

August 22, 2019

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2 FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
3 COUNTY OF MAUI  
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8 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
9 REGULAR MEETING  
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14 Held at Maui Fire Department Prevention Bureau, 313  
15 Manea Place, Wailuku, Hawaii, commencing at 10:04 a.m., on  
16 August 22nd, 2019.  
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21 REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424  
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1 (August 22nd, 2019, 10:04 a.m.)  
2 \* \* \*  
3 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. I would like to call the  
4 August 22nd meeting to order. And I would also like to thank  
5 Commission Members Ginoza, Tancayo, Lundberg, Vares, and  
6 Sterling for coming to the meeting. I believe Commission  
7 Member Fernandez and Burns will not attending today. I'm not  
8 sure about Freitas.  
9 I would like to call for approval of the minutes.  
10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'll make a motion to  
11 approve the minutes as written.  
12 CHAIR MISAKI: Second?  
13 COMMISSIONER VARES: Seconded.  
14 CHAIR MISAKI: It's been approved and seconded. All  
15 those in favor?  
16 (Response.)  
17 CHAIR MISAKI: All those opposed?  
18 (No response.)  
19 CHAIR MISAKI: Is there any public testimony today?  
20 I see that there's none unless Mr. Martin wants to -- no?  
21 Okay.  
22 Herman, you've got the floor.  
23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Chair.  
24 Members of the Commission, I have two reports. I'm  
25 sorry I couldn't make it to the last meeting, but I was asked

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1 ATTENDANCE  
2 COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:  
3 Edwin Misaki, Chair  
4 Kyle Ginoza, Vice Chair  
5 Jack Freitas, Member (in at 10:14, out at 11:11)  
6 Travis Tancayo, Member  
7 Gregg Lundberg, Member  
8 Lisa Vares, Member  
9 Donna Sterling, Member  
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11  
12 STAFF:  
13 David Thyne, Fire Chief  
14 Bradford Ventura, Deputy Fire Chief  
15 Valeriano Martin, Assistant Fire Chief  
16 Michael Werner, Battalion Chief  
17 Jennifer Oana, Deputy Corporation Counsel  
18 Jill Matsui Peterson, Commission Secretary  
19 Misty Cordeiro, Office Operations Assistant  
20 Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency (out 10:18)  
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1 to report on two of our reports. Just briefly summarizing --  
2 you have the reports in front of you, so I'll just summarize  
3 very quickly. I mention in here that we were looking for a  
4 hazard mediation specialist, so we just hired that person.  
5 His name is Dr. Anthony Joyce, he has a Ph.D. in atmospheric  
6 sciences and also degrees, advanced degrees in meteorology, so  
7 we're very fortunate to have him on board.  
8 We also -- let's see. What else can I talk about?  
9 I appeared before council this month and they wanted  
10 just the state of our -- the state of our department. They  
11 talked about the need for more public messaging, which, you  
12 know, we'll try and do. And also the topic of a new emergency  
13 operations center came up again and so very happy that they  
14 support the idea of having a new emergency operations center.  
15 And so I believe the council members supported the idea and  
16 also the administration has it as one of their priorities and  
17 so it would be good for our EOC. It's -- during activation,  
18 it's full, there's 60 to 80 people in there and the room is  
19 maybe twice the size of this room or so, yeah, so... So,  
20 anyway, I'm glad that that -- that's moving ahead, hopefully.  
21 Let's see. And then we're also looking for  
22 another -- we're recruiting for another position, a recovery  
23 specialist, so that's something we just got this year from  
24 council. Especially after last year with Hurricane Lane we  
25 found that one of our gaps was the recovery, you know. We're

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1 pretty good at preparation and at response, but recovery was  
2 where there was a huge gap. And so that's the reason why I  
3 went to council and asked that, you know, there should really  
4 be a recovery specialist, someone who throughout the year was  
5 getting support from the community and coordinating our  
6 efforts with respect to recovery. So I hope to get that  
7 person on board in the near future.

8 The fires, we were there, we activated once and that  
9 was during the fire in the central plains. We were there to  
10 support the fire department. We opened up shelters. We had  
11 to evacuate Maalaea as well as North Kihei. And fire also  
12 wanted a Chinook helicopter, so it's a large -- large  
13 helicopter, pretty big, that can dump a lot of water and so  
14 we -- we worked with the state to get that helicopter over,  
15 yeah.

16 That's all I have for now. If there's any  
17 questions, I'm open to them.

18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I guess I have a question  
19 about -- that might refer to the Chinook helicopter. I note  
20 in the past we -- sometimes it works and sometimes it doesn't  
21 work. Was that because of the high volume needed for water  
22 drops to be effective, is that why that was brought in?

23 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Go ahead, Brad. I have some  
24 feelings about that, but I digress.

25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So every time we

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1 people think, Bring in more, bring in more, bring in more.  
2 One of the things that we had challenges in the recent fires  
3 was the fire ran so fast, a hundred helicopters wouldn't stop  
4 it, because by the time they drop water and they go back and  
5 pick up water and the second helicopter drops and the third  
6 helicopter drops, it's already blown right past that wet spot.  
7 It's -- so there's no -- it's almost like we're reaching the  
8 point where they have to make a tactical decision on: Do we  
9 ground the helicopters for a few minutes and get way ahead of  
10 this fire to remove fuels and then create a defensible  
11 stopping point with the aircraft? Otherwise we're flying  
12 aircraft at thousands of dollars an hour, three aircraft, and  
13 they're not making headway.

14 So that's something that I know one of our BCs was  
15 being concerned about, you know, we don't want to just run up  
16 costs, especially if it's being inefficient. So that's one of  
17 the arguments of the -- the large aircraft from the National  
18 Guard, the Chinook, is how many thousands of dollars they  
19 charge us. Sometimes we get lucky and we're able to work with  
20 them and call it a training mission, so they've sent us --  
21 like at Kahikinui, they sent us a Black Hawk from the Big  
22 Island and they said, We're just gonna call it training and  
23 we're not going to bill you. Nice, because -- I'm not sure  
24 exactly, chief might have the numbers while I was away --

25 CHIEF THYNE: \$25,000 an hour.

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1 involve other agencies, especially, we try to do an  
2 after-action review and see what the pros and cons of that  
3 asset were. We do it with bulldozers: Public works versus  
4 Goodfellows versus Alpha versus, you know, Hawaiian Dredging.  
5 There's different skill sets and different abilities, so we do  
6 like an after action with our BCs and we try to figure out:  
7 Was it a good use? Was it a good fit for that incident?  
8 Should we include them in the future or not? So we're just  
9 kind of wrapping up that part of discussing with our other  
10 aircraft and -- to see if it was a good fit for that fire.

11 The reason I think it worked a little bit for that  
12 fire was because it was geographically large, so our small  
13 aircraft had worked on one side and then we could assign that  
14 aircraft to the other flank. They don't really work well  
15 together because they're just totally two different animals.  
16 One is really slow and the other three are just like  
17 bumblebees, just, you know, dipping and flying really quick,  
18 and so you don't really want them together. So we worked with  
19 Windward Aviation to give the Chinook their assignment for the  
20 day and then they did everything via air coms and then they  
21 kind of ran it from there. And then I checked in about noon  
22 and they said, We're pretty much done with them, so we  
23 released them by 1:00.

24 So, you know, we -- we'll try to use them if we  
25 need, but we definitely don't need them a lot of times. Like

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1 COMMISSIONER VARES: How much?

2 CHIEF THYNE: \$25,000 an hour.

3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: For the Chinook.

4 CHIEF THYNE: So Air One, Air Two, Air Three don't  
5 even come close to that. So you've gotta do that math.

6 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: What is the comparable cost of  
7 the --

8 CHIEF THYNE: \$1,200 an hour for Air Two and Air  
9 Three. Each, 1200 each. I think Air One is around five to  
10 six hundred dollars an hour per our contract. So benefit  
11 versus cost.

12 Yeah, I have some personal opinions, being opps  
13 chief for many years and fighting lot of fire, on the  
14 effectiveness of those aircraft. It's common for us to, as  
15 chief mentioned, when its hitting the fan, when it's moving on  
16 the landscape, we try to bring everything we can, but it's not  
17 the most efficient aircraft to use.

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Effective.

19 CHIEF THYNE: They -- as our chief pilot Pete Vorhes  
20 said when we did an AR in the parking lot, myself and him and  
21 a couple of our battalion chiefs, they were dropping not even  
22 on Maui. They dropped so high, with the wind --

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: It winds up --

24 CHIEF THYNE: -- winds in the ocean.

25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: It's no fault of the pilot, it's just  
 2 not what they're do. They're more of a transport, they're  
 3 more of a cargo, they're -- it's their -- you know, in the  
 4 military, they call it their MOS, right, that's what they do.  
 5 So we've really got to balance that with -- you know, it's not  
 6 blaming them, it's not pointing fingers, but you do that cost  
 7 factor and you say, We want to throw everything at it -- and  
 8 that's why they reached out to Herman to bring in that  
 9 research -- I wasn't at that fire, remember, I was on the  
 10 mainland, so I don't want to Monday morning quarterback it,  
 11 but in the conversations and what I've dealt with in the past  
 12 as chief of operations, it's a limited effectiveness resource  
 13 that we've really got to weigh out: Is this really going to  
 14 provide us what we want it to provide us?

15 COMMISSIONER STERLING: And each situation is  
 16 different, each fire is different, each terrain --

17 CHIEF THYNE: On the Pukalani fire, there was a  
 18 picture in the paper of myself and the mayor talking, and he  
 19 said, Hey, there's Black Hawks out at the airport, you want me  
 20 to see if I can get them from the governor?

21 And I said, You know, Mayor, thank you, but they're  
 22 not gonna be of use on this fire.

23 Well, you know, they can transport 2,000 gallons  
 24 versus 150 in a small water hog.

25 And I said, Yeah, they can, but they also have to

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1 drop from way up or the rotor wash is just gonna fan --

2 CHAIR MISAKI: The flames.

3 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. And that's what -- we had  
 4 video -- we had video of -- on the Waiko fire of them --  
 5 (Commissioner Freitas entered the room.)

6 CHIEF THYNE: -- actually going in to do a drop and  
 7 you just see them lighting up a whole pile of former bagasse,  
 8 you know.

9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.

10 CHIEF THYNE: They were going to put it out, but  
 11 with the rotor wash and the down wash, it was actually  
 12 (gesturing) so intensified.

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: They pick up the dirt too in  
 14 the down draft --

15 CHIEF THYNE: But as chief said, when it's running  
 16 like that and it's such a big fire, we take in all the  
 17 resources we can and we can try to assign them to a function  
 18 that they can perform, but, again, balancing that out with the  
 19 cost factor, the effectiveness and efficiency of it is really  
 20 something we've got to do.

21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you.

22 CHAIR MISAKI: So I would like to welcome Jack to  
 23 our meeting.

24 And I just have one comment about the bigger  
 25 military choppers. From my experience on Molokai, like he was

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1 saying, they usually have a short line. They don't have the  
 2 long line like the U500, so they've gotta go real low to be  
 3 effective to the fire, especially in hilly areas, they fan --

4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.

5 CHAIR MISAKI: -- other areas outside where they're  
 6 dropping.

7 And the second thing that was really dangerous, in  
 8 my mind, with the military helicopter, they don't have direct  
 9 radio contact with the guys on the --

10 CHIEF THYNE: On the ground.

11 CHAIR MISAKI: -- ground and if they ever drop their  
 12 water on somebody, it could kill them. So that's a safety  
 13 issue, because they don't -- and usually they've gotta talk to  
 14 Windward and then Windward try to talk to the guys on the  
 15 ground. It just gets complicated.

16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: That's why we have to assign  
 17 them to a specific area of the fire where it's not gonna  
 18 impact the men or our operations.

19 CHAIR MISAKI: But they did help the Molokai fire  
 20 one time because they were able to bring -- 'cause on Molokai  
 21 fuel is a problem. They were able to bring a bunch of fuel  
 22 from Oahu direct to Molokai at the airport.

23 CHIEF THYNE: Right.

24 CHAIR MISAKI: So that -- I think that was the '91  
 25 fire.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: Right. I was on that fire.

2 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. But other than that, most  
 3 people who fight wildland fire don't want the big choppers,  
 4 that's my --

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Sometimes it just becomes  
 6 very political.

7 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I think they have their  
 8 purpose --

9 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.

10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- and I just want to make  
 11 sure it's not an interagency, you know, "We got 'em, we got  
 12 'em, we don't need your help" type of approach. Because there  
 13 are -- there are other choppers that are fully functional --  
 14 you know, when I -- I came from that industry, Blue Hawaiian,  
 15 we outfitted three helicopters with all the right radios and  
 16 got all the buckets and we've got the nimble -- to your point,  
 17 Chief, the nimble -- and we never got called in the four and a  
 18 half, almost five years that I was there and I know we  
 19 could've helped. So it's just using the right tool for the  
 20 right situation I think is important.

21 And then for those big ones, you know, if it's a  
 22 training issue, can't we have them come over for a day and do  
 23 training to the pilots and --

24 CHAIR MISAKI: If you can get them for free, it's  
 25 worth it.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. In 32 years the only time we --  
 2 I've personally been on a fire where we got 'em for free was  
 3 Kahikinui, like chief mentioned.  
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Oh.  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: That's only time. It's been \$25,000  
 6 an hour.  
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: I was -- I was astounded at the cost  
 8 of the chopper.  
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: The 2016 fire?  
 10 CHIEF THYNE: The one at in Kahikinui, yeah.  
 11 They -- we called Anna, former -- Herman's former -- well,  
 12 predecessor.  
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.  
 14 CHIEF THYNE: And said, Hey, is there any way we can  
 15 a -- you know, a Black Hawk or another resource here?  
 16 Because, again, like chief mentioned, sometimes we've gotta  
 17 haul water so far, like in Kahikinui, we tried from the ocean,  
 18 you know. Fortunately, they found that spring-fed --  
 19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.  
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Up above your place, yeah.  
 21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Puupane, yeah.  
 22 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, they were gonna use that, but  
 23 most of the time it was coming from the ocean until we set up  
 24 our pumpkins and all of that. So that long haul is a lot of  
 25 fuel; right? The same thing on Molokai, they were not by a

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1 water source -- well, anywhere we're not by a water source,  
 2 you're burning up fuel going back and forth if we cannot set  
 3 up our pumpkins or frog ponds and that takes a while to  
 4 logistically to do. You know, we were able to get them --  
 5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: -- through, you know, emergency  
 7 management at the time was -- was on that at the time, but --  
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: We're working on -- we're  
 9 working on the Puupane Reservoir to reactivate it, it's a  
 10 1.2-million gallon reservoir.  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: That's a great resource when we're  
 12 there.  
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So now that's a major piece  
 14 with the -- anyway, we'll work on that.  
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: So, anyway, we've talked enough of  
 16 the helicopter, I think.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: We should move on to the chief.  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: Okay.  
 20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Did that answer your  
 21 question?  
 22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah. I've got more when we  
 23 get to the fire, so --  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 25 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: Thanks, Chair.  
 2 And you'll see again on the stats, we like to  
 3 provide those to you, the training, you know, as you know is  
 4 ongoing, we focus on different areas. We've gone through that  
 5 in the past, explaining that.  
 6 You'll see on the table of the calls for July  
 7 obviously an uptick, almost double and triple of -- and  
 8 quadruple in some months in wildland fires or brush grass  
 9 fires, and that's, you know, conducive to what we've been  
 10 seeing out there.  
 11 (Mr. Andaya left the room.)  
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Between the first fires in  
 13 early July and the Waiko Road fire and now recently -- most  
 14 recently the Kihei fire, previous to that the Pukalani fire,  
 15 there was just all those different starts. The fuels are  
 16 receptive, the -- you know, I think all of us know that this  
 17 year has been very hot, it's been in the 90s so many days, I  
 18 can't remember, it's some kind of record in the history of  
 19 Maui on -- you know, and then you get some trade winds in  
 20 there, some lower humidities and all it takes is somebody with  
 21 either a mistake or an intentional type of setting.  
 22 The Pukalani fires, we heard, was Mahi Pono, they  
 23 had a piece of machinery that was tilling a field, a PTO  
 24 caught some metal and -- so they were up front and very --  
 25 from the beginning. I ended up out there assisting with the

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1 fire and ran into Mark Vaught, one of the primaries for that  
 2 company -- well, EMI, actually, and he told me straight, he  
 3 said, Chief, our bad. It wasn't intentional, but we -- we do  
 4 admit and all we ask is that you allow us to do a press  
 5 release prior to coming out on the front page going, I was  
 6 them, you know, kind of thing.  
 7 And, you know, we provided that to them. We said,  
 8 Yeah, no problem, you know. We want to make sure that that  
 9 was the cause. You're telling us it is, but we'll verify that  
 10 when our inspector -- he's on his way, it was Captain Haake.  
 11 And then, you know, as far as releasing it to the public, we  
 12 can wait for you folks to do a release and explaining or  
 13 however they wanted to do it and that's how it went.  
 14 So, anyway, so an up tick in wildland fires, we hope  
 15 that's going to be on the downside. Going through my brief  
 16 notes there, we did meet with the mayor, the managing  
 17 director, and that's, again, our -- usually it's every couple  
 18 of months. A lot of good appreciation from the various county  
 19 agencies that we work with, the directors and the deputies  
 20 about the efforts of the firefighters on the fires.  
 21 Obviously, we had, you know, impacts to, you know, water  
 22 department, public works, different agencies that we work with  
 23 as the county, so they were appreciative. Environmental  
 24 management, the landfill on some of the fires, so they were  
 25 appreciative of our efforts. So, you know, basically I said,

1 It's not us, it's the firefighters, and we support them in  
 2 what they do.  
 3 So Pukalani fire, we talked about, that was another  
 4 I think about 5,000 acres. The scary thing about the Pukalani  
 5 fire, I can tell you folks, from a firefighter perspective --  
 6 and Chief Tancayo can recall this -- is you know those fields  
 7 that we're seeing out there now, basically -- and basically  
 8 they calling them harrowing, I believe, or tilling, yeah?  
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, yeah.  
 10 CHIEF THYNE: Right? So I think they call that a  
 11 harrowing machine or something, is what I've heard. The fire  
 12 was back burning into the wind through those fields that were  
 13 tilled. It was -- it was the scariest thing I've seen in my  
 14 life, because we couldn't even start those fields on fire with  
 15 our torches to try to create defensible space. But when I  
 16 went up side on mauka and looked at -- 'cause one of the  
 17 concerns we have up in that mauka side off of the highway in  
 18 the Y is, of course, the Pukalani Golf Course homes. Not the  
 19 golf course itself necessarily, but the homes in that area  
 20 that's been threatened many, many times by fires that started  
 21 in the former cane fields, get into the interface and then  
 22 threaten those homes. So I went up to that area because I  
 23 know it's vulnerable flank, just the way the winds are and  
 24 stuff, and, sure enough, I -- I came in off of the highway,  
 25 off the Y, and I came to the top and it was back burning into

1 the wind uphill through those tilled fields.  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: Just because of the --  
 3 CHIEF THYNE: I guess the -- I don't know if it's  
 4 they way they turn it underneath, there's enough and it's dry  
 5 enough, that it -- so there was a whole line of fire that we  
 6 literally had to put a doser along that whole top flank,  
 7 'cause the fire was just gonna keep creeping until it hit that  
 8 interface by the golf course and it was gonna -- next thing  
 9 you know, it would -- so when we -- so all I'm saying is that,  
 10 what we told our firefighters is that because -- if we know  
 11 ahead there was a tilled field or, in essence, a fire break,  
 12 that's not necessarily the case, the fire will carry through  
 13 that.  
 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wow.  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: You wouldn't -- if I didn't see it see  
 16 with my own eyes, and that's why I'm sharing it with you,  
 17 because we thought, Okay, it's gonna hit this field, it's  
 18 good, but it's not good, it can carry fire through there. And  
 19 that was a very high wind day, but it was back burning in --  
 20 it was burning into the wind through that in a tilled field.  
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: And with the tilled field, was  
 22 it -- was there biomass mixed up with the dirt?  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: Yes. But it looks -- it looks like  
 24 dirt and then when you see some dry grass and stuff inside  
 25 there, but you don't think it's gonna -- I mean, you just

1 think it's gonna hit that and --  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: I told them. I told them.  
 3 CHIEF THYNE: Well, if you did tell them that, you  
 4 were right.  
 5 COMMISSIONER VARES: I told them.  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: So, anyway, it was a look -- it was a  
 7 watch out for us, because now we cannot assume the fire's  
 8 gonna stop when it hits that break, is the short version of  
 9 that whole thing. So, anyway, so lessons learned.  
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wow.  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: We had the Wailea fire as well, that  
 12 was out next to Maui Meadows. And I'm jumping around a little  
 13 bit, but that was -- you know, it's -- as you probably read in  
 14 the paper, some kid was smoking weed or something on the side  
 15 of the road and threw down a match or -- so he admitted to it,  
 16 but that was -- that was a close call as well. When I called  
 17 Sumner Erdman to give him a heads-up 'cause that borders his  
 18 property and we a lot of times work with him with his  
 19 resources and his knowledge of the area, he told me, You must  
 20 be going to church or something, because this is burning the  
 21 opposite direction it normally does and away from the homes,  
 22 so...  
 23 And I said, I'll take it, you know, whatever works,  
 24 yeah. So the guys worked hard on that one, we had a lot of  
 25 air support.

1 We did have a follow up -- one of the things we're  
 2 working on is we've identified some locations of some  
 3 residential swimming pools, because what happens is -- and I  
 4 don't know if, Chief, you ever came across this, but, you  
 5 know, we're being -- we're being -- kind of bringing in some  
 6 aircraft to fight a fire that's encroaching on some homes and  
 7 the people will be in their backyard like, Hey, use my pool.  
 8 (Laughter.)  
 9 CHIEF THYNE: You know? And that's great, we --  
 10 that's, you know, great and it's understandable. If I had a  
 11 pool in my yard, I would do that if it was coming at my house.  
 12 Well, you know, a month later when they've gotta pay the water  
 13 bill and now that the fire didn't burn anything, we've been  
 14 going, Hey, how do I get the water.  
 15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Burnt the pump to refill.  
 16 CHIEF THYNE: Or that, right. So -- and why I bring  
 17 that up is that that's exactly what happened, they had, you  
 18 know -- and we talked -- we called the pilots and we said,  
 19 Hey, what happened here? I thought we didn't use pools  
 20 because of the potential to burn the pump or impact their wall  
 21 of their pool and now we've gotta pay for any sort of repair  
 22 and -- they said, No, they're over there like, Come in and  
 23 take our water, please.  
 24 (Laughter.)  
 25 CHIEF THYNE: And we're like, Okay, well, you know

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1 what, let's pre-identify some locations where we talk to  
 2 Mr. Freitas and say, Hey, if a fire's in your area, can we use  
 3 your pool?  
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Do we have your permission? So Chief  
 6 Werner, BC Werner actually worked on that of that project with  
 7 one of our chief pilots, and so that's what we're trying to do  
 8 remedy that situation. And the reason why I bring is that's  
 9 what happened on the Wailea fire. It wasn't any damage or  
 10 anything, it's just we want to make sure it's clear and we're  
 11 all under the understanding that if we're using their pools,  
 12 it's with their permission, it's ahead of time we got kind of  
 13 more or less an agreement -- not officially an agreement,  
 14 which she'll probably say we need to talk, but we'll work  
 15 through that.  
 16 MS. OANA: Yeah.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: But, anyway, so --  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Is it -- is it possible to just send  
 19 them a letter of agreement so they can sign an agreement?  
 20 CHIEF THYNE: Well, yeah, I was -- so I don't know,  
 21 Chief Werner might speak to that.  
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: A letter of agreement is real easy  
 23 and understandable by the public, yeah, just a simple letter  
 24 that spells everything out.  
 25 CHIEF THYNE: We may have to put the hold harmless

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1 type of situation, but we'll talk to Jen on that.  
 2 MS. OANA: Lots to talk about.  
 3 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. There's more just, Hey --  
 4 CHAIR MISAKI: But if you identify some residents  
 5 who're willing to sign an agreement, that's the way to go.  
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Through the community  
 7 associations.  
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Huh?  
 9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Through the community  
 10 associations.  
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: Have them sign an agreement directly  
 12 with the fire department.  
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. And then they can  
 14 outreach with the community people.  
 15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Just a quick one on that.  
 16 I've heard communities that just simply have pre-approved  
 17 flags by their swimming pool, a flag or marker so they know  
 18 it's good to go. Maybe do something like that.  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: So we have some more work to do there,  
 20 but in the heat of battle, it's like I said, literally people  
 21 are waving our pilots in and then -- and then afterwards, sort  
 22 of like, Time out. Let's fix this.  
 23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: We can't have this. We don't want a  
 25 claim against the county. We don't want you folks getting

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1 complaints from people you may run into in Costco and, you  
 2 know. So we're gonna try to fix that. We'll keep you posted  
 3 on that. And like chair said, maybe it's an agreement that we  
 4 just author and have everybody sign and we have that  
 5 understanding, so...  
 6 Chief Ventura's gonna go into the budget for you  
 7 folks. I mentioned at the last meeting we did get our budget  
 8 awarded, but it was totally last minute, just prior to our  
 9 last commission meeting. So I asked Chief Brad to kind of  
 10 break down the budget highlights for you. But we did -- in  
 11 chief's absence, I did work with AC Martin and AC Kawasaki to  
 12 assign our projects to some of our battalion chiefs and our --  
 13 and our leadership to make sure that we're chasing these  
 14 things right away.  
 15 We did talk to the water supply with the recent  
 16 fires and asking for their assistance with determining which  
 17 is the best grid to use. I came across this when I was one of  
 18 the division chiefs on the Ah Fook's fire, we were expending a  
 19 lot of water and taxing the system. Because they're all off  
 20 of a tank, right, they're coming -- it's coming from  
 21 somewhere, yeah, so -- and the storage capacity. And when we  
 22 fought the Ah Fook's fire, believe it or not, we were  
 23 basically using so much water that we had to adjust where we  
 24 were taking water from, because it just totally depleted the  
 25 tank. So I said, With these fires, could we come into that

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1 same situation?  
 2 And Deputy Director Kau said, Absolutely.  
 3 So we said, So how do we fix this? And so if we do  
 4 have a big fire, our -- basically our marching orders are to  
 5 call Deputy Director Kau, who's the number two at water  
 6 supply, she'll put us in touch with the appropriate  
 7 supervisor. It won't be every fire, right, 90 percent of the  
 8 time it'll be fine, but the bigger fires, when we're taxing  
 9 the system --  
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: -- where best should we take it from  
 12 to ensure that we're not impacting the community and/or no  
 13 more water in the tank kind of situation, yeah. So that was  
 14 good.  
 15 Yeah, we're working through the funding for Makena.  
 16 Basically the state -- for the lifeguards in Makena, the state  
 17 basically said it's flat funding, you're not gonna get any  
 18 more. The issue with that is, just so you folks are aware,  
 19 they have a -- they have a bargaining agreement, bargaining  
 20 unit, collective bargaining, all of those types of things, the  
 21 ocean safety officers do, they got their increases and  
 22 contractual, which is good for those employees, obviously, we  
 23 all like to get raises. Well, the state said, We can only pay  
 24 you what we can pay you and that's what you were allotted  
 25 through the budget to pledge.

1 So we talked to -- we're in discussions with our  
 2 budget director at the county level going, Okay, so the new  
 3 fiscal year is starting -- it's started, the state has told  
 4 us, so we're gonna come into a funding shortfall, yes, because  
 5 the county's gonna have to make that up.  
 6 COMMISSIONER VARES: Are you --  
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Or they're gonna say, We're not  
 8 providing that service at Big Beach anymore.  
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: So it's -- it's regarding  
 10 providing a --  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Makena.  
 12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Makena.  
 13 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- a lifeguard at Makena?  
 14 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. And we -- it's been ongoing  
 15 and, obviously, we know that locals go there too; right? So  
 16 our concern from our perspective is we're public safety, we  
 17 feel that we should provide that service. Certainly it is a  
 18 state -- the issue is it's a state beach, it's not a county  
 19 beach. So all of our guards are on county beach parks; right?  
 20 This is a state beach, so the state approached the county  
 21 years ago and said, Hey, can you folks put the guards because  
 22 you guys get guards, yeah, and so we'll do the funding. And  
 23 this was before me, I was in another role in our department at  
 24 the time, and so I was aware of it. And so, yeah, and -- and  
 25 initially it was funding for funding match, but then as pay

1 increases happened, expenses happened, replacement costs  
 2 happens, right, for skis and other things; it starts falling  
 3 behind, so then now the county has to pay more, which is all  
 4 of us, for our state beach. So that's the balance, yeah. And  
 5 so, anyway --  
 6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: There are several  
 7 initiatives within the tourism industry right now --  
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- that can come into play,  
 10 one of which is we're going after the TAT tax --  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Right.  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: -- we collected this on Maui  
 13 and sent to Honolulu. 22 percent of it comes back.  
 14 CHIEF THYNE: Correct.  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So we're funding a bunch of  
 16 projects over in Honolulu, including rail, that we don't feel  
 17 we should. So we've got a couple of programs out there to --  
 18 and identifying beaches for lifeguards, for example, like  
 19 Black Rock, you know, which is one of the -- unfortunately,  
 20 one of the worst beaches for the track record of fatalities in  
 21 Maui County, so -- Big Beach is another one.  
 22 CHIEF THYNE: Yes.  
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes. We have a number of --  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: So they're one and two -- in the top  
 25 three, they're one and two of the top three in the state for

1 transport, for transport of beaches, yeah, in the whole state  
 2 for transports, Kekaha and Big Beach, Makena.  
 3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: The Makena area isn't -- is  
 4 supposed to develop, more people are -- there's developments  
 5 there.  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: Yes, correct.  
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: And they're of a group of  
 8 people that may assist with that type of county support.  
 9 CHIEF THYNE: So were -- you know, like I said, from  
 10 public a safety standpoint, you know, and you being our  
 11 commission, our stance is we want to continue to provide that  
 12 service, but we understand that it has to be funded, more  
 13 funding has to come from the county. And if either you folks  
 14 or our council and mayor don't want to approve that, then  
 15 obviously we're having a different conversation. But we feel  
 16 that we support that because it's a service that we need to  
 17 provide to those folks out there. So, anyway, moving on.  
 18 The state fire code has been updated, that's the  
 19 fire chiefs get together, we updated it, actually, in this  
 20 room right here. An interesting thing that Chief Brad may  
 21 touch on, but probably not 'cause it's relatively minor in the  
 22 big picture of the budget, is we got health and safety  
 23 standby. So that's health and safety bureau personnel are  
 24 being paid standby pay, which is a very minimal amount in the  
 25 big picture, but that means that we have somebody that's 24/7

1 able to come out and support our firefighters with rehab,  
 2 refreshments, medical monitoring. It's not just chuck wagon;  
 3 right? A lot of people used to think that, Oh, they're gonna  
 4 bring us plate lunch and Gatorade.  
 5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.  
 6 CHIEF THYNE: But medical monitoring is more  
 7 important for some of us because they're getting taxed out  
 8 there, yeah. Whether it's a structure fire, a brush fire,  
 9 heart rates are off the charts, yeah, they're losing  
 10 hydration, they need to get that replaced. So them hooking up  
 11 to a medical monitor and checking their pulse rate and blood  
 12 pressure to me is more important -- or as important, because I  
 13 can't lie, I'm a firefighter, I like plate lunch and Gatorade  
 14 too when we're working hard, but it's important being on the  
 15 medical side. So that's huge, actually.  
 16 Lisa.  
 17 COMMISSIONER VARES: Before health and safety bureau  
 18 was doing it, was it done by --  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: On call.  
 20 COMMISSIONER VARES: On call.  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: The health and safety kind. Or our  
 22 battalion chiefs, these two battalion chiefs in the back of  
 23 the room -- Well, Chief Martin's an AC now, but they both had  
 24 to run out and to get Gatorades and plate lunches.  
 25 COMMISSIONER VARES: So this is a really nice --

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1 CHIEF THYNE: It's a big deal.  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: Big deal, right.  
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: They put it on a backup  
 4 vehicle.  
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Then they need to decide whether it's  
 6 hamburger or celery sticks.  
 7 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, there you go. You know, yeah,  
 8 you've been around firemen too long.  
 9 I'm gonna kinda go a little bit faster now. We  
 10 had -- our Maui management team, we had our annual team  
 11 meeting, that happened.  
 12 The annual active threat -- not annual, but active  
 13 threat response exercise, that's a national curriculum that  
 14 was brought in by HPD primarily 'cause of the issues they face  
 15 over there on the gathering place. But I know the primary  
 16 instructor, he called me up and said, Hey, it'd be great to  
 17 have your support coming down here as the fire chief. We're  
 18 having some exercises on Maui. They had it at the facility  
 19 over there in Wilipau right in the mill yard. They run  
 20 through seven scenarios of potential active shooter. They  
 21 call it active threat now, 'cause it could be somebody with  
 22 all different weapons versus just a gun. It was a gun in this  
 23 case. But it was a collaborative effort between us, AMR,  
 24 and -- excuse me, and the police department. So, obviously,  
 25 the police are the ones with guns and AMR and us are the ones

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1 with the medical supplies. And so it was just a combined  
 2 effort to react to that type of situation. We got some base  
 3 training for our folks. It's a long way -- we're a long way  
 4 away from being capable, but at least we have an awareness now  
 5 if we're thrown into that situation on how we're gonna  
 6 interact with police and medics to treat patients in that  
 7 setting. Hopefully, none of us will ever have to deal with  
 8 that, but...  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, did you take part in  
 10 the Whalers Village one?  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: I did not.  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: They had a pretty  
 13 significant one with fire and military was there, you know,  
 14 EMS. It was pretty -- pretty big.  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Great.  
 16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You could hear the gunshots.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 18 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: They were shooting blanks in  
 19 the air.  
 20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We've both done it at MCC,  
 21 but we didn't make it out to the Whalers Village.  
 22 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 23 Recruit class kicked off August 1st, just so you're  
 24 aware, there's -- sorry, Chair.  
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: So when do you anticipate they'll be

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1 graduating?  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Is it --  
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: December 27th.  
 4 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: What did you say?  
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: December 27th.  
 7 CHAIR MISAKI: December, so most time their  
 8 graduation would be in January?  
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: December 27th, right.  
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: December 27 is --  
 11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, is graduation.  
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: Oh, okay.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: So right after the holiday.  
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Christmas present.  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Belated Christmas present, I guess.  
 16 And it will be -- more than likely -- we're gonna  
 17 ramp up here for starting another recruit class like as soon  
 18 as possible just because of the way it is, you know. We  
 19 already -- one recruit had a medical issue, he had to resign  
 20 his position, so that -- as we told you at the start of this,  
 21 I think Chief Brad said a few meetings ago, not all of them  
 22 make it through. We wind up hiring what we have for  
 23 vacancies, a few guys don't make it or gals don't make it and  
 24 we end up still chasing and we're short again. So it's a  
 25 repetitive cycle, but we're gonna try to keep up as best we

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1 can.  
 2 We did meet with Alpha, Inc., Chief Brad just  
 3 mentioned them, it's a new resource we have. They're a local  
 4 company that does site work, ground work, kind of like  
 5 Goodfellows, but a little bit smaller, obviously. But they  
 6 have been providing us assistance on some of our fires, so  
 7 we've got them under agreement now, they're a county vendor.  
 8 So we agreed upon their price points and whatnot, so they'll  
 9 be able to provide us assistance on emergencies, so that was a  
 10 good lesson. They're a good group of people, so we're looking  
 11 forward to working more with them.  
 12 And then the last thing I have is that we did have a  
 13 battalion chiefs meeting. We're trying to meet with our  
 14 battalion chiefs monthly -- not trying, we are meeting with  
 15 our battalion chiefs monthly. It's a very focused meeting and  
 16 we just kind of have our part kind of like this, we each have  
 17 our section and area we talk about, and then we just hear  
 18 their concerns and questions and, Hey, where are we at with  
 19 the budget, that type of thing. So it's a closed door  
 20 interaction and then they share it with the crews out on the  
 21 line, so it's a good way to get the messages out and the  
 22 questions answered before they become problems.  
 23 So that's all I have unless you have any questions  
 24 for me.  
 25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, one question.



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1 CHIEF THYNE: Sure.

2 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And then maybe Chief Ventura

3 will answer, but has -- with all the fires and all the

4 overtime, have you exceeded for the budget or --

5 CHIEF THYNE: No. So we're -- so what we did --

6 thank you for that question. And Chief Brad was away on his

7 vacation and then a training seminar on the East Coast, so in

8 that gap what I identified with our -- or what we identified

9 with our business administrator Cindy Kagoshima, is a tracking

10 profile on how we're gonna track these fires so we can put a

11 dollar cost to each and every fire from payroll, rehab costs,

12 heavy equipment costs, if we did bring in the military

13 Chinooks or whatever have you. That's all gonna be tracked

14 and we put a dollar amount to every fire so when it comes down

15 to shortfalls, we can adjust and determine where those funds

16 were expended. But obviously we're above pace of where we'd

17 like to be at, but if things plain off --

18 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You're okay.

19 CHIEF THYNE: -- then we're okay, so...

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.

21 CHIEF THYNE: We're just keeping our finger on the

22 pulse and as we get closer to looking at -- so what Cindy does

23 is about halfway through the fiscal year -- we started this

24 many, many years ago -- she starts putting a monthly statement

25 out to us where we're supposed to be at percentage-wise and

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1 then where each program is at. So we can start to see trends

2 on, Hey, we're supposed to be at 41 percent spend down, we're

3 at 47, you know, kind of thing. And so then we start talking

4 to the folks up at the budget office and saying, Hey, this is

5 where we're at, we're tracking right here, if we continue on

6 this trend, we're gonna fall short and then we start talking

7 budget amendment, how that looks, and all of those things.

8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.

9 CHIEF THYNE: So we're okay so far.

10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: That's the good news.

11 CHAIR MISAKI: You had a question, Trav?

12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

13 Chief, a few questions and comments. Just looking

14 back at the fires, I think the department or the county has

15 some kind of video team that could possibly videotape some of

16 these fires. Because they're so active, we might be able to

17 learn something that we normally don't observe, like the

18 efficiency of the helicopters on their drops, a video tape of

19 something like that could demonstrate with -- I think the

20 department could learn a lot of really how effective -- you

21 know, whether it's the Chinook or the small helicopter,

22 something you could activate a team to -- you know, because

23 this has become almost a crisis, to me, if it -- if it

24 continues.

25 CHIEF THYNE: If it continues, yeah.

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1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: We need to put more resources

2 in and if the county has some kind of video team that we could

3 initiate or activate or maybe the university could --

4 CHIEF THYNE: Right.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- you know, put together a

6 team, we might be able to get some information to see the

7 effectiveness of the helicopters.

8 CHIEF THYNE: Good point, yeah.

9 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And the other thing I wanted

10 to ask you, now with the more fires, bigger fires, multiple

11 fires at the same time, are we able to have four or five

12 helicopters deep as far as the call list or are we still like

13 two to three?

14 CHIEF THYNE: So basically it's three, is what we've

15 been at. And I was unaware, I wish I would have had been -- I

16 like to say I know this gentleman, but I wish I would've been

17 closer with you when you were in your former position and I

18 was in my former position, because I didn't know you had that

19 capability and --

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And to your point, all the

21 Blue helicopters are out there with three high-def video

22 cameras.

23 CHIEF THYNE: That I knew.

24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

25 CHIEF THYNE: That I knew. The only time I flew

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1 with Blue Hawaiian in my days as a battalion chief and a chief

2 of operations was on aerial recon, you know. We'd go up with

3 DOFA and we'd look at the fires and -- and it was a great

4 resource. But I didn't realize they had firefighting

5 capabilities, so --

6 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You know, I'm just thinking

7 that if we -- if you guys got something here on Maui and it

8 can be central, you guys could have something bust out on the

9 west side of Maui and minimum of brush fire things.

10 CHIEF THYNE: Well, and here's an interesting one

11 for you. When we had -- I think it was your fire, Brad, the

12 Waiko fire, we had a rescue in Kaupo.

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, in Kaupo.

14 CHIEF THYNE: Where they needed the long line

15 aircraft and only Air One can actually long line, because it's

16 exclusive use public service. It's an FAA thing. So they had

17 to basically demob Air One from the fire and send them to

18 Kaupo, so there's -- that's a reality there.

19 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: You know, I'm just thinking

20 you might look into that -- other resources as we start

21 getting more often --

22 CHIEF THYNE: And I think Chief Brad mentioned it --

23 and I don't want to get on too much of a soapbox, but there

24 actually is limited use for air -- you could have 20 aircraft,

25 but with the size of the fires and the BTUs -- you know this

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1 as a former firefighter; right?

2 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.

3 CHIEF THYNE: A retired firefighter. It doesn't

4 matter how many aircraft you have at some point in time if the

5 fires have that amount of energy coming out of it. It's

6 just -- it's to the point where set them down because when --

7 in the Pukalani fire, they were -- I'm not going to say

8 useless, they were of use to certain points of the fire, but

9 to the head of the fire with all the energy and BTUs and fuel

10 that was ahead of it, they weren't -- they weren't gonna stop

11 that. They even said it themselves. So they can work on the

12 flanks and we definitely use them in a certain setting, but no

13 matter how many aircraft, you're not going to be able to do

14 it.

15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: And then finally, Chief, just

16 as far as after action with the dozer contractors, is that

17 being held separately or are you guys doing it in a big forum

18 where everybody comes in and --

19 CHIEF THYNE: No. We -- so we don't do the group

20 setting anymore, because that's limiting. What we're doing is

21 having focused interactions and conversations versus bringing

22 everybody in a room, because people don't want to talk, they

23 shamed. So having a focused group setting is much better.

24 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: So you're having a focus

25 group. Thank you.

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1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Plus it's affordability. We

2 can go to a station and talk to a crew while they're on

3 duty --

4 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- versus calling everybody

6 in overtime to talk about a big incident.

7 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Right.

8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: We'd be pulling half the fire

9 force in to talk about one of these incidences, and so it

10 wouldn't be cost effective.

11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: One of the things I'm

12 concerned about is, you know, the people who are assisting us,

13 the agencies, and making sure that we're getting feedback from

14 them, because they're experiencing something that we may not

15 know. So if we can, you know, dialogue with them and try to

16 make things better, because it's a high -- you know, high

17 stress situation and just like it is for us, I'm sure it is

18 for those agencies.

19 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.

20 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Because they want to perform

21 too. Thank you.

22 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you, Travis.

23 Chief Ventura.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right. Good morning,

25 Everybody.

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1 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.

2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Off to the races here.

3 (Laughter.)

4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: I have a lot of repeat

5 information, as you can see on my report, but I'll kind of

6 skim through it. Like Chief Thyne said, the recruit class has

7 begun, they're eager, they're energetic, they're learning fast

8 and furious right now. They've finished their EMR program,

9 which is their CP first responder portion for medical calls

10 and then now they're headed into their FADOP, which is their

11 driver training, so they start driving fire engines and

12 getting that training over the next week or so.

13 We did 17 captain interviews, which was a long haul

14 last week, it was basically three days, eight-hour days. And

15 the announcements were just made, we promoted seven, 'cause we

16 had seven vacancies, so they'll be happy to get their

17 notifications via email and mail this week.

18 Some of you have met Chief Geise, he's now our ocean

19 safety battalion chief, and he replaced retired BC Kevin

20 McAfee. So how many of you were here for Kevin McAfee's

21 presentation on ocean safety?

22 COMMISSIONERS: (Indicating.)

23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. So that's good.

24 CHAIR MISAKI: He's ocean safety and his -- the last

25 part of his name is Se, yeah?

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1 (Laughter.)

2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. He'll fit right in.

3 So, yeah, so he's going to now take the place and

4 continue moving that bureau in the right direction and he has

5 a lot of projects. We may introduce him into this process

6 here shortly to kind of give you the new goals and objectives

7 of him and his bureau.

8 The department improvement committee, no new

9 submissions, but we're working on -- Chief Thyne has had

10 contact with -- some of our most recent highlighted ones was

11 to look for FLIR for our search and rescue capability, so

12 chief did talk to a vendor. And the conference that I went up

13 to in Atlanta, I spoke to some drone companies and we're

14 bringing somebody in who's gonna be in Hawaii, so they're

15 gonna come over to Maui to kind of give their pitch and we can

16 see what capabilities they have. And then, of course, we look

17 at cost and then we look at budget next year and then

18 hopefully we can get it by 2021, so that's, you know, how the

19 process will work for that particular item.

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You know, Chief, there's a

21 lot of companies that are willing to donate things. I'd put

22 together the price of the package of what the drone would

23 cost, you know, five grand, ten grand, whatever one you want.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.

25 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And the visitor industry

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1 will support -- we've bought ATVs and jet skis and --  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Certainly.  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So you don't need to wait  
 4 till '21.  
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So one of the -- in  
 6 conjunction with what you're saying as far as taking  
 7 donations, the ATA, the tourism industry has been great, we've  
 8 gotten a lot of things through them. It was kind of a  
 9 marching thing and we went through corp counsel, got that to  
 10 work. We're trying to create other avenues to receive  
 11 donations as well, so we're gonna continue to work on that,  
 12 create a foundation so that we can take donations.  
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: May I comment, Chief.  
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Sure.  
 15 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I met with Curt, Kahoolawe  
 16 Island Reserve commission on different issued, but one of the  
 17 girls, GIS girls, Camilla, went to Alaska and she went to  
 18 school for the drones, the EE something class. She got it, it  
 19 was certified by the FAA, one of the higher certifications so  
 20 there you can have the training come back here and you can  
 21 actually operate. So that foundation you're thinking of  
 22 creating, there's grants for that too.  
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Okay.  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Okay.  
 25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Moving on, we constantly have

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1 things that we're working on with the unions, rank for rank  
 2 policy kind of needs some tweaking, so we've been going back  
 3 and forth with them with that.  
 4 With the uniform policy, the collective bargaining  
 5 agreement sometimes is limited to how we operate, so we use  
 6 MOUs to clarify things or we use MOUs to change the language  
 7 of the CBA so that we can better operate in our county or our  
 8 district. Because sometimes it's written very broadly and it  
 9 works great for Honolulu, but it doesn't work for us, so we're  
 10 constantly creating MOUs.  
 11 And then with HGEA, the lifeguards union, the  
 12 officer manual that we presented to them several months ago is  
 13 quite a heavy read, so there's been lots of dialogue back and  
 14 forth and that -- that will take some more time, for sure, to  
 15 go and get through everything, but we are checking things off,  
 16 you know, week by week and one at a time to try to get closer  
 17 to a finished product.  
 18 Transmittals from the public have been high and  
 19 heavy due to the obvious, very public incidents we've been  
 20 having. We've had, you know, thanks to firefighters at  
 21 stations and then we've had, you know, a handful of  
 22 communications emailed and mailed to our -- to our office as  
 23 well, so it's, you know, very nice that we have the support of  
 24 the community. One challenging thing that happens is whenever  
 25 we have these big incidents, everybody wants to donate all

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1 this stuff and a lot of times it's food and food has a  
 2 shelf-life, so we don't have a hundred refrigerators to just  
 3 store all this food, so we've -- we've been using our Facebook  
 4 page to kind of say, Thank you, but no thank you, as carefully  
 5 as we can just that so we don't end up throwing away hundreds  
 6 of pounds of food, which could totally happen. Because people  
 7 just drive to the fire stations and just drop off food and the  
 8 guys might not even come back to the station for ten, 12 hours  
 9 and the food is bad already. They don't trust -- they don't  
 10 know if it's been refrigerated or properly prepared.  
 11 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Sure.  
 12 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So it's just an unsafe think  
 13 to eat, so food can --  
 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: How would you redirect the  
 15 giving? It's a good intention.  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It is, obviously.  
 17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: But how would you -- where  
 18 would you direct them to?  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So what they've been asked --  
 20 if they do want to donate, it's to donate like nonperishable  
 21 drinks, so that way that can sit in the sun when they drop it  
 22 off at the station and when the guys show up, they can put it  
 23 on ice or whatnot. And that just is going to mostly keep the  
 24 firefighters safer, healthier as far as, you know, not being  
 25 food poisoned and that sort of thing.

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1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You think that nowadays with  
 2 the technology, the social media and whatnot, that you could  
 3 put a needs and wants list on the Facebook page?  
 4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Just direct everybody to  
 6 that page?  
 7 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Check that link, yeah.  
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah.  
 10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: So there is a page for Mauna  
 11 Kea, the Mauna Kea Medics Hui -- Healing Hui, and they did go  
 12 on Facebook and they did say, Check Facebook, these are the  
 13 things we don't need, which is bottled water, and we do need  
 14 these, so the social media worked.  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah. Nowadays it's --  
 16 CHIEF THYNE: We generally don't ask for anything.  
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 18 CHIEF THYNE: That's just our thing as firefighters,  
 19 is like people are so giving, especially here in Hawaii, so --  
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: They want to help, yeah.  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: So we generally direct them to a  
 22 charity -- the ones that I was answering, 'cause we don't --  
 23 we're working on a foundation, my wife is actually an  
 24 accountant, she's helping with us with that, a nonprofit. We  
 25 did have a couple that got disbanded, one was the auxiliary,

1 one was the relief association, they lost their status. So  
 2 one of our goals is to establish an MFD foundation and we are  
 3 doing that, but, you know, I was getting numerous calls when I  
 4 came back from the mainland and, We want to donate this, We  
 5 want to donate this, We want to give you guys a grant, We want  
 6 to -- and we don't have a nonprofit.  
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. Good energy, good  
 8 intention.  
 9 CHIEF THYNE: So -- yeah. So generally speaking, we  
 10 tell them -- I was telling people via -- Thank you so much,  
 11 our firefighters appreciate it, but please donate to the  
 12 charity of your choice, there's a lot of folks in need out  
 13 there.  
 14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The shelters, yeah.  
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Isn't the Red Cross usually involved  
 16 with big incidents?  
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: If there's evacuation or soon  
 18 to be evacuation, they'll set up, but their function at a  
 19 shelter is to open the door and close the door. They don't  
 20 feed, they don't house, they don't --  
 21 CHAIR MISAKI: The Red Cross?  
 22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: The Red Cross doesn't do --  
 23 CHAIR MISAKI: 'Cause I know the big incidents on  
 24 Molokai, the Red Cross people were coming around with food and  
 25 whatever the people would donate.

1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that's if people donate --  
 2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Donate and then --  
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and then the Red Cross  
 4 tries to manage it.  
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.  
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: But the Red Cross -- the Red  
 7 Cross doesn't show up with food. They show up to open the  
 8 doors and log people, how many people we have in this shelter  
 9 for -- for the greater picture. You know, how many people  
 10 have checked in, how many have checked out, are they on  
 11 animal -- you know, they include animals or not. So they just  
 12 kind of manage, they don't provide. So what -- people have  
 13 that vision, like, Okay, a shelter is gonna be set up, I just  
 14 go over there with my backpack, I'll have a bed and I'll have  
 15 food. Not necessarily.  
 16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Interesting.  
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Thank you, Chief.  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. No problem.  
 20 Other contacts with the community have been what  
 21 Chief Thyne was talking about earlier, the swimming pools, so  
 22 Chief Werner has worked on that with the Maui Meadows  
 23 community. A lot of times when there's an emergency, it's  
 24 anything you want and then when there's a problem, we'll talk  
 25 about it later. So can you add anything to what we missed,

1 Chief?  
 2 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: So we did receive two calls  
 3 and these people wanted to know how they were going to get  
 4 reimbursed for the water that was taken. So we spoke to the  
 5 water department and it turns out the way we're handling it is  
 6 we're sending them to the county clerk and they're going to  
 7 submit their water bill to them. But moving forward, I made  
 8 calls to all these people who complained and the other people  
 9 that we had taken water from and just said, In the future, can  
 10 we take water from your pools if we need to, if the fire is  
 11 coming hot and heavy. And they all said, Oh, we waved you  
 12 guys in, we wanted you to take the water, but it's expensive  
 13 now for us refill our pools.  
 14 So I said, Well, you know, it's expensive to replace  
 15 your house.  
 16 (Laughter.)  
 17 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: No, I did not.  
 18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: That's true.  
 19 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Very true.  
 20 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: I did not say that.  
 21 But there are other concerns we talked about that I  
 22 hadn't thought about, like what if we damage their property,  
 23 what if we take out a wall of their pool. So that is  
 24 something that we're gonna have to think about.  
 25 And what I did tell them is that we're only going to

1 dip right now if it's an emergency and as soon as we can get a  
 2 pumpkin out there, we're not gonna be dipping from your pools  
 3 any further, so that's where it's at right now.  
 4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Good deal.  
 5 All right. Any questions yet?  
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: So are you going to do operations  
 7 report?  
 8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, I'll move into Chief  
 9 Kawasaki's here shortly.  
 10 Yes, sir.  
 11 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Just a comment. Does  
 12 everybody know what a pumpkin is?  
 13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.  
 14 MS. OANA: No, no. I was wondering.  
 15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: On Halloween --  
 16 (Laughter.)  
 17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we have basically portable  
 18 water tanks and they -- a lot, traditionally a lot of them  
 19 have been orange and they're big and round and hold about  
 20 three to four thousand of waters and they look just like a big  
 21 pumpkin. So now we have a variety of them, we have  
 22 collapsable without exterior frames and they're yellow or  
 23 whatever, we still call them all pumpkins.  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Or frog ponds.  
 25 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Or frog ponds.

1 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Some can be dipped from and  
 2 some can't.  
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, so...  
 4 MS. OANA: So huge, though?  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Anywhere from usually 1,500 to 3,000  
 6 gallons.  
 7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: But the material is not like  
 8 your, you know, Ace Hardware pool, it's thick, thick -- what  
 9 do you call it -- material, extra, extra thick so it holds the  
 10 water well. It bulges, but...  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Not to get too scientific, but  
 12 the freestanding ones, it's good because no more frame, it's  
 13 just a bladder.  
 14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: But not too deep, so the pilots can  
 16 only -- 'cause they've gotta have -- you've seen those buckets  
 17 they have, yeah, it's pretty -- it's about four feet high,  
 18 maybe three-four feet high, so it's gotta be pretty deep, the  
 19 pond, so you've gotta constantly be filling with water. But  
 20 then you get the ones that have a frame that are tall, they're  
 21 like almost seven feet tall.  
 22 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wow.  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: So that thing can take from for a long  
 24 time and you don't have to fill it, you know. So it's kind of  
 25 like give-and-take, yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: How long does it take to set  
 2 up the ones with the frame, Chief?  
 3 CHIEF THYNE: With the frame, probably, I would say,  
 4 Jack, if our guys -- from time of alarm to, let's say, it's a  
 5 half an hour travel time, I would say within less than one  
 6 hour you can have one set up.  
 7 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: My crew, 15 minutes.  
 8 (Laughter.)  
 9 CHIEF THYNE: I was waiting for that. It's  
 10 always -- it's always a competition.  
 11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: In the parking lot of the  
 12 fire station.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: It's a water hog usually or --  
 14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah, it takes a while.  
 15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So the -- what the aircraft  
 16 uses is a bucket, more commonly what we use now is a water  
 17 hog, it's not collapsable, so it can only go until it hits the  
 18 bottom. And then you don't want it to hit the bottom because  
 19 the water goes in from the bottom, so that one needs a  
 20 substantial amount of depth. Whereas the Bambi buckets,  
 21 they -- they're softer, they can lay down, they kind of slosh  
 22 around in the water, and then they pick them up. So there's  
 23 benefits to both, but the Bambi bucket, when you push the  
 24 trigger, it dumps the whole Bambi bucket; whereas, the water  
 25 hog, they can open and close.

1 CHAIR MISAKI: It's all or nothing.  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. They can open -- they  
 3 can open and close the plunger on the water hog, so they can  
 4 drop 20 gallons here and then move on, and then drop 20  
 5 gallons here and move on, and then drop 20 gallons here and  
 6 then return to the water supply and refill. So it's a  
 7 different tool.  
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: I have a question. When we  
 9 were working on the fire break along Kealia Pond and by the  
 10 powerplant, we were underneath the helicopters all day long.  
 11 They were trying to get out one specific area, three, four,  
 12 five, you know, drops a day, and then, of course, they had to  
 13 move on, and that area never seemed to settle down. We were  
 14 putting it out every day with our water truck and then one day  
 15 you guys brought in the tanker and that thing absolutely  
 16 destroyed the area, it was so effective. And I know you said  
 17 that you're having a 6 x 6 made right now; is that correct?  
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Well, we have two 6 x 6s.  
 19 COMMISSIONER VARES: You have two and then that's  
 20 something that -- anyway, regardless of how many you've got,  
 21 now that this huge expanse of field area is now basically just  
 22 a constant threat, because it didn't used to be a constant  
 23 threat, how effective are those tankers on an active running  
 24 fire, because, man, did it do some damage to those areas that  
 25 were really stubborn to all other options.

1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: They're good if you can get  
 2 access.  
 3 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Yes.  
 4 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So you're talking you need to  
 5 have a roadway and a fire. A lot of times the thing is  
 6 burning through the middle of the cane field --  
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 8 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and we can't get --  
 9 COMMISSIONER VARES: You can't get there.  
 10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- a tanker out there.  
 11 Because if you start leaving roads --  
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and the thing gets  
 14 stuck --  
 15 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- we're running.  
 17 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah, getting out there.  
 18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So you have to be smart about  
 19 where they position the tanker so that's it's on a forgiving  
 20 road --  
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.  
 22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- where they can get it, you  
 23 know -- as far as like that problem area you had with the big  
 24 pile of kiawe --  
 25 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. And then we had --

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1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- a bunch of little smaller  
 3 problem areas --  
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 5 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- that you couldn't do.  
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So all those kind of areas  
 7 physically need to be broken up. When you put --  
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: And that can --  
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- water on it --  
 10 COMMISSIONER VARES: That thing destroyed it.  
 11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. It --  
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: It was amazing. My husband was  
 13 like, Oh, I want one of those.  
 14 (Laughter.)  
 15 COMMISSIONER VARES: He's shopping for one right  
 16 now.  
 17 (Laughter.)  
 18 CHIEF THYNE: Jack, if you guys got one in your  
 19 yard --  
 20 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: What?  
 21 (Multiple speakers.)  
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Are you talking about the tanker  
 23 where the driver stays in and the nozzle on top just --  
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah, yeah. And it's got side  
 25 nozzles, top nozzles.

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1 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah, where you strap the --  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: PTO driven, so it's -- it's  
 3 like you just gun that engine and it's like (demonstrating).  
 4 It's --  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: There's a YouTube video that  
 6 shows one -- in one of these recent fires the tanker truck.  
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And you're right, when it's  
 9 shooting out of all corners and the top, it's --  
 10 COMMISSIONER VARES: It might've been me, I filmed  
 11 it.  
 12 (Laughter.)  
 13 COMMISSIONER VARES: I was like, Wow, look at this,  
 14 and put it on. But that was really, really, really  
 15 impressive.  
 16 COMMISSIONER FREITAS: Well, you ran it along, all  
 17 along Pulehu Road and it just knocked it down. I mean...  
 18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: It's a very, very useful  
 19 tool.  
 20 CHIEF THYNE: We're gonna -- we're gonna try to put  
 21 it -- just to speak to that real briefly is we're gonna  
 22 probably put up in for one for Upcountry, Kula area.  
 23 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: 'Cause they come from all over, yeah.  
 25 We had the Lahaina one on this side and --

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1 COMMISSIONER VARES: You've got my vote for --  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: -- we've got one in Wailea.  
 3 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- as many as you need. Those  
 4 things are -- I was really -- 'cause we have these imus that  
 5 just wouldn't stop --  
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, we had some of those.  
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- and it would burn every  
 8 single day and then it was just like (demonstrating) and the  
 9 whole thing's gone.  
 10 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. And that's balanced too, 'cause  
 11 then what they do when no more fires, you know.  
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: No road.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Well, or no more fires, no more  
 14 brush --  
 15 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And usually with every tanker  
 16 comes a new firefighter position.  
 17 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Oh.  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: 'Cause you need a driver.  
 20 So, you know, it's --  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. That balance, yeah.  
 22 COMMISSIONER VARES: Oh. Understood.  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: It's a great resource, you're right,  
 24 but with it comes manpower --  
 25 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

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1 CHIEF THYNE: -- facilities, upkeep.  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Mechanic shop.  
 3 CHIEF THYNE: The cost of it.  
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: You know, so it's that balance.  
 6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Does Kula make sense to have  
 7 one?  
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Just because we have the quarters.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I mean, it's flat and --  
 10 CHIEF THYNE: Just because we have the quarters and  
 11 the water supply Upcountry. I don't know -- you don't know  
 12 how many I've had to sign where we have those variances from  
 13 the fire code to say, Oh, we're gonna have a two-lot  
 14 subdivision, you only can bring in one water line, so you've  
 15 gotta -- myself and the water director and the mayor have to  
 16 sign, you know, those variances and -- and it speaks to the  
 17 fact that there's water supply issues in Kula and so if we  
 18 have a tanker, at least we can get there with our engine and  
 19 our water resource, you know what I'm saying, so... And they  
 20 can come down and help and, of course, with Kahikinui, you  
 21 know.  
 22 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you.  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: So that's where we'd like to  
 24 strategically place them because we have the quarters there,  
 25 the bay is there, it's available, so it would be less of a

1 cost versus putting it in, let's say, Makawao, more centrally  
 2 located in the country area, but now we've gotta grub out the  
 3 hill and build off the station and so -- you know, we're just  
 4 trying to -- again, that balance, right, trying to get the  
 5 resource, but how do we do it the most efficiently, yeah, and  
 6 cost.  
 7 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The almighty dollar.  
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah.  
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: Chief, you had --  
 10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah, a couple of more things  
 11 to add just along the lines of where you guys were working,  
 12 Lisa, the Glenn Klingler -- did you work with him?  
 13 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: He wrote a letter of thanks  
 15 on behalf of Kealia Pond National Wildlife Refuge, so they  
 16 were very grateful for the work that we did with them and as  
 17 well as our partners in DOFA, which is the department of  
 18 forestry and wildlife, they were down there quite a bit. And  
 19 then Carol Reimann of -- she wrote a letter to the mayor  
 20 thanking everybody for the work that we had been doing as well  
 21 for A&B Properties. So, you know, good feedback from  
 22 everybody, for the most part.  
 23 We've been fortunate as far as losing a lot of  
 24 grass, so -- and no injuries that we have to report that are,  
 25 you know, major, so that's good, and then in these recent

1 fires, no homes lost, so that's -- that's huge.  
 2 You want me to continue to with Chief --  
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: Continue, yeah, and then we'll take a  
 4 break after you're done with that section.  
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. So Chief Kawasaki is  
 6 out today, so I'm going to use Chief Werner, actually, to just  
 7 speak in regards to the incident summary in case you guys have  
 8 questions about those, and then I'll go on with the rest of  
 9 Chief Kawasaki's report.  
 10 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: I don't have a copy.  
 11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: You guys have a list of  
 12 everything there. Is there anything that kind of stands out?  
 13 You know, we have -- between mountain rescue calls up at Twin  
 14 Falls, several brush fires, the drowning -- you know, right  
 15 there, as we talked about earlier, there's a drowning at Big  
 16 Beach. So that's the No. 1 C spine-injury beach in the state  
 17 and, as you guys talked about earlier, it's one of the busiest  
 18 transport beach as well for other types of shoulder injuries  
 19 and whatnot.  
 20 I can't really talk too much more about the -- any  
 21 questions about those incidents?  
 22 (No response.)  
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: If not, we'll just kind of  
 24 move on. The SOGs --  
 25 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Good job. Thank you.

1 (Laughter.)  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: Boy, that kid's a natural.  
 3 (Laughter.)  
 4 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: He's your closer.  
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 6 (Laughter.)  
 7 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: If I don't have to speak  
 8 during that, that would be great too.  
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: The SOGs are finally -- we've  
 10 put hundreds of edits into it and they're sitting on my desk  
 11 to now read, skim through 600 pages before we release it out  
 12 to the line. It's basically an update, so they already have  
 13 these, but we've made changes based on incidents, training, or  
 14 technology. We've updated SOGs so that we have -- we have  
 15 better decision making on certain incidents, and then we've  
 16 added where there was holes, and then we've made edits to  
 17 where there was clerical errors and whatnot. So that is going  
 18 to go out to the department here shortly.  
 19 The apparatus committee, they had a pre-construction  
 20 meeting up at the factory in July and what that means is they  
 21 look through a contract for each apparatus and it takes  
 22 several hours to go through each apparatus line by line on how  
 23 we want this made, how we want this built, what is the pipe  
 24 made out of, are we doing -- you know, on every single detail  
 25 of every apparatus. They did five apparatus, so probably by

1 the end of the week they were just sick. It was a big, big  
 2 task. They did it on the apparatus as well as the brush  
 3 trucks that are coming out of the Pierce Company.  
 4 And then training, you know, we talked about many of  
 5 these things already, but we stay active month to month, we  
 6 move from one discipline to another. So last month they did  
 7 an incident command system class and on the fourth day of a  
 8 five-day class, that 9,000-acre fire broke out, so they said,  
 9 All right. Class is over. And then we'll catch up and so  
 10 we've looped them back into the classroom this month and we've  
 11 concluded the class, so that was a good catch, 'cause you  
 12 don't want to leave things lingering out there. But it was  
 13 good timing because everything that they learned in that class  
 14 was basically what we were implementing in the field with our  
 15 incident command system and our incident management team on  
 16 such a large scale incident, so that was good timing.  
 17 And then other various trainings, you know. We work  
 18 with other agencies -- the traffic incident management class  
 19 was offered to us, we sent -- we sent a variety of people  
 20 that -- that teach disciplines that we use on highways, so our  
 21 auto extraction, our driver cadre, they went to that so that  
 22 they could bring back that information. Because that is one  
 23 of our highest hazards when we're working, is being on any  
 24 highway, it's just a very, very unsafe environment, people are  
 25 looking at the accident and not looking at the firefighters,

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1 they're speeding, so there's lots going on, lots of danger  
 2 there, so we support any training we can get on that.  
 3 And then we did evaluations of our auto extraction  
 4 program. So we train and we train and we train, and then what  
 5 happens at the incident? So what we did was we created an  
 6 incident and we brought companies in and we said, All right,  
 7 here's your scenario, go to it, without teaching them  
 8 anything, and they were evaluated on how it went. And what  
 9 that does is that -- it also evaluates our training. Is our  
 10 training accurate? Is our training in line? Is it  
 11 accomplishing what we want it to accomplish? And so that was  
 12 done with that specific discipline, so that was good.

13 And then on Lanai we do have 18 employees, so we  
 14 have to send instructors over there to give them their annual  
 15 EMR refresher, so that happened.

16 And then moving on to ocean safety, because of  
 17 the -- they're working on the manual, the policy manual. We  
 18 have a large recruitment coming up here because the council  
 19 gifted us ten half-time positions and five full-time positions  
 20 plus two office people, one a secretary and one a training  
 21 assistant. And I'll get into that more later with the budget.  
 22 But now we have to come up with the recruitment process and  
 23 the assignment process for those members, so that's a big  
 24 thing they're working on.

25 They did a conference on Oahu, basically just how to

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1 prevent ocean fatalities and pool fatalities they cover as  
 2 well, but it's a big symposium they do every year trying to  
 3 just reduce the number, because the safer we can make this  
 4 place, the more desirable it is for people to come here.

5 And then as I mentioned earlier, Chief Geise has  
 6 been promoted to that position and he's off to the races and  
 7 he's been well taken in by the ocean safety community, so  
 8 that's a good thing to know you picked the right person for  
 9 the job.

10 CHAIR MISAKI: Any questions for --

11 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Any questions for that  
 12 report?

13 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: One question, Chief.

14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Your incident command stuff,  
 16 do you guys still do the Blue Card Command System or is  
 17 that --

18 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So we use Blue Card  
 19 Command, that's the name of this program, and that program is  
 20 designed for shorter term incidents, so if we go to a house  
 21 fire, we'll use a structured command system so that everybody  
 22 coming to the fire knows exactly what to anticipate, we're all  
 23 speaking the same language. If I say it's a small house, you  
 24 know what small house means. If I say it's a large house, you  
 25 all know what large house means. 'Cause if you say it and I

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1 say it and he says it, we could be looking at three different  
 2 things. So we use that Blue Card Command to train all of our  
 3 firefighters, drivers, and captains on speaking the lingo at a  
 4 structure fire, so we do still use that.

5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. All right.

7 CHAIR MISAKI: Thank you, Chief. Before we go into  
 8 Chief Martin's, let's take a short five-minute break.

9 (Pause in Proceedings: 11:11 a.m.-11:19 a.m.)

10 (Commissioner Freitas is not present.)

11 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. If we can have Chief Martin  
 12 give his report.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: All right. Good morning.

14 COMMISSIONERS: Good morning.

15 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: I did submit a little topic  
 16 agenda in your packet that has admin. support services  
 17 highlights.

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.

19 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: The first one is FY '20's  
 20 budget. I know Chief Ventura is gonna go through a little bit  
 21 of that later, so I won't beat him to it, but what we're  
 22 trying to basically do right now is spend all the money we got  
 23 July 1st, that we were given July 1st, so we try to process  
 24 it. Some of it is like big contracts that we have to --  
 25 not -- yeah, big contracts, some of them -- cheaper items you

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1 do have to do as much paperwork, but \$25,000 is like the  
 2 cutoff and we've gotta do contracts and stuff and selecting  
 3 vendors.

4 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, is there an update on  
 5 the equipment that was -- has been or was ordered, the  
 6 multiple trucks?

7 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that was the pre-con  
 8 meeting that they went to July 1st.

9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Oh.

10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that was they met with the  
 11 manufacturer --

12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay.

13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- and then went over each  
 14 contract line by line.

15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. So that was it.  
 16 Okay.

17 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So that's where those  
 18 five trucks are.

19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So they're making progress?

20 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Thank you.

22 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: And then the second item,  
 23 the position we added, like what Chief Thyne mentioned, now we  
 24 have someone on duty that can come out to a scene -- and it's  
 25 not just for brush fires, but it's for structure fires, it can



1 be a long-term haz. mat. incident, it could be anything that  
 2 would take personnel out and be out there for a long working  
 3 time.  
 4 With the number of fires we had, our fire prevention  
 5 bureau was tasked with the fire investigations. Some of them  
 6 were determined, the causes were determined, some were not  
 7 determined. And also -- I know Mr. Andaya left -- we spent a  
 8 lot of time together with the fires and hurricanes over the  
 9 last -- well, since the last time we had a commission meeting.  
 10 The hurricanes kept us busy with the EOC being activated. I  
 11 was up there and Chief Rylan Yatsushiro was also up there for  
 12 some time. We do expect and anticipate us being back there  
 13 again if the hurricane season remains active, you know. And  
 14 we don't normally open it up for a fire, but on one particular  
 15 event we did and so -- 'cause we were -- we're just not sure  
 16 sometimes if we're gonna have to evacuate or what resources  
 17 we're gonna need, so we'll open it up if we have to.  
 18 The fire prevention bureau has also been busy, part  
 19 of the community relations and public interaction, education  
 20 with the Keiki IDs. As I'm sure many of you know, we have  
 21 been doing Keiki IDs for years, I'd say about 20 years  
 22 already, and then -- so they did the Big Brothers, Big Sisters  
 23 event and the Island of Hope event at Kaahumanu Center.  
 24 We continue to have meetings with our IT department,  
 25 since we are a big department with a number of employees and a

1 number of computer resource requirements -- and not just  
 2 computers, but then you have printers and stuff. And so  
 3 they're really instrumental in helping us make sure we have  
 4 what we need. In fact, we just had another meeting with  
 5 them -- was it Tuesday?  
 6 And right on the bottom, the repairing of the fuel  
 7 tank at Kahului Station, we had a major -- what would you say?  
 8 It broke down, our pump, our underground fuel tank system, and  
 9 it's gonna need to be repaired. It's a big job, they're gonna  
 10 have to dig it up and do some repairs to it. So we went out,  
 11 found a contractor, but it's still gonna take several months.  
 12 So basically what we're doing now at the Kahului Fire Station  
 13 is we've gotten cards from a vendor that we can fill up fuel  
 14 right in Kahului. I'm not gonna say the company's name, you  
 15 guys probably know what companies that do that, that give you  
 16 that card and then you can go. So we've assigned cards to the  
 17 fire station battalion chief and so on and so forth. We  
 18 didn't interrupt our services, the facility's open 24 hours a  
 19 day for us to get fuel right in Kahului until we can get our  
 20 underground storage tank repaired, which is in the process, so  
 21 the contractor has already been selected with that and then  
 22 we'll have fuel back on site.  
 23 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Chief, gas and diesel?  
 24 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: The diesel works, the  
 25 gasoline doesn't. But when they dig it up, they're gonna look

1 at both of them.  
 2 And maybe just to touch a little bit about what  
 3 Chief Ventura is gonna talk about is we're looking at  
 4 hiring -- we've got four major projects that are on the  
 5 horizon for us. And when I say major projects, I mean it's  
 6 the type of scope and experience and professional background  
 7 that we don't have that's required to run these projects. One  
 8 is, you know, building out the new East Molokai fire station,  
 9 picking the site, you know, talking with the community, you  
 10 know, how we're going to build it, doing an EA and EIS, if  
 11 that's the decision that's gonna be made. So that's a lot of  
 12 stuff that we're not capable of doing, so that's one project  
 13 that we're going out to a vendor to help us. We do have some  
 14 money to make that happened.  
 15 One is the Haiku fire station, one of the council  
 16 members had put in some money for us to look at it. What are  
 17 we gonna do, look at it on all sides, are we gonna continue to  
 18 build there or move somewhere else, or what does the county  
 19 want to do that property that the county acquired. So we're  
 20 selecting a consultant for that as well.  
 21 We do have -- we're fortunate, we do have funding to  
 22 repair a lot of our stations. Some of it is painting,  
 23 miscellaneous things, but part of that is also the  
 24 construction on Lanai of a new apparatus shelter and I believe  
 25 just building it out, you know, just adding more room to the

1 Lanai Fire Station site. So, yeah, that's some of it.  
 2 And then the last one is we plan to build an  
 3 apparatus shelter at Kahului behind the fire station, between  
 4 the warehouse and where the Kahului Fire Station currently is.  
 5 We do have our relief vehicles that are working fire trucks  
 6 that we need when we have a large incident or if one of our  
 7 front line trucks goes in for repair, we have backup trucks  
 8 that we use that can still respond out of the fire station.  
 9 We want to be able to house those and so this apparatus  
 10 shelter is gonna allow us to protect the apparatus from the  
 11 environment and from the elements. So we're hiring a  
 12 consultant to look at that too.  
 13 So that's about it. Any questions?  
 14 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Chief, on the Lanai project,  
 15 so that's for an apparatus shelter that you guys are trying to  
 16 do or is it more for --  
 17 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: You know, nothing has been  
 18 drawn out yet and the bids haven't come back, but, yes, part  
 19 of it is do an apparatus shelter.  
 20 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: The backup truck and that  
 21 kind of stuff?  
 22 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yeah. And to give a good  
 23 example, on Molokai, the EOC building that's unfinished, we  
 24 had some money that they went out to bid and the bid came back  
 25 more than double of what money we had. So, you know,

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1 sometimes we might go in with something and this is what we  
 2 want to do, so we either gotta go get more or scale down the  
 3 project.  
 4 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: As far as the land situation,  
 5 I remember there was always a problem back when I was  
 6 stationed there about having enough property and boundaries to  
 7 extend on Lanai.  
 8 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: On Lanai.  
 9 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Yeah.  
 10 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: It's still an issue because  
 11 it has to go through the land court. From what we understand,  
 12 I think they take a couple of years.  
 13 CHIEF THYNE: Right. That's where it at right now,  
 14 Chief, it's in land court.  
 15 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I remember that we struggled  
 16 with that.  
 17 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yeah. It's on its way,  
 18 it's in the process, so, hopefully, you know, it will be in  
 19 time.  
 20 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Okay. Thank you.  
 21 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: The landowner has carved out  
 22 the donated land, but now it needs to go through the process  
 23 of being turned over to the county, which is the land court  
 24 process.  
 25 CHIEF THYNE: So, I mean, we have change of zoning

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1 and we have -- there's a few different things we need to do.  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 3 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: 'Cause I think the park,  
 4 yeah, belongs to the county.  
 5 CHIEF THYNE: Well, that's the other side. The back  
 6 side is ag. so it's gotta be consolidated, rezoned, land  
 7 court, and, yeah, there's a few steps.  
 8 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Thank you.  
 9 CHIEF THYNE: Convoluted, I believe the word is.  
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: I pulled many a measuring  
 11 tape around that station.  
 12 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. It's convoluted.  
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Chair, I'll do this now, the  
 14 update?  
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: Yes.  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. Jill has a handout for  
 17 everybody.  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Yes, you're next on the agenda.  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Thank you.  
 20 (Passing out handout.)  
 21 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So the goal of these, you  
 22 know, conversations, presentations, whatever we want to call  
 23 them is to do what Chief Thyne kind of wanted to do from the  
 24 very beginning, is to create transparency in this process. So  
 25 from the creation of our budget we've incorporated a variety

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1 of captains, chiefs, different perspectives, different members  
 2 of the department to try to create a, you know, well-rounded,  
 3 well given input to budget, so -- and then once we do  
 4 establish what we've received from the council and the mayor,  
 5 then we want to advertise that out and then include as many  
 6 people in the department to help procure, get contracts, and  
 7 help us -- the more they're included, the more they'll feel  
 8 involved, the more they'll have buy-in into it, the more, you  
 9 know, they like we're including them in decision making, which  
 10 we want to.  
 11 We don't want to run the budget in a vacuum, we  
 12 don't run it just behind closed doors and then just something  
 13 shows up at the station and they're surprised, you know, so we  
 14 want to -- we want to include as many people as we can to make  
 15 sure we have a well-rounded budget and we meet the needs of  
 16 everybody, not just what we think are the needs of everybody.  
 17 If you never ask your customers what they need, you might be  
 18 providing your own product, so, you know, our firefighters are  
 19 also who we support.  
 20 So the way we get our money from the budget  
 21 currently, from the council and the mayor's office, is broken  
 22 down into three different types of accounts and a very, very  
 23 general way to describe it is that:  
 24 A account money is normally salaries, and I'll cover  
 25 the new positions and the movement of positions and the

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1 support salary coming up on the next sheets.  
 2 And then B account are individual items under a  
 3 thousand dollars. So we have lots of equipment that we need  
 4 to purchase and then if we need services like AC maintenance  
 5 or we have utilities, we have to pay water companies and  
 6 whatnot, all of that falls into B account items.  
 7 And then C account items are items over a thousand  
 8 dollars and these are generally identified in the budget, a  
 9 specific item with a specific amount of money, and those are  
 10 items over a thousand dollars.  
 11 And as we flip through here, sometimes it amazes you  
 12 what costs a thousand dollars these days, but that's kind of  
 13 how it's broken down with this current administration, the  
 14 mayoral administration and the council administration.  
 15 So if we go over to the A account, it talks about  
 16 the salaries again. So new positions that we've acquired on  
 17 the fire side is an SCBA technician and this position is gonna  
 18 be responsible for anything to do with our breathing packs,  
 19 everything from maintenance, repair, flow testing. He has to  
 20 fit test every firefighter with a mask annually, every pack  
 21 needs to be field-tested, every bottle needs to be inspected  
 22 annually and every five years it needs to be sent to a  
 23 pressurized cylinder where they over-pressurize it and they do  
 24 a hydrostatic test, so very busy, it's like nonstop, around  
 25 the year kind of work.

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1 CHAIR MISAKI: What does SCBA stand for?  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that's our self-contained  
 3 breathing apparatus.  
 4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Self contained --  
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Breathing apparatus.  
 6 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Breathing apparatus.  
 7 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: All right.  
 8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Haz. mat.  
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, yeah, so that is our air  
 10 packs. That's our air packs and we have five on every truck  
 11 and so, you know, we have 18 companies, so we have a lot of  
 12 work to do with that. And we're -- historically that's been  
 13 the responsibility of our health and safety bureau because it  
 14 fits into the health and safety of our members, but with the  
 15 demands of today's world, they're -- they can't keep up,  
 16 they're sacrificing a position to just do that, so this was a  
 17 big ask and a big add to our workforce.  
 18 The next one is the battalion chief's office  
 19 operations assistant, so that is a clerical position that's  
 20 going to help them with SOG review, which just took us several  
 21 months to do. So we're gonna try to be more proactive, as  
 22 soon as there's an SOG that needs to be updated, it'll happen  
 23 quickly so that we can make changes more timely. They'll also  
 24 be doing agendas for meetings, they'll be helping with morning  
 25 manpower -- 'cause every day we have to do kind of a call out,

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1 who's at what station and who needs to be moved where, and if  
 2 the chiefs are going immediately to incidents and brush fires  
 3 and training, then that kind of lingers on throughout the day  
 4 and that's not good. If we let our manpower linger on  
 5 throughout the day and we don't take action on certain things,  
 6 then people go into double time and then that affects budgets  
 7 and all sorts of things. So that person will be very helpful  
 8 in a lot of different ways.  
 9 Information communication manager, you know, you can  
 10 imagine this person can do a basically a wide variety of  
 11 things. What we want them to work on is our report system and  
 12 kind of data tracking for incidents and costs as well as we  
 13 have requests that we legally have to send out reports from  
 14 the community. So if somebody requests a fire incident  
 15 report, we have only ten days to get it to them. And so right  
 16 now we currently have Battalion Chief Werner doing that, well,  
 17 he's got another hundred things to do, as you heard Chief  
 18 Cambra talk about a couple of months ago about how busy their  
 19 day is. So the battalion chiefs have enough to do, they're  
 20 gonna help with that. Because when we have any incident, you  
 21 have insurance companies requesting reports, neighborhood  
 22 associations requesting reports. When we have medical  
 23 incidents, you have lawyers requesting reports. So we're  
 24 constantly looking into all of our reports and then issuing  
 25 them. And they also need is to be redacted, you want to take

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1 your name out of it and your phone number so they don't call  
 2 you if it needs to be protected, if you need to be protected.  
 3 So printing it is one step, redacting it is the second step,  
 4 and then mailing it out, so that in itself can take up a lot  
 5 of time for somebody.  
 6 And then there's other things we want to get this  
 7 information and communication person involved in. Our radio  
 8 system, we don't have a designated radio person like the  
 9 police department has, so we ask a captain and a couple of  
 10 firefighters to do their best to work with our radio system,  
 11 but the lingo and language that they need to learn is well  
 12 above most people's heads. So hopefully this person can grasp  
 13 some of that as well and assist with that. And then there's  
 14 some other things that they'll help us with.  
 15 One of the big things here, "Lieutenant Position  
 16 moved A account." What that means is in our prevention  
 17 bureau, which is here, we have two lieutenants. Our  
 18 lieutenants do plans inspection -- plans review, and plans  
 19 review, that's a major service to our community because the  
 20 slower we are, the slower plans get done, the slower permits  
 21 get issued, construction gets backed up. So we need to stay  
 22 on top of that, we have a requirement to stay on top of that,  
 23 and so why this is important is we need to keep these  
 24 positions, but through fees that we get from permits and doing  
 25 the plans review, we used to pay these two guys to do this

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1 job, these two firefighters. But now the council has moved  
 2 that responsibility of their pay into an A account, so they  
 3 take it out of that kind of revolving account, it's called.  
 4 So if construction is down, let's say, they're gonna make less  
 5 money for the year; if construction is up and they have lots  
 6 of permits to review, then the money will be up for the year;  
 7 but we still need two people to do it 'cause there's that much  
 8 work in there. So by moving that out of the revolving account  
 9 and putting it into an A account, we now have guaranteed  
 10 funding for that position rather than relying on permitting  
 11 and fees to pay for that position. So it's just kind of a  
 12 unique position.  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Chief, is it net zero  
 14 difference in staffing, just moving from one bucket to the  
 15 other?  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: For the --  
 17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Or are you adding additional  
 18 bodies?  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: For the -- so we're -- we  
 20 would love to expand into more positions, but, again, that  
 21 adds --  
 22 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: This right here.  
 23 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: This right here is just,  
 24 yeah, it's just taking the salary cost out of the revolving  
 25 fund and putting it into A account.

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So that goes down, this goes  
 2 up, but it's still net zero.  
 3 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. The move is gonna be  
 4 net zero. On the revolving account now we're gonna have some  
 5 overhead and so what we can -- what we use that revolving  
 6 account for, because the money is incorporated through  
 7 prevention and inspections, we can use that money to support  
 8 this bureau. So we can -- we do public education, we do  
 9 prevention measures, we do -- we've bought vehicles with it  
 10 because they need to go out and do inspections and stuff like  
 11 that. So that will allow us to do more of those things.  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you.  
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 14 We talked already about the rehab standby, who it  
 15 is, how it works and whatnot. So Chief Martin and Chief Thyne  
 16 talked about that, that is added to A account so now our  
 17 ocean -- not our ocean, our health and safety bureau, what  
 18 they'll do is they'll send a list out weekly of who's on  
 19 standby. So if it's two o'clock in the morning and BC Werner  
 20 has a structure fire and has five companies out in Kula, he  
 21 knows who he can call, they'll come down to the station and  
 22 they'll pick up what they need, extra air bottles, drinks,  
 23 medical monitoring equipment, you know. We -- the medical  
 24 monitoring that chief alluded to is important 'cause we don't  
 25 want to send people back in to this heavy, heavy work when

1 their vitals are out of whack and they have potential for  
 2 heart attack and stuff like that, so that's been a big thing.  
 3 Ocean safety, these were given to us, this group of  
 4 people was given to us through the council, through Member  
 5 Paltin, who is a previous ocean safety, so we're blessed with  
 6 all these people and now we're going to incorporate them right  
 7 into ocean safety. Like I said, we just have to figure out  
 8 exactly what they're gonna do, where they're gonna go, and so  
 9 we're working on that right now.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Strange they give you the  
 11 lifeguards relatively easily, but they bust your chops for the  
 12 extra fire position.  
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. We've been -- we've  
 14 been --  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, don't --  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- graciously blessed this  
 17 year, so we're happy. We're very, very happy, we're in a good  
 18 place, yeah.  
 19 So that's A account stuff. So we're gonna flip over  
 20 to B account stuff, I'll kind of move through faster unless  
 21 you have questions about a specific item. Chief Martin talked  
 22 about the projects. They put aside \$600,000 and you'd think  
 23 that's a ridiculous amount, but Kahului Station in itself,  
 24 when you guys come next month for the September 11th meeting,  
 25 you'll see that that station is in dire need of interior and

1 exterior painting and that thing is upwards of close to  
 2 \$300,000 to paint, so -- and then some of our smaller stations  
 3 can be as low as 20 to 24 thousand dollars. So that money  
 4 will go as soon as we get those projects lined up.  
 5 We talked about the Haiku Station.  
 6 That investigation training is investigation  
 7 training for human resource issues, not for fire  
 8 investigation.  
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: Chief.  
 10 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 11 CHAIR MISAKI: So I'm just wondering about the --  
 12 that 600,000, is that really a B account? Shouldn't that be a  
 13 C account?  
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So that -- yeah, the  
 15 definition, if you go back to the under/over kind of a thing,  
 16 it's B account because it includes services and services can  
 17 go over a thousand dollars, whereas --  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's a technicality.  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. Whereas if it's  
 20 individual items, like if you're gonna buy a nut or a bolt for  
 21 something, it has to be a thousand dollars.  
 22 COMMISSIONER VARES: I was wondering how you were  
 23 getting utilities for under a thousand bucks.  
 24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 25 COMMISSIONER VARES: That's like, my God.

1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, yeah, depending on the  
 2 station, I might get a gas bill, it might only be \$200, a  
 3 propane gas bill.  
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.  
 5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: You know, so that would come  
 6 out of B account money. And then we get a water bill, it's  
 7 \$300 and whatnot. But when you add them all together --  
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 9 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And, of course, our electric  
 10 bills are more, but...  
 11 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 12 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 13 Fire commission, that includes the travel and the  
 14 minutes that we have taken here.  
 15 And then we go into some of the project things that  
 16 we -- like I said, we reached out to our members, what do we  
 17 need, what needs to be replaced. The Nomex hoods, that's the  
 18 fire shelter that they wear around their head that goes --  
 19 that protects them under their helmet, so big piece of  
 20 personal protective equipment. Our rope cadre, things with  
 21 ropes time out. You don't want somebody hanging from a 300-  
 22 foot rope that's 20 years old, so we have to replace things as  
 23 needed. So the rope cadre got some money this year.  
 24 The next two lines are fire prevention on this page  
 25 and the next page. Resource material are endless, codes are

1 constantly changing. And then on-site training, we bring in  
2 instructors from the mainland and then we get all of our  
3 prevention members together and we teach them all at one time  
4 rather than sending them all on trips one at a time, which we  
5 also do, but this is on-site training that they can get here  
6 and we kind of catch everybody at once.

7 We have -- since acquiring ocean safety, water --  
8 rescue watercraft is more prevalent in our department, so we  
9 want to send our mechanics to some training. Right now we  
10 have to contract all that work out and sometimes it's  
11 something that they could probably repair, so if we can get  
12 them the training, then they can do the rescue watercraft  
13 repairs.

14 The wifi for ocean safety, ocean safety is receiving  
15 tablets so that they can work on their daily -- it's called  
16 Workdays, the program, it's a human resources program that our  
17 whole county is changing to. So now they've gotta input their  
18 time sheets on a web-based software, so every tower is gonna  
19 get a tablet and wifi so that they can do their HR needs  
20 daily; time sheets, leave requests, that sort of thing.

21 Rescue wetsuits, just something that we're gonna  
22 provide for the guys who are on the rescue company. So that  
23 number's probably a little high, but we'll see where it ends  
24 up.

25 Napili Fire Station has an asphalt to cement area in

1 Ocean safety, another thing that Tamara Paltin  
2 wanted to do was protect our ocean safety members, which is  
3 provide them with an annual physical. So right now they're  
4 not required to go and get checked out by a doctor, their  
5 collective bargaining agreement also does not require it, so  
6 we'll see where that goes. We can't force people to go to the  
7 doctor unless it's in their contract, then we can have them do  
8 that. So we'll work with her and what she envisioned with  
9 that and see if we can provide whatever service the people  
10 want for that type of checkup.

11 And then we have several towers made of wood, metal  
12 and sometimes duct tape, so we got lots of repairs to do. The  
13 ocean is a very unforgiving environment and so nails and metal  
14 decays and we're constantly fixing things.

15 Moving to C account, this is more your tangible  
16 things that, you know, you can see, we can touch, we use.  
17 Firefighting equipment, nozzles, turnouts, SCBA bottles and  
18 packs, that'll easily consume that \$121,000. We recently  
19 changed our air packs from one brand, which was Scott, to a  
20 new brand, which is MSA. Well, now we need to change our RIT  
21 packs. Our RIT packs are our rapid intervention team packs  
22 and what it is is basically if you have a mayday or a  
23 firefighter down and you send a crew in to go rescue that  
24 firefighter, they take an extra air pack with them, but it's  
25 not something you wear on your backpack, it's something that

1 the back of the bay that's basically a trip hazard and too  
2 many people have tripped over it, so we're gonna have to  
3 contract out somebody to tear it up and re-asphalt that area.

4 The helicopter contract has incremental increases  
5 throughout its two to three years, depending on how long the  
6 contract is, so this year and moving into the next fiscal year  
7 it's a \$50,000 increase. And that's just a contract to have  
8 the aircraft sun up to sun down 24 hours a day and that  
9 provides us with Air One and then they're responsible for  
10 providing Air Two in case Air One goes down.

11 CHAIR MISAKI: So that's just the increase, but  
12 that's not --

13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Correct.

14 CHAIR MISAKI: -- the contract amount? And there's  
15 no contract amount listed in here.

16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Right. So the contract is  
17 about -- is it every three years, Chief? And so that goes  
18 open bid and then whoever wins the bid based on the specs that  
19 we need and that is in the couple of million dollars. I  
20 couldn't give you a number off the top of my head.

21 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And what it does is it's  
23 based on today's rate for parts and fuel, we can go a 2017 and  
24 then a 2018 will be a little more, and then a 2019 will be a  
25 little bit more and thus the \$50,000 increase.

1 comes in a RIT pack and it has a longer hose so you can put a  
2 hose on -- a mask on somebody, attach the air to them, then  
3 the team works to get the firefighter out. So we need to now  
4 replace the RIT packs on every truck, which are Scott and now  
5 need to be MSA, so that's what that is.

6 Rescue 10, we've always been wanting to upgrade and  
7 give them the technology to have a battery-powered tool. We  
8 all have the jaws of life on our truck, which the brand that  
9 we currently use is Holmatro, and this will give them the  
10 capability to leave the truck, leave the power unit, rappel  
11 down a hill, if they need to, and use this tool to pop a door  
12 open, cut a roof off, and get somebody out of a car. So  
13 that's why it's battery-powered, not gas-powered like the rest  
14 of the station stuff.

15 COMMISSIONER VARES: Where is Rescue 10 located at?

16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: They're in Kahului at the  
17 main headquarters, so they're like right in the center.

18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Sorry, Chief. Excuse me.

19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yes.

20 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: We had Holmatro packs that  
21 would do that with battery packs.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So those -- basically  
23 that combi tool was driven by a Dewalt battery, Dewalt doesn't  
24 make the battery anymore.

25 (Laughter.)

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1 COMMISSIONER VARES: A \$11,000 battery.  
 2 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So, yeah, that's how that  
 3 went. So we now have -- don't have them on all the trucks and  
 4 we're trying to make that more finite.  
 5 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: My goodness.  
 6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Stokes baskets are a tool  
 7 that we use under the helicopter for rescues, they're needed,  
 8 so we're trying to replace them as needed.  
 9 Confined space equipment, we are the only ones that  
 10 I'm aware of that respond to confined space emergencies and so  
 11 we have a cadre and a group of people that are trained, so  
 12 they need the equipment replaced.  
 13 Mattresses, we need to sleep, so there's  
 14 constantly -- constant revolving of those things.  
 15 Kahului is getting a Cascade System, that's to  
 16 refill the air bottles, that's gonna be huge, because right  
 17 now we have them in Paia, Lahaina, and Wailea, and so now  
 18 we'll have one at Kahului at the station and that'll help.  
 19 The PA system in Kahului is the original system and  
 20 it doesn't work in all the locations, so when the alarm goes  
 21 off in the middle of the night, not everybody's hearing it, so  
 22 we're looking to replace that.  
 23 And then just some odds and ends there before we get  
 24 down -- ranges -- the portable fuel tank in Pukoo is because  
 25 their fuel tank is basically falling apart and the vendor

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1 doesn't want to refill anymore, so because we want to move  
 2 that station, we don't want to put a \$150,000 fuel tank in  
 3 that area, so we're gonna try to work out of a portable fuel  
 4 tank for a while.  
 5 Station lockers, CPR manikins, so those are just  
 6 tools for training.  
 7 Target Solutions, it says compliance software, we  
 8 can use it to offer training to all of our firefighters, any  
 9 kind of web-based or class that we don't want to go to the  
 10 station to give, but we can do it through that.  
 11 Then the back section is ocean safety, EPIRB's our  
 12 location device that we'll have on the skis so in case they  
 13 get into trouble and their radio dies or we're not able to  
 14 contact them, then they can use their EPIRB and it's a  
 15 locationing beacon that the coast guard can track.  
 16 AEDs, defibrillators, portable radios and rescue  
 17 boards, that's just standard stuff that we constantly need to  
 18 replace for ocean safety.  
 19 And then we get into our big, big items in C  
 20 account: Vehicles. We're looking at ocean safety quads, five  
 21 watercraft for the whole department. The admin. sedan, which  
 22 is almost 13 years old. And then ocean safety has two  
 23 vehicles, we're still trying to determine what exact vehicles,  
 24 if it's a truck and SUV or if it's two trucks, so we're  
 25 working on that. And then the haz. mat. utility truck that's

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1 iced to -- for response for rehab, for bringing those pumpkins  
 2 to fires, it's also used to tow their haz. mat. trailer, so  
 3 that is an older truck that needs replacement. The wildland  
 4 apparatus in Wailuku, they currently have one, so that's a  
 5 replacement. And then the two engines are going to be on top  
 6 of the five that we've talked about in the past, so a new  
 7 pumper for Wailuku and a new pumper for Lahaina, 'cause those  
 8 are some of older, more well, heavily used apparatus. And  
 9 then those apparatus will go into our relief fleet.  
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Chief, the wildland -- the  
 11 wildland apparatus --  
 12 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah.  
 13 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- is that the mini?  
 14 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So it's -- right now it's  
 15 called Mini 1 and it is a larger wildland vehicle. It only  
 16 seats two, though, so it has very limited capabilities. So  
 17 we're going to transition to more of these --  
 18 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Crew cab?  
 19 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- wildland urban interface  
 20 vehicles that are crew cab and you can sit more people in them  
 21 and can get down smaller roads and stuff.  
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.  
 23 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: It seems like you got so much,  
 24 is there anything critical you didn't get, or you pretty much  
 25 got everything you asked for?

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1 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: The council members' comment,  
 2 they said, Is there anything on here you don't need -- I mean,  
 3 that's not on here that you do need? We asked for a lot and  
 4 we understand that and we understand that we're not gonna get  
 5 everything. We asked for over 60 items and we ended up with,  
 6 what do we have here, thirty-something. So we're not gonna  
 7 get everything we need, so we'll ask for it again next year  
 8 and with heavier justification. We put justifications to  
 9 every single item. And if it wasn't important enough last  
 10 year, well maybe now this year it's in worse condition and,  
 11 you know, it's less useful, so maybe it's more of a priority.  
 12 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.  
 13 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So we do prioritize when we  
 14 ask, so they see our priorities --  
 15 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Yeah.  
 16 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: -- so hopefully they start at  
 17 the top and then occasionally they'll skip to the bottom and  
 18 throw in a few extra things.  
 19 CHIEF THYNE: And that's kind of what they did. If  
 20 you look at our ask budget, they went to like No. 37 and,  
 21 whoop, that's where the line's cut.  
 22 (Laughter.)  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: And it is what it is. We understand,  
 24 like chief said, that we're not gonna get everything, but if  
 25 you're going to ask -- you don't get it if you don't ask for

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1 it; right?

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.

3 CHIEF THYNE: So we'll give you the laundry list

4 and -- or the wish list and, you know, so...

5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: Chief Martin, you have

7 something to add?

8 ASSISTANT CHIEF MARTIN: Yeah. So as Chief Venture

9 just went over the current budget we have that started on July

10 1st, '19, but we're moving forward with FY '21 and we'll be

11 making our committees, like how it was explained, you know,

12 having personnel within the department participate and have

13 buy-in. And around this time the budget office will send us

14 instructions, so probably within the next couple of weeks, on

15 how they want it done. We don't want to assume that it will

16 be done like last year, 'cause we do have a new administration

17 new this year and a new mayor, so things can change, the

18 process might be different. And then Chief Ventura and even

19 Chief Thyne, we were discussing and we estimate that our

20 budget is probably going to be due to the budget office

21 sometime in November, yeah, because they're gonna have

22 community meetings through October and so we're guessing

23 November might be when they're gonna want to see our budget.

24 CHIEF THYNE: So we'll all be on that journey

25 together. I don't know how it was in the past, but I know

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1 with us, we're gonna share everything that we're gonna do with

2 you.

3 COMMISSIONER VARES: That's good.

4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Good.

5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Just as a reminder, Chief,

6 and I know you're aware of it because we talked about it last

7 year, there's a requirement or a responsibility of the

8 police -- sorry, my Freudian slip -- the fire commission to

9 review it, the budget.

10 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.

11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: In the charter.

12 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah, we -- so last time because of

13 the time line, we had Chair Hirata come in to go through

14 journey, but we're gonna all collectively, if you choose to

15 participate, go on that journey together, because we want you

16 folks to be fully understanding of what our processes are and

17 our thoughts are and our direction is and all of those things,

18 so... As well as to get your approval, obviously.

19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Because we want to be

20 helpful and we want to be part of the process and I think we

21 have a great mix of different varied backgrounds on this

22 commission and we can be helpful.

23 CHIEF THYNE: Absolutely.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: And we're going -- so as we

25 immediately get our money July 1st, then we get rolling into

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1 the spending phase, we're already, before we blink, into the

2 preparation for the next year. We haven't even spent FY '20

3 money and we're preparing for FY '21 already.

4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

5 DEPUTY CHIEF VENTURA: So it's just --

6 CHAIR MISAKE: Okay. So Chief Thyne has asked me if

7 it's okay with the commission that we defer Mike's

8 presentation until next meeting because we're almost at the

9 two-hour mark, so I just want to ask if it's okay with the

10 commission.

11 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: That's fine.

13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: It's okay with me.

14 CHAIR MISAKE: Okay? So we'll go -- we'll go to the

15 new business.

16 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you for the

17 preparation, though.

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

19 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: It was two hours long,

20 so...

21 (Laughter.)

22 CHIEF THYNE: He's gonna be the only one there next

23 time.

24 (Laughter.)

25 CHAIR MISAKE: So --

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1 CHIEF THYNE: He's a chatterbox, this kid.

2 CHAIR MISAKE: New Business item, I'd like to turn

3 it over to Lisa.

4 Yes.

5 MS. MATSUI: Just remember September 11th, the

6 Memorial 9/11 will be at Station 10, Kahului Station.

7 CHAIR MISAKE: Yeah. I was gonna --

8 MS. MATSUI: Followed by the tour of the station,

9 then our meeting.

10 CHAIR MISAKE: Yeah, I was going tell -- I was going

11 to ask you to go over that when we get to Item 7.

12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So 9/11.

13 CHAIR MISAKE: So Lisa.

14 COMMISSIONER VARES: Thank you. I've got -- I just

15 pulled something together, it's a little formal and a little

16 dry, but I think it covers what we want to -- what I

17 understood, yes, on last meeting that we need to kind of go

18 over this time because we want to start looking into the

19 possibility of some sort of in-flight outdoor safety video.

20 So I've got, "Proposed: A Temporary Investigative Group" -- I

21 don't know if that's the correct -- or a TIG is proposed for

22 the purpose of establishing the feasibility of showing a

23 public outdoor safety video on oncoming flights to Maui. This

24 proposed video would highlight some simple precautions to take

25 while exploring and enjoying Maui's natural beauty, including

1 ocean safety and hiking safety. The video would preferably be  
2 about three minutes long.

3 A few known things, a few unknowns that I didn't  
4 realize until I did some research on this. This in-flight  
5 safety video has been attempted previously, with mixed  
6 results. Per a July 2019 article in Civil Beat magazine, "in  
7 2013, in response to numerous tourist injuries and fatalities,  
8 the state Senate adopted a resolution that asked the Hawaii  
9 Tourism Authority to develop an orientation video to be shown  
10 on incoming flights. In 2014, HTA produced a three-and-a-half  
11 minute video entitled 'E Komo Mai, Enjoy Hawaii Safely,' to  
12 brief visitors, but the airlines aren't using it." While the  
13 HTA video is described as a three-and-a-half minute safety  
14 video, it actually only includes about one and a half minutes  
15 of outdoor safety advice and precautions. And if you do check  
16 out the video, it's -- it lacks. The newly pointed Chief  
17 Administrative Officer for HTA, which is Keith Regan, formerly  
18 of Maui County, states that "after much negotiation, airlines  
19 decided to not show the video on their aircraft...and Regan  
20 notes that HTA does not have the authority to mandate that air  
21 carriers present the video, and says that all attempts were,  
22 quote, "met with resistance."

23 Another known: The HTA-produced "Enjoy Hawaii  
24 Safety" video is currently played at the baggage claim  
25 monitors at various Hawaii airports. At OGG it runs on a loop

1 on a monitor at minimal volume next to the restrooms. This  
2 video is also available on the HTA website. The HTA website  
3 is primarily geared toward moderate safety measures that you'd  
4 need while staying, for example, at a resort in Waikiki, i.e.:  
5 wear sunscreen, mosquito safety, and protect your valuables.  
6 And there's nothing on the website that really states a need  
7 for caution when doing outdoor activities.

8 An unknown: The resistance from the airline to the  
9 senate resolution-based HTA safety video may be due to a  
10 number of reasons, of which we don't know yet. It could be  
11 the content, because it's very vanilla. It could be the  
12 length, maybe it's too long. The basis of which should be  
13 researched and, if possible, resolved.

14 So just a suggestion and hopefully maybe where it'll  
15 go forward with this TIG is a more safety-oriented video  
16 emphasizing ocean safety and exploring/hiking safety or  
17 outdoor safety, because not everyone may be considering what  
18 they're about to do hiking. They could be just standing on  
19 the edge of a cliff while driving to Hana, not considering  
20 that a hike, but still, you need to know what you're -- what's  
21 safety. To help mitigate tourist injuries and fatalities, and  
22 residents as well, as intended by the state senate resolution,  
23 be produced and created by an impartial agency or group may be  
24 better received by the airlines. The purpose of this TIG is  
25 to research and, if possible, resolve the airlines' resistance

1 to showing this outdoor safety video.

2 CHAIR MISAKI: I would like to --

3 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

4 CHAIR MISAKI: -- get Jennifer's take on how we  
5 should move forward on this.

6 COMMISSIONER VARES: Please.

7 MS. OANA: So I think you have a great idea and if  
8 you -- if there are four of you who want to be on the TIG --  
9 and it doesn't have to be four, it could be you and --

10 COMMISSIONER VARES: Two to four.

11 MS. OANA: -- one other person, it could be three,  
12 up to four, though -- want to be on this TIG, you can do a  
13 motion to create the TIG consisting of whoever wants to do it  
14 for the purpose of what you stated here. I just do want to  
15 note that I was at the environmental, agricultural, and  
16 cultural preservation committee of the council on Tuesday and  
17 they had an agenda item called "Visitor impacts to county  
18 environmental and infrastructural resources," where they were  
19 discussing a resolution to urge the administrative to conduct  
20 a sustainable tourism assessment. So that meeting was super  
21 long and they had a bunch of resource people, Dick Mayer,  
22 Terry Vencel, and Kay Fukumoto, and it seems like the council  
23 could -- maybe kind of wants to do something like you're  
24 doing, but they're trying to urge the administration to do  
25 something. So maybe, you know, this TIG can work with Shane

1 Sinenci's committee to do that.

2 I also talked to Shane Sinenci's executive assistant  
3 Dawn Lono after the meeting and I told her about your idea and  
4 she is really interested in talking to you --

5 COMMISSIONER VARES: Great.

6 MS. OANA: -- about it. So, again, like I said  
7 before, you guys don't have money to actually do anything, you  
8 guys can't really do anything yourself, but you can plan,  
9 organize, and propose something for someone else to do.

10 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. I don't really care who  
11 does.

12 MS. OANA: I think that's what you want to do;  
13 right?

14 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

15 MS. OANA: Okay. So I suggest that a motion be made  
16 to create a TIG consisting of, you know, at most four of you  
17 for the purpose of researching and investigating the  
18 feasibility of creating a public safety video and, if  
19 possible, resolve the airlines' resistance to showing the  
20 video, which shall include contacting and discussing this with  
21 the administration, the council, the tourism industry, and  
22 other private and public entities. Does that sound good?

23 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

24 MS. OANA: So you guys can decide on who, that's  
25 your scope --



1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay.  
 2 MS. OANA: If you want to go beyond the scope, it's  
 3 easy, just come back, put it on the agenda expand the scope.  
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay.  
 5 MS. OANA: Okay? So it that good for you right now  
 6 as your scope?  
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah, starting from scratch.  
 8 MS. OANA: Okay. And you can discuss you wants to  
 9 be on the TIG.  
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Before we make the motion, I think --  
 11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: We need to discuss first.  
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: -- we need to discuss first and also  
 13 find out who wants to be on this -- what do you call it?  
 14 COMMISSIONER VARES: TIG.  
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: -- who wants to be on this TIG.  
 16 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Temporary investigative  
 17 group.  
 18 MS. OANA: And so for TIGs you don't have to have a  
 19 formal meeting where there's an agenda or notice to the  
 20 public.  
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Just talk story.  
 22 CHAIR MISAKI: And the number has to be less than  
 23 the quorum number, right, four or less.  
 24 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So I've got a couple of  
 25 questions.

1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yes. Because you weren't here  
 2 last -- or you were, but you had to leave.  
 3 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, yeah.  
 4 COMMISSIONER VARES: And I was like, No, no, no.  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So is this -- is this  
 6 something that the fire department has come to us asking us  
 7 for our support?  
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: No.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is this something that we as  
 10 individual commissioners are trying to get going?  
 11 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yes. So it was something that  
 12 I asked I believe after a --  
 13 CHAIR MISAKI: To be put on the agenda.  
 14 COMMISSIONER VARES: And I said, Hey, can we try  
 15 this? And then you had to leave halfway through, but I put it  
 16 forward, like I don't even know the process for asking these  
 17 questions. And so then Jennifer explained that reading  
 18 through our charter, she did find a single part of a phrase of  
 19 a line that said that within our charter it is -- it is  
 20 allowed to look into this kind of thing, so -- and we know  
 21 that it's been done before, we know that it's run into road  
 22 blocks, and with -- you know, administration's change, you  
 23 know, board's change.  
 24 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I guess I just wanted to  
 25 make sure that this is within the responsibilities of the

1 commission.  
 2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Public safety.  
 3 MS. OANA: It is a little different than I think  
 4 what this commission does, but under the charter --  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: This commission is very  
 6 specific in what the rules and the roles are.  
 7 MS. OANA: Yes. And so there's a provision in the  
 8 charter with regard to the fire and public safety  
 9 commission -- I don't have the cite, but under that section, I  
 10 think Section 8-7.2, "The Fire and Public Safety Commission  
 11 shall," and it has a bunch of things including reviewing the  
 12 budget, but under No. 3, which I think closely matches what  
 13 you want to do, is "Review the operations of the Department of  
 14 Fire and Public Safety and the Civil Defense Agency and make  
 15 recommendations for changes that may be desirable to improve  
 16 the performance of emergency functions and the provision of  
 17 public safety services." So you do have to stay within that.  
 18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right. And I'm not -- you  
 19 know, I'm not thinking about grabbing a camera and filming  
 20 this myself.  
 21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And just there's tremendous  
 22 duplicity right now on the whole video thing. Counsel Chair  
 23 wants to do videos, Roz Baker wants to do videos, the visitor  
 24 industry just did three videos all two to three minutes and  
 25 I'd be happy to get those for you and show you. We're try to

1 fight from the visitor bureau to get them on Akaku, on OC16,  
 2 on the front page when hotels come up. 'Cause it's one thing  
 3 to create the video, it's another to distribute it. And the  
 4 last and the most daunting part of the whole process with the  
 5 airlines is HGEA, HGEA is the only organization within our  
 6 state that can get them -- that has the arm muscle to get them  
 7 to open up.  
 8 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: And I know Roz is fighting  
 10 that right now, so --  
 11 MS. OANA: And you know what they mentioned at the  
 12 meeting on Tuesday is that we -- the county gives -- I think  
 13 Maui Visitors Bureau or one of those people -- \$4 million a  
 14 year and so, you know, if we want this --  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The 4 million is the TAT  
 16 tax, I believe, that is paid to -- that is sent to the state  
 17 and we get 22 percent of it back.  
 18 MS. OANA: Okay. So from what I understand, it is  
 19 like a \$4 million grant from Maui County.  
 20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Oh, MVB grant.  
 21 MS. OANA: Yeah.  
 22 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, MVB is 3 million, they  
 23 cut it a million this year.  
 24 MS. OANA: And so we're getting millions of dollars,  
 25 can they do this for us, you know?

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1 COMMISSIONER VARES: Right.  
 2 MS. OANA: Can they be an advocate for this?  
 3 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. I think that's really  
 4 all that I'm asking is let's find if -- see if --  
 5 MS. OANA: Yeah. So you guys can go out and talk to  
 6 them and see, you know, what's holding everything up.  
 7 COMMISSIONER VARES: Well, I'd love to see if  
 8 anybody can help just find the right person to talk to try  
 9 to --  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'm the chair of MVB, so I  
 11 can help.  
 12 COMMISSIONER VARES: I'm the chair of MVB, so no.  
 13 (Laughter.)  
 14 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yes, please.  
 15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: No, I'd love to help. I  
 16 mean, we created these videos --  
 17 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. Last meeting when you  
 18 left, I was like, Anybody but him. Don't go.  
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: We've created a safety  
 20 video, we've created a cultural awareness video, and -- I  
 21 forget what the third one is. We've created three videos, but  
 22 the hard part has been getting them distributed.  
 23 COMMISSIONER VARES: On the stupid plane.  
 24 CHAIR MISAKI: So this is just my opinion, I don't  
 25 see how the fire commission doing this is going to help the

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1 fire department, within the fire department to better their  
 2 operations, so I would -- I would rather, instead of forming a  
 3 committee and putting this energy in with the fire commission,  
 4 I would rather you latch on to this other group and go see  
 5 them and see how you can contribute to them.  
 6 COMMISSIONER VARES: I would be happy to do that  
 7 too.  
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: That's my opinion.  
 9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Well, I agree that it  
 10 doesn't really pertain to the fire department per se, but it  
 11 does public safety.  
 12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I'd like to comment. I'm  
 13 totally supporting, in fact, I'd be one of your volunteers,  
 14 because I have somebody already that's been granted a grant  
 15 for \$200,000 for Hana -- what is it, Hana Highway regulation  
 16 for the people that are violating, so we've got somebody in  
 17 place already, but I -- I see the public safety as if we're  
 18 keeping the rescues and the yellow paper down by preventing --  
 19 preventing the rescues, the fires, the -- you know, then we  
 20 actually are tying into the fire department and ocean safety.  
 21 You know, watch the waves, the -- all it is is educating  
 22 whether through social media or the airlines. There's more  
 23 than the airlines too. So I do see a connection of preventing  
 24 our dollars going to rescues at Hana and there is a -- there  
 25 is -- it's just explosive. And this Hana Highway, now they've

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1 given this lady the job to educate the public and do her blow  
 2 horn. It's -- there is a very good symbiotic relationship  
 3 with the fire department, I -- I would support it. I see a  
 4 clear defined -- it would help them, it would help us.  
 5 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: About ten or 12 years ago,  
 6 Chief, one of your firemen here did a video and created it. I  
 7 don't remember his name.  
 8 CHIEF THYNE: Well, it was actually his son and his  
 9 son is actually now a famous movie producer.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: That's correct.  
 11 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. Dustin Ebson. His father Dan  
 12 was the firefighter that's retired and now --  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I had worked with Dan from  
 14 visitors bureau to create that video.  
 15 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. So that's -- that was son  
 16 that's now a famous movie producer, but, yeah, he did for a --  
 17 I believe it was a Kekaulike project or something, but I --  
 18 yeah, that's true, that's the video that's shown.  
 19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yep.  
 20 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Where is it showing?  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: In the airport, the one they talked  
 22 about. They cut it down, it was actually more --  
 23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: It got too long.  
 24 CHIEF THYNE: Yeah. It was actually more inclusive,  
 25 but they pared it down to what it is now, so...

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1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: And the last thing I want to  
 2 comment is this: So I can see the connection, but also it's  
 3 such a good time to start forming this because now the  
 4 county -- everybody has got the same message, we don't -- we  
 5 can bring everybody together. So, yeah, some people have done  
 6 it, some haven't, but if we get together and we talk and keep  
 7 it with the fire department, keep it with public safety,  
 8 because then you don't -- we're educating people not to do  
 9 what you folks have to do.  
 10 CHAIR MISAKI: Commissioner Tancayo or Ginoza, do  
 11 you have any input into this?  
 12 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: My comment is I think it's  
 13 public safety directly. I mean, it'll keep people safe. And  
 14 a lot of these injuries and things that we see happening on  
 15 the news are things that are preventable if they were educated  
 16 properly. So whose responsibility is it? I think by title,  
 17 we're public safety people, so we should have some, you know,  
 18 positive input towards a project like this. But it seems like  
 19 other agencies are -- kind of have the same target, so we  
 20 shouldn't be duplicating effort --  
 21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.  
 22 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: -- but holding hands and  
 23 going towards a common goal.  
 24 COMMISSIONER VARES: I'm with that.  
 25 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: I agree. Same thing,

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1 prevention.

2 CHAIR MISAKI: So how do you want to move forward as

3 a commission?

4 COMMISSIONER VARES: Can I ask for the information

5 that you just brought up and the names, basically, and the --

6 CHAIR MISAKI: Of this other group.

7 COMMISSIONER VARES: -- groups to discuss, because I

8 don't want to reinvent the wheel.

9 MS. OANA: Even if maybe the TIG becomes just a

10 supporter of what they do and they can bring your information

11 that you learn or -- you learn from your TIG back to this

12 group to report and ask the group, Can I have your support?

13 Can I write a letter on behalf of the fire commission to the

14 mayor, to the council, we are in support of, you know, Shane's

15 thing or whatever, just as another body, you know, putting

16 their name on this thing that everybody wants.

17 COMMISSIONER VARES: That sounds like a plan.

18 CHAIR MISAKI: So do you want to -- from now --

19 well, September 11 is not that far away.

20 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah.

21 CHAIR MISAKI: So maybe come back in the October

22 meeting and report on what you found out and how you think you

23 want to move forward?

24 COMMISSIONER VARES: Sounds great.

25 MS. OANA: Or you can also just -- you can tell Jill

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1 whenever you guys are ready.

2 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. That sounds good.

3 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.

4 MS. OANA: Prior to --

5 CHAIR MISAKI: The meeting when we -- so the

6 September meeting maybe we can discuss if you want to add it

7 to the October agenda.

8 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. And however long it

9 takes, yeah.

10 CHAIR MISAKI: Is that okay, move forward that way?

11 COMMISSIONER VARES: I think that sounds like a

12 great idea.

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I have a question since this

14 is discussion, can we today make the motion for this movement

15 forward with people volunteering?

16 MS. OANA: Oh, yeah.

17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Can we do that?

18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yeah. Fine with me.

19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: At least we'll have our

20 group established.

21 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.

22 COMMISSIONER VARES: That sounds good.

23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Do we need to vote on it?

24 CHAIR MISAKI: Yes. A motion, we need to vote on

25 it.

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1 MS. OANA: You need to vote on creating the TIG

2 consisting of however many people, 'cause you have to define

3 the members and the scope. And if you agree with what I read

4 previously --

5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.

6 MS. OANA: -- just add in the names and then someone

7 can still move on that.

8 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. Yeah.

9 MS. OANA: So Lisa, Donna.

10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes. I volunteer.

11 MS. OANA: It can just be two.

12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Are you in or --

13 COMMISSIONER VARES: It doesn't need to be a lot.

14 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah. I don't know if I

15 want to be in, but I'll be a key resource.

16 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay. That's --

17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I can get you Terry Vencel,

18 we need to get the --

19 COMMISSIONER VARES: Okay.

20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Can we have your phone

21 number?

22 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, yeah. I'll be a full

23 participant.

24 MS. OANA: Okay. You being a full participant, you

25 should be in the TIG, because then -- it's a Sunshine Law

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1 violation for you to be discussing with any member outside of

2 a regular scheduled meeting board business, which this is now

3 board business.

4 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah. I just -- I'm not

5 sure if there's a convict with the -- I'm on the HVBC, the

6 MGB, MHOA.

7 MS. OANA: I mean, if it's just you giving the phone

8 numbers, then that's fine, but it's -- you know, you starting

9 to discuss with them things --

10 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Just resources.

11 CHAIR MISAKI: We'll put you on. We'll put you on

12 just in case.

13 MS. OANA: I don't if he wants to put his name on

14 it, though.

15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Put it on and if I find that

16 I've got a conflict in some way, I may have to pull off of it.

17 COMMISSIONER VARES: That's fair. That way we won't

18 bug you all the time.

19 CHAIR MISAKI: So you want to make her motion with

20 your three names?

21 COMMISSIONER VARES: Yes, please.

22 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. All those in favor?

23 MS. OANA: So move?

24 VICE CHAIR GINOZA: Move.

25 MS. OANA: Second?

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1 CHAIR MISAKI: All those --  
 2 COMMISSIONER VARES: Second.  
 3 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. It's been moved and seconded,  
 4 all those in favor?  
 5 (Response.)  
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: Anybody opposed?  
 7 (No response.)  
 8 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. Motion carries. You can give  
 9 that to her.  
 10 So our next meeting is Wednesday, September 17th  
 11 and, again, I'm going to ask, please --  
 12 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I thought it was the 11th.  
 13 CHAIR MISAKI: September 11th. And I'm going to  
 14 say, please, please, let Jill know if you're gonna -- whether  
 15 you're gonna attend or not. It's really important that she  
 16 knows, yeah.  
 17 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Sorry Jill.  
 18 CHAIR MISAKI: Otherwise we've showed up here in the  
 19 past and we didn't have quorum, so we don't want to turn up --  
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: What is quorum?  
 21 CHAIR MISAKI: Five. So we don't -- especially  
 22 Travis and I and Linda, we don't wanna show up here and then  
 23 there's no meeting, yeah.  
 24 Okay. And then what's the tentatively agenda for  
 25 that day?

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1 MS. MATSUI: From what I last discussed with Captain  
 2 Kono -- what's his last name?  
 3 CHIEFS:  
 4 MS. MATSUI: He's looking at 8:30 to possibly start.  
 5 He working on it with the chiefs.  
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: 8:30 is the ceremony.  
 7 MS. MATSUI: He's working with the chiefs, though,  
 8 to finalize the time schedule.  
 9 CHAIR MISAKI: And it usually goes 8:30 to 9:30,  
 10 yeah.  
 11 MS. MATSUI: Not that long. It's not a long  
 12 ceremony, but then the tour afterwards is going to be set up.  
 13 I'm not sure who's doing the tour, I haven't been informed  
 14 yet.  
 15 CHAIR MISAKI: And we can start the meeting at 9:30  
 16 instead of 10:00.  
 17 MS. MATSUI: So we're looking at possibly starting  
 18 about 9:00, depending how many questions you have on the tour.  
 19 CHAIR MISAKI: Yeah. So if we can start the meeting  
 20 at 9:30, guaranteed we'll get Mr. Werner in.  
 21 CHIEF THYNE: Well, he's the doing the tour as well.  
 22 MS. MATSUI: Oh, you're doing the tour.  
 23 CHIEF THYNE: So it may be a long tour.  
 24 (Laughter.)  
 25 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: I guess. I didn't hear a

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1 second or a motion or --  
 2 CHIEF THYNE: There is no second, but the motion  
 3 carries, trust me.  
 4 (Laughter.)  
 5 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay. So tentatively the ceremony  
 6 starts at 8:30, so I would advise you guys be there by 8:00.  
 7 MS. MATSUI: Chair, the thing is also if you could  
 8 kindly park, due to the limitations on parking, in the Maui  
 9 Marketplace parking lot.  
 10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Sports Authority.  
 11 MS. MATSUI: By the old Sports Authority and then  
 12 it's just a quick little jog next to us. And the service will  
 13 be in one of the -- what we call it --  
 14 BATTALION CHIEF WERNER: Bays.  
 15 MS. MATSUI: -- bays.  
 16 CHAIR MISAKI: And if you do have a fire commission  
 17 shirt, please wear it.  
 18 COMMISSIONER VARES: Where does one get a fire  
 19 commission shirt?  
 20 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I don't have one of those.  
 21 MS. MATSUI: Well, we're looking into more shirts  
 22 right now, so...  
 23 COMMISSIONER VARES: Can I have white one?  
 24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chief.  
 25 CHAIR MISAKI: So before we adjourn, I just want to

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1 say thank you, Jill, for being on top of things and making  
 2 sure we get all the correspondence we need to.  
 3 MS. MATSUI: Are you finished? Because I have  
 4 something else I have to say. I want to close the meeting  
 5 before I say what I have to say.  
 6 CHAIR MISAKI: You want close the meeting first?  
 7 Okay. So when we close the meeting, don't leave  
 8 yet.  
 9 So I would like to adjourn this meeting.  
 10 COMMISSIONER TANCAYO: Motion to --  
 11 COMMISSIONER VARES: Second.  
 12 CHAIR MISAKI: Okay.  
 13 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: You need a gavel.  
 14 (The proceedings were adjourned at 12:20 p.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF HAWAII                    )  
                                                  )    SS.  
COUNTY OF MAUI                    )

I, Sandra J. Gran, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the State of Hawaii, hereby certify that on August 22nd, 2019, at 10:04 a.m. the proceedings was taken down by me in machine shorthand and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form under my supervision; that the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings had in the foregoing matter.

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

DATED this 4th day of September, 2019, in Maui, Hawaii.



Sandra J. Gran, RPR  
Hawaii CSR 424