

Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

MABAS Division 17

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Minutes from August 7, 2024

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by President Bruning at 1936hrs @ Cedarville Fire.

Guests

- John Cabello, State Representative.
 - John sponsored the dinner tonight but was unable to attend. Shelly Grigoroff was able to represent him. John has attended our meetings previously and is available to everyone with questions or needs from the State.
- Jim Conn, Regional IFSI Representative
 - Jim highlighted many of the local classes and gave us more information about requesting additional classes locally including: Fireground Management for Small Career and Volunteer Departments @ Davis Fire on Oct 12, Wildland Search & Rescue in Ogle Co. Jim also had extra ERG Guides for those that needed them.
- Paul Grey & Greg Hansen, Fire Service Inc.
 - Paul is the Assistant Chief at Warren Fire and recently started with Fire Service Inc. as a mobile Tech. They have been in the IL, WI, IN area for over 30 years. They provide new and used apparatus sales, major and minor on-site and in-shop service. They do body work, pump testing, small motor repair, and many other services. Paul will be operating a mobile service truck out of the Warren area. More info at www.fireserviceinc.com.

A motion to accept the Minutes from the June & July meetings were approved. The Treasurer reports for June/July were also approved.

Committees

- **Training:**
 - Local classes were listed.
 - The Fireground Management for Small Career and Volunteer Departments @ Davis Fire on Oct 12 was added.

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

- **Communications/Dispatch:**

- June numbers
 - 36 calls total.
 - 22 EMS & 2 Fire calls in the Division
 - 9 EMS & 3 Fire calls outside the Division
- July numbers
 - 25 calls total.
 - 11 EMS & 3 Fire calls in the Division
 - 7 EMS & 4 Fire calls outside the Division
- The 911 board is looking at changing software to “Central Square” and would like our input. Anyone interested contact June.

- **TRT:**

- Members attended training with Div 8, June 25 @ Rockford College for Wide Area Search. A new internet ArcGIS based program is being used for scene surveys. Anyone can load it to their smart phone. It is cloud based and allows a “real time” central collection of all the data including GPS location, damage assessments and photos. Many times, the local EMA is the collection point. Once the TRT is more familiar with the program it will be shared with the Departments.
- We received an MOU from Div 8 today regarding the roster merger. There are a few questions to be answered and the Officers will review it. Div 8 would like to approve the agreement this month.
- During training a few equipment issues were noted. The Hydraulic Power unit would not run and needed a new carb. This cost quite a bit. Coordinator Randecker will forward the bill to the Treasurer. A 5kw generator is also not working. Replacement cost is about \$1,000.

- **EMS:**

- Chief Ludeking was not in attendance but submitted a couple questions.
 - The status of Star Amb. As far as we know, they are staffing 1 ALS ambulance.
 - Status of Freeport Rural Amb, They are doing a better job of covering their calls. They have conducted a few interviews for additional personnel but not sure if anyone has been hired.
 - Status of German valley Amb, They are doing better staffing but haven’t had many calls.

- **Maintenance:**

- The UTV started acting up while at the County Fair. It was hard shifting and wouldn’t shift out of Low without shutting the motor off. It was taken out of service and taken to Monroe Power Sports. They originally diagnosed a bad clutch bearing, but it eventually required a new clutch, bearing and belt. It should be repaired and back in Orangeville by the end of the week.
- While being used for the TRT training in Rockford, air conditioner issues were noted in the 2006 F550. Helm was contacted and the whole AC system needed to be replaced. Bill for \$2,845 has been paid.

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Old Business

- The County Fair activities were discussed.
 - Mike Wickman handled the scheduling. Unfortunately, the tractor pulls were rained out both nights, but personnel were utilized for the Truck show and Demo Derby.
 - The Obstacle Course was a big hit with the kids again. Thanks to everyone that helped.
- FFD Deputy Chief Stykel gave a briefing on the Air Show scheduled for Sept 21. He confirmed participation and the timeline.

New Business

- Secretary Korte gave an overview of the MABAS plan for the DNC in Chicago, Aug 19-22. Chicago Fire and many of the suburban Departments will be on alert for any event. Some of the Regional TRT will be on standby in the area of the Convention and IL-TF1 will be activated if needed.
- FPD Lt. Marcum asked if there was any interest in an Active Shooter/School Violent Incident Management class. It would likely be scheduled for 2025. It is designed for First responders and school administrators. We will follow up next month.
- Our I Am Responding subscription is coming due along with our website fee. The IAR bill has been paid and the website bill will be submitted next month.
- Many of our Departments utilize Red Cross to house fire victims. Their personnel numbers are low so sometimes their response is extended. To help speed this up, local responder Tony Bustos has offered an option. Departments should request Red Cross through Dispatch as normal, but if time allows, the IC can contact him directly. This should give him a head start and assist him in getting on scene sooner.
- Orangeville Fire asked if anyone knows where the Division Water Fighting nozzles are? Previously the Division had purchased some, but they are now missing. If they can't be found, another set may be purchased. They are brass, 1 ½" coupling with a ½" tip and shut off bail.

Announcements

- Cedarville Water Fights, Aug 8 with free dinner
- Winslow River Days Water Fights, Aug 10
- German Valley Community Water Fights, Aug 16
- Cedarville Feather Party, Sept 21. Steak or Ribs \$20
- Division 8 Rescue Taskforce Exercise, Oct 6 @ Cherry Vale Mall

Our next scheduled meeting will be held September 4 @ German Valley Fire

The meeting was adjourned @ 2019hr.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Korte, Secretary

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