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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)  
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014-2015  
SECOND QUARTER MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: December 4, 2014
Time of Meeting: 9:37 a.m.
Place of Meeting: Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Headquarters  
636 South Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Present:

Manuel P. Neves  SFC Chair  
Fire Chief, HFD

Robert Westerman  SFC Vice Chair  
Fire Chief, Kauai Fire Department (KFD)

Jeffrey Murray  SFC Member  
Fire Chief, Department of Fire and Public Safety (MFD), County of Maui

Darren Rosario  SFC Member  
Fire Chief, Hawaii Fire Department (HCFD)

Socrates Bratakos  SFC Administrator  
Assistant Chief (AC), HFD

Lloyd Rogers  SFC Administrative Specialist

Edmund Suzuki  SFC Administrative Specialist

Earle Kealoha  Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette Program (RIPC) Specialist
I. Introduction

A. Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

B. Chair Neves welcomed everyone, and an introduction of attendees followed.

C. Approval of the SFC FY 2014-2015 First Quarter Meeting Minutes

Motion: Vice Chair Westerman motioned to approve the SFC FY 2014-2015 First Quarter Meeting Minutes. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Vice Chair Westerman motioned to approve the agendas for the December 4-5, 2014 meetings. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

II. Unfinished Business and General Orders

SFC Member Reports/Updates

A. Report of Member Rosario

1. Grants

   a. A 2012 Fire Prevention Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) of $19,100, of which HCFD’s portion is $4,000, was utilized to purchase smoke detectors. The HCFD is in the process of working with the
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers to install the smoke detectors.

b. A 2012 AFG grant that was utilized for fire ground survival training is closed. A 2012 AFG grant of $12,000 will be utilized for in-house training.

c. A 2013 AFG grant of $35,000 will be utilized to purchase one trailer-based driver simulator. The HCFD completed bid specifications.

d. The HCFD did not apply for the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) grant for this year.

e. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) State Fire Assistance Grant of $100,000 was awarded to the HCFD and will be utilized for wildland equipment and training.

f. Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) and Volunteer Fire Assistance grants will be utilized for new tanker unit equipment.

g. The State Highways Grant for Rescue was utilized for battery-operated extrication tools and strut cribbing.

h. A Walmart Foundation grant was utilized for Fire Prevention Week activities and cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.

i. Fire Factory Mutual Fire Protection funds were utilized to purchase two digital cameras for Fire Inspectors.

j. The Firehouse Subs Public Safety and Iron Man Foundation grants of $12,000 were utilized to purchase 20 chainsaws.

k. A USDA grant in the amount of $19,500 was utilized to purchase pediatric resuscitation kits.

l. The HCFD is processing the 2014 AFG grant, which will be utilized to purchase night vision goggle capabilities for the HCFD's Emergency Medical Services helicopter.

2. County Issues

a. The HCFD has been selected to be an International Association of Fire Chiefs Peer Grant reviewer in January 2015 for AFG submittals.
b. The HCFD thanked the MFD for donating a 3,000-gallon Peterbilt tanker for the Pahoa Fire Station.

c. An update was provided on the Puna lava flow, which has stalled and picked up again. The current flow is headed in the direction of the Pahoa Marketplace.

d. The HCFD’s current FY budget was decimated due to the lava flow emergency. The Hawaii County is awaiting federal assistance. A majority of the expenditures were used to organize a fire station and staff so that the area that had been separated by the lava flow would have fire protection.

B. Report of Member Murray

1. Grants

   There have been minimal changes on grants from last quarter.

2. County Issues

   a. The MFD’s FY 2016 budget, which includes Ocean Safety, has been submitted to the Maui County.

   b. The MFD is in the process of working with the Hawaii Government Employees Association for the Ocean Safety takeover.

   c. The MFD Internal Affairs position will be an SR-24 civilian position instead of a BC and will commence in 2015.

   d. The MFD’s shortfalls include premium pay for rank-for-rank and low funding for the Mechanic Shop.

      A discussion ensued regarding to the investigation process, which includes the use of Chief level personnel, independent contractors, or other department partners.

C. Report of Vice Chair Westerman

1. Grants

   a. A 2014 SAFER grant still is pending.

   b. A 2013 SAFER grant is ongoing.
c. The KFD applied for a 2014 AFG grant, which will be utilized to send two personnel for the peer review.

d. A 2014 AFG grant was submitted by the KFD and will be utilized to purchase an aerial apparatus.

e. The KFD will apply for an AFG Fire Prevention and Safety grant to be utilized for Fire Investigator and Fire Inspector training.

f. Community Development Block Grant funding will be utilized to purchase a utility truck and Skedco rescue equipment.

g. The 2012 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) grant was utilized to replace turnout gear. In 2015, the DHS grant will be utilized to upgrade the radio network.

h. A DOFAW grant was utilized to purchase wildland equipment.

2. County Issues

a. A major reduction in the KFD’s FY 2016 budget is expected. The Kauai County has an $8 million shortfall. The KFD is awaiting the Kauai County’s response.

b. The KFD hosted the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association’s Annual Conference at the Grand Hyatt Kauai Resort on November 6-8, 2014. The KFD thanked those who were in attendance.

D. Report of Chair Neves

1. Grants

Chair Neves outlined the HFD’s 2014 DHS, DOFAW, and AFG grant awards:

a. The HFD received a $6,500 grant from the Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company’s Heritage Program, which will be utilized to purchase thermal imaging cameras.

b. The HFD received DOFAW funding of $37,500, which will be utilized for wildland fire equipment, training, and conferences.
c. In October 2014, the HFD was awarded a Federal Highway Safety Grant of $35,000 administered by the Department of Transportation, which will be utilized to purchase extrication gloves and hydraulic vehicle jacks.

d. The HFD was awarded a DHS grant of $300,000, which will be utilized for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosive and All-Hazards Incident Management Team training and equipment.

e. The HFD was awarded a $130,000 Urban Area Security Initiatives grant which will be utilized to purchase two rapid response vehicles.

f. A 2013 AFG of $2,628,800 will be utilized to change and upgrade self-contained breathing apparatuses to meet current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines.

g. The HFD is researching grant funding and congressional appropriated funds to upgrade and/or replace its helicopters.

2. County Issues

Chair Neves outlined the HFD’s 2014 goals and objectives as follows:

a. The HFD built and secured a 26% increase in its FY 2015 budget over the FY 2014 budget, which will address new operational programs and executed labor agreements. The HFD’s FY 2016 budget is ongoing.

b. The International Fire Service Accreditation Congress’ on-site visit to the HFD for its Certification Program is scheduled in December 2014.

c. The HFD continues to provide educational and professional development training for HFD managers.

d. The HFD successfully completed written agreements with the Hawaii Fire Fighters Association.

e. The HFD filled 1 AC, 8 BC, 21 Fire Captain, 16 Fire Fighter (FF) III, 14 FF II, and 13 civilian positions.

f. After meetings with the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services’ Purchasing Division, the HFD is in the process of improving its standard purchasing process.
g. The HFD mailed surveys to citizens who received emergency services from the HFD. The surveys returned to the HFD with a rating of 100% good or excellent.

h. The HFD has 46 facilities for which a prioritized replacement schedule was created. The schedule consists of the planning, design, and construction phases for the next 50 years. The HFD is allotted $2 million annually in Capital Improvement Project funds for station repairs and renovations. The HFD established a ten-year plan to meet the needs of its 46 facilities after an assessment was completed for each facility.

E. SFC Administrator’s Report

1. Status of State Fire Code

   Each county is proceeding with their county fire code adoption process as follows:

   Honolulu: In-house editing in progress for the final amendment package

   Kauai: Amendment package under in-house review

   Maui: Amendment package being reviewed by Corporation Council as to form and legality

   Hawaii: Finalizing amendments and language for plan review and fees

2. State Building Code Council (SBCC)


   b. Residential sprinkler issues were discussed at the American Institute of Architects meeting on November 7, 2014. The NFPA, the National Fire Sprinkler Association, and Administrator Bratakos presented support information and reference documents. The Building Industry Association of Hawaii cited the added cost to housing and that sprinklers should be a choice. International Code Council and NFPA building codes do not have equivalencies for residential sprinklers; however, other building requirements are in place for sprinkler installation. A Hawaii solution
based on its unique political, administrative, and socio-economic culture was a consensus opinion.

c. Mr. Tim Hiu and Administrator Bratakos were elected as SBCC Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. SBCC voting members were informed of their eight-year term limit dates. Administrator Bratakos' term expires in March 2016.

d. Position descriptions for the SBCC Executive Director and assistant have been finalized. A request to release the appropriated funds for the two positions were sent to Governor Neil Abercrombie from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS). Governor Abercrombie tabled that decision for the incoming Governor-elect. Funding must be released before applications can be advertised and accepted. The DAGS also incorporated the SBCC budget into its FY 2016-2017 biennium proposal that includes personnel and operating expenses. Any new expenditures for the Governor-elect will be highly dependent on the State Council of Revenues' future economic projections.

3. Statewide Training and Education

a. Direct Delivery

One two-day class was delivered to Honolulu in October 2014. The HCFD was approved for a third class when the KFD opted out of their second pick. Honolulu was approved to change its remaining two classes to Incident Safety Officer Train-the-Trainer.

b. Trade Resource and Data Exchange (TRADE) Region Nine

The HCFD applied for a six-day course through Region Nine and is awaiting a response from the National Fire Academy.

4. RIPC Program

Receipts from manufacturers total $721,250. RIPC Specialist Earle Kealoha presented an update of the RIPC Program.

5. Fireworks

Honolulu fireworks injuries, fire and police calls, and license fees continue to be low after passage of the "firecrackers only" ordinance. County fire
departments must apply requirements for redistribution and temporary and permanent fireworks storage based on the passage of last session’s definition of the bill.

6. Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Data Collection Request

The DLNR is working with the individual counties to receive the National Fire Incident Report System data related to incidents occurring on state property, including hiking trails and parks.

7. SFC Fire Prevention Committee (FPC)

The FPC will be meeting on January 13-14, 2015, in Honolulu.

8. Administrative Specialist Suzuki provided information on the SFC’s staff research for third-party systems testing, residential sprinklers, and fire fighter cancer.

F. National Fire Issues/Concerns

Chair Neves inquired as to the status of residential sprinklers that are located in the national code. SFC Administrator Bratakos related that the IRC, 2015 Edition, retains its current provisions. Ongoing lobbying efforts are continuing for future editions of the IRC.

A discussion ensued relating to decreasing fire fighter cancer risks, which include procedures and education.

Motion: Vice Chair Westerman motioned for a recess at 11:50 a.m. The Motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

G. Conferences and Meetings

1. NFPA Conference and Expo on June 22-25, 2015, in Chicago, Illinois

3. Fire-Rescue International Annual Conference on August 26-29, 2015, in Atlanta, Georgia

4. Hawaii Association of County Building Officials Conference scheduled for May 2015


III. Adjournment

Motion: Vice Chair Westerman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2 p.m. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye  
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye  
Member Murray - Aye  
Member Rosario - Aye

MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair
Date of Meeting: December 5, 2014

Time of Meeting: 8:30 a.m.

Place of Meeting: Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) Headquarters
636 South Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Present:

Manuel P. Neves       SFC Chair
                       Fire Chief, HFD
Robert Westerman      SFC Vice Chair
                       Fire Chief, Kauai Fire Department
Jeffrey Murray        SFC Member
                       Fire Chief, Department of Fire and Public Safety, County of Maui
Darren Rosario        SFC Member
                       Fire Chief, Hawaii Fire Department
Socrates Bratakos     SFC Administrator
                       Assistant Chief, HFD
Lloyd Rogers          SFC Administrative Specialist
Edmund Suzuki         SFC Administrative Specialist
Earle Kealoha         Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette Program (RIPC) Specialist
SFC FY 2014-2015 Second Quarter Meeting Minutes
Page 2
December 5, 2014

Terry Seelig       Battalion Chief, HFD
Adam Rosenberg     Deputy Attorney General
                   State of Hawaii (State)
                   Department of the Attorney General
Paul Putzulu      Director
                   Hawaii State Fusion Center
Mel Harano         Fire Protection Manager
                   Thermal Engineering Corporation
Guy Ichinotsubo   Design Engineer
                   Airports Division
                   State Department of Transportation (DOT)
                   Honolulu International Airport
Jennifer Scott     Project Manager/Architect
                   Mitsunaga & Associates

Participated via teleconference:

Jim Branda        Ricondo & Associates
Bryon Enstrom     Blymyer & Associates
Michelle Gebhart  Rolf Jensen & Associates
Laurissa Hale     Designer
                   Demattei Wong Architecture
Wesley Wong       Director
                   Demattei Wong Architecture
Joel Yuen         Partner
                   In Synergy & Associates

Participated in open lunch meeting:

Will Espero       Senator, Senate Member
                   Hawaii State Legislature
SFC FY 2014-2015 Second Quarter Meeting Minutes
Page 3
December 5, 2014

Sylva Luke  Representative, House Member
          Hawaii State Legislature

Gregg Takayama  Representative, House Member
                Hawaii State Legislature

Jill Tokuda  Senator, Senate Member
            Hawaii State Legislature

Ryan Yamane  Representative, House Member
            Hawaii State Legislature

I. Introduction of Attendees

A. Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m.

B. Chair Neves welcomed everyone, and an introduction of attendees followed.

II. Review of the December 4, 2014, Meeting Notes

Administrator Bratakos reviewed the December 4, 2014, meeting notes.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Cancer Presumptive Bill

   SFC staff recommended introducing a resolution to form a task force and
   committee to work with stakeholders to improve and streamline the workers
   compensation system.

B. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Compensation

   The SFC provided information that the compensation for EMS must be an
   EMS provider and will not be submitting any bill. The SFC will monitor
   California’s legislation on this matter.

C. Requirements for Fireworks Shippers, Labeling Size, and Redistribution
   and Exemptions for Movie Productions

   The SFC will reintroduce the 2014 legislative bill at the 2015 Legislative
   Session to address these issues.
D. Increase Display Permit Fee from $110 to $300

The SFC will reintroduce the 2014 legislative bill at the 2015 Legislative Session.

E. Prohibit Consumer Fireworks Use on Three Holidays

The SFC will reintroduce the 2014 legislative bill at the 2015 Legislative Session.

F. Repeal of Act 83 Prohibiting Counties from Requiring Residential Sprinklers

The SFC will be focusing on the "home rule" concept to gain support.

G. Residential Kitchen Fire Safety

No discussion was held on this matter.

Motion: Member Murray motioned to authorize the Chair and Vice Chair, in his absence, to provide legislative testimony and efforts, including their signature. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

IV. New Business

A. Presentation for Consolidated Rental Agency Complex (CONRAC)

The presentation included the current status of the Honolulu and Maui airport projects. Honolulu’s plan is currently being reviewed. Honolulu has an interim project in preparation for a permanent project. The project will begin at the end of 2015 and is expected to be completed by 2019. Maui is having their permits reviewed. Maui is following the safety provisions that are required at Honolulu’s airports and will begin its roadwork and permanent project

A discussion ensued on the planning and permitting history. Administrator Bratakos discussed the code review efforts. The discussion continued on the fire safety measures, including training, systems maintenance, and security.
Chair Neves stated that he appreciated the support by the DOT’s Airport Division and the design team.

B. Hawaii State Fusion Center

Mr. Putzulu provided information relating to the Hawaii State Fusion Center and how the program works. Chair Neves requested that the county Fire Chiefs and Deputy Fire Chiefs work with Mr. Putzulu to apply for a security clearance.

Mr. Putzulu requested that the county Fire Chiefs provide fire service support, potentially through the Fusion Liaison Officer Program, suspicious activity report training, attendance at the partners meeting, and/or safety or information bulletins. Mr. Putzulu asked what information fire departments would like to have from the Fusion Center and stressed the critical importance of that information.

C. SFC Statewide Programs


An updated report was provided at the December 4, 2014, meeting.

Motion: Member Murray motioned to move forward with the administrative rules. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

2. Update on Proposed Administrative Rules for the RIPC Program.

An updated report was provided at the December 4, 2014, meeting.

Motion: Member Murray motioned to move forward with the administrative rules. The motion passed.
Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye  
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye  
Member Murray - Aye  
Member Rosario - Aye

3. RIPC Report to the State Legislature

An updated report was provided at the December 4, 2014, meeting.

4. Fire/Life Safety Educational Initiatives

A discussion ensued on fire code education for various committees and 
groups, including the State Building Code Council, the International 

5. Hawaii Fire Data Collection/Analysis

No discussion on this matter.

D. Next Quarterly Meeting

The next SFC quarterly meeting will be held in Hilo. Potential dates will be 
e-mailed to SFC members.

V. Meeting with Hawaii State Legislators

The open lunch meeting with the Hawaii State legislators commenced at 
11:40 a.m.

Chair Neves opened the meeting with the SFC’s history and past successes with 
the legislature. Administrator Bratakos reviewed the past and potential bills that will 
be submitted for the 2015 Legislative Session.

A discussion ensued between the legislators and SFC members on the fireworks 
issue and cancer presumptive bill.

VI. Adjournment

Motion: Member Murray motioned to adjourn the meeting at 1 p.m. The motion 
passed.
Record of Votes:
Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Murray - Aye
Member Rosario - Aye

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair