

# **BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION**

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

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

**August 6th, 2025**

**Berrien County Youth Fair Grounds**

Meeting called to order at 19:05 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

A moment of Silence was observed in memory of Keven Green who served on Tri-Unit fire department and the Berrien County Sherriff Department.

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.

Roll call of departments show 19 departments represented with 49 members present  
Donations collected during the meal totaled \$175.

Minutes for MAY were presented . A motion made by Brian Dwan with support from Tyler Burks to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

The MAY treasurer's report was presented. The checking balance is \$3,417.13, the money market balance is \$23,298.90, and the car show balance is \$22,468.30, totaling \$49,184.33. A motion was made by Tom Wicker with support from Mike Essig to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

## **Request submitted for payment:**

- New Patch Display Board for the Fire Education Center cost for supplies in the amount of \$346.80 was requested. A motion by Sam Badreddine with support from Mike Essig to approve payment. Motion carried. Payment made. Thank you to Doug deBest for researching and gathering the department patches for the display.
- The bill presented for meal totaled \$430.67. Friends of Berrien Springs presented a check for \$400 towards the cost of the meal. Motion by Jeff Krolzick supported by Denny Sexton carried. Payment presented.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **Emergency Management:**

- Successfully completed the D.C. Cook and Palisades Nuclear plant evaluated exercises. Thank you to the participating fire departments in helping coronating public reception centers in their areas.
- 15 students completed the ICS300 training course in July.
- Excellent results on the completed IPAWS public alert test with 98.6% respondents confirmed receipt of alerts.
- August 5<sup>th</sup> Public Meeting for Palisades Nuclear Plant.
- August 12<sup>th</sup> Quarterly Meeting
- August 14<sup>th</sup> REPWIG Meeting
- August 25-26 ICS 400 course
- Berrien County Dispatch relocation coordination continues.

### **DNR:**

Plans being made for a Wildland burn training for end of September

**Chief's Association:**

- Next Meeting August 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Rescue Task Force Team explained the need and classes

**Training Committee:**

- Firefighter I & II classes starting in December.
- Training sessions across the county. Make sure you check SMOKE for any updates and trainings. CE training credits. Everyone's responsibility.

**Resource Directory/Website:**

- Still short on department directory updates.
- Page of Honor updates.
- Make sure to check web site for the extensive list of upcoming trainings and even

**Sheriff:**

- Great to see the support for National Night Out.

**Old Business:**

- Sign up lists for fire station shifts and Fire Education Center.
- On behalf of the Fair Board thank you to all volunteers for their help through out fair week.
- Elections for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer for a 2-year term were announced. Both Craig Brent and Dennis Graham agreed to continue their elected positions if unopposed. A joint motion to elect Craig Brent 1<sup>st</sup> VP and Dennis Graham Sec/Tres for a two-year term made by Doug deBest with support from Mike Essig. Motion carried.

**Announcements:**

- QR course on Hording planned in fall planned with a cost of \$500 asking for the BCFA to cover the cost. Motion by Donnie Johnson with support from Dennis Graham to cover the cost when a date is announced. motion carried.
- August 20<sup>th</sup>, 6-9 pm, (dinner at 5:30) 2 The Rescue Life Saving Training
- September 12th, 6-8 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Appreciation Dinner

Doug Wise with support from Tim Rogers made a motion to close the meeting.  
Meeting adjourned at 19:47

Respectfully submitted,  
*Dennis Graham*  
*Sec / Treas*

**The next meeting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Bertrand Twp. Fire Department Sta. 1  
18:30 meal  
19:00 meeting**