

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

Fire Commission Minutes

April 18, 2019

Lexington, Kentucky

Present:

Joe Baer
Chris Bartley
Daron Britain
John Bunnell
Joe Choate
Rick Daugherty
Greg Dearing
Sean Dreisbach
Wendell Followell
Mike Haney
David Howser
Daniel Iacconi
Dustin Isaacs
Scott Lawson
Patrick Lucas
Lonnie Madden
Dr. Melahn
Andrew Scott

Absent:

Mike Dossett

Greg Dearing called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. John Gay conducted the swearing in of Daniel Iacconi. Lonnie Madden motion to approve the minutes from February 22, 2019 in Owensboro Kentucky. Sean Dreisbach seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Eligibility Committee

Rick Daugherty said the Eligibility Committee met this morning. Rick said at the February meeting, we were presented with some information concerning the McDaniels Fire Department. They had duplicated some training hours in 2017. Our

auditor looked at the records and confirmed that there were two sets of training hours for the same time. In the February meeting, a motion was passed to remove the duplicate training hours from the fire training system. If the department dropped below the 50% on their training hours, a letter would be sent requesting their state aid money back for the 2018. After these hours were removed, their percentage did fall below 50%. Bruce Roberts sent a letter to the chief of McDaniels Fire Department and their county judge. They have 30 days to appeal the ruling. They did not contact us within the 30 days. Bruce received a letter from Ms. Berry asking could the McDaniels Fire Department make payments towards the money that needed to be return or that we hold their 2019 state aid check. Rick said after discussion with the committee, we felt that is was necessary to request payment in full from the department within 30 days. Mike Haney motion to request the payment in full back for their 2018 state aid check and that it be paid back within 30 days. Dustin Isaacs seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Melahn said that Thomas McBride with Campbellsville Fire Department had collapsed during training on August 24, 2017. He passed away from cardiac arrest. Joe Choate motion to approve the line of duty death benefits for Thomas McBride. David Howser seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Loan Committee

Joe Baer said the Loan Committee met this morning to address one loan application. Southeast Floyd Fire Department is requesting \$75,000.00 to purchase a 2018 Dodge 5500 Brush Truck. The committee approves this request. Andrew Scott motion to approve. Dustin Isaacs seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Emergency Management

None.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

Pat Thompson said they have been working with the Kentucky Fire Commission, SFRT and Lexington Fire Department in preparation for State Fire School. Pat said their next meeting will be during fire school on Thursday afternoon at 4:00 pm. Pat

said they are working on the KFA Conference coming up in Owensboro. The conference will be August 3rd through the 6th. Pat Thompson asked will the LODD that was just approved be put on the Memorial Wall in Frankfort this year. Bruce Roberts said yes.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

David Howser said the state fire chiefs are currently in the process on working a strategic plan of fine tuning our objects and goal plans. This plan should be ready to present at State Fire School.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association

Joe Baer said they will be conducting their biennial conference in May in Newport. Joe said he will send out the conference information to anyone who would like to attend.

KBEMS

None.

Greg Dearing said everyone should have received a new committee list.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Wendell Followell said he has brought a copy of the new timeline for the hiring of the Executive Director position. Wendell said a staff member will be on the screening committee. Wendell asked the Fire Commission Board to give him two names of members of the board to serve on the screening committee between now and May 1st. Two members of the Public Protection Cabinet will be on the screening committee. Wendell said he has reached out to Kristin Chilton who is the Chief of Lexington Fire Department. She can't serve, but Wendell said he will ask her for another name from the department who can serve. Wendell Followell said we will narrow the applications down to three candidates to interview. Wendell Followell said we will meet on July 1st. The screening committee and the Fire Commission members are the recommendation committee. We will need a quorum

so the recommendation committee can move forward. Wendell said if he doesn't get a quorum this time, he will hold the process until we do. Hopefully we will have an Executive Director in place by August 1st. Andrew Scott asked is there any way we can do the self-nominations today. Dustin Isaacs thanked Wendell Followell for being responsive. Joe Baer said he was receiving numerous calls and texts wanting him to explain the process. He said he wanted to remind everyone that the people on the screening committee had to sign a confidentiality disclaimer prior to. Joe Baer asked why are we putting the Public Protection Cabinet on the screening committee. Wendell said when the Governor and Secretary's Office reached out to me and asked that the Public Protection Cabinet be on there, I am going to put them on there. John Gay said his concern was the open meetings law. John said our legal rights fall on July 1st. The job of the Commission today is to select a screening committee. John Gay said do not engage in politicking, emails, text messages or social media. All of those will be in violation of the open meetings law. Dustin Isaacs said he understands that there was a confidentiality signed but there still could have been communication to avoid that twelfth hour email that ended up with the board being present on April 1st. Dustin said he wants the boards voice to be known. Rick Daugherty said he didn't attend because counsel asked us not to attend. For the Commission members who did attend, were they invited into the process at that point? Were they allowed to attend the interviews? Greg Dearing said yes. Rick Daugherty asked why. Greg Dearing said he told one of the members who had called him that if they show up, he is not going to prevent them from coming in the room. Rick Daugherty asked were they given a vote? Greg Dearing said yes. Rick Daugherty asked why? The three individuals who showed up should not have been allowed to be seated during the process if the other 14 Commission members were not given that same opportunity. Rick said he doesn't think it is fair to the other Commission members who didn't get to attend. Joe Choate said regardless of how it went, we are at today and I feel that Mr. Followell has a good plan put together. He would like to see us move forward. Dr. Melahn asked what the scheduled full Commission ratification vote date was. Greg Dearing said today if we had approved a candidate. Dustin Isaacs said Mr. Followell laid out his process from the very beginning and he was clear to me. He invited the board to be a part of the recommendation process and I certainly echo your concerns Rick, but also those same concerns could be echoed that we didn't decide on who the two screening committee members from the board should have been. Andrew Scott said there are some here who are displeased with the process. I think we all have valid concerns. Dr. Melahn said with the ratification vote on July 1st, there is obviously going to be a significant turnover in Commission members that would have never been involved in this process. Because this happening, would there be a consideration at moving this prior to July

1st. Greg Dearing said he does not see a problem with July 1st. John Gay said he suggests putting the voting of screening committee representatives on the agenda today under new business. Greg Dearing said the first order of business is to approve the executive director screening process timeline. Andrew Scott motion to approve the amendment of the timeline selection of the two members of the Fire Commission for the selection committee. Chris Bartley seconded. Rick Daugherty and Dr. Melahn were opposed. Motion approved. Joe Baer motion for the timeline as amended. Scott Lawson seconded. Chris Bartley asked if someone is out of town, can they do this via phone or skype. John Gay said it is allowed if a connection is maintained, and you can hear and see each other. Motion passed unanimously. John Gay said the options would be to take nominations and it can be done by voice or hand-written votes. Dustin Issacs motion to take self-nominations and nominations from the floor for anyone who is interested and do a ballot vote. Michael Kurtsinger said if we are going to do a ballot, it must be with people's names on it and it must be read out loud how everyone voted. Patrick Lucas seconded. Joe Baer asked do both people voted for require a majority. John Gay said it will be best to narrow it down to a simple majority. Wendell Followell said he would prefer to abstain from both. John Gay said if you remove your motion and it is seconded with everyone agreeing and we did nominations only first then we know the math. Dustin Isaacs withdrew his motion. Patrick Lucas seconded. Motion approved. Greg Dearing said we need a motion for nomination of Fire Commission Board members serving on the screening committee. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Dustin Isaacs seconded. Motion approved. Greg Dearing said he will not serve if he is nominated or elected. Sean Dreisbach motion for David Howser to serve on the screening committee. Dustin Isaacs motion for Scott Lawson to serve on the screening committee. Joe Baer asked do these nominations require a second vote. Greg Dearing said he would think so. Mike Haney seconded for David Howser. John Bunnell seconded for Scott Lawson. Mike Haney motion to nominate Andrew Scott. Dustin Isaacs seconded. Chris Bartley motion to nominate Lonnie Madden. Joe Choate seconded. Rick Daugherty motion to close nominations. Joe Choate seconded. Motion approved.

Greg Dearing said we are going to take a break to work on the ballots.

Greg Dearing called the meeting back to order at 2:13 p.m. John Gay said according to your by-laws the method of voting is by voice vote, show of hands vote or roll call. Joe Choate motion to use the roll call ballot. Dustin Isaacs seconded. Motion approved. John Gay passed out the roll call ballots. Wendell Followell said on the screening committee, we are opening a portal called Hire

Touch where the screening committee can look at the applications. Mary Adams read the names of who voted and who they voted for. The results are as follows:

<u>Commission Member Voting</u>	<u>Vote for #1</u>	<u>Vote for #2</u>
Lonnie Madden	Scott Lawson	Lonnie Madden
Sean Dreibach	David Howser	Andrew Scott
Dustin Isaacs	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Joe Choate	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Mike Haney	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Daniel Iaconi	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Michael Britain	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
David Howser	David Howser	Lonnie Madden
Patrick Lucas	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Andrew Scott	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
John Bunnell	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Christopher Bartley	Lonnie Madden	None.
Dr. Melahn	Lonnie Madden	None.
Rick Daugherty	Lonnie Madden	Andrew Scott
Scott Lawson	Scott Lawson	Andrew Scott
Joe Baer	David Howser	Andrew Scott
Greg Dearing	David Howser	Andrew Scott

Bruce Roberts said Scott Lawson received 10 votes and Andrew Scott received 13 votes. Dustin Isaacs motion to ratify. Joe Choate seconded. Motion approved.

Correspondence

Greg Dearing said the Fire Caucus will be in Washington D.C. on April 24th through the 26th. Michael Kurtsinger said he is in the process of setting up meetings.

Greg Dearing said that State Fire School will be held June 6th through the 9th in Lexington Kentucky.

Joe Choate motion to approve the procedure for the hiring process for the current executive director as presented by legal. Joe Baer seconded. Motion approved.

Announcements from the Audience

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 pm.