

**HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
April 9, 2008**

- Introduction of Thomas Clark, EMS Storekeeper, effective March 3, 2008.
- Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to Lt. Col. Trey Johnson and members of the 93D CST.

Budget

- FY 2008/09 Budget: Presented our budget before the Council on April 1. They were supportive. Thanks to Commissioner Bowles for his testimony.

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: (Video Teleconferencing Equipment) Committee will be working on specifications for bid proposal.
- FEMA FY 2007 Fire Prevention & Safety Grant: Status quo. (Strategic Planning Public Education/Relations committee submitted grant proposal for safety and education trailer (\$103,606).
- FEMA FY 2008 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: Submitted grant proposal for health/wellness program. (\$531,203)
- State Department of Transportation Safe Highways Grant: Grant period has not yet opened; will apply for safety vests.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Optimistic that bid for construction will be by this year. Environmental Assessment was published in the March 8, 2008 issue of The Environmental Notice by the Office of Environmental Quality Control. This notice has a 30-day public comment period (until 4/7/08).
- Pahoa Fire Station: The area for pole relocation has already been pre-graded to match the future condition. Once Helco resolves internal issues and we receive the Utility Agreement, they can proceed any time they're ready. David is still awaiting final review/approval from DOT.
- Fire Administration & Support Facility: On March 8, the Environmental Assessment was published in the March 8, 2008 issue of The Environmental Notice by the Office of Environmental Quality Control. This notice has a 30-day public comment period

(until 4/7/08). We also received the preliminary schematic for the Emergency Dispatch Building. Will schedule meeting to review. Police has been asked to review their section and provide comments. We are trying to stay within the costs of the project.

- Central Fire Station: On 3/8/08, the Environmental Assessment was published in the March 8, 2008 issue of The Environmental Notice by the Office of Environmental Quality Control. This notice has a 30-day public comment period (until 4/7/08). Project is still in design phase.
- Captain Cook: David indicates that he has heard the plans review/approval is in the Planning Department. He is now looking at starting construction in August to September.
- Keaau: No new developments.
- Honokaa: No new developments.

Promotions and Hiring

Open-Competitive Recruitment

Fire Fighter Recruit	South Hilo	COMPASS test scheduled on 4/3 & 4/4/08. Interviews will be conducted from 4/4 - 4/14/08.
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Internal Recruitments

Fire Apparatus Trainer	South Hilo	Filled on 04/01/08.
Fire Equipment Operator (for 2 previously employees)	North Kohala & Ocean View	Promoted on 04/01/08.
Fire Captain	Various locations	10 promotions effective 04/16/08.

Emergency Operations Division

- March 11, 2008 Halemaumau emissions
- Spike in brush fires in Kona area.

Ocean Safety

- Report by Captain John Kapsky

Support Services Division

Maintenance Shop Section:

- Web demo for fleet management software

EMS Bureau:

- Report by BC Yawata.
- EMS Week Poster Contest will be held in conjunction with EMS Week. Information disseminated to all public & private schools grades K to 5. Winning design may be placed on run t-shirts.

Training Bureau:

Operations Section

Recruit Training:

36th Recruit class- Completed their EMT-B didactics and clinicals. Currently commencing with their didactics portion of EMT-I.

37th Recruit Class- Nearing completion of basic Fire Essentials. Preparing for skills and written finals.

38th Recruit Class-COMPASS testing completed; currently commencing with oral interviews.

Explorer Program: As requested by Commissioner Bertsch, the department liaison for West Hawaii for the Explorer Program is Gifford Matsuoka. Third Explorer class started on March 22 with 19 male participants. Classes scheduled every Saturday for six Saturdays.

- Continuing to compile information of where staff is at for ICS training (various levels), as requested by Commissioner Kudlo.

Volunteer Section

- Report by Tom Brandt

New Projects/Business

- Refurbishing Project at Central: For next 3 Saturdays, 4 rotary clubs will be doing community service at Central by refurbishing the dorms and locker room areas.

Employee/Public Relations

- Aloha Exchange Club Fire Fighter of the Year: FF Neil Yoshioka selected based on his involvement with grant writing projects focused on fire fighter safety.
- Merrie Monarch: Participated in the Merrie Monarch parade held on Saturday, April 5.
- EMS Week: Reminder that Family Walk/Run event will be held on Sunday, May 25 at Liliuokalani Park. Invitations should be mailed soon.