



BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

Call to Order: 0830

Date: July 21, 2021

Old minutes: Old minutes emailed out. Motion to accept old minutes and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Treasurer's Report: Starting Balance: \$3414.94. Dues Deposit: \$1150.00. Ending Balance: \$4564.94. Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

Communications/Bills:

New Chief/Visitor:

Committee Report:

Sheriff: Corey on behalf of Sheriff.....Wish all well.

Red Cross: None

Great Lakes Drone: Unable to make meeting due to very late night call.

Frank read the attached report from Great Lakes Drone.

Dispatch/911: Caitlin again reminded everyone: **VHF Simulcast will end by December 31, 2022.**

Sodus siren is now on 800 activation. Working to move Sodus fire to 800 paging. Still need to move S.M.C.A.S and PrideCare to 800 paging to reduce dispatch delays. Signal enhancement. Remember no system will provide 100 percent coverage. If having specific signal issues, please report them to Caitlin or Jennifer. The ASR site at Spectrum Lakeland Watervliet should be up and running in about 20 minutes. Will 800 pagers for north county departments need to have the new tower added?? Radios?? Caitlin and Frank to look into that. FCC to release new rules on what 911 sur charges can be used for. New rules look promising for tower funding use. Reminder of the field radio funding through the county low interest loan program. So far only one department has taken advantage of loan program. Grant: No new grants have been given since June 11, 2021. The AFG grant site had crashed.....trying to get site back up and running. Additionally, local grants are available as well. Gary Sinise grant also available. Sinisefoundation.org. Firehouse subs grant. Firehouse subs Q4 grant opens August 18, 2021. AAA traffic safety grant. Denny Sexton will be retiring from dispatch. Open house for Denny July 30, 2021 at Empire Building 1100-1230. Reminder mutual aid boxcards need to get to dispatch. So far only 11 departments have submitted them to dispatch. Deadline was the June BC Fire Chiefs meeting. Weesaw Fire has had a change in personnel, and it is taking awhile to get boxcards updated for Weesaw. Al Dibrito advised Spectrum Lakeland ST Joe has a BDA up and running last Friday, for the ER, new pavilion, cafeteria, and basement classrooms. If experience loss of 800 signal let him know so they can look into it. Smart 911 is no longer available. Question on dispatching. With the move to 800 it was understood that calls would be sent out simultaneously over the 800 paging/COM N/S/P911/F911/etc....Still noticing that PD is given notice before FIRE/EMS dispatched on many occasions. Caitlin stated that was the original plan, however with increased traffic on those talkgroups, COM N/S/P911/F911 Dispatch is having to wait for radio traffic to stop before dispatch or risk cutting off emergency traffic. This has required a change to that original plan and dispatch has separated the dispatches. Frank asked about possibility of a receive only dispatch talkgroup. Caitlin stated still looking into that.

DNR: None

Funeral: Berrien Springs. Fair this year. See attached information from Chief Myers.

Emergency Management: Going smooth. Drill planned for July 27, 2021.

EMS:

Medic-1: Everything going good. Still following COVID procedures/protocols.

S.M.C.A.S.: Still no representative.

Med Flight: They have had some pilots retire and one on medical leave. Several new float pilots on staff so please be patient. Med Flight has 31 EMS CE's to offer. If interested contact Mark. Please complete after scene flight surveys.

Med Control: None.

LEPC: Actual meeting planned for September 21, 2021.

BCFA: Next meeting August 04, 2021 at the BC Youth Fair Grounds. KORN DOGS! Dinner 1830. Meeting 1930. Fair August 16-21, 2021 Need people to work the Fire education Center. 3hr shifts. 4 shifts per day. This year is the 75th Anniversary of the Berrien County Youth Fair. Resource directory has been updated and emailed out. Please review and get updates to Gerry. September meeting New Buffalo City. October Meeting New Buffalo Twp.

Training: Scheduling for the fall adult and high school FF1 and 2 class. Class packets will be ready for the August association meeting. Looking at possible 15 students for the high school class. Annual survey will be ready to be sent out by end of July. Any questions contact Corey Burks. Reminder to sign into SMOKE on a regular basis, at least once per year. Contact Corey if need help. Training committee meeting Sunday 1400hrs. Discussion on alternative academy approach. Will ZOOM be offered for the meeting. Corey advised it can be. BHDPS FF1/2 class is ¾ complete. Looking into offering another class in the fall as there is interest. Fire Officer series in the future. School bus extrication class in Bridgman on July 31st. 0800-1800.

HazMat: Had an assist in Chikaming. Cement truck overturned. Trues towing is certified HAZMAT clean up. Reminder, if saddle tanks rupture on accidents mark hazmat on reports.

MITRT5: Nothing new. Training starting up in the fall.

MABAS: Crew Transport drill was held on July 14, 2021. We had real world interruption and radio issue. Drill Response as follows: North Berrien/Watervliet/Niles City/Three Oaks/Bertrand/Bridgman/Buchanan City all able to meet position on boxcard.

Niles Twp. took a pass.

Chikaming/Lincoln/Roylaton no response.

Lake had 1 firefighter available.

Thank you to all that participated.

Next drill will be a POD drill for the crew transport out of division boxcard on August 11, 2021. Chikaming or Niles Twp. to host POD. Niles Twp. not interested. Frank will check with Chikaming.

Midwest MABAS (MI/IL/WI) continues to meet. Wisconsin is not part of the MAMA-C legislation. MI and WI working on an agreement. Continue to work on MI-MABAS regional coordinators. Would like three per region. Any MABAS department that has someone interested in this position let Frank know. There is a new MI-MABAS store: MIMABAS.logosoftware.com 15% of all sales come back to MI-MABAS. MI-MABAS will be hosting strike team/Task Force leader position training in September. Planning for September 09, 2021. UAS training on August 14, 2021. All fire/EMS/PD welcome to attend. MABAS presentations in Berry and Midland counties. New division 3802 Iron/Dickerson Counties in the UP.

Washtenaw County first division to be validated for tech rescue. Battle Creek and Western

Wayne working on HAZMAT validations. MITRT% and BC HAZMAT please consider getting MI-MABAS validated. State EOC uses MABAS to mobilize fire assets in the state. MI-TFT1 is the primary response for EMAC requests. MI-MABAS had human remains donated to them for training purposes. A human remains policy has been adopted for the safe keeping and utilization of the remains for training purposes. Brian stated BHDPS and SJDPS had a discussion after the last MABAS drill and that BHDPS and SJDPS have no plans to join MABAS as they do not have the personnel to send state wide, and inquired about more local training. They would be interested in helping locally and requested more local training like a county wide MADAY policy. Chief Mattix advised if he would like to present one, we would take a look at it.

Old Business: NIFRS....No current report. Anyone having any problems?

New Business: Sandra Dyja will be at the August meeting. BioCare will be at North Berrien on July 26, 2021. New Buffalo Twp July 27. Bridgman July 28. Weesaw July 29. DC Cook August 03-06 and 09-12.

Next Meeting: August 18 at the BC Youth Fair Fire Education Center. Must enter through gate 3 Shawnee Road entrance. **MUST PRESENT FIRE DEPARTMENT ID TO GET IN WITH OUT PAYING.**


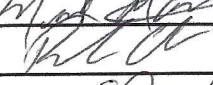
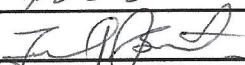
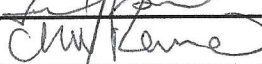
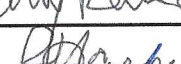


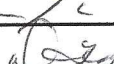

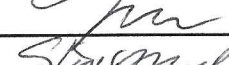
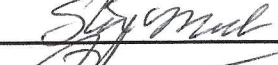


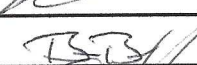

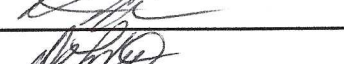
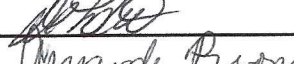
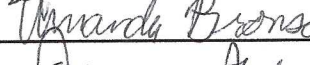
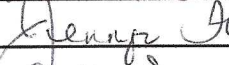
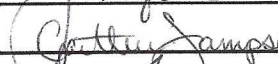
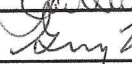
New Buffalo Twp. will be hosting an open house for the new station 1100-1400 on August 01, 2021.

Fair brochure for anyone that wants some. See Corey after the meeting.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn and seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 0930.

Berrien County Fire Chief's Association
Attendance Sheet
July 21st, 2021

	Print	Signature	Temp	Dept.
1.	Mike Mattix			NBFR
2.	Brandon Chiarelli			LTFD
3.	Joel Rust			Bridgman
4.	Matt Remond			Bertrand
5.	Rob Harper			BCTFD
6.	AI DiBened			SPECTRUM
7.	JAMIE FLICK			NBTFD
8.	Dave Flick			TOTD
9.	Mark Bolger			MedFlight
10.	Steve Mutter			Buchanan Twp.
11.	Tim Jessiman			Buch Twp / NTFD
12.	David Albee			BCSO / BSOFD
13.	William Bente			MEDIC 1
14.	Doug Myers			BSOFD
15.	Frank DeStorome			Niles / NBFR / MABAS
16.	Amanda Bronson			Weesaw
17.	JENNIFER FLICK			BCPSCC
18.	Caitlin Sampsell			BCPSCC
19.	Gerry Kabelman			S.J.C.T.F.D. 1
20.	Ted Chase			GALLEN
21.	Allen Weich			Lake / MI-TRT-5
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Bridgman Fire Department and
Rescue Resources LLC



School Bus Extrication

Bridgman Fire Department is partnering with Rescue Resources LLC to offer a School Bus Extrication Class. This class will feature a classroom training coupled with a practical session.

Students should come to class with PPE consisting of Boots, turnout pants, turnout coat, helmets, and gloves.

Students should also bring water, a notebook with writing instrument and a positive attitude.

Lunch and additional drinks will be provided.

Course Information

Saturday July 31st 2021

0800-1800

Course Location

Bridgman Fire Department

9765 Maple St

Bridgman, MI 49106

Course Cost

\$80.00/student



For more information or to register please contact
Cory Thompson (508) 656-4403 or bridgmanfire@icloud.com

GREAT LAKES DRONE COMPANY, LLC

UAS REPORT

EMERGENCY SERVICES DIVISION

JULY 2021

Call Volume Report

- Total Calls 2021: 68
- Calls Since Last Meeting to Date: 12
- Calls in Berrien County 2021 to Date: 28

Breakdown of Type of Calls 2021 to Date

- Missing Persons - 23
- LEO Assists - 12
- Structure Fires - 22
- Water/Dive Rescue – 10
- Disaster Mitigation - 1

Updates

- Chikaming Township and New Buffalo Township are now on auto-aid
- 4580 is located at NBFR, 4581 is located at Chikaming Township
- Hired 15 new staff members for responses so you will see some new faces
- Virg Franks (retired VBCSD) will be taking over as our LEO Liaison starting in August under Lindsay.
- Participated in the 5th District Dive Training event at Gun Lake over 2 days
- You may have seen TV articles on WSBT 22 and FOX 17 recently about us, that stemmed from other agencies recommending they do a story about us, so we thank you all for that.
- Statewide MABAS UAS Training August 14th, 2021 at Watervliet Airport, we are hosting the event.



BERRIEN SPRINGS – ORONOKO FIRE DEPARTMENT

4411 EAST SNOW ROAD, BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI 49103

PHONE (269) 473-3731

July 20, 2021

RE: Berrien County Youth Fair Fire Protection

Dear Chiefs:

Now that we are back in the swing of things, it's time to plan for the 2021 Berrien County Youth Fair. I am asking for your department's help with protecting the Berrien County residents while they are at the fairgrounds. Together, we can provide a professional quick response to any situation that arises. Our responsibility is to provide fire protection, fire prevention on the grounds, and assist medical and security for any issue when they need our help. Besides having a minimum of 4 firefighters per engine with gear to respond, we also do initial inspections of **all** vendors and buildings. Then during the week, we do follow-up inspections and walk throughs to make sure all vendors and buildings are compliant.

1. I am asking for crews of four or more certified firefighters to be stationed at the South station with Berrien Springs Oronoko firefighters. Probationary firefighters may participate, but that is in addition to the four or more certified that are needed at all times.
2. I am asking departments for an engine, grass truck, rescue or aerial for shifts of 4 to 12 hours. Note: If you would send a truck with more than the needed four crew members (can be mixed crew made of from your department and your neighbors) they can take turns walking through the fair, if we have four certified firefighters ready (with gear) to respond from the south station. If multiple departments are on the grounds, only one crew (4 firefighters) needs to be on station at any given time and can rotate.
3. Monday and Tuesday, we will be doing fire inspections of all concessions, buildings and tents. The rest of the week random inspections will be performed.
4. When current with inspections, if more than the minimum of four firefighters with an engine, are available, the additional can assist with the fire education building. But a minimum of 4 firefighters must remain at the fire station for an initial response if needed on the grounds.
5. **Parking:** Parking for POV's of firefighters working station, will be on the south end of grounds. Enter through gate 3 (Shawnee), at first intersection, after ticket booths, turn left and marked lot will be on the left.
 - **Passes:** Fire protection crews (from one department or mixed) will receive a pass to enter grounds and work their shift. Each working firefighter (during or at end of shift) will receive passes for his or her immediate family (firefighter, spouse, significant other and children) for each shift worked. Those who sign up to work at the end of the week (Friday/ Saturday) will receive ALL their passes at the beginning of the fair or before. I am asking department chiefs to handle initial passes for their respective firefighters. Note: **We will have passes and schedule at the BCFFA meeting at the fair grounds on August 4th (18:30 at the Korn Dog Booth).** In addition, you can contact me directly for passes/scheduling.
6. **Dress:** Your choice, but we are professionals and need to dress accordingly. You must wear clothes that identify you as a firefighter when working.

"Next Fire 4:00"

7. **Communications:** Fire operations will be on VHF fire ground 1 (155.175) which should be in all county fire department's portable radios. Emergency communications will be on 800 MHz (**group number will be determined before fair**) for command and control. Berrien Springs will have a minimum of three 800MHz radios available for fire service on the grounds. In addition, the duty officer will have a portable for direct communications with the Fair security office. While on the Fairgrounds firefighters, working or just enjoying the Fair, should place their pagers in monitor position so if an event happens on the Fairgrounds they may assist.
8. The Officer or senior firefighter on duty for Berrien Springs Oronoko will be duty officer. He/she will coordinate the daily duties, sign in sheets and questions as they arise. I will be on the grounds the majority of the time.
9. We will have the engine/truck scheduling sheet at the Association meeting at the Fairgrounds. In addition, you may call me earlier with your dates and times. Also, a copy of the Box Card for Fair Week, which is also incorporated in the Emergency Response plan, will be available.
10. **Special Events:** This year there are two events where we will need a jaws equipped unit in the grand stand area in addition to the general fire protection needs. They are; Tractor Pull Monday night, Demolition Derby Friday night. Certified firefighters with gear will be stationed in grand stand with engine to provide fire protection and extrication if needed. This protection will be scheduled on a first come basis.

Remember, it is easy to think we have not had any issues at the fair. However, over the years we have been involved in severe storms, straight-line winds, flooding, electrical fires, potential brown outs, mechanical failure of rides, car fires, lost children, medical issues and power failures. The fair is in Berrien Springs; however, it is a County Fair that draws residents from your area. This year, with the current potential for issues, Berrien Springs Oronoko Fire Department needs your help to properly protect all our residents. Please assist us. Spread the word to your firefighters, commit an engine and contact me to sign up.

Thank you, together we will have another great safe and secure fair for all our residents!



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