

# Dixie Firefighters Association

## Official Business Meeting Minutes

### Northeast Nelson Fire Protection District

September 22nd, 2016

Members Present: 21

Guests Present: 7

#### Officers Attending

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dale Dobson- President                | <input type="checkbox"/> Steve Sheets– Treasurer                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Cottrell – Vice President        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Froman Peters– Sgt. at Arms              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Mullins– Vice President          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absence |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Thompson – Secretary |  |

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Meeting Called to Order: by Sergeant at arms Froman Peters @ 1902

Meal Blessing: Chief Mark Malone

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Chris Crawford

#### Presentation of certificate of appreciation:

- Presented to NENFD Board Chairman Mary Ellen Marquess

#### Recognitions: Our guests for the evening

- Joe Stokell with High Tech Rescue
- Jimmy Monin with Nelson County Farm Bureau
- Bloomfield Mayor Rhonda Hagan
- Trey Crumbie with the Kentucky Standard Newspaper
- Red Cross, Fred and Pat Hagan and Vickie Ledford

#### Secretary's & Treasurer's Report

- Motion to approve Secretary's Report, by Scott Lawson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rhonda Young motion passed
- Motion to approve Treasurer's Report, Chris Crawford, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Lowery, motion passed

#### Branch Directors Report

- Fire:** (Scott Lawson) Jefferson County Fire School will be the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September and will not be at the GALT house but will be at the Crowne Plaza out by the airport, October 7,8 and 9<sup>th</sup> the Bardstown Fire Department will host a Hazmat operations class provided by Texas A&M, October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the Marion County Fire School, the last weekend of October will be the Green River Fall Fire School, there are still CPAT certification dates available, still more IFSAC testing to go before the end of the year, check the Ky Fire Commission website for dates on these events. The Fire Commission will meet in October in Owensboro, October 5<sup>th</sup> will be the Fallen Firefighters Memorial service in Frankfort, Dixie is well represented at this event as we run the music for this event and have for many years. Remember to be safe on the roadways while responding, there have been a few incidents involving apparatus recently. Bullitt County is currently fighting a large rubbish fire.
- Industry:** No Report
- Farm:** (Joe Hart) Reported that there are still price drops in commodities. List of the 10 things non farmers don't know about the farm: #10, the harvest takes top priority over everything else on the farm. #9 the farm is a family affair, it involves everyone, #8 Harvest is a dangerous time of year, #7 the Harvest is only half of the job #6, harvest is a time of romance, enjoy the scenery, #5, the harvest is a dirty job, #4, there are no lunch breaks at harvest time, most meals are eat on the run or while operating equipment #3 harvest is the time of year when Murpys law is in full effect, whatever can go wrong usually will ,#2 Harvest is a farmers favorite time of year, #1 Harvest is a time of celebration, both for the farmer and for the consumer, everyone should celebrate together because without the harvest there would be no food, clothing or fuel. This brings up another point, make sure to share the road

especially this time of year, a lot of equipment is on the roadways and everyone must share the road. In the past week there has been 3 accidents involving farm equipment.

- **Rescue:** No report
- **EMS:** No report
- **Red Cross:** (Vickie Ledford) Working on the ongoing home fire campaign, the Red Cross works with local fire departments to install smoke detectors in homes. The Red Cross provides the smoke detectors at no cost to the department, all that the department has to do is fill out the paperwork upon installation and turn in to the Red Cross. Seasonally departments can schedule campaigns to canvass areas going door to door to install smoke detectors.
- **Ham Radio:** No report
- **State Fire Marshal:** (Chris Crawford) nothing new from the Fire Marshalls office.
- **Ky. State Police:** (*Steve Lowery*) nothing new to add from the KSP

## Standing Reports

- SFRT Area 5 (Ashley McWaters) Rusty sends his regards as he is on vacation. Rusty and Ashley are working on getting everyone's training hours entered in and assigned. There will be a CPR class coming up October 18<sup>th</sup> and the 20<sup>th</sup>, it will be a 2 night class from 6-10 each night, if interested call or email the office, there will be a small charge as this has been discounted for emergency services personnel. Marion County fire school is coming up so if anyone is interested please contact Chief Mattingly with the Lebanon Fire Department. Meade County fire school was the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of September and there were approximately 7-8 classes there and they reported a really good turn out and had great weather for the school.
- Ky. Fire Commission: (Scott Lawson) There is a fire department within the Dixie Firefighters Assoc. that did receive a FEMA grant. The City of Bardstown Fire Dept. received \$633,000.00 for a 4 year deal for the hiring of a coordinator for recruitment and retention. Per the City Council's approval they will be able to recruit more volunteers and fully equip them with the PPE they need and also help with marketing. This also allows a \$40,000.00 retirement fund for the volunteers
- Kentucky Fire Chiefs: No Report
- Ky. Firefighters Assoc.: (Chris Crawford) The Memorial is coming up October 5<sup>th</sup> and the KFA honor guard will be there as well as going to the National Fallen Firefighters memorial to represent Kentucky coming up soon in Emmetsburg Maryland. October 15<sup>th</sup> will be the KFA fall meeting in Corbin at the Southeastern Ky. Firefighters assoc. Fall Fire School

## Unfinished Business

- *President Dobson discussed the need to grow Dixie and how we can accomplish this as an association. Some of the ideas are as follows: Offer assistance in times of need to Dixie Members, ie: fatality at an assoc. member department, \$500.00 to the family, if attended 25% of the meetings, that goes to a \$1000.00 payment, if a member has a house fire, \$500.00 benefit etc. There is a definite concern on this to make sure there is no issue with the Association status as a 501-3-C, this will be followed up on to ensure there are no violations. Chris Crawford will talk to the Fire Commission on their life insurance benefit that they have. **\*\*UPDATE:** Chris hasn't had a chance to talk with American Income Life however their meeting is next week and he will discuss it then. Dale is still working on what we can do as an association, if anyone has any ideas of suggestions, please let us know. For the 5013C information, Steve Sheets will talk to the tax people, UPDATE: Chris Crawford hasn't had the opportunity to speak with the insurance company to see what we can do. Richard Peters mentioned that he spoke with Supporting Heroes and they are a 5013C organization like us and we should be able to follow the same structure when wanting to send assistance, we just have to announce what we are wanting to do. We just need to establish what, how and when to offer assistance. **Update: Chris Crawford has given this information to Dale so we will table this until our next business meeting.***

- *Another item that was discussed was Dixie Firefighters Assoc. purchasing and maintaining a child's safety house. Membership departments could use this for their fire prevention/public education events. There is grant money available out there for the funding of these type projects; we believe the IAFC has this. Dale will contact Mike Hulseley to help follow up on this. **\*\*Update: Dale has discussed this with Mike Hulseley and he will continue to follow up on this.***
- *Reviewing feedback from the Dixie Fire School some are to offer 2 basic 20 classes due to how quickly this class fills up, and change some of the curriculum to offer more and different classes. In thoughts of how this can be done logistically we would have to drop some classes. Dale offered the idea of doing the EMS lecture at the regular Spring Dixie school but then offer a more hands-on EMS school later in the year, just an idea like the previous ideas everyone attending this meeting has been challenged to think about these suggestions and come up with ideas on their own and bring back to the May meeting. **\*\*Update: Dale: still having the discussion on the possibility of an EMS Dixie School where the focus will be on EMS. Mike Cottrell has had some discussions with the Air Ambulance companies and they are willing to support by providing all the staff necessary, they really like the idea. There will still be some EMS classes at Dixie Fire School but it would be more lecture based with the hands on focused at the EMS Dixie Weekend. **UPDATE from the Fire School meetings from Ashley: there will be 2 basic 20 classes this year due to the classes filling up quickly every year. The classes have been selected and there were a couple dropped and a couple added for 2017. Currently we are working the numbers and making sure to cover all of the needed resources. The EMS class idea has been tabled for now due to the fact that there wasn't a representative from EMS at the last meeting, this will be on going. On a side note Froman mentioned that AIR Methods is struggling, when we were at Mountain Fire School in Hazard they shut down the Hazard Air Methods base.*****
- *There was discussion on combining dues with the KFA, some departments who are members of Dixie don't want to join the KFA, a lot of departments are members of both. This will be brought back up at the May meeting. **\*\*Update: Discussion on this is now for the logistics, some feel that it would be like the departments are being forced to join both organizations, some departments are members of Dixie but not KFA. Would it be possible to give discounts for joining both? We have 14 departments out of 61 that we can't even get free training to and they aren't likely to join either. To change the KFA it would take a lot to change their fees, it's set in their by-laws what the membership fees are and it would take a resolution to accomplish this. For Dixie we could possibly lower our membership fees, would we gain more members? Rusty could discuss this with the Chiefs when he attends their meetings, this will also be important because Rusty can give more insight on one of our problems and that is; what does Dixie Firefighters Association do? What's in it for me? It would be good to also attend their business/Board meetings due to the fact that if the Chief is the cause of the communication breakdown then the information will not get back to the department. Chris Crawford noted that he would like to see a Department that is in good standing with Dixie go to the KFA Conference sponsored by Dixie. Dale feels like we can discuss it now and plan for it for the 2017 conference; it's too late at this point. Ashley noted that the majority of our income for Dixie comes from the fire school, not so much from the dues so could we gain more members by lowering our membership dues, Freddie agrees. Membership is \$10.00 for individual and \$50.00 for Department for Dixie, KFA is 85.00 for Department and \$25.00 for individual. Rusty feels that we need to make sure that we are engaging the young people within our association; it's not just for the older folks in the fire service and the decision makers. Bill Mullins brought up an excellent point: With State Aid and Incentive pay increasing, let the departments know that we had a hand in that, let them know that this is what we are doing, we are a voice for them. This issue will be tabled until Rusty can attend the Chief's meetings and bring back some much needed feedback. On a side note Rusty asked for a fact sheet on the Dixie Firefighters Assoc. or a brochure about Dixie, we need to market ourselves. Update: Scott is currently working on the new brochure and this item will remain on old business until its completion. **Tabled until the next business meeting*****

## New Business

- Ashley reported that she along with many others spent 10 days at the State Fair, she reported that it was a huge success. The Ky. Department of Agriculture combined with the Ky. Fire Commission and had a booth together. Immediately following the ham breakfast an agreement was signed between both organizations that they would continue working together. The booth was very popular as it displayed a historic Fire Engine from Elizabethtown as well as one from Midway.

- The Dixie Memorial is coming up on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of October and we need to get to work on this as soon as possible. A Committee has been appointed for the 2016 memorial and they are: Joe and Roberta Hart to Chair, Jeannie Sheets, and Richard Peters. Scott will begin work on sending the notification letters out to all Departments ASAP as this has to be completed by the end of August. Catering is being discussed and the committee has been given full reign to get who they want for our event with the e-board's support. The Committee will decide the theme for the event. The budget for the Memorial will be set at \$5000.00 per a motion made by Chris Crawford and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Wade Hibbs, unanimous approval for this amount. Dale addressed Isaac Myers with the Governor's office and told him the importance of this event. He asked Mr. Myers to please ask the Governor to attend and Scott will email him to this effect. **Update: the memorial is coming along fine, next meeting will be Tuesday October 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Area 5 training center and this will be a combined meeting to discuss the fire school as well. The Meal will be provided per Ashley and will be Marks Feed Store. Everyone needs to make sure to get their lists turned back in before the deadline of October 10<sup>th</sup> so we have time to get the finishing touches placed on the memorial and recognition and also for the meal, currently we have it set up for food for 200. Roberta Hart asked if we have branched out to make sure to include all members of the emergency services and the answer is yes, the Secretary sent out letters and invitations to all of the Emergency managers within our area and had them help to make the contact to the Law Enforcement agencies, EMS, etc. Scott Lawson said that he received confirmation from the Governor's office this past Friday and there will be a representative from the Governor's office at the memorial. Rhonda Young asked is we ever sent out invitations to the families of the fallen and the answer is no because it is really hard to keep up with the contact information for the families over the years as we are not directly involved with the families, we are directly involved with the Fire Departments but not the families. It's the department's responsibility to contact the past families of the fallen to make sure they are aware of the memorial. Freddie Dewitt mentioned that there are over 500 names on the list.**
- The November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting will be a joint effort between Dixie Firefighters Association and the Green River Firefighters Association in Leitchfield at their Primary Station. We have confirmed this with Chief Tim Duvall. Ashley made a motion to increase the Joint meeting budget from \$150.00 to \$300.00, second by Scott Lawson, motion unanimously passed. **Update: Everything is in place for the joint meeting of both organizations in November.**
- Anyone having scholarship applications, they need to be turned in tonight as they will be awarded in November.
- Joe Hart announced that Woody Will is currently in rehab in Elizabethtown where the doctors had to remove part of his leg at the knee due to infection, he is expected to be in for another 8 weeks.

**Time to set the meeting locations for the 2017 Dixie Firefighters Association meetings:**

- January: Elizabethtown Fire Department, Station 1
- February: SFRT Area 5 training center
- March: New Haven/Rolling Fork Fire Department
- May: City of Bardstown Fire Department
- July: Meade County
- September: Northeast Nelson Fire Protection District
- November: TBD (joint meeting)

**This schedule is tentative as other departments within Area 5 will be contacted to see if they would like to host a Dixie Meeting next year.**

**Door Prizes:** We had a large amount of door prizes from several sponsors and they were: High Tech Rescue, Big 3 Tractor, Bourbon Trail Diner, The Nest, Hometown Pizza, Prime Choice Building supply, and Nettie Jarvis Antiques. Door Prize winners were: Joe Hart, Roberta Hart, Carol Thompson, Mark Malone, Chris Crawford, Pat Hagan, Fred Hagan, Terry Scrogam, Tammy Scrogam, Ronnie Bobblett, Francey Holt, Vicki Ledford, Freddy Dewitt, Ashley McWters, Frank Hall, Steve Lowery, Mary Ellen Marquess, Jimmy Monin, Kim Monin, Jerry Young, Rhonda Young, Rhonda Hagan, Trey Crumbie and Scott Lawson.

**Announcement**

- **Next meeting: November 17<sup>th</sup> at Leitchfield Fire Department 1303 Brandenburg Road, Leitchfield. Beginning at 6:30 pm central time, 7:30 Eastern**

**Adjournment**

Motion made to adjourn by Rhonda Young, second by Chris Crawford, motion carried unanimous at the recorded time of 2040 hours.