



The Kentucky Firefighter's Association, Inc.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

CAPTAIN ERIC PHILPOT

CORBIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

805 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORBIN, KY 40701

606-765-8827

The Kentucky Firefighters Association 104th Annual Conference was held in Maysville, Kentucky July 30 thru August 3. Hosted by President Kyle Carpenter and his wife Samatha along with the Buffalo Trace Firefighters Association and Maysville Fire Department.

July 30, 2025

The conference began with a preconference Executive Board meeting to discuss the following days of conference. Several KFA committee meetings were held to prepare for conference.

July 31, 2025

This conference day started with an educational lecture by Deputy Chief Micah Kiger of Loudoun County Fire and Rescue in Virginia discussing fireground strategy and tactics for hydrated and non-hydrated response areas and response to propane emergencies with a case study. The Kentucky Fire Commission held its meeting to discuss issues in the fire service, line of duty deaths, and fire service grants. The annual KFA Memorial Service was held at historic Saint Patrick Catholic Church in Maysville. At this service we recognized line of duty deaths and other fire service members we lost across the Commonwealth since our last conference. To close out the evening a dinner boat cruise onboard the Belle of Cincinnati was enjoyed by all.

August 1, 2025

This day began the business meetings for the members of the Kentucky Firefighters Association discussing pertinent issues affecting the fire service in the Commonwealth. The ladies had a wine and canvas painting event at Hemingway's Bourbon and Coffee. After a morning of business meetings there was a golf outing at Laurel Oaks Golf Course and for the non-golfers an outing at Augusta Distillery. This day concluded with a great downtown block party with live music and great food.

August 2, 2025

The KFA business meetings resumed on the next day of conference for members to further discuss issues relating to the fire service. The day concluded with the President's Banquet and KFA Hall of Fame Ceremony at the Limestone Center. During the KFA Hall of Fame Ceremony we inducted Paul Radenheimer and John Beatsch. The new KFA Executive Board was sworn in by Past Secretary Dave Jansing. President Eddie Rucker, 1st Vice President Chris Crawford, 2nd Vice President Troy Roberts, 3rd Vice President Chris Black, Treasurer Bonita Bobo, Secretary Eric Philpot, and Vice President at Large Pat Thompson.

August 3, 2025

The new 2025-2026 KFA Executive Board had their first meeting to discuss the upcoming year events and issues relating to the association. The next meeting will be held November 1, 2025 in Gilbertsville, Kentucky.



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Pre-Conference Meeting Minutes Wednesday July 30, 2025

Meeting called to order by President Kyle Carpenter at 05:12 PM

Roll Call of Officers:

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

Also present: Executive Director Randy Lawson, Mike O'Day, and Dave Jansing

Set Nomination Committee – Terry Wattenbarger, Tex Johnson, Derrick Mills, Ericka Cole, Emmanuel Jolly, Tim Kleier

Set Credentials Committee – Dave Jansing, Pat Krogman, Chris Amon, Joe Eggemeier, Jimmy VanCleve

****Motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel contracts
by Crawford, 2nd Thompson, all in favor****

****Motion to exit executive session by Crawford, 2nd Rucker, all in favor****

Discussion of Contracts

1. Legislative Agent Michael “Howdy” Kurtsinger
 - a. Howdy has not had a contract the last few years and has been doing an expense report annually while the KFA has been researching a replacement for him. Thompson advised it was too late this year to get a new legislative agent so we can use Executive Director Randy Lawson and the Executive Board along with Bruce Roberts from the Ky Fire Commission and Joe Baer from the Ky Professional Firefighters. Bobo advised there is \$12,000 in the budget for the legislative agent and this year Howdy claimed \$8,100. Philpot will work on a legislative agent contract with a job description. Any special travel for legislative issues will be approved by incoming President Rucker. Carpenter wants to pursue the combining of contracted jobs throughout the KFA.
2. Executive Director Randy Lawson
 - a. Contract approved with same parameters.
****Motion Crawford, 2nd Thompson, all in favor****
3. Information Technology/Publishing Buford Hurley
 - a. New contract approved with savings for not doing the printed newsletter after November 2025.
****Motion Crawford, 2nd Rucker, all in favor****
4. State Fire School Coordinator Marc Henderson
 - a. Annual stipend of \$2,000 was increased to \$3,000 in contract at the request of Treasurer Bobo due to the extra work from State Fire School.
****Motion Bobo, 2nd Crawford, Thompson abstained, all others in favor****
President Carpenter moved to have the finance committee work on this increase.

Uniform Policy – Crawford advised this has been put together and will present the updated SOG to the Executive board at the business meeting.



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Special Projects

1. Kentucky Firefighters Emergency Response Disaster Fund
 - a. Thompson reported no change in assistance fund account.
2. Kentucky Fallen Firefighters Memorial Corporation
 - a. Philpot reported mostly all the updates have been completed at the memorial site. A couple items that still need to be completed are the flag pole base and the safety railing. Some different fundraising items have been discussed and more information will be released at a later date.

Review of proposed 2025-2026 Committee Lists.

1. Rucker has contacted committee chairs and many have responded. Will talk to Joey Bowman about taking over the Legislative Committee.

Various Topics for Discussion

1. Treasurer Bobo advised Past President Marc Henderson received an email from VFIS about updates to our policy. Bobo requested a detailed quote from VFIS but instead received an invoice for \$6,333.73. This is only a \$3 increase from the previous policy.
2. President Carpenter is looking forward to conference and hopes everyone has a great time. President Carpenter thanked everyone for their help and involvement over the last year.

****Meeting was adjourned at 6:28 PM, Motion Thompson, 2nd Rucker, all in favor****

Conference Business Meeting Minutes Friday August 1, 2025

Presentation of Colors by the KFA honor guard at 08:00 AM

Welcome by President Kyle Carpenter

Pledge to the Flag led by Parliamentarian Mike O'Day

Invocation led by KFA Chaplain Jeff Rickels

Mike O'Day addressed the membership by stating he began the parliamentarian committee in 1974. He now feels it's time to retire from the position. He asked for anyone that would be interested to let him and the Executive Board know.

Officially opening of the meeting by President Kyle Carpenter at 08:11 AM

Rules of Conference by Parliamentarian Mike O'Day

****Motion to adopt Rules of Conference by Mike O'Day, 2nd by Dave Jansing, All in favor****

****Motion to place memorial wreath on grave of Adam Stapleton by David Kalb, 2nd Bill Blakley, All in favor****



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Guest Speakers:

1. Maysville Mayor Debra Cotterill welcomed everyone to Maysville and thanked those that have skills and desire to serve with sacrifice and dedication to the service. Wished the best in Communities and safety in the job along with volunteers in the areas. Maysville FD professionalism and service are top notch. Have had some major fires in Maysville and the FD has always done their best to save property and life. The FD gave precious extra days with husband before he passed away. Hope you enjoy the City of Maysville and be safe as you go back home.
2. Melissa Fabian – MDA – Thank you for having us today and thank you to the fire departments that partner with MDA to raise money for the research and cure for muscular diseases. Bowling Green FD was the top gatherer of donations in 2024. Have multidisciplinary care centers in Louisville and Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

President Kyle Carpenter – appointment of conference committees, announced by Secretary Eric Philpot:

- Nominations Committee – Terry Wattenbarger, Tex Johnson, Derrick Mills, Ericka Cole, Emmanuel Jolly, Tim Kleier
- Credentials Committee – Dave Jansing, Pat Krogman, Chris Amon, Joe Eggemeier, Jimmy VanCleve

Preliminary Credentials Report by Dave Jansing:

- 61 Departments, 104 Delegates

Finance Report by Bobby Cowherd

- Met Wednesday and found everything to be in order with the 2024-2025 financial books, will report further during committee report

Conference 2025 News/Updates by President Kyle Carpenter:

- Welcome to conference! Golf outing at Laurel Oaks and Non-Golf outing at Augusta Distillery. Downtown Block party will be this evening with a live band from Cincinnati. Red token is good for meal at all downtown restaurants. Hemingway's will have drinks available and will host the hospitality room each night.

Nominations were accepted by Chairman Terry Wattenbarger:

- **Nominations for Vice President at Large**
 - o Charlie Rafferty nominated Pat Thompson, 2nd John Beatsch.
 - o Motion to cease nominations by Dwane Smeathers, 2nd Greg Buckler.
 - o President Carpenter cast one vote for Pat Thompson for KFA Vice President at Large.
- **Nominations for Treasurer**
 - o Dave Jansing nominated Bonita Bobo, 2nd Marc Henderson.
 - o Motion to cease nominations by David Gross, 2nd Dwane Smeathers.
 - o President Carpenter cast one vote for Bonita Bobo for KFA Treasurer.

Officer Reports – all on file with Secretary Philpot:

**President Kyle Carpenter
Activity Report**



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August 2024

Aug. 2nd- 7th KFA Conference
Aug. 15th- State Fair Booth
Aug. 19th-22nd Fire Chief Conference
Aug. 27th- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting

September 2024

Sept. 4th- Memorial Meeting
Sept. 10th- Funeral Belfry FD Darrell Helton
Sept. 24th- Local Government Committee
Sept. 25th-27th- KLC Conference

October 2024

Oct. 2nd-Kentucky Fallen firefighters Memorial
Oct. 8th- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting
Oct. 17th- Fire Commission Meeting
Oct. 18th-20th- Buffalo Trace Fire School
Oct. 30th- State Fire School Meeting

November 2024

Nov. 1st-2nd- South Central Association Fire School Bowling Green KY
Nov. 9th- Fall KFA Board Meeting
Nov. 12th- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting

December 2024

Dec. 4th- Kentucky Fire Commission Meeting
Dec. 11th- Fire Commission EMS committee
Dec. 16th- Meeting at Fire Commission

January 2025

Jan. 15th- Kentucky State Fire School Meeting
Jan. 18th- Northern Kentucky Awards Banquet
Jan. 23- SOSINK Association Meeting
Jan. 27th- Funeral of John Wiseman
Jan. 30th- EMS Committee Meeting
Jan. 31st- Zoom Meeting for Joint Meeting

February 2025

Feb. 11th- State Fire School Meeting
Feb. 14th- Zoom Meeting For Joint Meeting
Feb. 20th-23- G.R.O.S., KFA/Fire commission/ Fire Chief Joint Meeting

March 2025

March 5th- State Fire School Meeting
March 6th- BTFA Fire School Meeting
March 12th- BTFA Meeting Lewis County
March 26- Conference Committee meeting
March 28th- Funeral for Adam Stapleton
March 31st- Central Bank Center

April 2025

April 2nd- Fire Commission Meeting
April- 8th BTFA fire School Meeting
April 9th- WFTM promotion on Fire Department and KFA conference
April 16th- State Fire School Meeting
April 25th & 26th- BTFA Food Truck festival

May 2025

May 14th- Conference Meeting
May 14th- BTFA Meeting
May 16th- Fire Academy Graduation
May 24th- I Got Married!
May 29th- State Fire School Meeting

June 2025

June 4th- Meeting at St. Pat and Tourism director at Maysville



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June 5th- Buffalo Trace Fire School Meeting

VP Eddie Rucker Activity Report

June 11-15 - Was at state fire school for meeting and vendor show.

July 16 - Went to EKFA at Russell Fire Department.

July 21 - Went to CCFA meeting at Grahn Fire Department.

VP Chris Crawford Activity Report

All Dixie Firefighters Meetings

Dixie Fire School meetings

Pikeville Fire School

Fallen Firefighter Memorial

KFA Fall Meeting in Ashland

KFA Winter Meeting in Owensboro

State Fire School Committee Meetings

Conference Planning Committee Meetings

National Fallen Firefighter Memorial

State Fire School

Supporting Heros Gala

VP Troy Roberts Activity Report

August 2024

3rd – 6th Attended KFA Conference Owensboro, KY

September 2024

7th – 8th Attended Pikeville Fire School set up booth in vendor hall

10th Attended local ESA (emergency services association) meeting

October 2024

2nd Attended Fallen Fire Fighter Memorial in Frankfort

25th – 27th Attended GRFA Fall Fire School

November 2024

9th Attended E-Board Meeting in Ashland, KY

12th Attended Local ESA Bimonthly Meeting

21st Attended Joint Greenriver Firefighters Association Meeting

December 2024

No Activity

January 2025

14th Attended Local ESA Bimonthly Meeting

27th Attended Funeral of John Wiseman

29th Attended KFA Conference Management Committee Meeting (Zoom)

30th Attended Greenriver Firefighters Association Meeting (Greenville)

February 2025

21st Attended E-Board Meeting in Owensboro, KY

22-23rd Attended Bryant Stiles Officer School

March 2025

5th Attended State Fire School Planning Meeting (Zoom)

11th Attended Local ESA Bimonthly Meeting

26th Attended KFA Conference Committee Meeting (Zoom)

27th Attended Greenriver Firefighters Association Meeting in Hanson, KY

28th-30th Attended Jackson Purchase Fire School

April 2025



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16th Attended State Fire School Planning Meeting (Zoom)
23rd E-Board Meeting (Zoom)
23rd Attended KFA Conference Committee Meeting (Zoom)
26th Attended KFA Fundraiser Event at Jesse Nash's
27th Attended Funeral of Charlie Shaw

May 2025

1st-4th Attended the Nation Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Emmitsburg
7th Attended State Fire School Planning Meeting (Zoom)
13th Attended Local ESA Bimonthly Meeting
26th Attended Funeral for Major Les Leatherman

June 2025

11th Attended Conference Committee Meeting at State Fire School
12th Attended E-Board Meeting at State Fire School
11th-15th Attended State Fire School

July 2025

1st Attended Zoom After Action Meeting via Zoom for State Fire School
24th Attended Greenriver Firefighters Association Meeting at new OFD Training Center
30th-Aug 3rd Attended the KFA Conference in Maysville, KY

VP At-Large Pat Thompson

Activity Report

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
11/18 OSHA Testimony via WebEx
11/20 Daviess County Fire Chiefs meeting at Thruston-Philpot
11/21 GRFA/Dixie/SCKFA/BESA meeting in Franklin, KY

December 2024

12/3 CFSI Post Election Educational Webinar via Zoom
12/10 NVFC Conference Committee meeting via Zoom
12/11 State Fire School meeting via Zoom
12/17 CFSI Capitol Hill Webinar via Zoom

January 2025

1/15 State Fire School meeting via Zoom
1/15 Daviess County Chiefs meeting at Yelvington FD
1/27 John Wiseman Funeral in Dayton, KY
1/28 Robert Cooper Funeral visitation in Owensboro
1/29 KFA Conference Committee meeting via Zoom
1/30 FEMA AFG Grant Review Training (NVFC) via Zoom
1/30 GRFA meeting at SFRT District 3



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1/31	NVFC Executive Board meeting via Zoom	
		February 2025
2/3-7	AFG Grant Reviews	
2/5	Legislative Chili Supper in Frankfort	
2/20-23	Bryant Stiles Officers School in Owensboro	
2/21	KFA Meeting in Owensboro	
2/26	KFA Conference Committee meeting via Zoom	
		March 2025
3/5	State Fire School meeting via Zoom	
3/10	NVFC/CFSI meeting via Zoom	
3/12	NVFC Annual Membership meeting via Zoom	
3/16	NVFC Executive Committee call via Zoom	
3/19	Daviess County Fire Chiefs meeting at DCFD/ASFD	
3/26	NERIS meeting via Zoom	
3/27	NVFC 50 th Anniversary meeting via Zoom	
3/27	GRFA meeting at Hanson FD	
		April 2025
4/2	Fire Commission meeting in Paris	
4/10	NVFC Legislative Committee meeting via Zoom	
4/16	State Fire School meeting via Zoom	
4/17	NVFC Executive Committee meeting via Zoom	
4/23	KFA Budget Meeting via Zoom	
4/23	KFA Conference Committee meeting via Zoom	
4/27	Charlie Shaw Funeral in Campbellsville	
		May 2025
5/7	State Fire School meeting via Zoom	
5/8	NVFC Executive Committee meeting via Zoom	
5/21	Daviess County Chiefs meeting at Stanley FD	
5/22	NVFC Red Ribbon meeting via Zoom	
5/29	State Fire School meeting via Zoom	
5/29	GRFA meeting in Henderson	
		June 2025
6/9	OSAH Apparatus/NVFC meeting via Zoom	
6/11-15	State Fire School in Lexington	
6/19	NVFC Executive Committee meeting in Salt Lake City	
		July 2025
7/1	State Fire School meeting via Zoom	
7/8	KFA Conference Committee meeting via Zoom	
7/16	Daviess County Chiefs meeting at Masonville FD	
7/21	NVFC Strategic Planning meeting via Zoom	
7/22	KFA Conference Committee meeting via Zoom	
7/23	KFA Chapter 75 meeting via Zoom	
7/24	GRFA meeting in Owensboro	
7/26	Supporting Heroes Gala in Owensboro	
7/29-30	NVFC Strategic Planning Task Force meeting via Zoom	
7/30-8/2	KFA Conference in Maysville	

Secretary Eric Philpot Activity Report

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



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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
December 12: SKFA Meeting London, Kentucky
January 13: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
January 15: State Fire School Meeting Virtual
January 16: SKFA Meeting Barbourville, Kentucky
- Presented Legacy Award to Margaret Melton
January 29: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
January 31: Officer's School Joint Meeting Planning Virtual
February 5: Attended Legislative Chili Dinner Frankfort, Kentucky
February 14: Officer's School Joint Meeting Planning Virtual
February 21: Joint Meeting with KFC, KAFC and KFA Owensboro, Kentucky
February 26: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
March 5: State Fire School Meeting Virtual
March 7-9: Dixie Fire School Elizabethtown, Kentucky
March 20: SKFA Meeting Sand Gap, Kentucky
April 16: State Fire School Meeting Virtual
April 23: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
May 1-4: National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Emmittsburg, Maryland
May 7: State Fire School Meeting Virtual
May 15: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
June 11-15: State Fire School Lexington, Ky
June 12: Fire Commission Meeting Lexington, Ky
June 12: KFA Executive Board Meeting Lexington, Ky
July 8: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
July 22: Conference Management Meeting Virtual
July 26: Supporting Heroes Gala Owensboro, Ky
July 30-August 3 KFA Conference Maysville, Ky
July 30: KFA Pre Conference Executive Board Meeting Maysville, Ky
July 31: Fire Commission Meeting Maysville, Ky
July 31: KFA Memorial Service Maysville, Ky
August 1-2: KFA Executive Board Meetings Maysville, Ky

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.
Worked with American Income Life on AD&D Checks

Treasurer Bonita Bobo Activity Report

Major Highlights – 4th Quarter 2024-2025

- Continued the Monthly Management Report
 - o Share with EBoard beginning of each month
 - o Snapshot of activity going in and out monthly (all deposits/all expenditures)
 - o Includes all banking account balances
- Earned Income/Money Market
 - o Has not changed/remains the same @ 1.49% interest
 - o Made contact with Truist Bank regarding CD options
 - o \$2,577.39 – 4th Quarter total
- Financial Documents
 - o Shared with EBoard – July 21, 2025/Revised July 28, 2025
 - ♣ Profit and Loss Summary
 - ♣ 4th Quarter Budget Report



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- KFA Conference Committee
 - o Income
 - ♣ Registration - \$21,119.11
 - ♣ Sponsorship - \$14,101.15
 - ♣ Program - \$14,180.06
 - o Developed Budget Spreadsheet
 - o Registration
 - ♣ Worked with on-site registration staff (shout out to Katie/Jessica)
- KFA Membership Income
 - o Department - \$42,180.76
 - o Personal - \$2,566.39
 - o Sustaining - \$3,806.12
 - o Total 3rd Quarter - \$48,553.27
- 2025 State Fire School
 - o Worked with SFS Coordinator
 - ♣ Finalize 2025 Conference Payments
 - o Finalizing Budget Spreadsheet
- 2025 State Fair
 - o Ordered Promotional Items/Delivered
 - ♣ Helmets
 - ♣ Coloring Books
 - ♣ Pens → 2025-2026 Budget
 - o Worked with Finance Chair on revised budget
 - ♣ Review 4th Qtr. Profit and Loss Summary
 - ♣ Review 4th Qtr. Profit and Loss Detail
 - ♣ Revised 2025-2026 Proposed Budget
 - ♣ Final revisions to be completed after August 1, 2025
- End of Fiscal Year – will be contacting both agencies (CPA/Auditor) to get all information to them by September 1, 2025 (due December 31, 2025)
 - o 2024 Tax Return
 - o 1099 Forms
 - o LP Audit (Bank Statements, QuickBook Chart of Accounts Register)
- VFIS Insurance
 - o Renewal quote requested
 - o Obtain approval/signature at Sunday, August 3rd EBoard Meeting
 - o Payment to be sent by August 15

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Bonita Bobo

- Financial standings are on file with Secretary Philpot

Membership Report – Secretary Eric Philpot

382 – DEPARTMENT MEMBERS (last year 385)

109 – PERSONAL MEMBERS (last year 50)

19 – SUSTAINING MEMBERS (last year 18)

Executive Director Report – Randy Lawson

May 2025

The following is a summary of activity for the month of May

- Participated in Fire School Planning zoom meeting – 5/9/2026
- Attended the State Fire Academy Graduation #6 – 5/16/2025
- Attended the funeral for Major Leatherman in London Ky – 5/25/2025
- Participated in Fire School Planning meeting – 5/29/2025

June 2025



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The following is a summary of activity for the month of June

- Conference Planning Committee – 6/11/2025
- Fire Commission Meeting – 6/12/2025
- E Board meeting – 6/12/2025
- State Fire School – 6/11-15/2025

July 2025

The following is a summary of activity for the month of July

- Fire School Zoom Meeting – 7/1/2025
- Conference Planning Committee Zoom mtg – 7/8/2025
- Conference Planning Committee Zoom mtg – 7/22/2025

While the report does not necessary say so, it has been a busy month. The conference committee has been busy trying to bring things into line for the upcoming conference in Maysville. We cancelled two meetings this month because of poor projected attendance. We did not, however, fail to communicate and get things rolling. Another month where I got several calls with various questions re: KFA, fire school and the annual conference.

As in early correspondence we discussed the replacement of new KFA signs for use at fire schools, conferences, and etc. I have reached a point where I can't proceed until I get some pictures and desired theme or layout for the signs.

Introduction of Incoming KFA 3rd Vice President

President Kyle Carpenter introduced Chris Black who will represent the Northern Kentucky Firefighters Association

Pre-filed Resolutions by Acting Committee Chairman Dwane Smeathers

- Resolution 1: Sustainable healthcare benefits and costs
- Resolution 2: First day of employment is also first date of participation in KPPA
- Resolution 3: All professional firefighters in Kentucky are classified as hazardous duty
- Resolution 4: Workers' Comp cancer coverage
- Resolution 5: Retirement benefits with reasonable monthly benefit
- Resolution 6: Chapter 75 rate increase
- Resolution 7: Voting delegate must be a registered attendee at conference
- Resolution 8: Congratulations to President Kyle Carpenter and staff

Floor Resolutions by Dwane Smeathers

Resolutions on floor ***Any resolutions need 2/3 vote from floor to send to Committee***

1. Steve Rath (NKFA)
 - a. Tier 3 to Tier 2 Hazardous Duty Retirement ****Motion Steve Rath, 2nd Scott Reusing, all in favor****

Committee Reports

By-laws - Chris Crawford

- Will have a committee meeting in the evening to discuss changes to be made.

Legislative 2024 Resolutions Recap – Dwane Smeathers

- Pension spiking and health benefits for Tier 2 and Tier 3 were addressed in the legislative session.

Business Session recessed until Saturday at 8:00 AM at 09:35 AM



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Conference Business Meeting Minutes Saturday August 2, 2025

Invocation by KFA Chaplain Jeff Rickels

Pledge to the Flag led by President Kyle Carpenter

President Carpenter formed a committee with Mike O'Day to work on Parliamentary replacement

Business session reopened by President Kyle Carpenter at 8:10 AM

2025 Conference Coordinator News/Info by President Carpenter

- Thanks for coming! Great downtown block party last evening. Presidents Banquet and Hall of Fame Ceremony will be held at the Limestone Center this evening.

Credentials report by Dave Jansing

- 61 Departments, 104 Delegates

Resolutions update by Dwane Smeathers

- Resolutions 1 – 6 sent to legislative committee
- Resolution 7 sent to bylaws committee
- Resolution 8 approved

Guest Speakers & Special Visitors

- Thanks to All American Fire Equipment for supplying breakfast and their support.
- Thanks to Atlantic Emergency Solutions for their support throughout the conference and to the regional associations.

Other Agency Reports:

Ky Fire Marshal - Mike Haney

Not Present, No Report

Ky Fire Commission - Bruce Roberts

Have two openings for financial positions with the Fire Commission. Finished first audit and are currently working on second. Peer Support on Sept 9 in Bowling Green for up to 32 people, registration is online. TIC grants will open on August 15 and end on September 15 and will be awarded on October 15. Everything going good within the fire commission.

State Fire Rescue Training - Marc Rudder

State Fire Rescue Training had a busy year during Fiscal Year 25. We delivered 7,112 classes to 709 fire departments which was 94% of all the Commonwealth's departments. We had five districts that provided training to 100% of their departments. 410 departments had more than 20 hours of training delivered by SFRT. Our accredited certification office oversaw the delivery of testing that resulted in 3,193 skill exams and 5,020 written exams. The Fire Academy of Kentucky completed two recruit classes and one EMT class. Currently they have an EMT class that is finishing this week to start FY26 and Recruit Class 007 will begin on August 18 with nearly forty students expected to attend. As we are looking to complete the dormitory project, we will be adding weeklong classes throughout the year. Our training specialists are working across the districts to deliver classes for certification. We are excited to have a fourth training specialist begin this month. This will result in us being back to full strength and delivering classes across the state. During fiscal year 25 we received an additional 4 Taylor'd props. This will be our new survival and rescue props. These will be in use as



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soon as we have trailer and final prop modifications made that will better serve us in delivery of those classes. Also, during this past fiscal year we received a 75' Quint, a pumper/tanker, and an air compressor/fill station trailer. KCTCS/Fire Commission/SFRT has entered into an agreement with Kentucky Emergency Management to deliver grant funded HazMat training to responders across the Commonwealth. Agencies can request this training by completing the 308 form that is located in the training section of KyEM's webpage or contact their SFRT district office for more information. This past weekend we had over 30 firefighters from Kentucky attend the National Fire Academy Kentucky/Michigan weekend. Our students had the opportunity to attend one of three classes while on campus in Emmitsburg. We will be offering additional state weekends in the years to come and would invite everyone to attend that is able. Remember that our district offices are now accepting training requests for FY26 so contact them and let us know how we can assist your department.

KBEMS - Eddie Slone

Not Present, No Report

KY Professional Firefighters - Joe Baer

Thank you Mr. President on a great conference. Been busy over the last several months. Harrodsburg Firefighters were illegally terminated due to forming an IAFF Local so jury awarded each of them \$500,000. SB10 related to retiree healthcare has been implemented and will take effect January 1, 2026. Going into the 2026 Legislative Session, Looking at January 13 or 20 for the Legislative Chili Dinner. Have been in Frankfort for the preparations for the Legislative Session. Working on Funding for the cancer screening that was passed already. Have been attending KBEMS board meetings to work with them on their policies. In December a push was made to eliminate the Social Security windfall that would reduce the monthly benefit. IAFF have endorsed Andy Barr for the U.S. Senate seat.

Ky Fire Chiefs - Mike Morgan (Reported by Mike Sutt)

Good Morning, thank you for the great partnership with the KFA and IAFF. Leadership Conference will be August 19-21 in Bowling Green. Still have leadership positions open till the end of this week.

Ky Homeland Security - Josh Keats

Not Present, No Report

Ky Emergency Management – Eric Gibson

Not Present, No Report

Supporting Heroes - Eric Johnson

Not Present, No Report

Firefighter Cancer Support Network – Marc Henderson

Mission:

Please tell all your members, current or retired to please reach out with any cancer diagnosis if they would like information, the Tool Kit, mentor, or just to talk.

They can go to the website at firefightercancersupport.org or contact me.

The class is great for new firefighters especially as it talks about all the precautions/issues that we are dealing with and it also offers some great information for the seasoned firefighter.

Classes:

Virtual through D3 on Tuesday June 17th with 49 students, Paducah FD July 8-10 with 47 students, Lewisport FD July 22 with 15 students. Berea FD for 3 days in September.

Berea FD all 3 shifts in September, working with OFD

If you would like the class offered for your department or county please let me know.

The class is great for new firefighters especially as it talks about all the precautions/issues that we are dealing with and it also offers some great information for the seasoned firefighter.

Working on a Train the Trainer for October 9th, 2025.

Booth:

We were set up at the State Fire School and we talked at the FC and KFA Meetings.

Fundraising:

We will be looking at a couple of fundraising ideas as FCSN operates on grants and donations.



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CORBIN FIRE DEPARTMENT
805 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORBIN, KY 40701
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All personnel are volunteers.
National Firefighter Cancer Registry is back open
Thank you everyone for your support.

KFA REGIONAL DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Big Sandy – Mike Brown

No Report, Not Present

Bluegrass – Stephen Fante

Thank you Mr. President.

BESA is working on membership numbers, we are currently up and are doing well.

The next meeting is September 16th at SCFD Station 1, at 7pm, dinner at 6:30.

No other business right now, congratulations on a successful conference, we have had a great time.

Buffalo Trace – David Kalb

Hope everyone has a great time in Maysville for Conference. Annual School will be coming up in October 17 – 19 in Maysville. Have association meetings every other month on the 2nd Thursday.

Central Ky – Shane Yocum

Nothing to Report

Daniel Boone – Jeff Anderson

No Report, Not Present

Dixie – Michael Long

Mr. President and members of the KFA Executive Board, my name is Michael Long, and I am the Treasurer and KFA Director representing the Dixie Firefighters Association, and I am presenting our activity report. Planning is nearing completion for the 2025 annual Meade County Fire School, with registration opening within the next couple of weeks. This school will be held October 10-12 in Brandenburg, KY with many departments assisting with its development. The Dixie Firefighters Association proudly supports this school and will assist in any way possible. Planning is underway for the 2026 Dixie Fire School. The official dates are still to be determined as we are working out details with our host facility, but it will be either the first or second weekend in March. Annually, this Association is proud to host one of the highest student attended regional schools within the Commonwealth. More details to come in the near future. As always, we are looking for sponsorship opportunities as well as interested vendors as we hope to make this upcoming year the biggest ever by hosting more classes and an expanded vendor show. Please contact myself if interested in participating as a vendor, sponsor, or to gather additional information. The Dixie Firefighters Association, led by the 2027 KFA President Chief Chris Crawford, will host the 2027 Kentucky Firefighters Association annual conference in Elizabethtown, KY. Dates are still to be determined, however planning for this event is well underway. The Dixie Firefighters Association works closely with Dale Dobson and the KY Department of Agriculture to promote farm safety through hands-on training and simulation, along with promoting the Raising Hope campaign. Raising Hope helps highlight the stress, safety, hard work and overall importance of our farming industry in the Commonwealth, and these initiatives have spread beyond this state shining as an example for other agencies to mirror. Currently in progress, and procured by grants and outside funding, a new rollover tractor simulator and a grain rescue trailer are both being constructed. The rollover tractor has been in process for several years and we now have all the necessary components to complete the build out. The grain trailer was recently purchased, picked up, and is now in fabrication for completion. To date, a total of \$65,000.00 was raised for the rollover tractor, and \$51,000.00 raised for the grain rescue trailer. This organization is proud of this partnership, and we cannot thank Dale Dobson enough for his dedication and leadership toward this initiative. Formerly, the Dixie Firefighters Association had one central location where we conducted our regular meetings, however in an effort to increase our attendance numbers and boost participation, we have elected to move the meeting each month to a host department, who voluntarily agrees to provide their facility for use. We encourage all departments within our region to participate and host a meeting. If interested, please contact either Secretary Rusty Todd or President Shane Carpenter to express your desire to host. Information regarding location for each meeting will be posted on our Facebook page and on our website. The Dixie Firefighters Association, Green River Firefighters Association, BESA, and the South Central Kentucky Firefighters Association will once again hold a joint meeting in November. This meeting allows us to share ideas and work together to make our Associations stronger and hopefully have a greater impact within emergency services. This years joint meeting will be hosted by the Green River Firefighters Association. More information will be provided as we get closer, and will also be posted on our websites and social media platforms. This concludes the report from the Dixie Firefighters Association.

Eastern Ky - Billy Selvage

Working on 2026 Conference with Eddie Rucker with fundraising.



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Green River - Dwane Smeathers

- The GRFA is still active as always. At our July 24th meeting at the new Owensboro FD Training Center we had approximately 80 in attendance.
- We continue to collaborate with Western Kentucky University on research projects, they are focused on bettering the health and wellness of firefighters. We appreciate their passion and our partnership.
- The 2025-26 GRFA Executive Board consists of:

President	Charlie Rafferty	Airport-Sorgho FD
1 st VP	John Dunning	Grapevine FD
2 nd VP	Shane Richards	Hawesville FD
Treasurer	Pat Thompson	Airport-Sorgho FD
Secretary	Marc Henderson	Airport-Sorgho FD
KFA Director	Dwane Smeathers	Yelvington FD
- Our 2025 Green River Meeting dates and locations: Times have been changed to 6:00 PM CST:
September 25th Lewisport Fire Department
On November 20th, we will host a Joint Meeting with Dixie, BESA, South Central, and Jackson Purchase at The Fire Academy of KY. This meeting will also be at 6:00 PM CST.
- 2025 Green River Fall Fire School, October 24th – 26th at the Owensboro Community Technical College.
- We hope to see everyone back in Owensboro for the 2026 Bryant Stiles Officers School, February 20th – 22nd, 2026.
- We are already preparing for the 2028 KFA Conference in Owensboro with Chief Troy Roberts.

Jackson Purchase - Tex Johnson

Currently in a rebuilding phase doing a training in several counties. Working with SFRT District 2 on two weekend fire school.

Jefferson - Joey Bowman

Having fire school in September. Having great participation with departments and with BESA

Lake Cumberland - David Gross

Nothing to Report

Mountain - Robert Keith

No Report, Not Present

Northern Ky - Steve Rath

Bud has decided to step down as director and is missed this year at Conference. Several fire department mergers in the association. Pendleton County Fire Department has been formed. Campbell County has their burn building back up and running, thank you to the Fire Commission for their support. Chief Chris Black will be hosting the 2029 KFA Conference in Northern Kentucky. Have been working with KBEMS on their interfacility transfer policy.

South Central - Nelson Slaughter

- We had our last meeting on May 15th in Franklin Ky.
- We have launched an online merchandise store in conjunction with Central Screen Printing. You can click the link on our new website located at SCKFA.com.
- We sent out information to our vendors last week about the fire school so if anyone is interested in a booth please reach out.
- Our Annual Fire School will be October 31st through November 2nd 2025 at the Carroll Knicely Center in Bowling Green KY.
- Our next meeting is August 21st at 6pm and we be at Stony Point Fire Department in Franklin Ky.

Southeastern Ky - Terry Wattenbarger

Currently doing a leather helmet raffle that will be drawn for in October at Fire School. Fire School will be held in London the first weekend of October.

Mike O'Day advised there were interviews conducted this morning for the position of Parliamentarian. Mike wanted to thank the committee and the interested persons. Incoming President Eddie Rucker will make the decision on the appointment of the position.

Guest Speaker

Pete Kirby – Virginia State Firefighters Association – Greetings from the Cumberland Valley Firefighters Association and Virginia State Firefighters Association. A lot of similarities in different associations, firstly everyone has the same mentality that younger people need to be involved. Second, if you rely on dues for the



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financial needs of the association you'll never get ahead. Thirdly, young people don't want to drive anymore and they don't want to get out and help. These three problems have been shared across several associations that don't have anything to do with the fire service but relates greatly to it.

Standing Committee Reports:

Advisory - Jeff Pohlman

- Attended KFA conference in Owensboro (August 2024)
- Attended John Wiseman funeral (Dayton) (January 2025)
- Attended Legislative supper (Frankfort) (February 2025)
- Attended KFA Executive Board Meeting via Zoom (November 2024)
- Attended KFA Executive Board Meeting via Zoom (February 2025)
- Attended KFA Executive Board Meeting via Zoom (June 2025)
- Attended numerous Chapter 75 committee Zoom meetings discussing funding increases and tax cap (2024 and 2025)

Chapter 75 - Jason Meiman / Stephen Fante

Thank you Mr. President.

- The Chapter 75 committee has been working hard to make improvements that will effect departments all over the commonwealth
- We have met with legislatures in our capital to discuss the problems and listen to their ideas. We are still gaining support! Regular meetings have been held in Frankfort, learning and listening to our elected officials.
- We have a bill drafted already this year. We are being heard and making progress. This draft is a rough draft, and there will be changes made, however to have a rough draft of a Bill we feel is a great achievement and shows we are continually making progress, this was discussed on our last zoom meeting, which included the legislative committee, so everyone was involved and knows the work we are doing.
- We are compiling information to educate the legislative officials so they can be educated on the facts related to funding on chapter 75 fire districts and we can continue to educate them as new legislatures are voted in. Education is essential, visual presentations, including all aspects of ch75, rural, urban and in between.
- I want to stress that we are working hard on this. Constant meetings in Frankfort, emails and phone calls to get where we are. We are making headway. Every representative we speak with, KACO, KLC, Magistrates representatives, they all acknowledge there is a problem and it needs to be looked at.
- Our next step is we are planning a meeting with the leadership, Speaker of the house, A&R Chair, KACO, KLC, those that are the leaders in Frankfort to sit down and all get in one room and agree on the path that we need to take to get this 80 year old statute updated. We need the support of the KFA, and its members. This is just one of many things that the committee feels needs to be updated with this old, out of date statute. This committee is putting in the work, we need everyone's support.
- Working with a lobbyist to come up with a positive press release regarding the struggles with costs associated with the fire districts and how we have funding issues. Educate our communities as well to let everyone know there is a problem across the state. We would like the approval from the eboard for this, and this release coming from the KFA as a board. This will be brought up in the fall meeting.
- Thank you for your time, and this concludes our report.



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EMS – Levi Hanshaw (Report by Kyle Carpenter)

Will work with KPFF along with KBEMS to make this committee better for the membership.

Legislative - Michael “Howdy” Kurtsinger (Report by Pat Thompson)

With the absence of Howdy, Pat will take care of this committee for conference. Met yesterday to review the resolutions from that committee.

Resolution 1 – Health Insurance Benefits

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Steve Rath, All in favor****

Resolution 2 – First Day of Employment

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Scott Reusing, All in favor****

Resolution 3 – Classified as Hazardous Duty

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Dwane Smeathers, All in favor****

Resolution 4 – Workers Comp Cancer

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Marc Henderson, All in favor****

Resolution 5 – Retirement Benefits

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Jonathan Bendzlowicz, All in favor****

Resolution 6 – Chapter 75 increase

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Hayley Hoppenrath, All in favor****

Resolution 9 – Tier 3 to Tier 2

****Motion Thompson, 2nd Paul Hehman, All in favor****

NVFC - Pat Thompson

Working closely with the IAFF on legislative work for firefighters. Looking to increase membership with the NVFC and volunteer firefighters.

Special Events & Marketing - Pat Thompson

Several events across the Commonwealth. Have two new banners to display at events. Ky State Fair and Ky Chiefs Conference will be coming up in August. Had 11 teams participate in KFA Conference Golf Outing.

- Third Place – Bruce Roberts, Robert Dwyer, Joe Baer, Kevin Pletzke, Ken Van Sparrentak
- Second Place – Tim Kleier, Greg Buckler, Mike O'Day, Pat Krogman
- First Place – Rick Bobo, Shawn Doty, Joel Trandell, Bill Blakely
- President Carpenter announced First Annual Fishing winner as Jeffrey Lang of Wilder for catching fish while golfing.

Have purchased new pull up banners, two of them have been purchased and will be used at the Ky State Fair then will be split between the east (with Sec. Philpot) and west (with VP Thompson).

Honor Guard & Funerals - Charlie Rafferty

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 the Belfry Fire Department.

Two members attended the funeral service for pat president John Wiseman.

Three members attended the KY Fallen Firefighters Memorial Ceremony in Frankfort.

Two members represented the Honor Guard at the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial in Emmitsburg, MD May 1st through the 4th more information on the memorial weekend can be found at www.firehero.org.

Three members represented the Honor Guard at the visitation and funeral of Chief Charles W. Shaw of the Campbellsville-Taylor County Rescue.

Three members represented the Honor Guard at the visitation and funeral of Leslie R Leatherman of the Laurel County Fire Department.

Three members represented the Honor Guard at the 20th Annual Supporting Heroes Gala.

Memorial - Bruce Roberts

Service will be Wednesday, October 1 at 11:00 AM in Frankfort. Committee will begin planning service soon. Working with contractors to finalize all the remodel items (Flag Pole base and Railing for steps). Frankfort City Pool has a leak and is affecting the memorial so the City is going to install a retaining wall on the right side of the memorial to fix the problems.

Scholarship - Jimmy VanCleve

We had 8 students that completed the application process and awarded 7 scholarships due to one not meeting the requirements.

- Abby Breeze, Independence Fire Department, University of Louisville, Pre-Med/Biology
- Charlee Riddle, Shelby County Fire Department, University of Louisville, Psychology
- Savannah Philpot, Bush Fire Department, Western Ky University, Photojournalism
- Addison Mills, Whitesville Fire Department, Owensboro Community Technical College, Nursing



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CORBIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

805 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORBIN, KY 40701

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- Kelsey Breeze, Independence Fire Department, Northern Ky University, Radiological Sciences
- Zebuliah Slone, Louisa Fire Department, Eastern Ky University, Fire Science
- Jack Sullivan, Point Pleasant Fire Department, Earlham College, Business

Honored to assist these students in their journey and we appreciate the executive board in increasing this scholarship from \$2,000 to \$3,000 next year. Prints are still being sold to support the scholarship fund.

History - Jimmy VanCleve

Still searching for some old brochures. Working with Buford to display historical documents on the KFA Website. Working on articles for smoke signals newsletter.

Public Education & Fire Prevention - Adam Fuller

Committee has not been as active as it should have been. There have been some discussions about NFPA items. The theme for fire prevention week will be "Charging into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home"

Recruitment & Retention - Adam Fuller

Combined with Public Education and Fire Prevention report.

Ethics - Dave Jansing

Nothing to report

Hall of Fame - John Beatsch

Prepared for the Hall of Fame Ceremony this evening and looking forward to future nominations.

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

Resolution 7 – Delegate must be a Registered Attendee of Conference

****Motion Crawford, 2nd Scott Reusing, motion failed due to nays over ayes and by-laws will remain the same without any changes****

Discussion (Steve Rath opposed to this in the by-laws, if you are a dues paying member in good standing then you should be able to come to conference business meetings and exercise their vote. There aren't many departments or members that do this each year so the money shouldn't be a problem so everyone has the right to vote. Maybe need to raise the membership dues and include a registration to the conference.)

Discussion (Rick Bobo opposed to this change in the by-laws due to local departments that want to attend the business meetings of the KFA and vote on items.)

Discussion (Dave Jansing addressed the voting delegates being registered conference attendees and advised that the original resolution was discussed last year but never voted on.)

Resolutions - Keith Hurm (Report by Dwane Smeathers)

Resolution 8 – Congratulations to President Carpenter and his staff on a great conference.

****Motion Smeathers, 2nd Paul Hehman, all in favor****

Conference Management - Randy Lawson / Joel Trandell

Has been a very successful conference with the help of Buffalo Trace Firefighters Association and Maysville Fire Department. President Carpenter took a great leadership role and helped out with the planning of the conference. Thanked the committee for work on website, registration, programs, sponsorships, memorial service, and other items. Will be meeting in the next week to discuss the 2026 KFA Conference and website will be active September 1.

Finance – Bobby Cowherd

Budget for 2025-2026 has been passed out to membership and is on file with Secretary Philpot

****Motion Bobby Cowherd to accept budget, 2nd Joel Trandell, all in favor****

Steering - Stephen Fante

Nothing to report

State Fire School - Marc Henderson

Classes:

- 34 Classes Offered, 1 cancelled due to low enrollment
- 7 classes were closed due to meeting max number allowed.
- 218 agencies 200/2024
- 713 registered 672/2024
- 1685 students/4-day count 1554/2024

Vendors:

- 40 booths and 12 floor spaces 38/16 2024
- Going back to Friday night for 2026 and shortening the hours.



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- Possibly offering lunch on Saturday next year to students.

Sponsors:

- Gold Level: Atlantic Emergency
 - Bronze Level: All-American, FDSAS, American Response Vehicles
 - Refreshments: Gall's
 - T-Shirt Logo: Vogelpohl
- Huge thank you to SFRT Director Rudder, Chief Traylor with Lexington FD, SFRT staff, KFA Board, and everyone involved that helped pull this school off.
 - Our Event Manager Cameron Young with CBC and Melissa Conley with LEXPO went above and beyond to ensure that everything ran as smoothly as possible.

PTSD - Greg Buckler

Have been working on completing the PTSD Brochure. This document will continue to be updated as needed. Brochure will be distributed and posted on the website.

****Motion Buckler, 2nd Jeff Lang, all in favor****

Recommends Pat Krogman to take over the chairman of the PTSD Committee.

Discussion – Bruce Roberts wanted to let everyone know there is money in the Ky Fire Commission budget for PTSD treatment reimbursement.

Discussion – Rick Bobo has made contact with a group out of Arkansas that wants to form a chapter in Kentucky reference to Peer Support and PTSD. Will come to Kentucky to discuss with the KFA Executive Board.

Discussion – Rebecca Brown with the Ky Fire Chaplains Association mentioned that chaplains are available for these departments that are in need. October 16 and 17 in Madison County will be a Peer Support training for chaplains and crisis intervention along with pastoral support.

ADHOC - Pat Thompson

Nothing to report

Old Business:

Firefighter Motorcycle License Plate Update

- KYTC is still working on the program that issues motorcycle plates.

New Business:

Announcement of 2025/2026 KFA Committees

- Incoming President Eddie Rucker announced committee chairpersons.

Good and Welfare:

- Pat Thompson announced at the banquet tonight there will be a card for Keith Hurm in the passing of his father and Bob Newman that is having some health issues.
- Dates for 2026 KFA Conference are August 1 – 5 in Ashland, Kentucky

Recess until banquet – 11:39 AM



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805 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CORBIN, KY 40701

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President's Banquet and Hall of Fame Ceremony

6:00 PM – Banquet and Hall of Fame ceremony was held at the Limestone Event Center in Maysville. A great Hall of Fame Ceremony for Paul Radenheimer and John Beatsch was held. Paul Radenheimer was inducted by Dave Jansing and Paul's Grandson Ben Radenheimer. John Beatsch was inducted by Jim Herman and John's brother Ray Beatsch. The new KFA Executive Board was sworn in by Dave Jansing. President Eddie Rucker, 1st Vice President Chris Crawford, 2nd Vice President Troy Roberts, 3rd Vice President Chris Black, Vice President at Large Pat Thompson, Secretary Eric Philpot, and Treasurer Bonita Bobo.

Post-Conference Meeting Minutes August 3, 2025

Meeting called to order by President Eddie Rucker at 09:09 AM

Roll Call of Officers by Secretary Eric Philpot, all present:

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

Others present:

Past President Carpenter

Introductions and Information exchange/update

- Secretary Philpot will update form and send out

Contracts

- President Rucker signed contracts for Executive Director, State Fire School Coordinator, and Buford Hurley.

VFIS Information

- Bobo asked for quote and they sent invoice. It was \$3 more this year.
Motion to continue policy Crawford, 2nd Thompson, all in favor

State Fair – August 14-24

- Pat has the schedule and is looking for help.
- Philpot will order signs with QR code for app and online store to display.



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Ky Fire Chiefs Conference – Bowling Green – August 19-21

- Henderson and Lawson will work KFA Vendor Booth.

Hazard Fire School – August 22-24

- Philpot will attempt to attend

Pike County Fire School – September 5-7

- Crawford will attend

SKFA – October 3-5

- Philpot will attend

Buffalo Trace – October 17-19

- Philpot and Black will attend

Meade County Fire School – October 10-12

- Crawford will attend

Frankfort Memorial – October 1, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

- Bruce Roberts is finalizing the work at the memorial.
- Thompson will check with him about pavers and benches.
- Bobo asked about invoice for flowers and Thompson will check with Bruce.

Emmitsburg – May 3, 2026

- Thompson will get rooms for the Executive Board.

Bank Information

- Bobo advised since we changed President that Kyle Carpenter will come off and Chris Crawford will be added to the bank resolution.

Expectations

- Rucker wants to raise our memberships numbers. We currently have 382 paid department members and there are almost 800 Kentucky Departments. Lawson mentioned department mergers being a reason for the lower numbers.
- Thompson talked about the newsletter change being electronic vs printed. There are several vendors that want a package deal with advertising and vendor shows. Philpot and Bobo will work together to make an Annual Sponsorship Package.

Any unfinished business

- Parliamentarian – we had 4 people show interest in the position. Crawford mentioned this position is not a part of the executive board and is only an appointed position. Steve Rath, Pat Krogman, Nelson Slaughter, and Phil Coggeshall were all interested in the position and interviewed with the committee. Bobo mentioned anyone not in attendance that may be interested, this position would be appointed by President Rucker. Lawson mentioned a younger person to fill the position. Rucker advised he would appoint Pat



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Krogman to the position for this year and see how he does. This position will be evaluated and reappointed by each president.

- Uniform Policy – Crawford talked about the new uniform policy for the SOP.



Uniform and apparel	
Date Implemented:	

SECTION 1: PURPOSE

The Kentucky Firefighters Association strives to maintain professionalism and order within our ranks.

SECTION 2: APPAREL

- The executive board members shall be issued a red blazer and two red polo shirts.
- Committee chairs may be issued one red polo shirt.
- Regional Directors may be issued one red polo shirt.
- Contracted staff may be issued one red polo shirt.
- KFA official apparel may be updated when necessary for wear and tear or changes in size.

SECTION 4: AUTHORIZED PERSONS

- KFA executive board and emeritus members may wear any and all identifying KFA apparel.
- KFA committee chairs and directors may wear red polo shirts in conjunction with official KFA meetings or events.

SECTION 3: PROPER WEARING OF KFA APPAREL

- KFA executive board or emeritus members shall wear black pants or dress/skirt and white shirt with the red blazer.
- KFA executive board members shall wear tan pants with the red polos while conducting official meetings.
- Red polos may be worn with dress shorts when not at an executive board meeting.

****Motion Crawford, 2nd Roberts, all in favor****

Next Meeting

- Pat spoke to Tex Johnson about hosting the meeting at Jackson Purchase on November 1.
- Black and Bobo mentioned traveling on Halloween due to families.
- Pat mentioned moving meeting time to 1:00 PM CST at East Marshal Fire District.

****Motion to adjourn Crawford, 2nd Thompson, all in favor****