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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2024-2025 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Date and Time: March 24, 2025, 7:50 a.m.

Place: Meeting held in person and via audioconferencing pursuant to HRS § 92-3.7. Remote meeting by interactive conference technology; notice; quorum. Effective: January 1, 2022

Present:

Kazuo Todd	SFC Chair and Fire Chief of the Hawaii County Fire Department (HCFD), Hawaii County
Sheldon Hao	SFC Vice Chair and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)
Bradford Ventura	SFC Member and Fire Chief of the Maui Department of Fire and Public Safety (MFD), Maui County
Michael Gibson	SFC Member and Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD), Kauai County
Martinez Jacobs	SFC Member and Airports Fire Chief Airports Division, Transportation Department (ARFF) State of Hawaii
Michael Walker	SFC Member and Fire Protection Forester Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) State of Hawaii
Gary Lum	SFC Administrative Specialist III (AS)
Carol Suzuki	Secretary

SFC FY 2024-2025 Special Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2025
Page 2 of 3

Absent:

Hiroyuki Takei	Deputy Attorney General (AG) Department of the Attorney General, State of Hawaii
Socrates Bratakos	SFC Administrative Specialist II
Michael O'Sullivan	Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Administrator

Guests:

KHON	just recording
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I. Introduction

A. Call to Order at 7:55 a.m.

B. Introduction of Attendees and Public Comments

Attendees introduced themselves; there were no public comments.

C. Approval of the Agenda

Motion: To approve the March 24, 2025 meeting agenda.

All members present voted in favor of accepting the agenda as presented.
The motion was carried.

II. Old Business

State Fire Marshal (SFM) appointment. The SFC discussed conducting an executive session to consider the qualifications and evaluations of individual applicants for employment, where discussion of their personal information and assessment may affect their privacy. Section 92-5(a)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) allows a board to hold an executive session "[t]o consider the hire, evaluation ... of an officer or employee..., where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved; provided that if the individual concerned requests an open meeting, an open meeting shall be held[.]"

Motion: To temporarily adjourn the meeting to move into Executive Session based on Section 92-5(a)(2), HRS.

All members present voted in favor of accepting the motion to temporarily adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried.

Meeting was in recess at 7:58 a.m., and reconvened at 8:10 a.m.

At 8:58 a.m., the SFC went into executive session to interview first candidate.

Motion: To temporarily adjourn the meeting to move into Executive Session based on Section 92-5(a)(2), HRS

At 12:00 noon, the meeting recessed for a lunch break.

The meeting reconvened at 12:59 p.m. and adjourned into executive session to conduct an interview at 1:00 p.m.

Interviews of the four candidates for the position of State Fire Marshal concluded. The meeting resumed at 3:25 p.m. with the SFC announcing that they have tentatively selected one person for the State Fire Marshal position. Chair Todd was delegated to do research on terms of employment prior to offering the job to the selectee.

Pending the response from the selectee, the State Fire Council will determine at a later meeting if a second interview session is needed.

III. Adjournment

Hearing no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Todd at 3:27 p.m.



KAZUO TODD
Chair