

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

March 3rd, 2023

Berrien Springs/Oronoko Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:01 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Officers present: President Gerry Kabelman, 1st Vice President Craig Brent, 2nd Vice President Donnie Johnson, and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham.

Donations collected at the meal totaled \$75.

Roll call of departments indicate 14 departments represented with 38 members present .

Minutes for the month of February were presented . A motion made by Doug DeBest with support from Matt Johnson to approve the February minutes. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of February was presented. The balance in checking is \$1,097.03 and the money market balance is \$23,607.01. The balance for the car show account is \$21.05 for a combined total \$24,725.09. A motion was made by Chris Burks with support from Sarah Henderson to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911/Dispatch:

- More descriptive call type categories when toned out.
- Acknowledge dispatch when the first unit is enroute
- Notify dispatch what is needed to assist your department on the toned-out call.

DNR:S

- Late spring wildland fire class is in the works, stay tuned for the dates

Chief's Association:

- Next Meeting March 15th.
- More box-card updates have been added and set up. .

Training Committee:

- Testing April 29th.
- Make sure you are checking out Smoke for trainings offered. At least sign in and check that all your information is correct each year.

MITRT5:

- Confined space training at Western Michigan University campus.

Red Cross:

• Representatives Susan and Joe handed out new emergency responder contact cards.

Resource Directory/Web:

- Benton Harbor Public Safety has placed SQUAD 51 into service.
- Review the Directory for any updates and submit them in.
- Check Web page for car show information and the donation page.

Hazmat:

- Refresher trainings are available.
- If interested on joining the team, apply through your chief

Old Business:

- 3rd reading of proposed additions and changes to the Constitution (copy included with minutes as third page)
- 2022 audit turned over to audit committee and will have report at April meeting.

New Business:

- Received 9 checks from sponsors so far towards the 2023 car show.
- Breaking ground on new building at fair grounds March 2nd.
- Mark German with the support of Donnie Johnson for the BCFA fund lunch coverage for participating fire fighters covering the Van Buren fire stations during the funeral for Paw Paw firefighter Ethen Quillen. Motion carried.
- The motion to feed approximately 30 firefighters at \$15 per person was presented. Chief Myers with support of Doug DeBest approved the amount and the motion carried.

Host Chief Doug Myers thanked everyone for attending the dinner and meeting. The program for the evening presented by Chief Myers on the 6 Medical Investigators serving Berrien County.

Announcements:

- Dates for the Buchanan Twp. Fish Fry are May 6th, and October 21st. 3–8 pm
- Berrien County Recycling Event being held at LMC April 11th 3-7 pm.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kris Burks and supported by Doug Wise. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 19:35.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Graham
Sec / Treas

**The next meeting on April 5th
Bertrand Twp. Fire Department Sta. 1**

**6:30 meal
7:00 meeting**

