

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

Fire Commission Minutes

April 22, 2015

Edgewood, Kentucky

Present:

Eric Bach
Rick Daugherty
Greg Dearing
Vicki Herald
Scott Lawson
Bill Lilly
Greg Lowe
Rich Meyer
Tiger Robinson
Jennifer Schott
Bill Swope
Kevin Tyler

Tiger Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Kevin Tyler motion to approve the minutes from February 20, 2015 in Owensboro, Kentucky. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Tiger Robinson thanked Chief Paul LaFontaine, Elsmere Fire Department, Jeff Armstrong, Rich Meyer and the Kenton County Fire Chief's Association for hosting this meeting today.

Personnel Committee

Greg Dearing said the personnel committee met this morning. Greg said we have hired three new employees who will begin work as of May 1, 2015 for SFRT. Erica Cole will be Pat Thompson's administrative assistant with SFRT. Gary Hall will be the new industrial coordinator out of Area 13. Josh Whitis will be the new area coordinator for Area 14.

Greg Dearing said the Fire Commission will be taking up the email communications policy. All of the commission members have a copy of the Kentucky Fire Commission policy regarding email communications. Kevin Tyler motion to approve the email communications policy. Greg Lowe seconded. Motion approved.

Finance Committee

Vicki Herald said the finance committee reviewed the current expenditures for the Fire Commission and SFRT. Everything seems to be in line. We have a few items that will need further discussion. Vicki said we had a motion and approval to accept three different proposals pending approval from the KCTCS Board of Regents. Brenda Goddard said everything is in everyone's folders. This is for next year's budget starting July 1, 2015. Bill Lilly motion to accept the new budget. Rich Meyer seconded. Motion approved.

Loan Committee

Eric Bach said the loan committee did not have a quorum this morning. Eric Bach said he is going to bring these loan requests before the full commission for review and hopefully approval. Greg Dearing motion to approve the minutes from February 20, 2015 in Owensboro, Kentucky. Rich Meyer seconded. Motion approved.

Eric Bach said he reviewed the loan requests and everything appears to be in order and all the criteria has been met. Lebanon Junction is requesting \$32,219.25 for a 2016 Ford F-350 Rescue First Response vehicle. Greg Dearing motion to approve. Greg Lowe seconded. Motion approved.

Salt Lick Fire Department is requesting \$44,250.00 for a 1996 Pierce Pumper. Kevin Tyler motion to approve. Vicki Herald seconded. Motion approved.

Bronston Quinton Fire Department is requesting \$29,432.24 for a medical command unit. Rich Meyer motion to approve. Kevin Tyler seconded. Greg Dearing asked is this an ambulance? Eric Bach said it is a first response truck. Motion approved.

E&E Committee

Greg Lowe said the E&E committee met this morning to consider a number of issues under old business. Greg said we heard the case of Elsmere and the 1403 violation. This has been corrected now in the form of the leadership taking the 1403 class and we now consider that case closed.

Greg Lowe said we heard from Louisville Airport Authority this morning on an individual who was five hours short in the training system for incentive for 2014. The initial decision was to ask for incentive pay back. We discovered the individual did in fact have his hours, but there was a failure in leadership to enter the hours into the training system, therefore we elected to not punish the individual. The chief has made corrections to prevent that problem from reoccurring. This case has been closed.

Greg Lowe said the committee discussed an issue with an instructor with Stamping Ground Fire Department. This individual has an instructor number, but is not 150 hour certified. Bruce Roberts and Jeremy Rodgers will conduct further review on this case. In the interim, this individual's instructor number is temporarily suspended.

Greg Lowe said the Calloway County issue is still under investigation therefore we skipped that issue this morning until the investigation is complete.

Greg Lowe said ECU has a case where an instructor is loaning out his instructor number to staff to sign off on paperwork. The E&E committee is going to have this instructor appear before the committee to explain his side of the story before we take any action.

Greg Lowe said there are training records for one or more individuals for Lexington Fire Department who was not at the training. They were either on worker's comp leave, vacation or sick time. Their names were signed to training rosters. The chief of Lexington has taken action to correct the problem, however we have asked that the individual captain involved appear before the E&E committee to explain his side of the story before we take any further action.

Greg Lowe said River Tutor Fire Department was heard today. Their issue was a lack of 50% of the department receiving their training hours for 2014. There were matters in mitigation that were presented by the chief. The committee felt that

those matters warranted serious consideration and we elected not to deny their state aid.

Greg Lowe said there is an issue in Laurel County concerning a lawsuit in progress concerning a junior firefighter and a bb gun. Until that lawsuit is finalized we are not taking any action in regards to that department.

Greg Lowe said Hickman County Fire Department and Water Valley Fire Department have an issue with overlapping boundaries. There is some discussion now by Hickman County regarding a taxing district so that issue needs to be resolved. We delegated authority to Bruce Roberts to conduct a review with our attorney and we will abide the attorney gives us.

Greg Lowe said we considered three line of duty deaths and approval of benefits to be awarded those families regarding Robert Webster, Jonathan French and Malcolm Jenkins. All three line of duty deaths were approved by the committee.

Bruce Roberts said he received an email last night from Irvington Fire Department. Their chief had quit in January 2015. The assistant chief quit in October 2014. Prior to that there had been no paperwork turned in, no run reports and no training entered into the training system. As of today all reports and training is up to date. Irvington is requesting that we review their state aid and have it reinstated. Greg Dearing motion to approve the actions taken by the E&E committee this morning. Kevin Tyler seconded. Motion approved. Rick Daugherty voted nay on the motion.

Health and Wellness Committee

Rick Daugherty said the health and wellness committee met this morning and approved the minutes from February 20, 2015 meeting in Owensboro, Kentucky. Rick said Bruce Roberts advised the committee that the bids went out and Scheller's was awarded the bid. We are purchasing 130 treadmills that will be delivered to the departments. The completion date for the treadmills has to be done by June 30, 2015. Rick said he asked what happens to the old equipment once it reaches its life expectancy. We carry the warranty and repairs on the equipment for five years. After that it is the property of the department. Greg Lowe motion to accept the health and wellness report. Vicki Herald seconded. Greg Dearing asked how old is the oldest equipment we have out there. Bruce Roberts said seven years old. Motion approved.

Training Facility Committee

Bill Lilly said the training facility committee met this morning. We approved the minutes from February 20, 2014 in Owensboro, Kentucky. Bill Lilly said Brindle Ridge Fire Department returned \$36,000.00. Louisville Fire Department returned \$17,000.00. After July 1st, there will be \$1,053,000.00 to give out this year. Bill Lilly said due to some confusion the training facility grants application returns will be extended out until June 1, 2015. Bill Swope motion to accept the report. Vicki Herald seconded. Motion approved.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Homeland Security

None.

Emergency Management

None.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

Jeff Pohlman said Woody Will is going to step down from doing Smoke Signals. The KFA Conference will be held in Paducah this year.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

None.

Kentucky Professional Firefighter's Association

Joe Baer said we will be holding our convention on August 10th through the 12th in Covington at the Radisson Hotel. Joe said they are currently working on the legislation for the upcoming year.

KBEMS

None.

Old Business

Michael Kurtsinger said the cancer presumption bill was held up this past legislation session. It had passed through the house, but didn't make it through the senate. It will be our number one priority for next year. Michael said eighteen personnel went to Washington D.C. and we had a good turnout of fire service personnel from across the state.

New Business

Ronnie Day said we have a couple of people here with us today. Laura Lamy from Worker's Compensation research institute and Bridget Hickcock from Essential Care are here to conduct a presentation. Laura said their mission is to study worker's compensation systems to provide credible objective research to help systems improve their delivery of worker's compensation services to injured workers. Laura said they have been existence for over thirty years. They are supported through their membership and also a research program that they are trying to get Kentucky included in. Laura said they are asking for a one time subscription of \$50,000.00 to do this. The research includes two studies. Brenda Goddard said we can't give the money as a donation. Laura said it will be a subscription. It is a one-time payment. Tiger Robinson said we thought the amount was going to be \$25,000.00. We will need time to look at the budget and we will be meeting again in June.

Rick Daugherty said it is hard to vote such as in the E&E committee on multiple situations as a block. Rick said there may be one or two situations that a person doesn't agree with. Rick said he voted nay because he didn't agree with everything. Anne Tyler Morgan said if someone has an objection to a certain matter then another motion can be made.

Correspondence

Tiger Robinson said the Lexington Firefighter Combat Challenge will be held on May 30th and 31st at Lexington Green. Tiger said State Fire School will held June 3rd through 7th in Lexington. The KFA Conference will be held August 1st through the 4th in Paducah, Kentucky. Tiger Robinson said the next Commission meeting will be on June 11th in Harrodsburg, Kentucky.

Meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.