

KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION

Fire Commission Meeting

Minutes

July 29, 2023

Louisville, Kentucky

Present:

Chris Black
Wayne Briscoe
Joe Choate
Ricky King
Lonnie Madden
Andrew Scott
Dwane Smeathers
Dr. Irvin Smith
Jerry Stephens
Mike Sutt
Father Matthew Young

Absent:

Mike Haney
Josh Keats

Ex Officio Members

Present:

Rick Bobo
Joe Baer

Absent:

Nathan Mulvey

Ricky King called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm (EST). Rick Bobo thanked everyone for being here at the KFA Conference. Ricky King thanked Rick Bobo and the KFA for their hospitality. Chris Black motion to approve the minutes from June 14, 2023 in Burlington Kentucky. Jerry Stephens's seconded. Motion approved.

Old Business

Chris Black motion to approve the second reading of the by-laws. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved.

Health and Wellness Committee

Jerry Stephens said this morning's discussion was concerning mental health. No action was taken.

Training Facility Grants Committee

Chris Black said the Training Facility Committee met on July 11th and 12th. We had sixty-two applications sent to us. We awarded thirty grants totaling \$999,960.00. Chris Black motion to approve. Mike Sutt seconded. Motion approved. Chris thanked everyone who helped out with the Training Facility Grants.

Finance Committee

Joe Choate said the Finance Committee met this morning and approved the \$2,000.00 base salary increase from the KCTCS Board of Regents recommendation. Joe Choate motion to approve. Chris Black seconded. Motion approved.

Joe Choate said that Executive Director Potter recommended a proposal for compensation for salaries for the employees. Joe said we approve that in the Finance Committee meeting. Joe Choate motion to approve. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved.

Eligibility Committee

Dwane Smeathers said the Eligibility Committee met this morning and discussed the no show fees for IFSAC testing. This issue was tabled for now. The Committee will set up a workshop and work out the details on this issue.

Dwane Smeathers said we have four line of duty deaths that needs to be approved. They are for Greg Vanhooose, Mitch Christian, Bobby Mosby, and Norman Lytle. Dwane Smeathers motion to approve these LODD's. Jerry Stephens seconded. Motion approved.

Loan Committee

Joe Choate said the Loan Committee met this morning to look at three loan requests. Boyle County Fire Protection District is requesting \$81,237.50 for SCBA Cylinder Replacements. Allegre Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$75,000.00 to build a truck bay area. Zion Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$80,000.00 for a pumper. Joe Choate motion to approve these loan requests. Chris Black seconded. Motion approved.

State Fire Rescue Training

Marc Rudder thanked the Commission for their continued support and thanks to the staff. Marc said we provided training to 721 fire departments. We trained 95,458 students this past fiscal year. We delivered 7,278 classes this past fiscal year.

Marc Rudder said we have had six new coordinators since the last KFA Conference. We have a new Accredited Certification Specialist. We have three new Training Specialists and two Field Office Support Specialists. We have purchased new property in London and Somerset. We have completed our Accreditation Site visit. Marc Rudder said we have added Awareness, Operations and Technician levels for common passenger vehicles. Marc said we have started the process of scheduling Accredited Certification classes. Marc said we have two pumpers that have been ordered. We have a new Survival and Rescue Prop. We have two more ordered that should be in soon. Marc Rudder said we have had two graduate classes from the Fire Academy of Kentucky. The next class should begin the third week of August.

Gary Hall said last year the Commission approved two EMTS classes and four EMR classes. The EMT classes were in London and Bowling Green. The EMR classes were held in Princeton, Calhoun, Morehead, and Somerset. 29 students started the EMT class. 18 students completed the class. 12 students passed the National Registry. 67 students started the EMR classes. 49 students completed the class and 27 passed the National Registry.

Fire Commission Operations

Jeremy Rodgers said the State Aid Proof of Purchases is due by July 31, 2023 by the close of the business day. Jeremy said as of this past Thursday, we only had about 60% of them in. Jeremy said that he and Marc Rudder are going across the

state giving out the pieces of the grant equipment. Jeremy said the final 72 AED's are in. Jeremy said we do have spare pacs in the Office.

Jeremy Rodgers said we are in the final stages of setting up the E-Library. We have 10,000 seats. The rollout plan is for August 21st. Jeremy said there are 38 titles on the E-Library.

Pat Thompson said The Academy is going strong. Pat said with the next class, we are up to 40 people. They will represent 16 fire departments. Pat said a large majority of the students in the EMT class are doing well.

Fire Marshal's Office

None.

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security

None.

Kentucky Firefighters Association

Rick Bobo said that the KFA will have their meeting tomorrow. Rick said they have some important Legislative issues to look at. The Resolutions Committee will meet this afternoon. Rick introduced John Paul Jones to the Commission. Rick said that P. Kirby is coming tomorrow from the Virginia Firefighter's Association.

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

Mike Sutt said the Kentucky Association of Fire Chief's conference will be held August 22nd through the 24th in Bowling Green. Danny Castle is retiring at the end of this year from KAFC.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association

Joe Baer said that the KPFF's main priority right now is legislative issues. They are working with committees and legislators on a number of issues. Jeff Taylor is the new Legislative Coordinator for the KPFF.

KBEMS

None.

New Business

Larry Potter thanked the KFA for having us here. Larry said we have good people working for us at the Fire Commission. We don't want to lose our identity as the Fire Commission. We appreciate everyone's support and everything that you do. Larry said we are continuing to work on the Academy. KCTCS has designated us as the 17th College. Larry said we have put in our six-year capital budget. Ricky King said that the Commission is trying to give back to the fire departments.

Bruce Roberts said the new KRS for PTSD and Loans has gone into effect.

Comments from the Audience

Father Matthew Young saluted and complimented the Monticello Fire Department for the work that they do.

Dwane Smeathers motion to adjourn. Jerry Stephens seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:48 pm (EST).