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**BERRIEN COUNTY**  
**FIRE CHIEF'S ASSOCIATION**  
**BERRIEN COUNTY, MICHIGAN**

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**Call to Order:** By President Myers @ 0830hrs

**Date:** November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Department's Present:**

- Baroda
- BHDPS
- Benton Twp.
- Bertrand Twp.
- Berrien Springs-Oronoko Twp.
- Bridgman
- Buchanan Twp.
- Chikaming
- Galien
- Lake Twp.
- Lincoln Twp.
- Niles City
- North Berrien
- Sodus Twp.
- SJDPS

- SJTWP #1
- SJTWP #2
- Three Oaks
- Medic 1 Ambulance

**Department's Absent:**

- Berrien County Sheriff's Office
- Buchanan City
- Buchanan Twp.
- Eau Claire/Pipestone Berrien Twp.
- DC Cook Fire Brigade
- Royalton Twp.
- Weesaw Twp.
- Watervliet

**Presentation(s):**

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**Old minutes:**

- Old minutes emailed out by Secretary/Treasurer Kazmierzak
- Motion to accept old minutes by: Deputy Director Phelps
- Seconded by: Chief Dwan
- Motion passed: None opposed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

October Starting Balance: \$5636.14, October Ending Balance: \$5551.14 – One check for \$85.00

- Motion to accept treasurer's report by: Chief Harper
- Seconded by: Chief Weich
- Motion passed: None opposed.
- The following departments still owe their 2025 Dues:
  - DC Cook

**Bills:**

- None

**Communications:**

- NERIS must be changed over by 1/1/26.
- LODD Discussion – See Command Competence Handout
- CTE High School Class Chiefs Introductions

**New Chief/Visitor:**



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- Ron – Spectrum Wireless

### **Dispatch/911:**

- Box Card Review Period in January 2025
- Make sure you complete the communications feedback loop with dispatch – meaning – you call dispatch and wait for them to answer before going en route.

### **Communication Committee:**

- HEI wireless ready to start programming radios Kenwood/Motorolas for Indiana ID
- 20 Radio IDs remaining – Niles Twp., Three Oaks, Three Oaks Ambulance, SMCAS, New Buffalo Twp. Weesaw needs 2 as their tanker is on box cards for New Carlisle. Bertrand, Niles Twp, Niles City, Three Oaks, New Buffalo Township will get additional ones.
- Cass County has 800 FG talkgroups. May need to update your radio templates. See attachment for basic fire template.
- Update Radio IDs with dispatch.
- Bryx Alerting – See attachment
- Niles Dispatch NERIS - 3506

### **CAD Committee:**

- **CAD Update** – Board of Commissioners has approved \$3000 per department initially and then the cost will be \$650 a year after that per department for maintenance.
  - **After 50% of the agencies have returned their MOUs that is when the purchase will be made by Berrien County. Departments have approximately six months to get this done.**
- **DEPARTMENTS NEED TO HAVE POLICIES IN PLACE CAD/ACTIVE 911 INFORMATION IS NOT SHARED AND IS NOT PUBLIC NOR IS NOT TO BE SHARED!**

### **SOG Committee:**

- **Mutual Aid Agreement** – Three Oaks and Chikaming has signed.
- **MCI/RTF** –
- **High-Incident Policy** – Motion to approve
  - Motion by Chief Mattix
  - Second by Deputy Director Phelps
  - Motion passed: None opposed.

### **Haz-Mat:**

- Administrative change not a huge operational change
- Policies and Procedure are in DRAFT

### **BCFA:**

- Dog Team from Sheriff's department did a demo at the last meeting
- **Next Meeting** – December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Buchanan Twp – Annual Auction 1830

### **Training:**

- **Training Update** – See attached flyers
- **FLYERS COMING SOON!**



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- **Strategic Decision Making & Critical Thinking Class** - \$50 – Jan 24/25 – SJ City Hall
- **Mayday Management Workshop** - \$50 – April 18/19 – TBA
- **Big Box / Sprinklered Building Workshop** - \$50 – Sept 17/18 - TBA

#### **Emergency Management/Sheriff's Office:**

- N/A

#### **MABAS:**

- Michigan MABAS has taken on some counties in Northeast
- Michigan Task Force 1 getting a new administrator

#### **Other Communications:**

- **MDOT** – let them know when you are diverting to other roads during the winter so they are plowed.
- **Berrien County Road Department** – does monitor fire talkgroups. 11ROAD is in our template they do monitor it during the day. Go through dispatch to contact them.
- **75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge Coins**
- **Benton Twp. Applications close Friday** – hiring up to 4

#### **Old Business:**

- **Scene Watcher App:**
  - Spent over \$1050, made \$70. Will look at raising the price. Doug has a list of changes we want to make.
  - \$125 Ad in Michigan Fireman's Association Magazine
    - Motion by Lt. Delatore
    - Second by Chief Knisley
    - All in favor
  - Log all app issues on this Google Doc:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JaXuz6lBmKh1PRJuWx1sG0SMcrEs3uFTbMazjbbBd14/edit?usp=sharing>

#### **New Business:**

- **Bylaw Review Committee** – Kaz/Frank/Allen/Jamie

#### **Next Meeting:**

- Wednesday December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 0830hrs, Lake Twp. FD

#### **Adjourn:**

- Motion to adjourn by: Chief Weich
- Seconded by: Chief Mattix
- None opposed. Meeting adjourned @ 0917