



## **BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**

**Call to Order:** 0835-0955

**Date:** July 20, 2022

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Beginning balance: \$4518.44. Nothing in or out. Ending balance: \$4518.44.

Motion to accept treasurers report and seconded. Motion passed. None opposed.

**Communications/Bills:** Bill for half of the challenge coins. 150 coins: \$621.00. 200 challenge coins: \$726.00.

Motion by FM Kazmierzak, to purchase the 200 challenge coins. Seconded by Chief Myers. Motion passed.

None opposed. Make check payable to Berrien County Firefighters Association.

**New Chief/Visitor:** None.

### **Committee Report:**

**ByLaws:** Frank gave report on the bylaws. Copy of draft bylaws available and they were emailed out the day before, as well as last month. Frank advised bylaws were sent to lawyer for review and the lawyer had only a few suggested changes. The lawyer's suggestions were in red. Frank covered the changes the lawyer suggested. Chief Jesswein expressed concern with article 7 section D. He represents two agencies and feels he should be able to vote twice as he is chief of two agencies. Discussion followed. All felt removal of section D will solve the issue. Medic-1 asked do we really want EMS as Medic-1 represents 7 communities, do we get 7 votes? No, only one vote per agency. Brian stated that is a good point as EMS are represented by medical control, so do they even need to be part of the fire chiefs association? Frank stated adding EMS as several fire departments now do EMS as well as over the past 10 years medic-1 and S.M.C.A.S have been part of this organization, and while yes there is medical control, EMS does not have an organization like this to represent them. Frank stated and Medic-1 agreed that this organization has done more for EMS in past several years than any others. Allen stated parts in bold are areas of contention. Frank stated he asked the lawyer to give an option on the issue and his statement is in red. One or the other. Frank advised the committee is divided on this topic, and the committee agreed to bring items that they are unable to agree on to the body for discussion. Discussion on associate membership as it deals with associate members paying dues and voting. Frank asked the body for their comments on the issue. Chief Myers stated no ill intent, we all work together, and get along, but no to associate members having vote. They can voice opinion and give comment but not have a vote. Al stating, being an associate member at both this organization and the police chiefs association he would advocate paying dues. Suggested defining a regular associate member who shows up on a regular basis verses guest who shows up at will. Jennifer states she feels the same. Associate members should not vote, she supports this group and feels that associate members should be allowed on sub committees. Allen stated his experience with fair board that has multiple subcommittees, they make presentations to the board, but ultimately the board votes and makes decisions. Chief Jesswein stated no problem associate members but should not expect them to pay dues. They are here to help us, here in an advisory capacity, and should not be required to pay dues. Frank stated Brian stated one option was if associate member wanted to pay dues, they could pay half cost, but not have a vote. Gerry stated no to associate paying dues. TOFD Chief D. Flick asked why bring EMS? Gerry stated this is the fire chief's association. Don't think it is necessary to bring in EMS, EMS should be an associate member. Why should we pick up EMS issued because they do not have an association? Medic-1 stated you guys need to be comfortable with us, we are here to support you. Chief Chairello, stated we are fire chiefs association, fire departments only all others are associate. Decision on associate members do not get a vote.

Jen asked about Article 4 section D: if agency past due are they not allowed to vote for whole year? No until dues paid. Wording to be added to support that. Gerry back to article 4 section A. Change to primary member agencies. Jenifer inquired about Benton Harbor. Frank stated the committee addressed public safety agencies in article 3. Question on if assistant chief attending meeting do, they need the letter? Frank stated no. Article 3

section 3.3 Primary Members, address this. Chief Mattix stated it would not hurt to have it on file if title is not fire chief. Current bylaws state must be sent to members 30 days before.

**Sheriff:** None

**Red Cross:** None

**Great Lakes Drone:** See attached.

**Dispatch/911:** REMINDER VHF SIMULCAST WILL BE DISCOMMISSIONED END OF THIS YEAR.

Jenifer stated Caitlin at a meeting for the new dispatch center and tower. Dispatch is requesting a letter of support from the Fire Chiefs association as they are trying to secure additional funding for the dispatch center. The new dispatch center to be located at 500 circle drive Buchanan. The property sale agreement will go before the board next week, so should have ownership by end of next week. Will need a site variance for the new tower as it will be a 300-foot tower. Please send 800 radio ID's in. If have a dispatch issue, please contact dispatch ASAP so it can be address right away. Dispatch is currently 10 staff members down. Hired 2 and currently working on 2 more offers. Caitlin working on boxcards but has been very busy as she has been dispatching due to shortage. If they have been submitted can they be used. BHDPS stated they have been using theirs. Jenifer to check and follow up on that. Motion by Chief Weich, for Association to draft support letter, Seconded by Chief Harper. Motion passed. None opposed. Frank asked about when will 11BCPAGE start being used. Some departments stated they have it programed into radios and pagers. Some departments still waiting on radios to come in.

**DNR:** None

**Funeral:** Berrien Springs

**Emergency Management:** None.

**EMS:**

**Medic-1:** Busy. Good staffing.

**S.M.C.A.S.:** None

**Med Flight:** Offering landing zone classes. Give them a call.

**Med Control:** Drill tonight. Have 40 people signed up to participate. ER construction almost complete. Question on what construction is next? Al stated hospital owns all the houses along Langley Ave. Langley planning on becoming new main entrance to hospital.

**LEPC:** None.

**BCFA:** Next meeting August 03, 2022, at the fairgrounds. Need help for the fire education center at the fair. Schedule has been sent out. Please sign up to help. Will take Firefighters, cadets, spouses, etc....

Chief Jesswein asked if enough supplies. Gerry thanked the departments that ordered the free materials. Frank asked for the website link for the free materials to add to the minutes.

Car show a moderate success. Brought in \$16,000.00. Have about \$6,000.00 in expenses. About \$10,000.00 profit. Half will go to the Berrien County Firefighters Association and half will go to the Sheriff Department. Does the Fire Chiefs Association want to meet at the fair for the August meeting as we have done past few years? All agreed to meet at the fair in the fire education center August 17, 2022. Gerry still needs smoke alarm numbers from a couple departments. FM Kazmierzak stated there is a state program giving out smoke alarm and BHDPS just received some. Brian to share the information with Gerry. North Berrien hosting pancake breakfast August 6-7 at the city's Coloma Glad Peach Festival. Flier posted on the web.

**Training:** See the BHDPS flier. 8 spots already filled for the academy.

**HazMat:** None

**MITRT5:** No calls. No meetings. No updates.

**MABAS:** Meeting was held July 13, 2022. The ERAIL program (Emergency Response to Accidents Involving Livestock) program is interested in partnering with MIMABAS. Working on MRP and Boxcard training videos. Free EMAC MRP Training. Recommended for anyone that may fill the role of strike team leaders, task force leaders, and the regional response coordinators. August 11, 2022, 1300-1600. (<https://bit.ly/emacmrp>) Presentations: Isabella Co -5/11; Mecosta Co – 5/12; Antrim Co – 5/25; Marquette – 6/21; Delta/Schoolcraft – 6/22; Tuscola Co - 7/12; UP Chiefs – 7/28; Wexford County – 8/18; Otsego County – 8/18. The Gaylord tornado response made MITF1 realize several of the command staff had to pass by the scene as they travelled to the MOB center in Holly MI. Because of this MITF1 developed an agency and POV vehicle use policy.

Special Ops Validation Completions: Macomb County Hazmat Tier I Team , Western Wayne Tech Rescue Team, Washtenaw County Tower Rescue. MSP EMHSD working with MIMABAS to compile list of validated special ops teams available for responses. MIMABAS Special Ops will be giving a presentation to the Northern Chiefs association on July 28, 2022. Lapeer County has come onboard creating MIMABAS Division 3305.

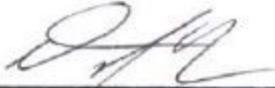
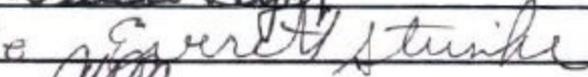
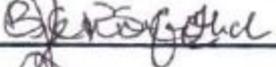
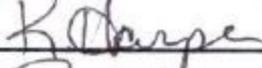
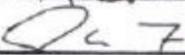
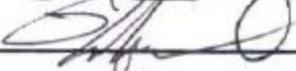
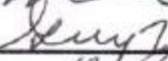
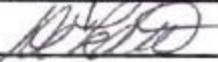
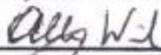
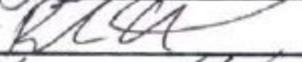
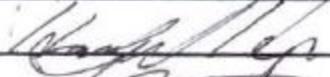
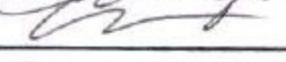
**Old Business:** There is an EOC opening. Currently Chief Mattix; Chief J. Flick, Chief Myers, Chief D. Flick, Deputy Director Connell, sit on the EOC. FM Kazmierzak expressed interest. NFIRS report. Only a couple departments on list. Remember these numbers are used for grant eligibility information.

**New Business:** BioCare: New Buffalo Township on July 21, 2022. Will be at North Berrien on August 01, 2022. Frank advised all those department still waiting for 800 radio programming that as of June 01, 2022, MPSCS has added 5 new interoperability zones to the radios. These zones are in the 700 spectrum. Chief Myers discussed Berrien County Youth Fair Fire Protection. See attached.

**Next Meeting:** **Wednesday, August 17, 2022, at the Berrien County Fair Grounds starting at 0830.**

**Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn 0955.

**Berrien County Fire Chief's Association  
Attendance Sheet  
July 20th, 2022**

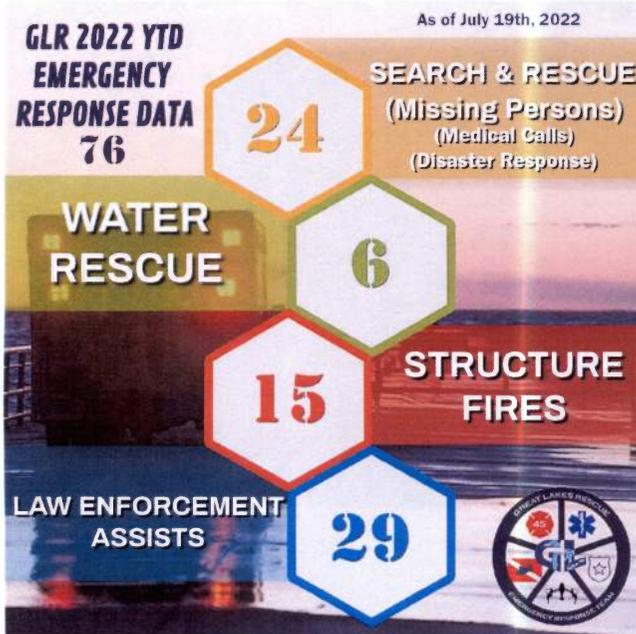
	<b>Print</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Temp</b>	<b>Dept.</b>
1.	Dick MYERS			BSOFD
2.	WILLIAM Boyd			MEDIC 1
3.	EVERETT Steinko			STFD
4.	Al DiBerto			SPECTRUM
5.	Jason R. Wiley			Medic 1
6.	Jennifer Fick			BCPSCC
7.	Ashley Munson			GLDC
8.	KOB HARPER			BCTFD
9.	JAMIE FLICK			NBTFD
10.	Dave Fick			TOFD
11.	Blu Knisely			Bertrand
12.	Jim Jesswein			Buchanan Twp / Miles Twp
13.	Gerry Kabeleman			S.I. QTFD I
14.	Frank DeBortone			MILES
15.	Alb. Weich			Chickering
16.	Ethan Kazmierzak			BHPFS
17.	Brandon Chickell			LTFD
18.	Harper Napp			Lake Twp
19.	Mark Beigen			Med Flight
20.	Bill Whitney			WFD
21.				



# Great Lakes Rescue

## July 2022 Report

### UPDATES



1. Total calls in Berrien County 2022—18
2. We have been averaging 2 responses a day for the past 3 weeks. Some responses have been delayed for specific equipment use like the drowning in St Joe City.
3. We have expanded into Barry County and have added 4 new departments for auto-aid.
4. Chikaming Twp Unit 4581 is finally expected back in service this week, we have been on a supply chain delay for parts unfortunately. This unit may be reassigned after further discussions with south county agencies.
5. Command Unit 4585 has now been deployed a total of 8 times in 2022, across 3 counties.
6. Reminder we have 3 State licensed Medical First Response units, one is always staffed 24/7 within the county.
7. Currently 26 pilots across 4 counties with an overall support staff of 42 in our UAS response division.
8. We have been asked to host and plan some state and regional training events, expect more information soon.

## Response Review



NBFR structure fire on 7/5/2022. Note visual look versus thermal look in the two images. Upon initial arrival minimal thermal signature on the Charlie Delta Corner, these photos are about 3 minutes into flight. The CD side vented just after 9 minutes and you can see the progression in the video. Post incident mapping also done with image located on back of report. This is measurable and fully 3D interactive for investigations.



# Investigation Aerial Mapping





# TRAINING SCHEDULE

STREET SMART & EXPERIENCED  
FIRE INSTRUCTORS DEVELOPING  
COMPETANT STREET SMART  
FIREFIGHTERS THROUGH  
CONTEXTUAL TRAINING!

## FALL 2022 BENTON HARBOR TRAINING ACADEMY COURSES

**6**  
**SEPT** **HYBRID PUMP OPERATOR COURSE**  
9/6-9/29 - 1800 - 2200 Tues & Thurs Nights  
COURSE COST - \$275/FIREFIGHTER

**1**  
**OCT** **HYBRID VEHICLE EXTRICATION**  
10/1/22 - 0800-1700 - \$150/FIREFIGHTER -  
Lake Michigan College Todd Center

**11**  
**OCT** **HYBRID FIRE ACADEMY**  
10/11/22 - 1/6/23 - 1800-2200 Tues &  
Thurs Nights & 0800-1600 Saturdays -  
\$500/FIREFIGHTER

**13**  
**OCT** **HYBRID FIRE OFFICER II COURSE**  
10/13/22 - 12/22/22 - 1800-2100 Thursday  
Evenings - Must have Fire Instructor 1 and  
Fire Officer 1 - \$250/FIREFIGHTER

**26**  
**OCT** **FIRE OFFICER CONTINUING ED**  
10/26/22 - 1800-2100 - The Modern Fire  
Environment & Basement Fires -  
\$20/FIREFIGHTER - Lake Michigan College  
Todd Center

**7**  
**DEC** **FIRE INSTRUCTOR CON ED**  
12/7/22 - 1800-2100 - Fire Instructor  
Tips/Tricks & Tools - \$20/FIREFIGHTER - Lake  
Michigan College Todd Center

FOR MORE INFO EMAIL

[bkazmierzak@bhcity.us](mailto:bkazmierzak@bhcity.us)

REGISTER ON SMOKE FOR ALL COURSES OTHER  
THAN THE HYBRID VEHICLE CLASS & CON ED  
CLASSES!

**NORTH BERRIEN  
FIREFIGHTERS  
ASSOCIATION**

**presents:**

**PANCAKE  
BREAKFAST**

170 Washington, Coloma



**Sat. Aug.  
6th**

**6am-noon**

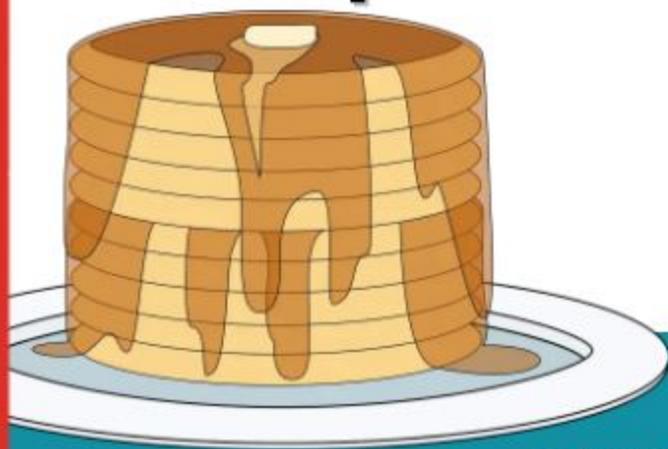
**Sun. Aug.  
7th**

**6am-2pm**



**Menu**

pancakes  
eggs  
sausage  
coffee  
orange juice  
water



Deluxe \$7  
Regular \$6  
Children's breakfast \$4  
extra eggs or sausage \$1