

Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

MABAS Division 17

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Minutes from September 2, 2020

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by President Bruning at 1935hrs @ the German Valley Fire Station.

Guests

Local Country Financial Representatives, Deb Brown & Billie Goekke explained

A motion to accept the Minutes from the August meeting was approved. The Treasurers report from August was also approved.

Committees

- **Training:**
 - Local classes were listed
 - Essential Trustee Training through the Illinois Association of Fire Protection Districts on Oct 2 & 3 via ZOOM.
- **Communications/Dispatch:**
 - Mutual aid call report for August, 17 total calls.
 - 6 EMS & 2 Fire requests from within the County and 7 EMS & 2 Fire requests from outside the County.
- **TRT:**
 - Because of the promotion of TRT Coordinator Korte, a new TRT Coordinator will be appointed within 2 weeks.
 - Training is scheduled for Sept 12 @ Byron. That may change because of the pending leadership change.
- **Hazmat:**
 - The team had a call on Aug 17. A crane being hauled on a semitrailer rolled over on the entrance ramp of Hwy 20 & 75. There was a spill of about 400 gal of hydraulic fluid. The spill had stopped by the time the team had arrived. The team was assisted by Dakota Fire and Lancaster Township personnel.

Represented Departments

Cedarville Fire
Dakota Fire
Davis Fire
Freeport Fire

Freeport Rural Fire
German Valley Fire
Lena Fire

Orangeville Fire
Pearl City Fire
Rock City Fire
Winslow Fire

The transport company has been billed \$5,395 to cover all Emergency Responder costs.

- ***Equipment Replacement:***

- A grant has been applied for through Compeer Financial to purchase two new 4-Gas monitors for TRT.
- Hazmat Coordinator Book received a quote for replacement portable radios for Hazmat & TRT, 6 each with multi-bank chargers, spare battery & remote mics. Discussion followed about need and how many to purchase. The cost is \$5,575. Vote approved the purchase.

- ***Maintenance:***

- Three remaining tent trailer tires are available for sale to interested parties. Size 225/75R15E Make an offer.
- The TRT is also disposing of the ropes that were replaced with the Country Financial grant. Also first come, 200' & 300'. The ropes cannot be used for life safety but can be used for search or utility.

- ***Sheriff:***

- The Sheriff thanked everyone for their help with the procession of the fallen Belvidere firefighter killed in a traffic collision near Lena.

Old Business

- A few Departments still have personnel needing approval for their MABAS CIMS accounts. Chiefs were reminded that they are required to go into the program and “Approve” all of the new members from their Department. Contact Sec Korte for assistance.
- Secretary Korte is still waiting for the required documentation to reimburse Departments for their help with the IEMA Tent Deployment. We are trying to make sure everyone that participated is paid and departments reimbursed for that cost.
- At the August meeting a revision of the Hazmat & TRT reimbursement policy was presented. The new policy details costs being used for billing to the “Spiller” or “Responsible Party”. No additional discussion and vote passed to adopt.
- Departments were reminded to participate in the OSFM/IFSI/MABAS Decon Project. The training is quick and simple on the IFSI website <https://www.fsi.illinois.edu/decon/#!/index>. After completing the training, you can request a free Decon kit which will be delivered to you.
- An open discussion was held on needs and issues with COVID-19.
- The Div 17 Western Shelter HVAC is still being used at FHN in place of the Div 49 unit that has had issues. It is unclear how long it will be used.
- Departments are reminded to help with scheduling of the Fit Test Equipment. The County Health Department has had a significant increase in requests for testing that it is crowding everyone’s schedule.

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New Business

- MABAS-IL issued a request for Divisions/Personnel to participate in a possible deployment to California to support their Fire Service with Structural Firefighters. The deployment was for 2 weeks with a mandatory 2 week quarantine upon return. A request was sent out to the Chief's within the Division. We were not able to support the request because to the timeframe and no one from Illinois was deployed.
- Because of the response from the California request, MABAS-IL sent out an "Readiness Survey". It asked about each Division's ability to fill an In-State or Out of State request. Some of the issues noted were: length of deployment, COVID issues, personnel shortages, Funding issues. Our reply included all of these issues as reasons for limited availability.
- A recent incident at the Rockford Airport has pointed out needed reminders about responses and Staging Areas at RFD. The RFD Box Cards have all Staging Areas listed along with maps.

Announcements:

- The MABAS-IL Executive Board meeting will be held Oct 14 at the MRC and a few other remote locations.
- Freeport Fire Department is starting their Recruit Testing process. The Application period is Oct 1-30 with a few Open House events during the month.
- Freeport Fire is hosting an Internship for anyone interested. This is free to students 16-21yo.

The meeting was adjourned at 2028 hrs.

Our next meeting will be held October 7 @ the new Cedarville Fire Station Fire on Rt 26 across from Barkau Auto.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Korte, Secretary

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