

## CHAPTER 75 FIRE CHIEFS

### Meeting Summary

Date: 02/13/08  
Place: Camp Taylor FD  
Called to Order: 10:00 AM

#### ATTENDANCE

Buechel, Camp Taylor, Fairdale, Fern Creek, Harrods Creek, Highview, Jeffersontown, Lake Dreamland, McMahan, Middletown, Okolona, PRP, and St. Matthews.

#### DISCUSSION

*Southeastern Association of Fire Chiefs* – Col. Larkins reported that the 2010 conference will be held here in Louisville. The host hotel will likely be the Marriott downtown. Assistance from the fire service and Louisville Metro will be requested as the conference approaches.

*Fire Commission* – Col. Larkins reported on HB 389 which seeks to change the structure of the fire commission and provides that the state produced firefighter identification cards will become the responsibility of the fire commission. Col. Larkins added that the proposed legislation has received several negative comments from around the state and that it may not receive successful passage this session.

Discussion then turned to the state fire marshal with questions as to who would fill the recently vacated position. Col. Reckner reported that the executive director of Housing, Building and Construction is currently serving as the acting fire marshal.

*Legislative* - Col. Reckner offered the following update on the current legislative session:

HB 427 – Provides an avenue for the administration to collect more of the insurance funds that are inherent with the KLEFP fund. Col. Barth voiced concern with the definition of firefighter as a public safety member of an urban county government. Col. Reckner explained that it is merely adding the definition to the current language. He also mentioned that it may allow for the state to process firefighter incentive pay directly to the firefighter, rather than through the fire departments.

Pension – Col. Reckner reported that the governor would release the proposed pension bill later this afternoon, which was expected to include changes to the hazardous duty retirement age for new hires, increase the employee contribution rate by 1% to offset the rising cost of health care, and increase the multiplier after the member is vested. He also mentioned that non-certified board of education personnel will likely be pulled from the CERS.

A question regarding the projected employer contribution was answered with a figure of 44% for hazardous duty by 2018. A comparison of past, present and future hazardous duty contribution rates will be provided.

HB 503 – HB 503 has been shared with the departments and is also available on line. A hearing will likely take place next Tuesday. Col. Reckner will speak with Representative Brinkman to see if the JCFS should attend in mass. Eleven votes are needed for it to pass out of the local government committee. Col. Barth requested that legislative representative Bob Benson provide a single page fact sheet that the districts could use when asked why an increase to the current tax cap of .10 is needed. The question was posed regarding possible changes to the proposed time frame of .02 every five years. Col. Reckner advised that the current proposal is not likely to be changed and in fact the LRC had added language to the bill to prevent a fire district from circumventing the five year period, but that it could possibly be amended in future legislative sessions.

Fireworks Bill – Col. Reckner reported that the firework's industry is not in favor of the reporting requirement. He has shared with the LRC that the tier II reporting is not burdensome and the fire districts are quite used to receiving such reports.

Manufactured Homes – Legislation involving the inspection of trailer parks is being opposed by Louisville Metro due to lack of support by the health department and IPL. Col. Barth will contact Ron Wolf to discuss the matter further.

UDIG – Col. Barth mentioned that legislation is being proposed to allow for cost recovery where emergency response is needed to an area that has not been properly identified prior to digging. Col. Reckner advised that he has not yet seen the bill.

Thanks to Chief Reckner for his time and effort on our behalf!

*Items from the group:*

- \* Col. Aponte that Col. Albers of the North Oldham Fire Department slipped on the ice and broke his leg on Monday while responding with Harrods Creek.
- \* Col. Carlson went over the recent speed hump / bump recommendations. The group decided to support the sinusoidal design. Motion of support by Buechel. Second by Harrods Creek. Motion Carried.
- \* Lt. Col. Adkins thanked everyone for their recent support of the Adkins family and their participation in the funeral service for Cory. Col. Carlson asked if a copy of the video would be shared. Lt. Col. Adkins advised that he was not sure but he thought that it may be provided by the family when completed.
- \* The auto-injectors mentioned in recent emails to the districts were distributed to those in attendance.

**NEXT MEETING**

Jefferson County Fire Chiefs Association: 03/12/08 10:00 a.m. @ McMahan  
Chapter 75 Fire Chiefs: 04/09/08 10:00 @ Okolona # 3

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:30

Respectfully Submitted: Terri Livers, EFA