



The Kentucky Firefighters Association, Inc.
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MONICA RATH

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The 2015 Kentucky Firefighters Association Conference was held in Paducah Kentucky from August 1 - 4 hosted by President Steve Kyle, his lovely wife Buffy and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association.

Saturday August 1, 2015

The 2015 Kentucky Firefighters Conference began with the annual Firefighter Olympics. The Olympics were held at Noble Park with lunch provided. Three teams from across the state participated and brought along their rowdy supporters. Fun was had by all. The Official results are attached to the minutes. There was a Meet and Greet with dinner provided hosted by the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association.

Sunday August 2, 2015

Morning Worship Service was held at the Courtyard Marriott. Lunch was provided for everyone. The Fire Commission held their regularly scheduled meeting. The annual Memorial Service was held at The First Baptist Church of Paducah. We memorialized four LODD's, Jonathon French, Tony Grider, Malcomb Jenkins, Billy Jarvis. All names of our deceased brothers and sisters were read and remembered for their service. Everyone enjoyed Special Music by Tim Bertram with God's Graffiti Ministry. Sunday evening we enjoyed a Mardi Gras Party. Fun was had by all.

Monday August 3, 2015

President Steve Kyle called order and Tex Johnson welcomed everyone to the 95th Annual Conference. Ronnie Hines, Chaplain of the Paducah Fire Department gave the Invocation. Paducah Fire Department Honor Guard presented the Colors. Joe Stambush led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. All Officers were present. Jennifer Jackson with the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association gave a welcome speech and covered a few housekeeping issues. Vice President Jeff Pohlman gave his response to the welcome and thanked President Kyle and his crew for all their hard work.

The following public figures gave a short speech and welcomed everyone to the area; Mayor Gayle Kaler, State Representative Steven Rudy, State Representative Gerald Watkins, State Representative Richard Heath, State Senator Stan Humphries, Judge

Executive Robert Leeper and candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture Jean-Marie Lawson Spann.

President Kyle officially opened the conference meeting.
Gerald Stewart presented the members with the Rules of the Conference.

A motion was made to accept the Rules of the Conference.
Motion/Second Gerald Stewart/Mike Hulsey
Motion passed via voice vote.

A motion was made to place the wreath from the Memorial Service at a one year memorial service for Jonathon French after the conference.
Motion/Second Mike Hulsey/Chris Crawford
Motion passed via voice vote.

Secretary Monica Rath read the conference committees. They are as follow;
Credentials: Ronnie Day, **Finance:** Finance Committee, **Conference:** Kevin McKellip's and the conference committee, **Nominations:** Ronnie Day, John Wiseman, Mike O'Day
Parliamentarian: Gerald Stewart, Mike O'Day

Preliminary credentials report submitted by Ronnie Day 40 departments represented with 63 delegates 7 E-Board members for a total of 86 votes. Report attached to minutes.

Officers Reports:

A report from the following officers have been filed with the secretary and will be attached to the minutes; VP Jeff Pohlman, VP Billy Selvage, VP Pat Walsh, VP @ Large Mike Hulsey, Treasurer Duane Suttles and Secretary Monica Rath. All filed reports, meeting schedules, and attendance were available to any member to view prominently displayed at the Head Table.

Reports:

State Fire Commission – Ronnie Day

- Partnership with Department of Agriculture for State Fair
- State Fallen Firefighter Memorial is September 30th
- State Fire school numbers are up
- Holding two Combat Challenges; 1 in Lexington 1 in Louisville
- Tom Arnold retired from State Homeland Security and is now the Chief at Eastwood Fire Department
- Dr. Jay Box is the new President of KCTCS and the new Chancellor is Dr. Rhonda Tracy
- Report attached to minutes

Fire Rescue Training – Ronnie Day

- Reviewed changes, upgrades and new building and facilities
- Reviewed Fire schools
- April 2015 the Fire Commission was re accredited for their IFSAC Certificate and Degree Programs
- National Readiness Preparedness Center is now offering week long Recruit Class

- New Equipment; 2 Fire Blast Simulators, 2 Vehicle/Helicopter props, Trailers
- Report attached to the minutes

State Fire Marshalls Office – William Swope

- Congratulated and commended all firefighters for what they do
- Added 21 deputized departments
- 41 new fire inspectors
- Still working with the Safer Communities program

Kentucky Professional Firefighters – Joe Baer

- Convention is the following week in Covington
- Asked Association to please support the Cancer Presumption bill

At this time Buford Hurley, the new webmaster and newsletter editor, was introduced to the members of the association. Woody Will was thanked publically for his many years of service to the KFA.

Legislative – Mike Kurtsinger

- Report Filed & Attached
- Reviewed 2014 Resolutions and outcome – attached to report
- Thank you for all the phone calls when they were needed, they do make a difference
- Will be calling a legislative meeting at the end of the year

Resolutions:

At this time all resolutions were pre-filed
Secretary Rath read the resolves of all the pre-filed resolutions

Nominations – Ronnie Day

Nominations for the position Treasurer were opened on the floor.
Duane Suttles was nominated by Joe Stambush and Seconded by John Beatsch.
Duane Suttles accepted nomination.
Hearing no other nominations a motion was made to cease nominations for treasurer and have Secretary Rath cast one vote for Duane Suttles for Treasurer.
Motion/Second Jeff Pohlman/Jeffrey Lang
Motion passed via voice vote.
Secretary Rath cast one vote for Duane Suttles for the position of Treasurer.

Nominations for VP @ Large were opened on the floor.
Joe Bowman was nominated by George Givens and Seconded by Steve Rath.
Joe Bowman accepted nomination.
Chris Crawford was nominated by Mark Luckett and Seconded by Dwaine Smeathers.
Chris Crawford accepted nomination.
Nominating committee consisting of Ronnie Day, Mike O’Day, John Wiseman, Therese Cheney, Howdy Kurtsinger, Greg Buckler, and Tex Johnson will meet after the recess.

President Kyle recessed meeting until Tuesday morning at 8:00 am.

Golf Outing was scheduled for 1130am at Paxton Park.
Men's luncheon was scheduled for 11am at Paducah Fire Department.
Ladies luncheon was scheduled for 11:00am at Walker Hall.
Both the Ladies luncheon participates and Men's luncheon participates enjoyed a Meet the Beatles concert.
Monday evening dinner and entertainment was at Harrah's Casino in Illinois.
Unfortunately at the end of the evening both bridges back to Kentucky were blocked due to accidents. Eventually they did get back open and everyone returned, most had lighter pockets but all had fun.

Tuesday August 4, 2015

President Kyle brought the meeting out of recess and VP @ Large Mike Hulsey gave the invocation. VP Jeff Pohlman led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
Ronnie Day gave the credential report of 47 departments represented with 63 delegates 7 E Board for a total of 101 votes present. All Officers present.

Joe Bowman and Chris Crawford, candidates for VP @ Large, were both given 2 minutes to address the floor on why we should vote for them, prior to the election starting. Delegates will be called out a couple at a time throughout the morning to cast their vote.

KFA Directors Reports:

Jackson Purchase – Tex Johnson

- Thanked everyone for coming

Green River – Mark Henderson

- Thanked Steve Leonard for many years served as KFA Director
- Rooms can start to be reserved for fire school
- Invited E Board to joint Green River and Dixie Fire Association meeting Nov 19th at 630pm Central Time

Dixie Firefighters – Chris Crawford

- Reviewed Spring Fire school results
- Challenged everyone present to sponsor a department to become a member or attend conference that cannot otherwise afford it.

Northern Kentucky Firefighters – Bud Lederer

- Thanked for all hospitality at conference, and thanked President Kyle on a job well done all 4 years
- Hope to see everyone in 2016 it will be both educational and fun
- Congratulated Chief Hulsey on his recent retirement

Bluegrass Emergency Services – Rick Bobo

- Congratulations to President Kyle for a successful conference
- KFA membership currently at 95%

Buffalo Trace – Kerry Moore

- Working on Area 9 Dale Johnson Fire School October 23,24,and 25
- Membership at 80% , Continually promoting KFA membership
- Would like to urge the KFA to make Resolution #5 to increase State Aid a top priority

- Report filed and attached to minutes

Pike County – Lewis Ratliff

- Thanks everyone for the well wishes
- Mike Hulsey and Jeff Pohlman will be visiting the area to attempt to get membership up
- 26th Annual Fire School is scheduled for September 11,12,13

Jefferson County – Bob Frizzel

- Working on 2018 Conference
- Annual Fire School is set for September 17 – 20 and will be held at the Galt House

Lake Cumberland – Ricky Haynes

- Working to get association back together
- Working with smaller departments to help them with grants
- Starting a recruit class in conjunction with KCTCS

Mountain Firefighters – Sam Stacy for Derrick Hall

- Fire School is set for August 28 – 30
- Please come visit us it is beautiful country

Committee Reports

Advisory – Chris Crawford

- No report

Membership Status – Duane Suttles

- Currently have 497 dues paying members
- 416 departments, 47 personal, 34 sustaining
- Reviewed status by KCTCS areas

Steering – Mike Hulsey

- Working on a SOG as to how the committee is to operate, what it does and what it is responsible for
- Need to get membership up will be working hard on this

Constitution & By-Laws – Mike Hulsey

- Two changes were proposed and reviewed with the members present.
- (1) Article 4 Section (D) beginning with end of line 163 change to
The directors shall be elected by the June meeting at State Fire School each year and take office at the Annual Conference

A motion was made to accept the change as proposed.

Motion/Second

Mike Hulsey/Terry Keller

Motion passed via voice vote

- (2) Article 4 Section 2, with in line 177 change to
By the June meeting at State Fire School

A motion was made to accept the change as proposed.

Motion/Second

Mike Hulsey/Joe Stambush

Motion passed via voice vote

- Report is attached to the minutes.

Special Events –

- Promoted the KFA at State Fair and State Fire School
- Working on getting a monitor/TV to take around and use for promotions

Hall of Fame – John Beatsch

- Paul Billings, Fred Ross, and Harry Thomas will be inducted into the Hall of Fame tonight
- Please send in nominations when asked

State Fire School – Ronnie Day

- This year was the 86th year
- Gregg Bayer was thanked for all his hard work
- Committee runs all year long
- Attendance was up 259 Departments, 1796 students over 4 days
- Please continue to support our vendors
- Offered 46 classes cancelled 10

Scholarships – Allen Johnson

- Thanked committee members for hard work
- 2 new applications, and 3 renewals in review
- Report attached

NVFC – Ken Knipper

- Paramedicine (which is not mandatory) - NFPA policy is being questioned – IAFF wrote policy and submitted for approval
- All State membership program, Volunteer Responder and Incentive programs, LOSAP
- Still working on IRS language clarification for volunteers
- Pushing for PSOB benefits to be paid in a timely manner

Memorial – Ronnie Day

- Need to sell pavers
- Fallen Firefighter Memorial will be on September 30th in Frankfort at 11am; we will be adding 4 names
- Red Helmets Courage Ride will also be on September 30th

History – Mike O’Day Sr

No Report

Ethics – Dave Jansing

No report

EMS –

No Report

Public Education – Greg Schultz

- Thanked last year’s committee for all hard
- Fire service leadership met at State Fire school to identify problems throughout the state NFPA new CEO is Jim Pauley, a Lexington native
- Vision 20/20 has been working diligently behind the scenes with Public Education in KY
- Attended NFPA conference in Chicago
- NFPA theme for this year is **Hear the Beep where you sleep.**
- Full report attached to the minutes

LAST – Tim Brumfield

- Not getting any support from the National Fallen Firefighters in the way of setting up this program

Conference Oversight Committee – Sam Stacy

- Reviewed the why and how of the committee

Honor Guard – Charlie Rafferty

- Charlie Rafferty is new chairman
- Will work on bridging the gap between all honor guards across the state and work together
- Report attached to the minutes

Housing Board – Rusty Todd

- Report filed and attached to the minutes

Olympics

- Results are attached to the minutes – Southgate took First Place for the adults and Ferguson took First Place for the juniors
- We will probably have the Olympics at the 2016 conference

Finance – John Wiseman

- Thanked committee for hard work; audited license plate account, audited general fund account
- Discussed proposed budget

A motion was made to accept the budget.

Motion/Second

John Wiseman/Adam Hall
Motion passed via voice vote

Resolutions – Mark Lockett

KFA 6-2015 – KFA recognizes Steve and Buffy Kyle and the Jackson Purchase Firefighters Association for their outstanding contributions and hospitality during the 2015 KFA Conference.

A motion was made to accept KFA 6-2015 as submitted by the Resolution committee.

Motion/Second

Mark Lockett/Duane Suttles
Motion passed via voice vote

Legislative – Michael “Howdy” Kurtsinger

KFA 1-2015 – Support reverting the tax/fee hearings be held at the main fire station - committee recommends approval

A motion was made to accept the committee's recommendation.

Motion/Second

Howdy Kurtsinger/Chris Crawford

Motion passed via voice vote

KFA 2-2015 committee recommends a substitute resolution. The resolve to now be "The Board may fix the respective expense reimbursement of its members on a per meeting basis not to exceed up to \$100.00 per meeting and not exceed one (1) meeting per month.

A motion was made to accept the committee's recommendation.

Motion/Second

Howdy Kurtsinger/Terry Keller

Motion passed via voice vote

KFA 3-2015 committee recommends a substitute resolution. The resolve to now be "That the Kentucky Firefighters Association continue to support the increase in Incentive Pay and State Aid programs. Also to continue to support the cancer presumption bills for the upcoming 2016 legislative session."

A motion was made to accept the committee's recommendation.

Motion/Second

Howdy Kurtsinger/Jeffrey Lang

Motion passed via voice

KFA 4-2015 – grant Department of Agriculture a seat, voice, and vote on the Kentucky Fire Commission and draft proper legislation to present at the 2016 session – committee recommends moving to Fire Commission to decide if best as advisory or seat on board.

A motion was made to accept the committee's recommendation.

Motion/Second

Howdy Kurtsinger/Joe Bowman

Motion passed via voice vote

KFA 5-2015 – combined with KFA 3-2015 committee substitute

KFA 7-2015 – Support changes in the pension benefits to insure that members receive the benefits promised – submitted by the Legislative Committee

A motion was made to support KFA 7-2015 resolution.

Motion/Second

Howdy Kurtsinger/Mike Hulsey

Motion passed via voice vote

- August 14th there is a Cancer presumption meeting in Frankfort, all support is welcome and needed
- Discussed priority of organization if it comes down to Incentive pay and State Aid or Cancer Presumption bill

A motion was made to give Legislative committee and its agents a vote of confidence that they work either way, which ever they feel they can make progress on.

Motion/Second

Terry Keller/Duane Suttles

Motion passed via voice vote

Nominations – Ronnie Day

- All committee members were present for tallying of votes
 - Each candidate had one representative present for tallying of votes
- Chris Crawford is the new Vice President @ Large

Conference City – John Wiseman

- 2016 Conference will be held in Covington
- Dates for 2016 conference are July 30 – Aug 2
- Website is up and running www.kfa2016.com
- Hotels are the Embassy Suites and Marriott in downtown Covington and reservations have started

President Steve Kyle recessed the meeting until 6pm this evening.

Banquet 6pm

MC Kenny Etherton introduced the KFA Executive Board and their spouses and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Invocation was given by Ronnie Hines of the Paducah Fire Department. The Fallen Table was presented by Kenny Etherton.

A wonderful dinner was served.

Hall of Fame – John Beatsch and committee

The 13th Annual Hall of Fame ceremony was executed perfectly with proper tribute and thanks given to this year’s class members.

The following are all well deserving of this great honor; Paul Billings with the Fulton Fire Department, Fred Ross from Calvert City and Harry Thomas with the Russell Volunteer Fire Department.

Congratulations on this great honor.

President Steve Kyle gave his final address and did his final act as president and released all his committees and thanked them for a productive and supportive year of service.

MC Kenny Etherton introduced the 2015-2016 Executive Board. Ronnie Day swore all Officers into their respective position. Badge and gift exchange took place. President Jeff Pohlman was introduced and Steve Sierveld with VFIS presented President Pohlman with a clock.

President Jeff Pohlman gave his Presidential Address.

Secretary Monica Rath read the 2015-2016 committee assignments.

A motion to adjourn the conference was made.

Motion/Second

Billy Selvage/Mike Hulsey

Motion passed via voice vote

Respectfully Submitted,

Monica Rath, Secretary
Kentucky Firefighters Association