

Fire Service Training Commission
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AND ANNOUNCEMENT

Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute

The University of Kansas

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

10:00 AM

The Kansas Fire Service Training Commission will meet in person *and* via Zoom Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 10:00. In person meeting will be held at Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute, 1515 St. Andrews Drive, Lawrence, KS 66049 in Classroom #25. Zoom information is below:

Zoom Meeting
<https://kansas.zoom.us/j/89677625704>
Meeting ID: 896 7762 5704
Passcode: 923030

The following topics will be subject to Fire Service Training Commission consideration, discussion, approval, or other action. All items on the agenda are set for possible action.

The order of the Agenda may be changed by order of the Fire Service Training Commission.

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Affirmation of Quorum**
- 2. Approval of Minutes** of February 12, 2025 Kansas Fire Service Training Commission Meeting
- 3. Public Forum-** Public comments are limited to three-minutes. Persons may submit written comments of any length for the Fire Service Training Commission files. Those wishing to address the Commission should notify the [Chair](#), [Vice Chair](#), or the [Director of KFRTI](#) prior to the meeting. At the conclusion of the public forum, individual Fire Service Training Commission members may respond to comments made by those individuals who have addressed the Commission and may ask staff to review a matter and place it on a future agenda. However, the Fire Service Training Commission members may not discuss or take action on a matter raised during a call to the public, that is not already on the agenda, and are not obligated to comment upon materials or presentations made by the public.
- 4. Consent Agenda-** The Consent Agenda contains items which might require action by the Fire Service Training Commission but are generally routine items not requiring the Commission's discussion. Usually, a single motion will approve all items on

the Consent Agenda, including any resolutions. However, a Fire Service Training Commission member may remove any item on the consent agenda and that item will be discussed and voted upon separately.

- a. There are no items on the Consent Agenda

5. Chair's Report

6. Vice Chair's Report

7. Director's Report

8. Budget-John Knispel and Jenn Johnson

- a. Presentation of the FY24 Year End Financials
- b. Presentation of the FY25 Budget

9. Business

a. Old Business:

- 1. Legislative Updates for FSTC appointments
- 2. Joint Facility on hold update
- 3. Bachelor's of Fire & Emergency Services update
- 4. Bylaws

b. New Business

- 1.

10. Future Agenda Items

11. Adjournment

Kansas Fire Service Training Commission Meeting
St. Andrews Office Facility
Wednesday February 12, 2025 - 10:00 AM

Attending Commission Members: Darin Myers, Dan Romine, Bill Wain, Jason Lankas, Mark Engholm, Justin Ducey, Bonnie Johnson, Mike Roosevelt

Absent Commission Members: Kevin Webster, Eric Voss

Attending Jayhawk Global Staff: Emily Zentner, Jenn Johnson, Ken Fowler, James Zeeb, Ben Green, Clint Hornberger, Matt Breininger, Erica Henderson, Nicole Bettles, Joliene Lummis, Cameron White, John Knispel

Guests: Jerred Hammond, Pat Dunn, Rich Watson

1. Call to Order / Roll Call / Affirmation of Quorum:

It was determined that a quorum did not exist/is met. 8 members are in attendance.

Chair Myers called the meeting to order at 10:04am

2. Public Forum:

Public comments are limited to three-minutes. Persons may submit written comments of any length for the Fire Service Training Commission files. Those wishing to address the Commission should notify the [Chair](#), [Vice Chair](#), or the [Director of KFRTI](#) prior to the meeting. At the conclusion of the public forum, individual Fire Service Training Commission members may respond to comments made by those individuals who have addressed the Commission and may ask staff to review a matter and place it on a future agenda. However, the Fire Service Training Commission members may not discuss or take action on a matter raised during a call to the public, that is not already on the agenda, and are not obligated to comment upon materials or presentations made by the public.

No requests received

3. Consent Agenda:

The Consent Agenda contains items which might require action by the Fire Service Training Commission but are generally routine items not requiring the Commission's discussion. Usually, a single motion will approve all items on the Consent Agenda, including any resolutions. However, a Fire Service Training Commission member may remove any item on the consent agenda and that item will be discussed and voted upon separately.

- 1.) No Agenda to approve
- 2.) Approval of Nov 14, 2024, DRAFT Minutes as presented.

Chair Myers called for a motion to adopt the Minutes as presented.

Dan Romine, Motioned

Mark Engholm, Seconded

Chair Myers called for a vote: it passed unanimously.

4. **Chair's Report:** No report
5. **Vice Chair's Report:** No plans to leave the commission. No other report.
6. **Director's Report:** See Director's Report in meeting packet.
 - a. Emily Zentner is leaving us, and we thank her for all of her hard work through the years.
7. **Financial Report:**
 - a. Review of mid-year budget as of 12/31/24
 - b. KU Support Funds will be spent by the end of the year.
 - c. Fire Officer, spent. \$20,000 from NFA historically, decision was made to use those funds for Leadership items.
 - d. We did not accept KDEM grant.
 - e. We may dip into carry forward next year for propane prop.

Chair Myers called for a motion to accept Mid-Year financials as presented.

Mike Roosevelt, Motioned

Justin Ducey, Second

Chair Myers called for a vote: it passed unanimously.

8. **Old Business:**
 1. Legislative Updates for FSTC appointments

- a. 2 names along with Pat Dunn have been sent for Community College Commission spot
2. Joint Facility on hold update – no new updates
3. Bachelors of Fire & Emergency Services update-no new updates
4. Bylaws
 - a. Mike presented documents and commented about items that need to have language changed. Article 7.2 change ending to 5.3. Add statement to the end of the article 5.3.

9. New Business

1. YLD Special Project Award
 - a. Jenn applied as a member of the KSAFC and was awarded
2. Grain Trailer
3. State Budget – fortunate to be fee funded. As of Monday, the legislature must cut \$700,000,000 from this year’s budget. Will be a battle to get any new items approved.
4. Legislation, watching for a good vehicle to statute language. House Bill 2372 may be our opportunity.
 - a. Mark Roosevelt thinks we need to come at it from all angles. Mark Engholm expressed that it is easier to get things like this through with an existing vehicle being working on.
 - b. Justin Ducey is behind Fire Marshal going forward with this with the caveat that it is noted that FEKE and

Brought forward a motion for Mark Engholm to submit the statute changes that have been made by Darin and the committee.

Justin Ducey, Motioned

Bonnie Johnson, Second

Chair Myers called for a vote: it passed unanimously

- c. Through HMEP Grant for HazMat Tech trailer
- d. Big training issue with NERIS, all fire departments will be in this system
- e. Sarah Jankey’s group (Vol Fire Service study) awarded for this study.

10. Future Agenda Items:

- ByLaw's update
- Legislative update

11. Adjournment:

- *Director Jenn Johnson reported the next meeting will be May 14, 2025, at 10:00am.*
- *Chair Myers called for a motion to adjourn.*
- *Jason Lankas, motioned.*
- *Bonnie Johnson, second*
- *Chair Myers adjourned the meeting at 11:30_am*

KFRTI State of the Institute – August 2025

(Director's Report)

Introduction

Welcome to FY26! As the Kansas Fire & Rescue Training Institute (KFRTI) wrapped up FY25, we prepared for more change and set some new goals. This report outlines our key achievements, staffing updates, program developments, partnerships, and strategic goals as we continue to elevate fire service training and education throughout Kansas.

Staff Changes

Stacy Babb, Administrative Associate, who joined us in March, is no longer with the Institute. We do not plan to fill this position at the current time.

Assistant Director of Training, James Zeeb, is now the interim Fire Chief for the Bonner Springs Fire Department. Filling his shoes will be a difficult endeavor but we have a plan.

- Assistant Director Ken Fowler will assume responsibility for the Training side of the house.
- I will assume responsibility for the Operations side of the house.
- James Zeeb will stay on as a part time instructor.
- Three Program Managers:
 - Ben Green-Fire & Rescue Programs
 - Erin McGruder-Instructor Programs, NFA Coordination
 - Clint Hornberger-Firefighter Programs, Oversight of Transportation
- Four Program Coordinators:
 - Ronnie Sellens-Transportation, Driver Operator Programs
 - Matt Breininger-Special Operations
 - Lucas Everett-Firefighter Programs
 - Erica Henderson-Certification
 - .5 Officer Program Coordinator -Vacant. We have submitted this position for approval but just today (Aug 6) Ku announced they are on a hiring freeze until October.
- Three Administrative Staff
 - Joliene Lummis-Senior Associate, training programs, office management
 - Nicole Bettis-Senior Associate, certification
 - Josh Casey-Associate, training programs
- Thirty-five part-time instructors, drivers and test site coordinators

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National Engagement

KFRTI continues to represent Kansas on the national stage through involvement with organizations such as IFSAC, NFPA, IFSTA, NAFTD, NVFC, and ISFSI.

In June, Assistant Directors Ken Fowler and James Zeeb had the opportunity to present Leadership in Rural Volunteer Fire Companies at the 2025 National Volunteer Fire Council Training Summit in Salt Lake City, Utah. Based on official feedback they were quite the hit.

Fire Schools and State Activities

Our Confined Space Trailer will be attending the OneGas Safety Days in Hutchinson in October.

Our Fall Fire Forum is scheduled for December 10 in Leawood, KS

Bachelor's Degree Initiative

KFRTI is collaborating with the KU School of Public Affairs to develop a Bachelor's Degree in Fire & Emergency Services Administration. This fully online program will enable students with an associate degree in fire science to complete an upper-division curriculum and graduate with a Bachelor of Arts from KU.

We have had initial meetings with the School of Public Affairs and Administration. We are learning that this process does not move quickly.

Updates will be shared as the initiative progresses.

Community Engagement and Program Development

Our 4th Annual Camp Fury was held June 9–13, 2025. Twenty-eight girls spent five days with some of the most amazing women public safety. This popular program continues to draw full participation from aspiring young women across the Kansas City metro. Pushing our registration to 28 girls, due to incredible interest, stretched our instructors and our schedule but it was the best camp yet!

Despite ongoing discussions, plans for a joint-use facility to house our rolling stock—potentially in partnership with the State Fire Marshal and the University—remain delayed. While timelines are uncertain, our optimism remains. We continue to explore opportunities to collaborate with local and state partners.

We are pleased to announce that KFRTI will host the North American Fire Training Directors Conference in 2027.

Program Managers and Coordinators have begun working with KU's Center for Online and Distance

We are planning to launch the new First Responder Inspector course by mid fall. This will a hybrid delivery.

We are on track to accept delivery of the new Grain Engulfment Rescue Simulator later this month.

Looking Ahead

Transition to the KITE platform for online testing is progressing well. Tablets have been procured, and we anticipate access to the test environment soon.

Planning is underway for an office remodel, aimed at optimizing space to support our continued growth.

Upcoming Events

Fire Officer Weekend

August 21-23

KLETC

Women's First Responder Symposium

September 19

Tony's Pizza Event Center, Salina

Catching Fury

October 25

KCKFD Station 16

Organizational Priorities

KFRTI has identified the following priorities for the coming year:

1. Curriculum Updates
2. (Tie) Course Delivery & Events / Administrative Work
3. Certification & Accreditation
4. (Tie) Supervision & Professional Development / Props & Equipment
5. Professional Development
6. Marketing