

CHIEF'S REPORT (04/13/2016)

I. Budget

- FY 2015/2016
 - Final Bids on BC vehicles
 - CBA increases
- FY 2016/2017
 - Initial Budget Meeting held with Finance Director and Budget Staff

II. Alternative Funding and Grant

- 2014 AFG Operations Grant
 - Driver Training Simulator Project
 - Expected delivery by end of January 2016
- 2014 CDBG
 - Pahala Brush Truck apparatus
 - Apparatus in service effective December 11, 2015
- 2015 CDBG
 - Received notification of awarding of Grant Project
 - Pahoia Brush Truck Apparatus Project
 - Notice to Proceed executed to expected vendor.
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- 2016 CDBG
 - Application submitted for a Wildland Pumper Apparatus with Compressed Air/Foam capabilities for Pahala Fire Station.

III. Human Resources Division

1) Recruitments

Open-competitive recruitments

- Water Safety Officer I – Performance Assessment Exercise is scheduled on April 7, 2016.

Internal within department recruitment

- Fire Prevention Inspector I – Written examination scheduled on March 30, 2016.
- Fire Rescue Specialist – Performance Assessment Exercise scheduled on April 2016. Assessment Center scheduled on April 25, 2016.

2) Administrative Services

- Hawai'i Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF) Open Enrollment will begin on April 1, 2016 and continue through April 29, 2016 for benefit coverage effective July 1, 2016.

IV. Emergency Operations Division

OPERATIONS:

East Hawai'i

- 1) 3/3: INC# 4301, Structure Fire, Kapoho Beach Lots. Fully engulfed single level dwelling 1 resident displaced, received assistance from Red Cross
- 2) 3/7-18: First half of Fire Hazmat Technician training, 12 FF attended
- 3) 3/8-10: 4 personnel attended the Wildland Urban Interface conference in Reno, NV. Attendees, Chief Rosario, AC Andrade, BC Lum, and Capt. Bergin.
- 4) 3/21-25: AHIMT Participating with Maui Fire Dept. prescribe burn training on the island of Maui.
- 5) New Radio Hardware was installed in the four Hilo station for a trial period to work out any issues. So far experiencing no programming issues with the base units.

West Hawai'i

- 1) Incidents:
 - a. 03/02/16 – Brush fire, Lako Street, 25 acres
 - b. 03/06/16 – Brush fire, Hookena, 24 acres
 - c. 03/09/16 – Structure fire, Old Gov. Road
 - d. 03/10/16 – Landfill fire, Pu'uanahulu
 - e. 03/17/16 – Structure fire, Rabbit Hill Road
 - f. 3 small brush fires throughout Battalion 2
- 2) Education/Training/Company Activities:
 - a. 03/01/16 – Big Island Advisory Council Meeting
 - b. 03/23/16 – Lava man event planning meeting

SPECIAL OPERATIONS:

Hazmat:

- 1) There is a CST exercise that will take place on March 28 to April 2. This will include a WMD component in conjunction with the Merrie Monarch and interagency coordination.
- 2) Awaiting the purchase of the Ludlum radiological monitors for our hazmat teams that was funded by the LEPC.
- 3) Four hazmat team personnel applied to attend the Incident Response to Terrorists Bombing (IRTB) class. This class is very beneficial in helping to recognize and respond to potential bombing incidents.
- 4) We will be holding confined space training in April and May and will utilize our hazmat team for air monitoring and support.
- 5) We are holding a CAMEO class in April for our hazmat team personnel. Due to the limited funds in our budget, we will be requesting support from our LEPC.

Rescue:

- 1) The confined Space Rescue class is scheduled to begin in April. We will be hold the classes at the Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut facility with all of the training being there due to the variety of confined spaces.
- 2) There will be a Search and Rescue exercise (SAREX) with the Coast Guard in early April. We will be exercising our inter-agency response and coordination during this exercise.
- 3) We held a gifting ceremony for the Sayre Foundation at the Kailua pier on Saturday, February. This ceremony is a venue to thank all of the donors in the community and to let them see how their donated money is being used

Ocean Safety:

- 1) The Drowning and Aquatic Injury Prevention Advisory Committee (formally known as the Ocean and Water Safety Advisory Committee) held their meeting on March 1, 2016. We are currently addressing ways to curb injuries and drownings for residents and will be creating a local task force to help accomplish this.
- 2) We have one more lifeguard tower that needs replacing. This is on the south end of Kahaluu beach. Industrial Designs, who constructed all of our other surveyor towers was the only bidder and will be providing us with the tower in the near future.
- 3) We will be installing a new PA system on the tower at Kahalu'u beach north tower. This was funded by the Sayre Foundation.
- 4) Our Rescue Water Craft Crewperson training classes will be completed in April. This gives us more flexibility in keeping our RWC more available operationally. We are still deciding how we will be utilizing these "grabbers" with our RWC.

V. Support Services Division

TRAINING:

- 1) Hosted an NFA 2-day off-campus training course – Initial Investigation for First Responders; 26 personnel attended.
- 2) 12 Fire Fighters completed a two week training course, Chemistry for Emergency Response, and is at the halfway point to becoming Hazmat Technicians.
- 3) 44th Fire Fighter Recruit class completed their Essentials of Firefighting skills testing and final exam with a 100% pass rate. Class average score on final exam was 94.64%
- 4) 44th Fire Fighter Recruit class to begin EMT portion of training on March 29, 2016.
- 5) Submitted course selection for 2017 NFA off-campus training courses.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

- 1) Completed online Fire Ground Survival Course.
- 2) Completed First Aid / CPR training with Volunteer Companies.
- 3) Attended County Council meeting recognizing Volunteer Companies within District 1, Valerie Poindexter's District (1A, 17A, 8A) on March 2, 2016.
- 4) Conducted Driver audits for Companies 7B, 11C and 19A.

EMS BUREAU:

- 1) EMS Bureau team continued its support of the "Fight the Bight" campaign with multiple MDT responses to Waipi'o Valley for reports of persons ill. One blood draw was conducted in the field and confirmed by the state lab as "negative" for dengue, assisting with the decision to reopen the valley.
- 2) EMS providers throughout the state met with State EMS Chief MD Bronstein to discuss prioritizing legislative initiatives based on data. Each provider was shown a breakdown of call volume, response times and severity of cases in districts where requests for additional services were made.
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- 4) MICT Students started their 1st rotation internship assignment on Oahu with City and County of Honolulu EMS ambulances, as well as on our M – 1 unit. The Oahu group will do 2 rotation assignments with City and County EMS returning to our department (May 21) for rotations 3 and 4.
- 5) HFD had another cardiac arrest save out in West Hawai'i. TA/FRS S. Watson and M. Judd assigned to R – 7 responded to a Chest Pain call with M – 6. Upon arrival, patient was conscious and talking, complained of dizziness and not feeling well. Soon after their arrival, patient went unconscious and into cardiac arrest. Both Watson and Judd sprung into action initiating High Performance CPR and utilized the AED. Patient was defibrillated once and was conscious and talking prior to the arrival of M – 6. About a week and a half later, the patient stopped by the Kailua Fire Station to thank them for saving his life.

PREVENTION BUREAU:

- 1) The Fire Prevention Bureau conducted 62 inspections.
- 2) The Fire Prevention Bureau reviewed 48 construction plans.
- 3) The Fire Prevention Bureau Investigated 5 fires 3 were brush fires and 2 were structure fires. The arson K9 was used at 3 fires with positive alerts at 1 fire.
- 4) Battalion Chief Perreira attended the Vision 20/20 Symposium in Fairfax, VA the topic was Fire Prevention Programs.
- 5) The Fire Prevention Bureau will be conducting Fire Safety standby at the annual Merrie Monarch Festival.

AUXILLIARY SERVICES:

Dispatch:

- 1) Installed a new recording system for the recording of 911 calls. The new system will be using (8) .5 terabyte hard drives working in parallel to record data as opposed to an old system of 9.6 gb dvds. It is a major upgrade working out to 400x increase in storage and data retention. This new system based on current data use would allow for 46 years of audio recording without changing hard drives. While it is not live yet, we hope to get it through its initial testing and implementation in the near future.
- 2) Fire Radio Dispatcher recruits have moved into the dispatch room phase of their training, and are now shadowing our dispatchers as they work.
- 3) Text to 911 has soft launched and we are monitoring for bugs and other issues.

Maintenance Shop:

- 1) Replacement driveshaft's for Engines 5 & 8 have arrived and are being installed. We are hopeful to see these new engines deployed in April.

Warehouse:

- 1) We have received and inventoried 70% of the new pack radios from pacific wireless. 40% have been deployed. Stations 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 12 and 21 have received and are now using the new radios which will allow us to convert to digital transmissions in October.

VI. New Projects/Business

- Increasing Grant Research and applications due to outlook of FY 16/17 budget.
- Meeting with new State EMS Director to propose EMS Community Based Supervisor position for West Hawaii as well as Basic Life Support Units to augment our Advanced Life Support Units.
- Utilizing Grant funding earmarked for training to send personnel to Wildland training conferences that County funding could not support.
- Providing additional training opportunities to members of HFD All Hazard Incident Management Team with Maui Fire AHIMT during upcoming Hazmat Drill and Prescribed Live Burn exercise. Funding provided through grant opportunities.

VII. Employee/Public Relations

- Exchange Club of Hilo Annual Firefighter of the year award ceremony set for March. Memo requesting nominations for Fire Chiefs Selection went out.
- Employee disciplinary actions.