

CHAPTER 75 FIRE CHIEFS

Meeting Summary

Date: 12/10/08
Place: Jeffersontown
Called to Order: 10:00 AM

ATTENDANCE

Anchorage, Buechel, Eastwood, Fairdale, Fern Creek, Harrods Creek, Highview, Jeffersontown, Lake Dreamland, Lyndon, McMahan, Middletown, PRP, St. Matthews, Worthington, and a representative from LMEMS.

DISCUSSION

- * Col. Larkins opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their support during his term as the executive vice-President of the Jefferson County Fire Chiefs Association, and wished the incoming officers success with their positions. He will still be involved with the Southeast Fire Chiefs Conference that will take place here in 2010, and will need our help.
- * Col. Larkins also reported on the Combat Challenge, scheduled for August 14 – 16 at Rupp Arena. The event fee will be paid by the state fire commission.
- * Chief Yuodis provided copies of a recent FireRescue magazine article outlining The Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act (VRIPA). Please see www.irs.gov/govt/fslg/article/0,,id=184221,00.html for additional information.
- * Col. Barth reported that Dr. Richmond is still working on the proposed changes to Pro QA codes and is expected to respond to the information that Col. Aponte prepared by the end of the month. The representative from LMEMS advised that shift changes will likely occur in February. Col. Schmidt advised that he is waiting to hear from Col. Rogers with regard to the units that are being relocated.
- * The following items pertaining to the JCFS group health insurance were discussed:
 - Renewal rates are expected toward the middle of December. SDMA is working with Humana and other carriers now for quotes on the policy period of March 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010.
 - HB440 allows dependents to be carried to the age of 25 and does not require student status. Humana will offer the benefit but we need to request an exception to include those cases if they are to be added before the renewal period.
 - Col. Barth reported that his family has experienced some problems with the orthodontic component of our dental plan and the payment schedule by Humana to the provider. Humana pays their portion of the braces quarterly, based on the schedule outlined by the orthodontist as to when the braces will be removed. The problem that the Barth's are having deals with conflicting schedules and we are working with the orthodontist and Humana to reconcile the two.
- * Col. Reckner has announced his impending retirement and Jeffersontown has posted the position for the hiring process. Congratulations!

The following updates were also provided:

- As reported at the JCFC meeting last month, Jeffersontown is looking for an actuarial summary from the VFIS Length of Service program. If your department has one to share, please contact Chief Reckner.

- The motion for summary judgment was filed for the MiniMax lawsuit and we are currently within the forty-five day waiting period for a response from the Office of Housing, Building and Construction. A meeting took place last week with the electrical industry (union and non-union members) and they are reportedly very unhappy with HBC as well. A special meeting will be called by Representative Larry Clark with Housing, Building and Construction. Details to be announced.
- Firefighter incentive pay was discussed. The Kentucky League of Cities is working with a law firm having expertise in wage and hour, on the development of a legislative proposal to remove scheduled overtime out of the category of wages. Col. Larkins shared that the fire commission and The League of Cities are working very hard to resolve the incentive pay issue.
- * Col. Schmidt reported on the hose order that was recently placed through Fern Creek and inquired about the pager order that Col. Carlson was working on. Col. Seng reported that he had talked to Col. Carlson and he is still waiting to hear back from Motorola on the pager issue.
- * Col. Davenport inquired about district participation in AFLAC short-term disability insurance. He also asked about district policies for light duty and asked for copies from those that offer the provision for their employees.
- * Col. Barth reported that he has asked Col. Craig Rogers to include a \$30 response fee for the suburban fire service in their rate calculations for LMEMS. Any rate increases will need to go before the metro council for approval. Col. Yurt reported that Worthington has studied their response data, and even with a \$30 reimbursement they will not be inclined to change their response level.
- * Col. Rakestraw is now the 3rd district vice-president for the Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association. Col. Yurt is the second vice-president. Col. Seng and Major Canto are serving on the 2009 education committee for the Southeastern Fire Chiefs.
- * Col. Aponte expressed concern that he did not receive advanced notification on closure of the Harrods Creek bridge. The one lane bridge will likely be closed for up to two years due to repairs. Discussion then turned to transportation and highway closures. It was noted that TRIMARC is staffed from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Notifications outside of the regular hours of operation should be directed to MetroSafe. With regard to after-hours response, Col. Schmidt reported that Fern Creek had recently requested a building inspector from IPL after hours and did not have any problems.

NEXT MEETING

Jefferson County Fire Chiefs Association: 01/15/09 7:00 p.m. (annual meeting with JCFTA) @ Buechel
Chapter 75 Fire Chiefs: 02/11/08 10:00 @ Camp Taylor

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:45

Respectfully Submitted:

Terri Livers, EFA