

KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION

Fire Commission Meeting

Minutes

December 6, 2023

Greenville, Kentucky

Present:

Chris Black
Nick Clark
Mike Haney
Ricky King
Lonnie Madden
Andrew Scott
Dwane Smeathers
Dr. Irvin Smith
Jerry Stephens
Mike Sutt
Father Matthew Young

Absent:

Joe Choate
Josh Keats

Ex Officio Members

Present:

Joe Baer
Kyle Carpenter
Nathan Mulvey

Ricky King called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm (CST). Dwane Smeathers motion to approve the minutes from October 11, 2023 in Munfordville Kentucky. Nick Clark seconded. Motion approved.

Eligibility Committee

Dwane Smeathers said Assistant Chief Joe Back from the Whitesburg Fire Department passed away from a cardiac issue. Chris Black motion to approve the LODD benefits for Joe Back. Mike Sutt seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said that Marc Hernandez from the CVG Airport passed away from cancer. Chris Black motion to approve the LODD benefits for Marc Hernandez. Mike Sutt seconded. Motion approved.

Dwane Smeathers said a new fire department has formed in Kentucky. The West Cloverfork Fire Department will be a Chapter 273 department.

Education Committee

Lonnie Madden said the Education Committee met this morning. Marc Rudder said the Kentucky Fire Commission has worked with the Kentucky Department of Education on Apprentice I and II certificates. These certificates will be awarded in High Schools through the Fire Science Technology programs. These certificates can also count towards KCTCS dual credit. Marc said these hours are similar to the Kentucky Basic I and II hours. Marc said that he, Jeremy Rodgers, and Mary Adams will be meeting with the Department of Education through Zoom on December 13, 2023 to discuss these classes. Dwane Smeathers motion to approve the Apprentice I and II certificates. Lonnie Madden seconded. Marc Rudder said these certifications will not be awarded to the junior firefighter programs. Motion approved.

Marc Rudder said that the Kentucky Fire Academy and the Madisonville Community College have been working together to deliver college training through the fire science program. The class will begin on February 19, 2024. This recruit class will be eligible to receive 21 hours of college free through Madisonville upon successful completion of the class. They will receive an Academic Certificate from Madisonville Community College and if they take the EMT class, they can finish in 17 weeks and earn 30 hours in college credits going towards a 64-hour degree.

Loan Committee

Dwane Smeathers said the Loan Committee met this morning to discuss three loan requests. Camp Dix Volunteer Fire Department is requesting \$74,929.24 for a 2023 Ram Rescue Truck. Nick Clark motion to approve. Chris Black seconded. Motion approved.

McLean Eastern District (Livermore) is requesting \$56,189.00 for a 2023 Ford F-250 Rescue Truck. Andrew Scott motion to approve. Mike Haney seconded. Motion approved.

Custer Fire Department is requesting \$30,405.19 for a 2024 Spartan Rescue Pumper. Dwane Smeathers motion to approve. Father Matthew Young seconded. Dwane Smeathers said that Custer Fire Department did not receive State Aid three years in a row due to a change in administration. Dwane said the committee recommended approving because they only requested \$30,405.19 and the pumper costs much more than that. Motion approved.

State Fire Rescue Training

Marc Rudder said the District Offices are staying busy training. We are almost at full staff again. Pat Thompson thanked everyone for being here. He said the completion of the new building should be in January 2024.

Fire Commission Operations

Jeremy Rodgers said the Operations side of the Fire Commission is extremely busy. Jeremy said the training hours are due at the end of the month for the firefighters who receive Incentive pay. Scott Landram is the new Training Records Compliance Specialist who took over Adam Maulden's old position. Jeremy said that he, Larry Potter, and Brenda Goddard will be working on the grants in the next few weeks.

Fire Marshal's Office

Mike Haney said the Fire Marshal's Office is finally fully staffed. Mike said they have been working with Jeremy Rodgers on PPE grants. Mike said they would like to have all of the fire school dates so they can teach Inspector I and II at these schools. Mike said they are working on adopting a new Kentucky Building Code.

Kentucky Office of Homeland Security

None.

Kentucky Firefighters Association

Kyle Carpenter said the Legislative Session will be here soon. Please download the KFA App to get the latest updates. Kyle said the next KFA meeting will be at Owensboro at the Green River Officer's School on Friday, February 23rd at 8:30 am (CST).

Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs

Nathan Mulvey said the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs has a new Executive Director, Tom Arnold. Nathan said they are working with Kentucky EM on a new draft of a Statewide Mutual Aid agreement.

Kentucky Professional Firefighters Association

Joe Baer said the Legislative Chili dinner will be held on January 10, 2024 at the Foundry on Broadway in Frankfort Kentucky. Joe said we would like to host a Lobby Day with the other organizations and encourage members to set up meetings with their legislators. Joe Baer said he made a request with the IAFF to provide peer support. The first class provided by the IAFF will be on April 18, 2024 in London Kentucky. The second class will be held on September 9 and 10, 2024 in Owensboro Kentucky. Each one of these classes has a max of thirty students. Joe said he has a meeting tomorrow with Representative John Blanton on the elimination of spiking provisions. Joe said that he and Bruce Roberts met with Representative Mike Meredith concerning codifying the Incentive Pay and State Aid increases. Joe said that he has been working with EM on drafting policies and admin regulations for the USAR Bill that had passed last year.

KBEMS

None.

New Business

Derrick Hall said he has been working at the Fire Academy a lot. Derrick said the property is ready at District 2. Derrick said that he is working on getting sheds at all of the District Offices. He is looking for properties for Hazard and Paintsville.

Jeremy Rodgers said we have two things that is not on the agenda that we need to discuss. The first item is the election of officers at the February meeting. Jeremy said we have received four pieces of correspondence. Ricky King has shown interest in running for Chairman. Joe Choate is running for the vice chairman

position. Chris Black is running for secretary. Lonnie Madden is running for secretary. Bruce Roberts said everyone has until the end of this meeting to turn in their letters of intent.

Jeremy Rodgers said the other item is to set meeting dates for 2024. The meeting dates are as follows:

Fire Commission Meeting Dates- 2024

Date	Time	Location
February 23, 2024	1:00 pm (CST)	Owensboro, KY
April 24, 2024	1:00 pm (EST)	Paris, KY
June 12, 2024	1:00 pm (EST)	Paris, KY
August 3, 2024	1:00 pm (CST)	Owensboro, KY
October 9, 2024	1:00 pm (EST)	Paris, KY
December 4, 2024	1:00 pm (EST)	Paris, KY

John Wood said we need to vote on the meeting dates for 2024. John said the letters needs to be read during this meeting or a motion to consider those letters read. Andrew Scott motion to accept the letters as read. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Motion approved. Dwane Smeathers motion to approve the meeting dates for 2024. Mike Haney seconded. Motion approved.

Executive Director Comments

Larry Potter welcomed everyone to the Fire Commission meeting. Larry thanked Pat Thompson and everyone who provided the wonderful meal. Larry said we have added some new positions to the Fire Commission Office. Larry said we hired for a new HR Specialist. We are looking at hiring an IT specialist for the office. Larry Potter said we have done a letter of intent to purchase property in Mt. Sterling for the IFSAC program.

Announcements from the Audience

None.

Chris Black motion to adjourn. Dwane Smeathers seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:54 pm (CST).