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STATE FIRE COUNCIL (SFC)  
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019-2020 SECOND QUARTER MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: December 12, 2019  
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
Darren Rosario	SFC Member Fire Chief, Hawaii Fire Department (HCFD)
David Thyne	SFC Member Fire Chief, Department of Fire and Public Safety, (MFD) County of Maui
Kilipaki Vaughan	Acting Fire Chief, Kauai Fire Department (KFD)
Jason Samala	Assistant Fire Chief HFD
Lloyd Rogers	SFC Administrative Specialist
Gary Lum	SFC Administrative Specialist
Adam Rosenberg	Deputy Attorney General State of Hawaii (State), Department of the Attorney General

Bill Kuntsman	Assistant to the Director State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR)
Gary Honold	Regional Director National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
Michele Nakata	Supervisor, Medical Cannabis Dispensing and Licensing Program State Department of Health (DOH)
Scott Murakami	Director, DLIR
Keith Ridley	Chief, Office of Health Care Assurance DOH

I. Introduction

- A. Chair Neves called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- B. Chair Neves welcomed everyone, and the introduction of attendees followed.
- C. Approval of the SFC FY 2019-2020 First Quarter Meeting Minutes

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to approve the SFC FY 2019-2020 First Quarter Meeting Minutes. Member Thyne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to approve an amended agenda to add a meeting with the DLIR Director. Member Thyne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Record of Votes: Chair Neves - Aye  
Member Rosario - Aye  
Member Thyne – Aye

## II. Unfinished Business and General Orders

### SFC County/State Issues

#### A. Report of Chief Vaughan, KFD

##### 1. Grants

- a. The KFD declined the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant for \$3.2 million for 12 new fire fighter positions for the Hanalei Fire Station.
- b. The KFD accepted the award for an initial attack minirescue pumper for the Hanalei Fire Station worth \$289,000 and \$22,000 for vehicle extrication training through the Assistance to Firefighter Grant (AFG). They were also awarded \$750,000 for planning a joint training facility through a Homeland Security Grant.
- c. The KFD has applied for a Community Development Block Grant for an initial attack minirescue pumper.
- d. The Friends of KFD partnered with donors from the Enterprise Foundation, the AT&T Foundation, the Hawaii Medical Service Association, Grove Farm, and Dr. You to support the following:
  1. Formalized Junior Fire Fighter Program in partnership with the State Aircraft and Rescue Fire Fighting
  2. Peer support training
  3. Kauai High Utilizer Group Program
  4. Fall Prevention Program
  5. Planning study for a joint training facility

##### 2. County Issues

- a. A special Kauai Fire Commission meeting will be held on December 12, 2019, to appoint an Interim Fire Chief.

- b. The KFD purchased a new engine for the Waimea Fire Station, a minirescue pumper for the Hanalei Fire Station, and a new truck for the Kapaa Fire Station.
- c. The operating budget for FY 2020 will be \$34.3 million.
- d. The KFD completed training with the Emergency Management Agency in Blue Card Command and Control, hose-handling techniques, emergency medical services functions in the Incident Command System, complex coordinated terrorist attack, and NFPA standards.
- e. Community risk reduction efforts include the Junior Fire Fighter Program at Kilauea and Kanuikapono Schools, the Sparky Fire Safety Education Trailer beginning in January 2020, the Fall Prevention Program, and the Waimea High School Health Clinic Academy.

### III. New Business

#### A. Presentation by the State DOH on Laws Regarding the Medical Use of Cannabis in Hawaii

Information and requirements concerning the Office of Medical Cannabis Control and Regulation were discussed. The DOH provided a Powerpoint presentation of Hawaii's medical use of cannabis laws, the patient registry, and the dispensary licensing systems. Their mission is to ensure safe access to medical cannabis for qualified patients, safe products, and public safety. The law has two sections, patient registry and dispensary licensing. To register, the patient completes an application, obtains a physician or advanced practice registered nurse certification of the medical condition, upon which the DOH reviews, determines approval, and e-mails a link to an e-card. The average patient age is 51, with 60% being male and 40% being female. Severe pain is the most common of the several qualifying debilitating conditions. There are eight licensed dispensaries in the State. Cannabis products are available in different forms, but are not allowed to be added to food, beverages, or cosmetics. It also undergoes strict quality assurance testing. Different processes for extraction include solvent-free, supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>, alcohol, and hydrocarbon. Some public concerns are over-intoxications, impaired driving, and at-risk and vulnerable populations.

II. Unfinished Business and General Orders (continued)

B. Report of Member Thyne, MFD

1. Grants

- a. The MFD was awarded \$80,000 for wildland equipment from the Hawaii Professional Fire Fighters Foundation.

2. County Issues

- a. The MFD has 15 vacancies, including an Assistant Chief, one Battalion Chief, one Fire Captain, one Fire Fighter (FF), two in Ocean Safety, and four in support services.
- b. Eighteen FFs and ten State FFs will graduate on December 27, 2019. Two trainees were dismissed before completion. The FF trainee agility test is scheduled on January 18, 2020. The aerial ladder climb was replaced with a pipe crawl.
- c. The FY 2020 operating budget includes contracts and procurements for a breathing air station, a utility vehicle, two engines, a rescue watercraft, a sedan, an all-terrain and a utility vehicle. The FY 2021 operating budget has been forwarded to the Mayor for review.
- d. The MFD is beginning the proposal to reorganize the administrative and support staff, which includes a review of all position descriptions.

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to recess the meeting at 12 p.m. The motion passed.

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

The meeting reconvened at 1:20 p.m.

III. New Business (continued)

B. Meeting with DLIR Director Scott Murakami

Members discussed various SFC responsibilities, which include adopting a state fire code, administering federal fire-related training grants, and enforcing the reduced ignition propensity cigarette program. The SFC also introduces and supports legislative bills that promote fire prevention and life safety for our state. Members reviewed the upcoming 2020 bill proposals and requested the Director's comments and support.

II. Unfinished Business and General Orders (continued)

C. Vice Chair Rosario, HCFD

1. Grants

- a. The 2019 AFG for automatic compression devices and the 2019 AFG Fire Prevention and Safety grant were not approved.
- b. The HCFD was awarded A U.S. Department of Agriculture Wildland Grant for a matching \$50,000 for equipment and training.

2. County Issues

- a. The HCFD's FY 2020 overtime budget is being funded quarterly and utilizes salary and wages not covered by the quarterly allotment.
- b. The HCFD submitted the same FY 2020 budget for FY 2021.
- c. Work on reestablishing Highway 132 from Pahoia to Kapoho was completed.
- d. Managing Director Wil Okabe resigned and was replaced by Roy Takemoto.

3. Other Matters

- a. The 47<sup>th</sup> recruit class completed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training with graduation scheduled on February 2, 2020. The 48<sup>th</sup> recruit class is continuing with FF training with EMT slated to start on January 17, 2020.

- b. Recruitment is ongoing for the 49<sup>th</sup> recruit class to fill vacancies in January 2020. The HCFD will have 17 candidates and State Crash will include three candidates.
- c. The comparison between the NFPA and the International Fire Codes resulted in a recommendation to continue to use the NFPA as the state fire code.

D. Report of Chair Neves, HFD

1. Grants

Chair Neves reviewed the information contained in the HFD grant report that was distributed to SFC members. The HFD grant funded program for FY 2015-2019 was updated on December 11, 2019, is attached.

2. County Issues

- a. The HFD held training for Hazardous Materials Technician, incident management, and EMT refresher.
- b. The Joint Traffic Management Center will begin operations in early 2020.
- c. The HFD is preparing its FY 2021 budget which will be the same as FY 2020, except for collective bargaining agreement increases.
- d. The HFD completed the Strategic Plan for its reaccreditation with two more documents remaining before the site visit by the peer assessment team scheduled for April 2020.
- e. Forty-four Fire Fighter Recruits (FFR) from the 106<sup>th</sup> FFR Class are scheduled to graduate in January 2020. Seven FFRs started the 107<sup>th</sup> FFR Class on December 9, 2019.
- f. The HFD has 43 vacancies or three percent of its total manpower.
- g. The third rescue company is scheduled to start in January 2020 at the Aikahi Fire Station.

3. Other Matters

The HFD implemented several radio, television, and youtube public service announcements. Chair Neves started a weekly session on KSSK radio.

III. New Business

Chief Vaughan suggested that the SFC request the Hawaii Insurance Bureau to allow each county to access the Public Protection Classification risk ratings to better able to plan for fire operations and community risk reduction efforts. It could be a partnership with the insurance industry to provide better safety for the community. Members agreed, and the SFC staff will investigate and report at the next meeting.

IV. Adjournment

Motion: Member Rosario motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Member Thyne seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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



MANUEL P. NEVES  
Chair