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

Date of Meeting: June 26, 2019

Time of Meeting: 8:30 a.m.

Place of Meeting: Department of Fire and Public Safety
County of Maui (MFD)
Fire Prevention Bureau
313 Manea Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Present:

Manuel P. Neves	SFC Chair Fire Chief, Honolulu Fire Department
David Thyne	SFC Member Fire Chief, MFD
Darren Rosario	SFC Member Fire Chief, Hawaii County Fire Department
Kilipaki Vaughan	Deputy Fire Chief, Kauai Fire Department
Brad Ventura	Deputy Fire Chief, MFD
Valeriano Martin	Assistant Chief, MFD
Paul Haake	Captain, MFD
Oliver Vaas	Lieutenant, MFD
Lloyd Rogers	SFC Administrative Specialist
Adam Rosenberg	Deputy Attorney General State of Hawaii, Department of the Attorney General

Jarvis Chun	Supervising Building Plans Examiner Maui Department of Public Works (DPW)
Gary Honold	Regional Director National Fire Protection Association
Tasha Kama	Member, Maui County City Council
Jase Miyabuchi	Civil Engineer, Maui Department of Water Supply (MWS)
Junior Tanaka	Supervising Plumbing Inspector, DPW
Wendy Taomoto	Engineering Program Manager, MWS
Glen Ueno	Administrator, DPW
Tammy Yeh	Civil Engineer, MWS

A. Introduction of Attendees

II. New Business

Meeting with Maui County Building/Water Officials

A. Discussion on Residential Fire Sprinklers

Members discussed residential fire sprinklers in new one- and two-family dwellings with Maui building and water officials. The points covered were the manufacturer specifications of a 5/8-inch meter that could be used together with 8 gallons per minute sprinkler heads that are spaced 12 feet apart. The MFD reviews and approves plans for residential sprinklers, and all systems must be stamped by a licensed mechanical engineer to ensure design operability. There was no opposition from the MFD or the DWS on the use of the 5/8-inch meter for a residential system. The MFD found that in some instances it would be more economical to have a water storage tank and pump to supply the sprinkler system. There was a discussion on the future possibility of eliminating the mechanical engineer's stamp. This would require the consideration of the State contractor's licensing board. The DPW would require a backflow prevention device for a sprinkler system, but would also require it if the home did not have a sprinkler system.

Ms. Taomoto stated that their department is in the process of modernizing their water infrastructure mapping. They will also review their fee schedule and compare it to the other county water fees to determine if revisions may be beneficial to the department and consumers.

B. Discussion of Permit Review Fire Comments

There was no discussion on this item.

III. Unfinished Business

A. Discussion of the 2019 Legislative Bills

Members reviewed the status summary of the 2019 legislative bills introduced or supported by the SFC. Those that passed included bills requiring a fireworks permit for movie, television, and theatrical production; correcting the labeling size for display fireworks; requiring the Legislative Reference Bureau to update the report of the illegal fireworks task force from the year 2011; and specifying the different fire protection systems certifications for individuals who perform maintenance testing. Fireworks bills that did not pass included increasing display fees; limiting the permissible use of consumer fireworks; and requiring shippers to notify the county fire department when fireworks shipments are entering the ports. Other bills that did not pass included clarifying SFC staff positions; allowing the use of reduced ignition propensity cigarette program fees for the SFC to meet its responsibilities; revising the State Building Code Council operations; and eliminating the requirement for the state fire code to adopt administrative rules. Bills that were not adopted were related to residential sprinklers and included repealing the county prohibition to mandate sprinklers in one- and two-family dwellings and allowing a state income tax credit for homeowners who install sprinklers.

A breakdown provided information on the committees that reviewed the bills and the committees that did not have a public hearing, which ended any progress. This provides a planning tool for the next legislative session to plan meetings with committee chairs and finding common ground on fire service issues.

B. SFC Grant Working Group Update

Members were provided an update to the county contact persons.

IV. Next Quarterly Meeting

The next SFC quarterly meeting will be on Kauai on September 19-20, 2019, and confirmed at a later date.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.



MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair