

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

Fire Commission Minutes

April 28, 2016

Morehead, Kentucky

Present:

Joe Baer
Teresa Rochetti- Cantrell
Rick Daugherty
Greg Dearing
David Goldsmith
Mike Haney
Vicki Herald
Scott Lawson
Bill Lilly
Dr. William Melahn
Rich Meyer
Jim Nickell
Tiger Robinson
Kevin Tyler

Absent:

Dr. Tracy
Pam Dickens
Mike Dossett
Greg Lowe

Tiger Robinson called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Representative Rocky Adkins thanked everyone for being here today and thanked everyone on the Commission for what they do. Ronnie Day conducted the swearing in of Mike Haney. Ronnie Day introduced his mother to the Commission.

Tiger Robinson said since our last meeting we have had a resignation of Eric Bach as secretary treasurer of the Fire Commission Board. Today we will have a special election for the unexpired term. Jim Nickell motion to nominate Rich Meyer as secretary treasurer. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved. Ronnie Day and Greg Dearing presented Eric Bach with a plaque for his dedication and hard work to the Fire Commission Board.

Kevin Tyler motion to approve the minutes from February 26, 2016 in Owensboro, Kentucky. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Tiger Robinson thanked Area 9, Tammy Duncan and Jeremy Rodgers for all of their hard work on preparing everything for this meeting.

Personnel Committee

Greg Dearing said the personnel committee met this morning and discussed our role in anything that has personnel issues and developing SOP's for the staff.

Eligibility Committee

Rich Meyer said we had an appeal hearing from Bromley Fire Department on the action the Commission had taken at the last meeting where we had requested back two years of their state aid. We will meet again in June to make a decision.

Rich said the eligibility committee met on April 6, 2016 with Chief Fredericks from Louisville Fire Department so they can appeal our decision to request incentive pay back. The committee voted to restore two individuals with their incentive pay. Kevin Tyler motion to approve. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said we have had some departments hiring firefighters who don't have their CPAT cards. State law requires them to have CPAT cards before their employment. Rich said the committee decided that in the future, we decided we need something in writing to penalize departments who hire individuals who don't have CPAT. It was discussed and a motion was made that if a department hires someone without CPAT, then the whole department will lose their incentive pay. Ann Tyler-Morgan said from here on out the law is very clear that any department hiring someone without CPAT certification is in violation of the law. Because they are in violation of the law they are ineligible to participate in the incentive pay program. David Goldsmith said so the law allows the Commission to set that penalty. Ann Tyler-Morgan stated that is true. If a department is not in compliance with CPAT, then they are not eligible for incentive pay. David Goldsmith asked can we get something in writing. He wants to know that we are treating everyone the same way.

Rich Meyer said we need a motion to approve the changes made to the junior firefighter program. Kevin Tyler motion to approve. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said we met with Richmond Fire Department concerning a 1403 live burn they conducted. The Chief escorted a secretary into the fire burn area. Rich Meyer said the committee decided to have the chief go back through the 1403 class. Kevin Tyler motion to have the chief go back through the 1403 class. Greg Dearing seconded. Motion approved. Rick Daugherty voted Nay.

Kevin Tyler asked if it is legal with the bylaws, can we make a motion to give Bruce Roberts the authority to make decisions as needed such as CPAT violations. Greg Dearing said yes, we have to give our staff the authority to sanction and we can come in and back the sanction or reduce the sanction. Kevin Tyler motion that if it is permissible in the by-laws that the Fire Commission Office has the authority to make decisions as needed. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Rich Meyer said Watts/ Caney Fire Department hasn't received state aid since 2007. They can't find financial records prior to 2007. They now have a new chief and they are in compliance with their record keeping. Kevin Tyler motion to give Watts/Caney Fire Department their state aid for FY 2016. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Finance Committee

Greg Dearing said the finance committee met on April 26th. Rich Meyer motion to approve the SFRT budget in the amount of \$1,994,600.00 for the upcoming year. Jim Nickell seconded. Motion approved.

Jim Nickell motion to approve the Fire Commission budget in the amount of \$47,300,300.00 for the upcoming year. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Greg Dearing said state incentive pay will go up to \$4,000.00 per firefighter effective July 1, 2016. State Aid will go to \$11,000.00 a year for volunteer fire departments. Greg said the bad news is if this doesn't continue to get approved, then we could go back to our original amount next year. Ronnie Day said is a budget bill, it is not in KRS.

Loan Committee

Jim Nickell said the loan committee met this morning to discuss one loan. Elkhorn City Fire Department is requesting \$75,000.00 for a 1999 pumper. Kevin Tyler motion to approve. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Legislative Reports

Michael (Howdy) Kurtsinger said the legislative reports are in everyone's packets. Howdy said this session has been probably the best session we have had in ten years or longer. Both incentive pay and state aid have been increased for the upcoming year. Howdy discussed the following bills: SB 43, SB 195, SB 203, SB 232, SB 249, SB 153, HB 215, HB 343 and HB 473.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Emergency Management

None.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

None.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

None.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters

None.

KBEMS

None.

Old Business

Michael Kurtsinger said there are seven Fire Commission Board member positions that will be up for re-appointment in July. If anyone is interested they can contact

Howdy or you can go online and print it out and after it is filled out, send back to the governor's office.

New Business

Joe Baer asked what is the time frame on the regulations for the cancer presumption bill. Ann Tyler-Morgan said we will need to submit new regulations on May 13, 2016. Joe said we are going to have some documentation to back our firefighters for the cancer presumption bill. Mike Haney asked is NFIRS all electronic now. Ronnie Day said it is all electronic. Ronnie Day said we have a mail out going out tomorrow and we can put a letter in the mail out concerning NFIRS.

Correspondence

Ronnie Day said the National Fire Caucus is on May 4th through May 6th in Washington D.C. State Fire School is on June 1st through the 5th in Lexington, Kentucky. Please contact Therese about your room reservations. Combat Challenge is on June 10th through the 12th in Lexington. KFA Conference is on July 29th through August 3rd in Northern Kentucky.

The Fire Commission meeting has been moved from June 9th to June 16th in Bardstown, Kentucky.

Meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.