

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

May 4th, 2022

Niles City Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:16 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Officers present: President Gerry Kabelman, 2nd Vice President Donnie Johnson, and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham.

Donations collected at the meal totaled \$75.

Roll call of departments indicate 16 departments represented with 27 members present .

Minutes for the month of April were presented . Two corrections noted. A motion made by Tom Wicker with support from Denny Sexton to approve the April minutes with the corrections noted to be changed. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of April was presented. The balance in checking is \$2,172.89 and the money market balance is \$14,507.84 for a combined total of \$16,680.73. The balance for the car show account is \$5,264.74. A transfer was made from checking to the money market and there will be more transfers between the car show account and the checking account for the amount that the bills for the show are presented. A motion was made by Chris Burks with support from Frank DeLaTorre to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Emergency Management: Rocky Adams

- Napier Bridge over Saint Joseph River shut down too all traffic and will remain closed until repairs are made to allow 2-way traffic during the construction project. Ambulance, Police, and regular size Fire Engines (length, excluding Tankers and Ladders) may access the bridge in emergency situations with CAUTION that it is an active construction zone and only one way at a time.
- Senior PGA May 25th – 29th.

Chief's Association:

- Next Meeting May 18th.AM

Landing Zone: Mark Berger

- Landing zone classes welcome to any local department
- Anyone that has a picture with Med Flight is welcome to submit their photo towards the 2023 calendar.

M I T R T-5: Allen Weich

- A Joint Group Tech Rescue training coming up with the Kalamazoo Department of Public Safety.

Training Committee: Chris Burks

- Extraction Simulation at the fair grounds for the high school before prom on May 5th. Setup assembly at 11:30.
- Class reviews on May 7th and 14th, high school reviews 8-10 am during class times. Written test May 19th, and the Finals on May 21st. Contact Cory on bringing apparatus and availability on helping during these events.
- RIT Class for September 9th-11th still has slots open. Register On SMOKE

Resource Directory/Web: Gerry Kabelman

- Review the Directory for any updates and submit them in.

Hazmat:

- Members attended the Michigan Hazmat Responder Conference and an Awareness Training.
- Revision/update on looking to add operations level members to help the team with decon and other duties.

Old Business:

- The by-law committee (Doug D., Denny S, and Dennis G) to review BCFA by-laws and Constitution.
- Our BCFA/BCFCA Challenge coin supply is running low. The cost for 400 new coins was quoted for \$1,400.00 which is split with the Chiefs Association. A motion was made by Chris Burks and with support by Matt Johnson the motion carried.

New Business:

- A BCFA meeting suggestion made by Matt Wedde to offer Certificates of Training to the attending members when hands on trainings are presented at the BCFA meetings. There is a lot of information that needs to be gathered to set up a guideline for this to take place. Discussion tabled for next meeting for more input.
- Need to start a list of how many smoke detectors and CO detectors each department needs so we can get them ordered. Contact Gerry with those request.

Host Captain Don Wise thanked everyone for attending the meeting and also gave the evening presentation on vehicle fires and hazards with Lithium-Ion batteries.

Announcements:

- Bertrand Pancake Breakfast May 7th, 8 -11 am.
- Buchanan Twp. Fish Fry May 7th, 3 – 8 pm.
- Lincoln Twp. Drive Thru Pancake Breakfast May 15th, 8 – 11 am.
- BCYF Car Show May 28th, 9 am – 1 pm.
- Benefit Car Show June 18th, 9 am – 4 pm. at Maiden Lane Park
- Lest We forget taking place at the airport starting on June 17th, 18th, and 19th.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Matt Johnson and supported by Dave White. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 19:51.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Graham
Sec / Treas

The next meeting on June 1st
Canceled at Sister Lakes Fire Department
Rescheduled at Weesaw Twp. Fire Department
6:30 meal
7:00 meeting