

JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
Meeting of the Membership

DATE: May 14, 2008
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: McMahan Fire Department

ATTENDANCE

Anchorage, Buechel, Eastwood, Fairdale, Harrods Creek, Jeffersontown, Lake Dreamland, Lyndon, Louisville Fire / Louisville Arson, McMahan, Middletown, Okolona, PRP, Shively, St. Matthews, & Worthington. Also present were representatives from Louisville Metro EMA, EMS, Health Department, MetroSafe, Louisville Water Company, Metro Chaplains, Atty. Maurice Byrne, and Terri Livers, EFA.

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL VISITORS / SPEAKERS

Royden and Billie Durham, AdvEnergy Solutions – Mrs. Durham explained the benefit of cost and energy savings that the fire departments can achieve through Advanced Energy Solutions. McMahan has recently worked with the company on a walk-through survey and are waiting for their savings proposal. The surveys are free of charge. Areas included in the survey are replacement windows, water-heaters, HVAC, interior / exterior lighting, and power protection. The plans are flexible and offer equipment leasing with tax credits. A savings on interior lighting was predicted to be 35%.

Contact Information:	AdvEnergy Solutions 6520 Glenridge Park Place, Suite 4 Louisville, Ky. 40222 Office # 502-742-5216	Royden Durham, President Billie Durham, Operations Manager
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Rebecca Jackson, WHAS Crusade for Children – Mrs. Jackson stopped by to thank everyone for their support of the Crusade for Children. She reported that each of the departments should have received their information packages by now. Mrs. Jackson shared concerns that the current economy may impact donations; however, the need for assistance continues to rise and each year the Crusade board struggles to meet as many of the grant requests as possible. Public awareness of the upcoming event will be assisted in the publication of letters in the Courier Journal over the next few weeks. If you have any Crusade stories to share, please forward them. They are also asking for help with strategic planning for the future of the Crusade and the endowment, through a survey that is available at <http://www.whascrusade.org/>. It's anonymous and will only take a few minutes of your time.

Ed Davis, Fraternal Order of Police – Mr. Davis introduced himself and announced that he is interested in serving on the C.E.R.S. board. He shared the importance of having someone with a hazardous duty background on the board and he asked for support by way of a signed petition. His resume was shared prior to the meeting and is available by request through the EFA. A copy of the petition will accompany the distribution of these minutes. If you or your department members sign a petition, please mail it to the following address:

Ed Davis
12004 Doe Ridge Place
Louisville, Ky. 40299

CONSIDERATION OF JEFFERSON COUNTY FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION MINUTES

The minutes of the March 19, 2008 meeting were approved by motion of Worthington. Second by Lyndon. Motion Carried.

FIRE ALLIANCE FINANCIAL REPORT

Copies of the year to date financial reports were provided for review. Motion by PRP for approval of the report as submitted. Second by Worthington. Motion Carried.

Col. Barth reported on the 08/09 JCFA budget, which is expected to be granted at our current funding level of \$178,000 (includes the \$5,500 reduction). The districts will be asked to support the additional \$18,000 requested by HazMat. If you need specific information regarding the equipment or expenses of the HazMat team, please contact Col. Yurt.

OLD BUSINESS

Cable Barriers – Col. Aponte reported that he is still waiting to hear back from cable installers on a date for the training.

COMMITTEE & OTHER REPORTS

Metro Government Report

False Alarms – Col. Barth reported that information was requested recently from the departments in order to put together some data on the number of true false alarms that the departments are responding to. The committee that is working on this project will look over the results and make a recommendation. Col. Barth also reported that Lyndon has a plan for dealing with false alarms which will be shared as well.

EMS Update – Dr. Richmond mentioned the current trainings that are being offered, as well as the increased number of responses. The cost to the fire departments for responding to incidents where perhaps only 50% of those responses involve patient contact is an issue. The possibility of adding a surcharge was again discussed, as was automatic responses to car accidents with injuries.

Legislative – Col. Reckner reported on a meeting that has been scheduled to discuss pension reform, which could lead to the call of a special legislative session. He also commented on the fire tax legislation and the efforts that are being made to gain additional support for the measure, to be pursued again in the next general assembly.

Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association – Col. Lage reported on the accreditation classes that will take place at the state fire school. Please visit <http://www.kychiefs.com/> for additional information.

Suburban Fire Special Operations Teams

Trench / Collapse / MSAR – No Report

Water Rescue – Col. Aponte stated the importance of departments allowing their members to attend the required trainings, if the team is to be depended upon to respond. A suggestion was made for advanced notice of the trainings in order to allow for scheduling.

HazMat – Col. Yurt reported on training for the last quarter and the new mobile chlorine car that is available for training purposes...thanks to Fern Creek for their assistance in its construction. He also mentioned that the team is working on a logistics plan for minimum staffing levels. The team will also be involved to some degree with the Ryder Cup tournament.

PIER Committee – Col. Barth reported on the next Line of Fire Show, to include the following segments: Lyndon Fire Department and the retirement of Col. Baker, Highview # 3 groundbreaking, recent fire on the Big Four Bridge, Louisville Fire Department anniversary, Worthington firefighter profile, and a memorial to Cory Adkins.

MetroSafe / Communications – Lt. Col. Johnson reported on the best practices committee and their first meeting, scheduled for May 15. Col. Aponte will serve in place of Col. Seng on the committee. The first order of business will be dispatch procedures.

EMA - Mr. Brown reported that the 2008 emergency response guides are in and available for the departments to pick up from EMA.

NFPA Report – Mr. Sanders reported on the following issues that are currently being addressed by NFPA:

* Fire Safe Cigarettes – Thirty-five states are now on board and the rest of the country is expected to adopt fire safe cigarette legislation by the end of 2009.

* Electrical Code - Efforts are still underway to improve the national electrical code to include the expansion of requirements on ground-fault circuit interrupter protection, tamper resistant receptacles, and the expansion of arc-fault circuit interrupter protection, in new home construction. Information has been shared with the departments regarding a meeting that is scheduled for May 22 in Frankfort – support needed.

JCFS Health and Dental Plans – Col. Aponte reported on the meeting that took place with Humana and broker Sherrill D. Morgan & Associates. Our current dental plan is struggling. The meeting revealed that Humana's underwriters highly underestimated the cost of the plan. We have since received an offer from Humana to move the plan from self-funded to fully-funded at no additional cost or change in benefits, and our broker has offered to work without their commission for the remaining months of the plan. A transfer from the health insurance account, which is doing very well, was made necessary to cover the dental claims that were presented for payment last week. Col. Aponte also stated that the committee is at the point now where committee membership may need to be on an appointed basis and include representation from the trustees and chiefs, and procedures should be developed for future management of the group insurance plans. The committee will meet with the trustee's executive board on June 11.

EMS QA / Protocol Committee – No Report

Legal Counsel – Attorney Maurice Byrne distributed information pertaining to fire district budgets, audits and filings, property owner trustee nomination forms, and a taxable benefits quiz. Copies to be forwarded with the distribution of these minutes to our departments that were unable to attend. Attorney Byrne will also be sending a letter that the districts can use to have their CPA sign-off on their adopted taxable benefit plan. He also mentioned that there should be no problem (legally) for LMEMS and the suburban fire departments to work out an agreement for cost recovery involving emergency medical responses.

Metro Chaplains – Chaplain Ennis mentioned the bike run to be hosted by Supporting Heroes (www.supportingheroes.org) on June 1.

Louisville Metro Arson – No Report

Rehab Policy Committee – Copies of the rehab policy were provided and have since been emailed to the districts, with a request that the information be reviewed prior to the June meeting of the Chapter 75 Fire Chiefs.

Gated Entrance Committee – Col. Carlson reported on the information as distributed. Group discussion brought a motion of approval by Okolona. Second by Anchorage. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Louisville Water Company – Dallas Morrow reported on the issue of free water. Due to state statute, the Louisville Water Company can not offer free water to the suburban fire stations. They are interested however in forming a partnership with the departments for the servicing of hydrants. Mr. Morrow explained that in exchange for service data, and a sign-off by the chief for the work performed, the LWC will pay \$7-\$10 per hydrant serviced. The pilot plan for this project will start September 1 with three fire districts: Camp Taylor, Fairdale and McMahan. The rest of our departments will be eligible to participate in 2009. Col. Barth thanked the Louisville Water Company for their offer and the departments that provided their hydrant information so that the program could be developed.

Metro Health Department – Jim Gallagher introduced himself to the membership. Jim attended in place of Connie Mendel, who is off on maternity leave.

Fitness Train the Trainer – Asst. Chief Jeff Riddle reported that on July 21, Bruce Roberts will bring the fitness train the trainer program to Middletown station 1. The week-long class will be offered free of charge (normally \$650). Instructors are needed for the region. Please email Mr. Roberts bruce.roberts@kctcs.edu if you are interested in attending.

Ryder Cup – Col. Davenport reported on the Ryder Cup that will take place in Eastwood in September. He welcomed any assistance that the departments or the organizations may be able to offer with staffing of the event. Please contact Col. Davenport for additional information.

JCFCA Executive Vice President – Col. Barth reported on the discussion that took place within the fire chief's executive board pertaining to the recent changes in administration at Highview. After reviewing the bylaws, the members of the executive board expressed their support in retaining Col. Larkins in the position of executive vice president through the end of 2008. The election of a new president and executive vice-president will take place in November. Motion of approval by Buechel. Second by Anchorage. Motion Carried. Col. Baker will retire June 28, at which time Col. Aponte will officially assume the position of area "A" vice president.

REPORTS FROM FIRE CHIEFS EXECUTIVE BOARD – No reports were offered.

NEXT MEETING

Chapter 75 Fire Chiefs Association: Wednesday, June 11, 2008 (10:00 a.m.) @ Fern Creek, station # 1

Jefferson County Fire Chiefs Association: Wednesday, July 9, 2008 @ Jeffersontown # 1

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Anchorage at 11:50 p.m. Second by Buechel. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Terri Livers, EFA