



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 Winter Meeting Minutes February 24, 2024 Owensboro, Ky.

Meeting called to order by President Marc Henderson at 08:31 AM CST

Invocation by Mark Luckett of GRFA

Pledge led by President Marc Henderson

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Eric Philpot:

President Henderson
1st VP Carpenter
2nd VP Rucker
3rd VP Crawford
VP at Large Thompson
Treasurer Bobo
Secretary Philpot

Approval of 2023 Fall Meeting Minutes (Maysville, Ky):

****Motion by VP Crawford, 2nd by VP Thompson, no discussion, all in favor**

Guest Speakers:

- Troy Roberts – GRFA President:
 - o Welcomed everyone to GRFA and went over the weekend schedule.
- Steve Hirsch – NVFC:
 - o Via zoom – Thanked Kentucky for all the good things going on. Thanked Pat Thompson for his work with the NVFC in Kentucky. Invited everyone to go to nvfc.org to see all the programs they offer.

Officers Reports:

- President Marc Henderson
 - o November 2023
 - o 11/1 State Fire School Meeting
 - o 11/4 SCKFA School/Worked KFA Booth
 - o 11/16 GRFA/Dixie/SCHFA meeting in Elizabethtown
 - o 11/27 Legislative Meeting
 - o Answered all emails Phone Calls related to KFA Business
 - o December 2023
 - o 12/6 Fire Commission Meeting at Fire Academy
 - o Wrote Smoke Signals Article for January
 - o Answered all emails Phone Calls related to KFA Business
 - o January 2024
 - o 1/10 Firefighter/Legislative Chili Supper in Frankfort
 - o 1/17 State Fire School meeting via Zoom
 - o 1/25 GRFA meeting in Calhoun
 - o Answered numerous emails and phone calls regarding legislative issues.

- Worked with Secretary Philpot to start email list for notifications.
 - Started using KFA App to send out pertinent information for KFA members.
 - Worked on AIL Insurance to facilitate Accidental Death check for Coon Creek FF Regina Huffman.
- February 2024
 - 2/1 GRFA/KFA 2024 Conference Committee meeting
 - 2/6 State Fire School meeting in Paris with Director Rudder and Ericka Cole to finalize classes.
 - 2/6 WKU Meeting to discuss future studies.
 - 2/16 Sent report to SCKFA for their meeting.
 - 2/22-25 GRFA Bryant Stiles Officers School in Owensboro
 - 2/23 KFA Meeting in Owensboro
 - Finalized paperwork for SFS vendors and it will be handed out at Officers School to all vendors.
 - Have Sustaining Membership information printed out to include in vendor packets at Officers School.
 - Answered numerous emails and phone calls regarding legislative issues.
 - Started using KFA App to send out pertinent information for KFA members.
 - Received confirmation of check being mailed from AIL Insurance for Coon Creek FF Regina Huffman.
- 1st VP Kyle Carpenter
 - **November 2023**
 - Nov. 1st- BTFFA Fire School Meeting
 - Nov. 1st- Hotel Meeting for Conference
 - Nov. 6th-Legislation Meeting Paris, KY
 - Nov. 17th- Fire Academy Graduation
 - Nov. 27th- Legislation Meeting Paris, Ky
 - **December 2023**
 - Dec. 6th KY Fire Commission Meeting at Fire Academy ZOOM
 - **January 2024**
 - Jan. 10th- Legislation at Frankfort/Chili Supper
 - Jan. 10th- Buffalo Trace Fire Association meeting
 - **February 2024**
 - Feb. 8th- BTFFA Fire School Meeting
- 2nd VP Eddie Rucker
 - Had Dessert Auction for conference at Thanksgiving, Made over 500.00.
 - Attended Carter Co. Fire Fighter Association meeting November 21, 2023.
 - Attended Chief Paul Thomas of the Norton Branch Fire Department funeral in December,
 - Attended EKFA Meeting November 15, 2023. Had a conference meeting before EKFA meeting. Discussed venues for meet and greet and Tuesday night banquet.
 - Attended a CCFA meeting at Grayson January 16, 2023. Ask everyone to watch email for bills that may be of interest to fire service.
 - Attended EKFA meeting at Grayson January 17, 2023. Had a conference committee meeting to discuss fund raising and securing venues, working on reverses raffle and should have tickets by June Fire School.
 - Account balance for conference \$5,1082.15. Still selling challenge coins. Also had conversations with Randy Lawson through Greenup Co. Committee about conference 2026.
- 3rd VP Chris Crawford
 - I attended the KY Firefighter Memorial in Frankfort, the Dixie Firefighter Memorial in Elizabethtown as well as being active in the Dixie Firefighters Association and planning for the 2024 Dixie Fire School.
- VP at Large Pat Thompson
 - **November 2023**
 - 11/4 Fire Station Groundbreaking at East Marshall
 - 11/16 GRFA/Dixie/SCHFA meeting in Elizabethtown
 - **December 2023**
 - 12/6 Kentucky Fire Commission meeting at Fire Academy
 - **January 2024**
 - 1/9 NVFC Conference Committee meeting via Zoom
 - 1/10 Firefighter/Legislative Chili Supper in Frankfort
 - 1/17 State Fire School meeting via Zoom
 - 1/25 GRFA meeting in Calhoun
 - 1/30 NVFC Executive Committee meeting via Zoom
 - 1/31 Meeting with Governor via Zoom
 - **February 2024**

- 2/1 GRFA/KFA 2024 Conference Committee meeting at ASFD
- 2/6 NVFC/CFSI Strategy meeting via Zoom
- 2/7 NVFC Brainstorming (AFG) meeting via Zoom
- 2/22-25 GRFA Bryant Stiles Officers School in Owensboro
- 2/23 KFA Meeting in Owensboro

- Secretary Eric Philpot

- December 20: SKFA Meeting London, Kentucky
- February 23: KFA E-Board Meeting Owensboro, Kentucky
- February 23: Ky Fire Commission Meeting Owensboro, Kentucky
- February 23: Ky Fire Chiefs Meeting Owensboro, Kentucky
- Promoted KFA to the fire departments in the regional associations.
- Received Department, Personal, and Sustaining memberships and sent out certificates to members.

Treasurers Report – Bonita Bobo

- Financial standings

Kentucky Firefighter's Association	
Profit and Loss	
August 2023 - January 2024	
	TOTAL
Income	
Dues	
Department Membership	29,248.42
Personal Membership	847.01
Sustaining Membership	3,024.67
Total Dues	33,120.10
FF Plate Donations	32,021.14
Income Miscellaneous	
Legacy Award Fees	425.00
Total Income Miscellaneous	425.00
Interest Income	2,056.45
Refund-settlement	28.75
State Fire School	
Registration	975.00
Total State Fire School	975.00
Total Income	\$68,626.44
GROSS PROFIT	\$68,626.44
Expenses	
Dues Refund	100.00
FF Memorial	918.00
Supplies	450.00
travel expenses/lodging	250.00
Total FF Memorial	1,618.00
Fire School	
Miscellaneous	125.00
Rent	4,500.00
Total Fire School	4,625.00
Funerals	
Travel	458.00
Total Funerals	458.00

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Kentucky Firefighter's Association	
Profit and Loss	
August 2023 - January 2024	
	TOTAL
Hall of Fame	
Supplies	437.50
Total Hall of Fame	437.50
honor guard	
Travel	358.55
Total honor guard	358.55
Insurance Expense	
General Liability Insurance	5,917.59
Total Insurance Expense	5,917.59
KFA Executive Director	
ED Travel	1,458.33
Executive Director services	8,524.00
Total KFA Executive Director	9,982.33
KFA Website	1,800.00
Webmaster	3,650.00
Total KFA Website	5,450.00
Legislative Activities	
Travel	3,276.12
Total Legislative Activities	3,276.12
Miscellaneous Expense	2,860.00
NVFC	
Dues	500.00
Travel	1,845.00
Total NVFC	2,345.00
Office Equipment	190.79
Office Expense	
Operations	725.85
Total Office Expense	725.85
Officer Expenses	211.99
PO Box Fees	339.00

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Kentucky Firefighter's Association

Profit and Loss

August 2023 - January 2024

	TOTAL
Postage and Delivery	
Postage Stamps	66.00
Shipping Charges	98.22
Total Postage and Delivery	164.22
Printing	1,402.32
Professional Services	
CPA/Tax Prep	500.00
Financial Audit	175.00
Total Professional Services	675.00
Scholarships	
Education Awards	5,000.00
Total Scholarships	5,000.00
Smoke Signals Newsletter	
Editorial services	11,935.50
Total Smoke Signals Newsletter	11,935.50
Special Events	
Kentucky State Fair	1,233.82
Legacy Awards	420.00
Total Special Events	1,653.82
Telephone Expense	243.56
Travel Expense	850.90
E-Board official Travel	7,007.15
Total Travel Expense	7,858.05
Uncategorized Expense	2,500.00
Uniforms	889.02
void	-1,000.00
Total Expenses	\$70,217.21
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -1,590.77
NET INCOME	\$ -1,590.77

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KFA 2023-24 Budget

	2022-2023 Appropriation	2023-2024 Budget	ACTIVITY AS OF 1/31/2024	BALANCE
Income				
License Plate Income	\$ 68,000.00	\$ 70,000.00	\$ 32,021.14	-\$37,978.86
Dues - Membership Income	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 29,248.42	-\$6,751.58
Dues - Personal	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 847.01	-\$1,452.99
Dues - Sustaining Members	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 3,024.67	-\$1,475.33
Newsletter/Webpage Income	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 0.00	-\$800.00
Other Income - Legacy Awards/Refund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 453.75	\$453.75
Interest	\$ 800.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 2,056.45	-\$3,243.55
Prints/Promo Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Scholarship Donations	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State Fire School	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 975.00	-\$59,025.00
Carry Forward	\$ 29,425.00	\$ 21,511.00	\$ 0.00	-\$21,511.00
Directory/Pub Income	\$ 0.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 0.00	-\$400.00
State Fire School Admin Fund	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 0.00	-\$10,000.00
Memorial	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Income	\$ 209,226.00	\$ 210,811.00	\$ 68,626.44	-\$142,184.56
Expenses				
Executive Director Position	\$ 17,000.00	\$ 17,700.00	\$ 9,982.33	-\$7,717.67
Funeral Expense	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 458.00	-\$3,542.00
Hal of Fame	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 437.50	-\$1,062.50
Honor Guard Expense	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 358.55	-\$6,641.45
Insurance Expense	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 6,500.00	\$ 5,917.59	-\$582.41
Legislative Expense	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 3,276.12	-\$8,723.88
Memorial Expense	\$ 4,500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,618.00	\$618.00
Newsletter Expense	\$ 19,620.00	\$ 19,232.00	\$ 11,935.50	-\$7,296.50
Web Page Expense	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 7,669.00	\$ 5,450.00	-\$2,219.00
NVFC Expense	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 2,345.00	-\$1,655.00
Office Equipment/Operations/Contracts	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,300.00	\$ 916.64	-\$2,383.36
Official Travel Expense	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 7,858.05	-\$20,141.95
Postage Expense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 503.22	-\$996.78
Audit/CPA/ Tax prep	\$ 625.00	\$ 6,860.00	\$ 675.00	-\$6,185.00
Printing Expense	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,402.32	-\$597.68
Promotional Expense	\$ 5,380.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 0.00	-\$6,000.00
Safety Education Expense	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 0.00	-\$2,000.00
Secretary/Treasurer Expense	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 0.00	-\$4,000.00
State Fire School	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 4,625.00	-\$45,375.00
Special Events Expense (Legacy Awards)	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 7,000.00	\$ 1,653.82	-\$5,346.18
Scholarships	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	-\$11,000.00
Telephone Expense	\$ 400.00	\$ 550.00	\$ 243.56	-\$306.44
Uniform Expense	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 889.02	-\$2,110.98
Passthrough/Refund	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 100.00	\$100.00
Miscellaneous (Motorcycle LP/Insurance Claim)	\$ 400.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 5,360.00	\$5,360.00
Officer Expense/Outgoing President Gift	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 211.99	\$211.99
Total Expenses	\$ 209,225.00	\$ 210,811.00	\$ 71,217.21	-\$139,593.79
Void/Scholarship Check -\$1000.00			\$70,217.21	1/31/2024

**Motion to accept VP Rucker, 2nd by VP Carpenter, no discussion, all in favor

- Our annual License Plate Audit was completed by M Bayer Consulting and was submitted in December 2023. No observations were noted.
- KFA 2022-2023 federal tax forms were filed via John Dean, CPA. 1099's were submitted to IRS and also mailed to recipients.
- Income comparison for 2nd quarter 2023 vs 2024; down \$14,921.27. However, 16K of the income in 2023 was to the memorial fund.
- Expenditure comparison for 2nd quarter 2023 vs 2024; down \$13,509.80.
- Interest income for a full 12-month timeframe was \$5002.00. Our money is working for us!
- Research was completed on the eligibility of a state tax exemption status for the KFA. Unfortunately, due to the KFA Internal Revenue Code status as a 501(c)(6), we were found ineligible.

Membership Report – Eric Philpot

- Membership status:
 - **328** DEPARTMENT MEMBERS CURRENT (393 in 2023)
 - **48** PERSONAL MEMBERS (85 in 2023)
 - **14** 2024 SUSTAINING MEMBERS (2 in 2023)
- Secretary Philpot requested changing department and personal memberships from October-September to January-December. Henderson turned over to bylaw committee to make the changes.

Executive Director Report – Randy Lawson

The following is a summary of activity for the month of December 2023:

- Attended the Fire Commission Meeting via Zoom – Dec 6
- Attended the Christmas Breakfast hosted by Chief Cowherd and Shelby County FD – Dec 15
- Attended the retirement ceremony for Chief Cowherd at Shelby County FD – Dec 21

December and the holidays slowed activity as you can see reported. I did, however, field several telephone inquiries during the month. Worked with Bonita and Verizon to get her lined out.

Hope you and yours had a great Christmas and here's wishing you a Happy New Year.

The following is a summary of activity for the month of January 2024:

- Attended FF Lobby Day in Frankfort and the Chili Dinner – Jan 9, 2024
- Attended the BESA meeting at Ballardsville FD – Jan 16, 2024
- Went to Frankfort to for Committee meetings – Jan 17, 2024
- Missed the Fire Commission Meeting due to time in Frankfort.
- To assist Treasurer Bobo with Verizon account – Jan 31, 2024

Fielded a couple of messages requesting vendor information for the conference in Owensboro. Forwarded to President Henderson.

The following is a summary of activity for the month of February:

- Revisited Verizon Corporate to clear up issues with the KFA account, including getting Bonita verified as an administrator. – 2/15/2024
- Sent correspondence to Visit Ashland KY regarding the 2026 conference 2/18/2024
- Had a lengthy discussion regarding KFA conference 2026 with Billy Selvege and his wife – 2/19/2024
- Will be attending the GRFA Officers school to participate in the KFA E Board meeting, a Conference Management meeting and the Fire Commission Meeting. 2/22-25/2024

Fielded a several questions regarding legislative items.

Agency Reports:

Ky Fire Marshal – Mike Haney:

via zoom, nothing to report

Ky Fire Commission – Larry Potter (Report given by Jeremy Rodgers):

Phase 1 of grants is currently happening now with small PPE items (gloves and boots), phase 2 will be bunker gear (coats and pants). Working on social media to get information out also have a new app.

State Fire Rescue Training – Marc Rudder:

Thank you for the opportunity to present our report.

SFRT has been busy delivering firefighter training across the Commonwealth. Through January, we provided training to 529 departments or 69%. This weekend marks the start of our spring fire schools. We have many fire schools and training weekends scheduled between now and the end of the fiscal year.

We now have four full-time training specialists across the state that are assisting with the delivery of classes for certification. This may include DOP, DOA, MWS, Officer I, Instructor I, etc. We will continue to offer Instructor II courses virtually and in person with registration now occurring for a class in London during April.

We have now completed the second Fire Officer III course in the state with another planned this Spring and have plans for a Fire Officer IV course to be offered in July. Next weekend we will be delivering a certification skill session for Common Passenger Vehicle. This will be the first large scale certification session offered in the Commonwealth. We plan to have about 50

candidates and 50 cars. We will soon be offering Live Fire Instructor certification sessions as well. In April we will be conducting a certification session for Rope Rescue Awareness, Operations, and Technician. Following these initial sessions for SFRT staff, we will be ready to release information on how we plan to deliver those testing sessions across the state. Accredited certification written exams are now online. This provides the students with immediate results and will provide data on what JPRs an unsuccessful student missed which will provide the student with the information needed to focus their studies on for their retest. Each district office has test dates and students must pre-register at least 48 hours prior to the test session.

The Fire Academy of Kentucky began Class 004 on Monday, February 19. There are 29 students representing 13 departments, four of which have students with us for the first time. Please feel free to visit Class 004 when you have time at our campus in Greenville. Our new classroom/office building is complete, except for AV equipment being delivered and installed. Hopefully, this class will transition to the new facility in the next few weeks. The Fire Academy of Kentucky now has two full-time Training Specialists, Charlie Rafferty and Dustin Staves, to deliver and oversee the courses that we provide. With Dustin being promoted to Training Specialist, Mandy Ward transferred to the Academy from District 3 to serve as the Field Office Training Specialist. Lexie Miller has been hired as the Field Office Training Specialist at District 3 and I want to welcome her to our team.

SFRT is utilizing our Training Specialist to deliver the Fire Commission required courses. These lecture sessions are being offered utilizing Zoom in Virtual Instructor Led Training platform. We have seen wonderful attendance in these sessions with the last course having over 200 in attendance. See the Fire Commission website for more information. We are also utilizing the VILT platform to deliver instructor methodology sessions and EMT Con Ed monthly. Our district offices are offering many EMS courses across the state during FY24.

District	EMR	EMT	AEMT	NRP	TOTAL
2	0	2	1	0	3
3	1	3	0	3	7
4	1	2	2	0	5
5	0	2	0	0	2
6	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	1	0	0	1
9	1	1	1	0	3
11	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	3	0	0	3
TOTAL	3	14	4	3	24

We recognize the need for these courses and already have many being scheduled for FY25. This week a site team representing IFSAC has been in Northern KY reviewing our AAS Fire Science Technology Program. This visit concluded on Thursday afternoon with the site team presenting the report of their visit. They have recommended we receive full reaccreditation at the Spring Conference in April. If approved by the Degree Assembly Board of Governors, then our KCTCS degree program will continue to be accredited for five years. If there are no questions, then that concludes my report Mr. President.

KBEMS – Eddie Slone:

EMS Grant reviews will be happening in the next couple weeks. HB57 and HB484 are currently in this legislative session for EMS.

KY Professional Firefighters – Joe Baer:

Primary mission is Frankfort during the Legislative Session. Been working with Ky Fire Commission and KFA on several bills. KPFF will be meeting with candidates for election of Representatives and Senators. Will send out who they are supporting in the upcoming election.

Ky Fire Chiefs – Mike Morgan (Report given by Nathan Mulvey):

Conference will be August 20-22 in Bowling Green. Working on legislative issues in Frankfort.

Ky Homeland Security – Josh Keats:

Not Present, No Report

Ky Emergency Management – Dustin Heiser:

Not Present, No Report

Supporting Heroes – Eric Johnson:

Preparing for the National weekend in May, 12 families being honored. Gala will be July 13 in Owensboro.

Directors Reports:

- **Big Sandy – Mike Brown:**
 - Not Present, No Report
- **Bluegrass – Stephen Fante:**
 - Bluegrass Emergency Service Report
 - Thank you Mr. President
 - Our first Meeting of the year was at Ballardsville Fire and was well attended.
 - CH 75 tax cap. We are working with our Representatives on ways to start this conversation and get some movement with this. We have the support of the local Chiefs within the BESA area and working on getting this information to the other 112 Ch 75 departments in the state for their support. The KFA Ch 75 committee chair and co-chair are aware of this as well. An email has been sent to most of the CH 75 departments across the state, and I forwarded this to Pres. Henderson just so he knows what's going on.
 - Notifications-would like to recognize the app, and email chains. Notifications are important, and we look forward to updated ways to get the important information out to all the members of the KFA.
 - Erik Butler was elected Bullitt county rep, George Given Jefferson county rep,, Jim Tomlinson henry County Rep, and Andrew Stark Trimble County Rep.
 - Our next meeting is March 19th at Lake Jericho Fire department.
- **Buffalo Trace – David Kalb (Report given by Kyle Carpenter):**
 - Working on conference. Had great fire school and thanked District 9.
- **Central Ky – Shane Yocum:**
 - No Report
- **Daniel Boone – Jeff Anderson:**
 - Not Present, No Report
- **Dixie – Steve Sheets (Report given by Chris Crawford):**
 - Dixie Fire School is coming up in a couple weekends, classes are filling up fast.
- **Eastern Ky – Billy Selvage (Report given by Eddie Rucker):**
 - Had discussions on upcoming conference. Working on fundraising and working with KFA Conference Committee.
- **Green River – Dwane Smeathers:**
 - Welcome to Owensboro and the 2024 Bryant Stiles Officer School, we hope you enjoy your stay.
 - The Green River Association is active as always and 2024 is going to be a busy year. Under the guidance of President Marc Henderson, the GRFA is working diligently towards the 2024 KFA Conference here at the Owensboro Convention Center on August 3rd- 6th.
 - We kicked off the year on January 25th, at the SFRT District 3 office in Calhoun; there were 70 in attendance to enjoy good food, hospitality, and the exchange of information.
 - There will be a Chicken Cook-Off on April 27th as a fund raiser for the KFA Conference, keep an eye out for a flyer with more details.
 - The 2024 GRFA Executive Board consists of:

President	Troy Roberts	Lewisport FD
1 st VP	Charlie Rafferty	Airport-Sorgho FD
2 nd VP	John Dunning	Madisonville FD
Treasurer	Pat Thompson	Airport-Sorgho FD
Secretary	Marc Henderson	Moseleyville FD
KFA Director	Dwane Smeathers	Yelvington FD
 - Remaining 2024 Green River Meeting dates, locations, and times:

March 28 th	Sturgis in Union Co. (John Arnold Arena) @7 pm CST
May 30 th	The Fire Academy in Muhlenberg Co. @ 7pm CST
July 25 th	Lewisport Fire Department in Hancock Co. @ 7pm CST
September 26 th	South Hopkins Fire Department in Hopkins Co. @ 7pm CST
November 21 st	Joint Meeting with Dixie and SCKFA Location and Time TBD
 - Planning is already underway for the 2024 Fall Fire School, October 25th – 27th at the Owensboro Community Technical College.
 - Please note the 2025 Bryant Stiles Officers School will be held February 21-23, 2025, we look forward to seeing everyone next year.

- **Jackson Purchase – Tex Johnson:**
 - Spring School April 19-21 at Western Ky Technical College. New President in Jackson Purchase Brent. Have been talking with County Judge and District 2 about getting a program in the school system. This should rejuvenate the junior firefighter programs in the area.
- **Jefferson – Joey Bowman:**
 - Working on memberships, thanked the chiefs that are present at the KFA meeting.
- **Lake Cumberland – David Gross:**
 - Not Present, No Report
- **Mountain – Robert Keith:**
 - Not Present, No Report
- **Northern Ky – Bud Lederer (Report given by Dave Jansing):**
 - John Black is President of the NKFA. Next meeting March 19 at Campbell County Training Center. Held NKFA Awards dinner, Sie Jewel received the lifetime achievement award. Bruce Smith, legislative chairman, received the KFA Legacy Award.
- **South Central – Nelson Slaughter:**
 - We had our last meeting on February 15 at the Fairview Volunteer Fire Department.
 - We will be set up at the vendor show tomorrow. We will have tickets for an Old Henry Firefighter edition rifle. We will give it away at our next meeting in May. We also have t-shirts and Challenge coins.
 - We are looking forward to hosting the Joint meeting on November 21st, 2024 with the Green River, Dixie, BESA, and the SCKFA. Location TBA
 - Our 3rd annual fire school will be November 1-3 at the Knicely Convention Center in Bowling Green Ky where it was last year.
 - The SCKFA will hold nominations and elections for the President and Vice President positions at our next meeting on May 16th, 2024. The meeting will be in Edmonson County at the Edmonson County EMA. 225 Mammoth Cave Parkway, Brownsville, KY 42210
- **Southeastern Ky – Terry Wattenbarger:**
 - New President Brandon Wagers. Leadership Symposium May 18-19 in London. Fire School will be 1st weekend in October in London at KCTCS Campus.

Committees Reports:

Advisory – Jeff Pohlman:

Attended Legislative Chili Supper in January (Frankfort)

EMS – Al Wathen:

Not Present, No Report

Legislative – Michael “Howdy” Kurtsinger:

The 2024 legislative session as of February 23, 2024, which is a long (60 day) Session, will be over half way with only 23 more legislative days until they go home for another year. At the time of this writing February 18, 2024, this year there have been 585 House Bills and 90 House resolutions, 219 Senate Bills and 154 Senate resolutions. The total of 804 bills and 244 resolutions for this year's session with the last days to file House Bills (02/26) and (02/28) for Senate Bills. I am sure there will be many more filed to please some legislator's issue back home. A total of 1048 bills and resolutions have been filed during this year's long session. So, many will not even get a hearing.

I have attached a copy of Legislative Report 5 for the 2024 session (as of 02/18/2024). These bills listed are those from this year's legislative session that affect firefighters and fire departments.

The fire service has the members from the following associations in Frankfort on a daily bases trying to protect the benefits that the fire service has and are trying not to lose. So not to forget someone I will just state the groups attending and thank them for the support. Representative from the KFA, KPFF, KAFC, Kentucky Fire Commission and Jefferson County Fire Chiefs have worked during the session.

They will be here until April 15, 2024 when they say “SINE DIE”

If you have questions, please contact me.

NVFC – Pat Thompson:

Report given during guest speakers

Honor Guard & Funerals – Charlie Rafferty:

Unfortunately, the Honor Guard has attended three line of duty death funerals since the last report.

The Honor Guard joined the Hazard Fire Department Honor Guard standing guard at visitation for Assistant Chief Joseph R. Black from the Whitesburg Fire Department.

The Honor Guard joined the London Fire Department standing guard during visitation and funeral service for Firefighter Regina M. Huffman from the Coon Creek Fire & Rescue.

The Honor Guard joined Fern Creek Fire & EMS Honor Guard at the funeral service for Sergeant Thomas A. Petschke Jr. from Ballardsville Fire & Rescue.

Several of us received an email this week from Vice President Crawford stating the National Farm Machinery Show has started bringing in Honor Guards to present the colors at the opening ceremony of the championship tractor pull. The KFA Honor Guard can get in the rotation everyone agreed it would be a fantastic opportunity to not only show support in front of a large crowd but also represent the Fire Service.

Special Events & Marketing – Pat Thompson:

Working with State Fair Board to see about participation.

Memorial – Bruce Roberts:

Still waiting on concrete work from Robbie in the spring.

Scholarship - Jimmy VanCleve:

For the fall semester, the scholarship committee reviewed and awarded 6 scholarships to students enrolled in college. We had 5 re-apply for a Spring semester award and one was disqualified due to a low GPA. We recommended and awarded 4 scholarships. Abby Breeze, John Goodrum, Sarah Rowland and Savannah Philpot were awarded a renewal scholarship. For the Fall 2024 semester, we are off to a great start with applicants as there are currently 32 applicants that started an application. We will review applications prior to our next meeting in June and will present our recommendations at the meeting in Lexington.

Since our last meeting, the scholarship committee has been busy reviewing the Rules for the scholarship award process and we have proposed a new set of rules that we respectfully request consideration for adoption. The new set of rules will clarify the priority schedule as well as present more emphasis on Emergency Services based majors and full-time student status. The new proposed rules also provide for opportunities for awarding all 6 scholarships for both Spring and Fall Semesters. These are the major points of the changes, and I will welcome any questions that you may have.

I would welcome a motion to adopt the new rules to be enacted immediately and be utilized to review the applicants that we are to review in late May/Early June timeframe.

Who is eligible?

Any active Kentucky Fire Fighter, Jr. Kentucky Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic or their dependents, so long as their department is a dues paying member of the Kentucky Firefighters Association (KFA) Inc. The scholarship recipient must also have at least a 2.5 overall G.P. A. on their graduating high school transcript (or their most recent college transcript) or a composite 19 on the A.C.T. or a 950 total on the S.A.T. college entrance test.

Process of how it works:

- ALL applicants must complete an initial application to be considered for a scholarship award. Regardless of a previous award, everyone (new or renewal) must complete an initial application prior to May 31 for a Fall Semester award.
- Committee will review the applications and rank all applications.
- The top six applications will receive an award letter from the Chair of the Scholarship committee. The top six applicants will be eligible to complete a renewal application for the scholarship for the spring semester of the following year.
- If a renewal candidate is disqualified or fails to renew, the ranking of the original applicants will be considered, and the top candidates (not previously awarded) will be contacted for award.
- Students must maintain an overall GPA of 2.5 on their transcript to be eligible for a scholarship award.

The online/web-based application may be found at www.sftarea3.org/scholarship

Applicants must create a username and password, and these must be used each time they log in (for initial and renewal submissions)

Applications:

(A) Fall Semester Applications

- a. Applicants that have never received a KFA Scholarship.
- b. Applicants that have received KFA Scholarship.
- c. Application must be received by **May 31st** of each calendar year.

(B) Spring Semester Renewal

- a. Applicants that received a KFA Scholarship for the preceding year's Fall Semester.
- b. Application must be received by **December 15th** of the calendar year with an official GPA for that semester.

New Applicant must submit the following:

- (A) Resume
- (B) High School grade transcript
- (C) Secondary education grade transcript (IF APPLICABLE)

- (D) Past employment history
- (E) Details of present Emergency Services experience
- (F) Future emergency service plans
- (G) Print out of Fire Commission training hours (IF APPLICABLE)
- (H) Three (3) letters of recommendation
- (I) Affiliated with a dues paying department of the KFA
- (J) Letter of affiliation from the department's administration
- (K) Letter of acceptance from the institution they plan on attending

Renewal Applicants must submit:

- (A) A completed Renewal Application
- (B) Official Transcript with grades posted and visible GPA

Priority Levels

(A) Priority 1

- a. Firefighters, Junior Firefighters, Emergency Medical Technician, or Paramedic of a KFA member department.

(B) Priority 2

- a. Children of Priority 1.

What courses of study are eligible?

Fire Science, Paramedic Sciences, Safety Engineering, or other emergency-based Major not specified so long as it is justified by the applicant and accepted by the KFA Scholarship Committee. The courses must be part of a two- or four-year accredited program, with preference given to Kentucky institutions. Preference will be given to full-time students enrolled in a college or University.

(A) Priority 1

- a. Fire Science, Paramedic Sciences, and Fire/Safety Engineering courses.
- b. Two- or four-year accredited program offered at a Kentucky College or University.

(B) Priority 2

- a. Emergency Service based major not specified in Priority 1 with acceptance by KFA Scholarship Committee. (examples are Nursing, Psychological counselor, Pre-Med, etc...)
- b. Two- or four-year accredited program offered at a Kentucky College or University.

(C) Priority 3

- a. Certificate Emergency Service-related programs.
- b. Non-Emergency Service-related course of study.
- c. Out of State two- or four-year accredited programs.

Frequently asked questions:

What is required during the course of study?

Accepted applicants or their guardians must remain active in the emergency service field in the State of Kentucky for the duration of the scholarship. They must remain affiliated with a KFA Dues Paying Department to qualify for the scholarship award. Must maintain the Major for which the scholarship was awarded during term of award or stay within the scope of priority. Must maintain a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

What will disqualify one from receiving a scholarship?

Failure to submit a complete application. Having a cumulative GPA of less than 2.5 at the end of the semester. Forgery of any documents attached with the application. Disaffiliation from a qualifying KFA department. Failure of the applicant's department to pay their KFA Dues.

Applicant Renewable

Each applicant must apply/reapply for acceptance of scholarship each semester.

How will the money be disbursed?

A check in the amount of \$2,000.00 will be mailed to the student's address listed on the initial application and will be made out to the listed College or University in the name of the scholarship recipient.

****Motion to adopt new rules for the committee made by VP Thompson, 2nd by VP Rucker, no discussion, all in favor**

History - Jimmy VanCleve:

I need the following items for a History Committee Project:

I will only need them long enough to copy them and then I will get them back to their original owner.

I need the following KFA Conference Books:

1965 and earlier

1967-1975
1984
1988
1991
1992
1996-2013
2015-present

I need the following State Fire School brochures.

2000
1999
1987-1997
Anything earlier than 1986

Public Education & Fire Prevention - Adam Fuller:

Nothing to Report

Ethics - Dave Jansing:

Nothing to report

Hall of Fame - John Beatsch:

Met yesterday to begin 2024 selection. Need nominations for individuals that have made a big impact on the KFA and regional association. Will make selections in late April.

Constitution and By-Laws / SOG's - Chris Crawford:

Working on several changes for the upcoming conference with dues amounts and date changes. SOG changes upcoming also with scholarships. The committee will be preparing changes in our fee structure as requested by the finance committee at the 2023 fall meeting and will be reviewing all SOG and Bylaws for any possible updates.

Resolutions - Keith Hurm:

At this time the resolution committee has nothing to report. Looking forward to a great 2024 conference in Owensboro, KY

Conference Management - Randy Lawson / John Wiseman:

Have been preparing for upcoming conferences; 2024 Owensboro, 2025 Maysville, 2026 Ashland.

Finance - John Wiseman:

Have reviewed financials and have been approved. Joel Trandell has been appointed to Finance Committee

Steering - Stephen Fante:

Nothing to Report

Chapter 75 - Jason Meiman / Jeff Pohlman:

Several legislative issues currently happening dealing with Chapter 75 fire districts. Thanked BESA/Rick Bobo for compiling a Chapter 75 contact list.

State Fire School - Marc Henderson / Rob Larkin:

Moving back downtown June 4-9 in Lexington. Registration will be opening soon after Officer's School.

Recruitment & Retention – Adam Fuller:

Nothing to Report

PTSD – Greg Buckler:

First of all, THANK YOU for allowing me to chair this new committee of the KFA. I feel some great things can/will come from this committee since this is something we all are facing as part of our daily challenges as first responders. In the last month I have spoken with Past President Bobo to help get an understanding what his vision was for the committee. I have reached out to the committee members to introduce myself to them via email. The committee plans to hold its first meeting via zoom the week of March 4, 2024 from this meeting my goal is to come up with three (3) objectives to build on and develop for the KFA.

ADHOC – Pat Thompson:

Nothing to Report

Old Business:

- License Plates (Motorcycle & Non-Firefighter Support):
 - o Very positive feedback from survey and paid the fee. Waiting to hear back from Transportation Cabinet.
- Square Fees (Increased from set rate to 4.5%):
 - o Fees have been adjusted.

New Business:

- AIL Check for Regina Huffman:
 - o Check was received and Secretary Philpot will deliver to family.
- Legislative Chili Dinner:
 - o Very well represented and attended.

Good and Welfare:

- ****VP Thompson made a motion for KFA to make a donation of \$100 to St. Jude on behalf of Joan Muench, 2nd by VP Carpenter, no discussion, all in favor.**

No Executive Session needed

Next Meeting:

Kentucky State Fire School, Lexington, KY June 6, 2024 at 17:00 EST

Motion to adjourn made by VP Rucker, 2nd by VP Thompson, no discussion, all in favor

Meeting adjourned at 10:18 AM CST