STATE OF HAWAII
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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017-2018 THIRD QUARTER MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: February 22, 2018
Time of Meeting: 9:30 a.m.
Place of Meeting: Mayor Harry Kim’s West Hawaii Office
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway
Building C, Second Floor
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Present:

Manuel P. Neves   SFC Chair
Fire Chief, Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)

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

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

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

Lloyd Rogers      SFC Administrative Specialist
Adam Rosenberg  Deputy Attorney General  
State of Hawaii (State), Department of the Attorney General (DAG)

I. Introduction

A. Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

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

C. Approval of the SFC FY 2017-2018 Second Quarter Meeting Minutes

Motion:  Member Murray motioned to approve the SFC FY 2017-2018 Second 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:  Member Rosario motioned to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

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

II. Old Business

A. Discussion on the Proposed SFC Strategic Plan Revisions

The SFC discussed the proposed plan that included allowing the Hawaii State Fire Department to join the SFC, data collection and analysis, and a reestablishment of the Office of the State Fire Marshal. The current goal will be to focus on core projects which are achievable with the present staff. Also discussed was the future of the SFC Administrator position. Further research will be conducted prior to the next meeting.
B. Hawaii Licensing of Emergency Medical Technicians

The SFC discussed the limited progress made in determining recertification requirements for emergency medical service personnel in the fire service. This will be placed on the next meeting agenda for an update.

III. Unfinished Business and General Orders

A. SFC County/State Issues

1. Member Rosario

   a. Grants

   (1) An FY15 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) award is being used for the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) replacement program, which is awaiting the delivery of additional masks and equipment with excess funds.

   (2) An FY16 Community Block Development Grant (CDBG), which will be used to provide a wildland pumper apparatus for the Ka‘u district, has been delivered with the installation of radio and operator training scheduled for mid-March.

   (3) An FY18 AFG application was submitted for hazardous materials equipment for $204,000.

   (4) An FY18 CDBG grant was awarded for a wildland brush truck for Paradise Park in the amount of $270,000.

   (5) Member Rosario thanked the HFD for its grant writing assistance.

   b. County Issues

   (1) The HCFD submitted its FY18-19 budget to the Hawaii County Department of Finance and asked for a three percent reduction. Increases in pay raises make it very difficult to cut costs. Twenty supplemental requests for additional positions, equipment, etc., does not look favorable.

   (2) The 45th recruit class graduated and were assigned on February 5, 2018.
(3) Ten members are attending the Mobile Intensive Care Technician course on Oahu. They are performing the first portion of clinical and internship rotations. Graduation is expected in July 2018.

(4) The Mayor designated the joint fire and police communications center as a high priority. The project is moving forward and expected to be completed in 2020.

(5) Currently, there are 27 vacancies, and the recruitment process is progressing. An agility test is scheduled on March 17, 2018, followed by interviews. The targeted hiring date is June 1, 2018.

(6) Four fire stations were not meeting the minimum staffing requirements per the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1720.

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to support Battalion Chief (BC) Robert Perreira’s attendance to the Vision 20/20 Conference in Reston, Virginia on April 9-11, 2018, and have the SFC provide financial travel assistance. The motion passed.

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

2. Member Murray

a. Grants

(1) An AFG FY15 grant in the amount of $518,608 for SCBA and training has been completed.

(2) An AFG FY17 grant in the amount of $30,000 for 304 flash hoods is pending.

(3) A Department of Transportation FY18 grant in the amount of $17,344 will be used to purchase rescue equipment.

(4) The National Development Research Institute’s grant in the amount of $40,000 to be used for a peer fitness program and to purchase rescue equipment is pending county approval.
b. County Issues

(1) The MFD is awaiting an audit to justify its present situation due to non approval of past budget requests.

(2) The MFD submitted a supplement budget in the amount of $579,000 for additional SCBAs.

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to recess the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

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

The meeting reconvened at 1:45 pm.

3. Vice Chair Westerman

a. Grants

(1) The KFD applied for a FY18 Homeland Security Grant (HS) for radio replacements and drones.

(2) The FY17 AFG Prevention grant for smoke alarms and brochures was approved for two years instead of two one-year grants.

(3) The FY17 CDBG grant was used to complete reroofing, solar photovoltaic, and ceiling installations for the Kalaheo Fire Station.

(4) Friends of the KFD partnered with the Hawaii Medical Service Association Foundation and provided $30,000 to fund and distribute cardiopulmonary resuscitation manikins to Kauai public schools.

b. County Issues

The KFD submitted a status quo budget with no new equipment and moved the request for helicopter blades to the current budget.
4. Chair Neves

a. Grants

(1) All FY15 grants were completed.

(2) For FY16, $10,000 of $76,000 remains for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives (CBRNE) training; $10,000 of $38,000 remains for rescue training from a HS grant; and $240,000 of $369,606 remains for a rescue fireboat from a Port Security Grant Program.

(3) For FY17, $23,000 of $170,000 remains for rescue equipment and $15,000 of $200,000 remains for a rehab trailer both of which are from Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant for $70,000 and hardening for the Waikiki Fire Station for $105,000 from a Hazard Mitigation Grant are pending approval.

(4) For FY18, an AFG grant in the amount of $405,000 for personal protective equipment dryers; an HS grant in the amount of $253,000 for rescue equipment and training; an CBRNE grant in the amount of $170,000 for equipment and training from a Local Emergency Planning Committee grant; and an HS grant in the amount of $170,000 for mass casualty incident equipment training are pending approval.

b. County Issues

(1) There were approximately 90 retirees, including five BCs and 35 Fire Captains and approximately 140 vacancies this past year.

(2) Projected promotions will include five BCs, 50 Captains, and 50-60 Fire Fighter III.

(3) The 103rd Fire Fighter Recruit class will be graduating on March 16, 2018. The class of 51 was reduced to 46.

(4) The HFD will be obtaining its third helicopter. Currently, there are three primary pilots and two backups.

(5) Replacement of the Hauula Fire Station has commenced.
B. SFC Update

1. Status of the County Fire Codes

   Honolulu: Effective November 19, 2015
   Kauai: Effective May 9, 2016
   Maui: Effective July 1, 2015

   Hawaii: Under review by the Mayor’s office

2. State Building Code Council (SBCC)

   a. Amendments for the structural and nonstructural revisions for the 2012
      International Building (IBC) and Residential Codes (IRC) were approved by
      the SBCC. The sprinkler requirement for one- and two-family dwellings in
      the IRC was removed with no additional requirements.

   b. The 2017 National Electrical Code was approved by the SBCC without any
      amendments. It will proceed to the Small Business Regulatory Review
      Board (SBRRB) for a hearing.

   c. An amendment proposal to the Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) 2012 Edition
      that would remove an amendment to use the International Plumbing Code
      2012 Edition as an alternative code was deferred until the SBCC reviews
      the State DAG’s opinion. The SBCC met in executive session to discuss
      the public release of the DAG’s opinion. There are two opposing sides to
      this issue, and the SBCC will make a decision in the near future.

   d. The Investigative Committee for the State Plumbing Code is reviewing the
      changes from the UPC 2006 and 2018 Editions.

   e. Training for the International Energy Conservation Code 2015 Edition will
      begin in each county on April 23, 2018.

   f. The American Institute of Architects Hawaii Chapter and the Structural
      Engineers Association of Hawaii have started their review of the IBC/IRC
      2018 Editions.

   g. The SFC continues its support of the SBCC by attending monthly meetings,
      providing draft agenda/minutes, advising on producing uniform statewide
      building code amendments for county adoption, and creating ad rules for
      the state fire code.
3. Statewide Training and Education

FY 2018 Two-Day Off-Campus Classes

One class was delivered and one class was cancelled for Honolulu. Seven additional classes are scheduled.

4. Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Program

a. An RIPC Administrative Rules draft continues to be reviewed by the DAG. This latest draft includes possible penalties and the process following a failed independent RIPC test.

b. In April 2017, the SFC notified the ITG Brand’s manufacturer that Maverick Menthol 100s failed an independent test conducted by Essentra Scientific Services (ESS). Additional Maverick Menthol 100s were purchased, sent for testing, and passed. In October 2017, a second Maverick Menthol 100s sample failed. Both tests revealed that a certain numbered machine had the failed cigarette brand. The manufacturer was directed to remove cigarettes in Hawaii that were produced from the suspect machine and verify that the paper used was standard compliant within 30 days. Follow-up inspections are scheduled to be conducted to ensure compliance.

c. In August 2017, the RIPC Specialist visited the Massachusetts (MA) Fire Marshal to review the administration and enforcement of the RIPC Program. MSR Labs, which conducts independent testing for the MA Fire Marshal, was toured and the testing process was observed. There was a visit to the Phillip Morris (PM) cigarette manufacturing plant in Virginia. Testing protocols were reviewed at Enthalpy Analytical Inc., which is one of the laboratories that test for Hawaii. Personnel at MSR Labs suspect Enthalpy Analytical Inc. periodically conducts some overflow testing for PM. During a visit to the PM manufacturing facility, it was discovered that ESS provides PM with cigarette filters for their cigarettes. As a result, a new RIPC test bid will be requested in 2018 with the stipulation that any lab bidding must verify they have no business relation with any cigarette manufacturer.
Table 2. Expenses-Tested/Cost-Fees Collected (FY2010-FY2017)

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5. SFC Fire Prevention Committee (FPC)

The FPC met on September 11-12, 2017, and completed its review and amendments to the 2015 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1 Fire Code. SFC staff updated and returned it to the committee for a final review/comment. The final draft was resent to the committee for discussion with their respective Fire Chiefs before approving and commencing the administrative rule process.
6. Fire Protection Systems Administrative Rules

The DAG completed the initial review, and revisions were incorporated. A hearing with the SBRRB was held on October 18, 2017. SFC staff explained the advantages of the new system to ensure individuals who are performing maintenance of life safety appliances and systems are qualified and the added costs for third-party certifications to individuals. The SBRRB unanimously recommended to move the rules to public hearing. Two weeks later, a current systems tester submitted testimony protesting the added costs for certifications and licensing.

7. Legislative Update

The SFC 2018 Legislative Bill proposals include medical benefits for fire fighters diagnosed with cancer; revision to the RIPC statute for SFC staff; a fire sprinkler tax credit; three fireworks bills; and a resolution to create a task force to study the costs of installing residential sprinklers in new one- and two-family dwellings.

C. Conferences and Meetings

1. NFPA 2018 Conference and Expo on June 11-14, 2018, at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada

2. International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire-Rescue International Conference on August 8-11, 2018, in Dallas, Texas

3. Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association 40th Annual Conference on November 14-18, 2018, at the Grand Hyatt Resort and Spa in Koloa, Kauai

4. 2018 NFPA Fire Marshal’s Forum

Steven Sawyer from the NFPA will be sending invitations to the State Fire Marshal’s Forum and the Vision 20/20 Conference.

IV. Adjournment

Motion: Member Murray motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 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
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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017-2018 THIRD QUARTER MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: February 23, 2018
Time of Meeting: 8:30 a.m.
Place of Meeting: Mayor Harry Kim’s West Hawaii Office
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway
Building C, Second Floor
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740

Present:

Manuel P. Neves SFC Chair
Fire Chief, Honolulu Fire Department

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 (HCFD)

Lloyd Rogers SFC Administrative Specialist
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Adam Rosenberg Deputy Attorney General
State of Hawaii (State), Department of the Attorney General

David Yamamoto Battalion Chief, HCFD

Clinton Baybayan Fire Captain, HCFD

Kyle Vares Fire Inspector, HCFD

Jai Ho Cheng Deputy Building Chief, Hawaii County Department of Public Works (DPW)

Neil Erickson Plans Examining Manager, Hawaii County, DPW

Troy Samura Hawaii County, Department of Water Supply

I. Introduction

Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 8:54 a.m., and an introduction of attendees followed.

II. Unfinished Business

Motion: Member Murray motioned to move agenda item E. Meeting Hawaii County Building and Water Officials to the beginning of the meeting. The motion passed.

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

A. Meeting Hawaii County Building and Water Officials

Participants reviewed the manufacturer’s specification information on sprinkler heads and water meters. Specifically, the 5/8” water meter, which is the standard water meter on the neighbor islands, can be used to adequately supply a residential sprinkler system when it is used with eight gallons per minute sprinkler heads that are spaced 12 feet apart. There was a discussion on the
State law prohibiting counties from requiring sprinklers in new one- and two-family dwellings, except in cases of inadequate water supply or road access. Other issues discussed were backflow devices, dual domestic/sprinkler systems, water catchment systems, costs, and occupant safety.

B. SFC Administrator

Members discussed a bill to use funds from the Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) program to support the SFC and its programs. Different SFC staff positions, pay rates, and the reestablishment of the state fire marshal's office were also discussed. SFC staff will provide updates if funding becomes available.

C. Discussion of the 2018 Legislative Bills

Members reviewed the progress of the 2018 bills, which included RIPC funding, worker's compensation benefits for fire fighters, fireworks, a residential sprinkler income tax credit, and a resolution to create a task force to study the costs of a sprinkler system.

D. SFC Grant Working Group

County fire department grant contact information was distributed after the SFC's meeting on December 7, 2017, so grant information could be shared.

E. SFC Statewide Programs

Update on Proposed Administrative Rules for Licensing Individuals to Conduct Inspection, Maintenance, and Testing of Fire Extinguishers, Fire Protection Systems, and Fire Alarm Systems

Members discussed the progress of the rule's adoption, which includes a future Small Business Regulatory Review Board (SBRRB) meeting review, the public hearing, an SBRRB meeting after the public hearing, and the Governor's approval.

F. Next Quarterly Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Maui. Members will be contacted on future meeting dates.
III. Adjournment

Motion: Member Westerman motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:27 a.m. The motion passed.

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

MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair