

**COMMISSION ON FIRE PROTECTION, PERSONNEL,
STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

Fire Commission Minutes

October 11, 2018

Lexington, Kentucky

Present:

Joe Baer
Chris Bartley
Daron Britain
Greg Dearing
Mike Dossett
Sean Dreisbach
Wendell Followell
Mike Haney
David Howser
Dustin Isaacs
Bill Lilly
Patrick Lucas
Lonnie Madden
Terry Martin
Dr. William Melahn
Andrew Scott

Absent:

Rick Daugherty
Pam Dickens
Scott Lawson

Greg Dearing called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Joe Baer motion to amend the agenda so the election for secretary will be moved under old business. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Bill Lilly motion to approve the minutes from July 29, 2018 in Louisville Kentucky. Chris Bartley seconded. Motion approved. Ronnie Day conducted the swearing in of Chris Bartley, Sean Dreisbach, David Howser, Dustin Isaacs, Lonnie Madden and Andrew Scott. Ronnie Day presented a plaque to Greg Lowe for his years of service to the Fire Commission Board. Greg Lowe said this is a great and wonderful organization. The staff here is exceptional. Greg Dearing said

that in everyone's packets there is a letter from David Goldsmith. Please read this letter.

Ronnie Day said we have three guests here with us today. Joe Lancaster is from LRC. Representative John Sims from Fleming County is here. John has been a firefighter for several years. Representative Sims thanked everyone who serves on the Commission. Ronnie Day introduced Rob Rothenburger to the Commission. Rob served on the Commission Board and the KBEMS Board for several years. Howdy Kurtsinger thanked these guests for the things they have done for the fire service.

Loan Committee

None.

Eligibility Committee

None.

Finance Committee

Joe Baer said the Finance Committee met this morning to discuss several items. Joe said the Finance Committee approved the recommendation of hiring a PR/Marketing person who will be working for both the Fire Commission and KBEMS. Both organizations will be splitting the salary and benefits. The total benefit package with salary will be \$71,000.00. The Fire Commission side will be roughly \$36,000.00. Joe Baer motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said the Finance committee supports a new policy change that would require any expenditures of \$5,000.00 or more that is not covered by the normal business operations and comes out of the carry forward money must be approved by the Finance Committee first. Joe Baer motion to approve. Andrew Scott seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said SFRT Area 5 has been having issues with their internet service. They have obtained some bids for boaring including conduit and fiber optics to their facility at a cost of \$20,493.00. Joe Baer motion to approve. Patrick Lucas seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said the next item is purchasing equipment that will go on a Class A pumper for the IFSAC program. The cost for the equipment is \$28,396.00. Joe Baer motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said the next item is the purchase of 35 sets of turnout gear for our SFRT instructors to replace outdated gear or gear for new instructors. This cost will not exceed \$75,000.00. Joe Baer motion to approve. Chris Bartley seconded. Motion approved. Mike Haney asked does KCTCS cover some of the cost for this turnout gear. Greg Dearing said no, the Fire Commission covers it all.

Joe Baer said the next item is the purchase of 12 cameras with accessories for the IFSAC program for the testing process. This includes Go Pro cameras, tri-pods, rechargeable batteries, carrying cases, etc. The cost of their equipment is not to exceed \$8,000.00. Joe Baer motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said the next item to purchase is the fuel loads for the firebox training. The cost of this will be \$11,733.69. Joe Baer motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said SFRT is looking at purchasing 45 AEDS to be placed in all of the Area offices and to be at certain training exercises. Marc Rudder said these AED's have been recertified with a one-year warranty. The cost of each AED will be approximately \$800.00 each. Joe Baer motion to approve the total cost of the AED's and the wall cabinets, not to exceed \$45,000.00. Dr. Melahn seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said that due to the changes in CPR that is taking effect on January 31, 2019, there is a need to replace SFRT's mannequins. Joe Baer motion to purchase 30 adult CPR/AED training mannequins for the cost of \$12,693.30. Sean Dreisbach seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said the Finance Committee discussed replacing the outdated electronic reporting system for training hours. Joe said Envisage (Acadis is on the GSA contract which saved the Fire Commission approximately \$400,000.00 to \$500,000.00. Joe Baer motion for a five-year package with Acadis, not to exceed the cost of \$937,000.00. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Baer said back in 2014 the Fire Commission Board and Finance Committee motion to approve purchasing three drivers training simulator pods at a total cost of

\$1,000,000.00. The cost now has increased to \$1,171,525.32. Joe said to make up the difference to purchase the drivers training simulator pods, we request to move \$171,525.32 from the Weapons of Mass Destruction budget and include that amount with the previously allocated \$1,000,000.00 to purchase the drivers training simulator pods. Joe Baer motion to approve. Judge Terry Martin asked where are the drivers training simulators located. Marc Rudder said we have one in the state right now. It is in Jamestown, Kentucky. Joe Baer asked where would these simulators be placed. Marc Rudder said we do not have that worked out 100%, but they will be spread out across the state. Marc said our goal is to have the new simulators at the majority of the fire stations. Motion approved.

Training Facility Committee

Bill Lilly said Bruce Roberts is going to cover the information on the air packs. Bruce Roberts said we have given 83 fire departments two air packs and two spare cylinders. Bruce said we had some air packs left over so we are going back to these departments and giving them a third air pack and cylinder. These departments awarded the air packs are spread throughout the state.

Bruce Roberts said everyone has been given a new white book. They have the new statutes and regulations in them. Bruce said he passed out a list of the departments who are not in compliance with DLG. There are 71 departments who are not compliant. These departments were supposed to have their information turned into us by September 1st. Bruce said we will notify them again and explain to them that they need to get their paperwork in. Bruce said these 71 departments who did not send anything in will be in our report to DLG. The law says if the department is not in compliance, they could lose their funding. This could be incentive pay, state aid, workers compensation, thermal imaging grant, etc. Bruce said we will send out a letter next week and let them know this funding and benefits can be withheld from them according to statute. Bruce said there are 9 pages of fire departments who are below 50% on their batch reports.

Mike Haney asked about the new training system. Are the fire departments not entering their training hours? Jeremy Rodgers said they enter their hours into the system. The training system we have right now, we have exceeded its capabilities. Mike Haney asked would this be a simplified system. Jeremy said yes. Ronnie said our busiest day of the year is December 31st with departments entering their hours into the system. Jeremy said the new system would take 12 to 18 months to implement.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Emergency Management

Mike Dossett said Hurricane Michael has caused extended power outages. Their biggest problems will be hospital issues because of total destruction of hospitals and health care facilities. Mike said we at KYEM put forward a number of mutual aid offers. None have been accepted at this point in time. Mike Dossett said we are preparing for the FEMA National Exercise in June 2019. Mike said we still have FEMA on the ground working the two flooding disasters in Eastern and Western Kentucky.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

Randy Lawson introduced himself to the Commission. Randy said they have a board meeting on November 17, 2018 at 11:00 am in Corbin Kentucky.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

David Howser said President Gregg Bayer could not be here today. David said that President Bayer did attend the PTSD testimony in Frankfort. He is working on turning your attention to fire prevention for the KAFC. The KAFC met with KBEMS recently to discuss issues with Paramedic Education.

Kentucky Professional Firefighter's Association

Joe Baer thanked Representative Rob Rothenburger and Sims for being here. Joe Baer said we testified a few weeks ago on firefighter PTSD. Joe said it is his feeling that we need full presumption on this. We need to get full protection.

KBEMS

Mike Poynter said they had a meeting with the Representatives of the Kentucky Fire Chief's Association and had a very productive discussion on education and staffing challenges with EMT's and Paramedics. They are looking at creative ways to improve that. Mike said they did deploy one strike team for FEMA last night for Hurricane Michael.

Old Business

Greg Dearing said that according to our bylaws we have to have an election to fill the vacancy of the secretary's position. Ronnie Day said they received a letter from Scott Lawson stating that he would like to run for the position of Secretary. Ronnie said we will open up the floor for nominations. Patrick Lucas asked is this until the end of this year. Ronnie Day said yes. Joe Baer motion to elect Scott Lawson as secretary. Motion approved. Greg Dearing cast one vote for Scott Lawson for Secretary.

Greg Dearing said he has several requested items from Patrick Lucas that we will assign to committees. Patrick would like for State Instructors to only teach eight hours in their department. This will go to the Eligibility Committee. The next one is for CDL drivers pulling fire blast trailers should receive \$21.00 an hour. This will go to the Finance Committee. All new SFRT instructors must have CPAT cards and maintain them yearly. All SFRT personnel should receive annual physicals. This will go to Health and Wellness. CPAT needs to be a one-day course. This will go to Health and Wellness. A Fire Commission loan must have the County Judge's signature listed on it. This will go to the Loan Committee. Money for Health and Wellness will go toward turnout gear. That will go to health and wellness and the finance committees. Patrick Lucas asked to add to the last one to add AED's to that. Greg Dearing said that is fine.

Daron Britain requested to put together a committee to evaluate the pros and cons of chapter 273 fire departments versus chapter 67 fire departments. Daron said we sent some questions off to the Attorney General's Office. Daron said he called the same lawyer and asked him some additional questions and he could not answer those. He said we may have to put something like that in writing and send those questions to him. Greg Dearing asked could we put this into a taskforce and make sure you are on the taskforce. Daron said absolutely.

New Business

Lonnie Madden said we had an incident where a firefighter was injured and he was denied worker's compensation benefits. We need to find out why. Ronnie Day said Marc Rudder has been working on this and once he gets a final answer, we will address this issue with worker's compensation. Ronnie said no one knew that this

gentleman may have had a pre-existing condition. Greg Dearing said he wants to meet with Worker's Compensation. Lonnie Madden said if he asks medical questions and he denies them for something, he may get sued for discrimination.

Howdy Kurtsinger said that after the discussion with our attorney's, he feels uncomfortable with letting one person make the vote for the secretary position. We need to make a motion from the board to make Scott the secretary. Mayor Andrew Scott motion to nominate and elect Scott Lawson as Secretary of the Fire Commission Board for the rest of this term. Joe Baer seconded. Motion approved.

Ronnie Day said several years ago, we ran a program with Barbados and their firefighters trained here with us. It was no cost to them or us. Michael Wallingford said they were here for two years. Ronnie Day read a letter from Commander General Milton Lopez. Ronnie said these people want to come to State Fire School. Pat Boggs said the biggest thing is finance. Ronnie said we will send this letter on to the KFA Fire School Committee and will try to work something out. Pat Boggs said this is just the first step.

Ronnie Day said the junior firefighter weekend is November 2 through the 4th in London Kentucky. Registration closes on Monday.

Bruce Roberts said we are running out of seating space for the firefighter memorial in Frankfort. Bruce said we purchased 800 challenge coins that we are going to sale to raise money for the memorial. The coins cost \$20.00 each. The money will go back to the memorial.

Bill Birkle said the completion of their building in Northern Kentucky should be on October 29.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm.