

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

Fire Commission Minutes

December 4, 2014

Greenville, Kentucky

**Present:**

Eric Bach

Teresa Rochetti- Cantrell

Rick Daugherty

Greg Dearing

David Goldsmith

Vicki Herald

Scott Lawson

William Lilly

Greg Lowe

Tiger Robinson

David Stump

William Swope

Kevin Tyler

Tiger Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. (CT) Kevin Tyler motion to approve the minutes from October 2, 2014 in Owensboro, Kentucky. William Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Tiger Robinson thanked Marc Henderson and his staff at the NRPC and Chief Ricky King for their hospitality. Marc Henderson thanked everyone for being here. Marc introduced Lt. Colonel Allan Boone to the Commission. Lt. Colonel Boone said it has been a privilege to work with Marc and SFRT. He is impressed with the training that goes on at this facility. Lt. Colonel Boone said they have three training sites in Kentucky. They train with the army, navy, air force, National Guard and reserves as well as active duty. They also train law enforcement and firefighters from across the state.

## **Personnel Committee**

Greg Dearing said the personnel committee has been real busy and he thanked the committee for all of their hard work. Greg said the month of November was real busy and they recommended hires for a coordinator position and office staff coordinator for the NRPC training center. The committee also recommended two hires for the Fire Commission office in Lexington. Both of these hires will be working with Brenda Goddard. Greg Dearing said there will be several positions open in 2015 they will be hiring for. Greg Dearing said an IFSAC Training Coordinator position should be posted soon.

## **Finance Committee**

David Stump said the finance committee met this morning. They discussed the trailers that need to be ordered to put the equipment in. Pat Thompson has been working on this.

David Stump said a motion was made and seconded to transfer \$50,000.00 from the EMS line item to the PPE line item to purchase some more PPE gear for new hires. The committee discussed coordinating with the task force that has been appointed on facility and equipment maintenance and to see what funding will be needed to implement that. David said they discussed the firefighter assistance grants or any other grants that require matching funds of any amount. In the future please notify the finance committee of this so they can budget for that. David Stump said they reviewed the 2015 FY budget. As of November 30<sup>th</sup> all of the revenue and expenditures are in line.

David Stump said they discussed the strategic needs and analysis for capital improvements. Below is the list of what will be sent to KCTCS:

1. CPAT Building
2. SFRT Area 7 Building
3. Driver's Simulator Pods
4. Home of for the Fire Commission
5. SFRT Area 15 Building

Items six through thirteen was to mirror number 5 for each Area to have the same needs. David Stump motion to approve this list of needs for this coming year. Rick Daugherty seconded. Motion approved.

## **Loan Committee**

Eric Bach said the loan committee met this morning to review two loans. Shelby County Fire Department is requesting \$12,027.00 for firefighting helmets. Knottsville Fire Department is requesting \$75,000.00 for a 2015 Ford Rescue Medical truck. Greg Lowe motion to approve. David Stump seconded. Motion approved. Eric Bach said an emergency loan was approved for Mt. Eden Fire Department for air packs in November.

## **E&E Committee**

David Goldsmith said the E&E committee met this morning. The instructor number for Chad Campbell has been reinstated, since he has fulfilled his training requirements.

David Goldsmith said we have been notified by the county judge that they are closing South Owen Fire Department. South Owen has not provided us with receipts for anything showing they spent the state aid money. The committee is recommending that we make a motion to request to ask for that money back. Rick Daugherty motion to request the state aid money back. Kevin Tyler seconded. Motion approved.

David Goldsmith said it was brought to our attention and is questioned about Southeast Bullitt Fire Department being a private corporation. The committee recommends that we turn that over to our attorney's. Greg Dearing motion to turn this over to our attorneys. Kevin Tyler seconded. Motion approved.

David Goldsmith said it was brought to our attention that the Burlington Fire Department requested incentive pay for one of their people. It was denied based on his job description, however since then it has been brought to our attention that he does more than what his job description says. We have sent this back to the department to resubmit and we will look at it then.

David Goldsmith said it was brought to our attention that Elsmere Fire Department was in violation of a 1403 live fire training. They did not submit an application and they were burning improperly. It was also brought to our attention that they had junior firefighters on the scene who was in close proximity of the IDLH environment. It is the committee's recommendation that we submit a letter to Elsmere explaining our intent of suspending eleven instructor numbers who was present at the burn until they go back through a 1403 class and also send them a

letter regarding the junior firefighter's violations. Scott Lawson motion to send these letters to Elsmere Fire Department. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved.

David Goldsmith said there was an instructor named James Thompson who filled out yellow sheets that were predated. The committee made a recommendation to send Mr. Thompson a letter stating that he is in violation of state policy and we are looking at suspending his instructor number. Scott Lawson motion to approve sending a letter to James Thompson. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved.

David Goldsmith said Bruce Roberts has six pages of batch reports for departments who have not met the 50% requirement in training for 2014.

Pat Thompson said IFSAC recommends reaccreditation for both certificates and the degree side for the state of Kentucky. This will go before the full IFSAC body in April 2015 for reaccreditation. Tiger Robinson thanked everyone who took part in the IFSAC reaccreditation.

### **Fire Marshal's Office**

William Swope said there have been 52 fire fatalities this year. The Fire Marshal's Office has responded to over 267 calls or requests as it relates to assisting in cause and determination. Fire Marshal Swope said the State Fire Marshal's Office as well as the NFPA is going to push next year for more accurate NFIRS reporting. The Fire Marshal's Office received a small grant from Kentucky American Water Company and they are going to use that money for smoke detectors and a pilot program for the purpose of fire prevention. One of the stipulations to this is that the community has to be served by KY American Water.

### **Homeland Security**

None.

### **Emergency Management**

None.

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

Steve Kyle said the Kentucky Firefighter's Association meeting will be at Green River Officer's School. Registration is now open for the KFA.

### **Kentucky Association of Fire Chief's**

The Kentucky Association of Fire Chief's said they too will be at the Green River Officer's School.

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

Joe Baer said currently their primary focus is working with Michael Kurtsinger and the Fire Commission on the cancer presumption bill.

### **Legislative Committee**

Michael Kurtsinger said the legislative committee met on November 8<sup>th</sup> in Lexington. They are working on trying to increase incentive pay. The committee is working on the cancer presumption bill. Michael said they are working on discontinuing the firefighter ID program. Not a lot of ID's are being printed at fire schools or at the office. Michael Kurtsinger said there are several suggestions of changing HB1. Michael said there is an issue with the volunteer firefighters and the pension. One firefighter who had been paid and a volunteer firefighter, wanted to continue being a volunteer firefighter once he retired from paid. The pension board denied this firefighter from being a volunteer.

Michael Kurtsinger said they are working on the KAR for instructors. No one requested a public hearing, so it will go before the Administrative Regulation committee on December 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in Frankfort. Greg Dearing said everyone needs to talk to their local legislators about these laws and regulations that these agencies are putting upon your fire department. Michael Kurtsinger said this board has the authority to hold your pension check.

### **KBEMS**

None.

Greg Lowe said at the last Fire Commission meeting the chairman directed that we create a task force to study maintenance and accountability of property and equipment within the Fire Commission. In everyone's packets there are two staff studies addressing these issues. Greg said what we discovered is that there are no

standardized procedures for the way we account for property and how we maintain that property. Maintenance needs to be documented. Greg Lowe said everyone's input will be welcomed at any time.

Eric Bach said they are working on updating the state aid equipment list. If anyone has any ideas please let Eric know.

### **Old Business**

David Stump said our new recording system is now in place and being used at the meetings.

### **New Business**

Mike Workman from Hopkinsville Fire Department said he had some recruits do a week of training at NRPC. Mr. Workman said that Marc and his staff did a great job. Mr. Workman asked the Fire Commission to look at offering a training academy at NRPC. Ronnie Day said we wanted a training academy in Kentucky for a while now. We just acquired twenty five more acres to work with here. Ronnie said we will look into this and put something together. Pat Thompson said he has been looking at a lineup of training for the academy.

Sammy Allen from the Division of Forestry talked about the FEPP/ FFP program. He thanked Ronnie and the Fire Commission for partnering with the Division of Forestry. Sammy Allen said in the last few years the FEPP/ FFP program has brought in around 1.3 million dollars in equipment. The firefighter program is receiving almost 4 million dollars in equipment. Ronnie Day said this is good equipment. Ronnie said we are getting some phone calls about hummers. Hummers are not available for the fire service right now. Ronnie said we will let you know when we hear something.

Tiger Robinson said we need to set the calendar for the 2015 Fire Commission meeting dates. The fire commission meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Location	Time
February 20, 2015	Owensboro, KY	1:00 p.m. (CT)
April 15, 2015	Northern, KY	1:00 p.m.
June 11, 2015	Harrodsburg, KY	1:00 p.m.
August 2, 2015	Paducah, KY	1:00 p.m. (CT)
October 15, 2015	Jamestown, KY	1:00 p.m.
December 10, 2015	Lexington, KY	1:00 p.m.

Eric Bach motion to approve the Fire Commission meeting dates for 2015. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved.

William Swope said for the last few weeks, he has answered numerous calls from the citizens of Commonwealth, out of state, from fire service personnel and even elected officials concerning the incident surrounding Bullitt County. William Swope said he feels like profession has been stained and he thinks it is important for the Commission and the chiefs, professional firefighters association and KFA go on record condemning the actions and behaviors associated with the incident. Greg Dearing said he supports what the Fire Marshal is saying, but he thinks we need to be careful going on record. Ronnie Day said he spoke with legal in regards to releasing or making a statement and he was told no we can't, however we did post on twitter the county judge's name and a phone number to contact for that area. Fire Marshal Swope said he will withhold his motion.

Ronnie Day said following Fire Commission By-Laws, our election process is coming up at the meeting in Owensboro. Our by- laws state that if someone has the intention of running for office that they must notify the chairman and executive director in writing at the last commission meeting of the year, prior to the first meeting of the following new year.

Ronnie Day said he has a letter from Eric Bach stating that it is his intention of running for the position of secretary with the Fire Commission for the year 2015.

Ronnie Day said he has a letter from Greg Dearing stating that it is his intention of running for the position of vice-chairman with the Fire Commission for the year 2015.

Ronnie Day said he has a letter from Tiger Robinson stating that it is his intention of running for the position of chairman with the Fire Commission for the year 2015.

Ronnie Day said the elections will be conducted at the Fire Commission meeting in February 2015 in Owensboro.

### **Correspondence**

Ronnie Day said the 2015 Fire Commission workshop is January 9<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton at the Lexington Green.

Ronnie Day said our office will be closed during the holiday. We leave on December 19<sup>th</sup> and will return on January 5<sup>th</sup>. Ronnie asked the fire departments to get their training hours in before December 19<sup>th</sup>, because our offices will be closed after that.

Ronnie Day if anyone wants to donate to the flower fund, please see Therese Cheney. If anyone needs a hotel room for Green River Officer's school or the Fire Commission workshop please get in contact with Therese as soon as possible.

### **Announcements from the Audience**

None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:06 p.m.