

COUNTY OF HAWAII FIRE COMMISSION
FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT
May 10, 2006

Budget

- FY 2006/07: We received authorization for an additional \$100,000. Decision was made to fund one Volunteer Training Captain and one FEO Driver Trainer into our budget. Amended budget goes back to Council for final review.

Alternative Funding and Grants

- U.S. Fire Administration FY 2005 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: No new updates. Bid specs with Department of Finance.
- U.S. Fire Administration FY 2004 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: No new updates. Burn trailer in building stage. Deadline for delivery is September 5, 2006.
- U.S. Fire Administration FY 2006 Assistance to Fire Fighters Grant: No new updates. AC Mento submitted grant application to purchase wildland fire safety shoes for all line company fire fighters. Grant application for \$75,000 (includes \$12,000 County match).
- Department of Transportation-Safe Highways Grant: Open period for this grant to June 15, 2006. Will be submitting grant application.

Capital Improvement Projects

- Makalei Fire Station: Public Works has selected Architects Hawaii as the design consultants for this project, and they are putting together a fee proposal for the work we require them to do.
- Pahoa Fire Station: Public Works had a meeting for the bidder on April 24; six contractors were at the meeting. Opening of bids will be on Thursday, May 11. Public Works feels that a Honolulu company will most likely submit the winning bid.
- Fire Administration & Support Facility: Working on final details of project to ensure facility will meet our present and future needs.
- Central Fire Station: All material have been submitted to the Mayor's Office for submittal to Hawaii Housing & Community Development Corp of Hawaii.
- Central Fire Station-Retrofit Project: Contract has been awarded and is currently being finalized by Public Works.

- Paaulo Volunteer Garage: AhYo met with the design consultant at the site on April 24, and the garage “footprint” and orientation was established.

Promotions and Hiring

- Internal Recruitments: Active recruits include: Fire Prevention Inspector, Fire Captain, Fire Rescue Specialist, Fire Radio Dispatcher.
- Firefighter Recruit:: Continuing process to schedule interviews for about 100 candidates from both agility tests to select for 34th and 35th recruit classes.
- Fire Equipment Mechanic: Our Apparatus/Equipment Section to full staff with hire of Patrick Lau on April 17.
- Battalion Chief: Retirement of BC Michael Millare effective May 1, 2006.

Emergency Operations Division

- CNH Conference: Five personnel attended the CNH conference on Maui (wildland fire updates from around the nation). We will be getting a program from Forestry through DOFAW that will assist in training department personnel with scenarios of fires (wildland, hazmat, EMS, structural fires). This program will assist our officers in setting up an ICS system and deployment of personnel prior to the actual event and this will be done on computers.
- Two Type 42 wildland truck may be available.
- Training Classes: Ongoing or just completed classes for operational personnel (Hazmat Chemistry refresher, Arson Detection for 1st Responder, Wildland Urban Interface, Media Relations, Managing and Leading Change, Urban Search & Rescue (Medical Team Specialist Course).
- NIMS: First phase of NIMS compliance for department (ICS protocols)
- Company Drills: BC monitoring of drills done by line companies under their command. Increasing interaction between BC office and line companies.

Support Services Division

- Ocean View Ambulance (to be presented by Diane Noda)

AC Mento to present report for Support Services Division.

Volunteer Training

- Volunteer Chief's meeting will be held on April 29 at Civil Defense.

New Projects/Business

- **Ironman Donation:** Through the Sayre Foundation, Ironman will make a donation of about \$42,000 to our department for equipment: Kubota RTV utility vehicle, Honda Foreman ATV, 2 utility trailers, and a Gator Multi-purpose utility vehicle with EMS kit.
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- **Charter Amendment:** Have submitted a request to adopt "Hawai'i Fire Department" as the official title of the department. Department's identity formalized in 1892 at the "Hilo Volunteer Fire Department." In 1905, Hawaii was established as a County. The department and its title continued to evolve through the years and has been referred to by various names. This bill would ensure standardization and recognition of the department's name.
- **2006 Legislature:**
- **HB 1833** (Fireworks Permits): Act 54 signed into law by Governor Lingle on May 1, 2006. Tremendous accomplishment for our department in that bill was introduced into the Legislature for the first time this session.
- **SB 218** (MICT Stipend): Enrolled to Governor Lingle on May 8, 2006. *(To offset the hardships incurred by students who desire to participate in MICT training program. If approved, will designate 10 students per year who are public or private EMTs and currently do not have access to a training stipend program. Dollar amount remains unspecified. Effective July 1, 2006 if approved by Governor).*
- **SB 3146** (Appropriation for Emergency Medical Services): Appears that this bill did not make it out of conference committee hearings.
- *Part I: Provides for funding to provide intra-island emergency aeromedical services to rural Oahu only*
- *Part II: Appropriates out of the general revenues of State of Hawaii sum of \$1 for FY 2006/07 as a grant-in-aid to County of Hawaii for dedicated EMS personnel to staff aeromedical helicopter.*
- *Part III: Appropriates sum (to be determined) for FY 06/07 to be used for two emergency mobile urgent care units to be stationed at Ocean View and Volcano fire stations.*
- *Part IV: Appropriates ALS units to various areas on Oahu.*
- *Part V: Appropriates sum of \$1 for ALS service for Haiku district on Maui.*
- *Part VI: Appropriates sum (to be determined) for FY 06/07 for emergency services at Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center.*

- **SB 2667** (Clarifies fireworks terminology to be consistent with Federal law and repeals and amends definitions): Enrolled to Governor on May 8.
- **Media Relations**: Media-Fire Department meeting held on April 27 at the Hawaii Community College. Representatives from West Hawaii Today, Honolulu Advertiser, and Hawaii Star Bulletin attended. Good discussion and foundation to building interactive working relationship and partnerships.
- **Fire Station Open Houses**: In response to Commissioner Kudlo's request to do open houses in her district, we welcome any opportunity to showcase the services we provide to the public. If any Commissioners would like to assist by coordinating open houses at the stations, we would certainly appreciate it. As for Ocean View, may want to consider waiting until the agreement with the ambulance for Ocean View is squared away, and the open house could be tied into the delivery of the ambulance unit. Another target date could be during Fire Prevention Week, which will be during October. Also, it is critical to get the interest and desire from the companies for participation in the open houses.
- **Donation of Old Breathing Apparatuses**: With any equipment that is being replaced or upgraded, we will look in-house first, then to our mutual aid partners, then outside. (In response to Commissioner Kudlo's request from someone interested in a possible donation of old breathing apparatuses for the Phillipine Fire Department, we are researching to ensure any liability issues are properly addressed.)
- **Donations**: In response to Commissioner Kudlo's request for Kula Kai View Estates to donate \$1,000 to the Ocean View Volunteer Fire Company, they should submit their request and desire in writing to the Fire Chief. All donations need to be accepted through a Council resolution process. They should also state whether they have any specific use they would like the money to go toward.
- **Milolii Fire Truck**: In response to Commissioner's Kudlo's request for the status on the Milolii fire truck coming from Waimea, a check with Captain Enriques revealed that he has no knowledge of this matter. Please have the Milolii Volunteer Company contact Captain Enriques directly with their request.
- **Bon Fire County Code Card**: We welcome and thank Commissioner Kudlo for her assistance in distributing the card to subdivisions in her district. Please let Laurie know how many cards you would like and she will provide them to you.
- **NFPA State & Provincial Fire Marshalls Forum**: May 4-6, Quincy, Massachusetts.

Employee/Public Relations

- Bond Burning: On May 2, 2006, the Kohala Coast Resort Association celebrated the pay off the bond for South Kohala fire station with a prayer, blessing, and luncheon at the station. Attended by our South Kohala station personnel as well as members of the Kohala Coast Resort Association.
- Mother's Day Rose Project for American Cancer Society: 4th year. Coordinated by FFs Shane Paulos, Gabriel Sasaki and Patrick Springer. Have record number of deliveries (250). Rose prep on May 11 and delivery on May 12. Have raised nearly \$10,000 for American Cancer Society in first three years of event.
- EMS Week: 6th Annual EMS Week to be held on Sunday, May 28 at Liliuokalani Park. Incorporating Keiki Fun Run this year. Welcome all to attend.