



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

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

**Date:** December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Department's Present:**

- Baroda
- BHDPS
- Bertrand Twp.
- Berrien County Sheriff's Office
- Berrien Springs-Oronoko Twp.
- Buchanan Twp.
- Chikaming
- Galien
- Lake Twp.
- Lincoln Twp.
- Niles City
- Niles Twp.
- North Berrien
- Sodus Twp.
- SJDPS

**Presentation(s):**

- N/A

**Old minutes:**

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

**Treasurer's Report:**

November Starting Balance: \$5551.14, November Ending Balance: \$5551.14

- Motion to accept treasurer's report by: Chief Weich
- Seconded by: Lt. Delatore
- Motion passed: None opposed.
- 2026 Dues Invoiced Emailed
  - North Berrien, Weesaw, Niles City and Bertrand have turned in their Alternate Letters

**Bills:**

- None

**Communications:**

- NERIS must be changed over by 1/1/26.
- Smoke Detector Installs ARE NOT runs – hold them for the CRR 2026 NERIS Module

**New Chief/Visitor:**

- Ron – Spectrum Wireless

- SJTWP #1
- Three Oaks
- Watervliet
- Weesaw Twp.

**Department's Absent:**

- Benton Twp.
- Berrien County Sheriff's Office
- Bridgman
- Buchanan City
- Eau Claire/Pipestone Berrien Twp.
- DC Cook Fire Brigade
- Royalton Twp.
- SJTWP #2



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

- DNR was present

## **Dispatch/911:**

- Box Card Review Period in January 2026
- Two New Dispatchers, two new all takers

## **Communication Committee:**

- Reminder to update radio templates.

## **CAD Committee:**

- **CAD Update** – MOU was worded poorly, \$3000 is being “given”/cost-sharing to each department. Tyler lowered the price to get the county to sign by 12/31/25. Over \$114,000 savings for the entire project. If everything passes tomorrow, CAD cost will be \$0 for the first year!
- Please get the MOU signed ASAP; it must be signed by the municipality, not the fire chief
- **DEPARTMENTS NEED TO HAVE POLICIES IN PLACE. CAD/ACTIVE 911 INFORMATION IS NOT SHARED AND IS NOT PUBLIC, NOR IS IT TO BE SHARED!**

## **SOG Committee:**

- **Mutual Aid Agreement** – Missing the following departments:
  - Baroda – at their Township Board
  - Benton Twp.
  - Buchanan Twp.
  - Niles Twp.
  - St. Joseph Twp. – in Legal Review
- **MCI/RTF** – Policy needs input! Will be discussed at Police Service Council the last Friday in January.
- **High-Incident Policy In effect**

## **Haz-Mat:**

- Filling in gaps regarding training, management, board, etc. Oversight Committee works with Team Manager and Team Leader.
- Insurance of vehicles and equipment was a question. Sheriff is working with Admin Committee on the transition.

## **BCFA:**

- Annual Auction, raised about \$1600.
- **Next Meeting** – January 7<sup>th</sup> at DC Cook Training Center

## **Training:**

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

- Trainings coming up, will be pushed out shortly



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

- Starting January 11<sup>th</sup>, allowing a 12hr shift pilot with the enforcement division until May. Then will be a contractual issue.
- Polar Plunge, February 7<sup>th</sup> – Special Olympics Fundraiser

## **MABAS:**

- New divisions forming in the UP
- Monthly dispatch centers being updated – Activation Exercises
- Washtenaw County Fire Chiefs is now a governmental entity
- Working on Brush and Ambulance Strike Teams
- MABAS 101 Classes – looking for host areas

## **Other Communications:**

- N/A

## **Old Business:**

- **Bylaw Review Committee:** Committee has met, any changes must have 30 days notice, the goal would be January 2026 vote.
  - 501C3 in purpose and objectives
  - Authority has no authority unless authorized under countywide agreement, i.e. Mutual Aid Agreement
  - Social Media policy for the BCFCA associations Facebook page
- **Scene Watcher App:**
  - Last major hurdle of changes - \$980 share for the organization
    - Motion to spend \$980 for changes
      - Motion – Jessawine
      - Second – J. Flick
      - All in favor
  - 65 apps sold so far
  - Presenting tonight in Allegan County
  - Log all app issues on this Google Doc:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JaXuz6lbnKh1PRJuWx1sG0SMcrEs3uFTbMazjbbBd14/edit?usp=sharing>

## **New Business:**

- N/A

## **Next Meeting:**

- Wednesday January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026, 0830hrs, Lake Twp. FD

## **Adjourn:**

- Motion to adjourn by: Chief Weich
- Seconded by: DD Phelps
- None opposed. Meeting adjourned @ 0854

**BERRIEN COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION**  
**ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**DATE:** 12/17/25