

**COMMITTEES ON REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS
OF THE KANSAS CITY KANSAS FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION**

September 2018

**Patrick Dunn
Derek Kempf
Mark Matteson
Ritchie Nigh
Lisa Price
Nathaniel Schotanus
Chad Womble**

November 2006

**William Bonfield
G. Matz
Steven Miller
Robert Nowak
Lisa Price
Michael Wilson
Chad Womble**

June 1997

**William Bonfield
Craig Duke
Larry Saragusa
Robert Nowak
Michael Wilson**

July 1989

**William Bonfield
Thomas DeKeyser
Walter Johnson
Robert Nowak
Larry Saragusa**

January 1985

**Thomas DeKeyser
Robert Nowak
Roy Reed
James Frizelle
William Hinkle
Joseph Norbury**

January 1973

**Lawrence Bowers
James Ratcliffe
Parie Hahn**

Preamble

Whereas; The members of the Fire Department of the City of Kansas City, State of Kansas, are liable, in the discharge of their duties, to many casualties from which citizens are generally exempt, frequently very injurious and sometimes ruinous to their health, comfort and pecuniary circumstances of those on whom they fall, Therefore:

Be It Resolved; By the undersigned members of the Fire Department of Kansas City, Kansas, that in view of the many accidents to which they are subject in the discharge of their duties and in order to afford relief to such as may be injured in performing them, we form ourselves into a Corporation for the purpose of mutual aid and relief and for the better management and control thereof, adopt the following Constitution, by which we mutually agree to be governed.

KANSAS CITY KANSAS FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF ASSOCIATION

Article I

Name

The Corporation shall be called the Kansas City, Kansas Firefighters' Relief Association, hereinafter referred to in these articles and bylaws as "Association."

Article II

Membership

Each person, who has been hired by the Governing Body of the City to the Fire Department to perform duties of a firefighter, shall become members of the Association.

Article III

Management, Selection

The management of the Relief Association shall be vested in an Advisory Council, which shall consist of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and eight (8) representatives from the membership at large. Elections for officers will be held during the annual meeting of the Association and the day following. The President, Secretary, Assistant Treasurer, and four (4) Advisory Council positions shall be elected on odd years, and Vice-President, Treasurer, and four (4) Advisory Council positions shall be elected on even years. All Advisory Council members will be elected to two (2) year terms. Officers and the Advisory Council shall be elected by a majority of the votes cast from the membership in attendance. Nominations shall be accepted at the regular monthly meeting the month before the annual meeting. For a member to be nominated, they must have attended at least 6 of the last 12 regular meetings. If no member is nominated for any Advisory Council position, the remaining Advisory Council members, by majority vote, shall appoint a member to fill that position. In the event of a permanent vacancy on the Advisory Council, it shall be the duty of the remaining members of the Advisory Council to immediately appoint, by majority vote, a member to fill the unexpired term of the vacated position.

Article IV

Annual Meeting

The annual Meeting of the Association shall be held on the first Wednesday in June of each year In conjunction with the regular monthly meeting. The order of business shall include the reading of the annual reports of the Secretary and Treasurer of the preceding year.

Article V

Regular Meetings

The membership shall hold the monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at such a place and time as the President may direct. When necessary, the day and location and time will be set by the president. Seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. It shall be the duty of any and all members of the Association in attendance to act on motions, to approve payments and make grants in accordance with the terms of the Constitution, in accordance with the Firefighters' Relief Act, K.S.A. 40-1701, et seq., or the applicable rules and regulations that govern the act, to control and direct the manner of investing funds and property of the Firefighters' Relief Fund Account, to make Bylaws and generally to do and perform all things not inconsistent with the Firefighters' Relief Act or rules of the Association.

Article VI

Special Meetings

The President shall call special meetings of the Advisory Council or the membership at the written request of any seven (7) members or when in the President's opinion the same may be necessary.

Article VII

Duties of the President and Vice-President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Advisory Council, organize and maintain order therein, state and put all questions and in all equal divisions give the deciding vote, decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association when required by one member, which appeal shall be decided without debate, reserving to the President the right to make his explanation. The President shall appoint all standing committee Chairpersons, and call special meetings of the Association. When absent, the various duties of the President shall be fulfilled by the Vice-President, and in the absence of both the President and Vice-President, by a President Protem appointed from the Advisory Council. The President shall be ex-officio Chairperson of all committees. At the expiration of the President's and Vice-President's term in office, the President and the Vice-President shall deliver all Association property in their possession to their successor in office within thirty (30) days.

Article VIII

Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary shall keep correct minutes of the proceedings of the Association in a book provided for that purpose, record the name to the mover of every resolution; insert the ayes and nays in the minutes when so ordered by the Presiding Officer; give notice of the meetings of the Association; publish a list of the Officers, Advisory Council members and committee Chairpersons elected or appointed for the year. The Secretary shall maintain a current and accurate inventory of all property owned by the Relief Association and the officer that has the property in their possession. As soon as possible after the annual meeting, distribute a summary of the meeting to the membership. At the expiration of the Secretary's term of office, the Secretary shall deliver all Association property in the Secretary's possession to their successor in office within thirty (30) days. In the absence of the Secretary, the duties of the Secretary shall be performed by a Secretary Protem appointed by the President.

Article IX

Duties of the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer

The Treasurer shall deposit all funds received by the Association into the appropriate account and pay all orders authorized by the Advisory Council or by a majority vote of the membership in attendance at scheduled meetings; keep accounts of the funds received and dispersed under the provisions of the Firefighters' Relief Act, and those received from other sources and make an itemized statement in this manner to be submitted at each regular meeting, together with an annual statement to be reported at the annual meeting in June. The treasurer shall comply with all provisions of the Firefighters' Relief Act, and any other Kansas Statutes that may apply.

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer shall carry out the duties of the Treasurer. Drafts for payments shall be signed by two approved officers. At the expiration of the Treasurer's term in office all Association property, shall be turned over to the new Treasurer within thirty (30) days.

Article X

Benefits

Benefits may be provided and paid from the Relief Fund, if funds permit, to members or their beneficiaries when they are injured, physically disabled or killed in or by reason of the discharge of their duties as a fire department employee, or who dies from the effect of injuries so received or from disease contracted by reason of such member's duties as a fire department employee.

The Association may pay expenses, up to the approved amount and if funds permit, that have not been paid to a member from other insurance companies, policies, organizations, other sources of funds or coverage for minor bodily injuries, vision or dental injuries; for the replacement of lost or broken glasses, contact lenses or hearing aids; and for eye exams, glasses and contact lenses. The benefits for expenses that cannot be reimbursed from any other means must be due to the discharge of such members' duties as a fire department employee and documents verifying this must be submitted.

A pension may be provided and paid from the Relief Fund, if funds permit, to members of the Relief Association who have served for a period of not less than 20 years with the Kansas City Kansas Fire Department, in accordance with K.S.A. 40-1707.

The benefits to be provided will be determined by a majority vote of the membership in attendance at the December meeting. A detailed list of coverage's will be provided to each member as soon as possible after January 1st of each year.

The Association may purchase insurance, if funds permit, which would provide for any or all of the foregoing purposes after being authorized to be expended and according to the laws of Kansas, K.S.A. 40-1707.

Article XI

Beneficiary

Each member of the Association shall file and keep current with the Treasurer of the Association the name and address of the beneficiary to whom they desire the benefit specified in the Bylaws to be paid in case of such member's death.

Article XII

Death Certificate

In every case of the death of a member of this Association the certificate of a competent physician, stating the true cause of such death shall be immediately filed with the Treasurer of the Association.

Article XIII

Premiums and Fees

The Association shall pay all premiums on all insurance policies authorized to be purchased by the Association on all its members, and the Association shall be the beneficiary named in all insurance policies so purchased. Fees incurred for auditing the Firefighters' Relief Fund Account shall be paid from the Firefighters' Relief Fund Account.

Article XIV

Amendment and Repeal

In no case other than required by law shall any of the Articles or Bylaws of the Association be enacted, altered, amended, repealed or suspended unless by a 2/3 majority of the vote cast from the membership in attendance at a regular monthly meeting. In cases required by law, the Advisory Council shall be empowered to enact, alter, suspend, amend, or repeal any article or part thereof. Any changes in the Constitution and Bylaws shall be proposed in writing at a previous meeting.

BYLAWS

Section I

Any transaction of major importance, as determined by a majority of the advisory council, coming before the monthly meetings, upon 2/3 majority of the votes cast from the membership in attendance, shall be submitted to the membership at-large for a vote, to be decided by 2/3 majority of the votes cast.

Section II

The membership shall hold the monthly meetings on the first Wednesday of each month at such a place *and time* as the President may direct. Seven (7) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The President shall call special meetings of the advisory council or the membership at the written request of any seven (7) members or when in the Presidents opinion the same may be necessary.

Section III

Regular Monthly Meetings

Should a quorum of members be present, the President shall call the meeting to order. The Order of Business shall be as follows:

1. Minutes of the previous meeting.
2. Treasurer's report.
3. Reports of Committees.
4. Unfinished Business
5. New Business with new bills.
6. Good of the Association.

Should a quorum not be present within half an hour after time of meeting, those present, on noting the absentees, may depart and another meeting shall be called.

Section IV

When a question is before the Association, Robert's Rules of Order for Meetings will prevail. In speaking before the Association, members shall confine themselves to the subject under discussion. The President may refuse to recognize any member who has expressed their view of the subject under discussion more than two (2) times.

Section V

No motion to reconsider shall be in order unless made at the meeting at which the resolution was adopted or unless made and seconded by one who voted in the majority on such questions. The ayes and nays may be called on any question after the request of two (2) members.