

South Central Kentucky Firefighters Association

PO Box 323, Franklin, KY 42135

sckfa@outlook.com

(270) 535-2962



President – Nelson Slaughter **Vice President** – Cheryl Allen
Secretary/Treasurer – Mike Hughes

The South Central Kentucky Firefighters Association held its Board Meeting at the Sharon Grove Fire Department on May 18th, 2023 in Sharon Grove Kentucky.

President Nelson Slaughter called the meeting to order with Vice President Cheryl Allen leading us in prayer. Mike Hughes called the roll with Brian Hope, Bradley Fortner and Matt White being absent. A quorum was established.

A copy of the board minutes was presented, and after review, Terry Massey made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Matt King. Motion carried by vote.

Mike Hughes handed out printed copies of the Treasurers Report and read the report to the attendees. Cheryl Allen made a motion to approve the report as read, seconded by Dustin Pierce. Motion carried by vote.

President Slaughter welcomed the special guests and acknowledged that it was a long drive for most of them and appreciated that they were able to attend tonight's meeting.

Bruce Roberts with The State Fire Commission spoke about the State Grants. Training Facility Grants need to be in by the end of the month. If you applied for the Combi Tools or the TICs, you should receive an email from Jeremy Rogers. Starting the 30th and the 31st of this month, each recipient will have to show up in person to pick up their equipment since the Reps will be on site to go over the operation of the items. The AED's and Gas Monitors are on back order currently. Delivery arrangements will be made at a later time.

Marc Henderson spoke about the open position of the District 4 Coordinator. Within the next day or two the Fire Commission will start advertising the position and accepting applications. In the meantime, Marc Henderson will be the acting coordinator and be in the office a couple times a week until the position is filled. Starting with this meeting and moving forward you will be getting information relating to the District and the Fire Service as a whole. Terry Massey expressed his concern that the new Coordinators position will be from a paid department like Bowling Green Fire. Mark Rudder said that the Fire Commission's goal was to choose the best candidate for the position. Marc Henderson said that there were no preconceived notions as to who they want for the position. They also hope to have the position filled by June 1st.

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Marc Henderson had multiple pages of information to present to anyone interested. He has also instructed Tamara Steel to email said copies to the departments within District 4. If you would like to be placed on the email list, please get with Tamara to either add your name or to verify that you are already on the list. In order to change the issues with receiving training classes, there is a new request form, and once filled out, will go to multiple individuals to assure that the request is not falling through the cracks. There are about six weeks left in this fiscal year and we are ready to start scheduling the next fiscal year classes which starts on July 1st. You can schedule classes for the entire year now if you like. If you know of anyone that wants to be an instructor, please let us know. There are also copies of Basic 1 and Basic 2 requirements available. The State Fire School is coming up so please get your registrations in. There will be another A-EMT class coming soon to District 4. If your department has changed Chiefs, please make sure Tamara has the updated information. The next Fire Academy will start on August 21st. Registration is open. An EMT class has been added to the academy at no cost.

Mark Rudder wanted to remind Departments that State Aid is based on the fiscal year which is ending on June 30th. Currently there are about 200 departments that have not qualified for State Aid. The main reason is that they haven't entered all their hours yet. 50% of the roster needs to have 20 hours of training before the end of the fiscal year. Please don't wait till the last minute because there will not be a grace period. He also stated that the second Tuesday of every month, at 10 eastern time, there will be continuing education for EMTs which is recognized by The National Registry.

Nelson Slaughter inquired if there were plans to change the Career Departments to the Fiscal Year, Both Mark Rudder and Bruce Roberts stated that there was discussion about making those changes at the State level.

Terry Massey asked if the Fire Commission was going to do anything relating to NARCAN. Mark stated that you can go to the Department of Public Health's website and search for free NARCAN and receive up to 12 doses for your department.

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Terry Massey asked the Fire Commission how much they were going to be involved with the regional emergency response team and Bruce stated “zero”. He also stated that that was going to be funded out of the Governor’s budget.

Mike Hughes gave an update on the Kentucky Association of Fire Chiefs. Our next meeting will be next week on the 25th in Richmond at EKU. At 3pm. We are currently taking nominations for Paid and Volunteer Fire Chiefs of the year. They will be announced at our Leadership Conference in Bowling Green on August 23rd through 25th. Our Executive Director, Danny Castle, is retiring, so we are seeking a replacement for him. Danny will serve till the end of this year. For those of you that don’t know Danny, he works very hard behind the scenes to make sure this organization stays aligned with our mission and he will be greatly missed. There will be a speaker on Wednesday, Anthony Aвило and Thursday there will be a class called Disaster in the Bluegrass which will review the response during the tornados and floods.

Nelson Slaughter gave an update on the KFA. Nelson said he learned a lot during the last KFA meeting with the passing of Dwayne Suttles and the way financials were handled in the Association. It is his recommendation to have an audit of the finances every time there is a change in Treasurers. SOP’s and SOG’s need to be created to define the process of the Audit. Marc Henderson suggested multiple individuals have access to all the accounts and passwords in case something should happen to the Treasurer, like it did with the KFA. After the sudden death of Duane Suttles, no one had access to the accounts, the passwords, nor even knew how many accounts there were that held funds.

Nelson stated that sign ups are being taken for the upcoming State Fire School. The Clarion hotel is full and several classes have already been cancelled due to not having enough students. There is a business card on the front table with a QR code linking you to the KFA website where information will be pushed out for upcoming events, news, and legislation. Mark Henderson said that if anybody has anything that needs to be published in future publications of Smoke Signals, please forward that information to him where it can get added. There will be a vendor show starting on Friday at 2:00 PM. If you haven't already made plans, please try to attend the Kentucky Fallen Firefighter Memorial on the third Wednesday of October.

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Vice President Allen gave an update on the fire school committee. She stated that we were locked in for the November fire school at the Sloan Convention Center and then we received notice, via e-mail, that they were putting another group of individuals in our spot. The Sloan Convention Center stated that we could move our date and Cheryl said that would not be possible since after receiving the confirmation we had already set the dates with our vendors. Several vendors have already committed to the November dates. The SCKFA is exploring other venue options and are currently working with Western University's Dr. David Oliver to secure the Knicely Convention Center in Bowling Green. The Knicely Center has confirmed that our dates are available for their facility. We are in the process of setting up a meeting with their staff to tour the facility and work through pricing for the fire school. There is plenty of outdoor space for the props, but there is limited vendor space inside the facility. If we did choose to do it at the technical school or high school we would not have any vendor space available to us. That would be detrimental to our Association due to the fact we get substantial funds by selling booth space.

If anybody has any information, they would like to post to our website please forward that to Nelson Slaughter and he will get it added. Nelson stated that if anybody knew of anyone who was willing to help with tweaking the website, please let him know. Nelson would like to have our website be a one stop shop for events throughout our district as well as the state.

Matt King asked the fundraising committee if they had come up with a t-shirt design for the Association or come up with a design for the challenge coins. Nelson stated that the shirts have been printed and are available tonight for \$20 each. Shirt sales went really well at last year's fire school, and we sold a few at the Dixie Fire School. We are still working on a design for the challenge coins. We know our Association seal will be on one side but we have yet to determine what will be on the second side. Our fishing tournament, that was supposed to be in two days, has been rescheduled due to a lack of availability of space at any of the ramps on Barren River Lake. Mike Hughes was going to get with the state dock and the Corps of Engineers to determine available dates. Our gun raffle went very well, and since we were going to draw the winning ticket during our fishing tournament, and the fishing tournament has been postponed, President Slaughter recommended that we draw for the rifle at tonight's meeting, as long as there was no opposition. Terry Massey made a motion to draw a winner

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tonight, seconded by Vice President Allen. Motion carried by vote. Nelson was going ask Matt White to explore the possibility of a car show.

Nelson stated that there was some preplanning involved with putting on a stair climb at Western. The proposed date was September the 2nd. Chris McCoy Is in the process of working with David Oliver to work out the logistics of the event. It was brought to our attention that Chris McCoy was also working with another association on the stair climb as well. Cheryl Allen wanted to know how that was going to work with two associations working on the same event. Without knowing the intentions of Chris McCoy and the other association, Vice President Allen suggested setting up a meeting between Chris McCoy and David Oliver to discuss how the event would be handled.

President Slaughter stated, that per our bylaws, this is the meeting where our elections are to be held. Nominations were made at the last meeting where Nelson Slaughter was nominated for President, Cheryl Allen was nominated for Vice President, Mike Hughes was nominated for Treasurer, and Jake Burnett was nominated for Secretary. Nelson asked Terry Massey if there were any other nominations and Terry responded by saying no there weren't. Nelson asked those in attendance if there were any other nominations before the election. Matt King nominated Matt White for the Secretary position. Per our bylaws, since there was no opposition for President, Vice President and Treasurers positions, it was the duty of the Secretary to cast a vote for those three positions. Mike Hughes cast a vote for Nelson Slaughter as President, Cheryl Allen as Vice President, and Mike Hughes as Treasurer. Nelson Slaughter was putting together an electronic ballot for the Secretary position between Matt White and Jake Burnett. Nelson Slaughter created a QR code with a link to a ballot where Departments that were members of the Association would be eligible to cast one vote for Secretary. Those Departments are Franklin Simpson Fire and Rescue, Stony Point Fire Department, Browning Fire Department, Russellville Rural Fire Department, Logan Aluminum Fire Department, Fountain Run Fire Department and Sharon Grove Fire Department. Votes were electronically calculated and were read by President Slaughter. There were six voting department members where 4 votes were cast for Jake Burnett. Jake Burnett was elected Secretary of the Association.

There was discussion between Nelson Slaughter and Mark Rudder concerning the possibility of making the Chief of a department an in house instructor for their department. Nelson stated

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that there should be some requirements for those Chiefs to pass the instructor certification and teach back to show that they were qualified to teach students within their department. Mark Rudder stated that due to the current national standards requiring instructors to be IFSAC certified, it would not be possible unless there was a change to current legislation. Mark Rudder also stated that the State would work with any Department needing additional training.

Nelson Slaughter stated that the KFA is offering our Association a booth at the vendor show free of charge. Mike Hughes stated that we need a booth, and he could set it up on June the 9th. Cheryl stated that she may not be attending that day due to a prior commitment.

Nelson handed out a quarterly meeting schedule for the next year. Please look at the dates and see if there are any conflicts. Dustin Pierce made a motion to approve the meeting schedule, seconded by Matt King. Motion passed by vote.

Nelson also asked if the Association fell under the open meetings rules and the Fire Commission stated that we did not fall under those requirements because we were not a public entity.

Nelson requested to set up a committee to develop SOP's and SOG's for the Association. Dustin Pierce made a motion to establish a committee, seconded by Terry Massey. Motion passed by vote.

Nelson would also like to make changes to our bylaws in regards to the way we conduct our voting. Currently our first meeting of the year we take nominations for board positions and vote at the 2nd quarterly meeting. Nelson would like to see a change made to where nominations can be made from the floor at the second quarterly meeting. Cheryl suggested that we work on those changes as we work on the SOP's and the SOG's.

Our next meeting will be August the 17th at the Glasgow Fire Department's Training Center.

Matt King made a motion to adjourn seconded by Dustin Pierce. Motion carried by vote.

Bruce Roberts was invited to draw the winning ticket for the gun raffle. The winner of the gun raffle is Patrick Givins.