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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018-2019 SECOND QUARTER MINUTES

Date of Meeting: December 6, 2018
Time of Meeting: 9:30 a.m.
Place of Meeting: Honolulu Fire Department (HFD)
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)
David Thyne	SFC Member Fire Chief, Maui Fire Department (MFD)
Darren Rosario	SFC Member Fire Chief, Hawaii Fire Department (HCFD)
Lloyd Rogers	SFC Administrative Specialist
Gary Lum	SFC Administrative Specialist
Adam Rosenberg	Deputy Attorney General State of Hawaii (State), Department of the Attorney General (DAG)
Dr. Elizabeth Char	Medical Director HFD

Gary Honold Regional Director
 National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

I. Introduction

A. Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.

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

C. Approval of the SFC FY 2018-2019 First Quarter Meeting Minutes

Motion: Vice Chair Westerman motioned to approve the SFC FY 2017-2018 First Quarter Meeting Minutes. Member Rosario seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to approve the agenda. Vice Chair Westerman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

II. Old Business

Discussion and Possible Approval of the Proposed SFC Strategic Plan Revisions

Members reviewed and discussed the revised strategic plan. Member Rosario stated there is a yellow mark on page 5 of the Strategic Plan that must to be removed and Member Thyne's signature line must be added.

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to approve the strategic plan as revised. Member Thyne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

III. Unfinished Business and General Orders

A. SFC County/State Issues

1. Report of Member Rosario

a. Grants

- (1) HCFD personnel attended a preconstruction meeting with Kovatch Mobile Equipment regarding its wildland brush truck funded by a FY18 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG).
- (2) The HCFD is submitting an application for a 2019 CDBG grant for a fire ambulance apparatus for the Puna District.
- (3) The HCFD submitted an application for a 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) for automatic compression devices.
- (4) The HCFD is submitting an application for a 2019 AFG Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grant to expand its smoke alarm installation program.

b. County Issues

- (1) The HCFD already used 50% of its FY19 overtime budget due to responses to the Kilauea eruption, brush fires, and tropical storms. Federal reimbursement for these expenses have been inadequate.
- (2) The HCFD submitted its FY20 budget containing a one-percent reduction. The Hawaii County budget meeting will occur next month, and the Finance Department may recommend further reductions. The Hawaii County shortfall projection is \$19 million.

- (3) Currently, there is a pause in the Kilauea eruption activity. We anticipate reopening the Isaac Hale Beach Park with Ocean Safety protection on December 6, 2018.

c. Other Matters

- (1) The HCFD currently has 39 vacancies with 33 in Fire Operations and 6 vacancies in Support Services.
- (2) The HCFD anticipates that four Fire Captains, one Fire Equipment Operator (FEO), and two Fire Emergency Medical Specialist (EMS) IIs will be retiring in December.
- (3) The projected graduation of the HCFD's 46th Fire Fighter Recruit (FFR) training class is May 2019 with 19 personnel.
- (4) The HCFD's 47th FFR training class with 21 personnel is forecasted to start in February 2019.
- (5) The promotional assessments for Battalion Chief (BC), Captain, FEO, and Fire Rescue Specialist were completed. The promotional assessment for the Fire EMS II will be conducted in January.

2. Report of Member Thyne

a. Grants

- (1) The MFD is closing its 2015 AFG grant which funded 75 self-contained breathing apparatus, and its Department of Transportation (DOT) grant, which funded Code 1, Rescue 42, Auto-X Cadre Stabilization equipment.
- (2) The MFD is using a \$40,000 grant from the National Development Research Institute to fund a Peer Fitness Program and equipment from the International Association of Fire Fighters.
- (3) The MFD is using an AFG grant of \$108,000 to fund 18 Rapid Intervention Team packs.

- (4) The MFD was awarded a \$125,000 grant from the Hawaii Tourism Authority to purchase three rescue watercrafts, three all-terrain vehicles, and various rescue equipment.
- (5) The MFD is using its FY 2015 State Homeland Security Grant (SHSG) to fund position-specific training classes for its All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT) and a prescribed burn.
- (6) The MFD will use its FY 2016 SHSG to fund additional AHIMT training.

b. Other Matters

- (1) As of October 31, 2018, 33 percent of the MFD's operating budget has been spent.
- (2) As of December 1, 2018, vacancies in the MFD consist of one BC, three Captains, one Fire Fighter (FF) IV, one FF III, three FF IIs, one Ocean Safety Officer, and one Administrative position.
- (3) New positions in the MFD for FY 2019 are a Building Maintenance Repairer and a Fire Mechanic.
- (4) The MFD will conduct interviews to fill one BC, four Captain, and a Building Maintenance Repairer positions.
- (5) One FF III and one Ocean Safety Officer are scheduled to retire from the MFD at the end of the year.

3. Report of Vice Chair Westerman

a. Grants

- (1) The KFD's FY17 AFG FP&S grant of \$57,296 will be utilized to implement their Blue Card Command program.
- (2) The KFD's FY17 AFG application to fund a water tender was denied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

to the related Hawaii Revised Statutes and Administrative Rules are recommended.

b. NFPA 1 Fire Code, 2018 Edition

Mr. Lum stated that Mr. Honold of the NFPA is working on the State amendments following the meeting of the SFC's Fire Prevention Committee (FPC) in October. Upon completion, Mr. Honold will distribute the amendments to FPC members for their final review. Mr. Rogers stated that the Administrative Rules are needed to adopt the State Fire Code, and June 2019 is the target date for adoption.

2. State Building Code Council (SBCC)

Mr. Rogers stated that the amendments for the structural and nonstructural revisions for the 2012 International Building and Residential Codes were approved by the SBCC. The SBCC is the lead agency who sends the building codes to the counties. The counties then add their permit fees and administrative issues to the building codes. The statute allows county codes to be less strict than the State code. The primary factor in resistance to adopting of the latest building codes is the perception by some stakeholders that adoption will result in increased costs. The State Plumbing and International Energy Conservation Codes will be proceeding with the county adoption process.

3. State Training and Education

Chair Neves stated that the HFD recently completed the operation level of its Active Shooter Management Training Program. The HFD will continue with the next level of the training program in 2019.

4. Reduced Ignition Propensity Cigarette (RIPC) Program

Mr. Rogers reviewed the RIPC Program report filed by Administrative Specialist Earle Kealoha.

5. Fire Protection Systems (FPS) Administrative Rules

Mr. Rogers reviewed recent changes to the Administrative Rules and implementation of the testing and licensing process for personnel

involved in the inspection, testing, and maintenance for FPS in Hawaii. There was a discussion of the payment process at the county level for the FPS Certificate of Fitness (COF). The counties shall not accept cash payments for the applications for the FPS COF.

C. Hawaii Licensing of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)

Dr. Char explained the new Kapiolani Community College curriculum for EMT students. The EMT 110/115 prepares students to take the EMT exam for the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT). The EMT 120/125 prepares students to take the State EMT license exam, which requires additional hours of training compared to the NREMT. Chair Neves described the HFD's efforts to upgrade more of its NREMTs to the State-licensed EMTs and the exploration of a replacement for the HFD's defunct NREMT-State EMT bridge course. Dr. Char described resistance by personnel at the State Department of Health regarding continuing education credit for EMT-licensed FFs who do not actively work on an ambulance.

D. Conferences and Meetings

1. NFPA Annual Conference and Expo on June 17-20, 2019, in San Antonio, Texas

Mr. Honold described some of the educational opportunities the NFPA offers at the conference, including the NFPA's Fire & Life Safety Ecosystem and training on various standards for each county.

Members discussed the NFPA conference.

2. Fire-Rescue International (FRI) Conference on August 7-10, 2019, in Atlanta, Georgia

Vice Chair Westerman will attend the FRI Conference.

3. Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) Conference on March 23-29, 2019, in Reno, Nevada

Member Rosario stated that personnel from the HCFD attended the WUI Conference in the past with assistance from grant funding, but provided negative feedback on this conference.

4. Community Risk Reduction Leadership Conference on March 24-26, 2019, in Reno, Nevada

E. Other Matters

Mr. Rogers stated that SFC members will meet during lunch on December 7, 2018, with State Senate President Ronald Kouch, Senator Clarence Nishihara and their aides to discuss the SFC's 2019 legislative proposals.

IV. Adjournment

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:40 p.m. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye
Vice Chair Westerman - Aye
Member Thyne - Aye



MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

- (3) The KFD's FY16 AFG FP&S grant of \$21,800 was utilized to fund smoke alarms and brochures for 200 households.
- (4) The KFD's FY18 Homeland Security grant will be utilized to fund unmanned aerial vehicles, Blauer hazardous materials suits, and Mining Safety and Appliance G1 Bluetooth communications devices.

b. County Issues

- (1) There will be ten estimated vacancies in the KFD beginning January 1, 2019.
- (2) Vice Chair Westerman explained that a significant issue encountered by the KFD is a majority of its FFs do not have sufficient tenure in the department to be eligible for temporary assignment to a higher rank.

4. Report of Chair Neves

a. Grants

- (1) Chair Neves reviewed the information contained in the HFD Grant Report that was distributed to SFC members.
- (2) The HFD is using grant funds from the DOT to purchase battery-powered extrication tools which provide increased efficiency and mobility in comparison to traditional pneumatic-powered tools.
- (3) The HFD is using grant funds from the Urban Area Security Initiative to procure a fuel management system pilot. The proposed system will substantially improve efficiencies in comparison to the current methods which involve a manual audit of fuel slips by clerical staff.

b. County Issues

- (1) The HFD anticipates 30-50 uniformed personnel to retire by the end of 2018, resulting in 80 estimated vacancies at the beginning of 2019. Forty-five FFRs recently graduated and

- were assigned to their stations. Twenty-eight FFRs will graduate in May.
- (2) The HFD is collaborating with the Honolulu Community College Fire Science Program to develop the FFR II curriculum. The HFD intends to shorten the duration of training of new FFRs by implementing this program, thereby accelerating the close of vacant positions.
 - (3) The HFD's proposed FY 2020 operating budget is estimated at \$135,000,000. For facilities and equipment, the FY 2020 budget proposal is approximately \$9,000,000.
 - (4) The HFD's third helicopter has been approved for flight operations. The fourth helicopter is on the mainland while being refurbished.
 - (5) The HFD will soon add a third rescue company to its operations.
 - (6) The HFD received 46 new apparatuses over a five-year span. There are currently 27 new vehicles on order.

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to recess the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The motion passed.

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

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

B. SFC Update

1. Status of the State Fire Code

a. NFPA 1 Fire Code, 2015 Edition

Mr. Rogers stated that the State amendments to the NFPA 1 Fire Code, 2015 edition are still with the DAG. Feedback from the DAG indicates the State amendments require consolidation, and changes