

**HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
February 11, 2009**

Budget:

- Gerald Makino: Introduction of Accountant IV Gerald Makino, who will provide a description/explanation of each account as requested by Commissioner Bertsch.
- FY 2009/10 Budget: Submitted our proposed 10% reduction in OCE accounts for FY 2009-10 by identifying some cost savings measures that should not have any impact on operations.

Alternative Funding and Grants:

- FEMA FY 2007 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Video Teleconferencing Equipment) Contracts to Audio Visual Company and Sears have been finalized; will be meeting with all involved parties to ensure the installation process goes smoothly. Received approval on request for three-month grant extension. Goal is to bring everyone on board as infrastructure and funding is in place. As requested by Commissioner Bowles, total award to Video Warehouse for Polycom equipment for 13 fire stations, Dispatch, Training and Fire Admin totaled \$276,097.61. (Copy of breakdown provided to Bowles.)
- FEMA FY 2008 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (health/wellness program, total budget is \$531,203) Peer fitness trainer class held January 26-30, 2009. Waiting on bid award on equipment and medical screening.

Capital Improvement Projects:

Makalei Fire Station:

- January 2009: Awaiting Dedication Deed from GKK Makalei. County attorneys working with attorneys representing GKK Makalei. There are still language details to be worked out by both parties. DPW finishing up with final plans review. Special Use Permit application has been submitted to Planning and is being processed. This project is included in the Federal Economic Stimulus package submitted by the County.

Pahoa Fire Station:

- January 2009: Finish work on this project is continuing with plumbing and some lighting fixtures installed. Windows also have been installed. Working on interior.

Fire Administration & Support Facility:

- January 2009: Continuing design development of plans.

Central Fire Station:

- January 2009: Still awaiting status of disposition from HUD.

Captain Cook:

- January 2009: Work progressing with ADA and hazard abatement. Concrete work on the hose tower retrofit is complete and is being painted. Awnings have been framed and the roofing contractor will be going in to complete the roofing. Painting is completed in the dormitory. Work continues in the bathroom with the fixtures being installed, and painting and tile work yet to be completed as well as increasing the entry door to 3 feet. Recently approved revision to job scope including painting of the kitchen, office and Captain's dorm and excavation and re-paving of the rear driveway/parking area. Costing has already been received and approved for the painting, but awaiting cost estimate for paving.

As requested by Commissioner Bertsch, anticipated completion date of renovations is April 2009.

Promotions and Hiring:

Open-Competitive Recruitment

- **Ocean Safety:** Physical assessment exercise scheduled on March 4, 2009. Will hire 5 temporary positions for summer.

Internal Recruitment

- **Fire Captain:** Applications screened. Awaiting submittal of additional documentation, deadline for this is February 12. Written examination scheduled on March 18, 2009. Assessment will be April 23-24.

Emergency Operations Division

- Upcoming CST HazMat training scheduled in March.
- Meeting with American Forest Management representative – Battalion Chiefs working on plan along with rescue considerations in area from Wainaku to Waipio.
- Tsunami drill held on January 27, 2009.

Ocean Safety

- USLA Classes: Benefit of integration of Ocean Safety—Captains instructing USLA classes.

Support Services Division

EMS Bureau:

- Continuing project to inventory of EMS supplies/medications conducted for various medics (by groups).
- Five MICT Interns completed their KCC curriculum and received their temporary EMTP license.

Auxiliary Services

Communications:

- Received request from Verizon Wireless to partner with Fire Department to share tower at Kapoho.

Warehouse:

- Public Works in Distribution Center to check hanging lights. Lights need to be raised to make room for forklift to load items onto shelving.

Mechanic Shop

- Fleet management project moving forward with vendor formulating the data base for the program. BC officers working closely with the mechanic shop and Laurine on this project.
- Apparatus and equipment repair: 80 total repairs/service; 24 of these repairs were road service calls or trouble calls

Training Bureau:

38th Recruit class:

- Completed Essentials curriculum with chapters 18 (Evidence protection), 19 (Communications), and 20 (Prevention and public education)

37th Recruit class:

- The projected plan to assign the class to 24 hr. shifts is on February 16, 2009.

Volunteer Section

- Volunteer Chief's Meeting: Next meeting on February 21/1000 at Laupahoehoe.
- Report by Tom Brandt.

Prevention

- Fireworks Meeting held with fireworks retailers.
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- Pilot project initiated, re: Business Inspection Surveys.

New Projects/Business

- 2009 State Legislature: Monitoring various legislation, to include fireworks, fire inspection requirements, background screening, and retirement. (Passed out copy

of home rule legislation introduced in House by Rep Faye Hanohano (HB 966) and Senate by Senator Dwight Takamine (SB 1123).

- Visit to warehouse/dispatch following meeting. Chief Gahan will be available to transport Commissioners to/from.
- Replacement Chopper 1: Standardization committee approved request on January 29, 2009.
- Reuse a Shoe Project: Recycling program sponsored by Nike. Partnership with Environmental Management. Campaign targeted for month of April. Fire stations – collection sites.
- HFCA Conference 2009: Hilton Waikoloa Village, November 19-21, 2009.

Employee/Public Relations

- Heart Walk: For American Heart Association. February 14, 2009, 0800, Liliuokalani Gardens.
- Hats Off Campaign: For American Red Cross, March 14, 2009 at KTA Puainako and WalMart-Kona.