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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 10:01 a.m., on
 15 April 18th, 2019.
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 20 REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424
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1 (April 18th, 2019, 10:01 a.m.)
 2 * * *
 3 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: I want to call this meeting to
 4 order. It's 10:01. The first thing I would like to do is I
 5 would like to introduce Linda Vares --
 6 COMMISSIONER VARES: Lisa.
 7 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: -- I mean Lisa -- how do you say
 8 your last name?
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: Var-es.
 10 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: -- Veras and Dwight Burns as our
 11 new commissioners. We welcome you to the commission.
 12 COMMISSIONERS: Welcome.
 13 (Applause.)
 14 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: You guys do know it's a 5-year
 15 commitment, yeah?
 16 COMMISSIONER VERAS: After the paperwork was filled,
 17 yes.
 18 (Laughter.)
 19 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Thanks for volunteering your
 20 time. I can tell you from my own experience it's been a
 21 real -- it's been a real enriching experience for me, anyway,
 22 so, yeah.
 23 The next item is Approval of the Minutes. Would
 24 anybody like to move to approve the minutes?
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Make a motion to approve the

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1 ATTENDANCE
 2 COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
 3 Edwin Misaki, Chair
 4 Kyle Ginoza, Vice Chair
 5 Linda Fernandez, Member (in at 10:14)
 6 Jack Freitas, Member (out at 11:27)
 7 Gregg Lundberg, Member
 8 Travis Tancayo, Member
 9 Dwight Burns, Member
 10 Lisa Vares, Member
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 12 STAFF:
 13 Charles Hirata, Past Chair (in at 10:05)
 14 Archie Kalepa, Past Member
 15 David Thyne, Deputy Fire Chief
 16 Bradford Ventura, Deputy Fire Chief
 17 Michael Werner, Battalion Chief
 18 Kevin McAfee, Battalion Chief
 19 Cary Kayama, Ocean Safety Operations Manager
 20 Jill Matsui Peterson, Commission Secretary
 21 Misty Cordeiro, Office Operations Assistant
 22 Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
 23 Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency (out at 11:27)
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1 minutes as distributed.
 2 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.
 3 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Second.
 4 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's been moved by Gregg
 5 and seconded by Jack.
 6 Oh, I'm sorry. By the way -- going back, by the
 7 way, do you guys know everybody on the commission?
 8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: We did --
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: We all got introductions.
 10 MS. MATSUI: Should we just introduce?
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Quick go around?
 12 MS. MATSUI: Yes.
 13 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Why don't we do this,
 14 going back -- I'm sorry I'm going backwards. Why don't you
 15 let us know your -- a little bit about your background.
 16 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay.
 17 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: We can start with you.
 18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Sure. My name is Lisa Vares
 19 and I'm the general manager and vice president of Vares
 20 Contracting. We're an ABC-licensed general contractor. We do
 21 a lot of specialty excavation, a lot of land clearing, fire
 22 breaks, forest mulching, which is how I got interested in this
 23 commission. I'm looking forward to the next 5 years.
 24 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.
 25 Dwight.

1 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Good morning, Everyone. Dwight
 2 Burns. I'm with the Hawaii Operating Engineers, a 25-year
 3 member, 6 years on staff now. I've always wanted one chance
 4 to -- I used to work for Goodfellows -- let me go back. I
 5 used to work for Goodfellows and when I was there, I was there
 6 like 10 years and I always wanted one chance to run dozers
 7 helping you guys fight fires with those, but I never got my
 8 chance.

9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Never say never.

10 COMMISSIONER BURNS: That's right. I could go back
 11 in the field and do it. So happy to be here.

12 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Can we continue with you, Gregg?

13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Sure. My name is Gregg
 14 Lundberg. I have 2 years on the fire commission. I was just
 15 recently the president and CEO of Blue Hawaiian Helicopters,
 16 but I've left that and Monday I start a new job as general
 17 manager of West Maui up in Kaanapali. But I didn't get a
 18 chance to talk to you, Herman, yeah. So looking forward to
 19 it. It's a great commission, a lot of fun.

20 (Mr. Hirata entered room.)

21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The people are great and
 22 just have a good time with it.

23 COMMISSIONER GINOZA: I'm Kyle Ginoza. I've been on
 24 the commission 1 year now. I work for Hope Builders and I'm a
 25 project manager/facilitator.

1 experience up until that time, 17 years in Maui Fire
 2 Department, so that's where I'm at.

3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: My name is Herman Andaya. I'm
 4 the administrator of the Maui Emergency Management Agency.

5 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: Good morning. I'm Kevin
 6 McAfee. I'm a battalion chief with the fire department. I
 7 have 25 and a half years on the job. I've worked a variety of
 8 stations and assignments. I'm currently assigned to the ocean
 9 safety bureau, which is right up here by Wells Park, and so
 10 I'm supervising with the operations manager Cary Kayama a team
 11 of 61, so we take care of the beaches every day.

12 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: I'm Val Martin, assistant
 13 chief of Support Services. Most of you know that I take care
 14 of the administrative duties, such as fire prevention here,
 15 the mechanic shop, and working just a lot of administrative
 16 duties. But if you have any questions, I'm ready to go.

17 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: I'm Battalion Chief Mike
 18 Werner. I'm in charge of Battalion 1 on A watch and I'll be
 19 filling in for Chief Kawasaki today, who's out doing the
 20 wildland training.

21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You giving the presentation
 22 today?

23 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Yes.

24 (Laughter.)

25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: We always look forward to

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Travis Tancayo, retired
 2 battalion chief with Maui County Fire. And I'm coming up on 4
 3 years on the commission.

4 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: I'm Jack Freitas. I own
 5 Kihei Safe and Lock Maui, so -- it's a good commission. I've
 6 been on the commission 4 years.

7 MR. MURAI: Deputy corporation counsel Gary Murai.
 8 I'm just keeping the seat warm for Jeff Ueoka.

9 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Ed Misaki. I'm from Molokai. I
 10 work for the Nature Conservancy and I'm trying to keep Chuck's
 11 seat warm for this meeting.

12 (Laughter.)

13 CHIEF THYNE: Hi. I'm Dave Thyne. I'm the fire
 14 chief selected by the commission. I started, actually, my
 15 career in the fire service in 1987, but I started as your fire
 16 chief on August 28th of this past year. So it's been great
 17 working with this commission. And those two gentlemen we're
 18 honoring today, I actually worked with in the field for many
 19 years as well. Well, with Archie in the ocean and with
 20 Officer -- or Captain, I guess he retired as, Chuck Hirata on
 21 the street. So welcome.

22 COMMISSIONER VARES: Thank you.

23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Hi, I'm deputy fire chief
 24 appointed by Chief Thyne. We've been in office since August,
 25 like he said. My previous experience is basically all line

1 presentations.

2 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: I haven't had a chance to
 3 see one yet. He told me I just have to read this line right
 4 here.

5 (Laughter.)

6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: A one-liner. A man of few
 7 words.

8 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Yeah.

9 OS OM KAYAMA: My name's Cary Kayama. I'm the
 10 operations manager for Ocean Safety. I've been doing it for a
 11 little over 24 years.

12 MR. KALEPA: My name is Archie Kalepa. I've been on
 13 the commission for the last 5 years and it's been a privilege
 14 and, you know, I've really enjoyed my time here. And, you
 15 know, there's been a few meetings that I've missed because of
 16 voyage on Hokulea and -- but my time that I did have here with
 17 the commission and seeing the new chief come on board and
 18 seeing the direction, it's been really, really nice. So I
 19 want to say thank you to the commission and to the chief.
 20 Thank you.

21 MR. HIRATA: Charles Hirata. I'm retired from the
 22 Maui Police Department and I was appointed at the same time as
 23 Archie. I was -- I started off as just a member and then
 24 became vice chair and then became chair. It's not -- it's not
 25 really an easy job doing this job as a fire commissioner.

1 It's probably one of the most difficult positions that you'll
2 have to do. One of the duties that you have to do is to
3 select the fire chief and if you have the privilege of doing
4 so in the next 5 years, it's an interesting process. And just
5 keep in mind that, you know, you need to serve the county, the
6 people in this county, and you have to be fair about all of
7 your decisions. And I wish you luck.

8 COMMISSIONER: Wow, 5 years, Chief.

9 CHIEF THYNE: A lot of pressure, I tell ya.

10 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: And then, of course, you guys
11 already know Jill, yeah. She's the secretary for the
12 commission. And I want to thank Jill because she's put a lot
13 of things together in the past few meetings and had to endure
14 patience with all of us, so thank you, Jill.

15 So I want move on to Public Testimony. Is there
16 anybody here to do public testimony?

17 (No Response.)

18 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. None. So we'll move on
19 to Item No. 5 and before -- this is the election. Every
20 March, usually, we do the election of the new officers
21 beginning from the April meeting, but we didn't have a March
22 meeting, so we're doing the election now. Because Chuck's
23 term is up, already over, that's why I'm sitting up here as
24 the Vice Chair.

25 Before we go into the election of the commission,

1 but if it's not clear, you know, who's voting for or against,
2 then we can propose, You know what, let's do the vote by, say,
3 roll call or whatever.

4 So, anyway, anyone have any questions?

5 (No response.)

6 MR. MURAI: Otherwise, if not, Mr. Chair, you can go
7 ahead and start the election. You can start by -- I don't
8 know which one you want to do first, vice chair or chair.

9 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you, Gary.

10 I want to leave it up to guys, what -- what do you
11 want to do first, chair or vice chair?

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Chair.

13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chair.

14 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Chair? Okay. Open for
15 nomination.

16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I nominate -- I'll nominate
17 Edwin Misaki for chair. He looks very good in that chair.

18 You've already assumed the role, I think, so...

19 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Any other nominations?

20 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Move nominations be closed.

21 (Laughter.)

22 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Any second?

23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Second.

24 COMMISSIONER VERAS: Second.

25 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: All those in favor?

1 Gary, I would like Gary to explain the process.

2 MR. MURAI: Okay, Members. What we're going to do
3 is electing a chair and a vice chair, so it's, you know,
4 basically up to you folks how you want to run the election.
5 You know, you're going to decide which you're going to elect
6 first, the vice chair or the chair and, you know, I guess a
7 lot of it is, you know, Ed is going to run the election, so
8 it's up -- I guess it's up to you, Ed, which one you want to
9 do first, but first we open up the floor for nominations.
10 Anyone can make a nomination, you can nominate yourself or any
11 other commissioner.

12 And then after everyone has had a chance to make
13 their nominations, then we'll close nominations. Once
14 nominations are closed, then people can speak for or against,
15 you know, the candidates. Usually people don't, but you may.
16 And then once we've had an adequate opportunity to discuss or
17 speak for or against any candidate, then we vote.

18 Now, we also need to decide how we're going to vote.
19 Usually it's by show of hands. All in favor of So-and-So,
20 raise your hand. But it could also be by roll call, you know,
21 just go down the line, everyone would announce their vote. Or
22 if there's only one candidate, it can be by, you know, All in
23 favor, say "aye." All opposed, say "no."

24 So, anyway, that's up to you folks how you want to
25 do it. I would suggest just a simple show of hands, you know,

1 (Response.)

2 VICE CHAIR MISAKI: Any opposed?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I guess I'm officially running
5 this meeting.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. MURAI: The record will reflect that the vote
8 was unanimous.

9 So, Mr. Chair, you can -- you can go ahead and call
10 for the nominations for vice chair.

11 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's kind of been a tradition
12 in the past that the vice chair becomes the chair, so I was
13 expecting this, so -- but I'm really honored to serve you
14 guys.

15 So I'd like to open nominations for the vice chair.

16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'll make a nomination of
17 Kyle Ginoza.

18 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Second.

19 Move the nominations be closed.

20 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Second.

21 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Okay. Nominations closed.
22 (Laughter.)

23 MR. MURAI: The record should also reflect that
24 Commissioner Fernandez has joined us. And we were at --
25 Chair, we were at -- I think there was a motion to close

1 nominations.

2 CHAIR MISAKI: And there was a second, yeah?

3 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.

4 CHAIR MISAKI: It's been moved and seconded that

5 nominations be closed. The candidate is -- for vice chair is

6 Kyle Ginoza. Any discussion?

7 MR. HIRATA: Did you hear the railroad whistle?

8 (Laughter.)

9 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I want -- all those in favor,

10 just say "aye."

11 (Response.)

12 CHAIR MISAKI: All those opposed?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's been -- Kyle has been the

15 vice chair, it's been unanimous, so welcome aboard, Kyle.

16 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

17 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Herman, you're Item No. 6.

18 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Good morning, Mr. Chair,

19 Members of the Commission. You have our report before you, so

20 I'll just give some highlights. Late last month we had the

21 senior work -- senior officials workshop and so the reason

22 that we had this workshop is because we have some new members

23 of the administration that just came on board in January and

24 so as a result we wanted to train them with respect to if

25 there's an EOC activation, what their roles will be. And so

1 we put this workshop together, it was a two-day workshop, and

2 it was held at the Maui Arts and Cultural Center. We also had

3 some of our partners there as well and we had about 70 sign up

4 for this workshop, so it was very -- it was very well

5 attended.

6 I asked Chief Thyne, who's a graduate of the

7 Emergency Management Institute, if he could -- a graduate of

8 the institute and he's also a master exercise planner, at the

9 time I thought he was the only one here on Maui, and so I

10 asked if he could help us plan our exercise for this workshop.

11 And he indicated he didn't have the time, but offered another

12 master exercise planner from the Maui Fire Department and

13 that's Captain Kaulana Kino and I just wanted to say he did an

14 outstanding job. Creating an exercise takes up a lot of time

15 and he did a very good job putting it together. We had a very

16 complex exercise and we had a number of injects including a

17 hotel that fell into the ocean as well as a cyber security

18 threat during a hurricane.

19 So you can tell that the people that was -- were

20 involved in the exercise was challenged by the exercise.

21 There were also members of the incident management team

22 present who advised and assist. And I thank Chief Ventura are

23 for making sure that that happened. And so because of that I

24 want to thank both Chief Thyne and Deputy Chief Ventura for

25 their support for this exercise and for offering Captain Kino

1 to help us plan our exercise.

2 In my report I also noted that I was invited to be

3 part of a mission to the Philippines with the Hawaii National

4 Guard. What we didn't mention in that report is that included

5 in this mission was Maui Fire Department Firefighter Jerime

6 Storey and he taught the Philippine first responders urban and

7 search and rescue techniques. So this exercise was an

8 earthquake exercise in the Philippines and they're due for one

9 and so that's the reason why they want to start exercising and

10 start learning different techniques and whatnot. And so there

11 were about 20 of us from Hawaii that traveled to the

12 Philippines to help teach them and to also help them go

13 through an exercise and it was very -- it was very successful.

14 Jerime was very popular with our Filipino partners and

15 represented the fire department very well. And so both of --

16 and, again, both of our trips were paid for by the Hawaii

17 National Guard.

18 We are about to graduate another class of our

19 community emergency response team. I signed up for this class

20 as well, 'cause I wanted to know what our CERT members have to

21 go through and just to understand what this class -- you know,

22 what we learn in these classes. And it was very interesting,

23 the -- it's a six-day class, last night we went until nine

24 o'clock last night in one of our classes. The instructors are

25 from the Maui Fire Department and they did an excellent job

1 teaching us various skills from triage to first aid to

2 cribbing, and this is where we're using techniques to lift a

3 heavy object off a person.

4 The community emergency response team is very

5 important because during an emergency, you know, the fire

6 department may not be able to respond to every single request

7 for assistance, they will be overwhelmed, and so this class

8 teaches them -- teaches our community to fend for themselves.

9 We teach them certain techniques so that they can help their

10 community members in times of emergency. And so, again, I

11 want to thank Chief Thyne and Chief Ventura as well as

12 Assistant Chief Val Martin for supporting this program, for

13 allowing the firefighters to be instructors and to keep the --

14 keep this program going.

15 The last thing I want to mention is the Maui Fire

16 Department submitted an application for a State Homeland

17 Security Grant and I know Chief Ventura was instrumental in

18 preparing the application. And so it's a very -- it's a

19 competitive process, we compete against other counties in

20 Hawaii, and so I'll be going to Honolulu and advocating for

21 projects for Maui County. We have this thing called the red

22 book meeting and that's where we kind of duke it out with the

23 other counties and, hopefully, we come up with some -- with

24 some projects. There's been a lot of projects with Maui Fire

25 Department that have -- that we've received grants for over

1 the years, I think every year we receive grants.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's been very good.
 4 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That's all I have, Mr. Chair.
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.
 6 Any questions?
 7 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chair, just a quick
 8 question.
 9 You went there to teach, but was there any learning
 10 from your side --
 11 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes.
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- on what you brought back,
 13 like an "aha" moment.
 14 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, there were. There were
 15 things that I learned, some specific things. Like, for
 16 instance, we use what's called a Planning P and in the
 17 Philippines they use what's called a Planning 6 and the
 18 Planning 6, I believe, is what they use in California, some
 19 jurisdictions in California use that specifically for EOC.
 20 The Planning 6 is meant for IMT, yeah, but we kind of use it
 21 in our EOC -- in our EOC. I'm sorry, EOC stands for emergency
 22 operations center. So that's something that I learned and
 23 we're using -- we can institute some of that.
 24 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You can copy that.
 25 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah. What I -- what I found

1 with the Philippines is that, you know, I thought, Oh, they're
 2 a Third World Country, you know, they're -- but they're very
 3 well versed in FEMA's ICS, the incident command system, and
 4 so -- and that was great. What I also learned from the
 5 Philippines, and that's the reason why I think it's important
 6 and we're trying to promote this a lot more as a CERT program,
 7 is in the Philippines, Quezon City specifically, they have 3.1
 8 million people in the city, there's no way the government's
 9 gonna be able to assist every single -- you know, assist
 10 everybody who's gonna -- who's gonna be in need. And so
 11 that's where I think we need to empower our communities, to,
 12 you know, teach them certain things, teach them certain skills
 13 so that they can take care of themselves. And so that's
 14 something that we want to do here in Maui as well, we want to
 15 promote the CERT program. And thanks to the Fire Department
 16 for providing the instructors for that so they can teach our
 17 community members how to fend for themselves. So in our CERT
 18 program, we have about 40 in our class, and I hope that we can
 19 have more, more classes in the future.
 20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Great. Thank you.
 21 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you.
 22 COMMISSIONER VARES: Is it an ongoing class or is it
 23 like a one-time kind of certification?
 24 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: No, it's a -- oh, you mean,
 25 once they --

1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.
 2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Once they're certified, yeah,
 3 that's it. There's no --
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: How long does the certification
 5 usually take?
 6 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: It's 2 weeks, 6 days, so it's
 7 like Monday/Wednesday it's from 5:30 to 9:00 at night and then
 8 on Saturday it's from 9:30 to 4:00 in the afternoon. So it's
 9 a lot of time, but I'm surprised, we have a lot of people who
 10 are interested. We're trying to get certain organizations,
 11 you know, like, for instance, the hotels, so hotels, that's
 12 one of their pushes, they want to get the hotels -- through
 13 the Hotel Security Association, they want to get people --
 14 employees in the hotel CERT certified so that way in case
 15 there's an emergency, they're able to respond, you know, they
 16 don't have to wait for -- I mean, for firefighters, yeah, to
 17 come in.
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I think churches might be
 19 someplace you want to reach out to.
 20 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes.
 21 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: They become vital in the
 22 community when there's a disaster.
 23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah, most definitely. Most
 24 definitely. So we're trying to create, I guess, a network and
 25 that's one of the things that we asked for from the council,

1 we're trying to get another position, a recovery specialist,
 2 and so that's where they can engage churches, various
 3 organizations, volunteer organization groups, bring them
 4 together and, you know. 'Cause that's what happened in
 5 Hurricane Lane, it was the churches, it was the American Red
 6 Cross, it was VOAD. VOAD is the Volunteer Organizations
 7 Assisting in Disasters. It was all those individuals that
 8 came together and helped, you know, helped in the recovery
 9 efforts, yeah.
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. And I just wanted to make sure
 11 everybody knew CERT was Community Emergency Response Team,
 12 yeah.
 13 Okay. If there's no more questions, we'll have the
 14 Fire Department, Chief Thyne.
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
 16 Again, welcome, New Members.
 17 Congratulations, Vice Chair, as well.
 18 If I could just real briefly for the new members,
 19 the two reports that we submit to you folks along with our
 20 update is -- one has been in this commission for many years
 21 and that's the responses and it just gives you an overview of
 22 the number of calls and the type of calls we respond to that
 23 previous month or the month we're having the topic. In this
 24 case 2 months, but they're in separate -- Jill puts them in
 25 separate packets. And it's just for you to get a snapshot on

1 the call volume that we deal with and the various types of
 2 disciplines that we -- or incidents that we respond to, just
 3 to give you a snapshot. We always mention that it's -- you
 4 know, being in Hawaii, as we know, it's pretty much year-round
 5 anything can happen from a wild fire happening in December,
 6 which is very unusual on the mainland, obviously, with snow
 7 and whatnot, but here in Polipoli, I believe it was in
 8 February or something ridiculous like that a few years ago,
 9 so... But we do see an uptick typically with our visitor
 10 population, as you know, with ocean rescues as our visitor
 11 population increases and those types of things.

12 You'll kind of get a snapshot of that every time and
 13 then, as Administrator Andaya mentioned, you can see we are
 14 training. We pride ourselves on being a training
 15 organization. We have a mantra in the fire service and I
 16 believe in the other services as well, but, you know, in the
 17 absence of real world experience, you default to your level of
 18 training. And so because we are in paradise and live in a
 19 very beautiful place and whatnot, you know, we have a lack of
 20 certain types of calls or incidents.

21 Just yesterday, for instance, we had a structure
 22 fire; we may not hear about another structure fire, hopefully,
 23 for a month, you know, and so -- on the mainland in some
 24 jurisdictions they'll be going on three and four and five a
 25 day. Right? And so we capitalize on those opportunities to

1 really reflect on our operations, to look at it from all
 2 different sides of how we support our personnel on the end of
 3 the line, both in medical monitoring, rehab of them, making
 4 sure they're able to go back to duty and perform. Because
 5 they can go from one fire to the next or they can go from one
 6 fire to an LAR extrication or an ocean rescue or some other
 7 incident. So we have processes in place to make sure we
 8 monitor our personnel, make sure they're physically able to
 9 continue in their -- in their job after the incident's pau,
 10 yeah, so...

11 But you can see all the different disciplines we
 12 train in. Again, this will be -- you'll notice some months
 13 will have a large volume of medical training, for instance,
 14 and that's due to the certifications we have and our annual
 15 certifications, and then it may drop off, and that's just
 16 basically because we've done the lion's share of our personnel
 17 and now it's just making up for the folks that may've been on
 18 vacation or out on leave, and so... But it gives you a
 19 snapshot.

20 We included this as we came on as a new
 21 administration because we're proud of the fact that our
 22 personnel are out there training and preparing every day.
 23 They're out right now in the old fallow fields, three
 24 companies at a time, with qualified, certified instructors
 25 from the wildland environment doing National Wildfire

1 Coordinating Group certification training. It's all
 2 refresher -- RT130 is the acronym, it's basically -- RT is
 3 refresher trainings. And so in the wildland environment, you
 4 have to complete certain skills, there's four different
 5 disciplines that you have to complete every year to continue
 6 as a wildland firefighter. And so we're out there right now,
 7 there's four personnel from the mainland that are training our
 8 personnel and our training bureau staff as well and our health
 9 and safety staff doing the safety monitoring of those
 10 evolutions and they're attacking a wildland firefighting. So
 11 that's just an example of what's going on and that's why I'm
 12 sunburned, by the way, because I was out there yesterday.

(Laughter.)

13 CHIEF THYNE: But I just wanted to -- for the new
 14 commissioners wanted to give you an idea of what that report
 15 looks like and what that means. And we're open to any
 16 questions as you start looking through your transmits from
 17 Jill ahead of the meeting and "Hey, what does this mean" type
 18 of thing, so... These folks always ask questions, so you're
 19 more than welcome to do so as well.

21 So, anyway, I just want to really summarize the
 22 March meeting that never happened and just go right down the
 23 list, much like Administrator Andaya did. We talk about the
 24 new mayor and his steering team and he's a proponent of the
 25 safety of all the county employees, not just firefighters and

1 law enforcement officers, you know, and RSOs, but -- so he's
 2 formed a committee that looks at the safety concerns across
 3 the various disciplines in the county. So we have membership
 4 on that with our health and safety bureau, Captain McDonald
 5 and his folks, and so we will participate in that.

6 We have an ongoing issue down in Pulehu Bay, down at
 7 the river mouth there in Waiehu, Paukukalo area. You know,
 8 some houseless folks and potentially other people,
 9 unauthorized burning. There's an area resident who's very
 10 sensitive to smoke and whatnot, so she's been, you know, in
 11 contact with the mayor's office frequently, to the point where
 12 we're working very closely with MPD to try to, you know,
 13 dissuade those folks from doing that. Obviously when you have
 14 folks that don't have a place to cook their food, they have to
 15 cook it somehow, so we're sympathetic to that, but, you know,
 16 we -- at the same time, there's area residents that are
 17 overcome with the smoke and whatnot.

18 So it's been an ongoing thing, just wanted to bring
 19 it to this commission's awareness, just in case you pulled on
 20 the side by somebody from the mayor's office and whatnot.
 21 Mr. Fukuyama is mentioned there, he's met with the gal, he's
 22 well aware. And we've prioritized it within our battalion,
 23 our second battalion. In fact, Chief Werner initially
 24 assisted with that and then one of our counterparts, Battalion
 25 Chief Barut, has taken up point on that with our folks from

1 Wailuku Station. We'll try to do the best we can to, you
 2 know, take care of that issue.
 3 BC Werner may or may not bring up the Grand Wailea
 4 events, we've had a couple of major events down there; the
 5 Bruno Mars concert and Pitbull and whatnot. Our staff from
 6 the fire service provided some EMS and whatnot. No remarkable
 7 events other than the remarkable events of the two
 8 entertainers that were there, which is a good thing for us.
 9 10,000 folks on the beach, a lot of things can happen, but it
 10 did go off without, quote/unquote, any remarkable things
 11 happening, so... We're talking boats offshore, we had rescue
 12 watercraft in the ocean, we had a rescue boat available as a
 13 platform as well just in the case, who knew what was going to
 14 happen. We've heard about the flotillas and whatnot on Oahu
 15 and so... The mayor prioritized that, we supported it, and
 16 fortunately nothing bad happened, so it's null and void at
 17 this point.

18 Went into some different things with the council as
 19 far as premium pay. For the new commissioners, we have a
 20 director's meeting that Administrator Andaya participates in
 21 as well. Those are typically held every 2 weeks in the
 22 mayor's conference room where we get together as
 23 administrators from the various agencies and just discuss
 24 mayoral/managing director priorities, any issues and concerns,
 25 any ongoing training within the county, like Administrator

1 Andaya mentioned as far as the senior officials workshop. It
 2 was a chance for us to network as department heads and whatnot
 3 and bring any issues or concerns forward.

4 I attended the state of the county address. Our
 5 folks from the Lahaina fire were recognized for their efforts
 6 and whatnot. That was really nice of the mayor to do that.
 7 It wasn't expected, but at the same time we appreciated that
 8 from the mayor. So that was kind of March.

9 Moving on to April, if you're thumbing through your
 10 handouts there, again, a lot of the budget. We're going to
 11 have -- Jill, to her credit, and some of the gals back in the
 12 office put together an informational packet for you on the
 13 budget. We -- this commission, for our new commissioners,
 14 basically has to review and approve our budget as it moves
 15 forward to the mayor. And so the process -- so this is a
 16 packet that we wanted you folks to have and it -- what they
 17 did with this new county council and the new budget chair was
 18 they changed the format of how it's typically gone.

19 And because we have new commissioners and also for
 20 the seated commissioners, I wanted to give you, because I felt
 21 there was a -- it was very -- well, we felt it was good
 22 information for you to have. I mean, this was from the
 23 council and it was a -- it was basically ten pages of
 24 questions that they had concerns over or wanted to know more
 25 about our department. And so it used to be they would bring

1 up the department heads and just kind of quiz you and it was
 2 on the fly, you may have seen it on Akaku, and you just kind
 3 of shot from the hip and answered as best you could and if
 4 you -- if they needed more detailed information, you sent
 5 something up later with the more appropriate or more expanded
 6 answer.

7 This council decided that they weren't going to do
 8 that as much as sending you questions ahead of time and that
 9 became this packet, what you see. So what you'll see here is
 10 the questions that they submitted to us and then the answers
 11 we provided to them. And so it's ten pages, it's some heavy
 12 readings, definitely read it with a cup of coffee, but it
 13 just, again, gives you a snapshot of our department, what
 14 they're asking of us as far as from the county council side,
 15 and then, again, the answers we provided to them. So that'll
 16 kind of summarize all of the different budget stuff there,
 17 that's on there, so...

18 One of the things, Haiku Fire Station, for those of
 19 interest to that particular project, we're working with
 20 Chief -- or, excuse me, Chair -- well, he's actually the GET
 21 committee chair, but Councilmember Molina, as a representative
 22 of that jurisdiction. And the budget office and the mayor
 23 allocated some funding to do a more comprehensive study on if
 24 that Haiku property that was purchased many years ago is the
 25 right property for the project. The study that was done, I

1 actually helped with that committee, 'cause I lived in Haiku
 2 after I moved out of Lahaina since '92 and I actually live
 3 approximately 1 mile from the station location. So I
 4 responded to that district for 3 years as a captain and many
 5 years as a battalion chief and assistant to the battalion
 6 chief.

7 So there is a need for a fire station in Haiku,
 8 there is none, the closest station is in Paia, which is to --
 9 from Paia Fire Station to Haiku Community Center, just for
 10 reference, is 5 miles and that typically in the fire service
 11 is kind of that line of demarcation for, you know, effective
 12 response, if you will, for lack of a better description. So
 13 there is a need, but is the property that was purchased many
 14 years ago the right property and -- because there's some water
 15 improvements -- so, anyway, to summarize, they've allocated
 16 some funding or proposed some funding to do a comprehensive
 17 study and if not that property, then where should the property
 18 be located, where should the station be located, and then
 19 we'll move forward with all of the money that gets involved
 20 with environmental assessments, impact statements, all of
 21 those things that come next, so... And if turns out that
 22 property is the right one, then we'll continue, because that
 23 property has already been purchased, so that's that part
 24 there.

25 We did get back with our certification entity. For

1 the new members, there is two different organizations for
 2 certification of firefighters in the structure fire world, one
 3 is PRO Board, which is done through the state -- our crash
 4 rescue and the other one is called IFSAC and done through the
 5 Honolulu Fire Department. At the national level, they
 6 accredit two agencies within a state typically -- not always,
 7 but typically -- that's certified. For us, as I explained,
 8 Pro Board is our state crash rescue and Martinez Jacobs, he's
 9 the director of that department, and then Honolulu Fire
 10 Department is Chief Manny Nevis, so there's two different
 11 lines we could take. Years ago Chief Murray decided to go
 12 with Pro Board because he had a close personal working
 13 relationship with Chief Martinez Jacobs, so we've been Pro
 14 Board certified. So we wanted to make sure as the new
 15 administration that he was still able to support us with that
 16 because Honolulu has also offered to help us if need be. He
 17 pledged his support and allegiance to continuing our
 18 department's certification, and so we're going to continue
 19 with Pro Board until it becomes not the right solution. So
 20 that's what I mention here as far as Pro Board certification.

21 Staff meetings, for the new members, we used to have
 22 staff meetings, we now summarize this particular meeting and
 23 our update to you and we transmit that out to our personnel.
 24 We want you folks to hear it first. We've talked about this
 25 as a commission and as a department, we proposed it to the

1 chair and this commission, and they agreed we should share
 2 this information. Some of it is sensitive, possibly, so
 3 extract that out or redact that, but we want our firefighters
 4 and our ocean safety personnel to hear what we're telling you
 5 and what things are going in the department that they may not
 6 hear at the station level. And so that's why you'll see that
 7 reference to the former staff meetings.

8 So I'll just kind of back off from there. Unless
 9 you have questions, it's pretty much always in your packet and
 10 we take the opportunity to just summarize it because you have
 11 a chance to read it ahead. But, again, just for the new
 12 members, if you have any questions, please, let us know,
 13 because we just try to make this as expedient of a meeting as
 14 possible, 'cause there's a lot of information to get across.

15 Chair, if it's okay, I'll cede to Chief Ventura.
 16 CHAIR MISAKI: Unless anybody has questions for
 17 Chief?
 18 (No Response.)
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. You can proceed.
 20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Good morning.
 21 Thank you, Chair. Thank you all for being here this morning.
 22 Appreciate you guys putting in the time as usual.
 23 So we kind of have a blended meeting here of March
 24 and April, so we have had a lot of budget stuff going on,
 25 which Chief referred, you know, references in these handouts.

1 But in between all of that stuff, we've been continuing with
 2 our process for promotions and we're always trying to fill
 3 vacancies as quickly as possible. So when those vacancies
 4 come up, we have to request lists through our department of
 5 personnel services. Once we get those lists, then we have to
 6 interview, then we have to promote, so it's a process that we
 7 go through for every vacancy all the way down to our recruits.
 8 So we currently have about 18 fire vacancies in our department
 9 and we just received the recruit list, so we'll be hoping to
 10 get our physical agility test done with them next month and
 11 then the class hopefully starts July 1st. And that's our
 12 timeline and there's a lot of external factors from borrowing
 13 tracks and county buildings to run stairwells and all sorts of
 14 other things that make this happen. So that's our target date
 15 right now, is July 1st to start our next recruit class.

16 We had promoted already a lieutenant to ocean
 17 safety, Lieutenant Lombardi, he's Lahaina-side born and raised
 18 and now he's working out there at Fleming Beach as a
 19 lieutenant. We also did our firefighters 2s which work on our
 20 rescue and our haz. mat. crews. We did a couple of promotions
 21 there as well because those positions being vacant due to
 22 other promotions that happened back in January. So that's
 23 kind of the challenge with our promotional process, is if --
 24 whenever somebody moves up, we have a vacancy to fill. We
 25 move the next people up and we move and the next people and

1 move the next people up, so it's -- every time we interview,
 2 we try to interview the top down, but it doesn't always work
 3 that way. So that's a constant, you know, workload for us as
 4 far as filling vacancies as quickly as possible.

5 Moving ahead, the departmental -- the department
 6 improvement committee is something that we're trying to use as
 7 a tool to gather information from our members. Ocean safety/
 8 fire personnel can come up with a recommendation, it can be
 9 policy, it can be a standard operating guideline
 10 recommendation, it can be something simple, it can be a
 11 recommended item that they wear at emergencies, and then we'll
 12 put it through a committee to see if we can or cannot pursue
 13 it. A lot of times it affects other agencies, so we have to
 14 have several meetings to see if it's okay with PD, to see if
 15 it's okay with Coast Guard, how is this going to affect ocean
 16 safety.

17 So some of the issues -- some of the improvements
 18 that we're working on right now is -- previous Chair Chuck
 19 Hirata had an MFD Ohana Facebook page and what we're going to
 20 try to do is we're trying to create a social media platform to
 21 relieve him of those duties and start to post certain things.
 22 And we're going to do it in phases and we kind of have a plan
 23 how this is laid out. Right now it's just going to be a push
 24 of information, it's going to be very basic. The ultimate
 25 goal, if staffing is ever provided for it, would be to have

1 timely incident updates to the public as they're happening,
 2 which is, obviously, very labor intensive, which, like I said,
 3 phases. Phase one is let's get a group of people, let's start
 4 pushing out information to the public. Like Chair Chuck did
 5 in the past, lots of safety information for the public on
 6 beaches, on the time of year, if it was wild fire season, on
 7 how to drive on the highway, if you saw emergency vehicles,
 8 what should you do, all those sorts of things. So that's push
 9 side of it we want to do, educating the public, so that'll be
 10 our phase one, and then we'll get into phase two and phase
 11 three if we can. So that's the social media platform that
 12 we're trying to create.

13 Research and development for our department opens
 14 twice a year and so currently they're accepting items for R&D.
 15 And then one of the things they're looking at is new helmets,
 16 you know, we're constantly -- there's constantly new
 17 technology available, there's -- there's a lifespan of things,
 18 turnouts last 10 years, tools last 5 or so, and so we're -- as
 19 we get to the end of that life and we're try to provide the
 20 department with new helmets, let's say, we want to look at an
 21 array of helmets to pick the best one for our needs before we
 22 just go out there and buy them. So we have that research and
 23 development committee set up to look at things twice a year.

24 Moving down to the union interactions, we do have
 25 five different bargaining units that I work with and -- but

1 the two heavier ones with the most members are Hawaii
 2 Firefighters Association, which is all of our firefighters,
 3 and then our chiefs also still pay into that, but they're not
 4 represented by that union. And then HGEA, which is a big
 5 Hawaii union, that -- they represent our lifeguards and our
 6 ocean safety. So those -- there's constant consultation going
 7 on, there's constant policy change, there's constant update of
 8 operating guidelines. You know, occasional injuries, how do
 9 we take that injury and turn it into either preventative
 10 measures or better training so the injury doesn't happen. So
 11 those are all the kind of consultations that we have back and
 12 forth sometimes daily with them.

13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, just curious, you
 14 said that the chiefs pay into the fund, but are not
 15 represented?

16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we pay a --

17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: How does that work?

18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we pay a smaller fee and
 19 we wouldn't get like the grievance representation from them,
 20 but a lot of the -- besides Fire One and myself, everybody
 21 below us, they do get a lot of the benefits of the contract.
 22 So a lot of the contract provisions do support our assistant
 23 chiefs, our battalion chiefs, because there is no contract,
 24 that is the contract or the tool or the benchmark that they
 25 use to offer the benefits to those members. And then ours,

1 since we're excluded management or we're appointed and by
 2 commission, etc. -- who do we go to, sorry, for --
 3 CHIEF THYNE: AFSCME or something like that.
 4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, AFSCME, which hopefully
 5 I never have to use.
 6 (Laughter.)
 7 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: What is the value for the
 8 guys that are paying in?

9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: You know, everybody has a
 10 different perception of the union. The more you're able to
 11 get involved, the more you have an idea of what is happening.
 12 And a lot of times people don't get involved enough, you know.

13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: To know what's going on.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Fairly enough, most people
 15 are concerned about what do I get to take home, what's my pay,
 16 right, and as long as that is a substantial or a sustaining
 17 amount, then most people are just happy. But the union, you
 18 know, as I mentioned, we have daily conversations in our
 19 office, if not with me, with our secretaries. Our battalion
 20 chiefs constantly getting asked, you know, what this about
 21 this, what about that, what's the interpretation of this,
 22 what's the interpretation of that, and so it's constant work.

23 CHIEF THYNE: Just to add, because he's a humble
 24 guy, Brad was our division chair for our union when I asked
 25 him to be our deputy chief, so... He did step up and put it

1 out there for our union members, so it was a natural thing
 2 when we became your administration, that he specialized in our
 3 union interaction because of that dedication to our union
 4 brothers.

5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you, Brad.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And historically a lot of the
 7 fire administration throughout the state has spent a lot of
 8 time in the union. It's a good tool in the toolbox, it's a
 9 good, you know, part of the puzzle to understand so you know
 10 how things are going to work on their end, you know, you're
 11 not surprised by what's going on. And then also, from my
 12 perspective, it's all about relationships. It's all good
 13 let's fix the problem before it blows up, you know, let's
 14 communicate with each other as much as possible so that we can
 15 keep everything as small and in-house and as simple we need
 16 to, so that's my constant goal.

17 Moving on, the last thing on my list is public
 18 transmittals. We try to bring to you both the good and bad
 19 and the ugly. You know, to be fair, we're not perfect, so
 20 occasionally there will be a -- you know, an incident or some
 21 type of a notification that somebody made a mistake out there.
 22 For the most part, we're, I believe, well liked by the public,
 23 that's very important, we have a very good support, and so
 24 most of the transmittals that you'll see month to month are
 25 good. You know, we support a lot of community events,

1 services, everything from youth to adult. We go cook at
 2 Kaunoa Center to teach them how to be safe in the kitchen and
 3 how to make a small healthy meal, so it's not an elaborate 5-
 4 hour cooking. You know, to cook a meal for an older person,
 5 you want quick, healthy, fast, cheap; right? So we go as
 6 simply as -- as extremity as the elderly all the way down to
 7 the keiki doing fire prevention education sort of things, and
 8 then everything in between. We'll do a first aid at bizarres
 9 and carnivals and soccer events, baseball events, and whatnot,
 10 and that's all part of our community interaction. And so
 11 that's kind of our best PR moment, I think, where there's not
 12 an emergency happening, a lot of times, so there's a lot of
 13 talk and conversation between maybe like an event coordinator
 14 and our members of the fire department, so that's a good time
 15 for us to educate them on what we do, how we train, and
 16 whatnot, and then we're there. If there is an incident of
 17 some sort, then we're able to act and help, first respond to
 18 whatever it may be.

19 So most of the feedback, as you can see here,
 20 Special Olympics, we do a tournament with them as a fund
 21 raiser. There was a senior project up in Kamehameha that we
 22 assisted with. And then in the previous month of March I had
 23 mentioned that we get many requests to help with community
 24 service. Between station visits, site visits, so that's kids
 25 coming to the station and us going to schools, plus everything

1 that I just mentioned, probably about 400 requests a year is
 2 what we're estimating right now. So we're sending people
 3 everywhere constantly. That includes ocean safety because
 4 they're training camps at Camp Keiki Kai, there's a lot of
 5 outreach as well for ocean safety. We have a lot of beach
 6 communities, so their -- a lot of their clubs and Boys and
 7 Girls Club and stuff are very oriented to the oceans, so they
 8 try to get her involved to educate the kids, whether it's as
 9 simple as beach cleanup or safety on the beach to the total,
 10 you know, ocean environment, conditions, education all that
 11 kind of stuff. So that 400 would include ocean safety and
 12 fire.

13 Other than that, that's what I have to report. Do
 14 you have any questions?

15 CHAIR MISAKI: I have a quick question. So this
 16 next recruit class, that's recruit class 35?

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

18 CHAIR MISAKI: And is there a certain number that
 19 you're looking at?

20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So our recruit classes over
 21 the last, oh, maybe 10 years have included Maui Fire
 22 Department and our state partners.

23 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, okay.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We will take -- if they have
 25 people ready for training, we'll take a few to six or so of

1 them just to assist them with their training. They don't have
 2 an academy, so they kind of piggyback on ours. So we try to
 3 constantly be in communication, keeping them abreast of where
 4 we're at in our timeline so they can kind of hurry up to match
 5 it. And then once our recruit class starts, we'll get them as
 6 well. The last recruit class was 22 members with two ARF or
 7 state firefighters. This coming recruit class, I don't have a
 8 number from state yet, we're looking at around 14 to 16 county
 9 firefighters. And that's basically due to all retirements
 10 over the last three and a half months, the last recruit class
 11 graduated in September, I believe.

12 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So September they graduated,
 14 and so October, November, December, January, all of the
 15 retirements, now we're about 16 to 17 positions short. So
 16 it's -- we're constantly chasing that, that situation.

17 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Chief, how many did we lose
 18 to retirement recently?

19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Last month was five,
 20 everything from battalion chief to captains. The previous
 21 December was a couple more, I think two. And then we also
 22 have occasionally transfers. We have one firefighter who's
 23 leaving Maui Fire Department to -- an intergovernmental
 24 transfer to Honolulu Fire Department, so there's those sorts
 25 of things that happen as well. That's not often that that

1 happens, but it does. And the challenge for us is we spent 6
 2 months training them, preparing them, they come into our
 3 department and maybe we lose them in a year or 2, so now it's
 4 like you've gotta start all over with a position, so we're --
 5 that's -- but we have good retention in the Maui Fire
 6 Department and the Ocean Safety, we don't have a lot of people
 7 moving to other counties because we live on Maui, it's the
 8 best place in the world.

9 (Laughter.)

10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, yeah, any other
 11 questions?

12 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah. Chief, from the last
 13 recruit class, what did you start with and what did you end up
 14 with?

15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: That's a good question.

16 CHIEF THYNE: We only lost one.

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We lost one firefighter,
 18 yeah. So evaluation of recruits is a challenge. We want to
 19 see people succeed, but not everybody is made to be a
 20 firefighter and it's just in all fairness to the community
 21 that we want to make sure we have the best people there to
 22 jump on the fire truck and respond to you, so we do -- they do
 23 heavy evaluations. Every discipline they go through, they get
 24 evaluated, and that's just what they're learning that week,
 25 how their -- what their demeanor looks like, how they work as

1 a team member, all of that stuff is evaluated, so that we do
2 lose people nowadays in recruit class. Historically if you go
3 back 15 years, everybody graduated, but maybe we weren't doing
4 ourselves a favor.

5 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Did you say that because of
6 personnel services that you don't actually take in, say, 50
7 percent more recruits than positions so that you have a
8 running list when the vacancies do come up in the interim?

9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Correct.

10 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, okay.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we cannot get a list from
12 department of personnel services until we have a vacancy. So
13 we can't say to them, we anticipate ten retirees in 2019,
14 could you please give us the vacancies plus ten. It won't
15 happen right now. So we're constantly having conversations on
16 how we can adjust the system to create like a standby pool. I
17 mean, you can imagine if we have ten positions and we hire 15
18 recruits and they all make it through, we have five people
19 that are certified, trained, and available to be -- whereas
20 the thing is we don't have positions or funding for them, so
21 DPS won't provide that, that number of people. But,
22 obviously, if we could work out something in the system that
23 we did have those five people, when somebody retires in two
24 months, we take one person in, we still have four people in
25 the pool. A couple more people retire the next month, we take

1 what our folks come out with at the end of recruit training,
2 as well as some other like CPR and things like that, they
3 would take that as a student at MCC or UH Maui and then
4 basically we can hire them off the street and they would have
5 maybe 2 months of training versus 6 months of training in
6 maybe rescue watercraft or rescue boat operations, some more
7 specific to our agency, and we wouldn't have had to pay them;
8 right? They would come in and it would -- as a condition of
9 employment, they would have to have that certification. So,
10 actually, Honolulu Community College and HFD have just
11 completed the first pilot program to do that, so we're hoping
12 that they share some of those folks, but I doubt it because
13 HFD is way bigger than we are, so... Maybe we'll get some
14 Maui boys, Maui boys and girls, if you will, that want to do
15 that and we'll benefit from that as well.

16 CHAIR MISAKI: And that also gives people who want
17 to become a fireman a choice; right?

18 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.

19 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, yeah, so Kapiolani
21 Community College, Honolulu, they've -- that's like their
22 feeder program into the Honolulu Fire Department and they
23 have -- they're over a thousand employees, uniformed
24 firefighters, so their -- they have -- their vacancies are
25 like 60, 70, 100 vacancies, so the school cannot graduate

1 two more people and we'll constantly be at a good staffing
2 level.

3 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Do you know why that is?

4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: No.

5 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Because it's not like the
6 county's paying these people to go through the academy, is it?

7 CHIEF THYNE: It is.

8 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: They are.

9 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, they are?

10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

11 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: I thought it was all volunteer.

12 (Laughter.)

13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So it has been
14 discussed --

15 CHIEF THYNE: If I can jump in, just because I
16 worked hard on this at one point in time in one of my previous
17 roles, I mean, we were trying to work with UH Maui at the
18 time -- and, actually, Honolulu Community College and Honolulu
19 Fire Department were able to work it out, but what that --
20 what that proposal that they stole us from -- off the record.

21 (Laughter.)

22 CHIEF THYNE: -- was that we would provide the
23 training through our certified trainers to -- basically they
24 would go to UH Maui as students, not employed by us, to gain
25 certifications, firefighter 1 and 2 certifications, which is

1 people fast enough to fill all that, that department, so it
2 would be our best interests to do it here at Maui Community
3 College and then have our own feeder program. So, yeah,
4 that's the challenge.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I'd like to make a comment.

6 I was gone out of state for the last couple weeks, but, Chief,
7 in regards to significant events, so there was a canoe race, I
8 understand -- and maybe Archie knows -- this past weekend --

9 MR. KALEPA: Yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- to Molokai.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And I've heard numbers of 200
13 entrants going from Oahu -- I mean, Maui to Molokai, so I'm
14 just concerned about us as a department just preparing,
15 keeping an eye on that, 'cause it seems to be growing really,
16 really quickly. And as you know, you know, keeping an eye on
17 that as far as response for our boats and stuff and just --
18 I'm just concerned that, man, this thing is growing really
19 fast and just hoping that we're keeping an eye on that and
20 seeing what we can do to work with the agencies. It's remote,
21 it's not like Wailea, but we got lot of people in there. I
22 even heard of some people on Molokai declining to escort
23 because of the upcoming weather and if the Molokai guys are --
24 don't want to be in the water --

25 CHIEF THYNE: That's bad.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- and you've got all these
 2 other people coming the water who are not used to escorting,
 3 you're bringing in a different element of people who are not
 4 used to have running boats next to people in the water and
 5 just potential for a lot of bad things to happen. So I'm just
 6 hoping that we keep an eye on that stuff and try to prepare
 7 the best we can as a department, the Molokai guys, the Pukoo
 8 guys, because we -- the weather picks up quickly and we had
 9 some trouble in the past, just making sure that we're doing
 10 what we can to keep an eye on that.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: You're totally right on every
 12 note, you know, and these events have been growing and there
 13 have been catastrophic injuries right on the starting lines
 14 with people involved in, you know, boat engines and stuff like
 15 that, so we -- we could possibly work with the agencies that
 16 are putting on these events to create a minimum standard for
 17 escorts and that might also include first aid, you know, a
 18 level of first aid training so that -- they're 6 miles
 19 offshore, we're not there and we can't be everywhere, so they
 20 have to assume some level of responsibility for their event.

21 In that particular event, the starting line is
 22 usually pretty heavily populated with a lot of people and
 23 first responders. And I'm not a paddler, but from what I've
 24 experienced. And then towards where everybody comes in two or
 25 six or four at a time, there's a lot less people and then

1 accidents happen if the surf's up and whatnot. So in this
 2 past event, we staffed our Molokai jet ski with two personnel
 3 to be in the water as the boats were all coming to shore. So
 4 they made the request to us, it was supportable, so we did and
 5 then we just told them, you know, if the start is on Maui at
 6 6:00 a.m., they're not gonna be on Molokai until X time, so I
 7 had to try to figure that out, try to be in the water by the
 8 time the first boats start coming in. And we actually
 9 received a report back that there was two minor incidents, one
 10 canoe went up on the rocks and then they were able to kind of
 11 like drag them off the rocks and then help them, and then
 12 there was another incident, another minor, but other than
 13 that, yeah, 200 boats in the water --

14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and nothing catastrophic.

16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And then you've got the
 17 escort support boats, so there's 400, and then you just start
 18 multiplying and just the potential. So I'm just concerned
 19 that we try to do what we can, because whether we like it or
 20 not, you know, cameras come out and our -- our yellow boats
 21 are there and we just want to do what we can for our folks.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

23 CHAIR MISAKI: All the Pailolo races are getting
 24 very popular 'cause it's the right distance. It's not the
 25 Molokai to Oahu, it's about half the distance, so that's why

1 it's getting really popular.

2 MR. KALEPA: You know, can I share something real
 3 quick on that note? Also, one of the things is that, you
 4 know, the jet skis play a big part in monitoring the safety of
 5 the event and they're only allowed to go to Kamalo --

6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

7 MR. KALEPA: -- because of the DLNR ruling. But if
 8 fire and ocean safety could support because from -- actually,
 9 from there on, the reef goes far out and the only way to
 10 support or help assist with rescues is probably one with a jet
 11 ski from there down.

12 CHAIR MISAKI: You're right. That's the most
 13 vulnerable spot. Because of that reef, there's a lot of wave
 14 action and people miscalculate and they get too close and --

15 MR. KALEPA: Yeah.

16 CHAIR MISAKI: -- you know, yeah.

17 MR. KALEPA: Something to think about.

18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you.

19 Thank you, Chair.

20 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.

21 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, regulatory-wise is really the
 22 issue; right?

23 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

24 CHIEF THYNE: I mean, we don't make the laws, I
 25 guess for lack of a better description --

1 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

2 CHIEF THYNE: -- but we'll offer whatever support we
 3 can A) if we have knowledge and B) if we have the authority
 4 to. Right?

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: It's just growing quickly.

6 CHIEF THYNE: I hear you.

7 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: It's a big gray area and we
 8 have to make it un-gray, you know, with the other agencies and
 9 try to do what we can. Thank you.

10 COMMISSIONER VARES: Question. Are these the, like,
 11 six passenger or are they the one mans?

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: All of them.

13 COMMISSIONER VARES: Everything.

14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: All of them, everything.

15 CHAIR MISAKI: There's several races throughout the
 16 year.

17 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

18 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. So there's the one man and
 19 then there's the six man and then I think there's the paddle
 20 board too now.

21 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

22 COMMISSIONER VARES: The paddles and that.

23 CHAIR MISAKI: So there's like three or four races
 24 during the -- and they're all getting bigger and bigger.

25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I can remember --

1 MR. KALEPA: It's actually the premium course now,
 2 it's --
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.
 4 MR. KALEPA: It's the perfect downwind run --
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.
 6 MR. KALEPA: -- where they're getting record times
 7 and that's why everybody wants to come and do that race. It's
 8 no longer the Molokai-Kana --
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: Oh.
 10 MR. KALEPA: -- it's the Pailolo Race, which is the
 11 premier conditions for the race.
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: And a lot of people want to do that
 13 race before they do the Molokai to Oahu, yeah.
 14 MR. KALEPA: Right.
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, is there -- have you
 16 fought back against that rules or laws from DLNR and
 17 challenged it to see if the restrictions on jet skis going
 18 out --
 19 CHIEF THYNE: No, we haven't.
 20 MR. KALEPA: So one of the things is the county,
 21 that's why their HA numbers are XE, which means they're
 22 exempt -- by law they're exempt for all laws, so that's one
 23 way to look into it, I don't know about staffing, but the
 24 other way is the people putting on the event, if they could
 25 provide in the permit process adequate information about the

1 added support to provide the safety so it doesn't get out of
 2 control.
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: What about approaching the
 4 coordinators of those races and using those scuba dive type
 5 buoys, put 'em at a certain level outside the wave break so
 6 the canoes stay outside of that?
 7 MR. KALEPA: Yeah. I think that's -- that's where
 8 it becomes tough because the better run -- when the currents
 9 are different, the inside run is the better run versus the
 10 outside run.
 11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: With the surf.
 12 MR. KALEPA: Right. So they're always looking for
 13 that edge of where to be, you know.
 14 CHAIR MISAKI: I've seen so many canoes almost
 15 swamped right by the wharf.
 16 MR. KALEPA: Yeah.
 17 CHAIR MISAKI: So, anyway, before moving on, as far
 18 as the recruit class, I just wanted to make a comment that
 19 when we hired Chief Thyne, one of the biggest jobs he had was
 20 to make sure there was room for the new recruit class to fill,
 21 and so I know you guys spent a lot of time and I really
 22 appreciate you and your team making the spaces available for
 23 the new recruits.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.

1 safety concerns and the vessels that would properly be used
 2 for -- and the why, then I think they could probably get an
 3 exemption, but that'll take some conversation between the
 4 agencies.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Is it -- is it DLNR -- I mean, DOCARE
 6 folks --
 7 MR. KALEPA: Yeah.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: -- that would be regulating that
 9 afternoon.
 10 MR. KALEPA: Yeah, exactly.
 11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I mean, I would hate for
 12 something to happen and we don't go service it because of some
 13 boundary or --
 14 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, yeah.
 15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We're going. We'll go.
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, we're going. We'll deal with
 17 that afterwards.
 18 MR. KALEPA: For that event the chief did provide
 19 over time for guys to work out of Molokai on jet skis and
 20 they're allowed to go in those areas.
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: They are?
 22 MR. KALEPA: Yeah, they're exempt from DLNR.
 23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Great.
 24 MR. KALEPA: But, you know, one ski is not adequate
 25 enough, that's when you've got 200 canoes racing and you need

1 CHIEF THYNE: Thank you.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: So can we move on to the next report?
 3 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Chief Kawasaki, he's the
 4 operations chief, he normally is here, but he's out today
 5 doing the wildland training, so he gave me a list of items to
 6 go over. One is the major incident summary, which I believe
 7 you guys all have a list of what that is, so if you have any
 8 questions on any of that, just let me know. This is just the
 9 major stuff, he has the battalion chiefs send him in what's --
 10 each month what these items are and then we have a total
 11 listed at the bottom right below that. So our total incidents
 12 for the month of February were 1,079 and for the month of
 13 March were 834.
 14 Anybody have any questions on any of the major
 15 incidents listed here?
 16 (No response.)
 17 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Okay. Moving on, our
 18 SOGs -- for the new commissioners, those are our standard
 19 operating guidelines. It's a living document and each year we
 20 will revisit them, come up with suggestions or changes or add
 21 new ones, and Chief Kawasaki's in charge of that and he's
 22 currently working on that with the battalion chiefs to revise
 23 and update that for this year.
 24 Our apparatus equipment committee, let's see, the
 25 budget amendment was approved for \$158,068.15 and we did send

1 out the notice to proceed for the five new apparatus.
 2 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: If everything goes right,
 3 when will those hit?
 4 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Chief, do you know the
 5 answer to that?
 6 CHIEF THYNE: It's a sliding scale. If we go by
 7 contract language, a year and a half, because some of the
 8 components of the more unique apparatus, they don't keep it on
 9 a shelf, right, or they don't keep the chassis in a garage
 10 somewhere, they have to order and it depends on the supply
 11 chain and all that.
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: About a year to --
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Generally speaking, it's a 365-day
 14 contract, but I looked at the contract as it moved through my
 15 desk -- or across my desk and there was language in there 540
 16 days and it was specific to -- ideally they'll get it sooner,
 17 'cause those are actually the smaller vehicles.
 18 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Well, they want to get paid
 19 too, so --
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Yes, absolutely. But typically, just
 21 for a round number, it's a year build period.
 22 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And the vehicles that they
 23 are replacing, are they good for another year and a half?
 24 CHIEF THYNE: So our vehicle replacement policy and
 25 plan, we try -- we start really looking at them seriously at

1 10 years. We have worked very diligently in justifying to our
 2 council and our mayor that we're not just saying 10 years
 3 we're replacing it, 'cause we don't do that for our personal
 4 vehicles; right? Unless there's issues with mechanical or
 5 something, that won't go and look trade in yet, 'cause it
 6 costs money. So we have a vehicle scoring matrix that we
 7 brought in as an administration and we evaluate them on pump
 8 hours, engine hours, chassis, all the different components,
 9 versus just saying it's 10 years old, replace them.
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.
 11 CHIEF THYNE: And so it meets the scoring criteria
 12 and so the council is very appreciative of that. Another
 13 thing we did is bundle them together as much as possible.
 14 Like, i.e., buying from Costco is cheaper than buying from
 15 other places because you can -- it's bulked together; right?
 16 And the same thing with trucks/apparatus, 'cause we can put it
 17 together into a multi-apparatus bid, if it's possible, in this
 18 case it was. Five apparatus, two of them are the same --
 19 excuse me, two engines are the same as each other, two
 20 wildland apparatus are the same as each other, and the ladder
 21 is very unique. So it's three different types of apparatus,
 22 five in total, but they're -- the companies bid on all five
 23 apparatus, so we got some very sizeable discounts on that,
 24 which the council was very appreciative of, and we'll continue
 25 that process moving forward.

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you, Chief.
 2 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Chief Kawasaki is also in
 3 charge of our training bureau, so the classes that we had over
 4 the last 2 months were the scuba dive class, a peer support
 5 training class, everybody's done their EMR refresher, confined
 6 space training class, fit testing for the new MSA SCBAs, a
 7 logistic section chief class.
 8 And then regarding our last recruit class, we did
 9 the 2-week evals for them and it looks like one of them we
 10 extended probation for.
 11 And then the last thing was he talked about the JTC,
 12 which is our joint training center, has some mold issues and
 13 because we don't have an MOU or -- what's the -- yeah, we
 14 don't have an MOU that's long term with them, we're not gonna
 15 put any money into that. That's it for the training bureau.
 16 Ocean safety --
 17 CHIEF THYNE: I know he's gonna ask.
 18 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Oh. I'll go ahead and
 19 stop.
 20 (Laughter.)
 21 CHIEF THYNE: So I think I know what you're going to
 22 ask, so the short version is the joint training center is the
 23 cooperative agreement that we started many years ago. It was
 24 in an empty facility over at the -- on the airport property,
 25 adjacent to the airport property, it was all part of the

1 greater airport property. And we worked with the fire chief
 2 of the airport at the time, Chief Eugene Perry, on utilizing
 3 that facility for our recruit training and our ongoing
 4 training. So during along that process we wanted to lock down
 5 an MOU or memorandum of understanding or agreement, because
 6 pursuant to county rules, unless you have an agreement, you
 7 can't use taxpayer dollars to fix it up, if you will.
 8 And so the long -- again, the short version is the
 9 skin -- it's a metal building similar to this -- all pukas and
 10 leaks and whatnot and that was identified. And so we had some
 11 folks go up there from time to time, get up the ladders and do
 12 the seam tape with whatever you could buy from Lowe's or
 13 whatever have you as a patchwork. And they were trying to
 14 push it through the state, 'cause it's a state property, to
 15 get it re-skinned, as they say; i.e., new panels, weather-
 16 proofing and whatnot. It didn't get approved. We have a
 17 limited ability to do anything to that because, again, we
 18 can't spend taxpayer dollars to fix up a property that is
 19 owned by somebody else.
 20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So is there a mold problem
 21 and are we still using that facility?
 22 CHIEF THYNE: So the -- again, the answer is, is we
 23 looked at that and they -- so our -- some of our staff didn't
 24 know all of this story and so they started looking into
 25 developing a project list for Chief Ventura and myself to

1 review and approve, and we said, Time out. Here's the story.
 2 We will not use that facility, we will lock it off, board it
 3 up, not use that -- 'cause it's the second floor, basically,
 4 on one side of the building. So we said, Plywood, lock it up,
 5 don't go in there, it's done, we're not gonna do anything. We
 6 petitioned the airport's fire chief get the funding, because
 7 they brought down engineers, they continue to propose it -- to
 8 their credit, they haven't let it just, Oh, yeah, it's just an
 9 old building, they just haven't gotten the funding for it. So
 10 we're not gonna use it, we'll still use the facility that's
 11 not impacted by the mold because it's -- it's the kind of
 12 stuff where --
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Mold is sensitive from a
 14 health perspective.
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And from a health
 17 perspective --
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- I would not want to hear
 20 or condone our continuing to use the facility.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely. And we agree a hundred
 22 percent and we said, Nobody goes in there, lock it off,
 23 literally board it up and don't use it.
 24 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Is it air conditioned
 25 and is it getting into the conditioning vents and the spools

1 going in --
 2 CHIEF THYNE: No, no.
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: 'Cause the spores --
 4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's just window units,
 5 there's no central AC in there. It's an old building.
 6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Thank you.
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I had to ask.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: I knew you would. I was waiting.
 10 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: The operations chief is
 11 also in charge of ocean safety and what I have there is
 12 ongoing policy development with HGEA, which is their union.
 13 They created interview packets for their OS III promotions.
 14 They had CPR and AED renewals. And they promoted Jeff
 15 Lombardi to OST -- OSOT, sorry.
 16 And that's all I have for you. Anybody have any
 17 questions?
 18 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Good job.
 19 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Thank you.
 20 (Laughter.)
 21 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Chief, I'm up?
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Yep.
 23 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: If it's okay, we'll
 24 continue. If anybody's got any questions, just stop me while
 25 I'm going through. In your packet you probably have something

1 that says "Admin. Support Services Highlights" -- well, I'll
 2 just go through these highlights quickly and then I'll talk on
 3 the agenda about fire prevention and health and safety, I've
 4 got some updates for that.
 5 We did have a very major structure fire in Haiku
 6 on Kuhio Day in March. And our health and safety bureau, they
 7 were able to provide monitoring and rehab activities for our
 8 firefighter personnel. And what we're trying to do and
 9 improve on is making sure that we provide support to our
 10 firefighters at a scene, whether it's a structure fire or
 11 whether it's a big brush fire that's ongoing and they're out
 12 there for hours and hours at a time, we've gotta make sure
 13 that we take care of our firefighters. Not just eating and
 14 hydrating and stuff, but even taking their vital signs and
 15 making sure that they're physically capable of continuing that
 16 work. So our firefighters did go out on -- well, our health
 17 and safety personnel did go out there on Kuhio Day and went to
 18 the structure fire to perform vital signs and rehab and then
 19 making sure that our firefighters are okay on the scene. And
 20 we're going to continue to improve that process as much as we
 21 can. And it does incur some overtime, like in this particular
 22 one, we're talking Kuhio Day and we're calling off
 23 firefighters, you know, to come out and assist firefighters
 24 already on the scene, but we have no choice, yeah. So there
 25 is an overtime component in there that sometimes we can't

1 avoid.
 2 We've been very busy, as you know, with the county
 3 council, answering their budget questions.
 4 The state airport crash has a -- put in a request to
 5 assist them with training. One of their trainers got deployed
 6 through the -- I guess, the military, I don't know exactly
 7 where they were deployed to, but -- they do have trainers
 8 inhouse, but they weren't available, so they did put a request
 9 to us, so we will assist with them at times.
 10 One of the contracts that went out is for the
 11 Molokai testing system. Our firefighters use SCBA packs,
 12 self-contained briefing apparatus, and right now we have a
 13 working relationship with the state fire on Molokai to help us
 14 fill some of our bottles -- fill our bottles. We don't want
 15 to bring the bottles back to Maui to fill, so we're putting in
 16 a contract and purchasing a Cascade system to be installed at
 17 the Pukoo Fire Station so we can do that.
 18 And then recently -- I know past Chair Hirata, he
 19 just walked in and said he saw our grant, he sits on the DOT
 20 grant committee, so we're putting in a request to get about
 21 \$62,000 worth of auto extrication equipment through the
 22 department of transportation grant process and hopefully we'll
 23 get a response by the end of summer if we get that grant.
 24 Our health and safety bureau is researching some
 25 automatic external defibrillators. You see those

1 defibrillators at the airport and certain places on the wall.
2 So we're looking -- we're always trying, like the chief
3 mentioned, the new technology that comes out, we're always
4 trying to look at which ones that we want to use, do research
5 and stuff.

6 One of the big software programs throughout the
7 county that just went out recently is Workday, so
8 administration in our department has been very busy with that
9 Workday program. It's a human resources program that will be
10 utilized to assist the 2700 County of Maui employees. I think
11 it was like a \$5 million project. So a lot of our
12 administration staff has been very busy with that over the
13 last couple of years, finding -- it just got implemented I
14 think last week for the first time.

15 And then fire prevention bureau still continuing
16 with the Maui Automated Planning and Permitting System also
17 known as MAPPS and that is also a multimillion dollar long-
18 term project that our county took on to improve, basically,
19 that, the planning and permitting system. We were using an
20 old Kiva System to track if somebody goes in for a building
21 permit, this goes to electric, to the electrical inspectors,
22 it comes through fire sometimes, the water department. And
23 software that was being used was like twenty-something years
24 old and so the county went ahead and purchased -- well, hired
25 a consultant and purchased this program, so we're just

1 about -- it's always been getting pushed back for various
2 reasons, something comes up through the testing process, but
3 hopefully by the end of this year that program will be -- will
4 be online and, you know, take over for our twenty-plus year
5 countywide permitting, permitting program.

6 (Mr. Andaya left the meeting.)

7 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: And so back to the agenda
8 for fire prevention, we just put together, it's not off the
9 presses, our performance measures that ended on March 31st, so
10 three-quarters have gone by of this fiscal year, so we've got
11 April, May, and June and then we're gonna close out this year
12 and start a new fiscal year July 1st. For fire prevention
13 bureau, some of the numbers, I'll just go down, is they did 88
14 fire safety presentations within the community so far, they've
15 done 548 portable fire extinguisher training out there for the
16 public. You know, sometimes it's a business that they ask us
17 for help.

18 We distributed over 13,000 Firefighter Safety
19 Guides. If you have kids in elementary school or know of kids
20 in elementary school, you might've seen them come home with
21 Firefighter Safety Guides, so about 13,000 were distributed.
22 693 children participated in our Fire Safety House, you might
23 have seen our Fire Safety House at the County Fair park and it
24 has the caricatures on the side, we do take that out to the
25 elementary schools.

1 We've reviewed over 1500 plans in our fire
2 prevention bureau that come through here, not every building
3 permit that comes into the county comes through the fire
4 department, only if the need arises.

5 And, let's see, and our health and safety bureau --
6 oh, you know what, let me talk a little bit about the schools.
7 We've got 33 public schools that our fire inspectors inspect
8 and so we try to do it like, you know, a 1-month period, which
9 is a lot, sometimes it goes into 2 months, but it takes a lot
10 of time. It's a requirement, it's a state law that we go out
11 there and inspect all of the public schools, that we assist
12 the state. That always works out well, the state -- we've
13 been working together with them well for many years.

14 We've done 277 facility inspections, so a business,
15 we walk in and it could be a hotel and you can imagine how
16 long it would take to do an inspection on the hotel, sometimes
17 it can take a couple days, but that's one inspection. Whereas
18 If we go to Kaahumanu Shopping Center and do an inspection at
19 a store, we might be able to get five or six stores at once.
20 So it's -- it's interesting sometimes, but it's counted as
21 one. But if we go into the hotel, there's a lot of different
22 components. You've got the fire sprinkler system, you have
23 the fire alarm system, you know, we want to take a look at
24 some of their -- a lot of storage areas they keep, you know,
25 just things to make sure that the guests and employees are

1 safe. So it just takes a lot of -- a lot of effort to just go
2 through and so to say that that's one inspection would kind of
3 be unfair as opposed to one inspection at a small store at
4 Kaahumanu Shopping Center, yeah, so --

5 (Mr. Andaya entered the room.)

6 COMMISSIONER VARES: What triggers the inspections?
7 Is it like timed and scheduled or is it requested by the
8 location itself or is it triggered by getting a new permit
9 sent through?

10 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yes. Yes to all of that.

11 (Laughter.)

12 COMMISSIONER VARES: Thank you.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: So a of a lot of times a
14 change of business, someone might want to turn a bookstore
15 into a restaurant where they're going to cook, so they need to
16 get a new certificate of occupancy. They put in a permit, we
17 get notified, we go out there and make sure everything's good.
18 Other times it's unannounced, we would come in and speak with
19 the owner attendant and say, Do you mind if we come in and --
20 and we always -- although the law allows us to go in, that's
21 not the approach we want to take. We always go in, How can we
22 help you, ask for permission, and work with the tenant and the
23 owner. But from that, from a complaint, we might get a
24 complaint from someone that says, Hey, I just went here, it
25 looks dangerous, the exits are blocked, and so on.

1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. Thanks.
 2 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Okay. So let's see where I
 3 was at? Did that, so -- the plan reviews.
 4 And so I'll just go right into our health and safety
 5 bureau. Going back to our self-contained breathing apparatus,
 6 we have in excess of 175 of the breathing apparatuses. In
 7 fact, we've still got some older ones. But OSHA requires us
 8 annually to flow test them and to make sure that they're
 9 working before a firefighter uses it. So it takes us -- well,
 10 it takes over an hour to test it and then you have to fill the
 11 bottles and stuff, so you kind of -- you can start to look at
 12 the work and manpower that it takes to test these units every
 13 year.
 14 And so health and safety, they're responsible to do
 15 that now and also the fit testing. So when they wear their
 16 masks, when the firefighters go into a fire, they wear that
 17 mask, we're required to make sure that their mask properly
 18 fits their face, so we run them through a test and it's a
 19 computer -- we use a laptop and it measures any negative
 20 pressure and stuff on their face. So we want to make sure
 21 that they have the proper-size mask, that nothing can get in
 22 and, you know, when they actually do the -- we have to keep
 23 records of that. So that's one of the duties our health and
 24 safety bureau personnel do and perform that, need to perform
 25 annually.

1 bureau really spearheads a lot of that. And they'll order the
 2 things and things that we want to test and make sure that
 3 we're getting -- so the turnout issue has come up, it's not an
 4 issue, but it's an item that we're taking a look at and what
 5 turnouts we're gonna buy and move forward with, given the
 6 research.
 7 And that's some of the things health and safety
 8 does. Do you have any questions?
 9 (No response.)
 10 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: And as far as the budget
 11 committee that's listed on the agenda, I think that folks that
 12 went out can do way more than I can probably explain on. So
 13 what happens is the county council sends in a list of
 14 questions to us and Chief Thyne takes a look at it and then
 15 based on what the topic is, we distribute the assignments
 16 amongst ourselves and we will answer the question as best as
 17 we can. And then you'll see that all in here on how we
 18 answered it. It should be -- it should be in here, yeah.
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 20 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: And I think they're posting
 21 it online too, you can also look at it online.
 22 So that's it. Any questions?
 23 CHAIR MISA SAKI: Okay. So we've been going almost an
 24 hour and a half and let's take a 5-minute break. Let's be
 25 back at 11:35.

1 We now have a team that can help us do that of
 2 firefighters, to make sure. So with 304 firefighters that we
 3 have to test their masks and 175 units, you know, it's almost
 4 like a full-time, you know, job for somebody to go through,
 5 but we do it in bunches. And it costs us a lot of money also,
 6 because where we do testing on the CBA's, a lot of times we
 7 might find a ripped strap or a component that doesn't look
 8 quite right, it might look like it's gonna break or something,
 9 so we want to change it out. So there's a lot of costs to
 10 maintain SCBA's.
 11 And as also mentioned, our health and safety bureau,
 12 they'll go out and assist a little bit our firefighters at a
 13 scene.
 14 And one of the big things we're working on right now
 15 is turnouts. We did purchase a lot of turnouts within the
 16 last couple of years. We were fortunate that the county
 17 council has given us enough money to outfit a lot of our
 18 firefighters who have older turnouts, so we're good now, but
 19 we want to make sure that moving forward that the turnouts
 20 that we do buy -- as technology gets better, that we're buying
 21 the turnouts that we need and want and are comfortable with,
 22 so that's also part of our health and safety bureau's
 23 assignment. Amongst a lot of the equipment that we use, as
 24 Chief Ventura pointed out, the research and development
 25 committee has to go through items, but the health and safety

1 (Pause in Proceedings: 11:27 a.m.-11:35 a.m.)
 2 (Mr. Andaya & Commissioner Freitas are not present.)
 3 CHAIR MISA SAKI: Let's get going. (Gavel.)
 4 MR. MURAI: Just note for the court reporter that
 5 Jack Freitas has left.
 6 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: So we'll move on. I'm here
 7 to give you an update on the ocean safety bureau, it's kind of
 8 the unsung heroes. They spend a lot of time at the beach and
 9 many hours, and they do a lot of things that we aren't aware
 10 of that make a difference, so I'm here to speak on their
 11 behalf to give you a general idea and lay of the land of how
 12 the ocean safety bureau works. Some of the information is
 13 going to be an update, like the other division heads have told
 14 you as well, you know, is what we've been doing lately and
 15 recently.
 16 I gave you a handout. I didn't know that you had
 17 kind of a running packet, mine looks a little bit different,
 18 but bear with me, I think it'll give you the same amount of
 19 information.
 20 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: Okay. So ocean safety
 21 bureau, throughout most of our country most people refer to
 22 them as life guards, in the state of Hawaii they do water
 23 safety officer or ocean safety officer.
 24 And to your benefit, Archie Kalepa is here in the
 25 room, one of the original lifeguards for this county, he can

1 answer historical things if you have questions in that regard
2 right there. It means that I can't really make stuff up and I
3 was planning on that, you know, but Archie's is paying
4 attention.

5 MR. KALEPA: I'll pay attention.

6 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: Archie's in the room.

7 Here's what I was able to find out about the history of it.
8 From what I understand, somewhere right around 1977 is when we
9 started lifeguards in the County of Maui. I believe that you
10 may have been among the first people that were hired to be a
11 lifeguard here for beaches. I don't know that to be a fact,
12 but something like that.

13 They worked with parks and recreation for most of
14 their time and then they ended up coming to the fire
15 department on a merger and I think they started a brand new
16 bargaining unit and merged with the fire department all pretty
17 much at the same time. So the fact that we have not blended
18 as good as we wanted to between fire and ocean safety, I think
19 that's part of it. There's a handful of things going on,
20 everybody's trying to feel this whole out a little bit. It's
21 getting better, it's doing okay, there are no big problems,
22 but it has taken maybe a little bit longer than some people
23 thought it would take. If you ask your average lifeguard
24 today, I think they're still looking forward to the merger,
25 they still feel like we're in it, though, feel like it's not

1 done yet. Right? So we're working towards that as best we
2 can. That was in FY '17, so as of 1 July 2016, they're
3 working for the fire chief now and most getting along pretty
4 good.

5 So from a geography standpoint, this is what we look
6 at right there. Adjust that a little bit. Okay. Real quick,
7 you know, we've got eight county beach parks. There's 30 of
8 them out there, but we're providing life guards for eight of
9 those. Some expansion ideas in the future may include some of
10 those other beach. We've got a contract with the State of
11 Hawaii through DLNR that we are providing lifeguard services
12 for Makena and Big Beach and that's going okay right now. We
13 don't get from them all the funds that some people think we
14 should get from them, but they're paying the lion's share
15 anyways and so far we're there, we're gonna stay there, we're
16 gonna provide lifeguard services for Makena Beach.

17 Okay. This is a little bit of what we look like.
18 Geographically we're separated into what we call districts.
19 Our districts line up numerically with the fire department, so
20 we've got District 3 in the fire department, which is Lahaina
21 on the west side, and so the tours there at Canoe Beach are
22 District 3, Tour 3, for example, and it carries through that
23 way for all the districts. We've got District 10 in Kanaha,
24 District 2 is Baldwin and Hookipa, and that's Station 10 and
25 Station 2 in sync with that as well.

1 This slide really wasn't selected in order to talk
2 to you about drowning events, but this is a slide that did
3 answer those questions in one of our -- we were looking for
4 accreditation and working on that process, this is where this
5 slide came from, this graphic. And you can see all those blue
6 dots represent drowning events over quite a time span, so it's
7 not 1 year or 1 month or anything like that, it's over quite a
8 time span. And you see that, as would be expected, that they
9 do take place in the most populated areas and most of the
10 places where people can get to the beach easily and that's
11 just a -- it's a numbers game. Most of ours folks die in
12 these areas and drown in these areas right there. Okay. That
13 is a look at it geographically.

14 Personnel-wise, we have a total of 62 positions in
15 the ocean safety bureau right now. There is some talk going
16 on right now about some expansion. The Councilmember Paltin
17 from the west side has brought that up and suggested that we
18 do increase and provide some expansion positions, so we're
19 definitely looking at that and trying to provide some support
20 for that as best we can. You can see we've got a battalion
21 chief, that's the position I hold right now. I'll be in that
22 position until May 31st when I will do something different
23 with my life.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: That's a retirement
25 announcement.

1 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: You knew that.
2 So my call sign basically is BC 7, that means
3 there's seven battalion chiefs and I'm the seventh one out
4 there.

5 All right. The ocean safety office is operations
6 manager Cary Kayama is known as OS 1 is his call sign right
7 there. If you have questions for him today, here he is.
8 Kekai Brown is a captain, she works in our training
9 bureau, OS 2.

10 We have four districts, so four districts captains
11 for each one.

12 We patrol basically or are on the property of nine
13 different beach parks, so we have a lieutenant for each one of
14 those, that's like your beach lieutenant.

15 So our chain of command is in keeping with the way
16 fire department does things. The rank structure that we have,
17 the span of control, how many people each one of those is
18 responsible for, it follows the similar model to the fire
19 department.

20 We've got 46 tower lifeguards known as OSO 2s and
21 we -- it is recommended that we expand to 10 more by full time
22 and 10 half times, so effectively 10 more positions would come
23 out of that, right, so that could increase that number. That
24 would open up a lot of things for us and make our work far
25 more efficient than it is right now.

1 One staff services assistant, she just picked up
 2 that reallocation, she's super happy about that.
 3 And just a real quick bottom line there, the OSO 1
 4 is what you are when you're hired. In order to be hired as a
 5 lifeguard, 18 years old, high school grad, clean record, and
 6 can swim and pass our agilities and you're up for
 7 consideration. So we have four vacancies right now.
 8 We filled one with an intergovernmental transfer
 9 through the civil service system, it was a lifeguard from
 10 North Shore Oahu and he now works for us. He's on the job
 11 today and we're looking forward to him, you know, getting out
 12 into the field. We've got a little orientation period we're
 13 going to do with him before we put him out there.
 14 The other three, two of those are gonna be rehires,
 15 lifeguards that worked for us in the past. And our system out
 16 here provides within a 3-year period of time a retire can be
 17 done, it gives them a little bit of a heads-up, a little bit
 18 of an advantage over people just off the street. Not a whole
 19 lot, but it gives them that they don't have to take the civil
 20 service exam, is essentially what it comes down to. There's
 21 nothing wrong with them. We like them, we did like them, we
 22 still like them, we're probably gonna bring them all on board.
 23 And we're gonna pick up one off the street, we'll
 24 call it, so that's just one. We've got eight people that are
 25 qualified, we're going to do a quick interview of those folks

1 and one of those will get that final spot. Brand-new, hasn't
 2 been a lifeguard yet, probably. There's our personnel.
 3 This gives us a little bit of a look at daily
 4 staffing and maybe where those expansions -- what they might
 5 look like at a glance. Our daily staffing right -- for FY '19
 6 is that we put 3-2, see that up there. Three lifeguards are
 7 at each tower that has a jet ski, so they manage the
 8 operations including that jet ski. And lifeguards at tours
 9 where there is not a jet ski, there are only two of them in
 10 that tower right now. This provides us with a little
 11 opportunity to pull them away from their work and use it for
 12 training. 'Cause once we start doing that, we go below the
 13 minimums and they no longer represent as a good, solid team to
 14 do some of the things that we do like high performance CPR,
 15 operate a jet ski.
 16 So that is like a rock bottom minimum. Even though
 17 it's set and we talk about and strive for it, we don't get
 18 that number very often. We operate with two at each tower a
 19 lot. They have sick days, vacation, weekdays, it just ends up
 20 that we are thin on a lot of our work dates out there.
 21 So you can see the numbers for each district. North
 22 has got 13 on any given day if they're full. For FY 2020,
 23 there's number -- talk, rather, about us expanding, if that
 24 happens, I think we can probably go to a 4-3 model, four
 25 lifeguards at every tower with a ski and three lifeguards --

1 now, they're assign, doesn't mean we don't need to shift them
 2 someplace for training or whatever, but that's what we're
 3 looking for, the ability to also take that -- one of those
 4 positions and move it in for training for the day and then put
 5 it back and it still leaves us with our good numbers there.
 6 We were going to expand outward, we started to play
 7 with the idea of FY '21 and beyond and we could get to a 5-4
 8 with 55 personnel on duty every day. So that's what we're
 9 looking at, that's a short, quick look at an expansion plan
 10 for the lifeguard services.
 11 People talk to us about Hookakaa, they talk to us
 12 about Launiupoko, they talk with us about all kinds of beach
 13 parks and there are 30 of them and somewhere down the line
 14 some of those will be picked up, some of those will get
 15 lifeguard services. That's just a quick snippet.
 16 Sorry to get a little bit let's exciting, talking
 17 about the facilities. Our office is located 21 Kinipopo right
 18 across from Wells Park and Fire Station No. 1. Besides that
 19 we've got 12 lifeguard towers, and 4 lifeguard hales. One
 20 at -- between Kamaole II and III is to die for, if you've been
 21 in there and sat and looked down the beach. It's like who
 22 would not want that as a work place, it's phenomenal, really
 23 nice. Seven rescue watercrafts, my understanding is we have
 24 more watercrafts ready to go on any given day than even Oahu
 25 has got. They do a roving thing and so they're able to move

1 around with their ski. Ours are fixed, I think probably
 2 quicker, more ready to be -- respond and launch, so I think
 3 it's a good model for us right now. That may sort of hybrid
 4 itself at some point in the future.
 5 Okay. And not super exciting, but we've got a bunch
 6 of trucks and sleds and trailers and things that we have to
 7 move all the stuff around that we have. Those are on a
 8 similar refit schedule as the fire department has got. If you
 9 take a look at it, they're on the same scoring matrix, all of
 10 our vehicles and ATVs. You can tell an ATV that's been used
 11 on the north district of Maui, 'cause it's about falling
 12 apart. It doesn't take much more than about a year and a half
 13 and that thing starts go get heavy corrosion on it, as you can
 14 imagine.
 15 Here's our stats for the most part for the quarter
 16 except for the drownings. So far since January, ten people
 17 have drown in the County of Maui. Right? Four of those
 18 nonfatal, so nonfatal drowning. A nonfatal drowning means
 19 that they essentially were unresponsive, unable to breathe for
 20 themselves, but they were pulled from the water and
 21 resuscitated, meaning some way either on their own or from
 22 bystanders or us. So essentially they all start the same way,
 23 they effectively were clinically dead in the water and they
 24 were pulled from the water. Not everybody is -- can be
 25 resuscitated, sometimes, though. And you can see these

1 numbers here for that period of time, right, four people were
 2 clinically dead brought from the water in some fashion or
 3 another, they were resuscitated. That's what the difference
 4 between the nonfatal and a fatal drowning is.
 5 309 response to assists, that's people either
 6 needing help or calling for help.
 7 127 911 calls. The 911 calls come to us when they
 8 need a jet ski, so it's something away from the close
 9 boundaries of the lifeguard tower, it's, you know, further
 10 down the coastline or around the corner. We send jet skis up
 11 to Nakalele, all over the place where jet skis can go. It is
 12 quick in the water, typically before the fire department can
 13 get there. They're quick in the water as well. It serves a
 14 super important role in our hours of operation. It's probably
 15 the only thing we can improve on, is to be available for
 16 longer. Right?
 17 So we're looking at 10 drownings up there, it sounds
 18 horrible, it is horrible, but public safety contacts, this is
 19 in the quarter, 259,000. Almost seems like an unbelievable
 20 number. Lifeguards are talking to people all the time.
 21 There's not a shift goes by where they're not talking to
 22 people about the current conditions. Every time they get on
 23 the mic --
 24 Excuse me. I'm not upset about this, I've got the
 25 medication I take that does this to me. It's crazy.

1 Anyway, every time they key the mic and talk, they
 2 take credit for talking to everybody on the beach. Okay?
 3 Preventative actions are those where they actually
 4 intervene, walk down, talk to people, tell them to move away
 5 from where they are at, this is not safe. Sorry about that.
 6 Heavily involved.
 7 I think earlier on somebody was talking about Kekai
 8 Brown and she's all over the place doing this stuff. She's
 9 takes other lifeguards with her, but she runs most of these
 10 programs and most of this interaction stuff right here is
 11 through her and her office. She's our training captain also.
 12 The only thing I can say about Kekai is she needs to build up
 13 people behind her, that's the only thing, and that's not a bad
 14 thing. She just needs to be -- not be the only one that does
 15 all this stuff, so we're working on that with her.
 16 We're totally and actively involved in lots of
 17 things that take place right here. Newsworthy for the ocean
 18 safety bureau, Hawaii Tourism Authority, HTA, does provide
 19 almost all the funds we need to run our lifeguard -- our
 20 junior lifeguard programs. They're really -- it's
 21 appreciated, it's a lot of money that comes through from that.
 22 They also just recently provided each of the counties with
 23 \$125,000 in funds for ocean safety equipment and so we're
 24 getting more jet skis, we're getting more ATVs and trailers
 25 and the sleds and everything that go along with those things.

1 So that's a pretty substantial gift or almost like a grant
 2 that they provided for us. We're hoping that they do it every
 3 year. And what we did this time is we used their grant money
 4 to purchase things that we wanted, but were not adopted in the
 5 FY '19 budget. So, for example, we asked for five skis, they
 6 gave us two, so we're going to get three through the HTA
 7 grant. It's excellent. We're looking forward to that.
 8 We did actually finally get our manual of
 9 operations. It, you know, started off with my predecessor,
 10 Chief Collin Yamamoto and Chief Val Martin. Finally after
 11 probably 2 solid years we were able to submit that a couple of
 12 months ago to the union for consultation. It's a thicker,
 13 bigger document than what they had in the past. And I think
 14 most of them are looking forward to some clean direction:
 15 What do we do in these circumstances, what we're telling them.
 16 The manual of operations is going to be just through the
 17 workday or the -- I mentioned the four hires already.
 18 This was a video that the county is using, I think
 19 they're going to let it go so we can move on here, but the
 20 county ocean safety video is available, you can see it on the
 21 county website, if you haven't seen it before.
 22 And, I mean, unless you guys want to watch it right
 23 now? No? Okay.
 24 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: It's the one that's playing
 25 at the hotels?

1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And baggage claim.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: The airport.
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah, good.
 4 And, you know, Kepa Naeole is trying to find a way
 5 to have this be required, the guests of the hotel need to view
 6 this with some sort of proof that they've done so before they
 7 rent things. It's a good idea. It's Kaanapali Beach Hotel.
 8 Yeah.
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: On social media, a lot of
 10 people were mentioning wanting something like this on the
 11 planes, being -- I know you guys have probably discussed it
 12 before, but is it something that you all can work towards or
 13 can be worked towards with the airlines?
 14 BATTALION CHIEF McAfee: Yeah, not only us. The
 15 injury prevention advisory committee have a drowning
 16 prevention group within that committee at State of Hawaii and
 17 they look for the opportunity to do the same thing. And so
 18 Hawaii Lifeguard Association, the IPAC, and, really, every
 19 county is looking for different ways to do this sort of thing
 20 right there.
 21 OS OM KAYAMA: Yeah. There's a nonprofit Nakamakai
 22 on Ohau doing these photos, he created our junior lifeguard
 23 video, our safety video, and he's planning on Hawaiian
 24 Airlines, I think they got approval about seeing that.
 25 COMMISSIONER VARES: That's good.

1 OS OM KAYAMA: So they do see them on Hawaiian
 2 Airlines.
 3 MR. HIRATA: There's an ocean safety conference that
 4 if you've never gone, you should go on Kauai.
 5 COMMISSIONER VERAS: On Kauai?
 6 MR. KALEPA: This year.
 7 COMMISSIONER BURNS: They move around?
 8 MR. KALEPA: Yeah.
 9 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: I think they're -- yeah.
 10 Any questions about the ocean safety bureau?
 11 Yeah.
 12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I notice you forgot Molokai
 13 on your map.
 14 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: No way. Great. They told
 15 me not to worry about it.
 16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You do have employees there;
 17 right?
 18 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: We do.
 19 CHIEF THYNE: Did you not hear the new chair is from
 20 Molokai too, Kevin?
 21 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: More information on Molokai
 22 is coming.
 23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You're retiring next month?
 24 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: Yes, I'm retiring.
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you for your service,

1 my brother.
 2 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: You're welcome.
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Kevin is high level in the
 4 fire department, every section he's worked, high level.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: He's degraded a lot since you left,
 6 Chief.
 7 (Laughter.)
 8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: He has, huh?
 9 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: Real quick, I don't
 10 normally well up like that, but I have prostate cancer and
 11 they did surgery on it and they give you these medications and
 12 since then it's like -- I don't like these meds, because I get
 13 this weirdness going every once out of the blue. I have no
 14 idea why it happens. Just every once in a while.
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you, Kevin.
 16 BATTALION CHIEF McAFEE: You're welcome.
 17 CHAIR MISAKI: And I just want to say, we didn't
 18 have a March meeting and we were going to recognize Charles
 19 and Archie, but we're going to do it at this meeting. And I
 20 thank you guys for coming and I thank you guys for serving on
 21 the fire commission. So I'm going to turn this over to Chief
 22 Thyne.
 23 CHIEF THYNE: You know, I mentioned earlier and this
 24 is really an honor for me, because these two gentlemen, you
 25 know, in my former role and their former roles -- as I

1 mentioned, I worked with Captain Hirata through the years,
 2 probably other ranks as well on the streets of Lahaina.
 3 Archie and I more or less grew up together, spent a lot in
 4 Lahaina running around. Probably if there was a different
 5 chronological age, Chuck would've been arresting us for one
 6 reason or another.
 7 (Laughter.)
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Most of the time we were good boys,
 9 though, obviously, but -- and somehow or another I missed the
 10 memo because not only have they retired once from the county,
 11 they're retiring again and here I am still and I'm still
 12 working, so I missed that memo, so I'm kind of slow when it
 13 comes to that.
 14 But I did want to acknowledge both Chuck and Archie
 15 and thank them for their service as fellow responders and as
 16 commission members, because -- and don't you folks leave,
 17 because, you know, 5 years of being on the fire commission and
 18 dedicating your time and volunteering your time and taking
 19 time away from your families and your busy schedules -- as we
 20 say in the fire service, whenever I stand in front of the room
 21 and instruct and thank our firefighters and ocean safety
 22 personnel for coming into the class, I always tell them that,
 23 you know, we appreciate them being there and advancing their
 24 careers, advancing their knowledge base, because the one
 25 finite thing we have in life is time and time that you

1 dedicate to your careers, to your county, to your ohana, and
 2 the community, the communities of our county is time away from
 3 things that you could be doing with your families and whatnot
 4 and so we thank you for that. We can't express enough the
 5 appreciation we have for the services you provided in your
 6 former careers as fire commission members and most recently as
 7 our chair and so thank you.
 8 We do have a couple of things that you'll probably
 9 put in a box somewhere, but, you know what, they should be on
 10 the wall in a position of honor, but... So if you two
 11 gentlemen could come forward, Brad is going to be our lei lady
 12 and, you know -- because I have to pull rank on that one.
 13 (Presentation of leis and plaques.)
 14 CHIEF THYNE: I probably do a better impersonation
 15 of former Mayor Arakawa, because, you know, I'm half Japanese,
 16 but --
 17 (Laughter.)
 18 But I have a proclamation from Mayor Victorino as
 19 well and it probably says the same thing for both Chair Hirata
 20 and Archie, but I'll just read it.
 21 It says, "Mahalo for a job well done. On behalf of
 22 the People of the County of Maui, please accept my deepest
 23 appreciation and gratitude for your dedication and service on
 24 the Fire Public Safety Commission. Your efforts and
 25 contributions have made a positive difference in our

1 community. I truly believe that it is important for citizens
 2 to play an active role in the government. The process of
 3 recruiting and selecting nominees to serve on various boards
 4 and commissions has given me a greater pleasure and
 5 appreciation for volunteerism and community service.
 6 I would like to commend you for your willingness to
 7 devote your time, energy, and resources and insight to the
 8 betterment of Maui County. Once again, thank you for making
 9 Maui County the best it can be. I hope this experience was a
 10 memorable and meaningful one for you.
 11 The honorable Mayor Michael P. Victorino."
 12 So, Chair, thank you, sir.
 13 (Applause.)
 14 MR. HIRATA: Commission does take a toll on you, I
 15 used to have black hair.
 16 (Laughter.)
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: He used to have hair.
 18 (Laughter.)
 19 MR. HIRATA: I was always a jokester and working in
 20 Lahaina at the same time as Dave, he always knew me as a
 21 jokester --
 22 CHIEF THYNE: Still do.
 23 MR. HIRATA: So when I called him to say that, you
 24 know, he got the job as Fire One, I said, Dave, you know,
 25 you're Fire One. He goes, Are you kidding? That was the

1 first words out of his mouth.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: I had to check because that's how he
 3 is, right, so...
 4 (Taking of pictures.)
 5 MR. KALEPA: I'd like to say something. You know,
 6 when we first went down this route to get ocean safety to
 7 become part of the fire department, there was a lot of
 8 resistance, but looking at how we can better our community and
 9 better serve the people of Maui County, it was the right
 10 direction for ocean safety to head in. It had outgrown the
 11 parks department and it was more of a public safety service.
 12 And after I retired, becoming part of the fire commission and,
 13 you know, kind of helping shed some light on the fire
 14 department through the commission about where ocean safety
 15 needs to be and the growth of ocean safety and the new
 16 direction that it needs to head in so we can better serve the
 17 people of the Maui, both the people that live here and the
 18 visitors.
 19 So I'm really, really proud for this new department,
 20 this fire chief and his administration, because they have
 21 really shown that they want ocean safety to be become part of
 22 the family and I want to say thank you guys very, very much
 23 for making that happen. And, you know, recently we had a
 24 death in ocean safety and you guys stepped up and made all of
 25 the ocean safety officers feel part of the family and that

1 means a lot. Long term, it says a lot about the care that you
 2 put into ocean safety and I think that was a milestone. We
 3 have a little ways to go as far as the merger goes, like chief
 4 McAfee said, but I think we're well on the way. So, Chief,
 5 you and your staff, you guys, thank you very, very much, we
 6 appreciate it.
 7 And the Commission, thank you guys very much.
 8 (Applause.)
 9 MR. HIRATA: Thanks for all you guys' support, yeah.
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Can I just --
 11 MR. HIRATA: Good job.
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: I would just like to say that both
 13 Charles and Archie were part of a significant commission term,
 14 because like Archie mentioned, the merger of the ocean safety
 15 to fire department, that was a major thing and the second
 16 thing was the commission did not have to hire a fire chief for
 17 over -- what, 13 years it was.
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Ten, for sure.
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: -- ten, so we all went through that
 20 process with both of them helping the process of hiring the
 21 new chief, so that was very interesting. And we made sure --
 22 one of the things we heard from the rank and file is don't let
 23 this thing drag along, so we made sure we were very diligent
 24 and it took us a month, which I don't know if it's a record or
 25 not, but it took us a month to -- well, after Jill -- after we

1 got all the resumes back. From the time we got the resumes to
 2 the time we hired Chief Thyne, it took us just about a month,
 3 which I know as commissioners who were involved with that, we
 4 all feel good about that because we didn't let the rank and
 5 file hang, yeah, for too long.
 6 So thank you, Archie, and thank you, Charles.
 7 MR. KALEPA: Thank you.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Our next item is the fire chief's
 9 performance evaluation and there's two things I wanted to say
 10 first is that if you haven't turned in your signed evaluation,
 11 please do so, Jill is waiting for that, yeah, we need that.
 12 And then, second of all, we're going to go into
 13 executive session and I just wanted to ask both Archie and
 14 Charles that they can -- you can stay in the executive
 15 commission and give us your feedback, but then after that, you
 16 can leave and then we'll continue with our executive session.
 17 So I'm going to adjourn at this time -- not adjourn.
 18 What do you call it?
 19 MR. MURAI: We need a motion to adjourn -- to recess
 20 our regular session and go into executive session. So a
 21 motion, a second, and we need to have at least six members
 22 voting in favor of that.
 23 CHAIR MISAKI: So if I can somebody make a motion to
 24 recess.
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Motion to recess.

1 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Second.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: All those in favor?
 3 (Response.)
 4 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. We'll go into executive
 5 session.
 6 (Pause in proceedings: 12:04 p.m.-12:24 p.m.)
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: So now that we're in regular session,
 8 I just wanted to remind you guys, our next meeting date is May
 9 16th right here at the fire prevention bureau.
 10 MS. MATSUI: And turn in your original if you
 11 haven't of the chief's evaluation signed.
 12 MR. MURAI: Jill wants those back.
 13 CHIEF THYNE: And I did want to mention before you
 14 go that we did go before the council already for our budget
 15 and so in case you choose to view it on Akaku, they do have
 16 it. And I can't tell you what site, but if you go to the
 17 county council and look at the agenda and review the videos
 18 that are posted because they post them every time. So just
 19 now that they can't change their scores.
 20 (Laughter.)
 21 CHIEF THYNE: It actually went very well. It was
 22 eleven o'clock at night.
 23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Of course.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: But it went very well and they -- I
 25 believe the council got the information that they requested

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 April 18th, 2019,
 7 at 5:30 p.m. the proceedings was taken down by me in machine
 8 shorthand and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form under
 9 my supervision; that the foregoing represents, to the best of
 10 my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings
 11 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 5th day of April, 2019, in Maui, Hawaii.
 18
 19
 20
 21
 22 _____
 23 Sandra J. Gran, RPR
 24 Hawaii CSR 424
 25

1 and they were happy with what we provided, so -- but I
 2 wouldn't have told you that if you were still with your
 3 scorecards.
 4 (Laughter.)
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: So with that, I again want to say
 6 welcome to our commission, Dwight and Lisa.
 7 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Thank you.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: And with that, meeting adjourned.
 9 MS. MATSUI: One last thing, I did give you guys all
 10 confidential --
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: And contact.
 12 MS. MATSUI: -- and contact, so please make your
 13 changes and give it back to me so I can update my contact
 14 information for you folks.
 15 (The proceedings were adjourned at 12:26 p.m.)
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