

CHIEF'S REPORT

October 14, 2020

I. Budget

- FY 2020/2021
 - Our team has been working the State EMS Director Dr. Bronstein and his administrative staff on the FY 20-21 budget. As of this week we are possibly looking at a 2.5% reduction from the general funds portion of our budget. (This shortfall is \$956,155.10)
- FY 2021/2022
 - County Funded Budget
 - Budget kickoff held by Finance
 - Directives are;
 - No new positions
 - 5% budgetary reduction shall be submitted
 - State Funded Budget items
 - Legislative approval for DLNR Funding needs to be realized for funding of Water Safety Officers at Hapuna and Kua Bay
 - State EMS anticipating Budgetary cuts as well.

II. Alternative Funding and Grants

- Daniel R. Sayre Memorial Foundation Funding assistance
 - Working with SalesForce on providing County with Covid-19 related protective equipment.
- USFA FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Covid-19
 - Received award of \$380,000 for Covid-19 PPE and disinfecting equipment
 - Received notice that FEMA did not award enough funding and that we are eligible to submit an additional grant application for more funding.
- USFA FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Operations
 - Grant Committee submitted projects for FF Safety for items dealing with the proper cleaning of Gear and clothing to minimize cancer risk.
 - AFG awards and disbursement postponed until 2021 due to COVID-19.

III. Human Resources Division

1) Recruitments

- a) Internal Recruitment within Department
 - Fire Equipment Operator – Assessment/Interviews have been completed, currently finalizing scoring.
 - Assistant Fire Chief, Support Services – selection made.
- b) Open-Competitive Recruitment
 - Account Clerk – pending receipt of a referred list from DHR

- Fire Fighter Recruit– opened 09/05/20, closed 09/15/20. Written exams are scheduled for early October.
- 2) Employee Development and Training
 - a) Training schedule for County sponsored courses have re-opened
 - 3) Labor Relations
 - a) Internal Investigations – ongoing.

IV. Emergency Operations Division

AC-1

- 1) The final inspections for E-7 and E-17 have been completed and both are currently in California awaiting to be shipped to Hawaii.
- 2) We have received the new FLIR Thermal Imaging Cameras. They will be assigned to Waiakea, Laupahoehoe, HPP, and Keauhou.
- 3) AC Okinaka has been in discussions with Rescue personnel who have been training instructors for Confined Space Training. Planning to conduct refresher and initial training for personnel in need.
- 4) AC Okinaka working on getting additional FLIR Thermal Imaging cameras through a promotional deal with the manufacturer. If successful this would provide thermal Imaging Cameras for Prevention Bureau Personnel.

BATTALION 1, East Hawai'i

Incidents:

- 1) 9/2, Incident # 16702; Brush Fire: “23 Flats”- Pepe‘ekeo, Difficult to access fire secondary to security gate blocking access. No structures threatened, no injuries.
- 2) 9/5, Incident # 16838; Structure Fire: Kalopa Mauka Road, Company 8, Company 17, and Company 9. Structure was a total loss. Elderly female patient transported with injuries.
- 3) 9/5, Incident #16870; Car and Brush Fire: Manowaiopae Hmstd. Rd. Approximately 2 acres, difficult terrain, access, lack of water, windy conditions.
- 4) 9/5, Incident #16877; Brush Fire: Highway 132 @ 3 MM. Approximately 1 acre, in tall grasses.
- 5) 9/8, Incident #17084; Prison Riot and Fire: Waiānuenu Ave. Well publicized prison riot and fire. Fire contained and extinguished with HPD and Sheriffs providing scene control.
- 6) 9/14 Incident # 17460; Structure Fire: Punawai St. Aggressive interior attack made and stopped fire primarily in the room of origin: Kitchen. Single wall home, heavy smoke damage throughout upstairs. No injuries, Red Cross provided shelter.
- 7) 9/14 Incident # 17468; Cliff Rescue: Sand Hill - Puna. Two (2) male parties fell approximately 35 feet down a cliff while riding a dirt bike. 18 year old male airlifted to awaiting medic for transport. Other male party was Code 500 and unable to be resuscitated.

- 8) 9/19-23 Incident # 17845. Brush Fire: Ka‘alu‘alu – Ka‘ū. Approximately 3,500 acres. At it’s peak on 9/20, 39 personnel; professional and volunteers, fighting the fire. Saved 2 substantial outbuildings (ranch equipment storage) and freed a paddock of cattle and a paddock of horses from fast moving fire.

BATTALION 2 West Hawai‘i

Incidents:

- 1) 08/29/20 Inc #16379; Off-road Accident: UTV rollover two 8 YO males condition “Charlie” transported by C-2 to NHCH then Transferred to QMC.
- 2) 09/01-05/20 Inc. #16647; Brush Fire: Akoni Pule Hwy- 12 MM. Multi-Day incident. Approx. 15 acres, started by vehicle fire on highway, burned to the ocean into heavy Kiawe tree fuel load. Incident ended 9/4/20, 2 small rekindles on 9/5 within firebreak.
- 3) 9/6/20 Inc #16938; Brush Fire: DKI - 42 mm. Multi-Agency response with PTA. 2 acres burned.
- 4) 9/6/20 Inc. #16947; Shark Bite: Puako Beach Drive, 70 female with multiple laceration to ankle, transported to NHCH.
- 5) 9/12/20 Inc# 17314; Brush Fire: Hwy 190 @ 7mm. 122 acres burned. No injuries or Structures involved.
- 6) 9/15/20 Inc. #17539; Missing Divers: Ho‘okena beach. Multi Agency Search, NOAA, CoastGuard, DOCARE. Missing persons found at gas station in Captain Cook 2 hours later.
- 7) 9/25/20 Inc. #18238; Brush Fire: Akoni Pule Hwy 12 mm. Both sides of Hwy. Multi-Day Incident burning approx. 40 acres.

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Hazmat

- 1) HAZMAT ID units update: Kaumana In-Service training scheduled for Oct 6-9.
- 2) Gas Monitors update: All equipment and supplies were received. Working on inventory to schedule the in-service training with vendor.
- 3) Dates for our upcoming Haz-Mat Technician Basic Training Course: No date set yet. Possibly in late November
- 4) Sent Thermo-Fisher Radiation monitors back for calibration. A couple of the items require replacement at a substantial cost. >\$5k
- 5) Working on scheduling Confined Space Training for Haz-Mat personnel.
- 6) AC Okinaka has been working on setting up Baseline and Annual Medical Monitoring for all Haz-Mat personnel. Currently working with Fiscal to finalize procurement process.

Ocean Safety

- 1) Completed relocation and replacement of the Hapuna Alpha tower with newly purchased tower. The current tower has been relocated to Spencer beach.

Rescue

- 1) AC Okinaka worked with USCG on scheduling biennial SAREX. The entire training for this year has been cancelled due to COVID challenges. We will plan for a full scale SAREX in the spring of 2022. We received copies of a USCG Response Capabilities booklet to share with BC's and Rescue Companies, and a power point of the recent MahuKona SAR incident.
- 2) AC 1 working on Confined Space Training for Rescue personnel.

V. **Support Services Division**

TRAINING:

- 1) Revised all of the Driver Training written exams for future recruit classes.
- 2) Received 2 older computers for the training room and working with IT to get them updated and back onto the county server.
- 3) Driver Training class scheduled for Oct 5- Oct 16.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

- 1) Provided HazMat awareness refresher Training about the new updated ERG 2020
- 2) Worked with BC Todd to provide a youtube video upon request of volunteers about how to register for the new Bryx notification system.
- 3) Did wet drill with all volunteer companies along with hose testing procedures.
- 4) Company 7 Bravo has increased their resource capabilities with the addition of 750 gallon military 6x6 water tanker previously assigned to 9 Bravo.
- 5) Working with Eldred and county fiscal to do physical inventory of volunteer assets.

EMS BUREAU:

- 1) **Budget:**
 - FY 21 new ambulance
 - We have had some exception request from vendors that was addressed
 - Bid closes on 9/25/20.
- 2) **Covid:**
 - We continue to work with our community partners with screening and public education
 - We have distributed metered dose Albuterol inhalers
 - Protocols and MDI's authorized by medical director

- This gives our personnel a safer and quicker treatment option for patient's having a difficult time breathing. Some studies are also showing better outcomes for patients suffering from COVID 19 when an MDI is used.
- King vision pediatric adapters have been purchased and should arrive shortly. This will allow paramedics to intubate patients at a safer distance than the traditional advanced airway process.
- 2 new FERNO pro Z28 cots have been ordered
 - 1 for each battalion
 - This was purchased through CARES funding
- Disinfectant foggers placed at our 3 base station hospitals
 - HMC / KCH / NHCH
- Assisted with swab team for HFD personnel
 - Procedures have been drafted by Capt. Hara and Dr. Jones has authorized us to move forward. Capt. Hara will have a roster of authorized personnel who can perform this procedure. Dr. Bronstein has also authorized this.

3) MICT Class:

- 5 of our MICT students have successfully completed their training and all 5 of them have passed the NREMT psychomotor and written testing. They are awaiting state licensing and are currently completing their FMS orientation.

4) EMT Class / 49th Recruit:

- Completed EMT class on October 2nd

5) Community Paramedicine Program:

- Capt. Hara and Capt. Lam continue to expand on outreach to our community with our partnering agencies
- They have been heavily involved with public education regarding COVID issue in our community
- They had 13 home visits with CP resulting in an estimated \$10,106 system wide cost savings.

- These 13 referrals came from the agencies listed below:

- HFD 5
 - APS 1
 - Social Service 2
 - Other 5

6) Public Education / Injury prevention:

- Vibrant Hawai'i Project. Capt. Domingo is our project lead. She has started training AHA certifications with Heartsaver CPR / First Aid classes in our community.
- Heart Safe Community Project - Capt. Domingo is working with multiple agencies with this project. One of the main objectives is increasing cardiac

arrest survival rates on Hawai'i Island. She is working with the Hilo Medical Center Foundation on AED donations for our police department.

- Capt. Domingo has been selected to be a guest speaker at the upcoming Care for Rural Health and Tropical Medicine Conference being sponsored by Hilo Medical Center. This will be a free Zoom conference set for Saturday October 17, 2020. She will be presenting on efforts being made to increase cardiac arrest survival on Hawai'i Island.

PREVENTION BUREAU:

- 1) The Fire Prevention Bureau assisted with the Covid 19 task force and community outreach and testing sites.
- 2) 6 Personnel have been approved for online training; Fire Alarm Inspection and Testing and Fire Alarm Plan Review.

AUXILLIARY SERVICES:

- 1) Inventory of all 22# equipment for finance department **(90% complete)**
- 2) Repairs/Purchases/Maintenance:
 - STN 1: holmatro spreader repaired, lights replaced, one line valve replaced.
 - Stn 3 Oneshot project no progress.
 - Stn 4 Generator fluctuations are causing radio system to malfunction. Generator tech recommended signal conditioner, DPW electrician stated had no idea how to deal with installing a signal conditioner. Escalated issue to DPW management.
 - Stn 7: Freezer broken, new unit purchased, delivery in October
 - Stn 8: Freezer broken needs replacement, purchase delayed due to p-card limit.
 - Stn 10: Center two garage doors currently broken.
 - Stn 11: Fridge broken needs replacement. Sent to Finance to put out for bid?
 - Stn 20: Edraulic ram sent to hurst for repair
 - Stn 21: Generator issues, Oven purchased, and work order placed to build out cabinet for oven installation.
 - Stns 8, 14, & Training: Need additional storage, interested in 20' or 40' containers if possible
- 3) Projects on hold:
 - Volunteer Website Pages
 - Contract to add Bullard wipes for after scene decon, and Bullard care kits to contract to issue with the new FXR350 helmets.
 - Plymovent Repairs Project.

DISPATCH:

- 1) Rapid SOS Jurisdictional view has gone live. **(100% complete)**
- 2) Two fire Radio Dispatcher are in training. District familiarization at Districts 14, 15, 16, 9, 8, 7 remaining. New Dispatchers will complete initial training in October and move to shadowing dispatcher on 911 calls.

VI. New Projects/Business

- Continue to Work with DPW, Council, and Finance to replace the roof at the Pāhala Fire Station. Received word that the Fire Department cannot apply for the funding grant. Application needs to come from County as a whole.
- Working with DPW, HPD, and Mayor's office for new Civil Defense, Police, and Fire Radio Communications Center.
- Continual Coronavirus assistance.

VII. Employee/Public Relations

- As indicated above in Section Reports.