

Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

MABAS Division 17

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Minutes from February 1, 2023

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

A motion to accept the Minutes from the January meeting was approved. The Treasurer report for December & January were approved.

Committees

- **Training:**

- Local classes were listed
- Feb 4 @ 0800hr, Cedarville Fire is hosting Grain Bin Rescue training.
- Annual Pipeline Safety dinner, Feb 15, 1730hr @ The Freeport Eagles Club. Free

- **Communications/Dispatch:**

- Mutual Aid call numbers for January.
 - 20 total calls, 9 EMS & 1 Fire from within the Division and 8 EMS & 2 Fire from outside the Division.
- Discussion continued about the closing of LifeFlight in Rockford. REACT is now the only Rockford based EMS Helicopter. The next Air Units based on distance are: AirCare 3 @ Dubuque, Flight for Life @ McHenry, MedFlight @ Madison WI, Life Flight and Life Flight @ Peru. June is checking for any other information. REACT & LifeFlight have both said that if called, they will locate the closest available helicopter, regardless who it is, to fill our needs.

- **TRT:**

- A new TRT Coordinator has not yet been appointed.

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

- **Hazmat:**

- Secretary Korte has been in contact with the Ottosen Law Office. On our behalf, they have submitted a letter to the Carroll FS disputing their findings and requiring immediate payment. More info to follow...
- Lanark Fire has asked our Hazmat Team to attend a training in Lanark to explain what and how we operate. There was some concern about attending with the pending Carroll FS issue but it was felt that, that should be a separate issue.

- **Equipment Replacement:**

- An updated replacement schedule was distributed. A dues increase was discussed to cover these costs. Our most recent increase was in 2019.
- The replacement of Special Teams SCBA's were discussed again. We have an updated quote from Air One with an 21 month payment plan. It was approved to purchase the SCBA's on the payment plan.
- We received a notice from TSI after our annual calibration that the unit is being discontinued. It is no longer for sale and expect about 5 more years of service before becoming obsolete. Discussion continued on pursuing additional grants. Treasurer Strong is working on those other grants.

- **Maintenance:**

- The Annual Flow Testing of SCBA & SABA units have been completed without issue and 6 cylinders have been Hydrottested. Four more cylinders will be needing testing in the fall.

- **Sheriff:**

- Sheriff Stoval requested any complaints be directed to him.
- A DEA "Drug Take Back" program will take place a couple times during the year in Stephenson County. He is looking for cooperation from Fire Departments to be the site. Possibly April & October, about 2hrs each time. Contact him if interested.

Old Business

- EMS – German Valley First responder class has 10 students and the class in Cedarville graduated 8 students. There may be another class scheduled for Pearl City.
- Departments were reminded that if they need ID Cards, to sign up for MABAS CIMS Accounts. The County EMA Office can also print cards but the MABAS Cards will allow you to be "Deployable" if the need arises. Both are Free.

New Business

- Chief Bruning discussed the Explosion at InGrown Farms. Video possible next month.
- Chief Wichman provided security video from Mowry's fire. It goes to show that a lot happen in a few seconds.

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Announcements:

- The Rock City mobile cascade is still OOS. They have the parts and hope to have it back in service soon.
- The annual MABAS Conference is scheduled for Feb 20-24 in Bloomington at the Marriott. Cost \$275.
- The semi-annual election of Board Members will be held at the March meeting.
- Rock City Fish Boil, April 22.

The meeting adjourned @ 2021hr.

Our next meeting will be held March 1 @ Orangeville Fire.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Korte, Secretary

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