

CHAPTER 75 FIRE CHIEFS

Meeting Summary

Date: 04/09/08
Place: Okolona FD # 3
Called to Order: 10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Buechel, Eastwood, Fairdale, Fern Creek, Harrods Creek, Highview, Lyndon, McMahan, Middletown, Okolona, PRP, St. Matthews and Worthington.

DISCUSSION

Legislative – Several of the chiefs commented on various bills and their status. Attempts are being made to move HB 503 (fire district tax rates) but the outcome is not expected to be successful before the regular session ends on April 15; a request for HB 600 (pension) was issued by Bruce Roberts for passage of the house version only; and the FOP was reported as being opposed to HB 427 (incentive pay). If the governor should call for a special session, only the matters that are specified for the session may be addressed.

Col. Larkins reported that the fire caucus meeting in Washington went very well and he thanked all who were able to attend. The group met with Senator McConnell and Congressman Yarmuth. Passage of the Hometown Heroes Act (last year) was mentioned, with special thanks to the Kentucky delegation for their efforts. And the issue of taxable benefits for fire districts (reference made to the compendium updates that were shared with the districts on April 8) was discussed with Congressman Yarmuth and Ken Knipper.

Communications

Best Practices Committee – Col. Larkins reported on behalf of Lt. Col. Johnson that the following suburban fire members will serve on the best practices committee: Lt. Col. Johnson, Col. Carlson, Col. Seng, Col. Schmidt, and Col. Smith.

Col. Schmidt mentioned a recent problem that Fern Creek experienced when communications dispatched the water rescue team without it first being requested by the fire department. Discussion held regarding whether or not the SOP's specifically addressed the call out of special teams.

Col. Yuodis reported that Buechel is still waiting for communications to change their unit response to station response, in accordance with the request that was made last year. Lt. Col. Johnson is aware of the delay and has been working to resolve the matter on their behalf. Col. Schmidt advised that Fern Creek's recent request to switch to ECHO runs was completed quickly and has resulted in a 75% decrease in the number of responses.

Items from the group:

* Col. Yurt advised that the HazMat team was recently notified that their services will not be needed after all for the Rider Cup competition that will take place in Eastwood this fall, but rather a decision was made by LMPD to utilize the 41st CST instead. Col. Yurt will follow up with Kim Allen and Col. Barth regarding this matter.

* Col. Seng mentioned the article that appeared in this morning's Courier Journal regarding four brothers in the St. Matthews Fire Protection District that were credited as heroes for their quick response to a fire in their home.

<http://www.courier-journal.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080409/ZONE02/804090687>

* Col. Aponte mentioned that union negotiations may be in the works to provide that LFD dispatchers solely dispatch all urban and suburban fire for MetroSafe. No objections were heard by the group.

NEXT MEETING

Jefferson County Fire Chiefs Association: 05/14/08 10:00 a.m. @ McMahan
Chapter 75 Fire Chiefs: 06/11/08 10:00 @ Fern Creek # 1

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:25

Respectfully Submitted:

Terri Livers, EFA