

KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION

Fire Commission Meeting

Minutes

February 21, 2020

Owensboro, Kentucky

Present:

Joe Choate
Mike Haney
Josiah Keats
Ricky King
Scott Lawson
Lonnie Madden
Michael Mosbey
Andrew Scott
Dwane Smeathers
Lloyd Stone

Absent:

Dr. Fadi Akhrass
Dustin Isaacs
Tamela Kerr

Board Advisors Present:

Joe Baer
Gregg Bayer
John Beatsch

Ex Officio Member:

Present:

Absent:

Wendell Followell

Scott Lawson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm (CST). Scott Lawson recused himself as chairman of the Commission at this meeting because there could be some issues with a department he is associated with. Andrew Scott will be chairing

the meeting today. Ricky King motion to approve the minutes from January 25, 2020 in Lexington Kentucky. Michael Mosbey seconded. Motion approved.

Andrew Scott thanked President Jimmie Evans and the Green River Firefighters Association for hosting this meeting. President Jimmie Evans welcomed everyone to Owensboro.

Eligibility Committee

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee met yesterday afternoon. Wingfield Fire Department is requesting state aid for 2017. Their roster had failed to be updated and they didn't meet 50% for training. After they updated their roster, they reached 50%. The eligibility recommends that Wingfield received their state aid for 2017. Joe Choate motion to approve. Ricky King seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said the Crittenden Volunteer Fire Department requested state aid for 2018. They had an oversight with three firefighters that made them drop below 50% on their training. They have since corrected this. Lonnie Madden motion to approve. Joe Choate seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said there was an investigation concerning accreditation on Paducah Fire Department. The Eligibility Committee tabled any recommendations until further investigation, and we will have more information at our next meeting.

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee discussed the fire departments who are non-compliant with DLG. These departments have been contacted multiple times by area coordinators and the Fire Commission staff. The Eligibility Committee recommends that all the benefits except for Worker's Comp be withheld until they become compliant. Ricky King motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee recommends purchasing 136 thermal imaging cameras. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Joe Choate said he had been contacted by Priceville Fire Department. They lost their chief who passed away. They missed the deadline for submitting their application. Joe asked the committee to accept their application. Joe Choate amended the motion and added Priceville Fire Department to the list for a thermal imaging camera. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved. The motion to the original motion was approved.

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee discussed Lebanon Fire Department. There has been an investigation on them for State Aid and training. Michael Mosbey said we tabled this on Lebanon Fire Department until further investigation has been done. Ricky King motion to table. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Health and Wellness Committee

Michael Mosbey said the Health and Wellness Committee met this morning to discuss the extractor program. The Health and Wellness Committee discussed purchasing twenty extractors last year and placing across the state. Ricky King motion to approve purchasing twenty extractors and placing across the state. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Scott Lawson asked how much does it cost for 20 extractors? Bruce Roberts said approximately \$210,000.00. Scott said it looks like we need to purchase 72 more extractors to put one in every county. Is possible to get with a vendor to purchase more extractors? Bruce Roberts said we must go through the state contract on the extractors. Bruce said CPAT and travel expenses is paid from the Health and Wellness monies. Bruce said we may have to move some of this money for salaries and expenses to get through the rest of the fiscal year. Bruce said we have two big CPAT classes coming up for Lexington and Louisville Fire Departments.

Loan Committee

Joe Choate said the Loan Committee met this morning with two recommendations. Joe said Liberty Fire Department put in a loan request for a cascade system. They were approved. They asked for an extension on this loan. The extension was granted in October 2019. The extension expired in December 2019 and there hasn't been any correspondence. Joe said we need a motion to send them a letter stating they need to reapply for their loan. Lloyd Stone motion to approve. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved.

Waco Fire Department is requesting \$35,231.25 for adding a booster tank, boxes, lights, pumper and winches to a new truck. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Training Facility Committee

Ricky King said the Training Facility Committee met this morning. We had an issue with Lebanon Fire Department. They received a training facility grant in 2010 to build a multiple story training tower. The property that the training tower had been built on has been sold and the training tower was tore down. Ricky said the contract that they have with the Fire Commission is for 25 years. Since then Lebanon has talked to Bruce Roberts. They have submitted another set of plans. The committee discussed this and decided to approve those set of plans to rebuild on city property. They must spend \$150,000.00 and meet the standards of 1402. This must be done within a year of todays date. If they have any money left over from the \$150,000.00, they must reimburse the Fire Commission. Michael Mosbey said the 1402 standard is not something we currently do. If we go down this path, then essentially every loan we award will require every facility to be built to that standard. Andrew Scott said he doesn't think the fire department had much of a choice. Attorney John Wood said he would need to look at the contract. Bruce Roberts said they built a four-story training tower. We awarded them \$150,000.00. Bruce said he saw the training tower and it was nice. They tore down the training tower without approval from us. Bruce said if they sent us a proposal for a burn smoke building, then they need to build a burn smoke building. This is up to the Committee to decide. Joe Choate asked is there a simpler way of doing this. Bruce said they turned in plans to build the tower with Con Ex building cargo boxes. Bruce said if they meet the guidelines and spend the \$150,000.00, then he doesn't have an issue with this. Ricky asked Bruce, does he feel like what they turned in will meet the requirements of what they had to begin with. Joe Choate said if their current plans were submitted to us today, would we approve it. Bruce Roberts said we probably would. Larry Potter said they had to make a presentation originally to the Training Facility Committee. Should they not have to do a presentation on what they are going to do, the cost involved and how they are going to do it for this committee's approval. Ricky said they still have to have the 5-year inspection and every 5 years after that. Mike Haney motion to table this. Joe Choate seconded. Motion approved.

State Fire Rescue Training

Marc Rudder said through January 2020, SFRT has trained 64% of the fire departments in the state. We are at approximately 100 students each year. Marc said our Area 14 Office will be moving to Pulaski County from Jamestown beginning on March 1st. Marc said we hired Karen Richmond as the Field Office Coordinator for Area 11. We are currently accepting applications for the Field Office Coordinator for Area 14. Marc said John Vessels is retiring. This job will soon be posted. Marc said effective July 1st, we will be switching to NFPA 1041

2019 Edition for Instructor I and II. Marc Rudder said we are upgrading the Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire for Fall 2020.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security

Josh Keats said they have the Fusion Center; DHS grants program and they are in the process of hiring a part time attorney. They have the 911 Commission. Josh said they are working on getting access to intelligence products for the Fusion Center.

Kentucky Firefighters Association

John Beatsche thanked everyone for being here today.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

Gregg Bayer thanked the Commission for allowing him to serve as an advisor. They will be holding their meeting right after the Commission meeting.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association

Joe Baer said they did host their firefighter legislative chili dinner last month. It was the best attended chili dinner they ever had. Joe Baer asked about the reg that had been drafted for the peer support training. Where do we stand on this reg. Michael Kurtsinger said we pulled it from the list, and we are going to discuss this with the LRC staff. We will be meeting with them hopefully within the next week or so.

KBEMS

None.

Old Business

Scott Lawson said during the Fire Commission workshop we discussed the Fire Commission meeting dates for 2020. The meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Time	Location
Feb 21, 2020	1:00 pm (CST)	Owensboro, KY
April 16, 2020	6:00 pm (EST)	Coal Run
June 11, 2020	6:00 pm (EST)	Boyle County
August 1, 2020	2:00 pm (EST)	Southgate
October 14, 2020	2:00 pm (EST)	Homeland Security Office
December 10, 2020	1:00 pm (EST)	Lexington, KY

Scott Lawson asked everyone to try to attend the firefighter memorial in Frankfort on September 30th. Ricky King motion to approve the 2020 meeting dates. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved.

New Business

Howdy Kurtsinger discussed the Senate Bills and House Bills for this Legislative Session. A copy of these bills has been passed out to the Commission members. Howdy said if you are not receiving these reports and would like to receive them, please give him your email address.

Correspondence

Howdy Kurtsinger said the Fire Caucus will be during derby week this year. Howdy said we would like to pick a date a couple of weeks after the derby and meet with our congress people.

Jeremy Rodgers said the junior firefighter camp will be March 6th through the 8th at NRPC in Greenville Kentucky.

Announcements from the Audience

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:14 pm (CST).