



# BERRIEN FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION

Meeting 7-16-14

Meeting called to order by Chief Davidson at 0834 hours.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Chief Lamb reported  
Checking Acct at 1728.92. All in favor

**MINUTES** – Minutes from the June 18th meeting were approved with all in favor.

**COMMUNICATIONS / BILLS**—None

Print	Signature	Dept.
Mike Davidson	Mike Davidson	C.T.F.D.
Paul Ruzick	Paul Ruzick	FWMA
Steve Streeb	Steve Streeb	TCUFD
Daryl De Russi	Daryl De Russi	Wessex
Bill Kutzick	Bill Kutzick	Boston Fire Dept
James Wozniak	James Wozniak	FD
Mark Sp	Mark Sp	FD
Gary Knapel	Gary Knapel	MTFD
Dan Haines	Dan Haines	FD
Dan Jansen	Dan Jansen	Wessex
Dan DeRest	Dan DeRest	COOK
Gregg Kuchelmann	Gregg Kuchelmann	S.T.C.F.D. #1
Frank Kuchelmann	Frank Kuchelmann	S.T.C.F.D. #2
Bob Ruff	Bob Ruff	NEER
Jeremy Cannel	Jeremy Cannel	RADPS
Rae Kasper	Rae Kasper	RTFD
Rocky Adams	Rocky Adams	TCUFD
Tom Shiles	Tom Shiles	FCFD
Ken Newman	Ken Newman	Marshall
Army Davis	Army Davis	MTFD

## **PRESENTATION -**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**911** – Helicopter protocol- Complaint in Cass County caused restriction of out of state resources. The Sheriff and Dave worked very hard to gain 60 day stay and will continue to work to get the problem permanently fixed.

Dave has discussed the issues with the VHF system with Gabe from Telrad. Bad connections at the Bertrand Site were located. UPS was needed when dropping to the generator. The radios at Sumnerville were not wired into the generator properly. This will be corrected. All sites will get redundant UPS and generator back up. After complete tests can be performed gauge performance. The dispatchers are able to monitor the sites performance from the consoles. Discussion to install alarms was also discussed. Dave is also looking at the installation of a tone encoder which would allow us to monitor what the field units are hearing. Issues with Active 911 were identified and will be corrected.

High incident protocol was discussed. Dave has presented it to the 911 committees. Many issues and questions remain especially with LE. Dave intends to modify the plan and reissue to Chiefs. Committee was developed by Chief Davidson to work on and SOG for Area Command. (Lamb, Ruff, Brovold, Knisely, Connell)

**DNR** –Paul reported that there have not been a lot of Dune fires. One was caused by cottonwood material in electrical service. Allegan Art studio photos of smoke going through dune grass. Shore lines with critical Dune areas DNR have relaxed restriction on emergency access. Limited to emergency services. DOD equipment is available but

get your applications in right away as a new policy may require vehicle be scrapped because of emissions. Applications are in and up at Lansing.

**Funeral Protocol** – None

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** – Captain Rockey Adams reported on the Rep101 being offered in Van Buren County. He also discussed planning issues for the Fermi Plant. Dates for the Palisades Drill have also been released.

He discussed storms over the past month. Damage fell short of getting disaster assistance. Help from Local responders was greatly appreciated with Damage assessment. Dispatch was handled well. Lincoln Twp issues at Long term care facility without power were discussed. He credited Lincoln for a great effort. Estimated \$160,000 uninsured residents. Purchasing policies for all services must be rebid for individual disasters. Can't have standing bids for debris removal, etc.

**LEPC** – Presentation from Enbridge on Pipeline project. Line is in and being pressurized. Restoration to follow. Karen Discussed storms.

**SHERIFF**- None

**RED CROSS**-None

**HAZ-MAT**- None

**BCFFA** - Gerry Kabelman spoke on the Fire Safety Station at the Youth Fair. Looking for help.

**BCYF** – Fire prevention at the fair discussed. Historic Fire photos, equipment and displays wanted. August 11-16<sup>th</sup>. Bridgman's trailer was discussed. Departments are being asked to staff it for a day. It cannot sit up at the Fair vacant. Looks bad for Bridgman if it's out there and goes unused..

**TRAINING** –.. Baroda Chief 1 Challenging issues. October 18-19.

**MABAS**- None

**OLD BUSINESS** -. None

**NEW BUSINESS** – Dr Byer posted west Michigan traffic safety course – Highway safety.

Chief Stiles is selling some big gear and Chief Knisely is selling a new SCBA rack he won at FDIC.

Chief Jones asked about foam in the county. NTFD has 1700 gallons. Joint purchasing discussed.

*Adjourned at 11 am*

Next Meeting July 20<sup>Th</sup> at 1830 hours Lincoln Twp Fire Station

RS Larry Lamb

# Baroda Fire Department



The Baroda Fire Department is going to be hosting the following fire officer training course that is U.S. Fire Administration – National Fire Academy (NFA) certified. Each fire officer that attends and completes the course will be issued a certificate from the NFA. This course will take place at the Baroda Fire Station, 9081 First Street, Baroda, MI 49101.

## Fire Chief I: Challenging Issues

This course was designed to develop the managerial, administrative and leadership skills necessary for the first time fire chief and chief officer who desire a leadership position in their department. This course addresses critical knowledge and skills pertaining to the responsibilities of a fire chief including such topics as local politics and the role of the chief officer, liability and risk management, resources and items of knowledge needed to become a first time leader in a new position in their agency.

This course will be held on:

Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

{Class will start at 8:00am and end at approximately 5:00pm each day,  
with an hour break for lunch.}

- The primary candidates for this course include new or emerging chief officers in a volunteer or combination fire department. The secondary candidate is a person who is a department leader or emerging leader. This course is intended primarily for those who have served or will begin to serve soon in leadership positions and who seek to learn more effective ways of managing and leading their agency.

**There is no cost to attend this course.**

If you would like more information about registering to attend this course or you have any questions; contact Training Officer – Doug deBest at (269) 759-4848 or [debestfire@hotmail.com](mailto:debestfire@hotmail.com)



## HIGH INCIDENT PROTOCOL (HIP)

Definition; events as described in the Berrien County Emergency Plan and/or any Homeland Security-National Incident Management System (NIMS)-TYPE 3 category; widespread and/or extended multiple-operational periods (i.e. severe storm, riot, active shooter, large fire, mass casualty incident, etc.), can overwhelm routine public safety response and communications practices, forcing public-safety to temporarily adapt to the situation in a manner that will streamline delivery of services under exigent circumstances. Even with additional personnel, the situation will require a higher level response and abbreviated communications processes to improve overall continuity of operations committed to the mitigation of threat/hazards in our communities, and enhance recovery efforts throughout the course of the event.

### A. HIP "Triggers"

Predictable Situations (communication outage, imminent severe weather warning, MABAS 3<sup>rd</sup> Alarm, Active Shooter w/multiple casualties); Dispatch would initiate HIP automatically as an established protocol for a given situation as described here.

Evolved Situations (communication system failure, weather event creating more widespread damage than predicted, disturbance growing into riot, etc.); Dispatch Supervisor recognizing dynamic unforeseen circumstances generating many more incoming calls, and/or higher amounts of resource mobilization than can be executed utilizing routine dispatch protocols.

### B. HIP Protocol Measures

*Mobilize Extra Dispatch Staff* – BCPSCC Supervisors/Shift Leaders are authorized to hold-over/call-in additional staff to manage communication volumes until assumed by EOC resources or normal service may be restored.

*Notification* - A countywide MPSCS broadcast and a Fire/EMS "ALL CALL-Civil Defense" paging will be executed, notifying core disciplines that HIP Protocol has been implemented due an exigent circumstance defined above. And specify, "EMD Emergency Rule is in effect, non-emergency Call Logging and LEIN Services are suspended, and all units and stations should prepare for direct dispatching and area commands."

*EMD Emergency Rule* – CFS volume often quickly exceeds the ability of dispatch personnel to manage them in a routine manner; Berrien Dispatch centers will invoke the 911 Medical "Emergency Rule," suspending medical post-dispatch and pre-arrival instructions that are not required for life-saving, and dispatch EMS resources without further documentation of response; units will track their own activity times.

*Routine Call Logging Suspension* - routine non-emergency logging/tracking of dispatches in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system will be suspended. Like the EMD Emergency Rule discussed above, once Dispatched to a non-emergency event, the BCPSCC will not be logging en-route and on-scene arrival times of specific units. However, related radio traffic should still be executed over designated radio channels to assure continuity of operations. As a result, CAD "Rip & Run" reports will not contain normal details. If necessary, specific data may be retrieved from the audio logger at a later time. High Incident-Calls for Service (CFS) will be tracked as such in the BCPSCC-CAD-Disposition Type section upon closing of the call.

*LEIN Service Limitations* – critical CFS volume will likely exceed the ability of dispatch personnel to manage them in a timely manner; BCPSCC supervisors have the discretion to temporarily re-assign the LEIN dispatcher position to assist with call-processing priorities. The BCPSCC will announce “Due to current emergency call load, Berrien Dispatch LEIN Services are suspended until further notice.” Unless LEIN query assistance is critical, units must rely on their mobile-computer, seek queries from Niles Dispatch, or their local stations, until the call overload has been abated and Dispatch LEIN returned to service. A priority query should be requested directly from an area dispatcher (not LEIN).

- C. Area Commands – initiated when either a majority of local public-safety resources are committed to a single dynamic incident (ex. active shooter, plane crash, large fire, etc.), or a wide-spread event affecting multiple and contiguous jurisdictions (ex. storm damage, haz-mat, etc.). Area Commands can operate either in conjunction with, or independent of an Incident Command that is already deployed to address a specific situation. The goal is to leverage available/remaining resources, and adjust regular mutual aid plans as necessary, through enhanced critical information sharing.

#### Area Command-Structures

Similar to Unified Command, the situation dictates which jurisdictional discipline will be the foundation for on-scene operations, however Area Commands also assume a more formal role in management of field units operating in their designated areas.

- **SINGLE Jurisdiction Event**

A single event has consumed multiple jurisdictional resources. Routine mutual aid/back-up practices for that region will require immediate adaptive review by area agencies, so they know what resources are still available to handle new call responses outside the event.

1. Law Enforcement may continue communicate on area MPSCS Talk-Groups.
2. All Fire/EMS should be prepared to occupy their stations, either with an OIC or full staff according local protocol, to receive direct dispatching of calls in their area, directly over VHF BC2PAGE or 11F911. Upon receiving a call from Dispatch, area Stations with paging capabilities will dispatch their resources as needed over VHF BC2PAGE and “Active911 web-notification. Otherwise, the agency Commander may request Dispatch to execute the mobilization.

- **WIDESPREAD Multi-Jurisdictional Event**

Once deployed, local Fire or Police Stations operating in the affected areas, will coordinate with each other in groups, assigned a 11UIC TG for a specific area of operation, to prioritize and directly mobilize (dispatch) their units/resources, to calls passed on to them by Dispatch or encountered by their own units as they respond to calls (area dispatch). Jurisdictions not necessary affected by the widespread event would still operate in the same manner as described in a Single Event (above), to alleviate critical dispatch information flow back-ups, and participating in high-level operations of affected Area Commands.

D. Deactivation of HIP

HIP functions will be restored as practical, when agencies and Dispatch concur all are capable of executing the routine operation, by broadcasting over MPSCS/VHF.