

# Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

## MABAS Division 17

**Loren Ludeking**  
Rock City Fire  
President  
815-541-3585  
rcfd3581@yahoo.com

**Brad Strong**  
Lena Fire  
Treasurer  
815-275-5933  
lenafire@hotmail.com



**Eric Bruning**  
German Valley Fire  
Vice President  
815-238-7596  
ebruning@gvfpd.com

**Tom Korte**  
Freeport Fire  
Secretary  
815-541-8667  
tmkjlk@comcast.net

### Minutes from August 3, 2022

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by President Ludeking at 1938hrs @ Rock City Fire.

Thank You to Lori, Dan & Ron for the meal.

A motion to accept the Minutes from the June meeting was approved. The Treasurers report from June & July was also approved.

#### Committees

##### • **Training:**

- Local classes were listed
- Reminder of the IFSI Driving Simulator @ Freeport Rural through Aug 14. Sign up through Jim Conn @ 847-702-3059.

##### • **Communications/Dispatch:**

- Mutual Aid call numbers for June.
  - 16 total calls, 7 EMS and 0 Fire from within the Division, 7 EMS and 1 Fire from outside the Division.
- Mutual Aid call numbers for July.
  - 15 total calls, 6 EMS and 1 Fire from within the Division, 8 EMS and 0 Fire from outside the Division.
- Chief Miller thanked June & Tom for helping with last minute Medicare audit data.

##### • **TRT:**

- TRT asked to replace an old 2kw inverter and the 4 gas monitors. It was approved to purchase a Predator generator from Harbor Freight (\$690) along with 2 Draeger 4 gas monitors with ConSpace kits (\$3,100). It was recommended to try for a grant through Compeer Financial to cover these.
- There are also 3 personnel going to Rope Ops class this month.

##### • **Hazmat:**

- Currently 18 Deployable members & 3 on training roster.
- They have received some replacement Level A suits from MABAS.

#### **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

- **Maintenance:**
  - The Tent trailer maintenance was completed in June.
- **Sheriff:**
  - The Sheriff reminded us that starting Jan 1, the Cash Bail system in Illinois will no longer exist and that all but the most severe inmates will all be released from jail. This will put a strain on the Jail and County budget and put non-violent offenders on the streets. About 10 years ago the County refinanced the jail so they still owe a couple Million on the loan.

### Old Business

- Chief Bruning gave a report on the Fire Display at the Fair. The events were very well received. The kids had a ball and even the Firefighters had fun helping out. FFD Fire Marshal Hillary Broshous and her family staffed the event all week along with some of the area Departments. Thanks to All. It was discussed that maybe next year a larger area is needed or limit some of the events for better flow.
- Everyone was again reminded to update their MABAS CIMS accounts. Chief's need to be current to approve their personnel. With the upcoming storm season down south, only personnel with an account can respond. These CIMS cards can also be used as Department ID's with Department logos and qualifications.
- The status of the FFD platform was discussed. It is still OOS waiting repairs (Sept-Oct). the 65' ladder is in service with a new motor. The Freeport City Council has approved the purchase of a demo platform to replace the OOS one. It should be delivered by the end of the year. They were also approved to order an Engine & Ambulance soon.
- Chief Ludeking discussed the special First Responder Staffing meeting held in July. Some political eyes were opened and people were able to voice concerns. Nothing was resolved but we will continue to discuss this and see what comes of it. German Valley & Leamon's/Cedarville are planning to host EMR classes this fall if you have anyone interested.
- The status of the Division Foam Bank was discussed. Most of the Division cache is about 20 years old and never been touched. This foam falls into the category of the possible cancer-causing agents. Per the OSFM, we can try to use it up within the next 5 years without penalty. During that time the foam can only be used during a response and can not be used for training. The new "safer" foam currently costs about \$250/5 gal. It was discussed that the amount we have in stock will not be enough if an incident happens. It was decided that the Division would not continue with the Foam Bank and each Department that currently has it in their inventory should attempt to use it up or we can pool it for another Department to use.
- The Freeport Air Show is scheduled again this year on Sept 17. The IAP has been filed with the FAA and show promoters. The staffing will be similar to last year. FFD Deputy Chief Stykel will be in the tower as IC, Lt Chris Lowery will be Ops Chief and Chief Miller will be the Safety Officer. The Friday night meet/greet and onsite training is scheduled this year again also.
- We have not seen any results from our Firehouse Subs grants for a new Fit Test Machine. The Compeer Financial group has added an additional grant this year for just that type of equipment. It was agreed that we would submit a grant request through them for the Fit Test machine.

### **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

- Secretary Korte had brought up the OSFM partnering with Vector Solutions for tracking training and certifications. OSFM was going around the state in the spring giving presentations on how it works. He put in a request for a training in NW Illinois for this summer or fall and was told that all of the regional training had been completed.
- The status of some area road repairs was discussed.
  - The Rt 26 bridge in Cedarville is scheduled to be completed by Labor Day.
  - The culvert replacement on Rt 75 @ Quality Transport is half done and will not be open by Labor Day.
  - The Preston Rd project is scheduled to start after Labor Day.

### **New Business**

- The MABAS Executive Board meeting was held on June 15.
  - Reminder of Dues
  - Discussed a new MABAS Inter-Governmental Agreement to be voted on @ October meeting. The details were discussed, can be found on MABAS-IL website and will be sent along with these minutes.
  - MABAS Summit will be held in Normal for at least 2 more years.
  - MABAS day at State Fair is Aug 15. Contact them if you would like to help.
  - Decon buckets still available to anyone that wants them.
  - IL-TF1, Illinois USAR team has been accredited as the only State Funded Type 1 team. That may result in more deployments.
  - Next meeting, Oct 19 after the ILL Fire Chief's Conference, 1200hr @ Pere Marquette hotel and remotely at the MRC.
- Chief Miller announced that Freeport Fire has purchased a Life Safety House from Pecatonica Fire. This was purchased with donations obtained by Fire Marshal Broshous. Discussion followed about it's use by other Departments, keeping or disposing of the old Smokehouse, maintenance, storage and such. It was determined that an Agreement should be drafted that outlines some of these topics. Secretary Korte will have a document by next meeting.
- Freeport Rural firefighter Mike Schnierla passed away July 29. His Funeral will be held Saturday Aug 6, 1030hr @ the Church of the Brethren, corner of West & Pleasant. Mike was also a member of the Stephenson County Sheriff Reserves. All personnel are invited to participate in a Firefighter Walk-thru @ 1015hr.

### **Announcements:**

- Division 29 will be using our Light Tower & UTV the weekend of Aug 13 for a concert & County Fair.
- Cedarville Fire is hosting a Feather Party Sept 17 with Rib or Steak dinner (\$20) from 1700-2000hrs and games 1930-2400hr.

The meeting adjourned @ 2120hr.

Our next meeting will be held September 7 @ German Valley Fire.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Korte, Secretary

#### **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