

1 FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
 2 COUNTY OF MAUI  
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 7 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
 8 REGULAR MEETING  
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 13 Held at Maui Fire Department Prevention Bureau, 313  
 14 Manea Place, Wailuku, Hawaii, commencing at 10:34 a.m., on  
 15 December 13th, 2018.  
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 20 REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424  
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1 (December 13th, 2018, 10:34 a.m.)  
 2 \* \* \*  
 3 CHAIR HIRATA: (Gavel.) Okay. It's 10:34 a.m.  
 4 Let's get this meeting started. Agenda. Okay. I'd like  
 5 to --  
 6 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Hi, guys.  
 7 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Archie Kalepa has joined us.  
 8 I trust your hale is safe.  
 9 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah, my hale is safe. One  
 10 house did burn down, though, I heard.  
 11 CHAIR HIRATA: Yeah.  
 12 Okay. So first agenda item, approval of the  
 13 minutes. Since I wasn't here, I really don't know what went  
 14 on, but does everything look okay? Can I have a --  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Motion to approve.  
 16 CHAIR HIRATA: Motion to approve. A second?  
 17 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I'll second.  
 18 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. All in favor.  
 19 (Response.)  
 20 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Agenda approved.  
 21 Okay. Let's go on to Maui Emergency Management  
 22 Agency. Herman, good morning.  
 23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Mr. Chair and Members of the  
 24 Committee, you have our report there in front of you. Just a  
 25 couple of things that's not on the report. The first is we

1 ATTENDANCE  
 2 COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:  
 3 Charles Hirata, Chair  
 4 Edwin Misaki, Vice-Chair  
 5 Kyle Ginoza, Member  
 6 Archie Kalepa, Member  
 7 Gregg Lundberg, Member  
 8 Travis Tancayo, Member  
 9  
 10 STAFF:  
 11 David Thyne, Fire Chief  
 12 Bradford Ventura, Deputy Fire Chief  
 13 Richard Kawasaki, Assistant Fire Chief  
 14 Valeriano Martin, Assistant Fire Chief  
 15 Michael Werner, Battalion Chief  
 16 Jeffrey Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
 17 Jill Matsui Peterson, Commission Assistant  
 18 Misty Cordeiro, Office Operations Assistant  
 19 Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency  
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 22  
 23  
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1 had some students from Georgetown University over at the USC  
 2 yesterday. They're working on their master's degree in threat  
 3 management and so they were here to learn about our response  
 4 with the hurricane and flooding and other things that happened  
 5 here on Maui in the last year.  
 6 Also, Keanu Lau Hee came back from the Philippines.  
 7 (Commission Ginoza entered the room.)  
 8 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: She was there as part of --  
 9 she was invited to be there with the National Guard and as  
 10 part of our sister city agreement with Quezon City in the  
 11 Philippines. And so she was there to provide technical  
 12 exchange about emergency management. And she'll be returning  
 13 again in March and this time they wanted to include two other  
 14 people from the fire department to provide again technical  
 15 exchange about rescues and so we'll -- we've asked the fire  
 16 department if they could provide us two names and in March we  
 17 will be sending two firefighters over to the Philippines.  
 18 That's all I have for now. If there's any  
 19 questions, I'm open to questions.  
 20 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: I have a question. So I read  
 21 out of the 71, I believe it was 71 sirens, 15 either didn't  
 22 respond or something was wrong with it. So what's happening  
 23 with those 15, did you repair them or what's the schedule?  
 24 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So we had the -- as you know,  
 25 the sirens is the responsibility of the state. And so the

1 state was here yesterday and they went to check various  
 2 sirens. Just because it says 15 sirens, it doesn't mean that  
 3 they didn't sound, it just means that we don't know because no  
 4 one -- someone didn't respond back, you know, letting us know  
 5 they heard it or not. But, nonetheless, we went out to go and  
 6 check to see if they were -- you know, if they were  
 7 operational.  
 8 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: And they work?  
 9 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: They went and fixed, you know,  
 10 particular, you know --  
 11 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: Oh, okay.  
 12 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah. And then I guess we  
 13 would have to wait until the next test to see if they are  
 14 operational. They're able to check like from Oahu, they can  
 15 check to see if the siren's online, you know, but whether it  
 16 sounds or not, we don't know, we would have to physically hear  
 17 the siren, you know.  
 18 And that's what I think we need to have more of. So  
 19 what normally happens is a text message goes out to certain  
 20 people in the community and they can respond back, you know,  
 21 1, they heard it or 2, you know. They can respond back like  
 22 by text and so -- but sometimes people are not at home, maybe  
 23 they're out shopping or, you know, at noon, and so for that  
 24 reason, we don't know.  
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Maybe we should broaden the

1 list of who gets the text messages.  
 2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Exactly, yeah.  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So if it's two people and  
 4 that's it, then it's not --  
 5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right. I've asked staff to --  
 6 we purged the list, those that, you know, haven't been  
 7 responding at all, so we purged those names. And we're asking  
 8 the public for, you know, more names. So those that call and  
 9 say, you know, like, Hey, I haven't been hearing the siren,  
 10 or, you know, they call and complain, we say, Hey, would you  
 11 mind being on our list that we can call and can you let us  
 12 know if you hear it or not, so that that's happening.  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: All right. I had a quick  
 14 question.  
 15 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Sure.  
 16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: For the invitees for the  
 17 Philippines trip, does that come out of your budget or does  
 18 that come out of civil defense budget?  
 19 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: I'll be paid for by the  
 20 state, the State of Hawaii.  
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Oh, take two, then, that's  
 22 okay.  
 23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah, that's good. So Keanu  
 24 Lau Hee, when she went to the Philippines, it was, you know,  
 25 the state had invited her to be a part of their group.

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Great. Thank you.  
 2 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: No need commissioner on the  
 3 trip?  
 4 (Laughter.)  
 5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: You might see an  
 6 administrator, but --  
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Commissioner Lundberg, Deputy Chief  
 8 will speak a little on who we are sending based on the  
 9 criteria that Herman and Keanu requested.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: You know, a specialized type of --  
 12 we'll wait till his section to explain it.  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Great.  
 14 CHIEF THYNE: If you don't mind.  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: No, that's fine. Perfect.  
 16 Thank you.  
 17 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I have a question with regard  
 18 to, you know, the people that call in who monitor when the  
 19 sirens go off, is that -- how do you come about these names or  
 20 people that call in, how do you go about that, selecting?  
 21 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: We -- I'm guessing we ask for  
 22 volunteers. Maybe I can -- you know what, we have a member  
 23 our staff that used to -- I mean, do you know who --  
 24 MS. CORDEIRO: I think maybe initially they might  
 25 have gone door-to-door.

1 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah.  
 2 MS. CORDEIRO: But I don't know when was the last  
 3 time they asked for people. You know, when people call in to  
 4 report it's not working --  
 5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right.  
 6 MS. CORDEIRO: -- then we kind of solicit their  
 7 help --  
 8 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right.  
 9 MS. CORDEIRO: -- for the next time.  
 10 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right.  
 11 MS. CORDEIRO: I don't know if anybody's done a  
 12 door-to-door.  
 13 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That was my understanding as  
 14 well, so it's basically whoever calls in, you know, but --  
 15 like, for instance, the hotel area, in hotel areas we get the  
 16 security guards to call in, you know, and -- well, we send  
 17 them a text messages and then we get a report very quickly,  
 18 like who responded/who didn't, and then the office will then  
 19 call them, call them just to make sure, you know, if they were  
 20 able to hear it or not. But as soon as we -- you know, we  
 21 have maybe like five or six per siren or so names and once,  
 22 you know, someone responds that, Oh, yeah, they heard it, then  
 23 that's -- you know, we don't have to call all the others to  
 24 see if they heard it.  
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I'm just thinking that this

1 is something we should be dial in with all the county agencies  
 2 such as fire and police in the districts, that we could have a  
 3 partnership in getting this dialed in.  
 4 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: We do have some fire  
 5 departments on our list.  
 6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay.  
 7 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So we do have, you know --  
 8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I remember years ago being  
 9 called, but, I mean, that was twenty-something years ago and  
 10 towards of end of my time I don't remember getting phone calls  
 11 at the station.  
 12 And then the second part of it was: When an alarm  
 13 goes out -- and I can't remember and this is having to do with  
 14 the way the last brush fire in Lahaina happened -- does it fit  
 15 the criteria to use the sirens for evacuation at all or that's  
 16 just something different? Have we ever looked at doing  
 17 something like that? I know it's enemy attack and tsunami and  
 18 stuff, but is there, you know, a door open to maybe possibly  
 19 add in a fire? Because looking at what happened in California  
 20 and what happened in to Lahaina, this is something where, you  
 21 know, police had to go and highly endanger the police and fire  
 22 to incorporate a fire section. I'm just throwing it out there  
 23 as a suggestion that maybe we -- you know, maybe we can break  
 24 ground and be -- you know, add that into that, that warning  
 25 system. Because we've had mass losses in California and very

1 similarly that numbers could've been very much so what  
 2 happened in Lahaina, so just something to think about.  
 3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: The -- the sirens, as I've  
 4 mentioned before, it's kind of a last resort photograph, you  
 5 know.  
 6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.  
 7 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: And typically we use that for  
 8 like along shoreline areas so to let people know if there's a  
 9 tsunami coming in.  
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.  
 11 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: But with represent to like  
 12 fires or any other kind of emergency, your best bet really is  
 13 Maka'ala, the county alert system. Because, really, I mean,  
 14 like how many of you heard, actually heard the siren this  
 15 last -- last month?  
 16 (No response.)  
 17 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: See, no one heard it in this  
 18 room. I didn't hear it because I'm in a building, you know.  
 19 So your best bet really is to receive the alerts on your  
 20 cellphone, you know.  
 21 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay. Thank you.  
 22 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: You're welcome.  
 23 CHAIR HIRATA: Any other questions for MEMA?  
 24 I forgot to ask if there was anybody here for public  
 25 testimony?

1 (No response.)  
 2 CHAIR HIRATA: Seeing no one, we'll continue on to  
 3 the fire department.  
 4 CHIEF THYNE: Thank you, Chair. So just calling to  
 5 your packets the incidents and training, the two reports we  
 6 typically provide to you folks, nothing remarkable there.  
 7 Chief Kawasaki will go over some of the major incidents we've  
 8 dealt with since we visited with you last. We do look at  
 9 trends on the incidents and fire loss, though, for our various  
 10 programs and we pay attention to the numbers. You're going to  
 11 see trends as you're at this for a while. During summertime,  
 12 probably some more brush fires, things like that, maybe a --  
 13 more a spike in ocean rescue type events we'll see over the  
 14 winter months when our visitor count goes up typically over  
 15 the holidays. And then our ocean, as our Commissioner Kalepa  
 16 is well aware of and trained us for many years on, is -- we're  
 17 going to have those calls for ocean rescues and you'll see  
 18 those trends and go up and down. So we look at those and pay  
 19 attention to that and make sure our personnel -- we adjust our  
 20 training accordingly to prepare for those types of seasons and  
 21 spikes in incidents, so --  
 22 And, again, the participant count for training  
 23 you'll see is pretty consistent with the last report as well.  
 24 You may see some additional categories. We have a training  
 25 calendar that's set annually. At some point in time we'll

1 have our training captain address you folks and explain how we  
 2 prioritize that training calendar and schedule our various  
 3 disciplines for training. We try to do things, obviously,  
 4 again, pre-season, if you will; i.e., pre-wild fire season  
 5 we'll do our wildland refresher training. We did our EMR/CPR  
 6 early on in our year just so we make sure we get our  
 7 compliance type of training, our federal compliance type of  
 8 training, you know, done with and give time for people to do  
 9 makeups and whatnot. So I just wanted to call your attention  
 10 to a couple of those reports before I jump into my specific  
 11 one. And if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to  
 12 ask.  
 13 So my first topic on the department highlights in my  
 14 category as your fire chief is related to our capital budget  
 15 requests. As you recall our last meeting, Chair wasn't here,  
 16 but we had a briefing on the budget and the process from  
 17 AC Martin and some conversation about how we approach our  
 18 budget preparation. Well, the second phase to that, if you  
 19 will, would be our capital improvements requests and that's  
 20 related to typically our station repairs and maintenance  
 21 budget, if you will, countywide fire facilities, as well as  
 22 specific larger projects that we typically plan out over a  
 23 course of a 6-year CIP process, capital improvement process,  
 24 that's been established by the county. With the new mayor and  
 25 council, it may -- it's subject to change, they kind of adjust

1 things how they feel comfortable and want to work, so we're  
2 anticipating that may change, but typically it's done on a 6-  
3 year revolving type of annual allotment or schedule, if you  
4 will.

5 So as you see in that category, we have, you know,  
6 the various areas that we're looking at:

7 Countywide fire facilities, meaning all of our  
8 station repairs, our larger projects to our stations.

9 And then countywide fuel tank replacements: As  
10 you're aware, we have fueling facilities at most of our  
11 stations and that's a good thing, but along with that comes  
12 the maintenance of the tanks. Obviously, most of them are  
13 aboveground, which is a good thing as well, but then they're  
14 subject to the weather and the atmosphere and the plumbing  
15 issues with rusting and corrosion and those types of things,  
16 so that's a project we constantly keep an eye on. And to be  
17 honest with you, we -- Chief Martin, when he was in  
18 prevention, picked that up and introduced that to us as a  
19 department and we're still playing catch-up because it's one  
20 of those things that's -- when you multiply 14 facilities, you  
21 throw in some ocean safety folks, it's something we really  
22 have to pay attention to.

23 Lanai Fire Station improvements: As you're aware,  
24 we're trying to do a process with Pulama Lanai in expanding  
25 that station to get additional garage facilities and whatnot

1 for -- I won't go into too much detail about the consolidation  
2 of the two parcels and all of that. We hope to have Fire  
3 Services Officer Yatsushiro here before you as a presenter  
4 next meeting if you're agreeable to that and then he can go  
5 into more specific detail if you'd like. But that's the Lanai  
6 one.

7 Pukoo: As we know, we're trying to get it out of  
8 that property we've been on. I know Commissioner Misaki and  
9 Tancayo are well aware of the issues we face at Pukoo and so  
10 we're trying to get a facility established there that will be  
11 a county owned and operated facility versus the current lease,  
12 month-to-month lease we're on with department of health.

13 Kahului Fire Station: We're looking at basically  
14 apparatus shelter for relief vehicles and rescue boats and  
15 things that we currently have out in the elements. It would  
16 be similar to, if you're, I guess, aware or in the know of the  
17 Akaku Center or Minit Stop on Dairy Road where they have  
18 the -- basically, the awning roof. No walls, just an awning  
19 roof, we figure I-beams. If they want to give us a building,  
20 great, but we all know that costs money for engineering and  
21 whatnot, so we're looking at more a carport type of situation  
22 along the Harley-Davidson side, if you have a reference to  
23 Kahului there. But we're going to propose that again with the  
24 new administration and see, see where we can get with that.

25 Kihei Fire Station: Again, low lying, right there

1 by Kalama Park, every major natural hazard or threat, we have  
2 to get them out of there and move them to Wailea Station,  
3 which obviously compromises our response time, so we want to  
4 look at moving them potentially up mauka of the highway. We  
5 were in a meeting about 2 months ago with the Deputy Police  
6 Chief Dean Rickard and came to find through conversation that  
7 they have quite a few acres adjacent so the police station  
8 that is county owned and, of course, we know the reclamation  
9 facility is there as well, which is county owned. So we're  
10 hoping that that may work and we wouldn't have to buy a parcel  
11 or propose a parcel. If we could just kind of pal in with the  
12 police department, if you will, and/or the reclamation  
13 facility and locate our fire station mauka of the highway  
14 there is one of the potential areas that would -- that would  
15 seem to fit.

16 Paia Fire Station: Same thing. Downtown Paia,  
17 traffic concerns, it's an older building. As you know, it's a  
18 restored courthouse facility. We talked when they were  
19 looking at the Hana Highway realignment and/or bypass around  
20 even starting -- I've seen different models from starting back  
21 at the Hana Highway and Haleakala intersection to Kaunoa  
22 Senior Center, going up from there, to all different models,  
23 but kind of shooting it up above, mauka by the former mill  
24 area and then coming down anywhere from by Mama's to H-Poko to  
25 all the way out to Maliko, but we asked in that process to

1 have a property allocated for the fire department, if at all  
2 possible, since they were asking if we had any needs. So  
3 we'll see where that goes. Not an immediate, gotta do it  
4 right now, but we are looking forward with that.

5 Makawao Fire Station: We'd like to improve that  
6 facility and put a tanker up there, if possible. As we are  
7 all aware, the water supply system, albeit they've been  
8 working very diligently on it, is pretty sparse, scarce -- I  
9 don't want to say inadequate, that's not appropriate, but, you  
10 know, with standpipes and the growth in the Upcountry area, we  
11 always have to dispatch a tanker from Kahului up the  
12 mountain -- just, in fact, today to go to Upper Kanaio.  
13 That's part of our protocol because of the water supply  
14 concerns for any structural type of fire in the country, if  
15 you will. So having a tanker apparatus there would be ideal  
16 for us and it would be able to take care of that Upcountry  
17 area and, of course, come down to the other side out towards  
18 Haiku and whatnot if we had an incident out there, which would  
19 allow our Central Maui tanker to stay Central and be able to  
20 respond here, you know, locally as well, so -- but Makawao  
21 station, that's what that's allocated.

22 Waikapu Station: Kind of looking ahead towards, you  
23 know, the developments in Waikapu Town that are proposed by  
24 Mike Atherton and the folks and are going through the various  
25 approval process, so we'd like to have the opportunity to get

1 a parcel in that location as that area continues to be built.  
 2 And then Haiku Fire Station: We still have that on  
 3 the books. It is owned by the county. We have worked with  
 4 the water department to get some meters and whatnot, but we  
 5 don't have that as the highest priority. It's just listed  
 6 there in the event that there is an additional growth out in  
 7 Haiku and the need to start looking seriously at moving that  
 8 project forward becomes more and more a priority for the  
 9 department and the community.  
 10 So I just had the next block there, the Community  
 11 Participation, just an awareness for you folks on what our  
 12 firefighters do, what your firefighters and ocean safety folks  
 13 do on a monthly basis. And since we visited you last, these  
 14 are all the different things they participated in. They had  
 15 anywhere from, you know, 25 to 50 to 300 folks visiting and/or  
 16 them going to them to talk about fire safety, fire prevention.  
 17 So just wanted to have you aware of the outreach that we do as  
 18 a department, so --  
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief.  
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Sir.  
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Quick question on the  
 22 capital budget item, 827,000, is that approved?  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: No. That's what we requested, so,  
 24 yeah, that will --  
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So that's not going to cover

1 all of the items that you have on this list?  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, no, no. This is just -- that's  
 3 countywide fire facilities, Commissioner Lundberg, so what  
 4 that is is just specific to fixing stations, that's above and  
 5 beyond what you see there.  
 6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So do you have other funds  
 7 requested to pay for some of these other items.  
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. So they would each have a  
 9 dollar amount.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: They each have a dollar  
 11 amount?  
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, they do.  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And what does that total  
 14 dollar amount look like?  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: That will be covered by FSO  
 16 Yatsushiro. I intended for him to speak this time, but it was  
 17 already agendized that we would have Lead Mechanic Pontanilla.  
 18 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: So he'll be able to go into detail on  
 20 the specific numbers for you.  
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 22 CHIEF THYNE: And, again, they're just projected,  
 23 because, like I mentioned, Haiku Station, Waikapu Station  
 24 might be 3, 4 years, 5 years down the road.  
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Right.

1 CHIEF THYNE: So, you know, that that price could go  
 2 from, hypothetically, 7 million to build the station to 15  
 3 million; right? So it's a little bit of a hard one to put a  
 4 dollar value on, but you just --  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: How does that work? I'm not  
 6 familiar with that, that part of the county budgeting process,  
 7 but can they put away, you know, a million a year and then  
 8 when it gets to 5 million, they launch it, or is it paid for  
 9 in the year, what you get in the year towards --  
 10 CHIEF THYNE: So my understanding -- and, you know,  
 11 Jeffrey may contribute more. But when I was working on CIPs,  
 12 what typically you do is you put a request for proposal  
 13 together and say, We want to build this fire station and it's  
 14 going to be XYZ square feet, it's going to be 4 bays, it's  
 15 going to have office, sleeping quarters, etc. And then  
 16 they'll put -- a company or several firms will put in a bid  
 17 and then you have a general idea on what you're going to  
 18 request.  
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 20 CHIEF THYNE: So that's -- and when I used to do  
 21 that, that's how I used to approach it. And so then you would  
 22 go and request the funding and then you would go through the  
 23 contract process to aware the bid and whatnot. So it's kind  
 24 of a little bit of guesswork in the beginning because you have  
 25 that --

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So it's project by project?  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Exactly.  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 4 CHIEF THYNE: Exactly.  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: All right. Thank you.  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: And, yeah, we've done things -- early  
 7 on in my tenure as the support services AC, we just went price  
 8 per square foot and just compare notes with like our partners  
 9 in Honolulu that bid CIP projects, one of them was an  
 10 architect -- or a draftsman by trade and he worked for the  
 11 fire department, he was a captain.  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Nice.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: So he was a great resource and so he  
 14 would give me a price, roundabout price that we would go in  
 15 and request for.  
 16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: And so that helped us a lot when we  
 18 did like Kaunakakai Fire Station and that during that time  
 19 frame.  
 20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Thank you.  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: So it's ballpark, more or less.  
 22 Employees of the Year we talk about on the next  
 23 page, which is page 2, the Mayor Interaction, we talked about  
 24 that. We did have a recognition dinner that was attended by  
 25 several of our personnel including Deputy Chief Ventura, who

1 may go into a little bit about that. But it's obviously good  
2 to recognize those folks for the hard work they do in, you  
3 know, representing our department and in the community, so...

4 So I do have the Countywide Equipment - Proposed  
5 Bill. Again, that was proposed and approved for the various  
6 funding, I talked about that in the last presentation  
7 regarding our vehicles. So any questions regarding that,  
8 please send them my way as we go further along.

9 Our Organization and Functional Charts are currently  
10 sitting in front of our chair, Chair Hirata. We worked on  
11 that with the representative from the mayor's office, Agnes  
12 Hayashi, and our department personnel officer, Jamie Adams,  
13 who is a former longtime employee of DPS, so she's been a  
14 great resource for us in navigating through that process.  
15 Generally speaking, for you as a commission, we have to have  
16 our organizational chart and functional charts approved by you  
17 as a commission and then they move forward into the mayor's  
18 office and the council and whatnot as to how we do business as  
19 an organization, basically, so...

20 That's that, those topics there.

21 County Council, going to page 3: We did have a  
22 couple of testimonies we may have mentioned in the past  
23 regarding, you know, basically they're asking for waivers of  
24 fees from us for affordability housing projects and whatnot.  
25 And we explained to the commission, to you as a commission

1 that, you know, basically our fees are what we pay salaries  
2 and whatnot out of in our current budget. So we say, Hey, if  
3 you as a council determine that we're -- you know, you're  
4 going to exclude them from fees because it's affordable  
5 projects, okay, but just understand that that pot of fees  
6 collected is going to shrink to the point where you cannot pay  
7 those salaries anymore and it has to come out of general fund.  
8 So that's all we tell them. You know, it's not that we're  
9 opposed to it, it's just understand that that's what those  
10 fees pay for, so it's going to end up, you know, coming around  
11 at some point in time.

12 We did talk about the -- in the last meeting about  
13 the \$250,000 allocated by the previous -- well, current  
14 council and that was for those items listed there. For,  
15 again:

16 The SCBA fill station on Molokai which will allow us  
17 to fill our oxygen tanks on Molokai, our SCBA tanks.

18 Additional SCBA harnesses and tanks as well as the  
19 flow tester.

20 The relief engine equipment -- relief engine  
21 equipment is our -- our apparatus that have been replaced and  
22 are still serviceable by our mechanics and have some life left  
23 in them not necessarily as a front line. Our mechanics will  
24 go and do a complete overhaul, address any issues, they go  
25 into our relief pool. Well, a lot of times with the previous

1 budget process, when the truck got replaced, all the equipment  
2 had to go on to the new truck. In other words, it didn't come  
3 with a truck and new equipment as well. So now you have a  
4 relief truck, but no equipment. So good to have a backup rig,  
5 but then there's no equipment on it. So whenever we had a  
6 major storm or a fire, you know, that was large and we had to  
7 call back companies, they'd spend an hour and a half or more  
8 trying to find equipment in the warehouse and stocking up the  
9 relief. So that'll be a great help for us having all that  
10 equipment ready to go.

11 And then our lead mechanic also identified some  
12 funding for some repairs to our existing Relief Ladder 3,  
13 which is currently -- as you know, currently as front line in  
14 Wailea as our ladder out there, so...

15 And then you see the other things related to the  
16 other vehicles we got.

17 Public Works: We attended -- we were asked to  
18 present at this Overseers Conference. I thought it would be  
19 kind of manini and no big deal, turned out when I rolled in  
20 there with one of our battalion chiefs and our assistant chief  
21 of operations, there was about 75 to 80 folks that are all  
22 heads of public works, working foremen, supervisors from  
23 across the state at the Lahaina baseyard. Fortunately, we had  
24 prepared a presentation on wildland fires, how we relying on  
25 them, how we looked forward to working with them, and we had

1 some great conversation and interaction with those folks. And  
2 I will definitely take the opportunity to speak at that  
3 conference at any time they give us the opportunity because we  
4 work very closely with public works. That's typically our  
5 first call, is to work with our county folks. And so we had  
6 some great interaction and we're very thankful and they were  
7 appreciative as well to have a chance to sit with us and talk  
8 fire. So a great opportunity, so thanks to Mike Tihada and  
9 the folks arranged that.

10 State Fire Council: I won't go into detail, but I  
11 will talk to you folks, it -- I basically attended the  
12 county -- the four county fire chiefs as well as  
13 representation from the attorney general meet quarterly and it  
14 moves around to the different counties and we talk about state  
15 legislature bills and whatnot. It's related to the fire code  
16 and it's something that I look forward to participating more  
17 in. I just have never -- it's been quite a while since I  
18 worked that closely with the fire code, so it was very  
19 informative to me and I look forward to working with the  
20 chiefs on making sure that our fire code and building code and  
21 everything are keeping our folks safe. You know, it's just  
22 one of those things that it's -- how do they say it? It's  
23 behind the scenes type of things that we don't see necessarily  
24 as firefighters, but we benefit from because the buildings are  
25 safe, up to code, everything works, you know, and things like

1 that.

2 And then the last one there is the Hawaii Fire

3 Chief's Conference we attended since our last meeting and that

4 was on Kauai. And it was a lot -- they paid a lot of

5 attention to peer support and the stressors on our

6 firefighters and how, you know, our jobs have really

7 diversified from just being fire guys and what stressors come

8 with that, you know, meaning the different types of calls we

9 go to and the increase in fatalities and the PTSD and whatnot,

10 so there was a big focus on this year's conference on that,

11 so...

12 And that's basically my report. If there's any

13 questions, I'd appreciate any input you may have.

14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, wasn't there

15 something going on with one of your trucks that it was

16 partially funded and then by the time you got the pricing, it

17 was more expensive and you had to --

18 CHIEF THYNE: So that's Ladder 14 that's listed

19 there and part of it was --

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Did you lose the funding

21 going into next year?

22 CHIEF THYNE: No, no. So that was why we need this

23 amendment, Commissioner Lundberg. So basically what happened

24 was is it was awarded in not this year's budget, which is

25 2019, it was awarded in 2018. But when you have bond

1 funding -- I'm trying not to be too out there, but I know

2 you're a businessman, so you understand fully, but when you

3 have a bond funding, you can have a year and a half to spend

4 it.

5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. So you're awarded --

6 CHIEF THYNE: So if it's added July 1st, you have

7 all the way till December of the following year to spend it.

8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.

9 CHIEF THYNE: However, if you don't, it goes away,

10 so we had to ask for an amendment --

11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: To extend it.

12 CHIEF THYNE: To extend it and put it in FY '19

13 funding.

14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So it is in -- it is in the

15 funding?

16 CHIEF THYNE: It is. It was approved, yes.

17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And that's for Wailea?

18 CHIEF THYNE: That's Wailea.

19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Great. Thank you.

20 CHIEF THYNE: So, yeah, that's where that is.

21 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: But you guys think you'll get

22 it done by then?

23 CHIEF THYNE: Yes. So the bid -- Chief Kawasaki

24 will probably talk about that, he's the head of our apparatus

25 and equipment committee, but the bids already went out, the

1 request for bids and proposals. We've already had one company

2 come back and ask for some, Well, we can't put this, but we

3 can put this, kind of thing, they call that exceptions. And

4 then we go through the process of identifying, Is it okay, is

5 it not okay, and then you kind of go back and forth and decide

6 whether you'll compromise or you disqualify them. And our

7 lead mechanic and his staff as well as, you know, Chief

8 Kawasaki will be with a fine-tooth comb and a microscope

9 making sure that we -- if we've gotta compromise, it's okay,

10 versus going, Okay, yeah, we'll just settle for something.

11 MR. UEOKA: Mr. Chair. Sorry, Chief. Just a quick

12 clarification, you just need to encumber the funds before the

13 deadline.

14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You don't have to spend

15 them.

16 MR. UEOKA: Which means you enter into a contract.

17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Right.

18 MR. UEOKA: So then it's encumbered. But

19 appropriations will lapse if they're not encumbered by June

20 30th for regular funds and for capital, it's December 31st, so

21 that's -- so it doesn't have to be with them by a certain

22 date, it has to be encumbered on the project.

23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.

24 CHIEF THYNE: And just one more point on that is, I

25 believe, Chief Kawasaki, the bid opening is December 18th?

1 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yeah.

2 CHIEF THYNE: So we will have news for you, more

3 than likely, at the next meeting regarding which company was

4 awarded and so on and so forth.

5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And were you bundling

6 several vehicles --

7 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- together to get a better

9 price?

10 CHIEF THYNE: That's correct.

11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: A better price --

12 CHIEF THYNE: So that was a request of budget chair,

13 Hokama, so we went and did that. So there's actually five

14 apparatus altogether.

15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Wow. Nice.

16 CHIEF THYNE: And there's multiple companies. And

17 one questions initially from our chief procurement officer at

18 the county building was -- one of the companies had said,

19 Well, we build wildland apparatus, but we don't build these

20 big rigs. Why don't you put it out separate? Well, part of

21 the reason the budget chair felt that we'd get kind of bulk --

22 bulk pricing was if we did them altogether. So I went online

23 and I found seven different companies across the nation that

24 can build all of the different types of apparatus we're

25 talking about. Whether they choose to bid or not is up to

1 them, but seven companies. So I emailed him back with  
2 literally a screen shot of their web page and said, Here's  
3 seven companies, just took me a half an hour go on the  
4 Internet and find and it can be done. So he was okay that and  
5 he replied back to the gentleman that questioned and said, you  
6 know, we feel comfortable that this is fair, so...

7 CHAIR HIRATA: Did the steel price increase have a  
8 lot to do with the -- some of the issues?

9 CHIEF THYNE: So the last run-through,  
10 unfortunately, was when our Interim Deputy Fire Chief Montalvo  
11 was here and we had talked about it and I said, you know, I  
12 don't know that we're going to get a lower price. And so we  
13 talked about the spec and whatnot, he sent it back out, and I  
14 believe it even came higher than our initial first bid, so  
15 that was pretty frustrating, obviously, and it was due to the  
16 tariffs. And so we're getting, in essence, less of a truck  
17 'cause we sat with our lead mechanic and our apparatus  
18 committee and they tried to trim here and there where they  
19 felt they could trim at all possible and in that -- so it  
20 ended up being less of a truck for a higher price, so that was  
21 pretty frustrating. And that was due to the timing of the  
22 tariffs and, you know, whatnot, so...

23 So we're looking forward to providing you the news  
24 at the next commission hearing of our winning bidder and our  
25 production schedule moving forward for the vehicles.

1 CHAIR HIRATA: Thank you, Chief.

2 CHIEF THYNE: Thanks, Chair.

3 CHAIR HIRATA: Any other questions?

4 (No response.)

5 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Good morning,  
7 everybody.

8 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.

9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Thanks for being here. So my  
10 order of business and what we're covering, as you guys can see  
11 on the handout before you, is we've been pretty active with  
12 interviews and promotions. We're trying to continuously fill  
13 our vacancies as best as we can. We interviewed eight  
14 applicants for battalion chief and the decision was made and  
15 the invitations are sitting on the desk here for the candidate  
16 who got it. Captain Guy Danley will be promoted next pay  
17 period to that position.

18 We did our Fire Fighter 2 Agility Test, which is the  
19 agility test that we give for our rescue positions, and we had  
20 25 applicants apply for the test. The morning of, 18 showed  
21 up to take the test and 16 ended up passing. So those 16 are  
22 now eligible, if they pass the written test and a position  
23 becomes available that they are promoted to, that they could  
24 work on a rescue company.

25 So we kind of addressed vacancies and is how we can

1 try to keep them full as often as possible, so we try to have  
2 an active list of all, you know, ranks available at all times  
3 so that if a vacancy does provide -- be provided to us, that  
4 we can fill it as quickly as possible.

5 And then we also received -- a new position that's  
6 being -- that was given to us this year is our building  
7 maintenance repair person and that person is going to be very  
8 active once we get selected. We received the list of  
9 candidates 2 weeks ago, we called and we set up interviews  
10 which will be coming up here in the middle of December. So  
11 once we get the candidate chosen, then they'll have to go  
12 through the county system to get their -- maybe their physical  
13 and drug testing and all that stuff done before we actually  
14 are able to have them come to work with us. So we're hoping  
15 by the end of January, if things go smoothly with that.

16 Any questions about those items? All right.

17 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Just -- sorry, Chief. As far  
18 as the building maintenance, so along with that position, he's  
19 going to need tools --

20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

21 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- and vehicles and --

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Absolutely.

23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: So do you guys have some  
24 plans for that?

25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we're planning -- we're

1 planning kind of from ground up depending on -- we're hoping  
2 to find somebody with every little skill possible, that's good  
3 for us 'cause then we can send them out to do a variety of  
4 work. And then, of course, we'll have to provide him with the  
5 tools and then we have some department vehicles that we might  
6 be able to get them into immediately that might be sufficient  
7 enough. He might have some special needs, because, you know,  
8 tools out in the weather and stuff like that, so --

9 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: He'll probably need a  
10 workshop or something.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So we kind of have  
12 etched out a space in the old mechanic shop in Kahului that  
13 he'll be working out of and so they'll have a bench, a desk,  
14 and then we'll have to fill the rest of the items that he  
15 needs to get the job done, tools and a vehicle.

16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you, Chief.

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, absolutely.

18 The next item there, the Department Improvement  
19 Committee, we've gotten little to no, but some minor questions  
20 about the process, so I'll probably be sending out that  
21 process in January and kind of start it with the new year.  
22 And that's basically an open forum our firefighters to submit  
23 to us, Hey, this needs repair or this needs correction or can  
24 we -- you know, just any type of recommendation they have we'd  
25 be open to and we'll run it through our committee to see what



1 we can support and then what we need to budget for next year  
2 or if it's a bigger project, a capital project, how we can go  
3 about acquiring those items if we see them to be needed. So  
4 that's pretty quiet right now.

5 Union Interactions: We're always busy with our  
6 unions. This past month most of the stuff was good. It's  
7 back and forth, moving things forward, trying to make progress  
8 on some policy changes and whatnot. We have good  
9 relationships with HFFA, we can get most stuff done face to  
10 face. We have different styles that HGEA likes to work with,  
11 so we just kind of go with the style that they like, which is  
12 more of a formal send letters back and forth type of thing, so  
13 sometimes that drags out a little bit longer because it takes  
14 time to get things emailed and mailed out. But all in all,  
15 good stuff there.

16 The Bargaining Unit 3, which is a lot of our  
17 clerical help, they're all getting an across-the-board raise  
18 January 1st, so -- I believe it's 1.25 percent, so it's a bump  
19 in their pay and they all look forward to it.

20 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: What is the approximate  
21 breakdown between your different union memberships?

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: 14 is our ocean safety.

23 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: No, I mean, between FFA  
24 versus --

25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: HFFA.

1 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: HFFA.

2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Let's see. HFFA, I think  
3 we're sitting at about -- if you include some of the chiefs  
4 that choose to still be members, although they don't have to  
5 be, we're probably at about 280 or so members there. And with  
6 HGEA and our admin. staff, that's MB 3 and whatnot --

7 What do you think we're at there, 80 or so?

8 CHIEF THYNE: Less than that. Probably less than  
9 that.

10 MS. MATSUI PETERSON: Seventy-something.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Seventy-something? Okay. So  
12 probably about there.

13 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. And those things, as  
15 we know, change weekly. We have people retiring from ocean  
16 safety this month and fire, so those will change. So that's  
17 that.

18 On the back there, "Transmittals from the public,"  
19 I'm just going to pass around a couple of things that were  
20 sent, letters to the mayor's office, and you guys can take a  
21 look. I don't know that it's sent to you all, but we have a  
22 county newsletter that was done the last few years and the --  
23 they've been diligent in putting all sorts of things in there.  
24 I don't know if it'll continue with new administration, but  
25 these were two articles that we helped provide information to

1 for the newsletter. And, of course, it's always nice to have,  
2 you know, good things being done out there by all of our  
3 members. So the chili cook-off was a big volunteer thing that  
4 the people did, got out there and had good favor and good  
5 experience there. And then, of course, the incident with the  
6 lifeguards on the beach there, that's always a good thing,  
7 that's always a good outcome if we can have positive results  
8 like that.

9 The third one that's listed on the agenda paper is  
10 the Kuleana Land owners, which that is the Lahaina brush fire  
11 that we had, they have been -- they've been pretty active  
12 trying to -- trying to basically figure out what happened that  
13 night and whatnot, so we've been trying to give them as much  
14 information as we can. The investigation report has just been  
15 completed and sent up to Jeff's office for approval for  
16 release, so we'll be able to at least close the loop on a lot  
17 of people that are waiting for things out in Lahaina right  
18 now. They came by our office and visited last -- about 2  
19 weeks ago just to say, Hey, kind of, What's going on, and we  
20 kind of laid it out for them and they were very pleased with  
21 our answer. And since then I've sent two emails to them to  
22 make sure that they're still in the loop every kind of week  
23 the progress that's been going on, so they've been -- they've  
24 been pleased with our response to their needs.

25 So that kind of concludes what I have this morning.

1 Any questions?

2 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you.

3 CHAIR HIRATA: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thanks, Chief.

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Oh, sorry. If I can have a  
6 go back, sorry. It was mentioned earlier about the  
7 Philippines trip with MEMA and so I just wanted to mention the  
8 firefighters that we chose. So the skill that we are trying  
9 to assist the Philippines with is our rescue systems, which is  
10 a search and rescue skill, so we have a cadre of instructors  
11 for that. And we chose basically two of the younger guys who  
12 can go to the Philippines to be teachers in their discipline  
13 and then bring that experience back to us so that they could  
14 share, you know, what they did. Rather than sending somebody  
15 who is maybe more experienced and further along in their  
16 career, but then they're going to take that experience with  
17 them into retirement. So the two that have been selected and  
18 we're working still out to make sure they can get the time off  
19 and all that stuff, are Firefighter Jeremy Story and he's  
20 actually a firefighter 2 and then Firefighter Kai Evermore,  
21 he's another firefighter we have. So those are the two that  
22 we're going to be sending with Keanu to the Philippines for  
23 the training. All right. Thank you.

24 CHAIR HIRATA: Thank you.

25 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Okay. My -- is it okay

1 to a little bit about promotions if it's not on my agenda?  
 2 I just like to say that Chief has made some changes  
 3 with the way we do the promotions as far as notifications. So  
 4 in the past we would have to send a letter up to the mayor for  
 5 approval, send back to us, and then send out letters to the  
 6 applicants whether they got it or didn't get it. We've  
 7 eliminated the step of going to the mayor, he said it's okay  
 8 to just go ahead with whoever we promote. And how we are  
 9 notifying the people now, instead of sending a certified  
 10 letter out, they just get an email and also the background.  
 11 So they basically get notified the day after our interviews  
 12 are done, usually, which I think is huge for the morale for  
 13 that. In the past, you know, sometimes 2 or 3 weeks go by,  
 14 people cannot keep a secret, so the people are finding out  
 15 when they shouldn't be finding out, so this eliminates all of  
 16 that and I think it's huge for the guys.  
 17 Okay. So for the -- did you guys get this? Yes, I  
 18 see it out there. So Major Incident Summary: I get this  
 19 report from our battalion chiefs at the end of the month, so  
 20 that's why in your original packet it wasn't there. So they  
 21 compile me a list, sometimes there's nothing, sometimes  
 22 there's a few. So as you can see, you know, we did use Air 1  
 23 a bunch of times throughout the month, mostly on rescues and  
 24 body recovery.  
 25 I did include some ocean rescue, a bunch of calls we

1 did use the lifeguards, you know, to assist us or we assisted  
 2 them, either way.  
 3 And we did actually have a big haz. mat. spill that  
 4 turned out to be a dump truck -- a rubbish truck that had a  
 5 leaking hydraulic fluid. It encompasses, you know, like over  
 6 a half of mile of spill 'cause they didn't know it was  
 7 leaking. The company did reimburse us with a pallet to clean  
 8 up the -- the absorbent to clean up the mess. And we also did  
 9 get assistance from public works on that call.  
 10 Moving on to our SOG: If you guys remember, our  
 11 standard operating guidelines are basically what -- the  
 12 guidelines that the guys use to -- how they're going to take  
 13 on a call, different -- you know, all the different types of  
 14 calls they go to, and then also it does cover our  
 15 administrative side. So with this I have included a schedule  
 16 for this year. Currently we're working on the amendments from  
 17 last year that we didn't get a chance to do with the change of  
 18 administration. So that will be done before this -- hopefully  
 19 before the end of the year and beginning January we'll go  
 20 through this process here with the dates I have here. And  
 21 hopefully publish a new revised edition on the -- July 1st of  
 22 '19.  
 23 And also you can see on there any emergency stuff  
 24 that come up, you know, something that needs to be addressed  
 25 right away, we can do the process, you know. We don't need to

1 wait for this full annual revision process, we can -- we can  
 2 do it right away.  
 3 And the last part, the -- oh. Also we are also  
 4 going to incorporate our rules and regs into the SOGs, into  
 5 one document. That may not be done by the end -- by July, but  
 6 that eventually will happen. Instead of having two different  
 7 documents for the guys to look at -- I've had that problem in  
 8 the past, you know, you've gotta look through one, it's not  
 9 there, it's back and forth. Anyway, so it will be all in one.  
 10 And for Apparatus Update: Like we said, the bids  
 11 will be finalized on the 18th, we're -- I guess it's called a  
 12 bid opening -- which to me it should be a bid closing date,  
 13 but, anyways, that's when the bids are opened and, you know,  
 14 they -- we get to see who wins the bid. And so just a recap  
 15 on the different apparatus, the five apparatus are the Napili  
 16 pumper truck, Kihei pumper, Wailea ladder truck, and two  
 17 wildland apparatus, one for Kahului and one for Lahaina.  
 18 Any questions?  
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Are there other vehicles  
 20 that you need beyond these five or if you get these five --  
 21 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Every year we're going to  
 22 have requests to replace. You know, we go through a scoring  
 23 sheet with all of our vehicles. We have this breakdown of --  
 24 the more points that the vehicle has, the more urgency, the  
 25 urgency to replace the apparatus. So with every year, you

1 know, we're going to have something new. And I'm not sure  
 2 who's up next. Victor may remember.  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So is this a good year, when  
 4 you're getting five vehicles? Is that a pretty --  
 5 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yes. So I think the  
 6 auditor recommended that we replace two and a half vehicles  
 7 per year, so this is right on track with what they're  
 8 recommending. I think in the past, you know, sometimes we  
 9 were lucky to get one, I can -- we may even have years we  
 10 don't get anything at all, so this is excellent, yeah.  
 11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Great. Good news.  
 12 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Awesome. So just the  
 13 previous -- you said you were combining the rules and regs  
 14 with the SOG?  
 15 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Mm-hmm.  
 16 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Just wanted to make sure  
 17 on that.  
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I have a question. Going  
 19 back to your first statement about the -- regarding the  
 20 promotions and stuff, I was just curious, as far as the  
 21 battalion chief, the way you guys interviewed, did you guys  
 22 bring in people from the outside or did you guys change that  
 23 format --  
 24 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: No. We changed that to  
 25 just us.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay, all right. Thank you.  
 2 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Am I done?  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is that policy? Is that  
 4 policy, Chief, with the mayor's office skipping that step now,  
 5 does that change with the new mayor?  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: We'll see. I approached Mayor Arakawa  
 7 when we were doing community budget hearings for his budget at  
 8 Haiku Community Center and I -- one of the battalion chiefs  
 9 with me was Wayne Cambra and we had talked about this  
 10 internally for quite a while and so I said, Hey, Mayor, can I  
 11 talk to you for a minute? And I said, Do you have a problem  
 12 with us, you know, going this route versus how it's been?  
 13 Absolutely not. I don't even know why -- you guys  
 14 report to a commission, you don't even report to me, kind  
 15 of -- that was literally -- I'm paraphrasing, but how he put  
 16 it, you know.  
 17 And I was like, Oh, okay. As long as you're okay  
 18 with it. I said, We just have always followed this.  
 19 He said, No, no. He said, Just send me an email.  
 20 Literally.  
 21 So we'll see with Mayor Victorino and his staff how  
 22 they want to approach it and we'll address it accordingly, of  
 23 course. We'll play by the rules, as they say.  
 24 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yeah. You know, we're  
 25 finding that just because something has been done a certain

1 convey forever, that doesn't mean it needs to continue or that  
 2 it's right or -- you know, oftentimes you find better ways or  
 3 different ways to do things.  
 4 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Reassess.  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Good job. Thank you.  
 6 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: All right. That's most I  
 7 talked all month.  
 8 (Laughter.)  
 9 CHAIR HIRATA: That much is true.  
 10 Okay. Support services.  
 11 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: That's me. Let's see. So  
 12 I think you guys got a copy of admin. services. We continue  
 13 to work on Hurricane Lane costs and putting together a packet  
 14 with FEMA. It's every week we have a meeting with a  
 15 representative from FEMA who's here and -- how's that -- MEMA  
 16 and we take a step every week to make sure we're getting all  
 17 of our figures and paperwork in line. We hope to finish it up  
 18 within the next couple of months. It is a lot of time  
 19 consuming paperwork to put it together, but they've been  
 20 really great to work with. And so we're going to continue  
 21 that and hopefully we get our reimbursement from FEMA.  
 22 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: What kind of reimbursement are  
 23 you looking at?  
 24 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Well, the preliminary costs  
 25 that Chief worked out in collecting -- and, actually,

1 everybody in the department put together and came up with a  
 2 preliminary figure, it took us about \$168,000 to battle the  
 3 Lahaina incident and we're looking at getting 75 percent back.  
 4 But FEMA goes in with a fine-tooth comb and they go through  
 5 everything and then they will say, No, this doesn't qualify,  
 6 and then on the flip side, they find stuff and say, Oh, no,  
 7 you can claim this, that we had no knowledge of, so it can go  
 8 back and forth. So 75 percent of 168,000 we hope to get back.  
 9 But, again, in our experience, it goes to the general fund, it  
 10 doesn't come back to the fire department.  
 11 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, that's too bad.  
 12 (Laughter.)  
 13 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yeah. So, I mean --  
 14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Why fight it?  
 15 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: We're trying to complete it  
 16 urgently, but there's not really any urgency in getting the  
 17 money. But we'll get the money back, we'll do what we can.  
 18 And we're waiting for final approval, I'm not sure  
 19 if the full council has approved our budget amendment for the  
 20 \$250,000, but we already got our bids and quotes for those  
 21 items that are listed for the Cascade system, some SCB packs  
 22 and bottles and those things. We're ready to purchase it as  
 23 soon as the money is in the account, so we're just waiting for  
 24 the process to run through.  
 25 And as Chief Thyne mentioned, the CIP budget has

1 been submitted. We're looking at some PPE equipment, flash  
 2 hoods, some of the -- some of the reasons are, I think --  
 3 well, one of the main reasons is the cancer issue, yeah.  
 4 We're having our PPEs and our firefighters washing it and  
 5 changing them out more frequently, buying more so that we can  
 6 make sure that they have clean personal protective equipment.  
 7 And the tough part is, okay, which one do we purchase? Cost,  
 8 quality, service we've got to look at, so we're doing that.  
 9 Annually all of our uniform personnel have to take a  
 10 haz. mat., one-day haz. mat. training, and so that was just  
 11 completed. In fact, there's one going on today that's the  
 12 last, last class of our training process.  
 13 As chief mentioned, we had the Hawaii Fire Chiefs  
 14 Conference last month.  
 15 And hepatitis B vaccination boosters for the  
 16 lifeguards: So what we found out is the lifeguards came over  
 17 to fire, we couldn't find all their records for the hepatitis  
 18 B. So to just clear the slate, we offered a titer test to all  
 19 the lifeguards where they go out and get their blood drawn.  
 20 And it's all voluntary, it's up to them. If they decline it,  
 21 then they fill out a declination form. But we wanted to  
 22 have -- give them the opportunity to test their immunity to  
 23 hepatitis B and if or and if they need a booster, we would  
 24 provide that booster. So from -- from what I was informed,  
 25 the titers should be all done about now and we're going to

1 proceed with seeing who wants or who needs boosters for our  
2 lifeguards. We find that a lot of the lifeguards have had  
3 hepatitis B in the past, we just don't have their records. So  
4 that's not good enough, we need the records to keep on file,  
5 so that's why we're doing it.

6 And the Hookipa lifeguard tower has been repaired,  
7 that was \$100,000 project for the lifeguard tower. And it  
8 looks really nice and, in fact, I talked to the lifeguards  
9 there, they said that they did -- the guys that repaired it  
10 and painted it did a really good job.

11 We also might have some paperwork on the weekly  
12 summaries on some of the rescues that the ocean safety  
13 lifeguards have performed. It's not a complete month because  
14 I needed to get this in with the agenda to make the meeting,  
15 so I don't have the whole month in here, but it will give you  
16 an idea of some of the rescues. The one week we get more  
17 rescues on the North Shore, then Makena and vice versa, you  
18 know, it all depends on the weather. Some of it, it might not  
19 add up, the numbers, because they'll perform a rescue and they  
20 might not know what activity the victim was performing at the  
21 time that they needed assistance or rescue. But you can take  
22 a look at that.

23 And then I think the last one was the 14-inch  
24 Performance Measures that you probably got copies over there.  
25 I won't go through it, it's kind of long. If you've got any

1 questions on it, I can probably help you out. That's it.

2 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: A couple questions. Chief,  
3 just wondering as far as the Cascade system on Molokai, so up  
4 until now, it's -- you guys have been dealing with it the same  
5 as in the past as far as putting -- putting bottles on the --  
6 and putting them on the boat to get it to Molokai if they have  
7 a big incident and stuff, is that -- or do they have -- did  
8 they get one since I left or --

9 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: So for the last, I don't  
10 know, handful of years the airport fire station on Molokai has  
11 allowed us to fill the bottles there.

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: That would be -- okay.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yeah. That's been going on  
14 for a while. But what had happened this past summer, they had  
15 to take the system down for like a five-year hydrostat major  
16 testing. They have to go in and they bring somebody in to  
17 test it and make sure it's all good. And they needed to  
18 switch out some parts, some major parts, so it was down for  
19 about 4 months, I think, 3 or 4 months. During that 3 or 4  
20 months, yes, we did have to transfer bottles back and forth,  
21 but it's up and running again on -- at the airport on Molokai.  
22 They've been very gracious to us, we can use it at any time,  
23 and that's where we currently fill. But I think it would  
24 still be good for us to have the ability to get the Molokai  
25 Cascade system at our facility.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Oh, definitely. Definitely,  
2 because of the nighttime issue, they only are manned during  
3 the day, so --

4 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yes.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- if you have an incident at  
6 night, we need our own.

7 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yes, so we can fill it.

8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay. Thank you.

9 CHIEF THYNE: Well, and you know the personalities  
10 too; right? There were some personal issues, so we haven't  
11 been filling quite a while.

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

13 CHIEF THYNE: I thought it was happening 'cause when  
14 Chief Pierce took over for our -- on this side, he really  
15 wanted to make that Kumbaya because there were some  
16 personality issues in the past --

17 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

18 CHIEF THYNE: Who you're very well aware of -- so  
19 they weren't going and we were bringing them across the  
20 channel. And Chief Pierce said, Hey, what can we do to work  
21 together?

22 Well, this issue on Molokai.

23 I'll take care of it.

24 A month later there's an email, It's all good. So  
25 I'm like, Okay, great. We don't have to transport bottles.

1 Then I starting seeing requests from Molokai folks to come  
2 over and bring our B4 over to drop off bottles and then pick  
3 up supplies and go back. So I said, I thought we were filling  
4 bottles at our --

5 Oh, no, Chief, we haven't done that, because, you  
6 know, the thing is broke and then the guys don't like us come  
7 and have personality -- so, yeah, it's been --

8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay.

9 CHIEF THYNE: A long history. I can talk your ear  
10 off if you choose to.

11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I just was wondering because  
12 I think that their new station was built after I kind of left  
13 already.

14 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, yeah.

15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: They were going to start  
16 helping us.

17 CHIEF THYNE: So the chief is right, the most recent  
18 one, they did fix it and we're -- I think we're locked in now,  
19 but -- yeah.

20 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay. Thank you for the  
21 stats for the ocean safety.

22 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah, yeah.

23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: We appreciate that, so thank  
24 you for --

25 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Right.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- having this so we can look  
2 at. Thank you.

3 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. We have a budget planning and  
4 appropriations committee update.

5 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, we did that. We're on this one.

6 CHAIR HIRATA: We have a guest presenter, Mr. Victor  
7 Pontanilla, who is the lead mechanic.

8 MR. PONTANILLA: Hi, guys.

9 CHAIR HIRATA: Don't being nervous.

10 MR. PONTANILLA: Thank you. This is my first time.  
11 Good morning, Chiefs, Commissioners. Shucks. Thank

12 you for having me, having this opportunity to shed some light  
13 on what the fire mechanic shop provides to the fire  
14 department. Just a little bit of myself, a little bit of  
15 history. I started my career in the mechanic industry back in  
16 '96 with Roberts Hawaii repairing motor coaches, buses, and  
17 vans, stayed there for about 4 years.

18 After that I entered the construction so-called  
19 industry working at Gomes Construction Repair on Heaths  
20 Trucks, that old facility, in a Quonset hut, stayed there for  
21 about a year.

22 After that got an opportunity to go to Kahului  
23 Trucking, stayed there for about 5 years as a mechanic there.

24 Left Kahului Trucking, actually helped to start up  
25 Valley Isle Motors heavy repairs, stayed there for about a

1 year, actually.

2 Then after that got the opportunity to actually work  
3 at Maui Electric as a diesel maintenance mechanic working on  
4 the generators, stayed there for about 2 years and then left  
5 there after 2 years.

6 Actually, started up with -- helped my brother to  
7 start up his business as a heavy equipment mobile repair that  
8 was -- that was -- oh, man, I don't miss that.

9 (Laughter.)

10 MR. PONTANILLA: So, anyway, then I finally got the  
11 opportunity to come to the department in '09.

12 The fire mechanic shop repairs and maintains almost  
13 200 pieces of equipment in the fire department, almost 200  
14 pieces. That includes Molokai, Lanai, and also ocean safety  
15 equipment, also jet skis, trailers, staff vehicles, down to  
16 the beach carts, I think you call them. Shucks. At one point  
17 prior to Chief and his entry to -- anyway, our new chiefs, we  
18 had our complement of police command vehicles.

19 So thanks, Chief, for taking that off our list.

20 Sorry, Chuck, but -- yeah. So, anyway, we used to  
21 go over that, that was part of our duties.

22 Anyway, so all that 200 pieces of equipment we over  
23 look, we have five personnel under the shop. We got three  
24 fire equipment mechanics; Lynn, our office opps assistant; and  
25 myself. I usually refer to myself as a half mechanic, you

1 know, 'cause only half the time I'm out there, if can. So,  
2 yeah, so the three mechanics are Ray Shearing, he's been here  
3 for about -- total about 22 years, something like that; and  
4 then Shawn, he's been with us for about 15 years; and Blaine,  
5 we call him Dave, he's our -- one of our newer mechanics, 2  
6 years he's been with us. And also Lynn is 2 years with us in  
7 the office.

8 So our assets what we look over is -- well, I could  
9 go through the list, but, you know, 14 pumpers, 3 aerials, you  
10 know, rescue lifts, tankers, our staff vehicles. What is  
11 that, about 16 jet skis for the ocean safety side. About 19  
12 trailers, you know, various -- just various trailers. I could  
13 go on, but there's about almost 200 pieces of that type of  
14 equipment that we over look. We do pumpers -- God, what do  
15 you call it? Skid units, all those little engines also, and  
16 some of those units have hose systems too, so we over look all  
17 that too.

18 Preventive maintenance -- sorry. Anyway, our goal  
19 at the shop, our goal is to provide safe, maintained, reliable  
20 equipment with the least amount of out of service time, you  
21 could say, to a company, I guess, that's what we try to do. I  
22 don't know if we make it happen, but -- and that's 24/7 for us  
23 also.

24 Our preventive maintenance schedule: We have an A  
25 service that happens every 6 months, we have a B service which

1 happens at least once a year, and then some other remote  
2 vehicles we may see we might alternate A or B.

3 A services are just like, you know, engine oil, the  
4 basic filters, brake adjustment, a fast inspection of the  
5 chassis and brake system.

6 Whereas a B service, we -- I guess a little more  
7 detailed as far as dropping all the fluids. If we have to do,  
8 we will do brake jobs and stuff.

9 What we have done in the past with the A service,  
10 because it may take only about, let's say, a day or two for A  
11 Service, so we might hold on to the vehicle for an additional  
12 week to make the larger repairs. And then when we see it on  
13 the B service, we might go a large service and maybe like the  
14 small repairs, that's kind of what we try to do.

15 And also on the ocean safety side, every 6 months we  
16 try to look at every piece regardless if it's an ATV, jet ski.  
17 I kind of -- we did kind of the math and it usually runs  
18 around 6 months as far as the recommendation, recommended  
19 times, let's say 300 hours or so, you know, these all happens  
20 around 6 months, so regardless, staff vehicles, it all happens  
21 6 months on the ocean safety side. So that's preventive  
22 maintenance program.

23 Our aerial laterals, laterals, three of aerials --  
24 well, two now, we send -- we have it annually third-party  
25 tested and inspected. Since they're here, we also ask them

1 to -- or bid that they include our hoists for our vehicles to  
 2 be inspected. At that -- where we were at the shop there was  
 3 the overhead cranes, we had it annually inspected also and  
 4 down to our mechanic drop we will have inspect our jib crane,  
 5 our crane.  
 6 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Do you have that done locally  
 7 or is it somebody from the mainland.  
 8 MR. PONTANILLA: We have, actually, a part-time  
 9 resident, but he's -- he works out of I believe it's Arizona,  
 10 but yes.  
 11 And we also -- we request three bids, every year we  
 12 have to get three bids and usually the Pacific Auto Crane, I  
 13 believe it is, was the -- usually wins that bid.  
 14 What is this? Inspection, safety inspections, that  
 15 happens annually. Our smaller vehicles under 10,000 GVW, that  
 16 happens with our -- we call periodic motor vehicle --  
 17 basically our safety check, right, that happens annually. But  
 18 we tried getting our license to do in-house safety checks, but  
 19 just the logistics, just the paperwork is -- we don't have  
 20 time for that. But we -- what we do is the GVW over 10,000,  
 21 so it's actually the pumpers, our rescue units, our --  
 22 anything over 10,000 that requires a PUC on the DOT side  
 23 requires some safety inspection, we do that annually in-house.  
 24 And so what -- we take care of our repairs. We  
 25 troubleshoot, repair, overhaul, test, what you call it.

1 Repairs can range from engines, steering suspensions, fire  
 2 pumpers, the aerial hydraulics, bumper-to-bumper, basically,  
 3 we take care of. Lately the vehicles -- you know, with modern  
 4 vehicles, you know, shucks, more electronic, more electronics.  
 5 We got a system called Multiplexing. Oh, God. What it is  
 6 is -- it's pretty neat. If you have like Multiplexing -- so  
 7 even for me, sometimes if you'll lose it, you forget it. It  
 8 actually utilizes, God, nodes. What it is -- let's say you  
 9 got 10 signals, currents/signals, and all you're doing is  
 10 trying to -- transmitting it through one line, so the vehicle  
 11 works off this system, but it's a great tool that helps us  
 12 troubleshoot faster if you kind of remember what all of them  
 13 where. So we like that system because it helps us  
 14 troubleshoot faster.  
 15 What is this. Of course, we also do like minor  
 16 bodywork and paint. Things kind of happen in our department.  
 17 And to kind of keep the -- help us with some  
 18 repairs, we also utilize some vendors on our small vehicles,  
 19 such as our staff vehicles we utilize on Molokai, we mobile  
 20 repair. Josh Base is one of them that we started to utilize.  
 21 Lanai City Service, we've done services through them, repairs  
 22 for their island that we cannot get to, you know, in a timely  
 23 manner. And of course, over here we have one vendor we  
 24 utilize, he's a mobile mechanic also, he works -- he works on  
 25 small vehicles.

1 Sorry, I forgot, I didn't -- I don't have handouts  
 2 for you guys, so --  
 3 How we keep track of our services or repairs or how  
 4 we receive requests is through a web-based maintenance  
 5 program, it's called Maintenance Connection. It's a way --  
 6 web-based maintenance software we use for record-keeping and  
 7 requests that fire stations, if they need repairs and stuff.  
 8 We also can generate our own and we're able to pull some  
 9 reports from it. The system is capable of so much, I know  
 10 we're just scratching the surface.  
 11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: What's called again,  
 12 Maintenance?  
 13 MR. PONTANILLA: Maintenance Connection. It's a  
 14 web-based maintenance inventory.  
 15 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Oh, yeah. It's countywide.  
 16 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah, it's available to us.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Water supply.  
 18 MR. UEOKA: You guys aren't separate systems.  
 19 MR. PONTANILLA: I believe, yeah, the landscape does  
 20 also.  
 21 Sorry, Chief.  
 22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: So does the lifeguards have  
 23 access to that, the supervisors?  
 24 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes.  
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: So they're on that system?

1 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes. So the captains and the  
 2 supervisors and the battalion chiefs should have access to it.  
 3 Well, I know the captain, at least, have access to it, yeah,  
 4 and they -- we receive requests from them through that also.  
 5 Currently we're working with, last time I counted,  
 6 about 500 open work orders right now. Since ocean safety came  
 7 over, it has increased about 35 to 40 percent at its peak, but  
 8 we were able to kind of hover right around 30 percent, around,  
 9 increase from ocean safety. We average work orders closing --  
 10 average work orders close about 50 a month, you know.  
 11 What is this? We have vehicles in our shop. Ladder  
 12 14, of course, but not doing too much with Ladder 14 right  
 13 now, yeah.  
 14 Engine 3, we had some bodywork on that and the  
 15 drivetrain was -- drivetrain that -- we took apart the  
 16 transfer case because it was corroded in there. That was a  
 17 challenge to get parts, parts to -- we finally received the  
 18 parts just yesterday, so it's kind of going back together, so  
 19 I'm hoping by next week we probably gonna see it on the road,  
 20 hoping. That's Engine 3.  
 21 Engine 7, Engine 7 is in the shop. It came in  
 22 because the wheels, the studs was dying from heavy corrosion.  
 23 Literally it was just corroded. We had to cut that thing off  
 24 a little bit just to remove the tires, so it was like no way  
 25 we were going to do it in the station at Hana, so we had to --

1 we requested for it to come out. The ladder came back in on  
 2 its own power instead of being towed out.  
 3 And, of course, Tanker 3, Tanker 3 is in the shop  
 4 right now also for water tank repairs.  
 5 Ocean safety side, we've got about three skis in the  
 6 shop right now. I think one we're going to condemn, it's from  
 7 '08, one of the supercharge ones.  
 8 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Oh, yeah.  
 9 MR. PONTANILLA: UTVs.  
 10 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah.  
 11 MR. PONTANILLA: Corrosion.  
 12 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yes.  
 13 MR. PONTANILLA: I think we just took off Baldwin  
 14 Beach, we just -- we requested -- we asked Cary -- I was like,  
 15 it's not safe to actually put back on. We actually did a, if  
 16 you want to call it, Band-Aid.  
 17 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah.  
 18 MR. PONTANILLA: We were about to send it back out,  
 19 the other side basically fell apart. I said, You know what,  
 20 Cary, I can't save that one. It's not safe for the guys.  
 21 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: I don't think you're gonna  
 22 find any way of -- to deal with the corrosion on the ATVs.  
 23 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah. It's a 2016, it's only 2  
 24 years.  
 25 MR. PONTANILLA: Unbelievable, just rotted,

1 corroded.  
 2 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah.  
 3 MR. PONTANILLA: It looks like it was 10 years old  
 4 instead of 2 years old.  
 5 CHAIR HIRATA: The front axle, the front frame --  
 6 MR. PONTANILLA: The whole thing, yeah. The control  
 7 arm, the frame. I mean, we tried to make a repairs a good  
 8 portion of the frame and we keep chipping away, it's like  
 9 there's no good structure.  
 10 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah. I know at one time  
 11 those guys, we did like -- we sent it to one of those liner  
 12 bed places.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Line-X.  
 14 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Line-X, tried that, that  
 15 didn't work. We tried filling up the tubes --  
 16 MR. PONTANILLA: With oil.  
 17 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: -- with oil, that didn't work.  
 18 And we even tried to find somebody who would make one --  
 19 MR. PONTANILLA: Aluminum.  
 20 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: -- aluminum frame, but, oh, it  
 21 was just too much money. But the motors only have like less  
 22 than 500 hours on them, but the frames just -- there's no way  
 23 around it.  
 24 MR. PONTANILLA: Unbelievable.  
 25 CHAIR HIRATA: Excuse me. Sandy, do you need to

1 take a break.  
 2 THE REPORTER: It would be nice.  
 3 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Why don't we take a 5-,  
 4 10-minute break.  
 5 (Pause in Proceedings: 11:51 a.m.-11:57 a.m.)  
 6 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Back in session and we'll  
 7 continue with the report from motor pool.  
 8 MR. PONTANILLA: The challenges to reduce the open  
 9 work orders: The manpower; equipment availability to actually  
 10 swap it out or take it out of service. Some of our challenge  
 11 is too that we're not able to do the repairs at that time or  
 12 in a timely manner. We may not have apparatus available or  
 13 large incidents where we're not able to -- training,  
 14 logistics, it may not happen for that day and then the next  
 15 day is like, Okay, we'll try to catch it tomorrow, something  
 16 else pops up, we're going back, we got another -- that's how  
 17 the backlog starts happening. And then, of course, parts,  
 18 tools, supplies are some of the challenges that we have for  
 19 the increasing of open work orders.  
 20 We try to -- we have like parts inventory, we try to  
 21 stock the special parts. As you know, we cannot stock  
 22 everything with the newer stuff, we don't know what's gonna  
 23 break. If there's like a truck of three, you know, we might  
 24 know the trends, so we'll purchase maybe two more or three  
 25 more, so we do have a little inventory we try to keep, knowing

1 the common problems.  
 2 And also how we counter that also as far as the  
 3 remote islands, our intention is to get to the islands,  
 4 Molokai and Lanai, at least visit them once a month, I think  
 5 that's sufficient. Molokai has had a backlog for many years.  
 6 We were fortunate this year that we had mechanic Ray who was  
 7 able and willing to get to Molokai for almost every Thursday  
 8 for the past year, almost. We were to finally catch up to  
 9 some of the them, some of the large repairs. Especially the  
 10 relief vehicles, that was hard to work on the on-line vehicles  
 11 without having a relief. Because there was some major stuff  
 12 that we had to do the on line equipment, but we couldn't give  
 13 them a shoddy vehicle or relief apparatus, so a lot of time  
 14 was spent on the relief apparatus to get that up to par. So  
 15 we're kind of -- we're good on that part now working with our  
 16 vendors on Molokai also, that kind of helped us to close out  
 17 some of the gap.  
 18 I was talking with Archie, Commissioner Archie,  
 19 regarding corrosion on the skis, some of the ATVs, and, of  
 20 course, the delay on responding to that as far as the long  
 21 repair and so that increases our backlog also, the time to  
 22 repair, the lengthy repairs. And, of course, hull damages was  
 23 between -- not too much way around all that. Their operations  
 24 call that they need to use the ski and corrosion starts  
 25 thinning out the hull and obviously starts water entering the

1 hull, so that takes some time to repair and to find vendors  
 2 who's capable and willing to repair that. There's a lot of  
 3 people who can work -- repair Fiberglas, it's just they don't  
 4 want to work on jet skis or capable of invoicing the county,  
 5 so that's part of the challenges.  
 6 I'm wishing Yamaha would have a dealership on Maui,  
 7 you know, just to kind of help us on that backlog on the ski  
 8 repairs. Currently we don't have any training on skis, so  
 9 that's some cause of delay which, you know, we're able to  
 10 find -- I think there was a guy in Lahaina, but we were trying  
 11 to get him on the boats and -- so we don't have the proper  
 12 equipment also for the skis to properly diagnose those.  
 13 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Oh, yeah, diagnostics.  
 14 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah.  
 15 So we provide 24/7 service to the department.  
 16 Currently we don't have -- we don't have an after-hour call  
 17 out procedure, in a sense. We don't get paid after-hours, we  
 18 don't have that premium pay of after-hours. The protocol  
 19 right now is if -- if, let's say, Engine 5 has -- cannot  
 20 engage pump, who are they calling? They're calling me at  
 21 home, you know, or after-hours and whether it's we won't have  
 22 an apparatus without one of us, we deploy. I've gotten calls  
 23 all hours of the evening, the day, so it's -- I've been on  
 24 call for the past 9 years. So, yeah, no stand-by schedule  
 25 currently. What else?

1 We have currently a position vacancy for a mechanic  
 2 that may -- can be challenging with the competitiveness of  
 3 hourly wages with private or construction, what have you. I  
 4 think guys, you know, know it's a government job, they know  
 5 they can get more money outside, so that's the whole issue  
 6 threat for us to get the best mechanics we possibly could. So  
 7 I have -- I guess one of the benefits we can say that -- to  
 8 keep our mechanics, so how can we -- what's our benefit,  
 9 what's our -- how can we keep you here? I try to sell the  
 10 training part, okay, we'll keep you training, we'll keep you  
 11 up to date to the latest and greatest and sometimes that's --  
 12 that's big.  
 13 Shop growth. Eventual -- oh, yeah, shop growth.  
 14 Eventually we'd like to see shop growth. We look at Honolulu  
 15 Fire Department, they kind of set a standard, almost, say.  
 16 They're credit -- they're accredited. Currently, if I did  
 17 this research right, they have about 220-250 pieces of  
 18 equipment and they have about 20 personnel in their shop under  
 19 roof and they're -- I guess what I eventually want to see is a  
 20 fire equipment superintendent, a supervisor, and possibly two  
 21 lead fire equipment mechanics, maybe Battalion 1, Battalion 2,  
 22 and then three fire equipment mechanics. Because if you did  
 23 the math, that's like around -- so for 200 pieces of  
 24 equipment, let's say five -- let's say three guys, I think it  
 25 comes out to thirty-something pieces of equipment, if I'm

1 right, per mechanic. And with all these components on these  
 2 truck, there's actually -- it's a fire truck, there's actually  
 3 more trucks -- it's more mechanics to one apparatus, I think  
 4 it's like three mechanics to one pumper, let's say, so it  
 5 actually takes more labor hours to actually get a fire truck  
 6 going because there's all these differences with these pumps  
 7 and, you know, you have the traditional chassis, but yet we  
 8 add more lights and our pumps and stuff, so that's kind of  
 9 what drives the labor on that part.  
 10 I think Chief guys already kind of went through the  
 11 apparatus committee, what we already have in play as far as  
 12 the five trucks.  
 13 The latest in the shop is the move, the big move.  
 14 Thank you, guys, we appreciate the -- thank you all, man,  
 15 it's -- we're grateful for that, the space that we obtained.  
 16 We worked from that shop, though, we dealt with it, we never  
 17 expected to have this and so thank you, guys, it's awesome.  
 18 We're hoping we can better serve the department with this  
 19 space. And I think to have all this space and have all our  
 20 parts under one level, that's big, so thank you, guys.  
 21 We're -- we moved -- the move happened real fast. I think  
 22 within 2 weeks, I think, we were here, but we're still kind of  
 23 picking up the pieces, literally, so we're still trying to  
 24 sort it out.  
 25 Forklift, we finally get one forklift that's -- I

1 think the last administration, they approved, you know, a  
 2 forklift for us. We should be receiving that mid-January,  
 3 hopefully receiving.  
 4 I think that's about it, guys. Sorry. Just kind of  
 5 threw that out there, but --  
 6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I've got a couple questions.  
 7 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah. Go ahead.  
 8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: One is during the transition  
 9 of the chiefs it was brought to my attention that there was a  
 10 tremendous frustration in the vehicle maintenance department  
 11 with getting POs signed and getting approval to do things and  
 12 you had vehicles that were just sitting there with no parts  
 13 that were ordered. Has that cleared up now or --  
 14 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes, definitely.  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is there timely response to  
 16 those?  
 17 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes. Thank you. So with that,  
 18 POs, answers getting quickly -- the questions getting quickly  
 19 answered -- thank you, Chief -- we're able to move forward on  
 20 big projects.  
 21 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's -- we're early in the  
 22 year, if you call it 5 months in, 6 months in now, so the  
 23 money's there. Come May, that might be corresponding a little  
 24 more --  
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I think as long as there's



1 communication.

2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Of course.

3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: That there's a process in

4 place so they know.

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I mean, their frustrations

7 were that their vehicles in the shops sitting, no parts were

8 ordered, nothing was happening because there was a backlog in

9 approval process or whatnot. I just -- I'm glad to hear that

10 that is coming through.

11 My second question is: Do you have all the tools

12 you need to do your job effectively?

13 MR. PONTANILLA: There's -- not all, but, you know,

14 we're getting by. But we could use some more -- the

15 problem --

16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The chief knows what you

17 need from a tool perspective? Does he --

18 MR. PONTANILLA: Not yet. I haven't -- he's got a

19 full plate.

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Don't worry about his plate.

21 He's got big shoulders.

22 MR. PONTANILLA: But, yes, I have to --

23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I just want to make sure

24 you're communicating with your upper leadership on what you

25 need for tools and supplies in order to do your job.

1 MR. PONTANILLA: I will. Thank you.

2 Sorry, Chief.

3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Question, Victor.

4 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: As far as, you know, all the

6 apparatuses that we get, especially from Pierce and the

7 different manufacturers, has the support slash training that

8 you get when we get these equipment, has it been on par or

9 would you say kind of -- kind of weak? You know, we spend all

10 this money on these trucks and a lot of times they introduce

11 new systems and I never asked you before, but on your side,

12 are you getting the training or does it seem like --

13 MR. PONTANILLA: Unfortunately, no.

14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: We're behind?

15 MR. PONTANILLA: We're behind.

16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I just was wondering because

17 they sell us these big systems, these new ideas, we want the

18 good stuff, right, because a lot of them are required now, and

19 then he's the guy who has to figure it out. And I remember

20 even working with some companies and it was frustrating at

21 times and I know you have to deal with that frustration.

22 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah.

23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And then the time it takes to

24 learn these systems is very challenging for you.

25 MR. PONTANILLA: Oh, yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- to figure out and you're

2 jumping back and forth between old systems and new ones and

3 it's yearly that they introduce stuff, so --

4 MR. PONTANILLA: Correct.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You know, so when we look at

6 the vendor, sometimes, you know, they made all these promises

7 and stuff, but a lot of times our decision directly affects

8 you as far as trying to get things fixed so --

9 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And, Victor, who is -- who is

11 your -- who do you report to now? Who is your supervisor?

12 MR. PONTANILLA: I'd like to say Fire 4? Fire 4.

13 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay. I just was curious.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So one of the things that

15 we're currently working on is the org charts and so there

16 is -- and, Jeff, maybe you can clear this up more -- but

17 there's a -- the org chart that the managing director looks at

18 and that's how monies are dispersed and allocated and whatnot,

19 and then there's more of a functional org chart on which we're

20 able to say like it makes sense for this person to report this

21 person. So right we're now massaging that, right now.

22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You know, last administration

23 I believe they took it on, I'm not sure but that was something

24 he just did and I wasn't sure if it was -- I was just curious

25 who was the direct report.

1 I know the -- I imagine the BCs have access to you,

2 Fire 3 and, you know, there's --

3 MR. PONTANILLA: Yes.

4 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you. Thank you for all

5 you do, especially the stuff that you mentioned on Molokai, we

6 definitely see the presence of the mechanics and the equipment

7 that's running around and I see -- I pass by the fire station

8 and I can see it's not parked there for a long time, I see

9 that, okay, it's moving around, so thank you for that.

10 MR. PONTANILLA: Yeah, we had the support from the

11 Chief to pull off that, we were able to get there. And Ray's

12 willing and able to go, you know, with his kids older already,

13 so --

14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah, it's -- we're just

15 really thankful for that 'cause I can tell you that sometimes

16 we had new trucks and we didn't see a mechanic for two and a

17 half years when trying to get an oil change and these are very

18 expensive trucks. So thank you.

19 MR. PONTANILLA: Thank you.

20 CHAIR HIRATA: Gregg.

21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I have a question. If I'm

22 not mistaken, isn't Kawasaki at Honda? So I know they've got

23 jet skis. I mean, if you're looking for a dealership, why not

24 buy Kawasaki that has a dealership on Maui?

25 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yeah, 'cause the Kawasaki's,

1 they don't -- they break down a lot.  
 2 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Do they?  
 3 COMMISSIONER KALEPA: Yamaha is probably the most  
 4 salt compatible.  
 5 MR. UEOKA: I'm going to stop you guys there.  
 6 There's a procurement process that needs to be followed, so  
 7 that's the answer to that.  
 8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.  
 9 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: I thought Kawasaki was here.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: It is.  
 11 MR. PONTANILLA: It is.  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And then just lastly, Chief,  
 13 I'd like to understand a little bit more about how they're on  
 14 call 24 hours a day and how that process works. I don't -- if  
 15 you're expecting 24-hour service out of your guys, are they  
 16 compensated for it or how is --  
 17 MR. PONTANILLA: I guess we have the option --  
 18 sorry. Go ahead.  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: So we put our mechanic standby pay in  
 20 the budget and it hasn't been moved forward in the past.  
 21 We've put it in for several years just based on the fact that,  
 22 you know, we do expect them, if an emergency arises or we --  
 23 we'll call them if an emergency arises, let's put it that way.  
 24 We don't expect them, we will call them. It hasn't moved  
 25 through the process, so now it becomes elective on their part

1 based -- whether they have a phone or --  
 2 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: They have a choice of  
 3 answering or not answering and that leaves you in a position  
 4 that you have --  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: It does. So we have relief apparatus,  
 6 we have done that when Victor hasn't been available or he's on  
 7 vacation or we can't get ahold of him, whatever have you,  
 8 we'll make the adjustment as we need to to keep the operation  
 9 moving forward, so, you know -- it's not like they have the --  
 10 you know, the only keys to the vehicle kind of thing, right,  
 11 we'll make the adjustment. But ideally we would have them  
 12 having standby pay, having a mechanic on call would be the  
 13 ideal situation and that's what we have put in for.  
 14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: If they elect to come in in  
 15 middle of the night, are they compensated for that?  
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Yes, they are, but, again, it comes  
 17 out of a budget that doesn't have that allocation -- allocated  
 18 amount, right, so eventually you're sitting in front of --  
 19 potentially sitting in front of a body going, we overspent our  
 20 budget, we need an amendment. You see what I'm saying?  
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, yeah.  
 22 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: We do have some standby  
 23 positions already in the department, prevention, for fire  
 24 investigation and stuff.  
 25 CHIEF THYNE: That's actually the only standby

1 positions.  
 2 NEMA has standby pay; right?  
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, you know, we are desiring  
 4 it for them for sure.  
 5 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Let's move on. Any last, last  
 6 questions?  
 7 (No response.)  
 8 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Let's move on. I think we  
 9 have a report from Kyle regarding the Native Hawaiian law  
 10 training course.  
 11 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: Sure. Last week Friday I  
 12 attended a day-long course put on by professors at the UH Law  
 13 School and there are basically four topics that they went  
 14 over. And I was able to get handouts or we all got handouts  
 15 for each of the presentations, which Jill has copied for each  
 16 of you. And these are basically six-page summaries of those  
 17 four main topics, which are water management, basically water  
 18 rights; traditional and customary rights of people over  
 19 different types of lands; the public land trust, which  
 20 includes a lot of the government lands or former crown lands;  
 21 and then Native Hawaiian burials or iwi kapuna.  
 22 (Mr. Pontanilla left the room.)  
 23 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: And they basically touch upon  
 24 what laws are in place to protect these four areas. And the  
 25 meeting was heavily attended by the long-range planning

1 division of the county and it seemed more geared toward kind  
 2 of land planning and permitting and looking at these types of  
 3 issues when managing lands. So I'm not a lawyer, I won't  
 4 speak to -- if you have specific questions, ask Jeff, but I  
 5 think these four handouts will -- or aggregated into one,  
 6 these handouts will kind of give you a flavor for what they  
 7 spoke about and it's a good synopsis of these different items  
 8 that come up in land planning or land management.  
 9 But as it applies to we as a commission, it's not  
 10 really much because fire is going to do what it takes to get  
 11 through things and they're not going to look at whether it's  
 12 public lands or not, they're just going to deploy. But it was  
 13 just an interesting, interesting set of topics that a lot of  
 14 us as residents of Hawaii don't necessarily know are there.  
 15 So that's it. Thank you.  
 16 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Any other questions?  
 17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you, Kyle.  
 18 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Next meeting is January 17th  
 19 at 10:30 here. Move to close?  
 20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So moved.  
 21 CHAIR HIRATA: Moved by Gregg. Second?  
 22 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Second.  
 23 CHAIR HIRATA: Second by Ed. All in favor.  
 24 (Response.)  
 25 CHAIR HIRATA: Okay. Thank you very much,

1 everybody. Happy holidays.  
2 (The proceedings were adjourned at 12:18 p.m.)  
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Reporter's Certificate

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2 STATE OF HAWAII )  
3 COUNTY OF MAUI ) SS.  
4

5 I, Sandra J. Gran, Certified Shorthand Reporter for  
6 the State of Hawaii, hereby certify that on December 13th,  
7 2018, at 10:34 a.m. the proceedings was taken down by me in  
8 machine shorthand and was thereafter reduced to typewritten  
9 form under my supervision; that the foregoing represents, to  
10 the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the  
11 proceedings had in the foregoing matter.

12  
13 I further certify that I am not an attorney for any  
14 of the parties hereto, nor in any way concerned with the  
15 cause.

16  
17 DATED this 31st day of December, 2018, in Maui,  
18 Hawaii.

19  
20  
21 

22  
23 \_\_\_\_\_  
24 Sandra J. Gran, RPR  
25 Hawaii CSR 424