

June 20, 2019

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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 10:17 a.m., on
 15 June 20th, 2019.
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 20 REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424
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1 (June 20th, 2019, 10:17 a.m.)
 2 * * *
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I'd like to call the meetings
 4 to order and welcome Jennifer to our meeting.
 5 MS. OANA: Thank you. I'm so sorry.
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: Before I go forward with the agenda,
 7 I just wanted to make sure Jill passed out the schedule and
 8 the reason why she passed out a new schedule, you'll notice
 9 the August meeting is a different date now. August 22nd is
 10 the new date. Okay?
 11 Second order on the agenda, I'd just like to ask for
 12 a moment of silence for former Fire Commissioner Willy
 13 Kennison, he passed away about a month ago so. If we can take
 14 a month of silence.
 15 (Pause in Proceedings.)
 16 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you very much. Just so you
 17 guys know, William, he was thoroughly engaged in the hiring of
 18 Fire Chief Thyne when we went through that last August, so he
 19 did more than his part to help the fire department move on.
 20 Thank you.
 21 I'd like to call for the approval of the minutes
 22 from the last meeting.
 23 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: So moved.
 24 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Second.
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's been moved and seconded.

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1 ATTENDANCE
 2 COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:
 3 Edwin Misaki, Chair
 4 Linda Fernandez, Member
 5 Jack Freitas, Member
 6 Travis Tancayo, Member
 7 Dwight Burns, Member
 8 Lisa Vares, Member
 9 Donna Sterling, Member
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 12 STAFF:
 13 David Thyne, Fire Chief
 14 Bradford Ventura, Deputy Fire Chief
 15 Richard Kawasaki, Assistant Fire Chief
 16 Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel
 17 Jill Matsui Peterson, Commission Secretary
 18 Misty Cordeiro, Office Operations Assistant
 19 Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency
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1 All those in favor?
 2 (Response.)
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: Anybody opposed?
 4 (No response.)
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Great.
 6 Is there anybody here to do public testimony?
 7 (No response.)
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I don't see anybody, so we can
 9 go into the next item, which is we had another correspondence
 10 from Yolanda Dizon. And we took -- we took her first
 11 correspondence up in the May -- the May meeting and we did
 12 respond with a letter. Unfortunately, Jill was out a little
 13 while, so the letter didn't go out right away, so I guess she
 14 got a little bit -- a little bit angry, I would say, 'cause
 15 she didn't get any correspondence back. Thankfully, our chief
 16 went and talked to her about the whole situation and so she
 17 finally got the letter, so it must be good, she didn't show up
 18 today. So would you guys like to do anything further with
 19 this correspondence?
 20 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: May, yeah?
 21 MS. OANA: Chair, I just have a question. So
 22 there's a new letter for today's meeting?
 23 MS. PETERSON: This letter came in before today's
 24 meeting.
 25 MS. OANA: It was on the 30th, I think.

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1 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. She wanted what happened to
 2 her previous correspondence. This is the letter we wrote to.
 3 MS. OANA: The commission receive this letter?
 4 'Cause it wasn't in my packet, that's why.
 5 MS. PETERSON: No. It was handed out today.
 6 MS. OANA: Oh, okay.
 7 MS. PETERSON: It's in the pile I put in front of
 8 you.
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: It's there, underneath there.
 10 MS. OANA: Okay.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: So I would like to revert to the
 12 letter that we sent out from me that the best thing to do is
 13 to continue to correspond with Chief Thyne on all fire
 14 department matters.
 15 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chief -- Chair, in
 16 yesterday's committee council meeting she did testify and this
 17 was brought up, that she had not heard from our commission, so
 18 it was good that I came today and got caught up on --
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: -- that there was --
 21 CHAIR MISAKI: So she did get the letter now.
 22 COMMISSIONER STERLING: That wasn't said last night.
 23 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, okay.
 24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So, yeah.
 25 COMMISSIONER BURNS: I heard her too.

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1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So I just wanted to be sure.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: So I guess it's an ongoing issue with
 3 them, they're the ones that their structures got burned down.
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: So, yeah. But the question she asked
 6 in her last correspondence, it's really for the chief to talk
 7 to her about the fire breaks and all that kind of stuff, so --
 8 and I am so thankful that the chief is corresponding directly
 9 with them.
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. After last night,
 11 yes. Thank you.
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: So unless there's any action, I would
 13 like to move on on the agenda. We have Herman next.
 14 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Good morning, Chair --
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Good morning.
 16 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: -- and Commissioners. You
 17 have my report before you in your packets, so I'll just add a
 18 little bit. You know, we are preparing for hurricane season,
 19 we're still doing a lot of trainings, a lot of exercises. In
 20 fact, we have an exercise going on this morning, I stepped out
 21 to come here and I'm going to go back shortly. But we're,
 22 yeah, we're preparing for hurricane season, which we are in
 23 right now. Hurricane season is from June 1st until
 24 November 30th.
 25 Chief Ventura and I met with Department of Homeland

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1 Security yesterday regarding our grants that are going to the
 2 fire department. There's a number of grants. One is Rescue
 3 Systems 1 training, Rescues Systems 1 and 2; also, haz. mat.
 4 equipment; and the last one is the all hazards IMT training as
 5 well.
 6 That's all I have. Everything else in my report.
 7 If you have any questions, I'm open to them.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: So when does hurricane season
 9 officially start? Is it July?
 10 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Is it started June 1st.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: Really?
 12 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah.
 13 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh.
 14 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So it's June 1st until
 15 November 30th and we are expecting -- well, there's a 70
 16 percent chance that it may be an active hurricane season this
 17 year, so they're predicting about five to eight hurricanes.
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Are we still in El Nino?
 19 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, we are. That's part of
 20 the problem. 'cause the waters are warmer and they're
 21 predicting that they'll be less wind sheer.
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh.
 23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So the warmer waters is what
 24 fuels the hurricane and what disrupts its organization is the
 25 wind sheer. So two things that contribute to a hurricane

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1 forming, so warm waters and then no wind sheer, so that's an
 2 issue.
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: And I'm noticing we're getting all
 4 kine record high temperatures everywhere, so...
 5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, yeah.
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: Anything else?
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Question: So would it be --
 8 we're in a drought right now Upcountry -- is that Level 1?
 9 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: 10 percent, I just heard on
 10 the radio, voluntary.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: We are officially in a drought?
 12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Upcountry.
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Upcountry.
 14 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, Upcountry.
 15 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Haiku -- they listed a whole
 16 bunch of places.
 17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Haiku all the way to Kanaio.
 18 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah. It's a -- one of those
 19 volunteer -- it's voluntary 10 percent restriction on water.
 20 From what I understand, the entire reservoir is dry and the --
 21 this is Kahakapao and the other reservoir is down.
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Wow.
 23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Just a question: Who sets
 24 that, determines --
 25 CHIEF THYNE: Water.

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1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: The water department. Just
 2 them alone?
 3 CHIEF THYNE: Yes. We have a managing director --
 4 if I can interject just real quick. We have a managing
 5 directors meeting -- they kind of sporadically have them, it
 6 kinda -- it used to be supposed to be once every week and then
 7 it became 2 weeks, now they just call and say, Hey, we're
 8 having a meeting tomorrow. But the last one, Jeff Pearson,
 9 the water director, talked about the drought declaration, so
 10 it comes from the water department.
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: So they also work with the
 12 weather -- predicted weather?
 13 CHIEF THYNE: I don't think so. I think it's based
 14 on, like Jack was saying, the level of the reservoirs and once
 15 it hits a certain level criteria, then it's -- boom, it's
 16 declared. And I believe they said it never went beyond
 17 Level 1.
 18 Did you heard that?
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.
 20 CHIEF THYNE: 'Cause I heard that and I thought it
 21 had gotten to the point where they were talking about fining
 22 people and cutting off your --
 23 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Years ago, years ago I'm talking
 25 about, you know, 5 years ago or whatever. But they said no,

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1 it never went beyond the Level 1 declaration, so -- I didn't
 2 know that, I thought it did, but...
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you.
 4 CHAIR MISA SAKI: Okay.
 5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you.
 6 CHAIR MISA SAKI: Thank you, Herman.
 7 Chief.
 8 (MEMA Officer Andaya left the room.)
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Thanks, Chair and Commissioners.
 10 Welcome. Good to see everybody.
 11 So training, you can see we're consistent, as we
 12 always are. We, again, take pride in ourselves as a training
 13 department. We are constantly continuing to refine our
 14 training. There's a process going on right now that Chief
 15 Kawasaki may or may not allude to because the training bureau
 16 reports to Chief Kawasaki. We made that connection between
 17 operations and our training bureau, we think that's important.
 18 That wasn't a connection that happened before, we always -- a
 19 lot of us internally felt it should be that way, but it wasn't
 20 that way for whatever reason. So Chief is over that bureau,
 21 but what I wanted to just briefly touch on is we're going
 22 through standard company evaluations at this point. It's down
 23 at Hammerhead Metals. So we have 15 -- roughly 15 specific --
 24 discipline-specific programs. Auto extrication is one of
 25 them, wildland fire training is one of them, ocean rescue, on

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1 and on it goes. Right?
 2 So right now the phrase we're in is auto extrication
 3 and they're doing a standard company evaluation, so what they
 4 do is they bring their companies in, they give them an
 5 assignment and say, You have a two-vehicle code 1 accident,
 6 XYZ amount of occupants in various states of need. They have
 7 to prioritize and extricate those patients in a systematic
 8 manner from the actual literally crushed vehicles as then
 9 simulating an actual vehicle accident. And then they're
 10 evaluated on their efficiency in doing that.
 11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wow.
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Their rate of communications, their
 13 direction of their resources, how they systemically do that,
 14 because there is a way that it should be done, prioritized and
 15 done. And so that's just an example of what we're trying to
 16 do to constantly evaluate our training, because what we said
 17 was, is we feel when we train people that when you come out
 18 the other side and it's an application in the field on a real
 19 world incident, what you train on is what happens.
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: But how do you know that until it's an
 22 emergency and it actually happens? So if we can -- if we can
 23 evaluate that and say, Where are we? Where do we need to
 24 adjust? Where do we need to reinforce instruction or make
 25 sure the guys fully understand this? Because if we're up

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1 there in front of the classroom and we're telling them things
 2 and when they walk out of the classroom and it happens in the
 3 field, they're doing something totally different, we're
 4 missing it. And so, anyway, that's ongoing right now and
 5 you'll see that happening and we'll try to keep you folks
 6 updated as we go through the various programs on -- like I
 7 said, it's our continuous improvement of our training, so...
 8 The incidents, you won't see very much difference.
 9 As I typically allude to, we may see an up tick because of the
 10 drought that was mentioned and, of course, summertime.
 11 CHAIR MISA SAKI: Commissioner Tancayo had a question,
 12 I believe.
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, I'm sorry.
 14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I'm sorry, Chief. As far as
 15 coming -- evaluating the men on the engine companies, are you
 16 bringing the Molokai guys and Lanai guys in? I know we --
 17 earlier we tried to just create that training capability on
 18 Molokai, but I'm not sure how that went.
 19 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. So we are bringing them in.
 20 They came in recently for FGO. That wasn't an evaluation
 21 component at that time, it was just a refresher on the skill
 22 set for fire ground operations, so they brought in the crews
 23 and did that. And so we've worked into the budget -- and the
 24 council, to their credit -- I mean, I know it helps that Keani
 25 is the budget chair, but the council since Keani being the

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1 budget chair has been very good about funding the travel of
 2 resources from Molokai/Lanai to come in and do the training.
 3 So what we can do on island, obviously we will, but then if we
 4 need to bring them into the prop center or to a situation like
 5 Hammerhead, then we will. If -- obviously if the -- if we
 6 have any spare vehicles on Molokai, Chief --
 7 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: We'll use them, we'll cut them up,
 9 but -- you know, of course, I'm joking. Right? Pride in your
 10 vehicles, but -- no, seriously, we try -- what Chief Travis is
 11 alluding to, for the other commission members, is we try to
 12 build a training center on Molokai as well, just to save on
 13 travel and the frequency of being able to use the props and
 14 continue the training, but it's very difficult because where
 15 are you gonna put it, who's going to assume that liability,
 16 that type of thing. So it's a continuous work, we continue to
 17 process and try to do that.
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I remember the expense of a
 19 call back to have it properly manned. Some of the drills
 20 takes the company out.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I was just wondering if that
 23 has changed. So they've helped you with some kind of funding?
 24 CHIEF THYNE: So, like I said, the council is
 25 receptive, they understand our unique -- I mean, we're one of

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1 now at least they've understood that and they've worked with
 2 us and put that funding in.
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 4 CHIEF THYNE: And we're not going to abuse it.
 5 We're very strict with how we do it and we don't waste, but
 6 it's good to have a council and a mayor that's receptive to
 7 it.
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: So we're very thankful.
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you, Chief.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: I have one last question. The 1506,
 12 that's personnel days?
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. So you'll see the number is the
 14 people and then the 1506 is how many people.
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Total personnel days.
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 17 CHAIR MISAKI: So 1506 personnel days in May?
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, my. I'm envisioning your crew
 20 not sitting around, but always training on --
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, they're always training, yeah. So
 22 there's --
 23 CHAIR MISAKI: That's really good.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: There's a -- I could -- you know, I'll
 25 probably let our training captain take you on that journey,

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1 the only -- probably in the world, but one of the only
 2 jurisdictions in the nation that are separated within their
 3 own jurisdictional boundaries by ocean. Right? So, you know,
 4 even when we bring in our full-time Hana, I mean, it's almost
 5 like you're on a different island, right --
 6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yes.
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Because they've got to travel outside
 9 here, the travel time, all of that stuff. But the council has
 10 been very receptive to funding those overtime -- because we'll
 11 bring them in on their days off, we have to, 'cause we've
 12 still gotta staff the island.
 13 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.
 14 CHIEF THYNE: You know what I mean? So we've gotta
 15 pay over time now and then you've gotta pay the travel, yeah,
 16 and then sometimes there's other things involved because of
 17 the union contract, like meals and per diem, as they call it.
 18 I mean, so those are all costs and we used to fight with the
 19 council in trying to say, Hey, just cause you're Molokai,
 20 don't mean they gotta -- they shouldn't be doing the training.
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 22 CHIEF THYNE: It's maybe even more important because
 23 they're on their own over there --
 24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 25 CHIEF THYNE: -- you know, kind of thing. And so

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1 Lani Gomes, but when we built the training plan, there's a
 2 component of online training at the station at the company
 3 officer level, it's for crew unity. It's that task-level
 4 stuff that should be worked on as a crew, whether it be, you
 5 know, tying the rope system or where they have to work
 6 together as crew. Then there's the instructional/tactical
 7 side of it that's called the training environment, be at the
 8 classroom. And then there's the overall picture, which is
 9 when we're in the field working together. So all of these
 10 different components work together to build the training plan
 11 and we constantly evaluate if it's reaching what it -- like I
 12 said, what comes out the other side, it'd better be what
 13 product we're trying to push forward to all of these different
 14 processes. If not, we're failing, we're failing our crews,
 15 we're failing the public, and so we took that seriously and so
 16 there's a lot of training hours involved.
 17 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.
 18 CHIEF THYNE: And we take pride in the fact that,
 19 you know, we'll continue to train and -- and we'll make
 20 mistakes, like everything else, but we're going to try to
 21 limit those as best we can.
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.
 23 CHIEF THYNE: So, Chief, did you have any other
 24 questions?
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: No.

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1 Thank you, Chief.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: I had one more question.
 3 CHIEF THYNE: Sorry.
 4 CHAIR MISAKI: On the incident thing, so Kamaole is
 5 under control?
 6 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: So it's contained. What I heard last
 9 night, I was listening -- I try not to get into Chief
 10 Kawasaki's world because I did his job for a few years and
 11 it's to micromanage, yeah, and so -- but I listen to the radio
 12 and when I heard that they had it contained, but they were
 13 going to be mopping up all through last night and all through
 14 today, I said, It's probably one of those areas where it's
 15 really overgrown and they've gotta get into all these stumps
 16 and brush and whatnot and so it's a lot of dragging hose and a
 17 lot of work those guys are putting in in 90 degree weather,
 18 so... But it's contained.
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Did it -- did it start from the
 20 highway or --
 21 CHIEF THYNE: You know, I haven't heard. I was in
 22 the BC --
 23 Have you heard, Chief.
 24 CHIEF KAWASAKI: No.
 25 CHIEF THYNE: I was in the battalion chief's office

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1 and he asked the on-duty captain, but the on-duty captain,
 2 Shawn Simon, wasn't working at the -- at the initial one,
 3 which was Lokahi area, so they were going to try and call and
 4 get that information.
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: 'Cause everybody on Molokai noticed
 6 all the fire engines and police --
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: -- going up to the east end.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. We're not sure -- I haven't
 10 heard yet.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: It was about, what, four o'clock
 12 yesterday where they all responded.
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. It was about 3:30, around
 14 there.
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah, yeah. Okay. Thank you.
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Okay.
 17 Lisa?
 18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yes. I actually have a
 19 question about the incidents reports.
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: So I was looking at the whole
 22 total dollar loss and I was just wondering what is the -- like
 23 what's the most major contributing factors to how that month's
 24 dollar loss gets driven up so high? I mean, I see January
 25 it's a million --

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1 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- and then the next month its
 3 5,000.
 4 CHIEF THYNE: Right.
 5 COMMISSIONER VARES: Is it the vehicle fires that --
 6 CHIEF THYNE: No.
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: What's -- what's the --
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Normally it's the structural fires.
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: Structures.
 10 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, the structural fires, 'cause the
 11 total dollar loss is related to -- so you only have -- you
 12 should only have dollar loss on vehicle fires and more so
 13 structure fires. You should not have a dollar loss on a -- on
 14 a brush fire, for instance. Even like in the situation where,
 15 unfortunately, the homes burned in Lahaina --
 16 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.
 17 CHIEF THYNE: -- that would be called an exposure
 18 and so that would become a different -- it wouldn't be on the
 19 brush fire report, it would be included in the dollar loss as
 20 a structure fire. It's just a reporting mechanism.
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay.
 22 CHIEF THYNE: And I know it's confusing, but -- I'll
 23 just leave it right there.
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: I figured you've got some sort
 25 of --

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1 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- way to organize this and --
 3 CHIEF THYNE: So, yeah, you'll see that little up
 4 tick sometimes and it's based maybe they had a couple
 5 structure fires. I would have to look back at the actual
 6 data, but --
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: -- I think that was Wailea one,
 9 possibly.
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Maui Meadows.
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Maui Meadows, they had that -- that
 12 structure burned down. It was actually off-duty ocean
 13 safety -- one of our ocean safety bureau personnel rented up
 14 the upstairs, so it was kind of a bad situation, but --
 15 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Well, it was a bad situation, period,
 17 not kind of, so... It wasn't his fault, it just was a bad,
 18 bad deal, but -- but I think that's what that is -- could have
 19 been what that is.
 20 COMMISSIONER VARES: So structures fires are the
 21 most --
 22 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. That's where you'll see the big
 23 dollar loss.
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. Thanks.
 25 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, Chief. On this vehicle

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1 losses, a lot -- a lot of -- the majority of them is torch
 2 jobs; am I right?
 3 CHIEF THYNE: You know, it's -- we have called
 4 investigators to -- but it's so hard to --
 5 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Well --
 6 CHIEF THYNE: I mean, I know you tow these things a
 7 lot and you see the other -- the end product.
 8 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Well, it's --
 9 CHIEF THYNE: It's hard to determine if it's arson,
 10 because you can -- 'cause obviously there is fuel on board, so
 11 if you have considered an accelerant, which is gasoline, well,
 12 it's supposed to be there. Right?
 13 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 14 CHIEF THYNE: So it's hard to determine.
 15 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No, but if you hit Twin Falls
 16 to Hana, we tow the abandoned vehicles out of that area --
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 18 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: If the car stays out 3 days,
 19 it's torched.
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 21 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: It's burnt. But that's the
 22 only area, so --
 23 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 24 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: -- you know, they gotta
 25 catch -- you know, and I can see where the bulk of those three

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1 to five cars would be cars that was left and mysteriously they
 2 caught fire.
 3 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 4 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: You know.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Yes, yeah. And we created a code
 6 years ago when I was working with the -- with our stats
 7 program, "Abandoned Vehicles," because we were finding all of
 8 a sudden -- in fact, we got a notice from NTSB or one of the
 9 transportation folks and they're think -- they're tasking our
 10 chief at the time, How come you have so many nineteen ninety-
 11 something to 2000 Nissan Sentra fires in Maui? Well, it's
 12 because that was a popular car and they were all not running
 13 anymore, so they were abandoned.
 14 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 15 CHIEF THYNE: And so it's like --
 16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No.
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, there was this up tick, you guys
 18 have your percentages just -- why is that? And we're like,
 19 Well, that's 'cause probably had a big shipment years ago and
 20 choke guys driving them and they ended up getting old and
 21 broken down and now people are just abandoning them and
 22 starting them on fire.
 23 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: So we created an abandoned vehicle
 25 code, so we can actually track the abandoned vehicles if the

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1 guys report it as such, which -- but a lot of times, you're
 2 right, ends up broke down on the side of the road, less than a
 3 week later it's up in flames.
 4 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: It's gone.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: 'Cause they think -- they're mad
 6 because they think the county isn't gonna tow it unless it's
 7 burned.
 8 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: You know, that's my opinion.
 10 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No. There's a name going
 11 around, I'll get -- I'll get it to you.
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Oh, okay.
 13 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: You know. No, on that area
 14 that --
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Okay. Hopefully it's not Jesse
 16 'cause he's...
 17 CHAIR MITSUKI: Thank you.
 18 CHIEF THYNE: They know.
 19 CHAIR MITSUKI: Okay. You can go on with your --
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Okay. So, you know, I think -- I
 21 can't remember if the two searches were -- I know we were
 22 still on the Mina search, but obviously those were two very
 23 high-profile search efforts that were done. So I just had
 24 this entry in there because one concern that we have that
 25 created a little bit of -- well, a little bit of concern

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24

1 internally with us is, you know, they -- because of the
 2 connections that folks had, they all of a sudden started
 3 talking about bringing in National Guard and -- and certainly
 4 decisions are made over our level that we have no control
 5 over, but our concern from our level was, is that I got a
 6 call, actually, from MPD and they basically were saying we had
 7 to pay the bill. And I said, Well, we -- I can check on our
 8 budget, but we don't have a -- so I said, Well, what is it
 9 for?
 10 Oh, they were talking about helicopters.
 11 And I says, Okay. So any idea on what the cost is?
 12 Because I'll have to check with our budget person. And I
 13 already knew because I had -- I've been monitoring them, but
 14 we both monitor the budget religiously, especially this time
 15 of year, being at the end of the year. Anyway, short version,
 16 no more money. We can pay our people, our Windward Aviation,
 17 but we don't have money to pay, you know, \$25,000 an hour to
 18 the National Guard. And what capability are they gonna bring
 19 that we aren't already using? 'Cause we're working with the
 20 local resource that we have, Jake Muise is his name, that has
 21 forward looking infrared radar that we were able to look for
 22 heat signatures and whatnot. And they were picking up bee's
 23 nests and birds and whatnot in the canopy, it was just -- it
 24 was incredible. We used on Molokai for the missing gentleman
 25 that went off, the honeymoon guy, and --

1 Anyway, all of that aside, our concerns related
 2 to -- and we still have to work through this because twice
 3 they were gonna send the National Guard over here and at whose
 4 expense? It wasn't requested. What capability do they have?
 5 I worry a little bit from a personal side of what is that
 6 telling our responders, all of them, the police, the firemen,
 7 they're out there -- I mean, we were -- I won't go into
 8 detail, but, I mean, we're lowering people through the canopy
 9 on ropes hundreds of feet and these guys are risking their
 10 lives doing that stuff and you're gonna just push them on the
 11 side. And it just -- it just doesn't -- and are we gonna call
 12 the National Guard every time? So we don't have any
 13 agreements in place, we don't have any triggers, we don't know
 14 what else is gonna happen, and so I want to get to the bottom
 15 of it. I don't know if I can, but I will try to do that
 16 because it's concerning to me that they're just going to pull
 17 the National Guard in and we haven't even requested them. And
 18 in the -- for those of you that know that area up there in Lao
 19 and whatnot up that side, there's -- you don't want people,
 20 even if they're soldiers, you don't want them chasing around
 21 that ground up there.
 22 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Sure.
 23 CHIEF THYNE: It's very dangerous, you know, very
 24 dangerous and so, you know -- anyway, we've gotta work through
 25 that. I just wanted to bring it to your attention.

1 The budget, just kind of changing direction here,
 2 the budget should be finalized shortly. Hopefully at the next
 3 meeting we'll be able to brief you on what we got out of it,
 4 where we're -- where we're looking at improving as far as, you
 5 know, what we got funded and those types of things.
 6 We did meet with Councilmember Kama's office, had a
 7 nice conversation. They want to work with us on, you know,
 8 the strategic plan and moving forward with how we incorporate
 9 that into the budget process, so that's that next entry.
 10 We did have a couple of certification courses, which
 11 is Pro Board, we call it, and at some point in time when
 12 training comes in, we'll explain to you the various levels of
 13 certification that we have as a department. These are
 14 national-level certifications, so that's something we should
 15 all be proud of. It's not just a completion certificate from
 16 Maui County, this is actual national-level type of
 17 qualifications. So two of those went on, one was an
 18 instructor course and the other one was emergency vehicle
 19 operator course -- excuse me, apparatus operator course.
 20 So we did go down, Chief Ventura, myself, Chief
 21 Kawasaki, and a couple of our BCs and we went through the
 22 Norwegian Cruise Lines, the big vessel. We always have had
 23 question operationally. I've been in for 32 plus years and
 24 I've really had a lot of questions in my mind of what would
 25 happen when those 3,000 people come in on those boats and if

1 it went bad for whatever reason -- 'cause if you turn on CNN,
 2 that happens all the time, it just doesn't happen here in our
 3 beautiful island, but it is just a matter of time. So we went
 4 through to --
 5 For everybody's peace of mind, they're dialed in as
 6 what they're -- I mean, they have a doctor on board, they have
 7 nurses on board, they have plans, they have exercises they do
 8 on a weekly basis. They seem very, very tuned into their
 9 responsibility of taking care of their passengers and whatnot.
 10 Concerns, obviously, if they're in port, we have 900 crew,
 11 roughly, and about 2,000 folks on board. If you've ever been
 12 around or seen in a show or an expose or anything, the thing
 13 that concerns me is every -- is how are they all coming out of
 14 there if something bad was to happen? You know, it's just
 15 like these doors and they're only -- I mean, not even as wide
 16 as this room and now you fit 2,000 -- and they've all gotta
 17 come out that way unless they go and jump into the harbor, you
 18 know.
 19 So, anyway, but as far as for, you know, our peace
 20 of mind, their crews on board, they have a fire brigade, they
 21 have backup folks, they have haz. mat. capability. But we did
 22 have a good conversation, we did a full tour of the ship, we
 23 found out where we can link into their response capability.
 24 We're gonna be limited as to what we can do on board because,
 25 like they said, it is a vessel, vessels are meant to hold

1 water out and also contain things, so if we come running in
 2 there with our firehose and we're dumping 2500 gallons a
 3 minute into that vessel, it's problematic. So we have our
 4 role in that and we understand that and so we're going to look
 5 forward to Chief Kawasaki working with the harbors rep, Duane
 6 Kim, on an actual -- the overall port itself, that's where
 7 we've gotta go. We're not worried about Norwegian Cruise
 8 Lines now, they're set, they're good, Pride of America, but we
 9 want to look at the other components of the Kahului Harbor
 10 port itself, which is the propane barges, the Matson, and all
 11 those things that come in there. So we're gonna work on that
 12 and move forward with our orientation there.
 13 We already talked about Kauaula Valley, just a last
 14 comment on that, Captain Haake from the fire prevention bureau
 15 is born and raised on the west side of Maui, he is going to --
 16 he's set up an appointment to meet with her, Yolanda, and to
 17 look at the area and the fuel breaks and all of those types of
 18 things, so he's going to be our forward member. They have a
 19 family connection that doesn't have anything to do with it,
 20 it's just I asked him, I said, It doesn't have to be you, but
 21 we need to have somebody from prevention.
 22 'Cause I explained to Yolanda that we can only
 23 enforce the fire code. We can't enforce things that we maybe
 24 think should be good or would be good, we can only go by the
 25 law and that's the fire code. So Captain Haake has scheduled

1 an appointment next week to walk through with her and so we'll
 2 see what comes out of that and hope that that's pau, so --
 3 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Can I make a suggestion?
 4 CHIEF THYNE: Sure, Dwight. Yeah.
 5 COMMISSIONER BURNS: That was her testimony last
 6 night --
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. Yeah, it was.
 8 COMMISSIONER BURNS: So I was thinking while
 9 watching that, maybe you can suggest to her with that project
 10 that is being proposed, the contractor and the developer,
 11 maybe she can sit with them and talk to them about donating
 12 time and equipment for cutting fire breaks for them. You know
 13 what I mean?
 14 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 15 COMMISSIONER BURNS: 'Cause they're looking at
 16 developing close to her.
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.
 18 COMMISSIONER BURNS: She can -- she can work with
 19 the developer and the contractor and probably do that twice a
 20 year, maybe.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. And it would be good and I
 22 don't know if -- you know, I -- you know, I'm basically an
 23 optimist, I try to think good things, but they have a history
 24 between the developer out there and the folks in the valley.
 25 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yeah.

1 CHIEF THYNE: It was like that when I was out there.
 2 Before it was Pioneer Mill and them, so, you know --
 3 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yeah. So for me, that's a way
 4 they could work together.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely. And we'll hope for that,
 6 but, I mean -- all joking aside, I mean, the best thing would
 7 be to have them work together --
 8 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yeah.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: -- to resolve, you know, the fire
 10 concerns that they have, for sure.
 11 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yeah.
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: I'm pretty sure that Launiupoko
 13 is already -- at least one portion of it is already a Fire
 14 Wise Community, one of those like savvy urban communities. I
 15 wonder if this new one can be like -- you know, can they all
 16 just kind of link up and just share in a Fire Wise Community
 17 mentality.
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 19 COMMISSIONER VARES: So that there's almost like a
 20 middleman that they're all kind of agreeing with as opposed to
 21 having to do the same -- well, these -- yeah, Charley's down
 22 here doing this, so you should do it too, you know, as opposed
 23 to, No, this is actually a standard that we're all trying to
 24 reach.
 25 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Well --

1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: We had that in Kahikinui.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, I remember.
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: We're all on board with the
 4 Fire Wise, we have to --
 5 COMMISSIONER VARES: And it's a nice -- it's nice to
 6 have a standard and a middleman.
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Getting the alliance to
 8 agree to -- just the politics and --
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, absolutely.
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Especially if it goes
 11 through.
 12 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: More than likely you'll --
 13 especially in that area, everybody recognizes the need to be
 14 that Fire Wise Community. The challenge is this new community
 15 moving into an old community without --
 16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- without water. There's no
 18 water, that's pretty much the bottom line, put it that way, so
 19 they have to plumb it themselves.
 20 COMMISSIONER VARES: Find some and then steal it.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. It's a touchy one.
 22 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 23 CHIEF THYNE: It's a touch subject. I mean, even --
 24 I was watching -- not this last meeting, the one before and
 25 there was some rich haoles -- I mean, you said it --

1 (Laughter.)
 2 CHIEF THYNE: -- that were actually testifying
 3 against the project that was being proposed because -- this
 4 one gentleman I saw, he had to convert his ag. water hydrant
 5 to his crop, to his domestic --
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Domestic water.
 7 CHIEF THYNE: -- or his domestic water because his
 8 ag. water line was cut off because of the stream flow -- in
 9 stream flow legislation and whatnot that went through. And so
 10 he was like, I have 13 acres, I had to convert my domestic
 11 water over to my -- to furnish my ag. crops because they cut
 12 off my ag. water.
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wow.
 14 CHIEF THYNE: So what's going to happen now with --
 15 if you bring in this affordable housing or whatever component
 16 and now they put water restrictions on us, because there's not
 17 enough water.
 18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 19 CHIEF THYNE: So, I mean, everybody's got an
 20 opinion, I guess.
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, yeah.
 22 CHIEF THYNE: So hopefully they'll work through all
 23 that because --
 24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 25 CHIEF THYNE: For us, we just go up there and fight

1 fire and do what we can, but it's -- you know, the more people
 2 pack in there and whatnot, it's just more and more problematic
 3 for us, for sure.
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: The main thing you got water
 5 here.
 6 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, I mean --
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: The best thing for us to do is stay
 8 out of the political fire.
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, right.
 10 MS. OANA: I'd like to just add something, Chief,
 11 because -- because that's a private subdivision --
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Right, right.
 13 MS. OANA: -- not a county, so, you know, when
 14 people want private subdivisions, they tell the county,
 15 Approve my subdivision, I will take care of the water.
 16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yes.
 17 MS. OANA: They won't be on DWS water. So they have
 18 their own water run by their own water utility. And so when
 19 chief was saying they're cutting off ag. water because of
 20 in-stream flow standards, it's not the water department.
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Right.
 22 MS. OANA: It's not the county cutting off the
 23 water. I just want to make it clear that's a private
 24 subdivision, they told the county, Approve my subdivision, you
 25 don't need to give us water. So that's kind of the --

1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Is it all catchment?
 2 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No.
 3 COMMISSIONER VARES: No?
 4 MS. OANA: I believe they're pumping or they're --
 5 no, they're getting the stream.
 6 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Well, they --
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: They probably have an intake
 8 system --
 9 MS. OANA: Yeah.
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: -- and they're probably gonna use
 11 that for their new housing. That's why they're cutting off
 12 the -- I don't know. I don't know.
 13 MS. OANA: Well, yeah. I mean, it's -- I don't know
 14 about this new affordable housing subdivision. To me, it
 15 seems like it will be county water. But for Launiupoko, those
 16 ones on the hill, that's private water, so we're not really --
 17 we have no -- they have -- they should have no problem with
 18 the county and crying about water.
 19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: We don't water in Kahikinui
 20 and we catch. And that's nonpotable: Bathing, dishes,
 21 plants. I get the clothes and bring it to Ulupalakua over
 22 there, and I put the 5 gallon, I carry -- that's our drinking.
 23 So they can do something.
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: Anyway, I don't think we're gonna

1 solve the water problem, so we should move on.
 2 (Laughter.)
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Okay.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. The last thing I had is we had
 6 a -- on the last page, page 4 of my report to you folks, is we
 7 did have a training injury. It was a -- it was a high, very
 8 high risk type of training, which is our rope rescue program,
 9 and it's the highest level for us of our rope rescue training,
 10 which is technician level. So these are the real deal guys, I
 11 mean, these are the guys operating cliffs and out of
 12 helicopters and it's not just your standard, you know, go down
 13 a 30-foot little ravine here and tie ropes. I mean, these
 14 guys are very high end. But there was a training injury and
 15 with any training injury, we analyze it, we look at how we can
 16 make sure it doesn't happen again, lessons learned type of
 17 thing. And so we developed a process because we haven't had a
 18 documented process -- there's reports that are done, there's
 19 investigations that are done, but then what, does it sit on
 20 your desk for a while until you get done with it, then it sits
 21 desk for a while, and then it sits on her desk. And so we
 22 wanted to really out line a process of how that's gonna work,
 23 what the report's gonna look like, how it's gonna be reported,
 24 to who it's reported to, how it's gonna be documented, and
 25 then how it's gonna be released to our personnel and our

1 lessons learned so that all our people learn from an incident.
 2 It unfortunate, it's an accident, and so identified that
 3 process and that's gonna be coming out our in our new -- our
 4 updated reversion of our rules -- our standard operating
 5 guidelines.
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 7 CHIEF THYNE: So we just didn't want it to just
 8 linger there and never get acted upon and, bumbai, it happens
 9 again. So, anyway, I just wanted to include you in on that.
 10 So I will cede the floor to Deputy Chief Ventura
 11 unless you have any questions for me.
 12 Thank you, Chair.
 13 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Chief.
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Thank you, Chair.
 15 Good morning, everybody.
 16 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So if you look over my
 18 report, it's been a busy promotional month and also interview
 19 month for recruits. We kind of talked about this in the last
 20 commission meeting, that we're trying to fill our recruit
 21 class with 20 new recruits. And we had only 31 people pass
 22 our agility out of the people that showed up to do it, so we
 23 interviewed them and we made the selection just the other day
 24 to which the 20 are. So that class will be starting hopefully
 25 August 2nd and we can fill a bunch of the vacancies hopefully

1 by end of the year. And then come December, people retired
 2 and we have vacancies all over again, so it's the ever chasing
 3 situation, but, you know, we stay on top of it.
 4 We have our captains list, that test was just given,
 5 so we requested to get some captains. We have about five or
 6 six that we need to promote there. And then ocean safety, if
 7 you folks remember, Battalion Chief McAfee who did the ocean
 8 safety talk about two meetings ago, he has retired and so
 9 we're gonna have to replace him. And then ocean safety also
 10 has some ocean safety officers/lifeguards that are vacant, so
 11 we'll be working with DPS to hire those people. The ocean
 12 safety one, we have a couple of people that have been employed
 13 by us before, they left for whatever reason, and they're on a
 14 wait -- kind of a wait list to rehire first, so they're gonna
 15 come back pretty quickly. And then the other two, we'll have
 16 to be -- go through the whole process to get them, but -- so
 17 we should get those taken care of pretty quickly.
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Excuse me, Chief. As far as
 19 the hiring and the promotional part, is that handled by the
 20 ocean safety side or do you guys -- administration participate
 21 in the hiring? I mean, are you guys in that loop or is that
 22 sectioned off for just the ocean safety?
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It is a combination. So our
 24 personnel officer works in our administrative building, she's
 25 the one that does all work with DPS, department of personnel

1 services with the county, so she'll do all the select --
 2 notifying them of vacancies and stuff and they give us a list.
 3 Who does the actual interviewing and the testing process,
 4 there's a combination. So Chief Kawasaki oversees ocean
 5 safety, so he's part of it along with the top members of ocean
 6 safety, yeah.
 7 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay.
 8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, it would be unwise of
 9 us to do it ourselves since we don't know most of those people
 10 as well as we should.
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah. I know we're merging,
 12 so I'm not sure how that ended up.
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, yeah. We're trying to
 14 integrate them more and more and make them, you know, more
 15 of -- make us all more of one department. That's our ultimate
 16 goal, is not to have them and us, you know, we're trying to
 17 really get away from that. And ultimately that might look
 18 like a combined training bureau, even, in the future, so then
 19 we'd have more manpower and then we can merge some of our
 20 light training, like emergency medical response training, our
 21 EMR training, our CPR training. They do it and we do it, so
 22 we might as well not do it twice a year. Right? So the goal
 23 is to hopefully eventually merge it all together and become
 24 more efficient and just run it all at the same time.
 25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I had a question. What

1 constitutes a lifeguard being present? I was sailing the
 2 Hawaiian -- a Hawaiian sailing canoe near the beach at
 3 Kaanapali and there was no lifeguard from Pukoo, you know
 4 Pukoo --
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: -- the bay all the way up.
 7 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So from what I've
 8 gathered, there are standards at swimming pools based on the
 9 number of people who attend the pool determines how many
 10 people need to be at -- on watch. So if the pool has five
 11 people or 20 people, there may just be one lifeguard; but if
 12 it has 40 people, you may need two lifeguards. So there's a
 13 formula for pools, there is not a formula for the beach.
 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Because a whirlwind came in
 15 and blew the umbrellas down and knocked the sail down.
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: People were running -- we
 18 lost our -- our paperwork on the display for Auwahi Wind.
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I mean, it came in and
 21 umbrellas were going and there was no -- no lifeguards, so --
 22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So the other thing, if
 23 I'm correct here -- and corp counsel is listening -- the
 24 county lifeguards will be at county parks, not necessarily on
 25 state beaches. So if you look at like the parks, Kamaole,

1 Hanako, I think you'll find those are county parks, and then
 2 the state owns the beach or it's a state beach, but because we
 3 have a park there, we put the lifeguard stand there. So
 4 there's a lot of like controversy when you talk about
 5 Kaanapali Beach, for example, it's all private hotels and then
 6 it's state beach, so where does the county fit into that
 7 picture?
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Okay. Now I understand.
 9 That's a --
 10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So that's been the
 11 dilemma. There are a lot of emergencies there and we respond
 12 there regularly, but there's no county property there, so how
 13 do we, you know, take ownership of that space.
 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Got that cleared up. Thank
 15 you.
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Let me -- if I can interject, because
 17 this is important, I think, for the fire station conversation
 18 and I left it out of my notes, but I spoke to the Haiku
 19 Community Association last night because they had questions
 20 about the Haiku Fire Station and same thing with Pukoo and
 21 other conversations that you folks will have, we cannot
 22 require and there's no requirement to put a fire station in
 23 any type of district. There's -- certainly it'll affect your
 24 insurance rates, but it's all about the assumed risk, okay,
 25 the risk that the community is willing to assume, is really

1 what it is.

2 If we go sheer call volume, we'd put a station in

3 Waikapu right now. That's our busiest station by far, by far

4 Wailuku is our busiest station. Now, granted, there's also

5 Waiehu, right, they go to other places, not just Waikapu, but

6 it's not -- it's our busiest station by far. Paia Station is

7 our seventh busiest station, but yet we have Haiku Fire

8 Station property and we're talking about a Haiku Fire Station.

9 It's related to the risk that we're willing to assume as a

10 community.

11 And so same thing with the lifeguards. There's been

12 conversations about Launiupoko, that's a county beach park,

13 that's very heavy populated. You go there on the weekend, you

14 got all kind of family parties, you can't even park over

15 there. Right?

16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Always.

17 CHIEF THYNE: But, yet, no more lifeguard stand over

18 there and it's county beach park. Right? So it's just we

19 have to understand whatever risk the community is willing to

20 assume is where -- what it comes down to as far as where we're

21 gonna put lifeguard towers, where we're gonna put fire

22 stations, so -- anyway, I just wanted to --

23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: For the safety of our

24 firefighters, it'd be great to have a fire station on every

25 corner, because then instead of only three people running into

1 a burning building, we'd have eight or nine people who can

2 help each other if there's a problem or put out the fire

3 faster. But we have to be reasonable and not say that we

4 need -- between North Kihei and Makena we need five fire

5 stations. Yeah, it's dense and it's populated and it's very

6 busy, but it's just unrealistic and irresponsible to be

7 spending the taxpayers' money at that point to want that kind

8 of number. So like the chief said, it's like there's a risk

9 that has to be understood and then a cost. If we're not

10 willing to take the risk of not having a fire station in this

11 area, then we have to have a cost associated with it too to

12 create that safety, so...

13 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Getting back to the hires,

14 I've got a question: How many people failed the agility test?

15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: How many failed?

16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, because --

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Nine failed.

18 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Nine.

19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Nine out of 40.

20 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Nine out of 40.

21 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. Forty took the

22 agility, nine failed.

23 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Thank you.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's -- we don't feel that

25 it's an extremely difficult test, but it does, unfortunately,

1 weed out some people who are not prepared. We give them

2 exactly what they have to do: You have to run a mile, swim a

3 hundred meters, dive, climb a ladder, do this and that. They

4 know exactly what they have to do and the times they have to

5 do it in and they're usually given between 3 weeks and a month

6 or so to prepare. So you have enough time to --

7 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Oh, yeah.

8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- run, hit the gym, wake up

9 early, and yet some people still fail to run and some people

10 definitely fail to swim, 'cause swimming is tough for some

11 people, I understand that. And those are generally the two

12 places where we get common failure. And then the obstacle

13 course, we'll call it, again, it's just a tiring, grueling

14 2 1/2 minutes and not everybody can finish in 2 1/2 minutes,

15 so... So, yeah, that's the most recent percentage.

16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: It's a large percentage.

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

18 Moving on to department improvement committee, we're

19 just continuing to work on our social media platform. It's

20 kind of a big project, not only in posting things and starting

21 to see what we want to put on our social media page, but also

22 creating an SOG, which is our standard operating guideline for

23 our members and our committee who is gonna be posting things.

24 And we had an SOG that was quite simple and then in doing

25 research across the nation, there are some very robust,

1 detailed SOGs, so we're like we need to find a balance that

2 fits for our community, so our cadre of guys is working on

3 that right now.

4 Then honor guard, we're also working with our honor

5 guard because, you know, we continuously have requests for our

6 honor guard, so the question is: What do we provide for the

7 public? If it's a firefighter and he's active, what do we do?

8 If it's a firefighter who's retired, what do we do? And so on

9 and so forth, because if you -- again, it's county taxpayers'

10 money, so it's like we can't throw the farm at every person,

11 so we have to be fair in how we offer equal services to equal

12 people, so we're trying to work on that. Our honor guard will

13 do funerals, for the most part, but, you know, there's other

14 things that they get requested for, council requests them as

15 well, some other things.

16 Union interactions have been pretty active. We've

17 been talking with Hawaii Firefighters Association, we get

18 injured firefighters here and there and we're trying to

19 establish if we can find a department -- a doctor that the

20 department can use that they agree upon to say, Can we send

21 this firefighter there, and that doctor can say, He's ready to

22 come back to work. Because right now there's just so many

23 doctors evaluating so many people and it's kind of

24 inconsistent, so we're just trying to make it a little cleaner

25 in that sense.

1 And then HGEA is our lifeguard, our ocean safety
 2 union. There's nothing in your block, but some things that
 3 have happened in the last week. We proposed an ocean safety
 4 officer manual, which is their -- like their first rules and
 5 regulations, their first, you know, manual to operate that
 6 part of our department, and their union came back with three
 7 pages of questions, so, understandably, we need clarification
 8 and we need consultation and talking back and forth. So we
 9 currently have a temporarily assigned person to that BC 7
 10 position because BC McAfee retired, so he's been very
 11 diligent, working hard, Captain Geise, and he is working on
 12 answering and clarifying all of those questions that the union
 13 has. Most of them are really simple, but some of them need,
 14 you know, in depth explanations.

15 And then we have one grievance with HGEA about a
 16 disciplinary action thing, so we'll work through that.

17 Transmittals from the public, we're continuing to
 18 kind of like, you know, hit it while it's hot with the Pukoo
 19 Fire Station. We don't want it fizzling out and dying on our
 20 end. We can't control what happens on other people's ends,
 21 but we've been like, They want a meeting, let's go next week,
 22 you know. We've been jumping on it as regularly as possible
 23 and meeting with them, so we've been over there three times in
 24 the last month and a half to try to appeal to everybody and
 25 move this project forward.

1 And for those that may not have been here last
 2 month, so that station is ancient, it's on state property, and
 3 we need to move it to a county property and basically build a
 4 new station for those people there.

5 CHAIR MISAKI: So you're hoping to do a Molokai
 6 field trip?

7 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

8 CHAIR MISAKI: November now?

9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

10 CHAIR MISAKI: And so we're hoping to go look at
 11 that actual station and possibly the relocation site.

12 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

13 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, so by then we'll know
 15 what the -- what passed in our budget and we'll know kind of
 16 what the steps are that we're taking to make that station
 17 happen.

18 CHAIR MISAKI: So people getting to know your first
 19 name, then?

20 (Laughter.)

21 CHIEF THYNE: You're still allowed on the island, so
 22 that's a good sign, Ed.

23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. Haven't been kicked
 24 off yet.

25 (Laughter.)

1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And then recently, just this
 2 week, we had a -- quite a major accident, vehicle accident on
 3 the road, and so we got a nice note from AMR, the ambulance
 4 company, saying that, you know, the communication, the
 5 training, the effort, the coordination between the fire
 6 captain, the police, and medics went extremely well. I
 7 believe it was -- I know it was a critical accident, I'm not
 8 sure if it was a fatality or not.

9 CHIEF THYNE: It was a fatality.

10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that one was -- and so
 11 with all that stress and stuff going on, everybody was able to
 12 manage the incident nearly as perfect as possible, so we just
 13 got a little note from them this week saying, you know, Hey,
 14 kudos, good job, keep it up, so...

15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Just -- is counseling still
 16 available to the men that go to an incident like that?

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So we have a small
 18 cadre of firefighters and there's -- there's two-fold, there's
 19 critical incident stress debriefing which we can do amongst
 20 our crews for any type of critical incident and it varies
 21 from, you know, anything. And then we also have a new program
 22 that there's been two classes given, it's a peer support
 23 program, and so it's not necessarily looked at as like a
 24 counseling thing or anything or a debriefing, but it's a
 25 peer-to-peer group, the guys can just, you know, talk about

1 when there's a tough incident, you know. So, yeah, that's
 2 available.

3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you, Chief. I'm glad
 4 it's available.

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, it's important. It's
 6 recognized more and more and more over the years that
 7 traditionally firefighters were dying from heart attacks and
 8 vehicle accidents and now, unfortunately, it's suicide, so
 9 that critical incident stress debriefing, that whole PTSD or
 10 some people call it PTISI, it's real and it's affecting people
 11 across the nation, firefighters, so...

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I think just the media alone
 13 replaying so much coverage actually hurts the men a little
 14 bit, but... Thank you.

15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Watching it constantly.

16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah, watching it constantly.

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Well, and then there's every
 18 TV show in the world. Right? You know, Chicago Fire, 911,
 19 this/that. There's a new last that started last week, First
 20 Responders. It's everywhere, we can't get away from it, so...

21 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you, Chief.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Any questions for me?

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I don't know if it's for you
 24 or the chief --

25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Sure.

1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: -- but it's -- in the news
 2 they -- I just realized, I learned -- I don't know everything,
 3 but I'm learning that the Big Island had an increase in salary
 4 for their fire and, of course, it goes statewide. Is that us
 5 too?
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So --
 8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So Hawaii Fire Fighters
 9 Association, that HFFA there, represents all firefighters on
 10 state and county properties. Not the military bases or
 11 anything federal, but they represent the airport and the
 12 county firefighters. So what's the biggest challenge is that
 13 HFFA, the majority of the members are out of Honolulu, and so
 14 a lot of times things that work for them don't work for the
 15 counties, so we have to create MOUs on the collective
 16 bargaining agreement. So each county has a pile of MOUs with
 17 HFFA to make things work smoothly for their county, yeah.
 18 Good?
 19 CHIEF THYNE: But the wage package is consistent.
 20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, that's what I was...
 22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.
 23 CHIEF THYNE: But right now the only thing we're
 24 waiting for that we went to arbitration, 'cause from the
 25 management side -- not necessarily us, but personnel --

1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: -- DPS, they didn't agree with some of
 3 the additional awards they wanted, so it went to an
 4 arbitration panel. We went representing the chief's office,
 5 other people did too, Honolulu, spent a week over there,
 6 didn't solve it, spent another week over there at Blaisdell
 7 Center, the second one. The first one was the ILW hall, the
 8 second one was at the Blaisdell. Arbitrator awarded, our
 9 county okayed it, Honolulu okayed it, Big Island council
 10 okayed it, Kauai --
 11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, Kauai.
 12 CHIEF THYNE: -- is stuck.
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: On the --
 14 CHIEF THYNE: They voted just yesterday to -- the
 15 committee to approve it, so now it goes to the final full
 16 council on the 26th.
 17 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: It's binding arbitration;
 18 right?
 19 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.
 20 So, anyway, that's --
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Interesting, interesting.
 22 CHIEF THYNE: -- that's the deal.
 23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you.
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you, Chief.
 25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Any other questions. Thank

1 you.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: Are you next, Chief Kawasaki?
 3 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yes. Good morning.
 4 So on my handout that I sent Jill I have the wrong
 5 date, it should be for the month of May 2019. Our major
 6 incidents for May, pretty much spent the whole month searching
 7 for the two missing people. There was also a couple other
 8 missing hiker incidents that we did. But you guys are
 9 probably all familiar with the two cases and then they did
 10 question our policy of just going for the 3 days, so we had
 11 some discussion, talked to the other counties and stuff, and
 12 at this point we feel that that -- what we're doing is
 13 sufficient. So I know some of the -- we had some, I don't
 14 know, maybe negative publicity that -- why we stopped and all
 15 that, so, you know, as you guys all know, we cannot do this
 16 forever, so we go and do what we can for the first 3 days
 17 provided there's no new information. And if we have new
 18 information, of course we go longer, go whatever is needed.
 19 Our standing standard operating guidelines committee
 20 is kind of behind. We should have the new SOGs out supposedly
 21 July 1st, but I don't think we're going to make it.
 22 The equipment -- apparatus equipment committee,
 23 we're sending three of the mechanics to Wisconsin to do the
 24 preconstruction trip on the two engines and the ladder truck,
 25 that's around July 15th, I believe, somewhere around there.

1 So they'll go out, meet with the manufacturer and -- before
 2 they start production on those three trucks.
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Excuse me, Chief. Which
 4 trucks? Which engines?
 5 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Engine 11, Engine 6,
 6 Ladder 14.
 7 And as you see on this, the training bureau, we've
 8 put on a bunch of classes in May. And Chief Brad talked
 9 about, you know, we did go through the physical agility test
 10 for the recruits that, you know, training helps us with two
 11 times. We just did one last weekend and we did one in May,
 12 so -- he kind of touched on that, so I won't talk about that
 13 any more.
 14 And also, yeah, ocean safety, with the retirement of
 15 Captain McAfee, we have -- DC McAfee, we have Captain Geise
 16 temporarily assigned there and he has shown interest in
 17 applying for that, so he's -- he's very good at what we need
 18 over there now.
 19 That's all I've got.
 20 CHAIR MISAKI: Where was the brush fire on Molokai,
 21 the 4,000 acres? 4,000 square feet.
 22 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yeah, 4,000 square feet,
 23 just small. I'm not sure, I can go find out.
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: No, don't worry about it.
 25 CHIEF THYNE: Around your house, Travis?

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1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: No. Paniolo Camp.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: Paniolo.
 3 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Over the other side of the
 4 island.
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Paniolo Camp?
 6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: That's Moanalua end.
 8 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Yeah, yeah. I remember
 9 Moanalua.
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Got it.
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Yes. We were looking at it on Google
 12 Earth, so...
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I had a question.
 14 CHAIR MISAKI: I thought it was 4,000 acres.
 15 CHIEF THYNE: No, no. You would've heard about
 16 that.
 17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: They mentioned a tool that
 18 Jake Muise uses which is a military purchase, you can keep --
 19 you know, you can find the animals in Kahikinui, the forest,
 20 you can find bodies and -- has there been any consideration to
 21 purchase one or have one donated to the fire department?
 22 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: The FLIR?
 23 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: It's called the FLIR.
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: He's talking about the FLIR.
 25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: No. It's a -- it's an

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1 equipment that Jake Muise uses and he can distinguish if it's
 2 a cow, a goat, people from the air and he uses it --
 3 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: We had him on our
 4 helicopter.
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. It's called a FLIR, but it can
 6 only be used in certain hour of the morning or at night. It
 7 cannot be used during the day.
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: It uses thermal --
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: It's a heat -- it's a heat signature
 10 detector. We use on -- in our work and it's -- it works
 11 really well in the early morning, but about nine o'clock, ten
 12 o'clock as the land heats up, it's no good.
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Is that something --
 14 CHAIR MISAKI: And it doesn't -- even doesn't
 15 work -- doesn't it work in fog or light rain or rain. It has
 16 to be clear too. So there's some good things about it, but
 17 there's some limitations.
 18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you.
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: It's called forward-looking infrared
 20 and called FLIR.
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Forward-looking?
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Infrared. And they actually sell
 23 that -- they actually sell it like in Cabalas as rifle scopes
 24 and stuff like that. They don't sell the really good ones,
 25 but --

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1 CHIEF THYNE: You know, the --
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: The really good ones --
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.
 4 CHAIR MISAKI: I'm a little bit familiar. It -- for
 5 a small unit, it might cost \$10,000 and you have to make sure
 6 that -- I mean, they won't just sell it to anybody too, you
 7 have to have a clean record and whatever.
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: The fire department's clean.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Dang, I'm out.
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: If somebody were to
 11 donate --
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. But it's an amazing
 13 technology, it's getting better, but it's -- it has
 14 limitations.
 15 ASSISTANT CHIEF KAWASAKI: Jake Muise's unit is
 16 about a hundred thousand.
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, that's the reality. The price
 18 tag --
 19 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: The Coast Guard has that;
 20 right?
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Well, the Coasties, we've gotta find
 22 out how far inland they can come, that's the whole thing
 23 about, you know --
 24 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I remember --
 25 CHIEF THYNE: They have a capability, not

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1 necessarily that one.
 2 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I remember when I had to work
 3 with them a little bit, they came and kind of shared the
 4 jurisdiction and about water flow and then how far up.
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 6 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: And the first guy that had it
 7 was Pacific Helicopters years ago, over 15 years ago.
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Tom Watson, yeah. He's no longer, but
 9 yeah.
 10 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, but he was -- he was
 11 the first one, yeah.
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. We're looking at it, Donna. We
 13 saw it -- I tried to summarize my portion as best I could
 14 because I end up talking too much, but one of the things that
 15 we do after any major incident is analyze the incident. We
 16 call it after-action review or post-incident analysis, that
 17 was conducted a couple different times. So the rescue captain
 18 heading that up, that project up is Roger Agdeppa, he was
 19 involved with -- very heavily with both searches, so he's
 20 gonna -- he's putting together what we call a recommendation
 21 form, it's a static process that we use to submit to the
 22 deputy for the improvement committee to look into training,
 23 equipment, you know, types of things we can do better from
 24 lessons learned. So they've conducted those two things
 25 already, it's just putting the paperwork together to get it to

1 chief for our internal review and then we move it to the
 2 budget process.
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Does the fire department
 4 take donations from rich people?
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, we can. We can. There's a
 6 mechanism to do it. Jennifer would be the best to comment on
 7 that, but there is a mechanism to do that.
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 9 CHIEF THYNE: And we have in the past. We got
 10 things like, for instance, from a --
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: A jet ski.
 12 CHIEF THYNE: When the Sawzall first came out, you
 13 know, a Sawzall, one of the guys that somehow was associated
 14 with the FDNY Tribute was a trust fund guy and he came to
 15 Kihei and he had this brand-new Dewalt Sawzall and so I was a
 16 captain down there, so we went through the process of the
 17 chief's office and council had to bless it and -- but we got
 18 the first Sawzall ever. And then we've done that with rescue
 19 watercraft and different -- Will Smith Foundation and
 20 different folks have donated rescue watercraft, so, yeah,
 21 there a way to --
 22 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. I'm a nonprofit, I
 23 have a nonprofit --
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.
 25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: -- I have to -- we're out

1 there fund-raising.
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: The challenge is a lot of
 3 times people want to donate something specific and small now.
 4 And so we say, It sounds great, hold on. Let's contact them,
 5 let's set it up, send us a letter saying what you want to
 6 donate. It has to go through corp counsel, it has to be
 7 approved, it has to be accepted. Because there's liabilities
 8 and costs that may come with something. Let's say you want to
 9 donate our first ever whatever it is, widget, a six-wheel
 10 drive off road like Polaris, you know, truck, but then
 11 somebody's gotta maintain it and would need to get
 12 certification to drive it.
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, liability.
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Do we need a trailer? Do we
 15 need a truck now to tow it? So that's all the stuff that
 16 they'll look at like, Is there a donation or is this gonna be
 17 an expense? So...
 18 MS. OANA: Chair, can I just add to that?
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. Go ahead.
 20 MS. OANA: So, basically, you know, we can't just
 21 accept gifts from anyone because it -- there could be some
 22 kind of conflict. You know, someone having an application in
 23 front of some department, Oh, I'll give the county something,
 24 you know, approve my application. Right? So everything has
 25 to be in the public and so when someone wants to donate and

1 give the county something, we have to get a letter from them,
 2 I want to donate this to you, and then it has to be approved
 3 by the council at a meeting, big meeting and everybody's
 4 allowed to testify about it so it's really up and up, just --
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All part of the Sunshine Law,
 6 gotta be on the agenda, people can come and say, No, don't
 7 take anything from him 'cause he wants this, you know.
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Which happens.
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yes. Not to discourage
 11 anyone, but I experienced it with a jet ski when somebody in
 12 the district on Molokai donated and it took over a year and a
 13 half to put it into service and it just sat there. We
 14 couldn't -- for different reasons. Our administration was
 15 turning at the same time, there was a lot of changes, and
 16 it -- we couldn't touch it because we had this jet ski
 17 program, we're doing only this type of jet skis, this type of
 18 procedures. So sometimes it can go against the grain and that
 19 experience that we had this beautiful machine with good
 20 intentions, but you just have to match it up and things were
 21 being made or developed. So I was captain there and we
 22 couldn't touch it and even the guy who donated it and there
 23 was some incident, Hey, did you guys get a chance to use it?
 24 What? That's what I bought it for you guys for. So I --
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: I'm gonna call for a break and then

1 we're gonna finish up with Val Martin's report and then a
 2 guest speaker after we come back, so 5 minutes.
 3 (Pause in Proceedings: 11:21 a.m.-11:27 a.m.)
 4 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I'd like to reconvene our
 5 meeting. So we will continue with chief will be giving Val
 6 Martin's report.
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. So while Captain Haake is
 8 setting up, Chief Martin has some off-island family,
 9 unfortunately, emergency that he's dealing with. He's okay,
 10 we're in constant contact, but he has a brother that is not
 11 doing well, he's hospitalized in hospice care. A distant
 12 brother, but still it's a brother, you know, kind of thing, so
 13 he, unfortunately, can't be here.
 14 So what he has here on his highlights, just real --
 15 very, very briefly, it's a lot of budget stuff. We're
 16 spending down -- one of the things we got awarded by the
 17 council, and we're very thankful, was radio equipment, so we
 18 did get a bunch of items, came in by the caseload for radios.
 19 And then, again, he has winding down, quote/unquote,
 20 on the budget and that's just finalizing, making sure we're
 21 spending what was allotted in a very mindful way and not
 22 wasting kind of thing.
 23 I just signed two contracts that are referenced
 24 there, it's the generator -- so as you know, one of the things
 25 that we have to be concerned about was power outages and

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1 everything else 'cause our doors still have to open, our guys
 2 still have to be fed, we still have to, you know, take care of
 3 our firefighters, and so we have generators at every station.
 4 Well, over the course of time, those have to be replaced. We
 5 have a plan now called our capital summary that's gonna
 6 address a systemic replacement versus, Oh, no, this thing is
 7 on the skids, we've gotta replace it, we've gotta get it this
 8 year or the whole world is gonna end for us, you know, and
 9 that kind of thing, so -- but lately it's been the Kahului
 10 Fire Station and then Wailuku and Hana. I actually think it's
 11 Paia. It's not Wailuku, it's Paia, 'cause I signed the
 12 contract. So that's those two generators he mentioned.
 13 We have a -- we have a -- basically a monthly
 14 meeting with the -- everything now is computer-related, yeah,
 15 whether it's tracking statistics, budgets, capital improvement
 16 projects, and so we meet regularly with the county information
 17 technology folks to really get down into the nuts and bolts of
 18 what we need as an agency, and so that's what he references
 19 here as the continue to meet with them.
 20 Chief Martin did attend a statewide conference on
 21 mass casualty events. How we're gonna track people, who's
 22 going to work together, who's gonna do what in what silo, if
 23 you will, to make sure that we're taking -- so that's what he
 24 references there.
 25 And just a last note before Captain Haake comes up

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1 is -- and I think Chief Ventura mentioned it -- we do have a
 2 funeral this weekend for one of our retired fire captains.
 3 Most of us worked with him through the years, he's retired for
 4 quite a few years already, but we're going to be attending his
 5 funeral, paying our respects this Saturday, the 22nd at Holy
 6 Ghost Church, Lance Wendell, Captain Wendell. So that's what
 7 Chief Martin mentioned because he oversees our honor guard and
 8 those are the folks that will be the flag bearers and pay our
 9 respects at the casket and things like that. It's very
 10 military and it's designed, but it's also respectful of our
 11 firefighters that pass on, so...
 12 So that's Chief Martin's report. If there's any
 13 questions? If not, Captain Haake is here for our overview of
 14 the fire prevention bureau.
 15 So, Cap Paul, are you with us?
 16 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Ready, Chief.
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Obviously I caught him in the middle
 18 of a text. He's saying, I'm not ready yet. Don't call on me.
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Are you projecting something on here?
 20 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I am.
 21 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.
 22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I have a hundred slide PowerPoint
 23 for you guys.
 24 (Laughter.)
 25 CAPTAIN HAAKE: No, 50, 50 slides.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: I was gonna say if you work here and
 2 don't know how to use that, we're in trouble. It's not on
 3 right now.
 4 Were you there yesterday, Paul, at the council or
 5 were you just on call?
 6 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I was just on call.
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Okay.
 8 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. They text me and said that --
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Grab some of our guys?
 10 CAPTAIN HAAKE: -- they weren't going to need me to
 11 give testimony, that's why.
 12 Can everybody see?
 13 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah. Go for it.
 14 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah? Okay. Please turn off the
 15 light, that would probably be better. It's kinda bright.
 16 Okay. I have a handout for you guys. I made ten.
 17 MS. PETERSON: Okay. Let me make copies outside.
 18 (Handing out presentation.)
 19 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Okay. Good morning, everybody.
 20 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.
 21 CAPTAIN HAAKE: How you guys doing? Good?
 22 Freezing? It's cold inside here, yeah.
 23 Thank you for having me here and -- to talk about
 24 the fire prevention bureau. My name is Paul Haake, I'm the
 25 captain of the fire prevention bureau, and I've got a little

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1 PowerPoint to share with you guys.
 2 Okay. So the prevention bureau staff is -- we're
 3 staffed -- we have a captain, two lieutenants, an office
 4 operations assistant, an account clerk, and six inspectors.
 5 In the handout I provided to you guys there's a -- the first
 6 page has our org. chart and if you see that the -- under the
 7 captain, the captain is responsible for the two lieutenants,
 8 the office operations assistant, and the account clerk. And
 9 then under the lieutenants are three inspectors each, so they
 10 supervise three inspectors.
 11 The duties of the prevention bureau, it -- basically
 12 our duties are broken down into four categories: We have plan
 13 review, inspections, fire investigations, and public
 14 education. And the reason why I have that CRR in the
 15 parentheses there is just short for community risk reduction,
 16 that's how some other bureaus address their public education
 17 duties. And then we also do operational permits, we issue
 18 them, and I had a miscellaneous, some of the things that
 19 didn't really fall under any of those categories.
 20 So we're going to talk about those duties. So in
 21 plan review we have -- we do new construction and renovations.
 22 We have the building permit process and we're involved in
 23 that. We have plans that are routed to our office, our
 24 lieutenants are responsible for the plan review and they check
 25 to see that the projects that are in place are meeting the

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1 fire code, in compliance with the fire code. In that
 2 compliance the first thing we're checking for is access and
 3 then -- access to the building and then the next, second thing
 4 after that is water supply for fire protection. And then
 5 based upon the use of that project, there might be some fire
 6 and life safety systems that need to be reviewed also.
 7 We also have special events that we review. The
 8 parks when they have -- when they let the -- when they let
 9 their facilities out to people, they like to have the people's
 10 events reviewed by our department.
 11 Another --
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: Molokai Earth Day, I always send you
 13 guys.
 14 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Oh, yes. So some of you may already
 15 be working with us on some of those things.
 16 So parks sends us events and liquor department sends
 17 us events. So if anybody's doing liquor at an event, the
 18 liquor department warrants to us review the setup of the
 19 event.
 20 We also look at new subdivisions, so if you're
 21 applying to divide up your land, we go through the subdivision
 22 process and subdivisions sends down your proposed project to
 23 us for review. And, again, we're just looking for access and
 24 water supply.
 25 We also have the operational permits that need to be

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1 reviewed and then any time there's any proposed projects,
 2 sometimes people reach out to the mayor or certain people and
 3 then they just have a project that's -- you know, they're
 4 thinking about and they want our input.
 5 So that's plan review.
 6 Inspections: So our inspections are related to the
 7 new construction and renovation projects. The plan reviewers
 8 look at the plans for compliance with the fire code, we
 9 approve those plans, people build it, and then the inspectors
 10 go out and make sure that people are following the plans that
 11 were approved.
 12 Maintenance inspections, that's inspections of
 13 buildings that -- existing building already in place, we're
 14 supposed to go out and inspect every building except people's
 15 personal homes.
 16 The events that I talked about that we review, on
 17 the -- some of the larger events, we'll send inspectors out to
 18 make sure that they're following the setup.
 19 For our operational permits, we have to make sure
 20 that things are in place before we can sign off on the
 21 permits.
 22 The subdivisions, again, we told them we need these
 23 certain things, roads, water; when they put them in, they call
 24 us out and we inspect those things.
 25 And then inspections also include community

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1 concerns: RFS, requests for service. Have any of you heard
 2 that term before? So if you're a community member and you
 3 have a concern about a certain property or something, you can
 4 go on to the county website and file for something that's
 5 called a request for service and the county takes it in and
 6 then sends it out to the -- what they believe is the correct
 7 department to follow up on your concern. The RFSs that we
 8 deal with are overgrown brush, a fire hazard concern, and
 9 maybe abandoned homes and things like that are all part of the
 10 RFS.
 11 The other duty we talked about, fire investigations,
 12 we assist the captain. So if there's a call and there's a
 13 fire and the captain needs assistance in determining how the
 14 fire started, they'll call for our investigator. So we go out
 15 there and assist the captain with the origin and cause
 16 investigation.
 17 When you do these investigations, you first have to
 18 identify the origin, where the fire started, and then if you
 19 are able to determine an origin, then you try to figure out
 20 what in that area caused the fire.
 21 Intentionally set: Our first priority on any
 22 investigation is to see if there's any indicators that someone
 23 started the fire on purpose. Okay?
 24 Then after that, if we don't see any of those
 25 indicators, then we'll preserve the scene and evidence and

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1 then we'll provide direction to the people involved. So if
 2 you -- knock on wood, but if your home was involved with a
 3 fire, we come out there and try to assist with origin and
 4 cause, and then later on after that, we'll try to give you
 5 some direction on how to proceed with your cleanup and things
 6 like that. Basically, we tell the people get ahold of your
 7 insurance company before you do anything. Okay? 'Cause once
 8 you have a fire, the home belongs to your insurance company.
 9 All right? If you tamper with the scene, that might be a
 10 reason for them to not honor your insurance.
 11 Public education: We do safety presentations
 12 basically talking about fire prevention tips. And we reach
 13 out to the home, the work, so home safety, work safety,
 14 children and seniors. We also do fire extinguisher training,
 15 we'll go out and teach people how to use a fire extinguisher
 16 and then we provide a hands on deal with that, that training.
 17 Firefighter Safety Guide is the state's program that
 18 reaches out to elementary students. We develop a safety guide
 19 statewide and then we send them out to the children's
 20 kindergarten through fifth grade.
 21 Smoke Alarm Maui Program is our program where we
 22 install working smoke alarms in homes that don't have them.
 23 Our target audiences, our target group for that program is,
 24 you know, homes with young children or seniors, but if you
 25 don't have a working smoke alarm in your home, we'll -- but

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1 there's no children or seniors, we'll still go out and see if
2 we can assist with the installation of the smoke alarms. Some
3 programs, they just give you the smoke alarms, but our
4 program, we install it. Yeah. And then we'll do a home
5 safety survey for the residence if they're open to it. It's
6 similar to a fire inspection, but there's no penalty. Right?
7 So we'll go and say, Look, your circuits are overloaded and
8 that increases your risk of fire, you shouldn't store gasoline
9 in your house, things like that.

10 Our Fire Safety Trailer, that's in our bay over
11 here. We take that out to the schools and we talk to the
12 students about fire safety. The safety trailer is used to
13 simulate that they're at home and so what we do is we'll set
14 up certain things in the trailer that are fire hazards and we
15 talk to the kids about it and then we talk about home
16 evacuation planning and how to get out of your home safely if
17 there's a fire.

18 And then the Big Show, that's our demonstrations
19 that we put on for the community. Right now we do one in
20 Lahaina and in Kahului with the approvals of the chief and we
21 just talk about fire safety and then we bring out all the
22 trucks, bring the helicopter out, and all the people get to
23 see it.

24 Operational Permits, these are the permits that we
25 issue out of our office, so they're for LPG tanks, fuel tanks,

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1 about information on parcels, buildings, and things like that,
2 hazardous spills, incidents we responded to.

3 And then we also participate in our department's
4 Training. Right? So we'll go and teach the department
5 personnel about inspections and things like that.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: They also need to keep up
7 their CPR and their first responder and Hazpro training. They
8 don't have to get off the hook, they have to keeping doing all
9 that training themselves too.

10 CAPTAIN HAAKE: But you're thinking about that,
11 Chief; right?

12 (Laughter.)

13 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Okay. And so here's some stats for
14 you guys. So our Plan Review Stats, we look at about 2,000
15 building permits a year, a fiscal year. We look at 175 -- so
16 these are averages, I went and I took average for about 4
17 years. So we look at about 2,000 building permits, our events
18 about 175, subdivisions 40, our operational permits 30, and
19 then proposed projects, that's kind of a guess, but -- I
20 didn't really have -- 50 is about right, I think, it might
21 even be half of that.

22 Our Inspections Stats, so we do about 600
23 inspections a year. And the reason why I put "Types" is
24 because they're not -- that number doesn't actually reflect
25 the number of facilities that we've inspected, it's just the

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1 the events, aerial fireworks, firecracker permits, spray
2 booths.

3 And then we also have Fire Protection Permits, so if
4 you're installing a fire protection system in an existing
5 building, sometimes those things don't come to us immediately,
6 so we made a fire protection permit. Usually these systems
7 will come to us during the building permit process, but if you
8 already have a building and you're putting these systems in,
9 we'd like to see them. So those are our operational permits.

10 Miscellaneous, we also work on the fire code
11 amendments, the state fire code and the county fire code.

12 MAPPS is the county's inspection and permitting
13 software. Right now the county is in the process of upgrading
14 that software. The software we have, KIVA, anybody heard of
15 that word before? KIVA is the software that the county
16 currently uses to track building -- or permits and inspections
17 and things like that, but that thing is 20 years old and
18 outdated and so the county is moving to MAPPS, Maui Automated
19 Permitting Processing System. One of those Ps I might have
20 said the wrong word.

21 (Laughter.)

22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: It's called MAPPS now.

23 And then we also do Requests For Information, the
24 Uniform Information Practices Act and things like that.

25 People write to our -- or call into our department asking

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1 types of inspections we do. We have fire line inspections,
2 fire alarm inspections, fire sprinkler inspections, assembly
3 inspections. Some of those inspections could be at the same
4 facility, so we're looking at a way to track facilities
5 inspected also as opposed to just inspection types.

6 The "RFS," that's the complaints, the complaint-
7 driven inspections, we do about 125 of those. Most of those
8 are brush related.

9 And then the Operational Permits, after we get the
10 things reviewed, we have to go out and make sure that the
11 things are installed properly before we sign off on the use
12 permit.

13 We inspect all the public schools, 33 of them, and
14 then 70 preschools.

15 For our investigations, I did a 5-year average and
16 we do about 45 in-depth fire investigations. So Fiscal Year
17 '14-'15 we had 57 and last year we had 33 and then so far this
18 year we have 36.

19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Did 2016 get in there?

20 CAPTAIN HAAKE: 2016 is probably about -- was about
21 thirty-something. So I just took one high one and one low
22 one.

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Oh, okay.

24 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. It was easy for me to get the
25 average right there.

1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: 'Cause Kahikinui fire,
 2 that's why.
 3 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Oh, yeah, that's going to be in
 4 there.
 5 Public Education, we do about 90 safety
 6 presentations a year, we train about 800 people in fire
 7 extinguisher use a year. That's usually a higher number, but
 8 our fire extinguisher trainer was out of commission for a
 9 while. We've bought a new one -- or we're in the process of
 10 buying a new one right now, so -- and that's all community
 11 driven, so people come in and ask us to train them. And then
 12 some of the people have postponed their training because of
 13 the extinguisher training -- trainer being broken. The
 14 extinguisher trainer is a piece of equipment as opposed to a
 15 trainer, a person. So the equipment is -- the old one we had
 16 was fueled by LPG and it was just like a barbecue and it made
 17 a fire and then we used it, the people demonstrated the use of
 18 the extinguisher on that fire. We've ordered a digital one to
 19 replace the LPG trainer, so it's not going -- you're not going
 20 to feel the heat from the fire, but you'll be able to do
 21 trainings in an office or things like that as opposed to
 22 having to go outside.
 23 The SAM program, we do about 10 homes a year.
 24 And then our Fire Safety Trailer, we reach about 600
 25 students throughout the year. So in the fire safety trailer,

1 our program targets second graders and then fifth graders. So
 2 the first time we get the students are when they're in second
 3 grade and then when they get to fifth grade, we try and get
 4 them again.
 5 Okay. So what have we got next?
 6 Oh. These are the stats on our Operational Permits,
 7 about 40 LPG or fuel tank permits issued a year; again, 175
 8 events; for fireworks, we have about 12 aerial displays, legal
 9 ones --
 10 (Laughter.)
 11 CAPTAIN HAAKE: -- that we issue permits for;
 12 retail, 30. So when you -- when we issue a retail permit to
 13 sell fireworks, it's good for the whole year. So what we do
 14 is we'll just go out and inspection the retail store prior to
 15 their sale period and one's going to be starting up pretty
 16 soon for the 4th of July. We issue about 500 firecracker
 17 permits at \$25 a piece and then we also issue two licenses for
 18 import and storage of aerial fireworks. So we have a
 19 fireworks company, an aerial fireworks company that stores
 20 product on our island, two of them.
 21 And then we have the Performance Measures, that's
 22 part of the handout. So you see on the performance measures
 23 we have the number of facilities inspected, we track that. We
 24 also track the number of brush inspections we do. We've got
 25 the schools on there, we've got the fire protection systems

1 that we inspect, we've got the number of lots cleared. So
 2 brush, so if you go to the RFS process regarding brush and we
 3 go through the whole process and the person doesn't do
 4 anything, then we have some money for the chief to utilize to
 5 go and get that lot addressed.
 6 CHIEF THYNE: Thank you. Lisa might know something
 7 about that.
 8 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Are you with the Vares --
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah, it's our company.
 10 CHIEF THYNE: She is the Vares contract.
 11 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Oh, you are?
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.
 13 CAPTAIN HAAKE: So you've -- have you done the one
 14 in Kihei before?
 15 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. We've done Kihei, we've
 16 done Kula.
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I know the county likes to stay away
 18 from that because, you know, some money will get tied up
 19 and -- so what happens is we'll pay for the clearing --
 20 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: And then charge 'em back to
 21 the owner of the property.
 22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: We put a lien on the property.
 23 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, okay.
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: I've never had to do 'em where
 25 they went that far, it's always been the homeowner.

1 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Right.
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: We've never been contracted by
 3 anybody else to do them, so we've never had to wait that out.
 4 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Okay.
 5 CAPTAIN HAAKE: So if we go to the lien process, you
 6 know --
 7 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 8 CAPTAIN HAAKE: -- if we have to clean that lot
 9 every year --
 10 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Oh, yeah.
 11 CAPTAIN HAAKE: -- and do the lien, you might not
 12 ever get your money back.
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Until they sell.
 14 CAPTAIN HAAKE: But we do have some money in case
 15 there's some property that we need to clear.
 16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: I've got 30 acres to clear.
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: It's only like \$5,000, though, so
 18 it's not going to go far.
 19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Is that for the buffer or
 20 where -- when you clean the land?
 21 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yes. So if you create a fire
 22 break --
 23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: A fire break, yeah. So I
 24 got -- I had a meeting with Sumner because he's Goodfellow's
 25 Sumner, Ulupalakua comes in to help with our fire, but this

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1 time he said, you know, I'm not sure if we'll be able to help
 2 out Kahikinui, 'cause of -- it's just liability too, we're
 3 getting into liability. We don't know.
 4 CAPTAIN HAAKE: That's a big word going around now,
 5 liability.
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, so --
 7 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Nobody wants to get involved because
 8 they might get sued.
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 10 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Captain, I've got a question.
 11 Do you still issue open burning permits, like if somebody's
 12 clearing a lot and they make a barrier and then they can burn?
 13 Do they still issue those? They used to years ago.
 14 CHIEF THYNE: Department of health.
 15 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. We don't issue the permit.
 16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Really?
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Right.
 18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Even pits?
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: No. A cooking fire is one
 20 thing, burning of trash on your property is another thing.
 21 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: No, no, no. I'm talking
 22 about clearing.
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Clearing of green waste --
 24 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Green waste, yeah.
 25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- that's department of

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1 health.
 2 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Oh.
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Department of health issues
 4 those permits. And you have to have ag. land, ag. water.
 5 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: They have to inspect the
 7 property, make sure you have an adequate water supply.
 8 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: That you have some type of
 10 fire suppression.
 11 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 12 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. So you were allowed to burn
 13 25 pounds of yard waste a day at one time, yeah, and that was
 14 allowed by the department of health clean air branch, but
 15 they -- I want to say in 2013 they took that away. Just
 16 because of how things have changed in the community now,
 17 everybody's all close together, so they took that away.
 18 They still issue burn permits, but you have to be an
 19 agricultural business and there's all these things that you
 20 have to meet. They have some criteria that you have to meet
 21 and then they'll issue the permit and then they'll notify the
 22 department that, Oh, we issued a permit to So-and-So to burn,
 23 and then there's stipulations that you have to follow when you
 24 do that burn. So we do not issue burn permits.
 25 Okay. What else we have on here?

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1 Oh. We've got the Fire Safety Presentations. So
 2 pretty much the stats that I showed you guys, they're all on
 3 top of here, so that's our performance measures thing.
 4 And then last is -- are some of the Challenges that
 5 we have. We -- the longevity within the bureau, we have a --
 6 right now we're having a little bit of a difficult time
 7 keeping our staff members here. You know, when you look at
 8 the -- the inspector is the same rank as a driver on a fire
 9 truck, yeah, so -- yeah, a firefighter III. So an inspector
 10 is a firefighter III, the driver on the truck is a firefighter
 11 III and, you know, so right after the bat, what would you
 12 rather do, drive a fire truck or --
 13 (Laughter.)
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Or push paper.
 15 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Drive a fire truck.
 16 (Laughter.)
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Right? That's probably the best job
 18 in the whole department, drive the fire truck.
 19 And then, you know, when you're on the -- when
 20 you're driving a fire truck, you get -- you have that
 21 schedule. So the guys on line, they work 10 days a month.
 22 Although it's 24 hours, so they're actually putting 240 hours
 23 a month working as -- and ours is 40 hours a week. So you got
 24 work 10 days/20 days off, or you work 20 days/10 days off. So
 25 challenging. And then when they -- and when you come into the

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1 bureau, there's a big learning curve, you know, you gotta
 2 learn how to inspect and do that, do that stuff, so it takes a
 3 while to train them. And then as soon as they're trained up,
 4 they leave because --
 5 CHIEF THYNE: They wanna drive the fire truck.
 6 (Laughter.)
 7 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Drive the fire truck.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Or they like the 10/20.
 9 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah, you know. So those are the
 10 hard things to battle with.
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Pay too, yeah?
 12 CAPTAIN HAAKE: The pay is the same, but because you
 13 have 20 days off, you have more time to do other stuff, yeah,
 14 so work another job, maybe.
 15 That's the challenges and that's the last slide.
 16 COMMISSIONERS: Thank you.
 17 (Applause.)
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I have a couple questions
 19 real quick. As far as the standard of training that your
 20 firefighters do receive, is there something that you'd like to
 21 send them to? Is there a standard, like you try to get them
 22 off to FBI training or the NFA for some kind of training once
 23 they get promoted into your department or some -- just let
 24 them work out or you just on-the-job train them?
 25 CAPTAIN HAAKE: So in the first year we have OJT,

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1 on-the-job training, but then we try is to send the employee
2 to the National Fire Academy, it's all the way in Maryland,
3 but they have a -- they have an inspection principles class, a
4 week-long class, that provides the basics for inspections.
5 And then we also try to get them certified as an inspector and
6 we send them, again, to Maryland, the University of Maryland
7 has a fire program, a week-long fire program similar to the
8 National Fire Academy's inspection principles class, but the
9 University of Maryland provides a certification, Pro Board
10 cert, which is the certifications that we use within the
11 department, Pro Board.

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you. Then the last
13 question is: As far as your -- the MAPPS program and then I
14 remember the engine companies were doing preplans, have they
15 coordinated with you so everything is on the same database, or
16 that hasn't happened yet? 'Cause the engine companies was
17 going out and everybody was doing their map and it was kinda
18 all over the place and I remember they were hoping for a
19 better system. Did that ever come about so that everybody's
20 on the same page?

21 CAPTAIN HAAKE: You know, no.

22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Not yet? Okay.

23 CAPTAIN HAAKE: And I think, you know, the MAPPS
24 thing is just -- is that it involves the whole county, public
25 works, plumbing.

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1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.

2 CAPTAIN HAAKE: So I don't know if we're tracking
3 the same things.

4 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You know, some of the sharper
5 guys in the department, I remember they had actually access
6 and they showed us, Oh, do you know, Captain, this is
7 available? And I just was wondering if it was developed. But
8 I know there's different agencies and stuff, but it would've
9 been nice, 'cause a lot of guys were drawing it, so -- at the
10 time it was, you know, being developed, I wondered if it got
11 anywhere. Thank you. I was just wondering.

12 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Thanks, Chief.

13 Any other questions?

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: One of their biggest
15 challenges is they work Monday through Friday, they have a ton
16 of stuff to do, and then on the weekends, that's when they
17 have to support the community. So they do Keiki ID booth,
18 medical standby at baseball tournaments, soccer tournaments,
19 community events, MCC's big event, they do public education on
20 the weekends also, so that's -- taxes them. But then at the
21 same time, that's when they can make that little extra money
22 'cause they're getting paid overtime for it, but then that's
23 also a cost to the department, so there's that kind of
24 balance. You saw how many requests they get a year, you know,
25 400 types of different requests come through for that sort of

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1 services.

2 And then retention-wise, so you enter the department
3 as a firefighter, you love what you do, you spend time as a
4 hoseman, you get experience, and then you ready to promote,
5 you study, you test to be a firefighter III and you get the
6 promotion and then you go to where the vacant positions are
7 and a lot of times the vacancies are in the 40 hours working
8 Monday through Friday. So you work for Cap. Paul here, he
9 does most of his on-the-job training the first year to see if
10 you're gonna like it. If you like it and you're like, I'm in,
11 I'll stay; then he'll back you up and we'll back them up too
12 and go give them all the training we can give them so we have
13 the best people in there doing the work.

14 But they can transfer in 3 months, so it wouldn't be
15 smart for us to like, Congratulations, you've been promoted
16 and, oh, by the way, we're gonna send you to Maryland
17 tomorrow --

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and then you transferred
20 out in 3 months --

21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- when the vacancy is in --

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- Kahului, you know, on the
25 tanker or whatever. So he'll do on-the-job training, get them

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1 spun up to what they need to be able to do and then once they
2 say, Yeah, I like this. This is a good schedule. I'm home
3 every night with my family, or whatever, then he'll train them
4 appropriately.

5 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Captain, so if you folks get
6 a fire, let's say, Sunday, a structural fire, do you folks get
7 called out or do you secure the scene and come out the next
8 day and inspect it?

9 CAPTAIN HAAKE: It all depends. So on the
10 investigations, we get called out by the incident commander,
11 so the captain in charge.

12 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: I see.

13 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Right. So before we --

14 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: So you can be called out,
15 then?

16 CAPTAIN HAAKE: We can, yes.

17 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah, yeah.

18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So you guys have a list,
19 somebody's on call every --

20 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah.

21 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- Saturday and every Sunday.

22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER VARES: I have a question. Is there
24 ever a precedent in any other departments maybe nationwide or
25 whatnot, where they don't actually use active experienced

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1 firefighters in the prevention bureau, more of -- and use
 2 actually, I don't know, say there's nine guys --
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Civilians.
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. For those nine guys that
 5 washed out of physical --
 6 (Laughter.)
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Hey, you're still interested,
 8 though; right? You know, and train them up in, you know, in
 9 the prevention side.
 10 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. Some departments use
 11 civilians to do this job.
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: Is that -- is that attractive
 13 to you at all or kinda not, it doesn't work?
 14 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I don't know if it would be -- well,
 15 it makes sense that someone with firefighting experience does
 16 this job.
 17 COMMISSIONER VARES: Definitely.
 18 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Right.
 19 CAPTAIN HAAKE: But I'm not gonna say that it can't
 20 be done by a civilian. But it does --
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Help.
 22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: -- help to have that experience so
 23 you have a different look at things when you're there.
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.
 25 CAPTAIN HAAKE: As opposed to just the civilian guy

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1 going, Okay, this code says this, don't block the exit, so
 2 don't have anything there.
 3 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.
 4 CAPTAIN HAAKE: But some departments do that,
 5 civilians. Smaller departments, smaller jurisdictions, the
 6 building inspector might also be the fire inspector.
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Gotcha.
 8 CAPTAIN HAAKE: And the plan reviewer and this and
 9 that and the dog catcher.
 10 (Laughter.)
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: So you guys ever looked at going into
 12 a 4-day schedule, like four 10-hour days, say like Wednesday
 13 through Saturday and then, you know, Monday through Thursday
 14 kind of deal so that --
 15 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: So they would have that.
 16 CHAIR MISAKI: -- so that they'd have flexibility of
 17 schedule that they could choose and maybe only work 4 days a
 18 week rather than 5 days a week.
 19 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah. So the chiefs have given us
 20 that opportunity.
 21 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, okay.
 22 CAPTAIN HAAKE: So some of the staff members are on
 23 4/10s.
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, that's good. I would rather work
 25 that.

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1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Me too.
 2 CHIEF THYNE: We're not always bad guys. Most of
 3 the time we're bad guys, but --
 4 (Laughter.)
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: No. I'm just asking.
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: But it is still Monday
 7 through Friday, it doesn't overlap over the weekend.
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So I had a question,
 10 Captain. So, you know, we've had six or seven fires in
 11 Kahikinui over the years that I've lived there and I never
 12 knew who to ask how the fires were started, everything was
 13 chatter, you know, hearsay we heard. What -- as a community
 14 resident at Kahikinui, who can we ask how the 2016 fire
 15 started without hearsay?
 16 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah, that's --
 17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: And is there a protocol
 18 where you give that information to the leaseholder, Hawaiian
 19 Homes, or is it -- who has access to how the fire started?
 20 CAPTAIN HAAKE: If a report is generated, an
 21 investigation report, it's public record, so anybody can
 22 request it. I think the chiefs, you know, as far as what they
 23 let out, they want to see what your relationship is to that
 24 incident as opposed to you just being the nosey person.
 25 These reports are public record, but I'm gonna tell

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1 you the truth that a lot of times we don't really know exactly
 2 how the fire started. Right?
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 4 CAPTAIN HAAKE: It's all gonna be based upon the
 5 information that you receive during your investigation and how
 6 much of the scene is available for you to look at.
 7 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: To observe.
 8 CAPTAIN HAAKE: In the -- in my investigation slide,
 9 I showed you that we had to first identify origin, where that
 10 fire started. Right? And then from there, once you find the
 11 origin, then you start looking within that area to see -- to
 12 look for causes, things that could've started a fire,
 13 basically ignition sources, so electricity, things like that.
 14 So it's challenging, especially on the larger fires like
 15 wildland fires.
 16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: 'Cause if nobody's there, we don't
 18 have information, you know, the first time people saw the
 19 fire, it was huge already. By the time the crews get out
 20 there, it's even bigger, so our area of origin is lost in the
 21 wildland fire.
 22 That's one of the difficulties we had in the Lahaina
 23 fire. I know that the community's out there, you know,
 24 wanting us to say what happened? How did it start? Majority
 25 of the times, we -- we're gonna have an idea -- we may have an

1 idea how it started, but -- more than likely we'll know what
 2 didn't start it. Right? So when you -- when you do the
 3 investigation, you identify an area of origin, when you look
 4 at potential ignition sources inside there, then you start to
 5 rule them. Was it electricity? No, it wasn't electricity.
 6 Was it an outlet? No, it wasn't this outlet. Was it this
 7 stove? No, it wasn't the stove. So you start eliminating
 8 things and then it just leaves you a few things, like did
 9 someone come and introduce fire to the area? Hard to rule
 10 that out on wildland fires.
 11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: The last fire, we heard that
 12 we have to catch the person on your iPhone actually starting,
 13 igniting the fire to take it to court if they're proven to
 14 start the fire. Is that true? In your investigation, is
 15 that -- is that what's needed to go after the people that are
 16 starting the fires?
 17 CAPTAIN HAAKE: That would be really good if you had
 18 something like that.
 19 (Laughter.)
 20 CAPTAIN HAAKE: I think it'd be hard to argue, but,
 21 you know --
 22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And you can ask the court of
 23 law, but you can take anybody to court, but to prove that
 24 they're guilty is gonna take evidence and that is basically
 25 what it comes down to.

1 CHAIR MISAKI: Factual evidence and witnesses are
 2 the two things you gotta have. Right?
 3 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: If you have six people who
 4 saw it, you don't need a camera, they can testify, Yeah, we --
 5 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Yeah.
 6 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Especially if they aren't
 7 related. But, you know, it's -- I can see where, you know,
 8 hearsay is a hell of a -- hell of a --
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's very easy to assume how
 10 a fire started, we do it every fire. We talked about
 11 abandoned vehicles earlier.
 12 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Right.
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: I know how this started.
 14 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yeah.
 15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We can -- it's very easy to
 16 assume, it's very hard to investigate and --
 17 CHAIR MISAKI: And prove.
 18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and prove that it was.
 19 Because when it goes to court, the defendant's lawyer is gonna
 20 say, Were you there? Did you see somebody do it? What
 21 evidence do you have to prove that it was that microwave
 22 plugged into the wall? Because that company is connected to
 23 Samsung, who's connected to lawyers, who's connected --
 24 they're going to tear everything apart. It has to -- so it
 25 has to be really, really good proof.

1 CAPTAIN HAAKE: It's difficult.
 2 CHAIR MISAKI: So we're already 15 minutes past
 3 12:00 and -- is there any other questions?
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: No. Thank you. That was
 5 good.
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you.
 7 CAPTAIN HAAKE: Thank you, guys. Thank you for, you
 8 know, wanting to know.
 9 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: I move to adjourn.
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Wait.
 11 (Laughter.)
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: Item No. 8, just to remind you guys
 13 to take a look at your schedules again, make sure you can make
 14 the meetings. The one in November, I just want to point out,
 15 is gonna be on Molokai, so Jill will be calling you guys
 16 probably in September to figure out reservations and stuff
 17 like that. Travis and I will work with Jill in trying to do
 18 the logistics end on Molokai.
 19 COMMISSIONERS: Thank you.
 20 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. So that's that. And then the
 21 next meeting is July 18th, I hope you guys can all make it.
 22 We missed it by two commission members to have a full quorum.
 23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Last meeting?
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: Huh?
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Was it the last meeting?

1 CHAIR MISAKI: No, this meeting. Well, we had eight
 2 out of the nine, but Kyle left, so we actually had eight of
 3 ten, which is pretty good. I mean, eight of -- seven of nine,
 4 I'm sorry.
 5 And then same place, fire prevention bureau. And
 6 then now you can move to adjourn.
 7 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Move to adjourn. Let's go
 8 home.
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Second.
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Moved and seconded. Meeting's
 12 adjourned.
 13 (The proceedings were adjourned at 12:17 p.m.)
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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

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

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5 I, Sandra J. Gran, Certified Shorthand Reporter for
 6 the State of Hawaii, hereby certify that on June 20th, 2019,
 7 at 10:17 a.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 3rd day of July, 2019, in Maui, Hawaii.

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Sandra J. Gran, RPR
 Hawaii CSR 424

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