

# Stephenson County Fire Chiefs Association Inc.

## MABAS Division 17

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**Tom Korte**  
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Secretary  
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### Minutes from November 2, 2022

The monthly meeting of MABAS Division 17 was called to order by President Ludeking at 1933hrs @ Freeport Rural Fire.

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

#### Committees

- **Training:**

- Local classes were listed

- **Communications/Dispatch:**

- Mutual Aid call numbers for October.
  - 31 total calls, 19 EMS and 3 Fire from within the Division, 4 EMS and 5 Fire from outside the Division.
- June asked if Cedarville & German Valley are planning to add EMR responses to their departments. It is unknown if that is their intent, only that there are hosting the classes for anyone in the area.
- June asked if there was any feedback from Trustees about the inquiry to run Fiber Cable to Department radio towers as part of the "Middle Mile" grant. It was recommended that she send more details to the Departments to present to their Trustees.
- Last month it was discovered that the IFERN, IREACH & Point to Point frequencies did not work at the County Dispatch. That appears to be fixed
- Kerry Dinges reported that Scott Townsend has taken over the Stephenson County EMA Director position. They are planning to add a couple digital radios to allow communications with some neighboring Counties.
- There are some single standing towers being placed along the street in Freeport. It was confirmed that they are US Cell 5G antennas.

#### **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 Compeer grant was denied. Other area grant opportunities are currently closed for the year. They will resubmit to those grants in 2023.
  - A bill for saw blades and Accountability tags was submitted.
- **Hazmat:**
  - Carroll County FS has been notified that their invoice is past due. The group agreed to give them another month before further action.
- **Maintenance:**
  - Both F550's are due for service this month.
  - The Support Trailer needs to be removed from the list. The UTV & UTV trailer need tires replaced.

### **Old Business**

- 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. A voice vote was taken with the majority approving and Lena dissenting.
- The Division has a bid of \$250 for the old trailer. It was suggested that it be listed for sale online to see what we can get. No minimum or starting point recommended.
- Lena Fire confirmed that the Compeer Grant for the new Fit Test machine has been approved for \$4,000. We need to come up with an additional \$10,000+.

### **New Business**

- The fall MABAS-IL Executive Board Meeting was held on Oct 19 in conjunction with the IL Fire Chief's Association Annual Conference.
  - Some details:
    - 45 Divisions represented between 3 locations (Quorum)
    - 45-0 vote to approve the new MABAS Master Agreement
    - The MABAS Foundation implementing an online 50/50 Raffle. Drawings monthly.
    - Attempting to change from Grant funding to IL EMA budget line
    - MABAS License plates can be placed on personal vehicles but must be turned back in to IL SOS when you leave Fire Dept or no longer in Chief position.
- The 2023 schedule was completed during the meeting and will be sent out with minutes.
- Lena Fire thanked everyone for their support of the Bawinkel family during the events held in Pearl City. About \$25,000 was raised.

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**Announcements:**

- Chief Miller gave a report on Freeport's Home Rule efforts. The FF Union has been going door-door every weekend to inform voters. If the vote fails the Department will be forced to reduce our budget by 20%.
- Secretary Korte gave an update on the Solar Farm/Battery storage near his home. The County Board voted against the recommendation to remove the Lithium Battery storage from the plan. They are also planning to add a 200+ acre Solar farm near Lena @ 73 & 20.

The meeting adjourned @ 2015hr.

Our next meeting will be held December 7 @ Cimino's hosted by Freeport Fire. This will be our Annual Holiday Dinner. Spouse's, Trustees & Officers welcome.

Cash bar @ 1800hr. Dinner @ 1900hr. Short meeting after dinner.

Menu: Salad & Garlic Bread, Baked Ziti, Fried Chicken, Roasted Potatoes & mixed Veg.

Cost \$22

Please RSVP to Secretary Korte by December 1.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Tom Korte, Secretary

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