

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor

William V. Brillhante Jr.
Managing Director

Merrick Nishimoto
Deputy Managing Director



Gerald Kosaki, Chair
Les Hanano, Vice Chair
Brian Cushnie, Member
Derwin Ignacio, Member
Wayne Perrin Jr., Member
Rick Porter, Member
Rollin Rabara, Member
Carlene Wolf, Member
Vacant, Member

COUNTY OF HAWAII Fire Commission

25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
Phone: (808) 961-8211 • Fax: (808) 961-6553

AGENDA

Notice is hereby given of the following matters to be considered by the Fire Commission of the County of Hawai'i (Commission) in accordance with the provisions of Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 92-7. Additional meeting instructions and information are located at the end of the agenda.

DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2026
TIME: 9:00 A.M.
PLACE: HAWAII COUNTY BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
25 AUPUNI STREET, SUITE 1601
HILO, HI 96720

COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF HAWAII
2026 MAY 22 AM 10:22

ATTENDING THE MEETING AND ORAL TESTIMONY:

This meeting will be held as an in-person meeting with the option for the public to attend and orally testify remotely as a courtesy. Persons wishing to attend the meeting and/or orally testify may do so in person at the physical location designated above or remotely via Zoom Webinar using the following link:

Zoom Webinar Link: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1655183535>

Zoom Webinar ID: 165 518 3535

Although not required, those intending to testify remotely may register in advance by emailing Micah.Alameda@hawaiicounty.gov prior to the meeting, and those intending to testify in person may sign up with the Commission secretary at the meeting.

In accordance with HRS § 92-3, interested persons who want to provide oral testimony may do so at the time public statements are called for at the top of the agenda or at the time the agenda item is called. Public testimony may be limited to five (5) minutes in length per agenda item per testifier in accordance with Rule 5(B)(1)(a) of the Rules and Regulations of the County of Hawai'i Fire Commission (Fire Commission Rules). Please state the agenda item you are testifying on before you begin.

As this is an in-person meeting, the hearing may proceed if the Zoom connection fails.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

II. PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Interested persons wishing to provide testimony on any agenda item may do so now or at the time the applicable agenda item is called.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. April 9, 2026, regular session.

B. April 9, 2026, executive session.

IV. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Temporary Fire Chief Volpe or designee will report on the following departmental matters:

- Administrative Update: Budget, grants, and human resources.
- Operational & Divisional Reports: Summary of activities from emergency operations, special operations, ocean safety, EMS, training, prevention, and other branches.
- Program Updates & Highlights: Safety program, emergency operations highlights, and snapshot/stories.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Rollover of a Hawai'i County Fire Department Fire Truck on May 15, 2026

The Commission will receive a briefing from Temporary Fire Chief Volpe or designee relating to an incident involving a Hawai'i County Fire Department Fire Truck rolling over in Ka'u on May 15, 2026.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Consideration of the Process to Appoint a Permanent Fire Chief

The Commission may discuss the process for recruiting, screening, selecting, and appointing a permanent Fire Chief in accordance with Rule 11 of the Fire Commission Rules. Discussion may include establishing a timeline, recruitment strategies, screening criteria, interview procedures, and other elements of the selection process.

The Commission will also review and consider the Department of Human Resources' response to the Commission's April 9, 2026, request for additional information relating to the hiring process for the last Fire Chief and the materials used by this Commission and the Police Commission to further screen qualified applicants during its last respective hiring processes.

Following discussion, the Commission may take action on this item.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION (CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC)

For the following agenda item, the Commission anticipates convening an executive session to consider the charges, as specified below, against officers or employees of the Fire Department, where matters affecting privacy will be involved, and to consult with the

Commission's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, pursuant to HRS §§ 92-4, 92-5(a)(2), (a)(4):

- A. Follow up with Temporary Fire Chief Volpe or designee pursuant to Charter § 7-4.6(e), relating to Correspondence No. 25-04, which was forwarded by the Commission to Temporary Fire Chief Volpe on February 27, 2026, in accordance with Charter § 4-5 and Article VII, Chapter 4 of the Charter.

Correspondence No. 25-04 pertained to allegations that two officers or employees of the Fire Department violated State and County procurement laws and/or rules, the County of Hawaii's Code of Ethics, and misused overtime, relating to a Fire Department project.

VIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MATTERS

- A. The Commission's follow up on Correspondence No. 25-04, as described in Executive Session item VII(A) above.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION REPORT

Executive session report by the Commission's attorney in accordance with HRS § 92-4(b).

X. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Consideration of items to be placed on the upcoming agenda.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Commission's next regular monthly meeting is currently scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., West Hawai'i Civic Center, Council Chambers, Building A 74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Highway, Kailua-Kona, HI.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Additional Meeting Instructions and Information

Submitting Written Testimony: Those wishing to submit written testimony at the meeting are requested to bring ten (10) copies for distribution. Written testimony may also be submitted prior to the meeting by: (1) mail to Fire Commission, 25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603, Hilo, HI 96720; or (2) by email to Micah.Alameda@hawaiicounty.gov. Please submit separate testimony for each item and indicate which agenda item your testimony pertains to. All oral and written testimony will be public record.

Notice to Lobbyists: If you are a lobbyist, you must register with the Hawai'i County Clerk within five (5) days of becoming a lobbyist in accordance with Hawai'i County Code (HCC) § 2-91.3(b). A "lobbyist" means "any individual engaged for pay or other consideration who spends more than five hours in any month or \$275 in any six-month period for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action by communicating or urging others to communicate with public officials." HCC § 2-91.3(a)(6). Registration forms and expenditure report documents are available at the Office of the County Clerk, 25 Aupuni St., Room 1402, Hilo, HI 96720.

Board Packet: Pursuant to HRS § 92-7.5, the board packet for this meeting is available for public inspection at least three full business days before the meeting date, during regular business hours, at the Commission's Hilo Office located at 25 Aupuni Street, Suite 2603, Hilo, HI 96720, and may also be accessed online at <https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/departments/fire/fire-commission>.

Special Assistance: The in-person location for this meeting is accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require an accommodation or auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact the commission's secretary by phone at (808) 961-8211 or by email at Micah.Alameda@hawaiicounty.gov as soon as possible, preferably three (3) days before the meeting date. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.