

**HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION  
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT  
January 13, 2010**

**Budget:**

- FY 2010/11 Budget: Met with Finance Department on January 8, 2010. County is still facing tight financial situation. Following their meeting with all departments and upon the Mayor's review, the status of our budget will be determined.

**Alternative Funding and Grants:**

- FEMA FY 2007 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (VTC Equipment): Audio Visual will conduct technical training with Data Systems staff during February. System is being utilized with good success rate and proven benefits.
- FEMA FY 2008 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (Health/wellness program): Continues to move forward.
- State Department of Transportation Safe Highways: (25 EZIO units and 20 digital cameras for medic units). Did not receive funding.
- FEMA FY 2009 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: (254 turn out coats and 251 pants. Total grant is \$379,672) No updates. No news is good news.
- FY 2009 Assistance to Fire Fighters Fire Station Construction: (\$4,113,686 award). Public Works preparing documents for bid proposal.
- FY 2010 Community Development Block Grant Program: On January 7, submitted for a replacement fire apparatus for Pahoia (\$600,000) and fire tanker/tender for Pahala (Kau) (\$250,000).

**Capital Improvement Projects:**

- Makalei Fire Station
- Pahoia Fire Station: Formal blessing was held on Saturday, December 12 from 0900 to 1300. Thanks to Commissioners Bowles and Kaiwi for attending.
- Administration & Support Facility: No updates.

- Central Fire Station: No updates.
- Pohoiki Radio Relocation: In progress. No updates.

### **Promotions and Hiring:**

- Open-Competitive Recruitment :

**FF Recruit:** Pre-employment medical screening conducted 1/6 – 1/14/10. We have 19 applicants/candidates. Targeted hire date is March 16, 2010.

#### Internal Recruitments:

**Fire Captain** (Emergency Operations & Training Bureau): Internal recruitment closed 12/28/09. Currently in application screening phase. Targeted hire date is 04/16/10.

**Fire Equipment Operator:** Internal recruitment closed 12/28/09. Currently in application screening phase. Targeted hire date is 04/16/10.

### **Emergency Operations**

- Hokukano and Kealakekua Ranch Fires began. Initial efforts were made to establish breaks around perimeter of fire. Extinguishment efforts still being made. Thank you to Commissioner Rosehill for letter expressing challenges with fire.
- Lifeguard Tower Replacement schedule moving forward. Building permits acquired. Special Operations BC scheduling construction dates for new towers.
- Ocean Safety division working on providing community of Ka'u with training to meet the minimum specifications for application process for Water Safety Officer I positions. Punalu'u Water Safety Officer II positions approved. Goal is to have interested Ka'u residents eventually work up to a Water Safety Officer II level and be able to work in their own community.
- Met with US Coast Guard Sector Commander Captain Barry Compagnoni. Briefing on working together in January or February to discuss the MOU between Hawaii Fire Department and the USCG.

#### Ocean Safety

- Report by Captain John Kapsky.

### **Support Services Division**

#### **EMS Bureau:**

- AC Yawata attended quarterly Motor Vehicle Crash Reduction Group (MVCRG) meeting on December 1, 2009 in Waimea.
- Conducted quarterly QA meeting at Kohala Hospital on December 2, 2009 with representatives from HFD, AMR, Kohala Hospital administrative staff members and Dr. Terrence Jones.
- Five candidates started MICT Training on January 11, 2010.
- Began voluntary vaccination of the annual Influenza vaccine of Fire Department personnel on December 28, 2009 (civilian staff and volunteers).

### **Auxiliary Services**

#### **Communication:**

- FASO attended meeting at Civil Defense with Dr. Jenifer Headry to review Hawaii County's TIC Plan. Participants at meeting were last year's table top exercise attendees.

#### **Distribution Center**

- Sent out Safety Vests to paid and Volunteer fire fighters. OSHA- safety.

### **Maintenance Shop**

- New Vehicles
  - HFD 499 – Heavy Rescue Truck – Station 7
  - HFD 504 – Heavy Rescue Truck – Station 2

Goal is to afford rescue companies the ability to have all, if not most, equipment available on scene for rescue incidents.

### **Training Bureau:**

#### **38<sup>th</sup> Recruit class:**

- All of the 38<sup>th</sup> FF recruit class met their requirement and were reallocated to the Firefighter step of SR 17.

#### **Other Training:**

- Sent 4 personnel to a confined space rescue class held at the Puna Geothermal Venture facility. Personnel from the Pahoia and Waiakea stations participated.
- The lead instructors for the proposed Rescue Basic Training program has been identified and a course curriculum are currently being developed. We are working out the scheduling of the lead instructors when conducting the class.

## **Volunteer Section**

- Report by Tom Brandt.

## **Prevention**

### New Years Fireworks stats:

- Issued 20 display permits and 1,496 firecracker permits.
- Fireworks related incidents: 27 (14 east, 13 west). No dollar loss or deaths reported.

## **New Projects/Business**

- HFCA Conference: Report on HFCA conference. \$5,000 donation made to NFFF. Thank Commissioners for participation and help. Thanks to Commissioner Bertsch on golf tournament.

## **Employee/Public Relations**

- Hawaii Island United Way: Winners of HIUW campaign are:
  - #1: Fire Admin (12 of 14 or 86% participation)
  - #2: Dispatch (9 of 15 or 60% participation)
  - #3: Captain Cook (9 of 16 or 56% participation)

Total donations \$10,514 from 100 employees.

- Station Decorating Contest: Winners are:
  - Battalion 1: 1-Kaumana; 2- Central; 3-Honokaa
  - Battalion 2: 1-Keauhou; 2-Kailua; 3-Captain CookThanks to Commissioners Bowles and Robinson for participating in judging.
- American Heart Walk – Invite all Commissioners to participate in American Heart Association's 2010 Start! Heart Walk on Saturday, February 20, at Liliuokalani Gardens. Health fair starts at 7:00 a.m.; Walk starts at 8:00 a.m.