

BERRIEN COUNTY FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION

Serving Berrien County Firefighters Since 1950

Berrien County Firefighters Information Website: mi-bcfa.org

September 4th, 2019

Berrien County Sheriff Emergency Operations Center

Meeting called to order at 19:30 hours by President Gerry Kabelman.

Roll of officers present: President Gerry Kabelman, 2nd Vice President Craig Brent, and Secretary/Treasurer Dennis Graham. 1st Vice President Dave Albers was absent.

Roll calls of departments indicate 14 departments represented with 28 members present.

The donations received for dinner were in the amount of \$95. No 50/50.

The August minutes were presented. Changes to the treasurer's report were corrected and posted. A motion was made by Frank DeLaTorre with support from Mike Essig to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report for the month of August was presented by Sec/Treas Dennis Graham. The balance in checking is \$5,061.24 and the money market balance is \$8,744.71 for a combined total of \$13,805.95. A motion was made by Tom Wicker with support from Jim Jonatzke to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Bills submitted for payment: A bill for \$95.95 was presented by Gerry Kabelman for the purchase of supplies for the Fire Education Center at the Fair. Receipts were turned in to the treasurer. A motion made by Frank DeLaTorre and supported by Denny Sexton to pay the amount. Motion carried.

Communications:

- A moment of Silence was observed to honor Lt. Jim Ashmead of the Saint Joseph Charter Twp. Fire Department, where he had served 40 years. He passed away on September 3rd.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

911 / Dispatch: Denny Sexton

- CAD updates

Emergency Management: Rockey Adams.

- D.C. Cook moc drill went very well and had zero findings by the NRC. 575 people helped over 4 days.
- Marathon pipeline table top drill Product on the St. Joseph river Sept. 19th 7:30 – 14:30 at the Hilton Garden Inn RSVP by Sept. 12th.
- AEP Niles Dam project Sept. 25th held in South Bend at the Hilton 9 – 13:30.

DNR: Ben Osterland

- Thanked DNR for bringing Smokey Bear on Tue. (Kids Day) to the Fair.

Chief's Association: Chief Mike Davidson

- Next Chief's meeting is Sept. 18th in the evening.
- FEMA is reading the grant by the 30th of Sept. to award grants. It is so important that all reports are NFIRS compliant and complete by the 15th of the month. Double check after sending them in for sending errors that may have occurred.

EMS: Frank DeLaTorre

- Take an offered Rescue Task Force class, the information and trainings are very important. The knowing what's going on helps understand the scene.

Training Committee: Cory Burks

- Burn Trailers are going out for maintenance then going to Watervliet, North Berrien, Sister Lakes, and Saint Joseph fire departments.
- RIT class Sept. 19th- 22nd. Register by Sept. 13th. The possibility of a second class maybe.
- Forcible Entry Door is scheduled for trainings.
- High school class has 14 students registered

- The State has not approved the FF I & II test, it is very important that the applications are in, meet and greet set for Sept. 17th and class starts Oct. 1st.
- Firefighter/Fire Officer Leadership class Sept. 11th-12th. and Health & Safety class Sept. 28th-29th. At SJFD.

Resource Directory: Gerry Kabelman

- New updates have been posted to both the Directory and the web site. Keep sending those updates in!

HazMat: Cory Burks

- Called to Berrien Springs Honor Credit Union, issues found with burnt out LED lights.

Sheriff: Paul Bailey

- Welcomed the Berrien County Firefighters Association to the EOC and thanked Rockey, Ron, and Dave for their planning and preparation's for this evening meeting.
- Trainings being held on Active Shooter situations.
- Resource Officers in Area Schools are building relations with the children!
- Make sure you are locking your car and don't leave the keys in there. Many cars have been broken into and stolen.
- Continuing extra Patrols in Benton Harbor
- Jail update: still in progress of remodel and should be done Feb. or March.

Old Business:

- Burn Trailers seed fund update: The Association to give \$1000 towards the fund with the motion presented by Mike Davidson and with support by Frank DeLaTorre the motion carried. A check was presented. Each Fire Department Chief to present \$135 towards this fund also.
- Rich Mahaney from Westshore donated traffic flashlights to the Royalton Fire Dept. for their time helping at the Fire Education Center at the Fair. It's the 75th Anniversary next year!

Announcements:

- Buchanan Fish Fry Oct. 19th 15:00-20:00.
- Michigan Propane Assoc. Classroom training are Bertrand Sept. 4th. Berrien Springs Sept. 12th. Lawton Sept. 17th. Baroda Sept. 18th. St. Joseph Sept. 19th. Outdoor Training at St. Joe Sept. 21st. Register on BFS SMOKE To receive certificate you must attend one classroom and the outdoor trainings.

Host Capt. Rockey Adams thanked everyone for attending and gave a very informative presentation on the BC Sheriff Department operations and the programs offered. Tours of the facility were also given.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mike Essig and supported by Frank DeLaTorre. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 21:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Graham

Sec/Treas

**The next meeting will be held on October 2nd
Spectrum Health Lakeland Saint Joseph
3rd Floor GME Lecture Room
Meal at 18:30 hours and the meeting at 19:30 hours**