

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

Minutes

December 5, 2012

Louisville, Kentucky

Present:

Eric Bach
Greg Dearing
Pam Dickens
David Goldsmith
Walter Lage
Scott Lawson
William Lilly
Greg Lowe
Rich Meyer
Jim Nickell
Tiger Robinson
Fred Siegelman
David Stump

Greg Lowe called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. David Stump motion to approve the minutes from October 24, 2012 in Grayson Kentucky. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved.

Greg Lowe thanked David Goldsmith and the Louisville Regional Training Center for their hospitality. Greg Lowe presented Butch McKinney with the first updated whitebook and a firefighter coin for all of his hard work. Greg Lowe presented a firefighter coin to Ronnie Day for all of his hard work.

Russ Gold and Ed Miller conducted a presentation on the 911 museum that is going to be at Fort Knox.

Finance Committee

Walter Lage said the Finance Committee met this morning. Walter said there is some concern with the SFRT budgets. Walter said that the finance committee is going to take a closer look at their budgets after December.

Walter Lage thanked Ken Walker for being here today to discuss Blackboard services with the Commission. Ronnie Day said a few months ago the Fire Commission was

approached by Dr. Box and Ken Walker to partner with KCTCS in Blackboard Student Services. Blackboard services is a call center where students can call 24 hours a day/ 365 days a year if they have questions or need help filling out their college application or if they need help applying for financial aid. KCTCS has asked the Fire Commission to pay a certain amount per student for Blackboard Services.

Ken Walker said Blackboard Services is available 24 hours a day/ 365 days a year. Ken said Blackboard offers financial aid and technical support. Ken said there is a fixed cost and a variable cost for Blackboard services. Walter Lage asked how the students are being counted. Ken Walker said these numbers are from the individuals that are enrolled and earning academic credit. Greg Dearing asked is Blackboard Services counted into the tuition cost. Ken Walker said that student services are always being offered at the colleges. Blackboard offers services around the clock and not just between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Greg Dearing asked is part of the tuition cost paying for Blackboard? Ken Walker said presumably yes. David Stump asked do they have to be enrolled at one of the community colleges or if a fire instructor teaches a class at your department does that number count toward Blackboard Services? Ken Walker said the location does not matter. David Stump said if a firefighter takes a college course at their department how do they sign up and get on blackboard or do they have to be enrolled through the college. Ken said they have to be enrolled through the college. Rich Meyer asked of the students who are eligible to use Blackboard Services, what percentage use it now? Ken Walker said he doesn't have that information with him. Ken said the success with Blackboard Services with online students is what has lead us to expand to classroom students. Eric Bach said so we may be paying for student services for a lot of students who do not want to earn a degree. David Goldsmith said we are struggling in paying for a student for Blackboard services who may only take a three hour class. David asked can the degree seeking students and the students only taking classes for their yearly training be separated. Greg Lowe asked do you have to have an answer by today. Ken Walker said no. Greg said we would like to take a little more time and do some research on this. Ronnie asked can he and Walter meet with Ken to get some of these questions answered. Greg Lowe said that is fine. Ken Walker said they are just looking to get an answer. Jim Nickell asked do you have any other partners aside from the Fire Commission such as KBEMS. Ken Walker said no. Ken said that agency does not support tuition.

E&E Committee

None.

Personnel Committee

Greg Dearing said the personnel committee met this morning to discuss starting the process of hiring a SFRT director. Greg said there are two other positions they will be hiring for. The first position is a curriculum coordinator. The second position is a coordinator for the Wendell Ford Training Center.

Director Reports

Ronnie Day said we have a new lady in place that is working with the Forestry service and the fire departments on free surplus equipment. Ronnie said to send your request to your district forest ranger and they will submit the request to us.

Ronnie said State Fire School is moving along. The Fire Commission will start cooking at fire school again this year. Ronnie said there will be a bike night on the Saturday of Fire School.

Ronnie said the Department of Transportation may have some more money to provide for the highway incident management safety.

Ronnie said he has been meeting with the coordinators to help them out in their areas. Ronnie said Sabine Gumm has been doing an excellent job with the exercise program.

Ronnie Day said the ribbon cutting for the Wendell Ford Training Center has been moved from December to April.

Ronnie said the flashover trailers are ready to be picked up. Ronnie said everything works well on the fire training simulator we acquired from Estill County.

Ronnie Day said they received \$26,000.00 for the hazardous materials program in Louisville.

Ronnie said they received an additional \$200,000.00 for the Homeland Security exercise program. This will take the program through February 2013.

Ronnie said there will be an office coordinator meeting on December 11th at the office in Versailles. This meeting will be hosted by Brenda Goddard and Peggy Bryant.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Homeland Security

Tom Arnold said Sabine Gumm is putting together an inner agency working group for the exercise program for 2013.

Tom said Homeland Security organized over 60 specialized trainings for 2012.

Emergency Management

None.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

None.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chief's

None.

Kentucky Professional Firefighter's Association

None.

Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services

None.

Old Business

Greg Lowe asked Tiger Robinson to talk with Becky Blair to make sure the state aid equipment listed has been updated.

New Business

Greg Lowe said we need to set the calendar for 2013 for the Fire Commission meetings. The fire commission meeting dates are as follows:

Date	Time	Location
February 22, 2013	1:00 PM	Lexington
April 4, 2013	1:00 PM	Corbin
June 13, 2013	1:00 PM	Versailles
August 4, 2013	1:00 PM	Ashland
October 3, 2013	1:00 PM	Versailles
December 5, 2013	1:00 PM	Louisville

Mike Wilder said there are new educational regulation requirements out from KBEMS. Mike said that the SFRT coordinators, Bill Young from KBEMS and he will have a conference call next week on the new regulations.

Mike Wilder said it looks like five or six of our areas are going to participate in the Paramedic accreditation program. Mike said no one can teach a paramedic class after January 1st unless they are accredited.

Greg Lowe said we will do a conference call on Blackboard services once Ronnie and Walter talk to Ken Walker.

Correspondence

Greg Lowe said the Fire Commission Workshop will be held in January. A date, time and location have not been set yet. Greg said Green River Fire School will be February 22nd through the 24th in Lexington.

Ronnie Day read a letter from Cherie Stiles thanking everyone for their support.

Comments from the Audience

Mike Hulseley asked for guidelines concerning CPAT in certain areas be sent out. Greg Lowe said the Commission will send out information on CPAT to the departments. Mike Hulseley asked about the KARS for CPAT. Ronnie Day said the KARS will go to LRC on January 15th. Ronnie said according to legal the KAR doesn't have to be in place for the CPAT requirements to go into effect.

Ronnie Day asked everyone to keep Jamia Skaggs in their prayers.

Walter Lage motion to adjourn. Greg Dearing seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:44 p.m.