

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

February 7th, 2024

Michiana Shores Fire Department

Meeting called to order at 19:06 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.

Roll call of departments indicate 11 departments represented with 25 members present.
Meal donations collected \$103.

The minutes for the month of January was presented. Motion made by Mike Chastain with support from Garry Bendix to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of January indicated the balance in checking at \$3,973.80. Money market balance is \$21,334.30. A balance of \$115.67 in the car show account. Combined total of \$25,423.77. A motion made by Denny Sexton with support from Dan Mandalis to approve the report. The motion carried.,

Communications:

- Niles Twp Rescheduled their Pancake Breakfast for Feb. 11th 8am – 11am at Sta.2 on 3rd St.
- BCFA sponsored Resilience & Self-Care for First Responders class Sat. MARCH 2nd, 9am – 11am at St. Joe Twp. Sta. 1 . Register on SMOKE
- Berrien Springs offering Becoming a Complete Fire Officer class Wed. MARCH 13th, at 19:00 pm. Please RSVP to Chief Myers at firechief@oronokotownship.org
- Benefit Car Show updates, contact information, and sponsor information are listed on the [mi- BCFA.org](http://mi-BCFA.org) website. Type on the yellow car!

Emergency Management:

ICS 300 Evening Courses have been canceled

- Feb. 22nd-23rd Sport and Special Event Risk Management and Assessment course.
- April 15th-17th Michigan HAZMAT Responder Conference in GR
- May 7th-9th Great Lakes Homeland Security Conference in GR
- May 23rd – 26th KitchenAid Senior PGA at Harbor Shores

Chief's Association:

- Next Chiefs Meeting is Feb. 21st at 16:30 pm.

Training Committee:

- FF I & II class and High School classes going well, and the High School class completed their mid-terms.
- Check-in on SMOKE for more information and to register on the many courses offered in Berrien, Cass, and Van Buren counties. Particularly important that every department member check in on SMOKE and verify that all their information is up to date.

Landing Zones:

- Mark Berger, Outreach Coordinator for MedFlight, has moved to a new journey within the Beacon Health Care System. BCFA recognizes Mark for his commitment to MedFlight in establishing communications and trainings on Landing Zones over the years.

Resource Directory/Website:

- Department updates being added to web page
- Check out the Car Show page for recent updates
- The recent firefighter obituaries have been posted on the page of honor web site. This page honors about 30 Berrien County firefighters that served.

Old Business:

- 2023 audit in progress
- Reminder---- The BCFA sponsoring the Resilience and Self-Care for First Responders course scheduled for Saturday morning March 2nd from 9:00 am – 11:00 am at Saint Joseph Twp. Sta. 1 This is a State of Michigan FFTC approved course. All first responders are welcome at no cost. Register in Smoke Course Number : 2024 – 2 - 11- Q61Z - 0397

Host Chief Garry Bendix thanked everyone for attending the meeting and introduced the presenters of evening programs.

Tom Steindler of Darley presented the Car Fire Blanket, Hot Stop Lithium-ION Fire Containment Kit, and The Emergency Plug.

Kevin Briggs of Task Force Tips displayed assortment of nozzles.

A motion to adjourn the meeting by Denny Sexton and supported by Donnie Johnson carried meeting adjourned at 19:24.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Graham
Sec / Treas

The next meeting March 6th, 2024
New Buffalo Twp.
18:30 Meal
19:00 BCFA Meeting