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FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

COUNTY OF MAUI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING

Held via BlueJeans, commencing at 10:00 a.m., on
September 8, 2021.

REPORTED BY: SANDRA J. GRAN, RPR/CSR #424

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ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Lisa Vares, Vice Chair
- Gregg Lundberg, Member
- Dwight Burns, Member
- Donna Sterling, Member
- Punahuele Alcon, Member
- Max Kincaid, Jr., Member
- Dylan Andrion, Member

STAFF:

- Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
- Richelle Thomson, Deputy Corporation Counsel
- Richelle Wakamatsu, Commission Secretary
- Misty Cordeiro, Office Operations Assistant
- Cory-Lynn Vicens, Secretary

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(September 8, 2021, 10:00 a.m.)

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CHAIR VARES: I am here, of course, Vice Chair.
Gregg Lundberg, it's -- could you guys say yes,
please, if you're here. Gregg, I'm sorry, unmute yourself for
roll call. Gregg Lundberg.

COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yes, here, Chair.

CHAIR VARES: Ah, there you are. Okay. Thanks.
Dwight Burns, please say you're here.

COMMISSIONER BURNS: Here.

CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

Donna Sterling. Are you, Donna -- so many of you
here. I do not see Donna, but I'm sure she'll be here.

Punahuele Alcon. Punahuele, if you are here, please
unmute yourself and say here.

Okay. Max Kincaid, Jr. Max, are you here?

Okay. Dylan Andrion.

COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Here, Chair. Aloha. Good
morning.

CHAIR VARES: Good morning. And Makalapua,
Makalapua Kanuha. She's right there. Makalapua, I see your
name. Are you here today?

MS. KANUHA: I am here, Chair.

CHAIR VARES: Thank you. Hi, good morning.
Excellent.

1 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Good morning.

2 CHAIR VARES: Okay. Thank you all for joining us
3 and for everyone else I see on the boards joining us today.

4 I would like to go over real fast our update for
5 this specific meeting. Again, this is -- this meeting is
6 primarily for public testimony for the candidates of chief for
7 Maui County Fire Department. In order to access this remote
8 meeting and for the public to be able to give their public
9 testimony, there are links that are accessible to the Maui
10 County website, also emails. Everyone, obviously, that's on
11 the board in front of me was able to get in, but there is the
12 possibility that some members of the public who were intending
13 on testifying today may not be able to access via link if
14 they're clicking on it. If they're typing in, physically
15 typing in the numbers and letters, it's possible that they got
16 in. If you've received a direct email because you're a
17 commissioner, you're already here, but because there is the
18 possibility that there are members of the public who want to
19 testify that are technically right now having technical
20 difficulties trying to get in, we are gonna take testimony
21 from whoever is here today, and then we will have to recess
22 for one week until next week where we can publish the correct
23 link and anyone who is not able to get in today can then get
24 in next Wednesday, and we'll repeat this process again on
25 Wednesday. That does have further ramifications, but we'll

1 tackle it as we go.

2 Sound good over there, counsel?

3 MR. MURAI: Sounds great, Lisa.

4 CHAIR VARES: Thanks, guys.

5 Yeah. Okay. Good. All right, everybody. So I'm
6 going to be calling for public testimony here shortly. A
7 little housekeeping for everyone interested and everyone that
8 wants to be giving public testimony today. First of all,
9 please keep your video and audio muted until you are called
10 on. Second, the way to sign --

11 Oh, sure. Guys, I'm being asked to recess real
12 fast. I'm gonna take a quick recess, hang tight, we'll get
13 right back to you. Thank you so much.

14 (Pause in Proceedings)

15 CHAIR VARES: Ten-minute recess while we contact
16 some of our fellow commissioners that are obviously having
17 difficulty getting in that are not able to join us on the
18 meeting. So ten-minute recess. It is right now 10:12 a.m.
19 We'll be back with you at 10:22. Thank you so much.

20 (Pause in Proceedings: 10:12 a.m.-10:22 a.m.)

21 CHAIR VARES: So I'd like to call roll call one more
22 time. I'm Lisa Vares, vice chair of the commission.

23 Kyle Ginoza is excused today.

24 When I say your name, please say yes or here.

25 Gregg Lundberg.

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Present.

2 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

3 Dwight Burns.

4 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Here.

5 CHAIR VARES: Donna Sterling is not quite yet. When
6 I see her pop in, I will recognize her.

7 Punahuele Alcon. I'll do the same when she gets on.

8 Max Kincaid.

9 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Here.

10 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Max.

11 Dylan Andrion.

12 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Here.

13 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

14 And then I've got one correction. Makalapua Kanuha
15 is excused from today's meeting as a commissioner. If she
16 would like to join us as a member of the public, she's welcome
17 to.

18 MS. KANUHA: Thank you.

19 CHAIR VARES: Okay. Moving on, everyone, we've got
20 public testimony today for the fire and public safety meeting
21 regarding the candidates for chief. I'd like to remind the
22 public the way to sign up to testify is via the chat function.
23 Please do not use the chat function for any other reason other
24 than signing up with your first and last name to provide
25 public testimony. There is to be no messaging to the

1 commissioners, no advocating for either of the candidates on
2 the chat function, just your name and the fact that you would
3 like to provide testimony. You will have three minutes. Just
4 like with council, if you were testifying in council, you'd
5 have three minutes. And we will signal you when the time's
6 up, and then I'll thank you and move on to the next testifier.

7 I think we're ready to go if everybody else is. I
8 would like to ask Cory -- Cory's gonna be our commission
9 secretary for this process. Cory, who is our first public
10 testifier, please?

11 MS. VICENS: Good morning, Chair. You have
12 testifying Makalapua Kanuha, followed by Professor Stacy
13 Rogers. Professor Rogers does have a conflict, so depending
14 on time, he may not make that, and he'll just return next week
15 to testify on this matter.

16 CHAIR VARES: Wonderful. Okay. Thank you so much,
17 Cory.

18 Okay. Makalapua, you've got three minutes, and
19 thank you so much for testifying. Please, everyone who's
20 testifying, please state your first and last name, and then
21 you've got three minutes after. Thank you.

22 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Aloha kakou. Aloha Vice Chair
23 Vares and Commissioners. Mahalo for this opportunity to
24 submit my testimony in support of Amos Lonokailua-Hewett. For
25 the record, my name is Makalapua Kanuha, a Lahaina resident.

1 I first met Amos in the early 1990s. Amos and I
2 were coworkers at the Royal Lahaina Luau show. Also, in 2005
3 I held the position as the Maui Island manager for Aloha
4 Festivals. Amos volunteered his time as a court member and as
5 a cultural advisor, so it was a pleasure working with Amos
6 over the years. I've known him to be an honest, open, and
7 accountable person who is a great listener. Amos is dedicated
8 to his family, church, and community. These are
9 characteristics that show me Amos has balance, upkeeps a
10 well-ground life.

11 I remember August 24th, 2018, Lahaina experienced a
12 bad fire during hurricane winds. Our community had never
13 experienced such a time of uncertainty. During this time, as
14 a community, we made it a point on social media to please list
15 Lahaina first responders and all Maui firefighters up in a
16 prayer of protection. Many of us, that was -- many of us
17 remember that was a challenging day for MFD. So many things
18 could have gone wrong if wrong decisions were made during the
19 near-catastrophic disaster. We had our Lahaina and Napili
20 Fire Stations fighting this widespread fire at night, so many
21 lives and properties were at stake, our historical district of
22 Lahaina Town and our beloved Lahainaluna High School while
23 waiting for more support to arrive. In this time of high
24 stress, major decisions were made with minimal manpower and
25 resources in such a large area. That night, Amos was the

1 incident commander on duty who carried such a burden in his
2 leadership role. And although not all properties could be
3 saved, Amos took it upon himself to be accountable to our
4 Lahaina community, went online, and publicly apologized to our
5 Lahaina community members for not being able to save all
6 properties. This was outstanding and admirable to me. Today
7 our Lahaina community will never forget that fire and are
8 grateful to Amos and our outstanding Maui firefighters for
9 literally saving the Lahaina community.

10 With that said, Amos has the heart of a true leader
11 with the ability and character to be an effective leader to
12 serve our community. In closing, Chair, Commissioners, I
13 humbly thank you for allowing me this opportunity to submit my
14 testimony in support of Amos Lonokailua-Hewett.

15 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much, Makalapua.

16 The next public testifier is gonna be Professor
17 Stacy Rogers if you can introduce yourself and come onto the
18 meeting.

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIR VARES: One more time for Professor Stacy
21 Rogers.

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIR VARES: Okay. It looks like he's probably
24 gonna be joining us for our next meeting for public testimony.

25 Cory, who do we have next for public testimony,

1 please?

2 MS. VICENS: Chair, I do not have anybody at this
3 time who has signed up through our -- for video public
4 testimony. I -- actually, I just have someone who just signed
5 in. We have Vernon Patao, followed by Pomaikai Kaniaupio-
6 Crozier.

7 CHAIR VARES: Okay.

8 MS. VICENS: So, if Mr. Patao would like to testify,
9 please unmute the video and your mic.

10 MR. PATAO: Okay. Am I there?

11 CHAIR VARES: (Nodding head.)

12 MR. PATAO: You guys hear me clear? Thank you.

13 All right. Members of the Fire Commission, good
14 morning, and thank you for your time and efforts in choosing
15 our next chief. My name is Vernon Patao. I've got 27 years
16 in Maui Fire Department, and I'm currently assigned as captain
17 on Engine 14.

18 While we have two amazing candidates, competent
19 candidates to choose from, but there's only one position, so
20 I'm here to publicly support Amos Lonokailua-Hewett as our
21 next fire chief for a few reasons. One of the traits that I
22 would look for in a leader is a passion and genuine care for
23 people, and there has never been a shortage of that displayed
24 in my presence and for the -- within the fire department and
25 outside the fire department community service that Amos has

1 displayed. And the one thing that I really feel he's genuine
2 about is sharing his knowledge, his passion to bring other
3 people up; there's never been a shortage of that. The next
4 thing I would want in a leader, and I think Amos has all those
5 qualities, is his ability to clearly define our vision. And
6 what that means and what that entails is being able to come up
7 with programs, comprehensive programs laid out in detail that
8 we all can see, not just good news reporting. We want
9 programs; his implementation is excellent. If he does
10 research his -- he'll probably put that in his presentation to
11 you guys. For example, three things, our department cadre is
12 one of the -- used to be one of the best in the state by far,
13 where Honolulu -- Honolulu County coming to us to learn
14 aspects of our training, training department, asked us to
15 train them, that's how well he put together these programs.
16 Another thing was Puu Kukui Watershed; they seeked out his
17 expertise, expertise, and knowledge in helping them put
18 together their program, training program, safety programs.
19 He's worked with the lifeguards extensively on different
20 islands. And I think one of the biggest impacts and something
21 that shows his competency and character is that state AFF,
22 state firefighters, our state firefighters have asked him to
23 spearhead their training regimen, Kauai, the Hawaii Islands,
24 Honolulu, just to name a few.

25 Third, you know, there's so many rhetoric and rumors

1 going around about people's passions and all of that, the one
2 thing that I want to look for in a leader is somebody that can
3 establish good relationships, and we're not in a job of making
4 friends, but it's great that we all are. What Amos has done,
5 one of his first things he's done to show his leadership, his
6 competence to do that is with our training cadres that used to
7 be one of the best in the state. When it first came out, they
8 thought he was crazy. He put together this team; he put out
9 clear and concise direction on what it was. We were all
10 uncomfortable with that; he gave open, transparent, and equal
11 opportunity for training for travel or whatever it did to make
12 sure our training department would be up to speed or better
13 than anybody around here or as best as we can be given our
14 resources. He --

15 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Vernon. That's three
16 minutes.

17 MR. PATAO: It is? Okay. I'll close by saying
18 that, you know, one of the biggest changes is that he got sick
19 and was retired early before his prime, so I think he's much
20 more prepared given his faith and his -- and his family. So I
21 say come --

22 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

23 MR. PATAO: -- Monday morning, whoever's my boss,
24 I'll come back and my loyalty to whoever you guys choose.

25 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much for all your

1 information. Thank you.

2 MR. PATAO: All right.

3 CHAIR VARES: And go ahead and remute yourself,
4 please. Thanks for your time.

5 Cory, who do we have next?

6 MS. VICENS: Chair, the next testifier that is
7 signed up is Pomaikai Kaniaupio-Crozier. Mr. Crozier, would
8 you please unmute video and your mic. Thank you.

9 MR. KANIAUPIO-CROZIER: Aloha mai kakou. Audio
10 good?

11 CHAIR VARES: (Gesturing.)

12 MR. KANIAUPIO-CROZIER: Okay. Aloha mai kakou.
13 (Speaking in Hawaiian.)

14 And I wanted to, before I start, give my aloha to
15 all of you who have to -- and especially our vice chair and
16 the chair and those board members who have to make the
17 difficult decision between two great candidates. Mahalo for
18 your time and consideration to give this testimony. I'm here
19 in -- on behalf of Puu Kukui Watershed and, you know, it's the
20 second wettest spot on planet Earth. It does provide wai to
21 all of our west side, and it is important for thriving and our
22 mauna. The majority of the water goes all the way to Wailea
23 from our Mauna Kaala wai, and so everybody from Kaanapali all
24 the way to Wailea get their water source from Mauna Kaala wai,
25 aka the West Maui Mountains.

1 But I'm here to support, you know, a very, very
2 great candidate which I think we are blessed to have, and that
3 is Amos, our (Hawaiian word), Amos Lonokailua-Hewett, which is
4 also our former battalion chief. We have two great
5 candidates. I'm here in support of Amos not only for his
6 integrity; I've worked with him side by side on behalf of Puu
7 Kukui on our we're gonna steward. This is a changing time,
8 not just pandemic; we have the most severe drought that we've
9 had in years for drinking water. We don't want our fire
10 department to be out there ready to fight a fire, turn on the
11 tap, and nothing comes out of the hose, you know. So I can
12 attest, you know, his ability, Amos's ability to look at the
13 source of where the water is before it hits the pipe in order
14 to fuel and make the plans, that it starts with the source,
15 and he's done that. We've put in mitigation plans,
16 firebreaks, and all of the great things that he has been able
17 to do. But it's also rare that we have a Hawaiian who is
18 culturally grounded, who knows his natural resources and the
19 value and the waiwai, who can tell you the -- where the Kahuli
20 snail is, where the i'iwi bird is, you know, and knows in fact
21 firsthand from the top of the mountains down and not just
22 suppression, fire suppression actions or plans, but has helped
23 develop those plans as part of a member of the West Maui Fire
24 Task Force.

25 We often look at the new challenges, and it's not

1 easy to find somebody who has 1) the ability to create those
2 plans within the state of Hawaii, especially large landscapes
3 and severe droughts, but also has the connection and the
4 ability to work with people so a tree hugger like myself can
5 be interacting with a former battalion chief. Usually, our
6 watershed conservation guys, we stay up mauka, and the fire
7 guys do their thing down below. We usually -- we protect the
8 forest, so they get water, and they protect the forest by
9 putting out the fire, rarely do we actually cross. And it's
10 the same thing for us as Hawaiians in our cultural aspect.
11 You have many cultural practitioners who have nothing to do
12 with the fire department, but he's made those crossovers not
13 only politically, not only with land -- large landowners,
14 definitely we know within the fire community both of them have
15 those experiences, but the level to develop plans during a
16 changing time, I believe Amos is the person that we should
17 select who can help us in that he has the experience, he has
18 the relations, and I think he'll do a great job, so I kaka
19 him, you know. And we know when somebody comes out of
20 retirement, they're doing it 'cause they want to do it,
21 they're not looking for the upward movement, so --

22 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Pomaikai. I'm gonna have
23 to cut you off. That's three minutes. Thank you for all of
24 your information. Thank you very much.

25 Cory, who is our next public testifier?

1 MS. VICENS: Aloha.

2 CHAIR VARES: Go ahead, Cory. Yes.

3 MS. VICENS: Aloha, Chair. We do not have any other
4 testifiers signed up at this time via video. I have not seen
5 any members of the community come in -- oh, just a second.
6 I'm getting a message. I'm sorry, it's just a message. So we
7 do not -- I'm sorry, somebody direct messaged me. We don't
8 have any video testifiers at this time. There have been no
9 requests to come in through phone, so nothing until further
10 notice.

11 CHAIR VARES: I just saw one come through. Did you
12 happen to catch that one, Hanale Lindo?

13 MS. VICENS: Yes, I just see him. Mr. Henry Lindo.
14 Hanale, Mr. Lindo, if you're there, please unmute video and
15 your mic, and you can provide your testimony now. Kindly
16 direct message me with your contact information, email, and
17 phone after your testimony has been given. Thank you.

18 MR. LINDO: Can you guys hear me?

19 CHAIR VARES: Yes, we got you.

20 MR. LINDO: Thank you so much. Sorry, I can't --

21 CHAIR VARES: Please introduce yourself. You've got
22 three minutes.

23 MR. LINDO: All right. Thank you.

24 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

25 MR. LINDO: And, actually, I -- I wasn't planning

1 on -- on testifying, but, you know, I just felt it in my
2 heart. So thank you guys for this opportunity. My name is
3 Henry Hanale Lindo. I'm a battalion chief currently with the
4 Maui Fire Department and -- and I've been able to work so many
5 years with these two wonderful candidates. I'm not here to
6 take away from anything that was done for either candidate,
7 but I just want to speak on behalf of -- of the current
8 administration and -- and my backing for the current deputy
9 fire chief who is up for the possibility of being the fire
10 chief and his name is Brad Ventura. We heard some awesome
11 testimony of Battalion Chief Amos Lonokailua-Hewett, and he's
12 absolutely been instrumental in so many different programs
13 and -- and trainings within this department and outside, but
14 mainly, yeah, as the department and how we operate is -- is
15 the team, the teamwork that pulls together. It's not one
16 person that is able to set things in order; it's a combination
17 of a lot of different people putting programs together and
18 implementing it, yeah. So nothing to take away from -- from
19 what he did, but I want to reiterate the fact of teamwork, and
20 I believe Brad Ventura in a -- in a lot of the years, and
21 you've seen it, especially during these COVID times, I mean,
22 it's unprecedented what we're going through and yet the
23 transparency and the humbleness of him and what he's been able
24 to do with the past administration in moving the department
25 along. Retirement for -- for some people takes you out of the

1 game in a number of different ways and again, nothing to take
2 away that he cannot do the job, but things have changed over
3 these past couple years in the way we train, in the way we
4 operate, in the way we do teamwork, and with that, I've seen
5 Brad Ventura just shine. His relationship building, his team
6 concept, his transparency with -- with the members, his
7 open-door policy has created a sense of what I see as good
8 morale, as something that I could definitely stand behind.
9 It's something that I could definitely be a part of. And I
10 know the -- the decision is hard for you commission members,
11 and I truly thank you for opening yourself up to all the
12 different aspects of -- of these candidates. Basically, I
13 support Brad; I believe that he's taken us, along with Chief
14 Thyne, in a -- in a great direction, and with him at the helm,
15 I believe we can move forward in such an awesome way to
16 continue the transparency, to continue the -- the programs
17 that helped this community that we serve. And even if he
18 wasn't to make it, if you were to select Chief Amos, my
19 support would definitely be behind him, but right now and here
20 and now, I'm putting it all out that my support is definitely
21 with Chief Brad, and I just thank you guys for this time, and
22 this opportunity to share and talk story and God bless you
23 guys all. And all right.

24 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much, Hanale. Thank you.
25 And please send your contact information over to Cory, our

1 staff secretary, after this.

2 MR. LINDO: Thank you.

3 CHAIR VARES: Do we have anyone else that would like
4 to provide public testimony today?

5 MS. VICENS: Chair, you have another testifier,
6 Mister --

7 CHAIR VARES: Okay.

8 MS. VICENS: Manuel Kuloloio, if you -- if you'd
9 please unmute video and your audio, we are ready for your
10 testimony.

11 MR. KULOLOIO: Aloha, Commission. Can you hear me?

12 CHAIR VARES: Yes. We can hear you. Go right
13 ahead. Thank you.

14 MR. KULOLOIO: My name is Manuel Kuloloio, 51 years
15 old, born and raised on the island of Maui, now live on Oahu
16 with two young children. I'm the quality assurance manager
17 for BAE Systems for 14 years, a local ethics officer; I was
18 also the Maui County representative for the department of
19 defense, state civil defense advisory council, its vice
20 chairman soon after the events of 9/11 to the preparations for
21 APEC. I was just gonna listen today. I get a hard copy of
22 the Maui News sent to my office, my home, and I testify in
23 support of Brother Brad, Brad Ventura. Just like Oahu, a good
24 friend, Lionel Camara, that was besmirched by the union. I
25 don't hear any union opposition today; I think that's a good

1 sign, Brother Brad. I know Mr. Lonokailua, we are probably
2 family from Makena, and I say this in support 'cause he is
3 already a chief, not an acting chief, not a pejorative acting
4 chief, but a chief. And I'm prayerful and hopeful that you
5 will take all the lessons learned from our great chiefs on
6 Maui, Brother Murray, the previous Chief Thyne, and find out
7 what really is the concern about the training. I've seen some
8 contracts he's let out for helicopter services on Maui. Maui
9 is the -- is the best. Thank you, Brad. I see Uncle Don over
10 here all the time. My dad helped the Maui Fire Department for
11 their new recruits at Kaneloa and Makena. Thank you, Mr.
12 Patao, for your members for coming down to my dad's service in
13 Makena at the Kukahio home on July 24th. It meant a lot to
14 me. Let's give brother a chance; he deserves it, serving like
15 his father and like my brother Lionel Camara. I know Brad
16 like Lionel, who went into that building as a battalion chief;
17 Brad would do the same. To the commission, I will not be able
18 and be privy to the testimony of these two fine gentlemen of
19 Maui, so Maui no ka oi.

20 And to you, Chairperson, I want to tell you
21 something, the Honolulu Fire Department, when they had their
22 public testimony a month ago, they didn't know what they were
23 doing. They didn't even have a video conference. And when
24 you phoned in, they never even took names. It was total
25 chaos. So Maui no ka oi. Thank you for the previous speakers

1 for putting your names down. So here in beautiful Oahu, I say
2 and ask for your support for Mr. Bradford Ventura for the next
3 Maui chief of the fire department. Aloha.

4 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much, Mr. Kuloloio.

5 Do we have any other testifiers today? Last call?
6 Last call?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIR VARES: Okay. I would like to go ahead and
9 close public testimony for today. We will be arranging for
10 another round of public testimony that's going to be specifics
11 announced --

12 MS. VICENS: (Gesturing.)

13 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Cory.

14 MS. VICENS: Chair, a member, Mr. Peter -- Peter
15 Vanderpool, has identified himself and would like to testify.

16 Mr. Vanderpool, if you would kindly unmute video and
17 your audio, we will take video -- your video testimony at this
18 time.

19 MR. VANDERPOOL: Hello? Can everybody hear me?

20 CHAIR VARES: We can hear you. Thank you.

21 MR. VANDERPOOL: Oh, I definitely was not planning
22 on -- on providing testimony today, but I will -- I'll just
23 kind of hopefully briefly introduce myself. My name is Peter
24 Vanderpool; I'm currently a captain, Engine 10, Kahului. I've
25 got a total of about 26 years of experience in emergency

1 services, five years in EMS, and 21 years currently with the
2 fire department. I'm involved with all kinds of things since
3 I've been in, and I've had the pleasure to -- and opportunity
4 to work under every administration since Clayton Ishikawa.
5 I've also had an opportunity to work closely with both of the
6 candidates that are now applying for fire -- the fire chief's
7 job. And both are excellent, excellent individuals; there's
8 really nothing bad to say about either one of them. That
9 being said, I do have to look at productivity throughout
10 the -- my 21 years here and exact -- in reality, the -- the
11 last ten years is probably the most important. I usually like
12 to say when I'm discussing things about the fire department
13 that we moved from the Dark Ages through the Renaissance, and
14 the Renaissance was a time of enlightenment for us; it was our
15 opportunity to build a really secure future and start to
16 organize ourselves. And a lot of that started with one of the
17 guys that's applying for this job, Chief Amos. When he first
18 went into the training bureau, he started to -- to identify
19 what our problems were, and he started to look at solutions
20 for those problems, and he is not an individual guy that made
21 this happen; he stands on the shoulders of giants, for sure.
22 There are other guys that came before that started to organize
23 little, little pieces. Amos really started to take all those
24 pieces together and organize it so that we had a direction to
25 move. I could go really deeply, I don't have enough time, but

1 we could go really deeply into all the programs that he did
2 start and start to manage and support, but with three minutes
3 doesn't allow -- allow me to do that. But I will say that the
4 commission really has two good choices. I like to believe
5 that the best predictor of future behavior is past behavior,
6 and Amos certainly has a past behavior of excellence and
7 expertise and true leadership, building something that's gonna
8 last, so I have to -- I have to believe that he's gonna
9 continue to do that. I mean, he's been retired and -- not
10 really something that he wanted to do, but he has been retired
11 because of a medical issue, and he wants to come back, and he
12 wants to continue to -- to support the department that he
13 loves, support the profession that he -- that he loves and is
14 very passionate about. And I know that Brad wants to do the
15 same thing also, but you can't really deny what Amos has done
16 for us already and how he has prepared himself. So, once
17 again, I'd just like to publicly put my support towards Amos,
18 Chief Amos. Thank you very much.

19 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much, Mr. Vanderpool.

20 Cory, do we have any other testifiers?

21 MS. VICENS: Yes, Chair. We have Mr. Wayne Cambra.

22 Mr. Cambra, if you would unmute your mic and your
23 video to provide testimony. Thank you.

24 MR. CAMBRA: Good morning. Hi. My name is Wayne
25 Cambra; I'm a retired battalion chief -- I'm going to turn

1 this down -- retired battalion chief. I retired with 29 years
2 of service, my last five years as a battalion chief. I was
3 fortunate enough to work with both of these gentlemen; they're
4 both excellent candidates for Fire One. I am not in favor of
5 either one, but I am in favor of the public, and what I mean
6 is my understanding, or our hope is it's not true, but there
7 are written testimony against both candidates, and I would
8 like to say to the fire commission just to be very objective
9 and remember that a lot of the written testimony is hearsay
10 and is not proven. And I wish good luck to both candidates
11 and may the best man win.

12 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Mr. Cambra. Appreciate it.

13 Cory, do we have any other public testifiers today?

14 MS. VICENS: Chair, nobody has identified themselves.

15 If you would like to do a last call --

16 CHAIR VARES: Sure.

17 MS. VICENS: -- that may be helpful.

18 CHAIR VARES: Okay. We'd like to do a last call for
19 public testimony in favor of either candidate for fire chief.
20 If anyone is interested, please join on the chat, write in --
21 type in your first and last name, let our staff secretary know
22 that you're interested.

23 (No response.)

24 CHAIR VARES: Okay. It looks like that was last
25 call. Thank you very much to everyone that provided testimony

1 today and took time out of their day to slog through this with
2 us. Very, very appreciated.

3 We are gonna be exiting this regular session. I'm
4 going to be closing public testimony, and our commissioners
5 will be reconvening in executive session. One moment, please.

6 (Pause in proceedings.)

7 CHAIR VARES: Okay. Thank you so much for your
8 patience. I wanted to recognize Commissioner Donna Sterling
9 has joined us, so we do have Donna in the meeting as well.
10 Again, we have closed public testimony. I am going to be
11 exiting the regular session, and gonna ask for a motion for
12 the commission to move to executive session for us to be able
13 to go over the other agenda item, which is the interview
14 questions. Could I have someone make a motion to move to
15 executive session, and may I have a second as well?

16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Vice Chair, I -- this is
17 Donna Sterling. I go ahead and ask that we meet -- thank you.
18 I'm -- I'm here in an office. So the motion on the table is
19 to go into executive session.

20 CHAIR VARES: Correct. You move to -- move to
21 executive session. Okay. May I have a second, please?

22 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Second.

23 CHAIR VARES: Okay. I saw Max. Thank you so much.

24 Okay. Thank you to the public, thank you to
25 everyone that's joined us. And, Commissioners, please stand

1 by; we're gonna move over to executive session now. Thanks so
2 much.

3 (Pause in the proceedings.)

4 CHAIR VARES: All right, everybody. Thank you so
5 much for your patience. It is 1:16 p.m. We are back in
6 regular session for the fire and public safety commission on
7 9/8/2021. First and foremost, I'd like a motion to approve --

8 MR. MURAI: You know what, one second, Madam Chair.

9 CHAIR VARES: Yes.

10 MR. MURAI: Could you note for the record that all
11 of the same members who joined the --

12 CHAIR VARES: Sure.

13 MR. MURAI: -- regular session are present.

14 CHAIR VARES: Yeah. I'd like to note for the record
15 that all of the commission members that were in the executive
16 session are also present here in our regular session. And
17 that we would like to propose a motion to approve the
18 interview questions that were just discussed in executive
19 session. Anyone willing to move that we -- that we approve
20 the interview questions?

21 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'll make the motion to
22 approve.

23 CHAIR VARES: Thank you. Seconded, please?

24 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: This is Dylan. I second.

25 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Dylan. Excellent. All in

1 favor?

2 (Response.)

3 CHAIR VARES: Okay. It's unanimous. We will be
4 approving the questions as discussed in the executive session.

5 We're going to be posting a new agenda. We're gonna
6 be adjourning today, not recessing. And because we still need
7 to get the public testimony in, we're going to be doing the
8 interviews -- scheduling the interviews for next Friday, not
9 for this Friday. There are agenda issues with that, and there
10 are posting issues with that, and we've been so clean up until
11 this point, we've really done everything exactly by the book,
12 and I would hate for a -- a technicality like an agenda issue
13 that we skipped over to make it convenient for both the
14 candidates to keep their schedule and for us to keep our
15 schedule, I would hate to cause any issue. So we're going to
16 be keeping the schedule as -- pardon me. We're going to be
17 adjusting the schedule to have interviews next Friday and
18 public testimony open again next Wednesday.

19 Yes, Gregg.

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is there an openness to
21 considering keeping the interview schedule the same as it is
22 currently and just carry over the testimony portion? But to
23 continue with the existing dates that everybody's aware of and
24 have blocked calendars and whatnot to continue on this Friday?

25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Almost pau. I'm gonna --

1 CHAIR VARES: It actually has to do with agenda
2 issues because we're -- because we are recessing -- we
3 already, by the way, recessed the public testimony, and the
4 official stepping was recess public testimony -- and this is
5 on the agenda, recess public testimony, then pick back up
6 again from today's meeting on Friday for the interviews, but
7 now we've had -- we had to recess public testimony from today,
8 and we had to wrap it back around to next Wednesday, which
9 means that we're multiple -- multiple recessing.

10 MR. MURAI: Madam Chair.

11 CHAIR VARES: Yes.

12 MR. MURAI: If I may.

13 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Gary, corp. Counsel.

14 MR. MURAI: This is Gary Murai. You know what, I
15 think maybe a fair question would be in light of Commissioner
16 Lundberg's, you know, query about, you know, people having,
17 you know, set -- you know, blocked off their calendars and
18 that kind of thing, the chair has indicated her desire to post
19 a new agenda tomorrow with new interview dates tentatively for
20 next week Friday. Maybe now's a good time to take a poll of
21 the members. If people cannot make it -- if enough people
22 cannot make it so that we do not have a quorum, we need to
23 look for another date. So, Madam Chair, maybe you might, you
24 know, ask if -- if interviews are rescheduled, does anyone
25 have a problem attending? And if there are enough people that

1 cannot attend, we need to consider another date.

2 CHAIR VARES: Okeydokey. Were you all able to hear
3 all that?

4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.

5 CHAIR VARES: Okay. So I'd like to take a poll to
6 see if we reschedule the interviews to next week Friday, that
7 would be the 17th. Do we have enough -- does anybody have any
8 scheduling conflicts with that date? And if so, then we'll
9 have to find another date.

10 COMMISSIONER BURNS: (Gesturing.)

11 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Dwight.

12 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yeah, I have a conflict with
13 that date. I've gotta fly out for doing a training session in
14 Sacramento.

15 CHAIR VARES: Okay.

16 COMMISSIONER BURNS: I fly out -- I leave that
17 Friday morning --

18 CHAIR VARES: Okay.

19 COMMISSIONER BURNS: -- conference.

20 CHAIR VARES: Anyone -- there's nothing to say that
21 we can't do it on the Thursday, as long as it's after the
22 public testimony.

23 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Madam Chair, Madam Chair, if
24 I could get clarity from corp. Counsel.

25 CHAIR VARES: Yeah.

1 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is this a procedural issue,
2 or is this a convenience issue?

3 CHAIR VARES: That's a --

4 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Is this something that --
5 that he's guiding us --

6 CHAIR VARES: It's clearly not a convenience issue.
7 It's definitely not convenience.

8 MR. MURAI: Yeah, you know, Commissioner Lundberg, I
9 guess the concern is, is that it's rather -- it would be very,
10 shall we say, unconventional to conduct interviews, but yet
11 keep the public testimony part open. There is no real --
12 there's nothing that we're aware that would prohibit it, so
13 it's not -- it's more a question of what's been fairly
14 standard procedure, which is public testimony first, then
15 interviews, then decision-making, so -- anyway, that's what --
16 that's what it is. And now I'm also relying on the fact that,
17 you know, generally speaking, when it comes to agenda setting,
18 you know, the chair is -- the chair sets the agenda. So if --
19 if members have, you know, concerns or opinions, I suppose you
20 can express them; however, it's -- it's -- it would be the --
21 my office's recommendation that we complete public testimony
22 first.

23 COMMISSIONER BURNS: I have a question.

24 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Dwight.

25 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Gary, would it be possible to

1 move public testimony till tomorrow morning before we do the
2 interviews and do them both on the same day and move the
3 interviews back, or we cannot do that?

4 MR. MURAI: You can -- you can -- you can do that.

5 CHAIR VARES: So we could -- we don't have to wait a
6 week for public testimony?

7 MS. THOMSON: Let me just jump in really quick. I
8 think the problem that we have to back up to is when we
9 started the meeting, some members of the public may not have
10 been able to join in because of the way -- you know, if you
11 tried to click on the link to get in on the agenda, you -- I
12 guess some were not able to get in. So the reason that we're
13 cautioning, you know, to just go ahead with the process and
14 instead just go ahead and notice a new agenda is to give any
15 members of the public the opportunity to participate.

16 MR. MURAI: Oh, yeah.

17 MS. THOMSON: And like your chair said, you know,
18 we've done everything so clean and tight that we don't want to
19 try to rush anything and inadvertently make a misstep, so
20 that's why Gary's advice has been the way it is.

21 MR. MURAI: Yeah, and I apologize about giving the
22 incorrect advice. I'd forgotten about the link problem. So,
23 Members, for -- to continue public testimony, as a practical
24 matter, it would have to be on Wednesday at the soonest. The
25 interviews can be any time thereafter, so if -- if Friday is

1 no good, we just need to find another date.

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Could it take the place of
3 the scheduled meeting on Thursday if we were -- all were gonna
4 be available for the meeting on Thursday?

5 CHAIR VARES: Thursday would work.

6 MR. MURAI: (Inaudible.)

7 CHAIR VARES: He said yes, so --

8 MR. MURAI: We would -- we would have to -- we'd
9 have to post the agenda -- yeah, that's right, Thursday would
10 work --

11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Okay.

12 MR. MURAI: -- for the interviews, as long as people
13 are available.

14 CHAIR VARES: Gang, I'm so sorry to do this --

15 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Dylan left a message saying
16 he's not.

17 CHAIR VARES: Wait. What, Dwight?

18 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Dylan left a message in the
19 message column saying that he's -- Thursdays won't work for
20 him.

21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: How about Wednesday? What
22 about Wednesday, right after the public testimony? We wrap it
23 up with the interviews?

24 CHAIR VARES: That's definitely possible, and I
25 can't -- I don't see why not. It would probably be a one

1 before lunch, one after lunch kind of thing. What -- no?

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: We're all together. We're
3 all together.

4 CHAIR VARES: One second. I'm so sorry; I have to
5 mute you.

6 (Pause in proceedings.)

7 CHAIR VARES: Okay, gang. First of all, thank you
8 guys so much for being flexible. What about if we were to do
9 the public testimony at 8:00 and then schedule one to be, say,
10 9:30 to 11:30 or 10:00 to 12:00, and then one from 1:30 to
11 3:30 or 1:00 to 3:00, whatever --

12 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

13 CHAIR VARES: -- on Wednesday?

14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Vice chair, I'm --

15 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I can't make it until 10:00,
16 sorry.

17 CHAIR VARES: No, that's -- 10:00 would work,
18 though.

19 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I thought you said 8:00. Okay.
20 Cool.

21 CHAIR VARES: Oh, I'm sorry, that would be public
22 testimony. You can --

23 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I mean, I'm fine missing it,
24 but I'm just letting you know I -- I can't make it until
25 10:00.

1 CHAIR VARES: Okay. Dwight, you look like you're
2 having a heart attack. Are you available on Wednesday?

3 COMMISSIONER BURNS: No, I'm good. I'm just
4 stretching, stretching out.

5 CHAIR VARES: Oh, you were frozen. I was like, oh,
6 my God, we lost Dwight.

7 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: (Gesturing.)

8 CHAIR VARES: Yes, I'm sorry, Gregg.

9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Corp. Counsel said it would
10 be more of a -- going down the path not traveled by many in
11 keeping -- in changing the order, I guess I would once again
12 bring up why we don't just keep the interviews the same day on
13 this Friday and make up the testimony next week? It'd be more
14 convenient for everybody. I understand it's unconventional, I
15 think is what his term was, but this group doesn't seem to be
16 a conventional group anyway. We seem to be pretty much
17 unconventional types of people.

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Sure.

19 MR. MURAI: You're right, there's nothing I can
20 think of for not proceeding other than it being, yeah,
21 unconventional or not -- not typical.

22 CHAIR VARES: We would not vote --

23 MR. MURAI: So --

24 CHAIR VARES: After the -- we'd have to vote
25 after --

1 MR. MURAI: That's right.

2 CHAIR VARES: -- public testimony.

3 MR. MURAI: You could hear the -- you can conduct
4 the interviews, if that's your wish, on Friday, but we would
5 not be making a decision until after public testimony --

6 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Gary, it's hard to hear you.

7 CHAIR VARES: Yeah, can -- you have to come --

8 MR. MURAI: I'm sorry. So if it's the wish of the
9 commission to proceed with interviews on Friday, then you
10 could not make -- you could not do any decision-making until
11 after the conclusion of public testimony. And, as I said,
12 it's -- there's no legal impediment or legal reason why you
13 could not do it, but, again, it's just different. But, again,
14 my main -- I guess my main point is if you do decide to
15 proceed on Friday, it would be for interviews only, and the --
16 the decision-making would also be deferred.

17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chair, I like that idea
18 because, you know what, our intention is still to have the
19 interviews on Friday, and we can explain that the -- like I'm
20 for this process of keeping it to Wednesday, public testimony,
21 and then decide. And, you know, our other corp. Counsel lady
22 mentioned that -- she mentioned that another reason why was
23 because we want to give a fair opportunity to the public for
24 testifying, but we are. And I think our intentions are good;
25 we -- I don't want to lose momentum with our paperwork. We

1 said interviews on Friday, Wednesday we can, you know, we'll
2 extend more public testimony, that's great, we admit the tech
3 problem, but -- and then after the testimony, we can have the
4 decision-making. I think we should wrap this up.

5 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Donna.

6 Richelle, did you have something to add?

7 MS. THOMSON: Thank you. So I -- you know, maybe,
8 you know, just going back to the purpose of public testimony
9 and the reason that it's required under the Sunshine Law is so
10 that the boards and commissions have the opportunity to hear
11 from the public before they get into any kind of
12 decision-making track, so you're required to take public
13 testimony on every agenda item. Really, the only agenda item
14 that you had today is the interviews, right? And the
15 intention always was to hear from the public and then move on
16 to the interviews. The reason that I think that it would be
17 better to not try to rush this -- you know, I'm really as
18 bummed as you guys are in terms of, you know, the technical
19 difficulties that we had, but, you know, given that hearing
20 from the public may inform the questions in the interview
21 process, you have a set number of questions and -- that you've
22 already approved, but there are gonna be follow-up questions,
23 and some of those questions that you ask may be informed by
24 hearing from the public. So, you know, my advice would be
25 don't rush it, you know. I'm sorry for the technical

1 difficulties, but just go ahead and -- the minimum number of
2 notice days is six, so today is -- today is Wednesday, if I'm
3 correct on that, so you could, at the earliest -- if we
4 publish an agenda before close of business today, you could do
5 it Tuesday, but, you know, I know you were talking about
6 Wednesday or on -- so I'd just go ahead and just do a really
7 clean, published, you know, re -- adjourn today's meeting,
8 publish a new agenda, and then just, you know, go -- go
9 forward. But I would not conduct the interviews on Friday.

10 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Richelle.

11 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: (Gesturing.)

12 CHAIR VARES: Dylan, yes.

13 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Can I just ask, you know,
14 today we -- we had a little less of the anticipated number of
15 public testimony, so is there a way we can, you know,
16 structure our agenda with the option to continue testimonies
17 on that day? I know that we had to set a time for each
18 interviewer -- interview. I don't know, I just -- I wanted to
19 see if there's a way to explore something like that, so we can
20 make use of the full day on Wednesday if we have, you know,
21 two people that testify, and we have our whole calendar
22 blocked for a longer day then.

23 CHAIR VARES: So if I'm understanding correctly,
24 you're hoping that we would combine the two things, is that --

25 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Yeah. I was actually looking

1 at corp. Counsel to give some insight on where we -- is that
2 something possible where -- 'cause, really, you would recess
3 for the interviews, but I'm saying if there's only two
4 testifiers on Wednesday --

5 CHAIR VARES: Yeah, right. Or none, frankly.

6 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Or none.

7 CHAIR VARES: Then could we just do the interviews
8 that day.

9 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: So that the two candidates
10 are informed of the possibility that their interview's that
11 day kind of thing.

12 CHAIR VARES: Hold that thought.

13 Gary, were you about to say something in the -- no,
14 you're good. Okay.

15 Okay, crew, are --

16 Like right now?

17 Yeah, give me -- give me five minutes, guys, give me
18 a five-minute recess. Everybody take a break.

19 (Pause in Proceedings)

20 CHAIR VARES: Okay. Thanks. Back from recess. Do
21 we have any scheduling issues with, say, scheduling the public
22 testimony for next Tuesday, keeping it controlled, and then
23 getting out of there as fast as possible and then have the
24 interviews on Tuesday or on Wednesday? Does anyone have any
25 scheduling conflicts or preferences for either of those two?

1 COMMISSIONER BURNS: (Gesturing.)

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Say again, please, Chair.

3 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Dwight.

4 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Wednesday would work for me for
5 the interviews. Tuesday, I'm gonna be on Kauai for the day.

6 CHAIR VARES: Okay. We've got one for the
7 interviews on Wednesday. Donna, what?

8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. Could you --

9 CHAIR VARES: I'm sorry. Sure. If we were to post
10 today on the scheduling on the Sunshine Law that we are doing
11 the public testimony on Tuesday, which would be the very
12 soonest we could do it, then we could schedule a -- the
13 interviews to be on Tuesday immediately following, or we could
14 schedule the public testimony to be Wednesday and have the
15 interviews to follow immediately on Wednesday. Dwight is
16 available on Wednesday.

17 Dylan, I've got a thumbs -- does Wednesday work for
18 you?

19 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Both of those dates work,
20 yes.

21 CHAIR VARES: Gregg?

22 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I can make them work.

23 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

24 COMMISSIONER STERLING: And, yes, Chair, yes. Yeah.

25 CHAIR VARES: Puna?

1 COMMISSIONER STERLING: It will work for me.

2 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I can do --

3 CHAIR VARES: Wednesday would work?

4 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I can do Wednesday after 10:00.
5 I'm not available on Tuesday.

6 CHAIR VARES: Okay. We do not have Max, we do not
7 have Kyle, but we've got enough for --

8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: A quorum.

9 CHAIR VARES: Yeah. What am I looking at here?
10 Okay. So then I -- I'm gonna move forward, then, with
11 recommending that the public testimony be moved to 8:00 a.m.
12 next Wednesday and notify the candidates that interviews will
13 be next Wednesday, one starting at 10:00 and the other
14 probably at 1:00, and then we'll be able to finish up by about
15 3:00, and then we can do our vote immediately thereafter next
16 Wednesday.

17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Wednesday. Good job.

18 CHAIR VARES: Sound like a plan?

19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Great. Corp. Counsel?

20 CHAIR VARES: Thank you guys for your flexibility.

21 Oh, yes, Dylan. Unless it was a high five.

22 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: High five and also that the
23 interview session, we decided that that was available as a
24 hybrid session, right, in person or virtual?

25 CHAIR VARES: Correct.

1 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Okay. Just flexibility for
2 everyone.

3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I would like -- yeah, sorry.
4 Sorry. I'd like to, while we're on board right now, affirm
5 that we're gonna be in attendance, whether it's hybrid or not,
6 or physical, can we get -- I can let you know I'll be there in
7 physical -- at the address that Richelle gave us for Friday.
8 While we're all assembled, I affirm that I'll be there
9 physically --

10 CHAIR VARES: Okay.

11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: -- at that meeting room.

12 CHAIR VARES: Thank you, Donna.

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Sure.

14 CHAIR VARES: You'll be there in person on Wednesday
15 for --

16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: On Wednesday.

17 CHAIR VARES: For the interview. Excellent.

18 Yes, Gregg.

19 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Can we verify that the space
20 is still open the following week?

21 CHAIR VARES: We're gonna have to verify that still
22 yet.

23 MR. MURAI: You mean the site?

24 CHAIR VARES: Yeah.

25 MR. MURAI: The meeting site?

1 CHAIR VARES: The meeting site.

2 MR. MURAI: Well, the -- I'm -- I'm 90 percent sure
3 it's available because no -- no one else has been using that,
4 that conference room.

5 CHAIR VARES: Okay. So he's 90 percent available --
6 90 percent sure that it's available.

7 MR. MURAI: If there's a change, we will -- well, we
8 have until -- technically, we have until Thursday to post the
9 agenda, but we're gonna try and post tomorrow.

10 CHAIR VARES: Can you guys hear okay?

11 MR. MURAI: But in the meantime, we will confirm.

12 CHAIR VARES: Could you guys hear all that?

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Yes.

15 CHAIR VARES: Okay, all right. We will -- we will
16 confirm it by -- immediately.

17 Oh, good, Max. Hi, Max. So we've got Max Kincaid
18 has just joined us as well.

19 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Hello.

20 CHAIR VARES: Hi. Okay. To fill you in real
21 quickly, we do -- we have just determined that the best course
22 of action right now is going to be to have public testimony
23 scheduled for again next Wednesday starting at 8:00, and then
24 immediately following public testimony closing, we will do the
25 interviews for both candidates next Wednesday, and that one

1 will be at 10:00, and one will be at probably around -- we're
2 still getting it organized, but 1:30 or 1:00. Max, do you
3 have any scheduling conflicts with next Wednesday?

4 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: No.

5 CHAIR VARES: Excellent.

6 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Not at all.

7 CHAIR VARES: Thank you so much. Thanks for your
8 flexibility.

9 We do need to -- to notify the candidates. Speaking
10 of that, one side note that we had all been looking at was
11 the -- any PowerPoint presentations for the candidates
12 themselves and requesting them to provide us with printouts of
13 any PowerPoints that they may want to provide or send over an
14 email version. We'll -- we'll get that summarized for
15 everybody before Wednesday. Okay?

16 Okay. Do we have anything else?

17 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes, Chair.

18 CHAIR VARES: Yes, Donna.

19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chair, sorry, I know I'm --
20 I talk a lot, but I want to go back to everybody should
21 confirm if they're gonna be in person or they're gonna be on
22 BlueJeans.

23 CHAIR VARES: I don't know that we necessarily need
24 to pin anybody down with that right now. We've just given
25 them the schedule. I'd like to give everybody a hot second to

1 organize things before they commit themselves to anything if
2 that's okay.

3 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you. That's good.

4 CHAIR VARES: Thank you.

5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Good.

6 CHAIR VARES: I saw something across -- Richelle
7 Thomson, you were asking what time the interviews are gonna
8 be. Did I see that?

9 MS. THOMSON: Yeah. I missed it when you were
10 talking about it.

11 CHAIR VARES: Sorry. We are discussing 10:00, 10:00
12 a.m. or 10:30.

13 MR. MURAI: Let's stick with 10:00.

14 CHAIR VARES: Let's stick with 10:00 next Wednesday.

15 MR. MURAI: I think, Chair, you said 10:00.

16 CHAIR VARES: Yeah, 10:00.

17 MR. MURAI: And 1:00.

18 CHAIR VARES: And then 1:00.

19 MR. MURAI: In the same order.

20 CHAIR VARES: Correct. In the same order with Chief
21 Amos first and Chief Brad second.

22 MS. THOMSON: So are you going --

23 CHAIR VARES: Yes.

24 MS. THOMSON: You're going to be starting with
25 public testimony at 10:00 and then --

1 CHAIR VARES: At 8:00. I'm sorry, at 8:00 a.m.

2 MS. THOMSON: That's what I was --

3 CHAIR VARES: So the -- yeah. So we're starting
4 earlier than today. Today was 10:00, but we're gonna be
5 starting early 8:00. Sorry, everybody.

6 Okay. Anything further, everybody? Okay. That was
7 an awful lot.

8 COMMISSIONER BURNS: (Gesturing.)

9 CHAIR VARES: Oh, yes, Dwight, go ahead.

10 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Motion to adjourn.

11 CHAIR VARES: Oh, my God.

12 (Laughter.)

13 CHAIR VARES: Seconded?

14 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: This is Dylan. I second the
15 motion.

16 CHAIR VARES: All right. With that being said,
17 we're gonna go ahead and adjourn today's -- are we adjourning,
18 or are we recessing?

19 MR. MURAI: We are adjourning.

20 CHAIR VARES: We are adjourning. We're adjourning
21 today's meeting of the fire and public safety commission.
22 It's 1:49 on 9/8/2021. You guys, thank you so much for the
23 marathon. I appreciate it.

24 (The proceedings were adjourned at 1:49 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 September 8, 2021, at 10:00 a.m., the proceedings were 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 10th day of October, 2021, in Maui, Hawaii.



Sandra J. Gran, RPR
Hawaii CSR 424