

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
tmkjl@comcast.net

Minutes from August 5, 2026

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by President Ludeking at 1955hrs @ The Freeport Eagles Club.

A motion to accept the Minutes from the June meeting was approved. A motion to accept the Treasures report was also approved.

Committees

- **Training:**
 - Local classes were listed.
- **Communications/Dispatch:**
 - The June calls were submitted:
 - 15 total calls.
 - 11 EMS & 1 Fire within the Division
 - 3 EMS & 0 Fire from outside the Division
 - The July calls were submitted:
 - 19 total calls.
 - 6 EMS & 0 Fire within the Division
 - 6 EMS & 7 Fire from outside the Division
- **TRT:**
 - The team's portable radio charger quit working. The unit is no longer being supported so Mobile Electronics is ordering a replacement.
- **Hazmat:**
 - The Hazmat team has been invited to participate in a local Validation Exercise. It is being held on Oct 7 @ Cherry Valley Fire for about 4 hours. The exercise is being fully funded by MABAS.
 - The team has training scheduled for Aug 10 and is participating in the Adkins tour Aug 24.

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

- **EMS:**
 - Local EMR classes are expected this winter. Maybe at Tri-District and Leamon's.
- **Maintenance:**
 - The trailer Break-Away batteries were checked and still in good shape, so they will not be replaced yet.
 - The Smokehouse was used recently and came back damaged. The diamond plate on the front needs to be replaced. Jerry's Welding is looking into the repairs. Everyone was reminded to be mindful when towing the unit. It was recommended that you do not use a Grass Truck to tow the trailer because of the bed and hitch configurations.
- **EMA:**
 - ICS 300 & 400 classes are being planned for this fall/winter.
- **Sheriff:**
 - Stephenson County Sheriff's Social Worker Erica Erickson discussed the "Back to School" event at Orangeville Fire, August 15. She is also looking for a Department to partner with for the annual "Trunk or Treat". Contact her or Sheriff Stovall if interested.

Old Business

- Freeport Fire Marshal Cox, Chief Bruning & Chief Wichman gave an overview of the events at the County Fair. About \$200 was raised with the Dunk Tank. The money was voted to be used for the Smokehouse repairs.

New Business

- We are again looking for storage locations for the Division assets. In June, we received a letter from the owners of the old Structo building asking us to vacate the building. They reported having the space we were using rented out for the future. We thanked them for their generous assistance in storing our assets. All of the trucks and trailers were moved to FFD Central Station. The Hazmat trailer is inside but everything else is parked outside. Members have been actively looking for alternative locations. This will especially be needed during the winter. At this time no suitable locations have been identified. If anyone has any ideas or connections, see what you can find.
- FFD Deputy Chief Broshous discussed this year's upcoming Air Show. The date is Sept 19, 1000-1700hrs. with a training session the evening before. All Agencies that have participated previously have been notified and are planning to attend again this year. The final permit has not yet been approved by the FAA but planning is still going forward. Additional information is being sent out as it is approved.
- With moving our assets out of storage and ton Central Station, the IMAT kit was re-evaluated. It is a large container with ICS supplies. The kit was supplied by MABAS to every Division with a trailer. To date, the kit has not been used in the Division. The kit was inventoried, some unusable items were disposed of and the rest was put in storage at Central Station. The trailer is going to be returned to MABAS on Secretary Korte's next trip to Wheeling.
- A printed list of members on the I am Responding MABAS list was distributed for review and updating.

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Announcements

- Rock City Fire Fish Boil, Sept 19
- Cedarville Fire Feather Party, Sept 26
- Lena Fire Feather Party, Oct 3
- Firefighter Stag, Oct 17 @ Davis Fire
- Dakota water tower is down for repairs again.
- Davis has a water main project that may affect any response in the district.
- FFD is planning to use the Smokehouse for Fire Prevention this year. Any other Departments that want to use it this year contact Fire Marshal Cox for scheduling.
- The Coroners' Office thanked the Division for the use of the light Tower on the evening of Aug 4.

Our next meeting will be on September 2 @ German Valley Fire.

The meeting was adjourned at 2020hr.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tom Korte, Secretary

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