

HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
July 11, 2007

Budget

- FY 2007/08 Budget: (Disseminate copies of FY07/08 budget to Commissioners. Attached).

Alternative Funding and Grants

- FEMA FY 2005 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Plymo-Vent) System will be 100% completed and fully functional by July 13. FF Neil Yoshioka working on grant report submittal requirements.
- FEMA FY 2004 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Burn Trailer) No new developments. (Still awaiting MOU from State Department of Transportation to relocate trailer to former airport site.)
- FEMA FY 2006 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: Status quo. (No word yet on our grant proposal for fire safety & education trailer. Submitted in January; if successful, will work with committee on implementation.)
- FEMA FY 2007 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: Status quo. (Submitted our grant application on May 3rd for video teleconferencing equipment. Grant total request is for \$327,600 to purchase VTS equipment for 15 of our 20 fire stations (5 stations do not have basic technical capability to accommodate VTS), Training, Dispatch, and Administration.)
- State Department of Transportation Highway Safety Grant: Status quo. (Submitted grant proposal to acquire three electronic message boards. Total grant application \$29,500. Notification to be made in August or September.)

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Design consultant is awaiting response from State DOT regarding off-site highway requirements for the access road to the fire station. This has held up the design of the fire station.
- Pahoa Fire Station: Construction continuing.
- Fire Administration & Support Facility: Design contract is being routed for execution. Design consultant should be on board soon to begin the planning and design of the complex.
- Central Fire Station: It is now being requested that a full Environmental Assessment needs to be conducted. We have recently received approval from the Mayor's office to proceed.

- Central Fire Station Retrofit Project: Construction is behind schedule. According to Daren Kodani, several drain fixtures were found on the main roof that required additional consultation with the County. Project is proceeding as weather permits.
- Captain Cook: The design contract has been executed with Durrant Media 5 who has been selected for the design of the apparatus bay as well as ADA compliance issues for Captain Cook station. Met with consultant on June 28, 2007 for preliminary discussions on the design of the apparatus bay.
- Paauilo Volunteer Station: It has been discussed that the volunteer fire station portion of this project may be put on hold. Discussion will be held with DPW for alternative housing of our volunteer apparatus at their new facility.

Promotions and Hiring

Active recruits include:

Open-Competitive Recruitment

- 36th FF Recruit class slated to begin on July 16, 2007. Total of 17 recruits to be hired.
- FF Recruit Open Recruitment: Recruitment closed with Department of Human Resources on June 26, 2007.
- Fire Radio Dispatcher I: Received certification list.

Internal Recruitment

- Battalion Chiefs (Emergency Operations and Special Operations): Aaron Arbles and Clint Coloma promoted effective June 16, 2007.

Emergency Operations Division

- Brush Fires:
 - Waikoloa brush fire: July 1, 2007.
 - Saddle Road (By West Hawaii Concrete): June 14, 2007

- Hazard Mitigation Project:

Hazard and risk assessment

- Perform daily assessments and monitor drought conditions and community activities that may increase potential for wildfires.
- Monitor fireworks sales and use in those communities at risk.

Information Dissemination:

- Warning signage
- Message boards
- Media outreach (Living in Paradise, Mynah Bird, newspaper ads, radio spots)

Public Education

- Flyer to attach to fireworks permits and for consumers of all fireworks.
- Posters for vendor sites.
- Community outreach through on site interaction at specific locations in communities.
- Monitor and enforcement by police and fire

Response and Mitigation

- Fire, CD, PW, State DOT, DOCARE, DOFAW, NPS, PTA met to discuss planned standby of personnel and equipment for weekend and through holiday.
- Fire to maintain optimum staffing in extreme areas from June 29 to July 5.
- Police to identify staffing allocation in extreme areas.

- AC Murasaki and Battalion Chiefs attended Plans Section Chief/ICS Plans Workshop sponsored by DLNR on June 18 to 22, 2007 at KMC.

Support Services Division

Auxiliary Services Bureau: Communications Section

- Fire Radio Dispatch supervisors attended How to Conduct an Interview training with Gabriella Cabanas of Human Resources.

Warehouse Section: No report

Maintenance Shop Section: No report

New Apparatus: John Deere Gator in service

EMS Bureau:

Battalion Chief Ralph Yawata on board as EMS1 from July 18. Met with Hilo Medical Center and Ka'u Hospital staff to develop contingency plan for new restocking procedure to begin in August 07

Inspection Bureau:

No Report

Training Bureau:

Operations Section

Recruit Training:

34th Recruit Class- 13 of 15 recruits currently enrolled in Haz Mat Tech class from June 18-29, 2007. The other 2 recruits could not attend due to prior commitments.

35th Recruit Class- Currently enrolled in EMT-B didactic training at EMS Center. One recruit already EMT State certified and still assigned to Central Fire Station for duration of EMT training.

36th Recruit class- Orientation held on June 15, personnel processing, PPE sizing, SCBA fit testing, and ID picture taking done in afternoon. Family orientation commenced that evening. Recruit class scheduled to begin on July 16, 2007 with 17 recruits currently enrolled.

37th Recruit Class- COMPASS and interviews being scheduled. Tentative starting date is some time in December 2007 or January 2008.

On-Line Training:

- Haz Mat Tech. Training-Chemistry of Haz Mat Materials held from June 18-29, 2007. Haz Mat Tech. Training-Haz Mat Tactics and Strategies scheduled for July 16-27, 2007.
- Fire Instructor I class held from June 25-29. Fire Instructor II class scheduled for July 9-13.
- Hawaii Petroleum Fire Protection Course scheduled for July 9-13 at Honolulu Fire Department training center.

Volunteer Section

West Hawaii

Captain Henry DeSa to be in charge of West Hawai'i Volunteers effective July 02, 07

- Trained 10 Companies, 96 personnel
- Training included: ERG Training, CPR/AED, Electrical Safety, Flotation Pump Drill
- Pu'uanahulu Station transferred to Hawai'i Fire Department

East Hawaii

- Trained 14 Companies, 80 personnel
- Training included CPR/AED, ERG, Electrical Safety
- Other: Met with Mr. T. Galimba regarding start up of Ainaloa Volunteers.

Report by Tom Brandt.

New Projects/Business

- Explorer Program: Pilot program began June 30. Fourteen students, including one female, from our local high schools applied and have been selected to participate in this program. The program will be every Saturday for 6 consecutive weeks of training and educating the students in basic firefighting skills and knowledge. This program is sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America and all instructors will be volunteering their time to assist in this pilot program. Wal-Mart Hilo awarded us a \$500 grant in support of program.
- Ocean Safety Integration

Employee/Public Relations

- 5th Annual Employees & Awards Dinner: Invitations went out for dinner, which will be held on Friday, August 17 at Hilo Meishoin.
- EMS Week: \$4,500 to be donated to the Easter Seals of Hawaii Early Intervention Program as proceeds from our 7th Annual event.
- Hawaii Island United Way: 2007 campaign set to kickoff with the Fire Department a pacesetter company.