

# **BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

**Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: [mi-bcfa.org](http://mi-bcfa.org)**

**February 5th, 2025**

**Three Oaks Fire Department**

Meeting called to order at 19:03 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

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

Donations collected at the meal totaled \$142.

Roll call of departments indicate 11 departments represented with 30 members present .

Minutes for the month of January was presented . A motion made by Chris Burks with support from Jami Flick to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of January was presented. The balance in checking is \$6,438.38 and the money market balance is \$22,911.48. The balance for the car show is \$159.08 for a combined total of \$29,508.94. A motion was made by Joe Dyniewski with support from Chris Burks to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

## **Bills submitted for payment:**

A bill was submitted for the cost of purchasing Bibles, The BCFA portion to pay was in the amount of 245.84. The purchase cost was split with the Chiefs Association. A motion made by Cory Burks with support from Denny Sexton to pay the amount of \$248.84. Motion carried.

A check has been written for \$200 to the BCFTC towards the March 5<sup>th</sup> Growing Concerns Cultivating Safety class at the next BCFA meeting in Watervliet.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **911/Dispatch:**

- A thank you letter from BC Dispatcher Sarah Blurton was read to the BCFA in recognition of her retirement from dispatch after serving 25 years.

### **Chief's Association:**

- Next Meeting February 19th, 08:30 am Lake Twp. Fire Dept.

### **Training Committee:**

- FF I&II Adult class with 17 students,
- High school has 12 students with 10 of them are part of a department.
- Help for reviews three weekends in April, (May 1<sup>st</sup> written, May 8<sup>th</sup> practical) any departments with students are encouraged in helping. Contact Cory Burks for information on dates and times needed.
- Many trainings being held throughout the county are listed on Smoke and the BCFA web site.
- Reminder on keeping track of training credit hours being met throughout the three-year cycle. This is year three of that cycle.

**Resource Directory/Web:**

- Waiting on updates. There are 10 departments that have not responded on updating their information.
- Updated Resource Directory published February 2nd, 2025.
- Make sure to check web site for the extensive list of upcoming trainings and events.

**Hazmat:**

- Any departments in need of training contact Dave Albers to get on the list.

**HART:**

- Committee met in January to discuss new options and making positive progress. Planning on meeting with these groups in a future meeting.

**Berrien County Sheriff:**

- The Sheriff thanked all the support given at the Polar Plunge held in New Buffalo in January. Looking forward in to encourage more fire departments and police departments to participate in future fundraisers.

**Old Business:**

- The State Regulations on smoke detectors are changing. Encouraging fire departments to register in the MI Prevention Smoke Detector Program for their smoke and CO alarms.
- Audit for 2025 is under way and will be presented to the audit committee soon.

**New Business:**

- 2025 Car show sponsor letters have been mailed to new and previous ones.

**Announcements:**

- March 5<sup>th</sup> BCFA Meeting in Watervliet will conclude with the Growing Concerns Cultivating Safety Class. Please Register on SMOKE on for credit for this class. Registration will be available at meeting.
- North Berrien holding Trivia Night, March 22nd, 7pm, at American Legion

Host Chief Dave Flick welcomed and thanked everyone for attending the meeting and his crew for setting up for the meeting. The evening program was presented by Gerry Kabelman explaining the BCFA web site, how to navigate links within the web site and why is it important for each department to update the information in the Resource Directory?

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Cory Burks and supported by Joe Dyniewski. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 19:26.

Respectfully submitted,

*Dennis Graham*

*Sec / Treas*

**The next meeting March 5<sup>th</sup>  
Watervliet Fire Department**

**18:30 meal**

**19:00 meeting**

**19:30 class**