

Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

MABAS Division 17

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



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

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

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

Minutes from May 3, 2023

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by Vice President Ludeking at 1930hrs @ the Rock City Fire Station.

Guest:

- John McGee, OSFM Arson Investigator.
 - John shared some details of recent area arson fires and possible things to look out for. He is a very good resource for the area and asked Departments to call him directly if they have any questions or concerns.

A motion to accept the Minutes from the April meeting was approved. The Treasurer report for April was also approved.

Committees

- **Training:**
 - Local classes were listed, Including:
 - Ground Ladders, May 15 @ Rock City Fire
 - Grain Bin & Ag Rescue, June 24 @ German Valley Fire, Cost \$100
- **Communications/Dispatch:**
 - Mutual Aid call numbers for March.
 - 34 total calls, 25 EMS & 4 Fire from within the Division and 3 EMS & 2 Fire from outside the Division.

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

- **TRT:**
 - The consolidation of TRT 8 & 17 for State Deployments is still pending final approval from Div 8. They are requesting clarification from MABAS on deployment policy items. It is thought that those decisions will need to be made locally instead.
 - There is 1 member currently attending Rope Tech class in Champaign.

- **Hazmat:**
 - The Hazmat team participated in a MABAS funded Hazmat Validation on April 12 in Cherry Valley. The feeling is that the team deployed and operated very well completing all of their tasks.
 - No official update from the Lanark incident. It is felt by some, that the pressure on local Board Members is working in our favor for a good resolution.
 - A few members attended the Adkins walk thru.

- **Equipment Replacement:**
 - The new Hazmat & TRT SCBA's were delivered mid-April. The Hazmat Team used theirs at the Validation.

- **Sheriff:**
 - A DEA "Drug Take Back" program in German Valley on April 22 went well. The turn-out was a little low due to bad weather. This will be held again in the fall.
 - The Social Services Wellness Administrator position had 3 applicants and 1 is continuing through the evaluation process. Once up and running, this service will be available to all First Responders.
 - The Department has hired some area retired Officers to review and update their policies.

Old Business

- The Monroe City/Monroe Rural clarification and RIT changes have been completed on all of our Box Cards and have been posted on our website. Updated Cards from Blackhawk, New Milford & Pecatonica have also been distributed by email.
- EMS staffing was discussed. In discussion, it was stated that Private EMS Services, not a member of MABAS "could" start charging other EMS Services for daily responses along with patient billing if staffing is not maintained. This is not expected but also not beyond possibility. The MABAS Agreement restricts billing between members but there is that "MUTUAL" part of the agreement. MABAS is not intended to be a permanent solution to other lack of staffing.
- A few Departments have completed the updating of their MABAS Agreements. Everyone was reminded that a copy of the signed agreement (back page) and Ordinance/Resolution are needed to be sent to secretary Korte for filing with 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

New Business

- A bill for the annual “GoDaddy.com” Website Hosting was submitted. The amount was \$104 for 5 years.
- The Ramos Lawsuit was discussed. The firefighter’s family is suing the Sterling & Rock Falls Fire Departments along with many of their Administration. This is typical of most lawsuits but we must all protect our personnel and Departments. This can best be done by following policies, best practices and NFPA Standards.
- Nate Pickard has been appointed the new Pearl City Fire Chief. We welcome him and will officially share his contact info soon.

Announcements:

- Rock City thanked everyone for helping with their Eggert Rd. structure fire.
- Lena Fire Golf Outing, June 3.
- Davis Fire announced they have 6 Rescue Divers that are finishing their Communications class and will be fully Certified. If anyone is interested in participating or has questions about the team, contact Chief Feltmeyer or DC Warneke.

The meeting adjourned @ 2010hr.

Our next meeting will be held June 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