

Berrien Fire Chief's Association

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 0835 hours on November 6th, 2013.


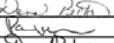


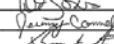
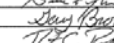
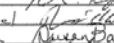
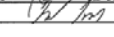



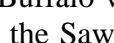


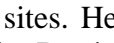
ATTENDANCE: See photo

TREASURER'S REPORT – Chief Brovold filling in for Chief Lamb reported 1 deposit of \$43 bring the total in checking of \$1009.34. Motion and support to approve treasurers report. All in favor.

MINUTES – Minutes from the July and September meeting were voted on and approved.

COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS – None

Berrien County Fire Chief's Association Attendance Sheet October 06th, 2013

	Print	Signature	Dept.
1.	Mike Davidson		CTFD
2.	Dana Pelton		DNR
3.	Paul Rogers		DNR
4.	Dan deBart		Cook Plant
5.	Frank Delistore		SALAS
6.	DAVID AGENS		911
7.	Tom SAIG		ECFP
8.	Don JAMES		WFD
9.	Jeremy Connell		BUDS
10.	Steve A. Staver		ISCOTFD
11.	Gary Brovold		NFTD
12.	Bob Ruff		NBFR
13.	Donald C. Kunkel		RFD
14.	Susan Bandana		ARC
15.	Rich P. Neri		B.P.A.
16.			

COMMITTEE REPORTS

911 – Director Dave Agens advised that the VHF Simulcast site in New Buffalo with backup is up and seems to be working well. There was an issue with the paging antenna at the Sawyer Tower, and it has been replaced.

Dave advised that there is currently no testing of the backup transmitter sites. He has asked that Niles Township advises on the operation of the Niles site, Berrien Springs on the Berrien site, Chikaming for the New Buffalo site, St. Joe for the St. Joe site during the projected tests.

Dave discussed the protocol for requesting a helicopter at a scene and he has suggested using the VCall 10 frequency for that purpose. It is a nationally used frequency that can be easily accessed by the Medical Helicopter Agencies. Chief Davidson asked that the Fire Chief's Association be kept in the loop regarding who actually gets to make the request. Discussion was in favor of the medical unit on the scene, who could advise a Fire or Law Enforcement Officer (Incident Command) on the scene to have dispatch request one.

Dave also discussed talks about preserving the 800 MHz primary frequencies in the home banks when radios are reprogrammed by departments. Dave also touched briefly about continuing to look at data base for dial up pager/cell phone notifications. They are currently working on up grading the 2 dispatch center with new dispatch consoles through the grant that Niles City was awarded. They will also be looking at costs for next year to upgrade the equipment at the dispatch centers to be able to receive 911 texts, photos, and videos.

There was also discussion on Dave resending out the response matrix that he has showing what each department has requested to be dispatched too. The discussion about the definition of a rollover was agreed to be "**A vehicle that was not on 4 wheels, or was witnessed rolling over**". This was done in a form of a motion, all approved.

DNR – Paul Rogers and Dana Pelton attended and stated that the DNR is now requesting that **all** fire departments sign a Mutual Aid agreement with the DNR. Paul passed out agreements to those departments in attendance and stated that the agreement must be signed by the municipal leader, not the Fire Chief. Once signed and sent to the DNR, they will send them to Lansing to be signed and then returned to the Municipality. Paul discussed an incident they had where a local fire department, out of our area, had an issue extinguishing a Wildland/muck fire, and that all we need to do is call them, if we cannot control it by the second operational period, and they will get the needed equipment and personnel

enroute to assist. Paul also discussed a new web site that will be available to look up fire danger threat in our local areas, for issuing burn permits. Paul advised that they are available for Wildland Fire Classes; please contact him for further information.

Funeral Protocol – Chief Stover advised that he is going to have the funeral kit dry cleaned and that there is a need to purchase more Protestant bibles to hand out. The motion was made to purchase 10 more bibles and split the cost with the Firefighter's Association.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LEPC –. No Report due to no one available. Rocky Adams is the new Emergency Manager and is starting in his office.

SHERIFF- No Report due to no one available.

HAZ-MAT- No Report due to no one available.

BCFFA -.No Report due to no one available.

BCYF –. No Report

RED CROSS-. Susan reported that they assisted 6 families in the Benton Harbor area due to fires. She also advised that they now have a new therapy dog at the Berrien Chapter.

TRAINING – Chief Stover advised that there are 8 students in the High School Class and 26-27 in the evening class. The Berrien County Training Committee will start charging for the use of the fire extinguisher equipment, at a cost of \$30 to maintain the propane costs. Kidde is due in this week to service the burn trailers. Chief Stover advised that 147 firefighters went through the burn trailers this summer. There have been issues with firefighters not being able to participate in the trainings due to facial hair. Please remember that there are safety rules in place that must be adhered to by all firefighters attending the trainings. The departments that used the trailers for the first time have not been charged anything for the use, so if your department has not used it yet, your first time will be free. They will be looking at readjusting the original cost due to it not costing as much as they first thought to operate, and they will be looking at training more instructors to operate it.

Doug DeBest advised that Baroda is hosting a "Courage to Be Safe" class 12/30 6:30pm cost is free.(15 openings) See County training website

Chief Ruff advised that Three Oaks is hosting a Fire Officer 1& 2 Class starting on 11/23. The class dates are 11/23, 11/24, 12/7 & 12/8.

The registration link is:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BGIFEM7xx00xtasDz5P79y3sMWvCMY6EV1t9f_XW7Js/viewform

The Fire Officer 3 series in Lincoln starts in January. Here is the link to register for that one:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ySXQdEvxVQ31LB0Q0yLvwtYQakXxHqq7HpZH4IbXsec/edit#>.

MABAS- Chief Lamb had printed out a matrix of the participating MABAS departments and the missing paperwork from several departments

OLD BUSINESS – Chief Davidson advised that he did send a letter to the Berrien County Commissioners on behalf of the Fire Chiefs Association, supporting the placement of Rescue Rings at the piers along Lake Michigan, in Berrien County in St. Joseph.

NEW BUSINESS-. No new business.

Adjourned 1003 hrs

Submitted Chief Gary Brovold