

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: www.mi-bcfa.org

Wednesday, March 5, 2013

American Red Cross

Meeting called to order at 1930 hours by President Rob Gruener.

Roll call of officers indicated officers present, President Rob Gruener, 1st Vice President Denny Sexton, and 2nd Vice President Mike Moran. Sec/Treasurer Bill Long absent.

Roll call of departments indicated 9 departments represented with 20 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$54.00 and 50/50 was \$22.00.

February minutes were presented with one correction to the spelling to Gerry Kabelman name. A motion was made by Dennis Graham with support from Bill Kinsley to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report was verbally presented. A motion was made by Denny Sexton with support from Danny Cronin to approve treasurer's report. Motion carried.

There were no bills submitted for payment this month

COMUNICATIONS:

- Corey Burks thanked the Red Cross for their assistance at the recent fires at River Terrace and in Three Oaks.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 Committee: Rich Knuth

- Nothing new with the 911 committee. Chief Knuth stressed the use of Unified Command on the Fire Ground.

Emergency Management: Corey Burks-

- Capt. Burks announced there will be a Sky Warn Weather Spotter Training on March 6, 2013 at the Lake Twp. Hall.
- D.C. Cook emergency drills will be happening this summer.
- CASM Radio Reports are out to the departments. the need to be completed and returned

DNR:

- None

Chief's Association: Mike Davidson-

- Chief's Assn. meetings are being held every other month. The next meeting will be March 20th at 0830.
- Chief Davidson will be sending an e-mail regarding the Training Simulator. Refresher training for the trainers will be happening in April and tentatively they will begin regular training in May.
- Chief Davidson and Capt. Burks asked about making a presentation about Training Simulator at next months BCFA meeting. President Gruener said he will contact Chief Jones at Watervliet and confirm that.

Dispatch: Denny Sexton-

- A resolution of the Simulcast issues in the New Buffalo area is moving ahead slowly. Denny reported that where Simulcast is in place it is working well.
- Van Buren County has adopted the UIC channels used by Berrien County this will aid in inter-county agency operations.

Training Committee: Corey Burks-

- Firefighter I & II Practical Exams will be held April 20, 2013 at the Berrien County Fair Grounds. Volunteers and equipment are needed again this year to assist in testing. There are approximately 55-60 trainees this year, 37 of which are from Berrien County.
- Corey announced the Firefighter I&II classes for the High Schools will be returning in the 2013-14 school year. Skip Munson will again be the lead instructor.

Resource Directory/Webmaster: Gerry Kabelman-

- Nothing new to report.

HazMat: Rocky Adams-

- Nothing new to report.

Sherriff: Paul Bailey-

- The Bomb Squad was dispatched to Niles last month after a suspicious package was left behind after a bank robbery.
- The Sherriff reported that the County Commissioners have approved remodeling the receiving area at the jail.

OLD BUSINESS:

- It was decided that the vote to approve the changes to the Association Constitution would again be tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS:

- None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Berrien Springs/Oronoko Twp. is having a Pancake Breakfast March 10th from 7:30 am - 11:30am in honor of Jerry Metzger. Jerry was with BSOTFD for 25 years. He passed away late last year. Memorial contributions were donated to BSOFD, and will be presented at the end of the breakfast.
- The BCYF Fair Kickoff party will be held March 16th at Pebblewood in Bridgeman. For more info contact Corey Burks of the BCYF Fair Office.

Host Director Susan Bandsma thanked everyone for attending.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dennis Graham with support from Gerry Kabelman. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2015 hours to a program presented by Susan Bandsma about the local response to Superstorm Sandy.

50/50 was won by Mike Moran. He donated his winnings back to the Association.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Gruener

**The next meeting will be held on April 3rd, 2013
At Watervliet Fire Dept.
Dinner will be at 1830 hours, followed by the meeting at 1930 hours.**