

Minutes of the Kentucky Firefighters Association

88th Annual Conference

August 2-5, 2008

Fort Mitchell, KY

The Executive Board met on Friday evening, August 1st to discuss the status of the Fund Raising contract with J & J Promotions. Our Attorney, Ms. Diane St.Onge was also present. Our options were discussed and it was decided by a unanimous vote to proceed to litigation if necessary. Discussion concerning the formation of a 501C-3 tax-exempt foundation within the KFA also took place. A M/S by Mike Hulsey / Terry Keller was received to proceed with this. The motion carried. The intent of this would allow corporate level grants to be received for our educational projects such as Public Fire Education, the Wayne Watts Memorial Scholarship Program, and our Health and Wellness programs. Ms. St.Onge was directed to handle this for us.

Treasurer Keller presented the Board with the results of the 2007-2008 budget and presented the Board with the proposed 2008-2009 budget.

M/S by Randy Courtney / Bob Newman to bestow a Lifetime Membership to Mr. Steve Siereveld. The motion carried unanimously.

The resolution concerning the mini-maxi code was discussed. M/S by Mike Hulsey / Bobby Cowherd to present the resolution to the floor. The motion carried.

On Saturday, 2 August 2008, the Annual Olympic competition took place at the Villa Madonna Academy. It was hosted by the Crescent Springs FD. In the adult category the Parkers Mill FD came in first for the third year running, while the Erlanger FD took second place followed by the Southgate FD. In the explorers group Alexandria Team # 1 took first place followed by Southgate, and Union #2.

The Sportsmanship award in the adults went to Parkers Mill and to the Hebron FD in the Explorer group.

Our thanks go to the Crescent Springs FD, the Benediction Sisters, and of course to our good friend and long time KFA supporter Mr. Steve Siereveld of VFIS for the trophies.

On Sunday morning 3 August 2008, a non-denominational religious service took place. The Fire Commission met at 12:00noon.

A parade of fire apparatus took place at 2:00pm that originated at the Drawbridge and ended at the World Peace Bell in Newport, KY. There the annual memorial

service took place. Three line of duty deaths were recognized with their family members on hand to receive the flag case from the KFA.

Sunday evening was capped off with a KFA Octoberfest in London Hall.

Monday, 4 August 2008

President John Daley welcomed everyone to the 88th annual conference.

KFA Chaplain Brother Mac Walls gave the invocation. The KFA Honor Guard presented the colors. Past President Ray Muench led the body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Tom Holocher from the city of Fort Mitchell welcomed everyone to the City and thanked the Fire and EMS personnel for everything they do.

Campbell County Judge Executive Steve Pendery welcomed everyone to Northern KY and he also thanked the Fire & EMS service.

Deputy Chief Greg Buckler, the current President of the Northern KY Firefighters Association welcomed everyone to the Conference.

1st Vice President Randy Courtney gave a response to the welcome.

United States Congressman Geoff Davis was the Guest Speaker.

Following a 10-minute break, President Daley announced the formal opening of the Business Session.

Conference Coordinator John Wiseman made a few announcements.

President Daley announced the Conference Committees.

Parliamentarian- Mike Kurtsinger & Mike O'Day Sr. (Gerald Stewart was unable to attend the Conference do to a family emergency in West Virginia.

Credentials- Ronnie Day, Denny Lynn & Bob Frizzell

Finance- Terry Keller, Bryant Stiles & Allen Johnson

Nominations- Van Taylor, John Beatsch & Rick Bobo

Conference City- Randy Courtney, Lewis Ratliff & Dave Jansing

Ronnie Day gave the Preliminary Credentials Report- 61 Departments, 94 Delegates, 121 votes.

Mike Kurtsinger presented the Rules for the Conference. Without objection, Bill Martin made a motion to accept. Joe Stambush seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Jeff Pohlman made a motion to place the Memorial Wreath on the grave of Chief Larry B. Atwell. Rick Messingschlager seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ronnie Day gave the report from the fire commission. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

Bryant Stiles gave the report from KCTCS. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

Tom Arnold gave a report from the Office of Homeland Security

Richard Pedicort gave the report from the State Fire Marshal's office.

Report of the Executive Board Members

President Daley presented a report on his activity throughout the year. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

1st Vice President Randy Courtney presented a report on his activity. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

2nd Vice President Bobby Cowherd presented a report on his activity. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

3rd Vice President Bob Newman presented a report on his activity. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

Vice President at Large Mike Hulsey presented a report on his activity. A copy was filed with Secretary Jansing.

Secretary Jansing gave a report on his activity along with his report on the Housing Board. Discussion concerning the mini-maxi code took place.

President Daley opened the floor for nominations for the Office of Secretary. Terry Keller nominated Dave Jansing for another term as Secretary. Richard Herzog seconded it. The question was asked a total of three times with no other nominations for the Office of Secretary. A motion was made and seconded to close the nominations.

Three non-prefiled resolutions were presented. One was the fireworks resolution, another was the mini-maxi code, and the third dealt with training issues. All three were accepted and sent to committee.

The Business session was recessed until Tuesday morning. On Monday evening the delegates and guests were treated to a dinner cruise on the Bell of Cincinnati. The evening was capped off with a fireworks show, compliments of the Cincinnati Reds. (They haven't won a game since)

President Daley called the business session to order at 8:00am. Brother Mac Walls gave the invocation. Past President Sie Jewell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Daley added the following people to the Legislative Committee for the Conference. Jack Reckner, Ronnie Day & Bruce Roberts

John Wiseman followed up with a few announcements.

Ronnie Day gave the final credentials report. 68 Departments, 143 votes, 106 Delegates.

President Daley called for the reports of any Directors. Bud Lederer of Northern KY, Bob Frizzel of Jefferson County and Rick Bobo of Bluegrass Association and Bill Hall of the Lake Cumberland FF Association gave a report from their areas.

Standing Committee Reports

PAC- Bill Robbins requested permission to send \$200.00 to Senator McConnell and \$200.00 to Senator Lunsford from the PAC fund. Bill put it in the form of a motion. Woody Will seconded the motion. The motion carried. VP @ Large Mike Hulsey abstained.

Public Fire Education- Joe Stambush gave a report on the activity of his committee throughout the year. A written report was filed with the Secretary.

Hall of Fame- Bill Hall announced the 2008 inductees. They are; Mark Luckett, Mike O'Day Sr., Ken Knipper, and VA Beam. The ceremony will take place at the banquet on Tuesday evening.

EMS – Bob Hendricks reported that EMS is now under KCTCS/Fire Commission. The EMS Conference will be in Lexington as the Executive Inn in Owensboro is closed. Bob attended the IAFC/IAFF EMS conference in Las Vegas in May. Bob then yielded to Ken Knipper to report on EMS at the National level through the NVFC. Ken filed a written report with the Secretary.

State Fire School- Bob Hendricks & Ronnie Day gave a report on the school. 328 Departments represented with 786 students, 926 certificates. 1,630 students were seated. Three classes were cancelled. Dr. Paul Davis will be back in 2010 with the Combat Challenge.

Memorial – The annual memorial service in Frankfort will take place on Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at 11:00am

Pat Thompson gave a report on the Green River Officer School. Due to the Executive Inn being closed the fire school will take place at the Radisson and Hyatt Regency hotels in Lexington. It will be the last weekend in February.

Bruce Roberts announced that he will be introducing the CPAT program at 10:00am on Wednesday 8/5/08 at the Hebron FD. Everyone is welcome.

Honor Guard & Advisory – Troy Newcomb stated he started the honor guard with 10 people. He now has 12. They are looking for more people from around the state. The cost of a dress uniform is \$ 850.00

Scholarship – Allen Johnson filed a report the Secretary. At the present time the funds are there for no more than 4 scholarships. Many thanks to our friends at the fire commission for acquiring the 4 original prints.

Chapter 75 Fire Districts- Chief Reckner prepared a written report to be filed with the Secretary.

Special Events –Charlie Shaw filed a written report with the Secretary.

Fireworks- Rusty Todd reported there is still work to be done. Consumer fireworks that leave the ground are the main concern. The committee needs input from the firefighters across the state concerning the use of consumer fireworks. HB 439 was the bill that didn't get very far during the last session.

Legislative Committee- Mike Kirtsinger filed a written report with Secretary. Mike yielded to Jack Reckner to give a report on the pension bill. There was no pension reform billed enacted during the regular session. New hires, after July 1, 2008 must work a true 36 months to obtain their three highest years. Now it is 25 years and out at any age. The hazardous duty retirement applies to firefighters, police officers, EMT's and Paramedics. The medical coverage stays the same. Concerning the sick leave policy, the last employee will be responsible for payment. The cost of living with is calculated at 1.5% per year. For existing employees, the cost of living with also is 1.5%. The retire-rehire in hazardous duty you must stay out 30 days. You can go back to the same department. You cannot earn a 2nd pension.

NVFC- Ken Knipper & Bryant Stiles gave the report. Ken filed a written report with the Secretary. Ken stated that the federal law went into affect June 17th, which makes the first \$360.00 of any stipend, received by a volunteer non-taxable. Bryant reported on the Volunteer Incentive Act.

Treasurers Report- Terry Keller filed a written report with the Secretary outlining his activity during the past year. Under membership, we have 446 dues paying departments.

Finance Committee – Bryant reported that the books have been reviewed and found to be in good order. The committee recommended that the body adopt a balanced budget in the amount of \$111, 900.00 as prepared by Treasurer Keller. Rick Herzog made a motion to adopt the proposed budget. Steve Rauch seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Conference City- Randy Courtney reported that the 2009 Conference would be held at the Landmark Hotel in Pikeville on August 1-5.

Nominations- Van Taylor gave the report. As per the bylaws each vice president will move up and the incoming third vice president will be Bob Hendricks, Chief of the Lexington FD. The Central KY Firefighters Assn as described in the by-laws nominated him. Treasurer Keller is in the second year of his two-year term.

Treasurer Keller cast one vote for Dave Jansing for the Office of Secretary.

Jack Rocker made a motion, seconded by Pat Thompson that an individual remain in the non-hazardous duty category until they are certified to be in the hazardous duty. The motion carried.

Bill Martin gave a report on the status of Interstate Mutual Aid Committee. He stated there was approximately one more years worth of work to do.

Resolutions

Mark Locket reported on Resolution # 5. The resolve read as follows:

Be it resolved that the hosts, Northern KY Firefighters Assn, Campbell County FD # 1, be recognized for their hospitality and asked to accept our most sincere thank you for a job well done. M/S Mark Luckett / Every Delegate present. Motion Carried.

Mike Kirtsinger reported on Resolution # 2. The resolve read as follows:

Therefore be it resolved that the KFA goes on record to support legislation during the 2009 Legislative Session to secure the right of local government throughout the commonwealth to adopt as needed appropriate fire and life safety standards, with the intent of attacking the fire problem with-in the local community. M/S Mike Kirtsinger/ Mike Hulsey. The motion carried.

Mike Kirtsinger reported on Resolution # 1. The resolve read as follows:

The KFA solicit a cooperative committee relationship with the KY State Fire Marshal's Office to review current KRS including 227.700, 227.704, 227.710, 227,715 and 227.750 with the intent of creating legislation to change current law or clarify the language to provide for enforceable statues promoting a safer KY.

This committee shall include (as minimum) a representative from the following agencies: KFA to include at least one member of the Public Education Committee and the Legislative Committee), KY Professional Firefighters, KY Fire Commission, KY Chapter of the IAAI, KY Assn of Fire Chiefs, KY Injury Prevention and Research Center and Kosair Children's Hospital.

In Addition, participation should be sought from the KY State Police and other law enforcement representatives to report on the enforcement issues currently facing officers and from the KY Attorney General's Office on the trial issues that have arisen from past and current legislation.

This shall be an AD-HOC committee for the stated specific purpose of proposing changes to fireworks laws and shall serve a limited time frame as determined by the incoming President.

M/S Mike Kurtsinger/Joe Stambush to adopt Resolution # 1.

Mike Kirtsinger reported on Resolution # 4.

The resolve read as follows:

Therefore be it resolved that the KFA shall support the KY Fire Commission in conjunction with the KFA and the KY Association of Fire Chiefs stating that all fire chiefs, including assistant chiefs shall be recommended or requested to attend a KY Fire Commission approved "Fire Chief" orientation course presented by KCTCS/State Fire Rescue Training.

M/S Mike Kirtsinger/Troy Newcomb to adopt the resolution. The motion carried.

Mike Hulsey reported on Resolution # 3.

The resolve read as follows:

Be it resolved that the KFA amend their bylaws so that Sustaining Memberships be from June 1st – May 31st of each year.

M/S Mike Hulsey/Bill Birkle to adopt the resolution. The motion carried.

M/S by Mike Hulsey/Allen Johnson to change the Standard Operating Guidelines.

The change will read that the Special Events Committee Chairman will receive all applications for Sustaining Memberships and that all money received by the Special Events Chairman shall be forwarded to the Treasurer of the KFA within one week of receiving it. The motion carried.

Terry Keller made a motion that the President must sign all contracts involving the KFA. The President or his/her authorized designee may negotiate any contracts. Chad Campbell seconded this motion. The motion carried.

Good & Welfare

Woody reminded everyone to send in articles for the Smoke Signals.

President Daley recessed the meeting until the Banquet Tuesday evening.

At the banquet the Executive Board and spouses were introduced. The KFA Honor Guard presented the colors. President Daley welcomed everyone before calling on Brother Mac Walls to give the invocation.

Following the delicious dinner, Chief Tim Sendlebach was introduced as our guest speaker.

The Hall of Fame Induction took place. President Daley then presented gifts to Therese Cheney of the Fire Commission and to Chief Troy Newcomb of the Grand Lakes Fire & Rescue.

Steve Siereveld of VFIS presented incoming President Randy Courtney with a clock, a tradition that Steve started 28 years ago.

Secretary Jansing & President Daley then presented Steve Siereveld with a Life Time membership to the KFA.

President Daley then presented Mr. John Wiseman with a Lifetime Membership to the KFA.

No. KY Firefighters President Greg Buckler presented the Executive Board with a gift. President Daley presented the Executive Board, Chairman & Directors with a token of his appreciation. Marilyn Daley gave a gift to various ladies, and then Paula Jansing presented Marilyn with a gift from the Executive Board.

The new officers were sworn in. Secretary Jansing announced the committee chairman and members for the upcoming year.

President Courtney adjourned the 88th Annual Conference.

**Respectfully submitted,
David E. Jansing, Secretary**