

# Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

## MABAS Division 17

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### Minutes from October 5, 2022

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

A moment of silence was held in memory of Al & Bonnie Bawinkel from Freeport Rural.

A motion to accept the Minutes from the September meeting was approved. The Treasurers report from September was also approved.

#### Committees

##### • **Training:**

- Local classes were listed
- NICOR is hosting their Natural Gas Fire training at the Troy Grove facility. The notice stated a registration deadline of Oct 3 but still give it a try if interested.
- German Valley EMR class registration will start soon on the SwedishAmerican website. Classes start Jan 11, M&W nights, Cost \$150.

##### • **Communications/Dispatch:**

- Mutual Aid call numbers for September.
  - 29 total calls, 14 EMS and 3 Fire from within the Division, 10 EMS and 2 Fire from outside the Division.
- Sheriff Deputy Ken Niesemeyer will be retiring Nov 15. Deputy Backus will be taking over the Dispatcher responsibilities.

##### • **TRT:**

- No word on the TRT Compeer grant yet. (A denial letter was at the Station Thursday). Additional grant opportunities will be explored.
- Training was held on Sept 24 with concrete cutting and breaking. One of the saw blades needs to be replaced and a hose adapter purchased. Prices are being evaluated.

##### • **Hazmat:**

- Carroll County FS has been notified that their invoice is past due.

#### **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

- **Sheriff:**
  - Sheriff Snyder is off for medical issues & Sheriff elect Steve Stoval was unable to attend. Steve wanted to express the Sheriff's Departments sympathy and condolences to the Freeport Rural family.

### **Old Business**

- EMS – Tri-District is working on a referendum to increase funding.
- The Smoke House was discussed. Last month, Departments were asked to inquire with their Trustees about the one-time purchase of the Smokehouse. That amount would be put into a fund to support the Smoke House and purchase supplies. The intent is to eliminate duplication and allow equal use by all members. A couple Departments were not in attendance so a decision was not made. All Departments are expected to attend in November to finalize this issue.
- Lena Fire has been notified that the Compeer Grant for the new Fit Test machine has been approved. We will work on completing the purchase in the near future.

### **New Business**

- The fall MABAS-IL Executive Board Meeting will be held on Oct 19 at 1200hrs in Peoria in conjunction with the IL Fire Chief's Association Annual Conference. The meeting will also be linked to the MRC. Secretary Korte is planning on attending at the MRC.
  - The major topic of the meeting will be the approval of the new MABAS Master Agreement. All of the Departments in attendance voted to approve the agreement.
- Departments are reminded to pay their Dues before the end of the year. Treasurer Strong has already paid the Division portion to MABAS-IL.
- The Oct 8 funeral arrangements for Al & Bonnie Bawinkel from Freeport Rural were discussed. A funeral timeline was distributed with a Firefighter Walk-Thru scheduled for 1230hr and the funeral at 1300hr with burial at Chapel Hill. An attachment will outline the details. Rural has not set up any call coverage during the funeral but have asked that everyone not attending to be alert to any requests. Chief Miller offered to roll over any calls to Freeport City.
- Cedarville Fire was thanked for their generous contribution and support of the Bawinkel family during their annual Feather Party. Pearl City is also hosting a fund-raising event in the next couple weeks.

### **Announcements:**

- Chief Miller announced that Freeport Fire is taking applications for testing. The application period is Oct 1-Oct 31. The only requirements are: age 21-35, US citizen, High School graduate/GED & EMT-B. Applications can be picked up at Central Station or downloaded at the City of Freeport website [www.cityoffreeport.org/fire-department-job-openings](http://www.cityoffreeport.org/fire-department-job-openings)

The meeting adjourned @ 2030hr.

Our next meeting will be held November 2 @ Freeport Rural Fire.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Korte, Secretary

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Davis Fire  
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German Valley Fire  
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Pearl City Fire  
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