

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

Fire Commission Minutes

February 26, 2016

Owensboro, Kentucky

**Present:**

Eric Bach  
Joe Baer  
Rick Daugherty  
Donna Davis (Proxy for Dr. Tracy)  
Greg Dearing  
Pam Dickens  
David Goldsmith  
Vicki Herald  
Scott Lawson  
Bill Lilly  
Greg Lowe  
Rich Meyer  
Jim Nickell  
Tiger Robinson  
Kevin Tyler

**Absent:**

Theresa Rochetti-Cantrell  
Mike Dossett  
Dr. William Melahn  
Fire Marshal's Office (vacant)

Tiger Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm (CT). Tiger Robinson said at this point in time we will have our yearly elections. Ronnie Day said the by-laws state that if anyone has the intention of seeking office for chairman, vice-chairman or secretary treasurer must do so in writing at the last commission meeting of the year. Tiger Robinson submitted his letter to run for chairman which was unopposed. Eric Bach submitted his letter to run for secretary which was unopposed. Greg Dearing and Greg Lowe are both running for vice-chairman of the Fire Commission. Ronnie said we will have an election. It will be by ballot which is what our by-laws state. Michael Kurtsinger, Therese Cheney, Pam Dickens, Jim Nickell and Ronnie Day have been appointed by Chairman Robinson to be on the election committee. Michael Kurtsinger said everyone will receive a ballot. After you have completed the ballot, please put it in the ballot box. Therese Cheney said there are nineteen ballot slips. One for each commission member. We have four absent today so there will be four blank ballots left. Ronnie Day said once the votes have been counted we will not tell the number of votes each candidate receives. We will tell who the winner is. Michael Kurtsinger said if the candidates running want to have someone present during the counting of ballots, they can. Ronnie said once Therese collects the ballots, the election committee will step out in the hallway to do the count. While the counting was going on, Jerry Aders welcomed everyone to Green River Officer's School. Ronnie Day said the vice-chairman of the Fire Commission for this year is Greg Dearing. Greg Lowe motion

to approve the minutes from December 17, 2015 in Lexington Kentucky. Pam Dickens seconded. Motion approved.

**Personnel Committee**

Greg Dearing said the personnel committee met this morning. We have interviewed for four area coordinators and a field coordinator. We are waiting on signatures through the college. Greg Dearing said KCTCS has asked the personnel committee to step away from the hiring and interview process because we are appointed members and not a full time employee with KCTCS. Greg said the Fire Commission interviewed for the third auditors position last week.

**Finance Committee**

Greg Dearing said the finance committee met last week. Greg said SFRT got hit with a 4½ % cut this year and a 9% cut for next year. Greg said we are going to work together to figure out where the cuts will come from. Greg said Area 2 building was completed about three years ago, but there was some outstanding things that need to be done. We have a bid for \$39,737.50 to complete the building. Rick Daugherty motion to approve the \$39,737.50 for completion of the Area 2 building. Kevin Tyler seconded. Motion approved.

**Education Committee**

David Goldsmith said the Education committee met this morning and we addressed a couple of issues. David said Casey Hall the curriculum coordinator submitted eight new curriculums. Those curriculums are IFSTA Aircraft Rescue Firefighting- sixth edition, Company Officer- fifth edition, Technical Search and Rescue-eighth edition. The others were Jones and Bartlett Fire and Emergency Service Administration- first edition, Fire Apparatus and Driver Operator- second edition, Fire Officer- third edition, Rack and Renovation Crews- first edition and Trench Rescue- third edition. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Pam Dickens seconded. Motion approved.

<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Program Title</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Additional Requirements</b>
IFSTA	Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting	6 <sup>th</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
IFSTA	Company Officer	5 <sup>th</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
IFSTA	Technical Search and Rescue	8 <sup>th</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
Jones and Bartlett	Fire & Emergency Services Administration	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
Jones and Bartlett	Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator	2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
Jones and Bartlett	Fire Officer	3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
Jones and Bartlett	Rapid Intervention Crews	1 <sup>st</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ
Jones and Bartlett	Trench Rescue	3 <sup>rd</sup> Edition	Approval of AHJ

David Goldsmith said the committee reviewed and discussed a form that will be added to the 1403 packet. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Pam Dickens seconded. Motion approved.

David Goldsmith said 21 guidelines and protocols in regards to 1403 have had some changes made to them. Greg Lowe motion to approve. Pam Dickens seconded. Motion approved.

### **Eligibility Committee**

Rich Meyer said at the last meeting we discussed the Bromley Fire Department issue where they were falsifying training records and we had to send this back to the legal department because they had numerous falsifications on their list. We are asking them to return the last two years of their state aid money which totals \$16,500.00. Rick Daugherty motion to approve. Kevin Tyler seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said some of the fire departments have been hiring people without their CPAT card. In order to stop this, the board approved that anyone who has hired a firefighter without having a CPAT card, that department will then lose their incentive pay until they become compliant. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Joe Baer seconded. Joe asked how long have these firefighters been employed without a CPAT card. David Goldsmith said if we pass this and the departments employ these firefighters without a CPAT card and we find out, if the department terminates these firefighters when will they come into compliance. Kevin Tyler said his thoughts on this is they knew they violated the law when they did it so the sanctions should stay. Joe Baer asked for how long? If they remove the employee, how long will we hold their incentive pay? Jeff Pohlman asked does everyone lose their incentive pay or is it the individual firefighter. Rich Meyer said everyone. Rich said our concern is getting everyone in compliance. It is a state law. Michael Kurtsinger said in the past we treated each department in their own merit. If a chief falsifies the information that's fraud. We treat that as a fire department issue. If one firefighter doesn't get his training then we go after the one firefighter in that case. The chief has the ultimate responsibility to provide certain information to the Fire Commission. We have to treat each situation based upon the circumstances. Rich Meyer said everyone will have an appeal process. Michael Kurtsinger said we don't have the authority to ask the chief to dismiss someone. Rich Meyer said we should look into this more and fine tune it, before we pass anything. Scott Lawson withdrew his motion. Joe Baer withdrew his motion.

Rich Meyer said there are seventy four fire departments who have applied for the thermal imaging cameras and that list had been approved. Greg Dearing asked how many departments were withdrawn because of the department of local government. Bruce Roberts said three departments. Bromley, Watts and Wax Fire Departments were withdrawn because they are not in compliance. Kevin Tyler motion to approve this list. Rick Daugherty seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said the motion was made and approved by the committee to request incentive pay back for three firefighters at Louisville Fire Department who didn't get their 100 hours in for the year 2015. Kevin Tyler motion to approve. Pam Dickens seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said there are thirty two fire departments who won't be receiving state aid because they didn't meet their annual training.

### **Loan Committee**

Eric Bach said the loan committee met this morning to review two loans. Middle Creek Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$5,000.00 for a four wheel drive truck. Salyersville Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$45,000.00 for a 1997 ladder truck. Kevin Tyler motion to approve these department contingent upon both departments providing vehicle inspection documentation. David Goldsmith seconded. Motion approved.

### **Legislative Committee**

Michael (Howdy) Kurtsinger handed out the legislative reports to the commission. Howdy said right now there are 500 house bills and 230 senate bills. Howdy discussed the following bills: SB71, SB138, SB195, SB145, SB199, HB219, HB245, SB203, HB153, HB303, HB347 and HB419.

### **Training Facility Committee**

Bill Lilly said the Training Facility Committee met this morning. Bill said we had \$9,934.66 returned from Pleasure Ridge Park Fire Department. The committee decided to award this money to Meade County Fire Department. David Goldsmith motion to approve. Greg Lowe seconded. Motion approved.

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

None.

### **Emergency Management**

None.

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

Jeff Pohlman thanked everyone who goes to Frankfort for what they do.

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

None.

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

Joe Baer said their primary focus right now is the legislative session. Joe said the Chamber of Commerce is looking at the pension system again after we went through the reform in 2013. We

are getting a detailed list of all paid and combination departments to see if they participate in social security or not.

### **Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services**

Mike Poynter said they had an update class this morning. There was a good turnout for this class. Mike said either he or someone from KBEMS will be here throughout the Officer's school if anyone has any questions.

### **Old Business**

Tiger Robinson said our next Commission meeting has been changed from April 7<sup>th</sup> to April 14<sup>th</sup> in Morehead Kentucky. Tiger Robinson said our meeting on December 8<sup>th</sup> will be held in Danville Kentucky at the Boyle County Fire Department.

### **New Business**

Tiger Robinson said on the loan applications, we have listed pumper trucks and tankers. We want to change that to fire apparatus. That will have to be a change in KRS to do that.

### **Comments from the Audience**

None.

### **Correspondence**

Ronnie Day said the National Fire Caucus will be May 4<sup>th</sup> through the 6<sup>th</sup> in Washington D.C. Therese said anyone that is planning on going needs to let her know because she needs to get the rooms booked today.

Ronnie Day and Tiger Robinson presented a plaque to David Stump for his dedication to the Fire Commission.

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm (CT).