

HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
January 9, 2008

Budget

- FY 2007/08 Budget: Met with Finance Department of January 7 to review our budget submittal. Receptive while cautious on the County's overall revenue picture and the need to balance needs of all departments. (Distribute supp budget request to Fire Commissioners.)
- In response to Commissioner Kudlo's question at last month's meeting, about Ocean Safety supp budget items totals about 8% of our total supp budget submittal.

Alternative Funding and Grants

- FEMA FY 2004 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Burn Trailer) Still awaiting MOU for signature from DOT.
- 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.)
- FEMA FY 2007 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: Strategic Planning Public Education/Relations committee submitted grant proposal for safety and education trailer (\$103,606).
- Firemans Fund: Received \$18,199 from Firemans Fund Insurance which will be used to purchase training curriculum for FEO and Fire Service Officer, as well as to enhance libraries at all 20 stations and provide selected fire service manuals for volunteer stations.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Continuing to work with the design consultant. We received a list of questions pertaining to site and building design issues from them; reply submitted 12/28. Consultants proceeding with building design schematics and subdivision. A meeting was held between property owner and county rep from planning. Trying to get project squared away as far as their project. Still moving.
- Pahoa Fire Station: Construction continuing throughout month of December. Roof installation nearing completion. Still on target for May 2008.

- Fire Administration & Support Facility: On December 19, 2007, we received the preliminary floor plan schematic for Administration Building for review. (17,900 square feet x \$600 per square foot). Looking at bringing it down to 10,000 to 12,000 sq foot range.
- Central Fire Station: Environmental Assessment continues. DPW is continuing its negotiations for design contract.
- Central Fire Station Retrofit Project: Roof completed but plastering and stucco needs to be completed. Public Works developing punch list to go out to bid. Station is fully operational; no negative effects on service.
- Captain Cook: DPW is preparing the project to go out for construction bid. Project to include ADA Compliance, Hazardous Materials Abatement.
- Keaau: Harry Yada and Bill Takaba met with Bill Walters of Shipman. Harry indicates no progress in those negotiations for the property.
- Honokaa: No meeting scheduled as yet by real property manager and Bishop Estates.

Promotions and Hiring

Open-Competitive Recruitment

- **FF Recruit**: Hired 19 Fire Fighter Recruits effective January 2, 2008 for the 37th Class. However, one has since resigned. Will be introduced at next month's meeting.
- **Ocean Safety**: Will be filling WSO 1 (½ time) position temporarily (not to exceed six months) while incumbent is on TA. Pending interview and selection process.
- **Storekeeper**: We will be conducting interviews and assessment center on January 29 and 30, 2008. Targeted hire date is 3/3/08.

Internal Recruitment

- **Fire Captain**: Assessment center scheduled on March 10 & 11, 2008. Invite Fire Commissioners to participate as observer; will need to commit to entire duration.
- **Fire Apparatus Trainer**: Assessment Center scheduled on 1/30/08.
- **FEO**: Assessment Center scheduled on 1/30/08 for two employees who were deployed when the previous FEO interview and selection process was conducted.

Emergency Operations Division

- Missing Hiker – Brian Murphy

Support Services Division

Auxiliary Services Bureau: **Communication Section:**

- Dispatch Trainees A. Bloomfield and M. Proctor in District Familiarization. Will be introduced at next month's meeting.
- Two failures of the radio system @ FCCC on 12/24 and 12/29. Repaired by Pacific Wireless technicians.

Warehouse:

- New Viking Stove installed at Station 15, 5 and 4
- Distributed new Gear Bags.

Maintenance Shop Section:

- Continue 2 apparatus refurbishment projects
- Apparatus and equipment repair
- Other projects
 - Prebuild conference with Braun for 1 new ambulance held on 12/20/07
- New Equipment
 - Received new shop equipment 12/28/07
 - 4 Portable wireless 16,000 lbs. Lifts
 - 4 16,000 lbs. vehicle support stands, adjustable 48" to 84"
 - 1 Hi-Rise Truck component jack and handling system.
 - 1 15 gallon Oil handler
 - 1 15 gallon Antifreeze handler

EMS Bureau:

- Conducted ePCR update for EMS personnel on future upgrade from EMStat 4 to EMStat 5 – program for electronic ambulance report form.
- BC Yawata met with HFD Medical Director Judith FitzGerald, County of Hawaii Medical Control M.D. Terence Jones, and American Medical Response (AMR)

Hawaii Island Operational Supervisor Karlson Pung to revise present Hawaii Fire Department Patient Transfer Policy & Procedures.

- Attended Hilo Airport table top exercise with other HFD personnel and various agencies including Hilo Medical Center, Dept. of Health, FAA, TSA, Airline Carriers, with State of Hawaii Hilo Airport Fire Department as lead agency.

Inspection Bureau:

- Final counts not yet in, but we sold approximately 1,622 permits this New Years, as compared to 1,786 last year. 12 retailers plus Fire Department sold permits.
- There were 2 fireworks related incidents (no dollar loss) as compared to 11 last year.
- Total alarms for period 12/30/07 to 1/1/08 midnight totaled 274, as compared to 215 last year.

Training Bureau:

Operations Section

Recruit Training:

35th Recruit Class- Assigned to first 24 hour duty station on December 1. National Registry practical exam currently scheduled for January 13, 2008 on Oahu.

36th Recruit class- Completed their driver training. Began EMT on January 7th. Fire Department supplying instructor for class to meet timetable for training.

37th Recruit Class- Reported to Training Bureau on December 15 to process in with personnel department. Cadets were also sized for PPE, SCBA face piece, and had their pictures taken for Recruit ID's. An orientation for cadets and family members commenced later that afternoon at Aupuni Center. Hired January 2, 2008.

Explorer Program:

Second Explorer class held their final demonstration day for their parents on December 1. Those Explorers wishing to continue on to phase 2, ride a-longs on the engine, will submit their interest to the Training Bureau.

Volunteer Section

- Slow month, some companies elected to cancel training due to holidays.
- Report by Noni Sanford.

Other:

- Completed and submitted specifications Fern Acres garage to purchasing.

- Manaolana Gate project derailed due to neighborhood resistance.

New Projects/Business

- Commissioner Pomroy asked at last month's meeting of the percentage of salary increase in the latest HFFA contract. On July 1, 2007, members received a 5% across the board increase. They will also receive 5% salary increases on July 1st of 2008, 2009 and 2010.

Employee/Public Relations

- Station Decorating Contest: commend stations who participated. East Hawaii: 1st Place-Keaau; 2nd Place-Honokaa; 3rd Place-Waiakea. West Hawaii: 1st Place Tie: South Kohala & Kailua.
- American Heart Association Heart Walk: To be held on Saturday, February 9, at 0800 at Liliuokalani Gardens. All Commissioners welcomed to participate. Call Laurie if interested.