

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

Minutes

July 29, 2012

Lexington, Kentucky

**Present:**

Eric Bach  
Kristin Chilton  
Rick Daugherty  
Greg Dearing  
Pamela Dickens  
David Goldsmith  
BG John Heltzel  
Walter Lage  
Scott Lawson  
William Lilly  
Greg Lowe  
Rick Meyers  
Jim Nickell  
Tiger Robinson  
Jennifer Schott  
David Stump  
William Swope

Greg Lowe called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Ronnie Day conducted the swearing in of Pamela Dickens, Rick Meyers and Scott Lawson. Bill Lilly motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2012 in Versailles, Kentucky. Jim Nickell seconded. Motion approved.

Greg Lowe said Kristin Chilton, Tiger Robinson, Bill Lilly and Eric Bach were reappointed to the Fire Commission. Greg Lowe thanked Pat Thompson and Betty Rauch for their service to the Fire Commission. Van Taylor welcomed everyone to the KFA conference.

Ronnie Day introduced Luke Saunier to the Fire Commission. Luke is the new Chief of the Division of Forestry. Luke said the DOD program and the FPP program is a way of getting vehicles for the fire departments. Luke said the Division of Forestry is working to help fire departments get Nomex for a fraction of the cost by putting the departments on the state GSA order.

### **E&E Committee**

Kristin Chilton said the E&E committee met on July 17<sup>th</sup> and then again this morning to discuss several items. Kristin said we working on tracking junior firefighter hours in the training system. Kristin said all of the junior firefighter information has been sent to KCTCS legal for approval. Kristin said Bryant Stiles is looking at IFSAC Firefighter I and II to see what they equal in clock hours. Kristin said the E&E committee looked at Fancy Farm's appeal for state aid and has decided to stick with their original decision. The next E&E Committee meeting will be August 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the Versailles training center.

### **Finance Committee**

Walter Lage said the finance committee met this morning. Walter said we are still closing out the 2011-2012 budget. The 2012-2013 budget has been approved and has been put into place. Walter said the finance committee will meet probably around mid-September to start prioritizing the 8.6 million dollars and their line items. One of the line items for Technical Innovations is thermal imaging cameras and PPE's.

### **Loan Committee**

Eric Bach said the loan committee met this morning to consider one loan. Boyle County Fire Department is requesting \$38,096.00 for digital radios. Eric Bach motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

Eric Bach said Boston Fire Department is requesting a one year extension on their loan with us. Eric Bach motion to approve. Bill Lilly seconded. Motion approved.

### **Director's Reports**

Bruce Roberts said all of the fitness equipment has been sent out. Bruce said if the equipment is not being used they will take it to another department. Bruce said Combat Challenge is on August 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Lexington, Kentucky. The walk/ run is on September 15<sup>th</sup> in Frankfort.

### **Legislative**

Michael Kurtsinger said there are three issues that he would like to talk about. Michael said most of the taxing districts have been notified by state auditor Adam Edelen about a survey that is being circulated. Michael said they have had a meeting with the auditor and the state auditor's office is looking for information. Michael said they have the assurance from this office if it is something we can't live with then they wouldn't do it. Michael said they are encouraging everyone to send in this paperwork.

Michael Kurtsinger said there was a letter sent out by a Jefferson County fire association attorney that said they weren't included in the requirements that were passed in the 2009

legislation to change how incentive pay is paid. We are still telling everyone to stick with what the letter says for incentive pay.

Michael Kurtsinger said during the last session legislatures appointed a task force to look at pensions. This could affect everyone's pensions. Michael said they are trying to get a coalition together. The legislative agenda has been moved to Monday. Michael Kurtsinger said he thinks they will go after the pensions hard. We all will need to be prepared. Everyone needs to contact their legislators and representatives. Woody Will said he will put updates on the KFA website.

### **State Fire Rescue Training**

Bryant Stiles said the SFRT reports are in everyone's folders. Bryant said they attended the Southern Group of State Forester's conference in June.

Bryant said we continue to work with Tom Arnold and KSU through the KCTCS colleges on the video tele-training that allows us to send training signals straight into a community.

Bryant said we continue to work with the paramedic training program and we are trying to determine which colleges want to work with SFRT on the development and training program as part of that. The curriculum is being reworked. Jimmy Vancleve is the lead on this program.

Bryant Stiles said the Wendell Ford Training Center continues to go up. We are looking at a completion date of October 15<sup>th</sup> right now.

Bryant said they are testing bunker gear to make sure that it meets the new NFPA standards. Marc Rudder is coordinating that along with several other members of our staff.

### **Executive Director Report**

Ronnie Day said they met with the forestry officials several different times. Ronnie said there is a lot of surplus equipment that fire departments can get. Ronnie said we are looking at hiring someone to screen this program. Ronnie said fire departments can send in a wish list and hopefully we will be able to find what the departments need. Luke Saunier said after a short period of time that surplus becomes the departments to keep or sell if they want to.

Ronnie Day said they met with the department of health and Rick Bobo from Emergency Management concerning the regional hazmat teams. A lot of these teams are struggling. Ronnie said this program will allow EPA to bill for what equipment we use.

Ronnie Day said we have an EMAC mutual aid agreement exercise that we will be conducting with Indiana in late September.

Ronnie said Estill County Fire Department was awarded a fire simulator. It is about a \$300,000.00 piece of equipment. Ronnie said we are in the process of working out a lease with them for the fire simulator.

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

William Swope thanked all the fire chiefs and fire departments for being proactive as it relates to inspections on fireworks displays. Bill said the biggest complaint was the noise.

Bill said there is a product out on the market that the concept is that of a hot air balloon. When lit it gives off gases and causes the contraption to lift off in the sky. Basically there is an open flame that is uncontrolled. Bill said they are going to try to ban these products in the state of Kentucky.

Bill said a machine has been developed to roll cigarettes. The problem is this machine doesn't use the safe cigarette paper and it doesn't go through the testing process. Bill said there have been some questions about this from the fire service. Bill said within the last month there was a federal ruling that designated those facilities that have that machine to go through the same process that the larger companies do.

### **Homeland Security**

Tom Arnold said the Nims cast reports are due in September. Tom said the fire departments will probably be getting inquiries asking for training records to complete those reports.

Tom said the Fire Commission partnership with the fusion center is going well. They have had several briefings out in the state informing departments about the role of the fusion center and what it means to the fire service.

### **Emergency Management**

General Heltzel said the hazmat exercise this week is a state level exercise. It does have a regional component. General Heltzel recommends that all departments contact their county directors and be a part of that regional response.

General Heltzel said we are working on an EMAC exercise that will be a coordinating a response into Indiana to test that capability along with an incident management team to develop a mutual aid support system.

General Heltzel said we did have a win with house bill 55. We now have the ability to push interstate mutual aid across the river. We are publishing and implementing guidelines for that this month.

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

None.

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

None.

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

Rick Daugherty said they will be concentrating on the pension reform and look forward to working with everyone.

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

None.

### **Old Business**

Greg Lowe said the fire commission meeting originally scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup> has been changed to September 27<sup>th</sup> at Grayson Fire Department in Carter County at 1:00 p.m.

Greg Lowe said the whitebook will be out by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Every fire department will receive a disk of the whitebook.

Greg Lowe said the opinion of the attorney general's office is we can do what we want with special firefighters. Greg said if a fire department wants to have special firefighters it must be included in their by-laws. Greg said there will be an application process for special firefighters.

### **New Business**

Greg Lowe asked the commission members to look at the committees they are on now. If they want to change, this is the time to do that. Greg said he would like everyone's input back by August 13<sup>th</sup>.

Greg Lowe said everyone needs to be at the Church for the memorial service by 3:15 p.m. All the commission members will sit together.

Greg Lowe said Combat Challenge is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> in Lexington. The State Fallen Firefighter Memorial is on October 3<sup>rd</sup> in Frankfort. The National Fallen Firefighter Memorial is October 4<sup>th</sup> through the 8<sup>th</sup> in Emmetsburg. The Mid Atlantic Conference is October 10<sup>th</sup> through the October 14<sup>th</sup> in Delaware.

### **Correspondence**

Ronnie Day said the new commission members need to see Michael Kurtsinger and Ronnie before they leave.

Woodrow Will said he would like a picture of all of the new commission members before they leave.

Meeting adjourned at 2:11 p.m.