

KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION

Fire Commission Meeting

Minutes

August 4, 2022

Corbin, Kentucky

Present:

Chris Black
Wayne Briscoe
Joe Choate
Josh Keats
Tamela Kerr
Ricky King
Scott Lawson
Lonnie Madden
Dwane Smeathers
Mike Sutt

Absent:

Mike Haney
Dustin Isaacs
Andrew Scott

Ex Officio Members

Present:

Joe Baer
Eric Philpot
Cathy Rigney

Absent:

Dr. Paul Czarapata

Ricky King called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm (EST). Scott Lawson motion to approve the minutes from June 16, 2022 for the Special called Fire Commission meeting. Wayne Briscoe seconded. Motion approved.

Old Business

None.

EMS Committee

Mike Sutt said that the EMS Committee met this morning to discuss of options on the table. We are in the process of trying to figure out how to offer a no cost or reduced cost EMT and First Responder classes across the state. We see the need and the shortage for EMT's across the state. Gary Hall is working on an analysis and will bring back to us at the next Commission meeting. No action has been taken at this time.

Education Committee

Lonnie Madden said the Education Committee met this morning. Casey Hall and Marc Rudder gave us a breakdown on the new syllabus for the recruit class. Marc Rudder said everyone should have a copy of the syllabus for the Recruit Academy that starts on August 22, 2022 at NRPC. Casey went through this and conducted a correlation chart in basis of what college credit these firefighters will be able to receive after they graduate. Unfortunately, we will not be able to do this with the first class due to working out things with Madisonville Community College which will be the home college. We are in the process of scheduling a few meetings with them following the beginning of the semester.

Marc Rudder said we will be rolling out the curriculum for the Officer III and IV programs in the state. These will be embedded in the degree program.

Eligibility Committee

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee met this morning to look at three LODD's. The first LODD is for Greg Schultz with the Southern Campbell Fire Department. Chris Black motion to approve. Scott Lawson seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said the next LODD is for Gary Melvin with the Paintsville Fire Department. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Lonnie Madden seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said the next LODD is for Phillip Caudill with the Garrett Fire Department. Scott Lawson motion to approve. Wayne Briscoe seconded. Motion approved.

State Fire Rescue Training

Marc Rudder said SFRT has trained 659 fire departments in FY 2022. They delivered 6520 classes. Marc said they have a calendar on the Fire Commission's website of the virtual training. Each district will offer two virtual classes each month. Marc said we have a lot of new faces since our last conference here. Marc introduced Pat Crane, Janell McFall, Jeremy Baxter, Chris Gosnell, Wes Gilliam, and Kim Hollis to the Commission. Marc said that Kelly Harris retired at the end of July. Marc said they are currently in the hiring process for the NRPC Coordinator, and they are preparing to advertise for a training specialist that will cover Districts 5, 6, and 7. Marc said we hope by the end of the year that we will have the District 12 Coordinator and Field Office Coordinator hired. Marc said the Recruit Academy will start on August 22 at NRPC.

Fire Marshal's Office

STATE FIRE MARSHAL REPORT

I apologize that I couldn't be here in person today. We are working on two facilities requiring immediate action.

I want to thank the Kentucky Firefighters Association for their continued support and for the work they do for our communities.

The State Fire Marshal is in the process of hiring 3 Deputy State Fire Marshals, additionally, we have interviewed for a field supervisor in our Hazardous Materials Sections with a hire waiting approval from the Dept of Personnel. The Hazardous Materials field supervisor position is a first for our division and we are please to finally fill this need.

We are reclassifying all DSFM I, II, and IIIs in hopes of updating those classifications along with our Hazardous Material Inspector I, II positions as well, The Hazardous Materials 3 position has been completed with the field supervisor positions filled in that section.

We will be giving the Fire Marshal's Inspector I and II class for the Southeastern KY Fire School in October. Thank you to the SKFA for the invite. We continue to get a lot of requests for the class.

Lastly, we are making plans to do set up and monitoring of the Kentucky State Fair through the period of August 18th through the 28th. This is a yearly operational task that the Fire Marshal has been performing for over 40 years.

That is all for now. Thank you

Mike Haney
State Fire Marshal

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security

Josh Keats said the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security is helping with the relief efforts or any requests that they may receive from EMA or the local law enforcement agencies.

Kentucky Firefighter's Association

Eric Philpot thanked everyone for being here. Eric said the Memorial will be held today at 3:00 pm. The KFA has a few resolutions that will be presented at the business meetings starting tomorrow.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

Cathy Rigney said the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs Conference is coming up on August 23rd through August 25th in Bowling Green Kentucky.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association

Joe Baer said as a result of HB 777 that passed, it also created an EMS taskforce. They met for the first-time last month. Joe said they were recently contacted by Senator Givens' staff, and he wants us to present at the next meeting. He had a list of things that he wants us to address from our Representatives at the International Association of Firefighters. Joe said the next meeting is scheduled for August 16, 2022 at 3:00 pm at the Capital Annex.

Joe Baer said that Representative Meredith reached out to them and asked them to present their legislative agenda for the upcoming session.

Kentucky Board of Emergency Medical Services

A representative of KBEMS said they are going through the transition to state government as a part of HB 777.

New Business

Ricky King said the following people will be on the By-Laws committee: Dwane Smeathers, Joe Choate, Wayne Briscoe, Bruce Roberts, Jeremy Rodgers, and Joe Baer. John Wood said that his Office should be involved in the changes to the By-Laws. Ricky King said the By-Laws Committee will get with John Wood before they present anything to the Commission Board.

Larry Potter welcomed everyone here today. Larry asked everyone to keep Tiger Robinson in their thoughts. Jeremy Rodgers said we put out a notice that if anyone has any equipment that they would be willing to donate, please send an email to Jeremy or Marc Rudder. Jeremy said we have around four fire departments that have been completely wiped out. Larry said that Jeremy and Marc split up the Eastern Kentucky counties on Monday and did an assessment on the fire departments. Larry said we continuing to work on our trying to upgrade our facilities across the state and do away with the leases.

Larry Potter said we are excited about NRPC and the new recruit academy. Larry thanked Marc Henderson, Jeremy Baxter, Dustin Staves, and everyone there for all of their hard work.

Larry Potter said we will have a new State Aid Specialist in our office soon. Richard Wright will be our new Asset Management Specialist. Jeremy said the new State Aid Specialist is Morgan Gaunce and she will start August 16th.

Correspondence

Ricky King said the Fire Commission Office staff work constantly. IFSAC testing is going on across the state. The junior firefighter camp was held last weekend. Ricky thanked the staff for everything that they do.

Announcements from the Audience

Mark Lockett said he sees good things coming out of the Fire Commission Office. Mark said to keep up the good work and keep moving forward.

Chris Black motion to adjourn. Wayne Briscoe seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:34 pm (EST).