

**N**orthern **K**entucky **F**irefighters **A**ssociation

Special Meeting  
Thursday, June 17, 2010  
Hosted By:  
Jim Beatsch, Fire Chief  
&  
Southgate Fire Department

# AGENDA

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- 👍 Welcome
- 👍 History of N.K.F.A. And Purposes in 1934
- 👍 Survey Results
- 👍 Meeting Incentives
- 👍 Comments
- 👍 Adjournment

# HISTORY

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February 1934

Northern Kentucky Firemen's Assn.

Twelve department members

# Purposes of the NKFA in 1934

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1. To Promote Mutual Aid
2. To promote the general improvement of the fire service and fire practices,
3. Standardization of Equipment
4. To foster and encourage the K.F.A. and
5. To cooperate with the Kentucky State Fire Marshal's Office

# **The NKFA has tried to improve things.**

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- We have tried several things to improve the NKFA in the last 10 years.

# SURVEY

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- 1.) Would you be in favor of only emailing the minutes of each meeting? **Done**
- 2.) Would you be in favor of creating website for the association and if so what would you like to see on it? **Done**
- 3.) What ideals or types of incentives would help get people active in the association? **Some of these have been done**

# Original Purposes still needed

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## ◉ To Promote Mutual Aid

## ◉ I believe so! But I believe that we need to go farther than envisioned in 1934!

- (My personal opinion)
- **NFPA 1710 and NFPA 1720**
  - Automatic Mutual Aid should be increased for departments to get appropriate numbers of Firefighters at the scene of structures fires.
- **NIST Deployment Testing**
  - Are you aware of this recent report?

# Original Purposes still needed

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- ◉ To promote the general improvement of the fire service and fire practices
- ◉ Have we done this at all!
- ◉ Have we discussed changes that have affected our industry in the areas of Fire Protection, Fire Prevention, Public Education (Some), Hazardous Materials, EMS, Command, Manning, Accountability,

# Original Purposes still needed

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- ◎ **Standardization of Equipment**
- ◎ I believe that we have done some of this with hose threads and hose sizes, but have we gone far enough and many tried to
  - Figure out specialties for different departments so that not all department have to have aerial ladders, heavy rescues, specialized equipment, etc.

# Original Purposes still needed

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- ◎ **To foster and encourage the K.F.A.**
- ◎ We are still a **main stay** in the Kentucky Firefighters Association however once again I feel that the KFA is suffering so of the same issues as the NKFA.
- ◎ Are Fire Service issues being addressed at the KFA level?
- ◎ **Shouldn't we also support the Kentucky Fire Chiefs Association.**

# Original Purposes still needed

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- To cooperate with the Kentucky State Fire Marshal's Office
  - We work with them but how many times due we really coordinate with them. Do we help them improve.
  - They are really hurting financially and they have severe limitations on staffing. What should or could we be doing to help provide more of our "Common Mission"

# Original Purposes still Needed

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- ◉ Maybe we should extend this vision of assisting and cooperating with the KSFM to the Fire Commission, and to the Kentucky Emergency Medical Services Board, and the Hazardous Materials Council, and Kentucky Emergency Management, and Homeland Security

# Purposes still needed

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- ◉ We often find ourselves dealing with things that all of these groups change.
- ◉ How much input do they get from us to advance “Our Profession”
- ◉ Shouldn't we be providing the input into what they do and what they address.

# Are the Purposes still needed

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I think the answer is **yes** but we must adjust these purposes to meet the current day issues in our profession and we as an organization have not done this!

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**What can we do?**

## Did you know

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Did you know that recently the Central Kentucky Fire Chiefs discussed the new NIST firefighter deployment study that was just released, (that would be a great proactive discussion)

## Did you know

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Lexington received a grant for a high rise burn tower to work on high rise structures tactics, (that sounds like a neat concept for fires requiring 100 firefighters or more)

Is that something that could be used in NKY?

## Did you know:

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Did you know that Erlanger / Point Pleasant and the Georgetown's Toyota plant had the same suspicious package issue last month?

## Did you know:

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Did you know that Lexington just got a grant for, (guess what) a static command simulator. (Wouldn't it be grand if we used joint ideas to develop ours similar to theirs to save money but get a better product, that would be novel)

# Did you know:

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Did you know that there is a new statewide Fire Inspectors Association being formed through the SFM office and “**new criteria**” for fire inspectors, (Fire inspectors, criteria? Why do you need that?)

## Did you know

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Did you know that my term is up on KBEMS in September and that I am searching for another fire service based EMS director in NKY to fill my position before it is filled by someone elsewhere in the state.

# Did you know

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Did you know that the radio system in Jefferson county was just implemented and sounds like something we should at least know about. Talk groups for each department, command talk groups, being able to add anyone to your talk group, a message (audible and visual) from your radio that your transmission was covered or didn't go through and this was all being paid for by a regional tax.

# Did you know

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You did know that the Boone County Training Center is up and running and destined to be the premier training center in NKY.

You did know that our fire investigation team is still working and active but has its issues occasionally but possibly different than what Kenton County has had.

How are we doing that?

## Did you know

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You did know that the training officers in Boone County are making good strides at growing collectively or that our EMS leaders are making tremendous strides collectively.

## Did you know

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You did know that Boone County just held its first IFSAC prep class that is probably going to be continued and could benefit NKY and Bill Birkle informed us today that our passing rate was very good.

## Did you know

The Northern Kentucky Area Development District recently did a manpower survey that was participated in by Burlington, Erlanger, Florence, Hebron, Independence, Point Pleasant Union and Walton. **BUT**: Who asked for the study? Where did it come from? Do you think it is because some city manager or board district chairman **is trying to increase our staffing?**

# Did you know

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Are also aware of TRT administration and operations and are you aware of the efforts to work on the All Hazard Incident Management Team in NKY and the State?

Does every fire department know about the resources and assets that we have in NKY from various grants? MCI trailers, Decon trailers, Haz Mat Equip and Apparatus, etc.

# What Can We Do?

I believe that the NKFA became a social organization several years ago.

The meals and hospitality is always good and everyone has a good time attending

**But**

As a chief what did I or my department learn as the result of attending another meeting?

# What can we do?

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## This is just me but

I have been in the fire service since 1971. My wife and my children often remind me how much I missed during my days of attending:

- A weekly drill at night at the station
- Council mtgs almost every Tuesday night
- Boone Kenton Educational Association Meeting when it was in existence.
- Northern KY Firefighters Association
- And various other meetings

# What can we do?

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I have to get something out of my time!

If I get nothing out of a meeting I quit attending if I can.

In Hebron, I assign one of my officers to attend the monthly association meeting. They bring back a report of the meeting that we discuss at our officers meeting.

# What can we do?

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- ① Make the meetings beneficial
- ② Make the meetings during a time when most Chiefs or Assistant Chiefs can attend. The majority of departments have career staff and career chiefs.
- ③ Video the meetings if you have to and make them available to the other people who can't attend. (on the Web Site)

# What can we do:

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- ⦿ Make the meetings important for those that make decisions,
- ⦿ Make the meetings important for those in your department who improve your department and jurisdiction through training, fire prevention, public education, etc.

# COMMENTS

