being held at Berrien Springs station on Oct. 8th, for our new 2021 firefighters.
- Water river rescue drill Oct. 15th, meet at Berrien Springs station at 07:30 a.m.

EMS:Medical

- No report

MI-TRIS;

- No report

Resource Directory/Web: Gerry Kabelman

- Updates needed!

Hazmat:

- Departments can ask for trainings. A Training is planned in Saint Joseph.

Old Business:

- Berrien County Youth Fair Board wishes to thank all the public safety personal that helped throughout fair week! Had good attendants for the week

New Business:

- Officer elections needed for the replacement for 1st vice president. The president, 2nd vice president, and secretary/Treasurer are running for their positions for 2022.
- Tom Giuoice and Hunter Giannetti have volunteered to be on the nominating committee for the elections for 2022.
- Niles city has canceled hosting the November meeting and Buchanan Twp. has volunteered to host our meeting at their station. A meal is planned also.
- Niles twp. is still planning on the December auction/election meeting.
- Working on the 2022 meeting calendar.
- Honor credit union donated \$600 towards the purchase of smoke detectors.
- United Federal credit union \$500 towards the purchase of combination CO/smoke alarms.
- There are only 40 Challenge coins left and the need to order more is approaching
- A \$600,000 grant for the BCYF public safety building through Senator Kim LaSata has been announced.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Don Wise and supported by Mike Davidson. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 20:07.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec / Treas

**The next meeting on November 3rd
At Buchanan Township
6:30 meal
7:00 meeting**