

**KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION**

Virtual Fire Commission Meeting

Minutes

June 11, 2020

Lexington, Kentucky

**Present:**

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

**Absent:**

Dr. Fadi Akhrass  
Dustin Isaacs  
Josiah Keats  
Tamela Kerr  
Andrew Scott

**Board Advisors Present:**

Joe Baer  
Gregg Bayer  
John Beatsch

**Ex Officio Member:**

**Present:**

Vikki Parman

Scott Lawson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Ricky King motion to approve the minutes from February 21, 2020 in Owensboro, Kentucky. Joe Choate seconded. Motion approved.

## **Education Committee**

Lonnie Madden said the Education Committee met virtually and discussed changes to the two-year fire degree program that will occur this fall semester. The fire degree through KCTCS will be able to transfer to ECU. The Education committee approved the changes to the degree program. Marc Rudder said the changes to the degree program is based on the NFPA 1001 standard. Marc said the degree program will be based on two tracks. One will be a technical track and the other will be a theory-based track. This will be a fire science technology degree and it is AAS, which is a two-year degree program. Lonnie Madden motion to approve. Lloyd Stone seconded. Motion approved.

## **Finance Committee**

Mike Mosbey said the Finance Committee met virtually and discussed the budget for FY 2021. Mike said the Finance Committee agreed to accept the budget as proposed. Dwane Smeathers motion to accept the budget for FY 2021. Ricky King seconded. Motion approved.

## **Health and Wellness Committee**

Mike Mosbey said the Health and Wellness Committee met virtually and discussed the extractors. There are some delays on the gear extractors. Bruce Roberts said he talked to the company yesterday. The extractors should be shipped today. Everyone should have them by the first of the week. We would like to have them installed by the end of the year. The company said they will start installing them. Bruce said the company had a problem contacting one of the departments. Bruce said he tried to contact them with no answer. He took them off of the list and added another department in the same area. Bruce said we are working on this as quickly as possible. Mike Mosbey said Covid delayed everything.

## **Loan Committee**

Joe Choate said the Loan Committee met virtually to look at one loan. Perryville Fire Department requested a loan for \$32,417.04 for turnout gear and other miscellaneous equipment. The committee approved this request. Lloyd Stone motion to approve. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved.

## **Training Facility Grant Committee**

Scott Lawson removed himself from chairing the Training Facility Grant Committee portion of the meeting. Lonnie Madden filled in for Scott. Ricky King said the Training Facility Committee met virtually and discussed Lebanon Fire Department. Lebanon Fire Department tore down their training facility. We met with the fire chief virtually. Bruce Roberts looked over their paperwork. They are going to rebuild their training facility. They did sign a contract with us. Bruce Roberts said the contract has been signed by the mayor and himself. Everything has been taken care of. Joe Choate motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Scott Lawson abstained from voting. Motion approved.

## **State Fire Rescue Training**

Marc Rudder said as of the end of May, we have trained in 684 fire departments, which is 88% of the fire departments. Marc said we started the virtual training on April 10<sup>th</sup>. In the month of April, we conducted 124 virtual classes. We conducted 366 classes in the month of May. We taught 490 classes in April and May through virtual training. Marc said we will be well over 600 classes from April through June. Marc said he has been working with KCTCS on returning to face to face training, maybe in July. There will be guidelines that we have to follow. Ricky King said everyone has been doing an excellent job with these virtual classes.

Marc Rudder said we are teaching on the KyFIRES through virtual training. Mary taught two classes today for SFRT Area 7. This past Tuesday, we taught two virtual classes for SFRT Area 6. We will be teaching two classes for SFRT Area 15 next Tuesday. Upon completion of these classes, we will offer additional classes on the new system. We will go live statewide with KyFIRES on September 1, 2020. Marc Rudder said the Firehouse System will be shut down on June 15<sup>th</sup> at the end of the business day, so we can export all of the records to Acadis. Paul Adams is retiring June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **Fire Marshal's Office**

Mike Haney said they are almost into their third month working remotely from home. Mike said he is really proud of his crew. Mike said they have done over 500 fire retail sales within the last month.

## **Emergency Management**

None.

### **Kentucky Firefighter's Association**

John Beatsch said the 2020 KFA Conference has been postponed until 2021. Everyone will hold their term for another year.

### **Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs**

Gregg Bayer said they had to postpone their conference until 2021. They hope to have a face to face meeting in October. Gregg said this will be his last meeting. He will be moving. Jason Colson will be taking over his position. Everyone thanked Gregg for his service.

Lonnie Madden said there is a new building code that is in place that states everyone has to have a storm building installed. This is going to cost the volunteer fire departments a lot of money. Mike Haney said he is not familiar with this. Lonnie Madden said it has been adopted for a long time but wasn't enforced until now. Mike Haney said he will look into this. Do you have a reference code? Lonnie said he will find one for Mike. Scott Lawson asked Mike to email any information he finds on this to Larry Potter. Mike Haney said he will contact the Fire Commission.

### **Kentucky Professional Firefighter's Association**

Joe Baer said they have been extremely busy the last three months with PPE testing and isolation issues. Hopefully we will get a vaccine soon and can get back to normal operations. Joe said their convention is scheduled for May 2021 in Frankfort.

### **KBEMS**

Mike Poynter said we are facing a scenario that we have never had to face before. The numbers are starting to go up. Mike said they are looking at hiring for a CARES position. Mike said the run volume has went down a lot. The overdose numbers have increased. Scott Lawson asked Mike what he thought about this virus. Mike said to be honest, we don't have a vaccination for this virus. It is not affected by heat. We are treating the symptoms right now, but not preventing the illness. This virus is not going away. Everyone needs to stay clean and keep our

distance. Lloyd Stone asked has anything changed for EMT and Paramedic Recertifications? Mike said nothing has changed that he knows of. Marc said he has had numerous discussions with Bob on this.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

Scott Lawson said we have a recommendation letter from Larry Potter. Larry Potter said we have tried to stay at least partially open here at the office. Everyone has been working and trying to get their jobs done. Larry said he is trying to remain focused on our goals. We have been very intentional with our budget. We want to support the fire departments and be as flexible with the Commission's money. Larry said we have been looking at how many leases that we have. Larry said he is asking the Commission for their support on us trying to find a building. He thinks we should look at doing something with the leases for the Fire Commission building, The CPAT building in Winchester and the building for SFRT Area 15. Larry said we would like to use money that we already have set aside to purchase a building for all of these areas. This would save us \$157,000.00 a year in leases. Larry said he want approval to spend up to 2.5 million dollars which we do have in our capital funds. Ricky King motion to approve. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Joe Choate said he is excited to see this direction of consolidation. Motion approved.

Scott Lawson said we have two line of duty deaths we need to discuss. Bruce Roberts said we sent the information for two line of duty deaths to Dr. Fadi. One was for Gerald Cox. The other was for Jonathan Jacobs. Dr. Fadi approved the LODD for Gerald Cox. Joe Choate motion to approve the LODD for Gerald Cox. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved. Bruce Roberts said there was some confusion on Jonathan Jacobs. His death should have fallen under the heart and lung benefits. We will get back with Dr. Fadi on this.

Howdy Kurtsinger discussed 739 KAR 2.040, which would allow the Fire Commission to hire a licensed physician to decide on the LODD's for the firefighters. Joe Choate motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Howdy Kurtsinger discussed 739 KAR 2.150, which is the Alan “Chip” Terry Professional Development and Wellness Program. Ricky King motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Lonnie Madden asked about moving the training to fiscal year instead of calendar year. Howdy said we have discussed this. We haven’t been able to do anything because of Covid. Howdy said we are going to send this to the Eligibility Committee. Dwane said we are going to meet in July and discuss this.

Scott Lawson said we are going to form a By-Law Committee. We will be contacting some of the Commission members soon to be on the committee.

Scott Lawson said we are going to change the date and location for the Fire Commission meeting in August because the KFA conference has been cancelled. John Wood said we need to amend the original motion for the regular meeting schedule. Joe Choate motion to amend the original motion and change the date of meeting to August 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in Boyle County. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers motion to adjourn. Joe Choate seconded. Meeting adjourned at 6:11 pm.