



# Kentucky Firefighters Association, Inc.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
Eric Philpot

CORBIN FIRE DEPARTMENT  
805 SOUTH MAIN STREET  
CORBIN, KY 40701

PH: 606-765-8827 Email: Secretary@kyfa.org

## 2024 Fall Meeting Minutes November 9, 2024 Ashland, Ky

Meeting called to order by President Kyle Carpenter at 09:00 AM EST

Invocation by Secretary Eric Philpot

Pledge led by Secretary Eric Philpot

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Eric Philpot:

President Carpenter  
1<sup>st</sup> VP Rucker  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP Crawford  
3<sup>rd</sup> VP Roberts  
VP at Large Thompson  
Treasurer Bobo  
Secretary Philpot

Approval of 2024 Conference Meeting Minutes (Owensboro, Ky):

**\*\*Motion by VP Thompson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by VP Crawford, no discussion, all in favor**

### Guest Speakers:

- Steve Hirsch with NVFC joined via zoom.

### Officers Reports:

- President Kyle Carpenter
  - **August 2024**
    - Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>- 7<sup>th</sup> KFA Conference
    - Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>- State Fair Booth
    - Aug. 19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Fire Chief Conference
    - Aug. 27<sup>th</sup>- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting
  - **September 2024**
    - Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>- Memorial Meeting
    - Sept. 10<sup>th</sup>- Funeral Belfry FD Darrell Helton
    - Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>- Local Government Committee
    - Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>- KLC Conference
  - **October 2024**
    - Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup>-Kentucky Fallen firefighters Memorial
    - Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting
    - Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>- Fire Commission Meeting
    - Oct. 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>- Buffalo Trace Fire School
    - Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>- State Fire School Meeting
  - **November 2024**
    - Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>- South Central Association Fire School Bowling Green KY

- **1<sup>st</sup> VP Eddie Rucker**
  - August 3, 2024 – attended a pre-conference meeting at Owensboro Ky,
  - August 4-6, 2024 – attended the conference at Owensboro, Ky.
  - August 7, 2024 – attended after conference meeting.
  - August 23 -24 - 2024 – attended Ky State Fair and helped run KFA booth.
  - September 9, 2024 – attended the visitation of Captain Darrell Helton of the Belfrey Volunteer Fire Department.
  - September 16, 2024 -attended the Carter County Fire Fighter Association Meeting at Hitchins Ky.
  - September 18, 2024 – Attended Eastern KY Firefighters Meetings at Hitchins Ky.
  - October 2, 2024 – Attended state memorial at Frankfort.
  - October 26, 2024 – Attended funeral of Captain Donita Shaffer of the Hitchins Volunteer Fire Department.
  
- **2<sup>nd</sup> VP Chris Crawford**
  - All Dixie Firefighters Meetings
  - Dixie Fire School meetings
  - Pikeville Fire School
  - Fallen Firefighter Memorial
  
- **3<sup>rd</sup> VP Troy Roberts**
  - August 2024
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Attended KFA Conference Owensboro, KY
  - September 2024
    - 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Attended Pikeville Fire School set up booth in vendor hall
    - 10<sup>th</sup> Attended local ESA (emergency services association) meeting
  - October 2024
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Attended Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Frankfort
    - 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Attended GRFA Fall Fire School
  
- **VP at Large Pat Thompson**
  - **August 2024**
    - 8/2-6 KFA Conference in Owensboro
    - 8/7 KFA Executive board meeting in Owensboro
    - 8/15 Kentucky State Fair
    - 8/17-18 Kentucky State Fair
    - 8/27 NVFC Membership meeting via Zoom
  - **September 2024**
    - 9/3 NVFC Conference Committee meeting via Zoom
    - 9/4 Kentucky FF Memorial meeting via Zoom
    - 9/13 NVFC Death Certificate meeting via Zoom
    - 9/18-21 NVFC Fall Conference in Kansas City, MO
  - **October 2024**
    - 10/2 Kentucky Fallen Firefighters Memorial in Frankfort
    - 10/6-9 USFA/NVFC Summit in Emmitsburg, MD
    - 10/25-27 GRFA Fall Fire School in Owensboro
    - 10/30 State Fire School meeting via Zoom
  - **November 2024**
    - 11/7 NVFC/OSHA Testimony Workshop Webinar via Zoom
    - 11/9 KFA Executive Board meeting in Ashland
  
- **Treasurer Bonita Bobo**

Major Highlights – 1st Quarter 2024-2025

  - Continued the Monthly Management Report
    - Share with EBoard beginning of each month
    - Snapshot of activity going in and out monthly (all deposits/all expenditures)
    - Includes all banking account balances
  - Money Market/Earned Income
    - 1.49% interest
    - \$811.79 - 1st Quarter total
  - Financial Documents
    - Shared with EBoard – November 4, 2024
      - Profit and Loss Summary
      - Profit and Loss Detail
      - 1st Quarter Budget Report

- KFA Conference Committee
    - Income
      - Registration - \$5,768.14 (94 Registered/3 Invoices Pending)
      - Sponsorship - \$0
      - Program - \$0
    - Expenses
      - The Limestone (Banquet/due at signing) - \$6,730.00
  - Membership Income
    - Department - \$16,607.07
    - Personal - \$804.89
    - Sustaining - \$1,403.06
    - Total 1st Quarter - \$18,815.02
  - License Plate Audit
    - Submitted by M. Bayer Consulting
      - October 8, 2024
  - 2023-2024 Tax Return
    - Submitted to John Dean CPA
      - September 6, 2024
    - CPA will file with IRS after completion
      - Due December 31, 2024
  - VFIS Insurance
    - Submitted payment August 12, 2024
- Secretary Eric Philpot
    - August 6: KFA E-Board Meeting Owensboro, Kentucky
    - September 4: Memorial Meeting Virtual
    - September 12: Behavioral Health Summit Corbin, Kentucky
    - August 16-17: Ky State Fair Louisville, Kentucky
    - October 2: Ky Fallen Firefighter Memorial Frankfort, Kentucky
    - October 4-6: SKFA Fire School London, Kentucky
    - October 16: Chapter 75 Legislative Meeting Virtual
    - October 18-20: Buffalo Trace Fire School Maysville, Kentucky
    - October 30: KFA Conference Management Committee Meeting Virtual
    - October 30: State Fire School Meeting Virtual
    - November 9: KFA Fall Executive Board Meeting Ashland, Kentucky
    - November 9: KFA Conference Management Committee Meeting Ashland, Kentucky
    - Promoted KFA to the fire departments in the regional associations.
    - Received Department, Personal, and Sustaining memberships and sent out certificates to members.
    - Worked on KFA Conference Registrations.

### Treasurers Report – Bonita Bobo

- Financial standings
  - On File with Secretary Philpot
    - \*\*Motion to accept by VP Crawford, VP Thompson, no discussion, all in favor**

### Membership Report – Eric Philpot

- Membership status:
  - 144 DEPARTMENT MEMBERS CURRENT (256 in 2023)
  - 36 PERSONAL MEMBERS (26 in 2023)
  - 8 SUSTAINING MEMBERS (23 in 2023)
- Secretary Philpot announced we now have annual challenge coins for personal members which should help increase those numbers yearly.

### Executive Director Report – Randy Lawson

The following is a summary of activity for the quarter (since last E Board meeting)

- August
  - Conference Zoom meeting 7/31/2024
  - E Board Meeting – 8/3/2024
  - Conference Management Committee meeting – 8/4/2024
  - KFA Conference – 8/3-6/2024

- Worked the KFA booth at the State Fair – 8/22/2024
- The Conference Management Committee has been working to debug the Conference registration site.
- o September
  - Delivered the correct KFA Bible to Chief Moulton of Zoneton from a previous LOD – 10/12/2024
- o October
  - Attended the Chapter 75 hearing with the Joint A & R Committee in Frankfort – 10/116/2024
  - Participated in a Conference Management Committee (Zoom) – 10/30/2024
  - Participated in a State Fire School Meeting (Zoom) – 10/30/2024

## Agency Reports:

### **Ky Fire Marshal – Mike Haney:**

Not present, no report submitted

### **Ky Fire Commission – Bruce Roberts (Report given by Pat Thompson):**

Bruce will continue to serve as Executive Director until next year. Getting back to normal operations. State Aide is sent out as the money is received so the money should be dispersed soon.

### **State Fire Rescue Training – Marc Rudder (Report read by Pat Thompson):**

As we are in November, we are winding down the Fall fire school season, but we are continuing to stay busy. We have seen good attendance at our regional fire schools this year. In department is in process as we have provided training to 48% of the Commonwealth's departments during the first quarter of FY25. Please contact your District office to schedule training for your department.

The Accredited Certification office will be transitioning from NFPA 1072 to NFPA 470 for our certification of HazMat Awareness and HazMat Operations on January 1, 2025. Any person that has begun the process and not completed, will have until December 20, 2024 to complete the process for those levels or they must start over. A candidate must complete the written and skills portions to the same NFPA standard. Contact the Accredited Certification office for additional information.

SFRT will soon be releasing a schedule for the following courses that will cover a time period from January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026: Fire Instructor 1 and 2, Fire Officer 1, 2, 3, and 4, Driver Operator Pumper and Driver Operator Aerial. We hope that this will provide candidates an opportunity to better plan their career advancement path. There will also be a schedule for Firefighter Survival, Firefighter Rescue, and Flashover Recognition and Survival full courses with skills as well as our virtual offerings for the lecture sessions of these course.

Welcome to Buzzy Campbell as our District 15 Training Coordinator. Buzzy comes to us with more than ten years of part-time experience with our organization following a career at Richmond Fire Department retiring as Fire Chief. Brian Steele resigned effective October 31, 2024 to accept a job as Director of Safety/Security for Southland Christian Church.

Pat Thompson, The Fire Academy of Kentucky Coordinator, will present an update on our academy that is beginning the final week of Class 005.

Thank you to Pat Thompson for presenting my report today, as I have prior commitments and could not participate in your meeting.

### **KBEMS – Eddie Slone:**

Not present, no report submitted

### **KY Professional Firefighters – Joe Baer:**

AFG grant opens 11/12 for any department that wants to apply. Working on 2025 Convention in May 18-21 in Florence, Ky. Will be doing raffle for an ATV that all proceeds will go to Chip Terry Fund. Winner will be drawn at convention. Legislative priority for this upcoming short session will be Chapter 75 Funding, Improving Retiree Healthcare for those hired after 2003 (want to provide full funding for family or full funding for single plan), adding additional cancers to cancer deaths (want to just say "any cancer"). Firefighter Legislative Chili Dinner will be February 5, 2025 at the Foundry on Main. Will provide talking points that KPFF has for upcoming legislative session meetings. LEX18 is doing a story on the cancer screening bill that was passed last legislative session. Joe, Bruce, and a firefighter from Lexington FD were interviewed about the cancer screenings. Lexington FD will be doing screenings for all firefighter's 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January 2025. Will be trying to do screenings across the commonwealth at different locations. Working on administrative regulations on how the program will work, looking at reimbursement or Fire Commission scheduling. Link for Screening Locations

**Ky Fire Chiefs – Mike Morgan:**

Not present, no report submitted

**Ky Homeland Security – Josh Keats:**

Not present, no report submitted

**Ky Emergency Management – Dustin Heiser:**

Not present, no report submitted

**Supporting Heroes – Eric Johnson:**

Not present, no report submitted

**Directors Reports:**

- **Big Sandy – Mike Brown:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Bluegrass – Stephen Fante (Report given by Rick Bobo):**
  - Bluegrass Emergency Service Report
    - Thank you Mr. President
    - Our last meeting was on the 17th of September held at Shelby County Fire and was very well attended.
    - Went over the Ch 75 committee work going on across the commonwealth
    - Went over notes and resolutions from the conference, OSHA updates.
    - BESA drafted a letter of support for the CH 75 committee
    - Discussion on Hazmat region 6, getting this team built up again
    - Oct 19 was the Shelby CO/ Spencer Co bass fishing tournament
    - Dec 7th Christmas parade in Shelby CO.
    - Dec. 20th is the annual Christmas breakfast at Shelby CO.
    - Looking forward to attending the regional association meeting in Bowling Green on the 21st
    - Our next meeting is November 19th at Zoneton fire department.
- **Buffalo Trace – David Kalb (Report given by Kyle Carpenter):**
  - Had fire school with over 450 students. Great attendance and beautiful weekend. Food Truck Festival in April. Excited for conference coming into town in a few months.
- **Central Ky – Shane Yocum:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Daniel Boone – Jeff Anderson:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Dixie – Steve Sheets (Report given by Michael Long):**
  - Thank you, Mr. President and members, of the KFA Executive Board. My name is Michael Long, and I am the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Vice-President of the Dixie Firefighters Association. The Dixie Firefighters Association has been active over the past several months working on and supporting several projects. Most recently, we supported and participated in the annual Meade County Fire School held in Brandenburg where they had over 100 firefighters participating in various classes. Currently, we are actively working to prepare for the annual Dixie Fire School scheduled for March 7-9, 2025 at Elizabethtown Community & Technical College. We are finalizing our course schedule, lining up our sponsors and vendors, and hope to have a very successful school. We welcome everyone to come and participate, and especially welcome KFA presence with a booth or other activities they may wish to sponsor. As a high point of interest, the Dixie Firefighters Association has been very vocal and actively supporting and promoting the proposed legislative change to KRS Chapter 75 regarding the increase in the tax cap that has remained unchanged since 1944. We will continue to advocate for this important legislative change. An upcoming event for our members is our annual joint meeting bringing members from the Dixie Firefighters Association, BESA, South Central KY Firefighters Association and the Green River Firefighters Association together to share thoughts, ideas, and vision for the upcoming year, and promote working together to achieve our common goals. This years meeting is being hosted by the South Central KY Firefighters Association and I am sure they will provide additional information. Mr. President and members of the Executive Board, that concludes my report unless there are any questions.
- **Eastern Ky – Billy Selvage:**
  - Working on 2026 Conference. Memberships are doing well.
- **Green River – Dwane Smeathers (Report given by Pat Thompson):**
  - Had fall fire school with very good attendance. Officer School information will be coming out next month, February 21-23. Secured funding from for grant opportunity for Green River Fire Departments.
- **Jackson Purchase – Tex Johnson:**
  - In the final weeks of our building at East Marshal. JPFA held a chili supper with great response, attendance and financially. See you at Green River.

- **Jefferson – Joey Bowman:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Lake Cumberland – David Gross:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Mountain – Robert Keith:**
  - Not present, no report submitted
- **Northern Ky – Bud Lederer (Report given by Dave Jansing):**
  - Election of officers is coming up and awards banquet will be in January.
- **South Central – Nelson Slaughter:**
  - We had our last meeting on August 15 at the Russellville Rural Fire Department.
  - Our 3rd annual fire school was held November 1-3 at the Knically Convention Center in Bowling Green Ky. We had 117 students registered this year with 11 different classes over the three days. We had several vendors present, and I would like to thank President Carpenter and the KFA for attending on Saturday. Unfortunately, the numbers are down from last year as they appear to be across the state. We did have to cancel our live fire training due to a lack of registrations.
  - We are looking forward to hosting the Joint meeting on November 21st, 2024, at 6:30 CST with the Green River, Dixie, BESA, and the SCKFA. Location is LifePoint Ministry Center at 840 Witt Road, Franklin, KY 42134
  - Our next meeting is November 19th at 6pm and we be at Plano Fire Department.
- **Southeastern Ky – Terry Wattenbarger (Report given by Eric Philpot):**
  - Held our fire school last month, attendance was low but had some great classes and great weather. Purchased a memorial bench that should be placed in the upcoming months.

## Committees Reports:

### Advisory – Jeff Pohlman:

Nothing to report

### Chapter 75 – Jason Meiman / Stephen Fante

Working hard on the push for support from legislation. Met with House Speaker about proposal to increase tax cap. Gave presentation about the tax cap for chapter 75 to the Legislative A&R Committee. Trying to educate fire departments and legislators. Need more associations and groups to send a letter of support.

### EMS – Al Wathen

Not Present, No Report

### Legislative – Michael “Howdy” Kurtsinger

No Report

### NVFC – Pat Thompson

Developed many partnerships across the country. Encouraged memberships for volunteer departments and members. Several grants are available for members. Dozens of fire departments in Kentucky received these grants. Kentucky will host conference in 2026 in Owensboro. Working on OSHA regs, will send out link to watch the testimonies.

### Special Events & Marketing – Pat Thompson

Participated in Kentucky State Fair, need to work on next year. Both KFA Inflatable Firefighters got new batteries and are working great.

### Honor Guard & Funerals – Charlie Rafferty

- Since our last meeting six members assisted by Green River Firefighters Association Honor Guard, Owensboro FD Honor Guard, and Madisonville FD Honor Guard presented colors at multiple events at the 103rd. annual conference.
- One member attended the funeral service for Darrell Helton of Belfry Fire Department.
- Three members represented the Honor Guard at the Annual Kentucky Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service held at Juniper Hill Park.

### Memorial – Bruce Roberts (Report given by Pat Thompson)

Working on sponsorships for memorial fundraising. Still have a few minor projects to complete for the renovation. Currently have \$32,230.71 in the memorial account.

### **Scholarship – Jimmy VanCleve**

Not present, No report

### **History – Jimmy VanCleve**

Not present, No report

### **Public Education & Fire Prevention – Adam Fuller**

Not present, No report

### **Recruitment & Retention – Adam Fuller**

Not present, No report

### **Ethics – Dave Jansing**

Nothing to Report

### **Hall of Fame – John Beatsch**

Not present, No report

### **Constitution and By-Laws / SOG's – Chris Crawford**

The constitution and Bylaws committee has not met since the annual conference, but one issue has arisen that the committee will be taking a look at concerning the uniform and dress of the association officers and committee members.

### **Resolutions – Keith Hurm**

Not present, No report

### **Conference Management – Randy Lawson / Joel Trandell**

Has been working on 2025 Conference with a to-do list. Met via zoom recently and will have another meeting today. Few members stayed at the 2026 host hotel.

### **Finance – John Wiseman (Report given by Bobby Cowherd)**

Nothing for first quarter. Looked over the treasurer's report and everything looked acceptable.

### **Steering – Stephen Fante**

Nothing to Report

### **State Fire School – Kyle Carpenter**

Contracts have been signed for the next 2 years for state fire school downtown Lexington. Has been great working on those relationships for continuing work downtown. After first of year should have more information. Save the date has been sent out.

### **PTSD – Greg Buckler**

Nothing to Report

### **ADHOC – Pat Thompson**

Nothing to Report

### **Old Business:**

- No old business to discuss

### **New Business:**

- Pike County Firefighters Association
  - o Table new business till next meeting
    - **\*\*Motion Crawford, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thompson, Discussion Philpot: Pike County Firefighters have been talking to Big Sandy about merging. All in favor to table till next meeting\*\***

**Good and Welfare:**

- Rick Bobo wants past presidents to still be included in email distribution. Pat Thompson mentioned communication is important for all members.

**No Executive Session needed – Not needed****Next Meeting:**

Bryant Stiles Officer School February 21, 2025 at 09:00 Central Time

**Motion to adjourn made by VP Crawford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by VP Thompson, no discussion, all in favor**

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 AM EST