

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

October 2nd, 2024

St. Joseph City

Meeting called to order at 19:07 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 10 departments represented with 25 members present. Meal donations collected \$56.

The minutes for the month of September were presented. Motion made by Jeff Krolzick with support from Sean Bruusema to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of September indicated the balance in checking at \$5,280.38. Money market balance is \$21,727.01. Balance of \$159.08 in the car show account. Combined total of \$27,166.47. A motion made by Doug deBest with support from Steven Phenegar to approve the report. The motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment:

- None.

Communications/Announcements:

- Berrien County Community Foundation sent a letter of appreciation to the Berrien County Firefighters Association on behalf of the Sheriff Department's portion of the car show donations that will support their work throughout Berrien County.
- Lake Twp. Fire and Police Open House Oct. 5th, 12-3pm
- Buchanan Twp. Firefighters Fish Fry Oct. 5th, 3-8pm (or until gone)
- Lincoln Twp. Pancake Breakfast Oct. 6th, 8-11am
- Baroda Fire Prevention Open House Oct. 12th, 1-4pm
- Berrien Springs Breakfast Oct. 13th.

Emergency Management/911/Dispatch:

- Simulcast and new tower update: All department pagers need to be updated with temporary and new tower sites by NOVEMBER 1st.

Chief's Association:

- Next Chief's Meeting October 16th at 8:30 am. at Lake Township Public Safety Building.

Training Committee:

Next meeting on Sunday October 6th, at 2pm.

- Benton Harbor Fall 2024 Hybrid Fire Academy starts Oct. 1st. and continues through Dec. 13th.
- Check in on SMOKE and on the BCFA web site for new listed and updated lists of trainings and classes throughout the county.

Resource Directory/Website:

Updated version of the Recourse Directory available

- Check your department's lists in the Directory for changes so we can keep it up to date.
- Check the web site for trainings, classes, events, and latest updates.

Old Business:

- New mandates coming out next year will state that all smoke detectors will have to either be hard wired or with ten-year non replaceable batteries . This will increase the cost for the detectors. More departments to take advantage of the State program to receive the smoke detectors. Need a list of which departments need detectors. BCFA has some available and needs to know if more need to be ordered.

New Business:

- The 2025 BCFA meeting schedule is being verified to participating departments.

Host Sean Bruursema thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

The evening program with the Saint Joseph US Coast Guard represented by BMC Alexander Weiss and Yesenia Rodriguez.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Donnie Johnson and supported by Jeff Krolzick. Motion carried. meeting adjourned at 19: .

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec / Treas

**The next meeting November 6th, 2024
Sister Lakes
18:30 Meal
19:00 BCFA Meeting**