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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  
January 20, 2022.

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

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ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Kyle Ginoza, Chair
- Lisa Vares, Vice Chair
- Gregg Lundberg, Member
- Donna Sterling, Member
- Punahuele Alcon, Member
- Max Kincaid, Jr., Member
- Dylan Andrion, Member
- Makalapua Kanuha, Member

STAFF:

- Bradford Ventura, Fire Chief
- Hanalei Lindo, Assistant Fire Chief
- Jeff Giese, Assistant Fire Chief
- Daniel Kunkel, Deputy Corporation Counsel
- Richelle Wakamatsu, Commission Secretary
- Herman Andaya, Maui Emergency Management Agency

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(January 20, 2022, 10:00 a.m.)

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CHAIR GINOZA: Good morning, everyone. It's 10:00 a.m., Thursday, January 20th, and I'd like to call to order the Maui Fire and Public Safety Commission meeting. My name is Kyle Ginoza, and I'm chair of the commission. I'd like to start off by doing roll call.

Vice Chair Lisa Vares.

(No response.)

CHAIR GINOZA: I see her on.

Let's go with Gregg Lundberg.

COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Here.

CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Gregg.

Dwight Burns is excused.

Donna Sterling.

COMMISSIONER STERLING: Here, Chair.

CHAIR GINOZA: Hi, Donna.

Punahuele Alcon.

COMMISSIONER ALCON: Here.

CHAIR GINOZA: Hi, Punahuele.

Max Kincaid, Jr.

COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Here.

CHAIR GINOZA: Hi, Max.

Dylan Andrion.

COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Here.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Hi, Dylan.

2 And Makalapua Kanuha.

3 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Here, Chair.

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Makalapua.

5 I hope everyone got the copy of the minutes from the  
6 December 16th meeting and was able -- were able -- everybody  
7 was able to review it. Unless anybody has any questions,  
8 could I have a motion to accept the December meeting minutes?

9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: So moved.

10 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: So moved. This is Dylan.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Dylan. And a second?

12 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: I'll second.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Makalapua.

14 All in favor, raise your hand.

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Looks like we have one, two --  
17 eight for it, so unanimously approved.

18 Richelle, is there anyone wishing to testify today?

19 MS. WAKAMATSU: Not on my end.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Is there anyone on the call  
21 that's wanting to testify from the public?

22 (No response.)

23 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, public  
24 testimony is closed.

25 At this time, I also would like to recognize who we

1 have from the fire department. Chief Ventura.

2 CHIEF VENTURA: Good morning, everybody. Thanks for  
3 being here today. Myself, Chief Ventura; behind me, Chief  
4 Hanalei Lindo; and across the table, newly promoted, we did  
5 our interviews yesterday, Assistant Chief Jeff Giese, so we'd  
6 like to welcome him. And we have Richelle off camera here.  
7 That's who's with us today.

8 CHAIR GINOZA: That's great.

9 And I see we have Dan Kunkel from corporation  
10 counsel. Thank you.

11 MR. KUNKLE: Good morning.

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Daniel, for joining us.

13 MR. KUNKLE: Good morning, Commissioners.

14 CHAIR GINOZA: And I believe we have Herman on; I  
15 see MEMA. Herman, is that you?

16 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, Mr. Chair. I'm right  
17 here.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great. Thank you, Herman.

19 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: And actually, let's -- let's move on  
21 to you, so would you provide the MEMA report, Herman?

22 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay, good. Thank you.  
23 For -- for MEMA, I just wanted to report out that we did  
24 complete our damage assessment for the -- for the flooding  
25 that occurred in December, the severe weather flooding which

1 affected Kula as well as Kihei, South Maui, specifically Maui  
2 Meadows. And so we were -- FEMA was here on island, and we  
3 were not able to have enough damage for individual assistance,  
4 to get individual assistance, so there weren't enough homes  
5 that were major damaged or destroyed. And so, as a result, we  
6 will not be getting assistance, but we will be getting public  
7 assistance, so I believe that right now is at -- just waiting  
8 for presidential approval. Once President Biden approves it,  
9 then we will get federal funding for infrastructure that was  
10 damaged during the -- the storm, so -- so that's where we're  
11 at right now with that.

12 We just had a kickoff meeting, in fact, that Chief  
13 Ventura and I were just in a meeting a few minutes ago; we had  
14 a kickoff meeting for our Homeland Security Grant program, so  
15 I know fire department will have some projects that they'll be  
16 applying for this grant, and we'll be looking forward to that.

17 That's -- that's all I have, Mr. Chair. And then,  
18 at some point, I know I'm supposed to do a presentation today  
19 about the EOC, so I'm ready to do that when you want me to.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Before we go to that, does any  
21 commissioner have any questions for Herman regarding his  
22 report?

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I do.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Donna.

25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you, Chair.

1 I have a real quick one. Thank you, Henry --  
2 Herman. What recommendations is MEMA making to the county or  
3 state -- I drive by Kula, and the bridges are being -- the  
4 rivers, the runoffs are being totally redone because of major  
5 damage and the water lines. Do you make recommendations to  
6 the -- who is in charge of maintaining upcountry water flow  
7 down to Kula Kai or Kihei? Is that part of your scope?

8 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So, Mr. Chair, so whenever  
9 there's a project that's being proposed, our office does do --  
10 provide comment, so -- but with respect to, like, I know  
11 there's a lot of projects that don't have, like, proper  
12 drainage and all of that, and so that's something that, you  
13 know, we can't -- we have no purview over, but we can make  
14 recommendations. And I know we just completed our hazard  
15 mitigation plan update, and that has, like, some  
16 recommendations in there with respect to -- I guess what we're  
17 talking about is drainage, right?

18 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right.

19 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Drainage issues and, you know,  
20 things like that. So there are --

21 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

22 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yeah, so we -- it does  
23 identify areas on Maui that -- Maui, Molokai, Lanai that are  
24 prone to, like, you know, this kind of flooding or, you know,  
25 so it does have recommendations, yeah.

1           COMMISSIONER STERLING: Good. Yeah, that's great.  
2 Thank you.

3           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

4           CHAIR GINOZA: Any -- any other questions from  
5 commissioners?

6           COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Kyle, I've got a question  
7 quick for Herman.

8           CHAIR GINOZA: Sure, Gregg.

9           COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: The -- we've seen on the  
10 news, and I've heard that locally we've brought on some nurses  
11 from the mainland to help supplement our first responders and  
12 our hospitals. Is Maui Memorial or Kaiser beneficiary of some  
13 of these positions?

14           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes, I -- I believe they are,  
15 so I think they'll be getting some -- some nurses and  
16 everything. You know, our hospital, despite our numbers going  
17 up tremendously, our hospital is still not -- they're still  
18 not overwhelmed yet. And so we've been getting reports from  
19 the hospital, and they have not implemented their surge plan  
20 at this point, so -- but they do have a plan in place so in  
21 the event that they become overwhelmed, then they'll --  
22 they'll implement that, that surge plan, but at this point,  
23 they're simply doing okay at this --

24           COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Okay. Thank you.

25           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: For now. Yeah. Thank you.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Any other questions from  
2 commissioners? All right.

3 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I have one.

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, go ahead.

5 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Kyle.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Max.

7 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Oh, blew it again. Sorry.

8 Regarding the EOC for the flood -- can you hear me?

9 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes. Go ahead, Commissioner.

10 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: My hope is that although  
11 everything went relatively smoothly, according to some of my  
12 contacts, there was a lack of communication with the  
13 responding ground crews from the county. One of their biggest  
14 downfalls to that was, I'm told guys on the front lines  
15 operating equipment and whatnot really didn't have any  
16 communication with the EOC. Can that be remedied? In other  
17 words, you've got the fire department, and you've got, you  
18 know, the police, and you've got the responding county agency,  
19 road division, from my information, the guys on the road  
20 divisions really didn't have any communication with the people  
21 from the EOC. And this is coming from the line supervisor. I  
22 would hope that checks could be made with those people that  
23 did respond so that in the future, they do have communications  
24 directly with the EOC. That was just something brought up to  
25 me by some of the people who worked upcountry flooding.

1 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Mr. Chair.

2 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead.

3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: I -- I'll look into it,  
4 Commissioner. So in our EOC, I mean, you'll be hearing my  
5 presentation soon, but we do have representatives from the --  
6 like public works, water department in the EOC, and so they  
7 are getting information from us. That's part of their -- what  
8 the EOC does, that's part of our function, which is  
9 information sharing, and so I'm not sure what's happening.  
10 The director is in my -- in the EOC, and I'm not sure if that  
11 information is flowing down to their people or her people. So  
12 I'll look into that, Commissioner, and see, you know, how we  
13 can improve that.

14 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay. Thank you.

15 CHAIR GINOZA: Max, is that -- is that specific to  
16 the fire personnel or police? Because I know you have police  
17 experience.

18 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: It wasn't so much to the fire  
19 personnel or the police, you know, they were responding every  
20 which way but loose trying to get the thing coordinated. But  
21 for those guys that were on the front lines doing the clearing  
22 away of, say, materials that occurred during the flood, they  
23 really didn't have communication with the EOC as to which --  
24 which areas would be primary for their response to make it  
25 more efficient. According to my people, they were just out

1 there doing the best they could with what they had, and at the  
2 time, there was no communication with the road department.  
3 Road division people, their supervisors, not the EOC, but I  
4 was hoping that maybe the EOC can work with their supervisors  
5 out there and getting communications as to the priorities in  
6 which they attack the situations.

7 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Max.

8 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: (Gesturing.)

9 CHAIR GINOZA: Gregg, do you have a question?

10 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Yeah, quick question. The  
11 E. Coli break -- breakout Upcountry in Kula, does that fall  
12 under MEM's purview, or is that department of water?

13 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: That would have been the road  
14 division.

15 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: For the E. Coli bacteria in  
16 the water?

17 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: No, no, no. This was during  
18 the rain downpour, where they responded to in clearing  
19 highways and trying to open up the roadways.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, Max, I think he's asking about  
21 something different, huh?

22 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay. Sorry, miscue on that.

23 CHAIR GINOZA: Gregg, what was your question?

24 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I'm sorry. Is there any  
25 involvement with MEM in the E. Coli breakout Upcountry? And

1 what's your prognosis?

2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Mr. Chair, that was through  
3 the department of water supply and so they -- they're taking  
4 the lead on that, but we are aware that that was occurring and  
5 they -- you know, they put out the -- during the water  
6 shortage -- or water outage, rather, we helped coordinate, you  
7 know, putting out the water, water buffaloes and all of that,  
8 you know. But with respect to the -- the E. Coli, yeah,  
9 that's something that the department of water supply has been  
10 handling, you know, and -- and they've been communicating to  
11 the public. There's been, I know, press releases from their  
12 department letting the public know when -- what areas it's  
13 safe to drink the water and things like that. They're doing  
14 their very best trying to flush out the system. Again, you  
15 know, these are -- the breakage in the pipes occurred in areas  
16 where it is very remote and so, you know, they were -- they're  
17 trying their very best to try to, I guess, identify what areas  
18 there could be an outbreak and then, you know, then trying to  
19 fix that area, so (pause) --

20 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Thank you.

21 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Gregg. Thank you, Herman.  
22 Any other questions from commissioners?

23 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I do, Chair.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Donna. Go ahead.

25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Herman, this EOC report

1 you're gonna make later on, will that be including the water  
2 E. Coli? Is that what you're gonna report on, all that, you  
3 know, activity? 'Cause I'll hold off until you make that  
4 report, and then I want to -- I can hold off.

5 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Mr. Chair.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Herman.

7 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: The chair, Chair Ginoza asked  
8 me to do a short presentation on the EOC, you know, what the  
9 EOC is and what our operations are like, what's our processes,  
10 so that's -- that's what my presentation will be on.

11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Oh, okay. Because where I  
12 was going with this, Herman, was, you know, the amount of --  
13 of damage to pipes, runoffs, lack of maintenance for the  
14 runoffs up at Kula all the way down, but the debris,  
15 homeowners not manning the -- the runoffs. I'd like to see a  
16 report from their final inspection, whether it's public works,  
17 board of water supply, and how in the future, if we have  
18 another sudden storm and it lasts for two days, what  
19 guarantees or what improvements have they made so this doesn't  
20 happen again with the E. Coli and the water pipes and the  
21 internet with all the debris starting at Kula down to Kihei.  
22 That was just my thought; that's where I was going.

23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Oh. Mr. Chair.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead.

25 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: And that's something that

1 maybe this commission can ask the respective agencies and  
2 departments, you know, what -- what their plans are with  
3 respect to that, so -- but, you know, for instance, the water  
4 department, asking them like, you know, what kind of  
5 maintenance and what -- what they're doing, you know, to -- to  
6 prevent this from happening again. I know for public works,  
7 I've been -- I receive information from them that they have  
8 been going out all throughout the year -- not only during the  
9 wet season but all throughout the year they go out, and they  
10 clean out all the culverts and everything and make sure  
11 they're all clear, you know, so I know that that goes on  
12 throughout the year.

13           You know, I -- we saw -- what we saw was a lot of  
14 debris in the culverts and everything, so it wasn't -- it was  
15 a lot of, like, cuttings, you know, those kinds of things,  
16 so -- which leads me to believe that people are throwing,  
17 like, green waste into the gulches, you know, and that's  
18 something that maybe there needs to be a bit more public  
19 messaging about, you know, letting the public know that, you  
20 know, please don't use the gulch as your private landfill.

21           COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

22           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: You know, that it should be  
23 clear of that; otherwise, what's gonna happen is all of those  
24 green waste is gonna block up the culverts, you know, and  
25 everything, and that's -- that's really what caused a lot of

1 the flooding. But that's just reports that I'm getting.

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Perhaps getting those  
4 departments to come in and do a presentation before the  
5 commission might be -- might be helpful, you know, so you have  
6 a better understanding --

7 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, let's --

8 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: -- of what's going on.

9 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Right, right, Herman. And  
10 where I was going too is, you know, the people -- the manpower  
11 to also maintain the gulches are gonna be the community, Kula  
12 Community Association, Waiohuli, your Hawaiian Homestead, all  
13 the way down. It's gonna have to be a joint effort; everybody  
14 has to monitor their own area, their kuleana, to make sure  
15 those rubbish doesn't go in. Anyway, it's a community thing.  
16 I'll -- I'm gonna stop there. Thank you.

17 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Donna. Thank you, Herman.

19 Any other questions from commissioners?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, I had asked  
22 Herman to provide a short presentation about the somewhat  
23 inner workings of the EOC and the interagency coordination.  
24 I, in my previous capacity as a county director, had been  
25 involved in EOC deployments, and I thought it would be

1 beneficial for the public to understand what kind of goes on  
2 behind the scenes to ensure the safety of the community. So I  
3 asked Herman to just give a short presentation so that this  
4 commission, as well as the public, can better understand what  
5 happens in an emergency and the (inaudible).

6 Herman, please.

7 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay. Thank you, Chair.

8 Let me see if I can -- I'm gonna share my screen,  
9 yeah. Can --

10 CHAIR GINOZA: We see it.

11 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Can you see my presentation?

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, yes.

13 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Oh, you do, okay. Perfect.

14 First try, so --

15 So we'll be talking about the emergency operations  
16 center and -- and it's really the nerve center for when we --  
17 during a -- during an emergency, when we manage an emergency.  
18 So there's four phases of an emergency so there's the  
19 mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. And where  
20 we -- where we activate -- and I use this word quite often,  
21 activate the EOC -- it is during the response phase. And so  
22 what happens is we usually get a call from the -- whether it  
23 be the National Weather Service or from dispatch or from  
24 Hawaii Emergency Management Agency letting us know that  
25 there's some kind of event. And in that -- when that occurs,

1 then a decision has to be made whether to activate the EOC.

2 And for me, what -- what I look into the factors  
3 that go into determining whether we should activate the EOC, I  
4 look at whether there needs to be a coordination between  
5 agencies, and that's kind of the -- you know, one of the big  
6 tests for me. And, I mean, and so the primary functions of  
7 the EOC is the coordination of response efforts, the  
8 coordination of resources, as well as to maintain situational  
9 awareness.

10 And so situational awareness meaning that, you know,  
11 we want to be able to share information amongst all of our  
12 agencies and be able to share that information with -- with  
13 everyone. So getting information and then sharing it with --  
14 with our partners. And by having that and knowing all the  
15 facts of the incident, we can then make the right decisions.

16 The coordination of response efforts, again, you  
17 know, we don't want duplication, and so it's important to know  
18 what the -- it's important for the right hand to know what the  
19 left hand is doing, right? And so that's the reason why we  
20 have the EOC to be able to coordinate our response efforts.

21 And then the coordination of resources. So during  
22 an incident, resources may become scarce, and so it's  
23 important that we're -- that we're using the resources for,  
24 you know, whatever need there may be. So, like, for instance,  
25 with respect to the fire department, there may be a need --

1 during a brush fire, there may be a need for a bulldozer or,  
2 you know, or that kind of like heavy equipment and they need  
3 assistance with getting those bulldozers in place. We can  
4 assist with that by having -- by coordinating those types of  
5 resources.

6 And so today, I'm gonna talk about the components of  
7 the EOC. So one of the -- one of the things that we are very  
8 fortunate to have here on Maui is we have a lot of our agency  
9 partners in the EOC, and so I'll be talking about that. We'll  
10 talk about our procedures, and then, finally, our facility, so  
11 where we meet and things like that.

12 So with respect to our agency partners, and this is  
13 a -- this is just a photograph of how our EOC looks like  
14 during an activation. And you can see it's -- it's a lot of  
15 people in a small space. We have from 60 to 80 people in the  
16 EOC, and so -- and we're there for 24 hours -- you know, for  
17 24 hours, so you can imagine how -- how tight it can be in  
18 there. We had some issues with power because when this room  
19 was built, they weren't planning to have 80 people plug in  
20 their laptops, you know, so -- so we've had power issues,  
21 we've had issues with heat with -- you know, so we had to add  
22 additional air-conditioning units in here in order to -- in  
23 order to solve that issue because, you know, there's so many  
24 bodies in there, so -- but that's just a -- just to give you  
25 an idea of how it looks like in the EOC.

1           And these are our EOC partners. So you can see it's  
2 the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, the Federal Government,  
3 as well as non-governmental organizations. They all -- they  
4 are all part of the EOC. And for Maui, it's -- it's a little  
5 unique. In other jurisdictions, like, for instance, in  
6 Honolulu, their EOC is primarily made up of just county or  
7 city departments because the state has their own EOC and, you  
8 know, the federal government has their own EOC, so -- so you  
9 don't have the -- the varied, you know, partners as we do  
10 here. Here on Maui, there's no other -- there's no other  
11 place to go to but here, to our EOC, and so -- which is a good  
12 problem to have because, you know, we have all of these  
13 partners here, so --

14           And just to kind of go over the different  
15 departments that take part, we have -- for the County of Maui,  
16 you know, you can see -- and I have it broken down by sections  
17 within the EOC, and I'll go -- I'll talk about this a bit more  
18 later, but you can see we have the infrastructure branch,  
19 public works, environmental management, water supply. So I  
20 know one of the commissioners was asking a question about --  
21 about communication not going down to their -- to the line, I  
22 guess the line crew, and so -- but as you can see, we do have  
23 public works and other agencies in the EOC, and so -- and  
24 typically we're getting information back -- you know how we  
25 talked about information sharing, we talked about situational

1 awareness? So we do get information back from the line, the  
2 line staff, back up to the EOC, so I'm not sure what may have  
3 occurred there or what -- you know, but we'll look into that,  
4 definitely.

5 The public safety branch, again, you'll see the fire  
6 department, Maui Police Department, the prosecuting attorney,  
7 they're -- they're there. And finance administration,  
8 department of finance, somebody has to pay for our response  
9 and everything, and so -- and, you know, we need to do the  
10 paperwork so we can get reimbursement from FEMA, so that's  
11 where the department of finance comes into play.

12 And then finally, we have the human services branch,  
13 so housing and human concerns, parks and recreation,  
14 department of transportation. So in the event like, say, for  
15 instance, we need to open up an evacuation center, then they  
16 would assist us with -- with that, with, you know, things like  
17 that.

18 The State of Hawaii, so these are the -- these are  
19 the agencies that come to us from the state. We have the  
20 governor's office there. We have Hawaii Emergency Management  
21 Agency; they will send people over to the EOC during an event.  
22 We have DOFA, department of land and natural resources,  
23 division of forestry and wildlife, and they are -- you know,  
24 they're our excellent planners, they are very versed in ICS.  
25 And I'll talk about ICS later on, but we have them manning our

1 planning section.

2 We have the infrastructure branch with state  
3 highways, airport, ARFF, the aircraft rescue, and fire  
4 fighting, as well as DOT harbors.

5 And then also we have the National Guard, the  
6 International Guard, Army National Guard; they have liaisons  
7 in our EOC as well.

8 And then, of course, human services branch. You  
9 have department of education, department of health, and  
10 department of human services. It's -- it's great that these  
11 people are in the EOC because, like, say, for instance, just  
12 to give you an example, like department of education, so we  
13 have decision-makers in the EOC; usually they are  
14 superintendents there, and so like say, for instance, we need  
15 to open up a school to create -- to establish an evacuation  
16 site or evacuation center, I can -- we can just turn to the  
17 human services branch and talk to department of -- you know,  
18 the superintendent is sitting right there, I can just ask for,  
19 hey, we need to set up an evacuation site at this school, you  
20 know, and she'll -- she can go ahead and -- and have that set  
21 up, you know, very quickly. And so it's good to have all of  
22 our partners in one place that, you know, I don't have to,  
23 like, hunt them down, I don't have to call them, they're --  
24 they're sitting right there, and I can just go up to them and  
25 ask them for help.

1           This is the federal government. Again, we have FEMA  
2 at the command table as well as the U.S. Coast Guard and the  
3 National Park Service as well.

4           And then we have our non-government organizations,  
5 so we have Pacific Disaster Center, who's there to provide  
6 consulting assistance. We have the ham radio, the amateur  
7 radio, and operator in the -- in the EOC as well, and so --  
8 and, you know, in the event that communications go down,  
9 oftentimes the only thing that's gonna be working is ham  
10 radio. So we do have a ham radio operator in the event that  
11 goes down, but he is also getting information from other ham  
12 radio operators throughout the county, and so while -- while  
13 the event is going on, he's also getting information about  
14 what's occurring in various places.

15           We have the infrastructure branch, so we have Maui  
16 Electric, you know, Hawaiian Telcom, Spectrum Hawaii is there  
17 at the table.

18           And then, finally, we have the human services  
19 branch, and this is really important, especially during  
20 recovery. So we have the American Red Cross and various other  
21 organizations here. You know, we have -- we also -- sitting  
22 at the table, we have the Maui Hotel and Lodging Association  
23 as well as -- as well as the Maui Visitors Bureau. And why  
24 this is important is because, at any given time, a quarter of  
25 our population is made up of visitors, you know, and so that's

1 a large segment of our -- of our population, and so we need to  
2 make sure that -- that they're taken care of as well. So  
3 that's the reason why we have them sitting at our table also  
4 in our EOC.

5 And so the next thing I want to talk about is  
6 procedures, and the fire -- the firefighters sitting there are  
7 very familiar with this, but we -- we follow what's called an  
8 incident command system, and it's a standardized process  
9 throughout the country. It's standardized so that we can use  
10 the same concepts the same terminology to talk about emergency  
11 management. And this helps us a lot because like for us, for  
12 instance, anybody, like, in the fire department or the police  
13 department, they can come into our EOC, and they would know  
14 what to do if they can -- if they're familiar with ICS. Or if  
15 someone from New York comes to Maui, comes to our EOC on Maui,  
16 and -- you know, and we tell them, okay, you're gonna be part  
17 of the logistics section, that person knows what -- what he  
18 needs to do, and he knows what forms to fill out and, you  
19 know, things like that.

20 So this is a very, very powerful system. In fact,  
21 just two years ago, I was in the Philippines with the National  
22 Guard there for an earthquake drill, and here I was talking to  
23 emergency managers whose second language is English, and, yet,  
24 I was able to communicate with them very well because they  
25 were familiar with the ICS system. And so, again, we're --

1 we're talking about the same -- you know, we're using the same  
2 terminology, the same concepts, and everything. And -- and  
3 they -- as it turned out, they were experts at ICS, you know,  
4 they knew quite a bit because -- because there's a lot of  
5 disasters that occur there, so --

6 This is your typical -- your typical org. Chart  
7 for -- in a -- in an ICS system. So you have the incident  
8 commander, in my case -- in the EOC, it would be the EOC  
9 director, so that would be myself. And then you have the  
10 command staff, so you have the public information officer, a  
11 safety officer, a liaison officer. And then you have the  
12 general staff, and that's made up of the operations section  
13 chief, the planning section chief, logistics, and finance and  
14 admin. Section. So generally, what these people or these  
15 sections do, the -- the planning section creates the plan.  
16 And so during every incident action -- I mean, sorry, during  
17 each operational period, an IAP is created or an incident  
18 action plan, and that comes out of the -- the planning  
19 section. And then, the operations chief carries out that  
20 plan, so they implement the plan that was created by the  
21 planning section chief. The logistics section is -- they're  
22 in charge of managing resources, so whatever resource is  
23 needed to complete the plan, that's -- that's what the  
24 logistics chief does. And then, finally, the finance/admin.  
25 Section chief is responsible for all the documentation, the

1 paperwork that's needed for the -- for the incident.

2 And so that's basically our structure during an  
3 incident. And -- and this is the same kind of structure,  
4 pretty much, that you will find on the mainland or  
5 internationally or even with fire with their IMT, their  
6 incident management team, pretty much the same -- the same  
7 structure. And then this is kind of broken down even further,  
8 so you can see there's a lot of -- there's a lot of positions  
9 under these sections.

10 And then, we use what's called the Planning P, and  
11 so this is what occurs during an incident. And so we start  
12 off -- we start off at the bottom here. I don't know if you  
13 can see my cursor, but we start here, and we start getting  
14 information about the situation. And then we also start to  
15 respond, or we start to, you know, like what kind of needs  
16 there could be, and so that -- that starts off here. And then  
17 in this section here, we start going into the incident  
18 objectives, so I come up with -- I meet with my team, we come  
19 up with objectives, what is it that we want to do for the next  
20 operational period. Then we develop a plan for that, we -- we  
21 talk to each branch, and then we find out, like, what -- what  
22 needs to be done, what kind of -- what kind of tactics need to  
23 be utilized to meet the objectives. And then we -- we then  
24 present the plan, disseminate it to the group, and then we --  
25 in phase 5, we execute the plan.

1           And then we go back -- that would be the end -- the  
2 end of the operational period. A new operational period  
3 begins, and then we -- we go back to doing -- going through  
4 the same process again, so -- so this would be the next  
5 operational period. We just keep going around like this  
6 until -- until the event is over. But basically, that's  
7 where -- that's what we do during an incident.

8           So we -- as I mentioned earlier, we get the -- we  
9 get the call from the National Weather Service or some kind of  
10 notification telling us that there's an incident that's  
11 occurring, we start having meetings, we have VPCs with our --  
12 with our -- with HIEMA, the Hawaii Emergency Management  
13 Agency, with all of the other administrators, as well as with  
14 the governor and the mayor. And so we will have that meeting,  
15 we'll start discussing about the -- what we need to do at that  
16 point, and then we go into the objectives. And all of our  
17 partners are invited to these meetings so they can hear  
18 firsthand what's going on. They'll hear it from the national  
19 service or -- or whoever's calling the -- notifying us of the  
20 incident, and then they're also there listening to the  
21 conversation with the governor and with the mayor and -- and  
22 all the administrators, so --

23           There -- additional functions that we have also in  
24 the EOC, we have -- what we did differently is we created  
25 another section called the recovery section. So what I found

1 in a previous incident was that we were so concentrated, we  
2 were so focused on the response that -- that it took us a  
3 while to then switch gears as we went from one phase to  
4 another, so from the response phase to the recovery phase.  
5 And so, because of that, it took a while for us to stand up  
6 the recovery phase. And in this kind of situation, we don't  
7 want to take up that much time. And so what we did was I  
8 asked for another position, a recovery specialist, which is  
9 the first of its kind in the state. A recovery specialist who  
10 just focuses on the recovery phase. So while response is  
11 going on, she's already -- she's already planning for  
12 recovery. So recovery includes, like, debris removal, from  
13 debris removal to damage assessments. As I mentioned earlier  
14 in my report about damage assessments, that's going on already  
15 while the response is going. While the response is going on,  
16 we're already planning for recovery.

17 And then another thing that I -- I put in as well is  
18 the remote area incident command posts. So oftentimes in the  
19 past, I know that we kind of -- we're not really focused on,  
20 like, what's happening on Molokai, Lanai, and Hana. And so  
21 what I did was we -- we created a section, and then we created  
22 incident command posts in each of these areas. And then  
23 during the incident, we are communicating with them  
24 constantly, so making sure that they're -- they're okay, that  
25 they're -- you know, any needs that they may need, you know,

1 things like that. So we want to make sure that they're --  
2 they're taken care of. These areas are very resilient, but  
3 also they're very vulnerable at the same time, so -- so that's  
4 the reason why we felt that it was important that we -- that  
5 we monitor what's going on there.

6 And then, you know, recovery, of course, includes  
7 like -- like CERT and all of that. And the fire department  
8 has been a big help with us on that. And I think we need more  
9 of these types of teams throughout -- throughout Maui, so  
10 we'll continue to work with the fire department in getting  
11 more -- more CERT members trained. They're volunteers.

12 And so the last thing is our facility. And, you  
13 know, you saw these pictures in the past. This is our EOC,  
14 and as I've mentioned before, it's -- it's a small -- it's a  
15 small room with so many people that we have. So this is the  
16 photograph of the new -- well, the Hawaiian Tel Building that  
17 we -- the County of Maui just bought, and we'll be converting  
18 this into our new EOC and our new offices and everything. So  
19 it's a much larger room, and this will allow our partners to  
20 kind of have more distance with each other. And what we're  
21 hoping it will look like is this. So it will -- it'll be a  
22 larger room, it'll have conference rooms so we can have  
23 breakout meetings. We'll have, like, video walls and  
24 everything so we can display information and share information  
25 with our partners. And so this is what we -- we hope it

1 will -- it will eventually look like when all the renovations  
2 are done.

3           And then, you know, with all of this operational  
4 readiness, it's important we maintain -- we maintain this, and  
5 this is through the development and maintenance of plans. And  
6 these are different plans for different types of incidents and  
7 different types of functions. We conduct trainings with our  
8 partners as well as coordinate resources. And so these are  
9 just a -- this is our library, and you can see all the  
10 different plans that we have on the wall, and these are just a  
11 list of different plans that we have.

12           These are -- this is one of the trainings that we  
13 helped sponsor, so you can see a lot of our partners are there  
14 from the military to the fire department, police department,  
15 many of our county departments, state departments. They  
16 were -- they usually take part in these -- in these trainings.  
17 And, you know, like I said, mentioned earlier, we're so  
18 fortunate on Maui that we have partners who are willing to be  
19 part of the EOC, but also be part of the trainings and whatnot  
20 and being -- they're very conscientious partners. We want to  
21 make sure that they're well trained as well so that they can  
22 respond appropriately during an incident. These are more,  
23 more of our trainings.

24           This is the CST, which is coming up soon. I'm  
25 sorry, this is the civil support team of the National Guard,

1 and so they have a -- they have this yearly annual training to  
2 do with the fire department as well as with the police  
3 department, and we're -- we're involved as well, so -- and  
4 many of our partners involved.

5 Okay. And that's -- that's all I have. I'm open to  
6 any questions, if there are any.

7 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Chair, this is Puna. I have a  
8 question.

9 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Sure. Yes.

10 COMMISSIONER ALCON: How do you -- okay. So a lot  
11 of your pictures are, you know, showing everything that  
12 happens on Maui, but how do you serve Lanai and Molokai  
13 specifically? Because a lot of times people say, yeah, we are  
14 resilient communities, and they just leave us, and we have to  
15 figure things out on our own. 'Cause I can tell you, no one  
16 ever reached out to us from Maui to help us at all with this  
17 COVID pandemic. We've been receiving all of our help from  
18 Oahu. So how do you -- your department, you know, what --  
19 your kuleana, how do you help Molokai and Lanai?

20 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That's a good -- that's a good  
21 question.

22 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Do people from Molokai and  
23 Lanai come over to your training? How do our staff on Molokai  
24 get trained? Our roads people, just everything, do we get the  
25 same services?

1 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner, Mr.  
2 Chair. So at that photograph that I showed earlier, there  
3 were -- there were people from Molokai there, actually, at the  
4 training, and so they're -- you know, we invite them to the  
5 trainings as well. And as I mentioned earlier, you know, we  
6 created incident command posts on Molokai and Lanai. You may  
7 not be privy to those -- those meetings, but we've had  
8 meetings there. The incident command post is headed by the --  
9 the commander on Molokai during the incident. As I mentioned  
10 earlier, we do -- what we've done differently from, you know,  
11 past -- from the past is we have constant communication with  
12 Molokai and Lanai and Hana for that matter. In fact, what we  
13 did recently was we purchased video -- video teleconferencing  
14 equipment for those -- for those areas. And this is before  
15 COVID occurred, before everybody -- now everybody's doing  
16 video conferencing and all that. Well before that, we used  
17 Homeland Security monies to purchase video conferencing  
18 equipment for Molokai, Lanai, and Hana.

19 With respect to the -- like you think that -- that  
20 there's no assistance coming towards Molokai, but I can tell  
21 you, I mean, we've sent over PPEs to Molokai, but you're --  
22 you know, you weren't -- you're not -- you're not aware of  
23 that because we don't put MEMA or we don't put County of Maui  
24 on those PPEs, on those boxes, you know.

25 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I can tell you I am the second

1 in command at the hospital, and it has not come to us. So it  
2 may be coming to the island, but we know nothing about it, so  
3 that's where I'm -- I'm speaking from.

4 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay. Well -- and are you in  
5 touch with the Hawaii Emergency Management? That's one of our  
6 partners, and they're supposed to be communicating with you,  
7 so --

8 COMMISSIONER ALCON: They send us emails, but we get  
9 no communication from anyone from Maui. So I just -- that's  
10 why I'm wondering. We're the only hospital here, I see Maui  
11 Memorial on your slide, but we're not a part of it. So as  
12 a -- as a 24/7 health care provider, we're not being included,  
13 which is fine because we'll figure it out, but, you know, it's  
14 really Maui-centric. And I feel the same way -- I don't see  
15 anything from Lanai on your slide. So what are we doing for  
16 Lanai? What are we doing for Hana? We need to make sure that  
17 the smaller areas get taken care of.

18 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: So, again, you know, with  
19 respect to Lanai, same thing, we have an incident command post  
20 there as well, and we've been assisting them with COVID  
21 testing to, again, getting PPEs out to them, even -- even to  
22 the point where we were assisting them with -- what do you  
23 call that? When people travel to Lanai, we have National  
24 Guard like check, you know, checking them in, doing screenings  
25 and all of that, so -- so that was going on. And even on --

1 even on Molokai, so -- so those National Guard, we have a  
2 National Guard liaison here, we arranged for National Guard to  
3 be on Molokai to do screenings there, you know, when -- when  
4 the outbreak first occurred. So those are -- you know, I --  
5 there's a lot of things that -- that we've been doing, you  
6 just -- you're just not aware of the things that go on, you  
7 know, in your -- in those areas, so --

8 COMMISSIONER ALCON: So, okay, let me give an  
9 example. We tried to do a community screening in partner with  
10 the National Guard, and they would not let us use the MP  
11 armory here at all. So, no, the National Guard is not helpful  
12 at all on Molokai. So I don't know who you're talking to, but  
13 I'm telling you, as a person in the community that reached out  
14 to the National Guard, that they wouldn't even let us use  
15 their military parking lot to do a COVID screening. So, no,  
16 there's -- there's a disconnect between what you're doing and  
17 what is happening here and, you know, that -- I'm trying to  
18 bring that to you because it doesn't sound like you're hearing  
19 there's a disconnect, and there is. There's a definite  
20 disconnect between what you're doing and what is happening on  
21 Molokai. And it's not gonna get solved in this meeting, but I  
22 want you to hear me.

23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER ALCON: And then maybe contact me  
25 outside of this meeting.

1 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay. Well, Commissioner, you  
2 know, we can -- we can talk further about this. With this  
3 pandemic, just to let you know, too, so the department of  
4 health is the lead agency with this pandemic. We -- we're  
5 here to support them, you know, and so -- I mean, I can leave  
6 it at that. I'm not sure what kind of -- what kind of  
7 discussions department of health has had with the hospital  
8 or -- or it sounds like they had no discussion with you guys  
9 at all since you're the second in command. But we can have  
10 this discussion, you know, a further discussion. I'll be  
11 happy to talk to you, Commissioner, and we can talk about -- a  
12 bit more about like what kind of things happen or what kind  
13 of -- you know, on Molokai. But aside from this COVID, and  
14 that's really, you know, I'm not the lead -- we're not the  
15 lead agency on this, but aside from COVID, you know, again,  
16 when it comes to other like emergency management type of  
17 things, we are really trying to -- we're trying to include or  
18 trying to reach out to our remote areas because I -- I can say  
19 that in the past, I think we've -- we've neglected them in the  
20 past, and so that's the reason why in my tenure, I wanted to  
21 make sure that we be sure that we pay attention to them and  
22 take care of them.

23 I flew out to Molokai to meet with the -- the group  
24 there, there's a -- there's an emergency management group, and  
25 that's why I say they're pretty resilient, because they're

1       there, they come to our trainings. With respect to Hana, I  
2       mean, we -- we've met with the East Maui -- that group. I  
3       know you guys have, like, weekly meetings and all of that,  
4       so -- and so we've been at those meetings. We've, again,  
5       provided supplies for them, you know, so -- but we can, we can  
6       have that discussion further. And I -- yeah, I think there  
7       should be more of an interaction between the hospital there on  
8       Molokai and us here on Maui, so definitely.

9               CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you for bringing that  
10       up, Punahale.

11              Donna, do you have a question?

12              COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, I just want to follow  
13       up Punahale with her -- her concerns. What I'm hearing just  
14       now is, Herman, all she's asking is there seems to be a  
15       disconnect, like she said, in communication, whether it's from  
16       agency to agency, whatever it is, but they're not being heard.  
17       And I hear you, Punahale. You know, we're remote too, but  
18       with that being said, perhaps if we need to draft a letter to  
19       have better engagement communication-wise with MEMA and for  
20       Lanai and Molokai. If that's what public safety is about,  
21       then maybe we could craft to make that an effort to have the  
22       remote areas definitely engaged. They want a seat at the  
23       table, they want to be heard, and they want to have a part of  
24       the decision-making. Thank you.

25              And great -- yeah, it was a good presentation,

1 Herman. Thank you.

2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

3 And, you know, again, I mean, we can -- we can do  
4 that now, you know, I can talk to Punahale -- or Commissioner  
5 Alcon right after this meeting, you know, if that be the case.  
6 I mean, I -- please believe me that, you know, I do want to be  
7 cognizant of the remote areas, you know. I don't want to  
8 forget Molokai, Lanai, and Hana, and so -- and that's the  
9 reason, as I -- as I've mentioned to you, we created these,  
10 you know, like in our -- in our EOC. And by the way, so you  
11 guys have a seat at the table, you know, in the EOC, we  
12 created a section, a branch specifically for the remote areas,  
13 and we have them on the call throughout an event. So that's  
14 something that we -- we did, that's something that we -- we  
15 created. And we did that by having a VTC, you know,  
16 established in those areas and buying the equipment to do that  
17 because what I want -- what I told our staff is I want to be  
18 able to see them, you know, so we don't forget, we don't  
19 forget there's Hana, Lanai, and Molokai. I want to see them  
20 on the TV during the whole event, you know, and that way if  
21 something's going on there, they can flag us down very  
22 quickly, they can -- you know, but that's something that we --  
23 we've done. But I agree, I agree with there needs to be more,  
24 there needs to be more communication. I think there needs to  
25 be -- I need to have this conversation with -- with the

1 hospital, you know, and, you know -- but, yeah, so most  
2 definitely, we need to foster that relationship.

3 CHAIR GINOZA: Great, Herman. And, yes, it is  
4 something that, you know, perhaps you can continue the  
5 dialogue with Punahale, courtesy where it could be just a  
6 communication that some people are not being involved. So  
7 maybe you can give us an update next -- at the next meeting  
8 that -- you know, see where on Molokai through Punahale  
9 there's maybe some misses and see if there are any other  
10 communication misses with the other remote areas like Hana and  
11 Lanai.

12 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: I do -- I do have one more  
13 thing.

14 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chair.

15 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Oh, sorry.

16 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah, just to add to you,  
17 Herman, my other two questions besides Punahale was this: Are  
18 you aware of firstnet.gov, a first responder communication  
19 broadband service with AT&T, and are you using them? And my  
20 question is: Are -- is MEMA considering this year or next  
21 year the use of the Starlink? That's all.

22 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: That's a -- that's a good  
23 question and -- Mr. Chair, so, yes, we do use First Net. In  
24 fact, the AT&T has been a partner with us, they've been --  
25 they've been needing our assistance with respect to creating a

1 more robust system here on Maui for First Net, and so -- so  
2 we've been -- we've been working with them on that. So they  
3 have to create more towers and whatnot, so -- but we've been  
4 working with them on that. And then the Starlink system, so  
5 like satellite, we do have satellite phones and whatnot, and  
6 then also we want to be able to have satellite internet as  
7 well, so we're -- so we're working on that as well.

8 Just one -- one last thing I do want to -- I wanted  
9 to mention as well. So to Commissioner Alcon, you know, we --  
10 at some point -- so we did have a very close relationship with  
11 the hospital in the past, and how I know this is because  
12 there -- we were paying -- we were paying a phone line at the  
13 hospital, you know, and so --

14 COMMISSIONER ALCON: We still have it; it's in a  
15 closet here. I'm not saying we don't have a satellite phone  
16 from you; I am saying there is no communication.

17 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right, right.

18 COMMISSIONER ALCON: So I'll reach out to you after  
19 this meeting to find out --

20 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Okay.

21 COMMISSIONER ALCON: -- who are the players on  
22 Molokai that we need to work with. Because if I don't even  
23 know who the people are that are on your committee on Molokai,  
24 that's a problem. We should know who we need to talk to in  
25 case there's an emergency. Because every single person ends

1 up on our doorstep, so we should at least know who's gonna be  
2 calling us to let us know something's happening.

3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Right, right. No, no, I'm --  
4 what I'm saying is that we had that -- we had that  
5 communication in the past with the hospital and, you know, we  
6 want to -- we want to reconnect. So that that's the point I  
7 was trying to make, that, you know, we had it in the past, for  
8 some reason with the hospital, I don't know what it was,  
9 maybe -- maybe when Queen's Hospital took over it or -- or  
10 something, but, you know, then there was that disconnect. So  
11 I'm more than happy to -- to reconnect with you guys, you  
12 know.

13 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Me too. Thank you. And great  
14 presentation.

15 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

17 Any other questions from commissioners?

18 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Herman.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Max.

20 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Great presentation. I like  
21 what you've got to say. I know you're very involved, and I'm  
22 a little concerned -- like Punahale's response is the same for  
23 me, but I don't need to conference with you. Why don't you  
24 send me the list of who your contacts are, and I'll go after  
25 them and get it direct from them. Because that shortfall is

1 not your fault, but it's our community on Lanai that needs to  
2 step up and let us know what's going on. So that's my two  
3 cents, braddah. Thank you.

4 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: No, I appreciate that,  
5 Commissioner. And, yeah, I -- I can get that information to  
6 you 'cause I -- that's a very good point, that our -- our ICP  
7 should be -- should be reaching out to their partners on -- on  
8 the respective islands, so -- and you'll have that  
9 conversation with them.

10 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: You can send it out to  
11 Richelle; she can send it to me, whatever the list is. I  
12 think a lot of it gets lost now with -- with Mr. Ellison and  
13 his cronies, so I'd appreciate it having your -- your input on  
14 it as to who they are.

15 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you.

17 Any other questions from commissioners?

18 (No response.)

19 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, I'm so glad  
20 we had this discussion, so we get -- enable everyone. So next  
21 on the agenda -- thank you, Herman, very much for your  
22 presentation. That was excellent.

23 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you. Thank you,  
24 Commissioners.

25 CHAIR GINOZA: So we'll have some follow-up

1 discussions individually and perhaps with the commission as  
2 well, so thank you very much.

3 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you.

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Next, we'll move on to the fire  
5 department, Chief Ventura. And congratulations to Chief  
6 Giese. But, Chief Ventura, go ahead.

7 CHIEF VENTURA: Good morning, everybody. So I'm  
8 gonna start with the handouts before I get to my report so we  
9 can kind of follow through the several of them this month.  
10 The monthly update, this is the first one I'll go over, and,  
11 you know, the promotions, we've been really busy with  
12 recruitment and promotions of several positions in our  
13 department as well as our -- our spending. In the beginning  
14 of the year, we try to get out, get everything purchased. As  
15 you guys have been notified, there are supply chain issues for  
16 everything that we order from turnouts to trucks to buildings,  
17 so we've been having to extend contracts, but we're just kind  
18 of working through that as we sit fit. That's the monthly  
19 update.

20 The next form is our training report with the two  
21 columns on it. As you can see, we focused on certain topics  
22 this month, and we got the training out to everybody. We can  
23 never have enough training. The more training we can offer  
24 our members, the more prepared they're gonna be, ocean safety,  
25 firefighters, and such. So this is a snapshot of our training

1 report for the month.

2 The yellow form is our kind of year-end calls, so  
3 you'll see total calls for the year were 13,354. That is a  
4 little down from previous years, and, you know, there's a  
5 variety of factors out there, including COVID, obviously, that  
6 might affect the numbers being down.

7 Across the bottom of this yellow chart, you'll see  
8 total dollars lost, and that kind of leads me into the request  
9 from Commissioner Kanuha, which is my next handout. That is  
10 the breakdown of cost lost per district, so there are two  
11 columns; I've checked these three. If you look at the  
12 incident count, that's all types of fires, that includes trash  
13 cans, car fires, house fires, etc. And then if you look at  
14 the second column, that's total loss, that's an estimate based  
15 on either Blue Book value of a vehicle or percentage of a  
16 house that's burned. So if you had a million-dollar house and  
17 50 percent of it burned, half a million dollar loss. And so  
18 that's kind of how those next two columns are established,  
19 total lost are estimates on percentages, total value is what  
20 the value of either that vehicle or that home or that  
21 structure or that burnt item was.

22 Should I pause here? Are there any specific  
23 questions about this, Commissioner Kanuha?

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Makalapua.

25 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, Chair.

1           Thank you, awesome job, Chief. I truly appreciate  
2 that. And that was gonna be my question, because I seen for  
3 our district in Lahaina that the incident count is 57, and my  
4 question was gonna be, is that medical calls? But you made it  
5 clear that it's only rubbish can calls and, you know, it's  
6 house fires and brush fires, so -- but thank you for creating  
7 this spreadsheet. It gives me a bird's-eye view of what's  
8 going on in my community in Lahaina, so I appreciate that.  
9 Thank you.

10           CHIEF VENTURA: Certainly. And you can look at the  
11 numbers here. It's in order by district. Wailuku, being  
12 District 1, the oldest district, a lot of small brush fires.  
13 We have one of our common trouble places there, Piihana Farms.  
14 District 2, Paia, there's a lot of car fires out past Haiku.  
15 People just up to no good, setting cars on fire regularly, so  
16 those numbers are a little bit accelerated. And then Kahului  
17 being the next busiest, there's just a lot going on here,  
18 obviously, in Kahului, people and businesses and such.

19           So that's the handouts. I'll get into my monthly  
20 report, and I'll also briefly go over the deputy report  
21 because Gavin is away with family this week. Looking first at  
22 my report, the typical meetings we've been having with the  
23 mayor, managing director, the directors continue to happen.  
24 Discussion on Haiku Fire Station, Pukoo Fire Station, we're  
25 still working through a lot of things to make those things

1       happen.

2                   If you look over to the back, the things I want to  
3 highlight are that our recruits -- recruit class graduated,  
4 that was awesome. I was really sad for them because they had  
5 done so well for six months and five days, and Omicron got  
6 them at the end, so we had to go virtual. And I was saddened  
7 for them because they deserved a nice wonderful ceremony, but  
8 as you all well know, we transitioned to a virtual conference  
9 that day and were able to honor them.

10                   The next is the Omicron variant that we're all very  
11 well aware of. This, by far, has been our biggest pessimist  
12 through the pandemic. On average right now, we have about  
13 four to five firefighters out every day with Omicron. The  
14 thing that is saving us, really, is that the CDC and the  
15 county, and the DOH have changed their guidelines so we're  
16 able to bring people back to work sooner. If people had to be  
17 quarantined for 14 days, we would have a large number of  
18 people out. So that adjustment by those agencies has made it  
19 for us to be able to maintain our operational readiness. The  
20 only time that we had some slight manpower issues was at the  
21 end of December when we have all of our retirees leave, and  
22 the recruit class didn't graduate till the 7th, so we had  
23 about a ten-day gap in there that things were, you know, tight  
24 for a while. But with Omicron and retirements and vacancies,  
25 we have got past that period, pushed through, and now that our

1 recruits are online, we're okay.

2 And then at the very bottom there, just a union  
3 arbitration with HFFA. All of our contracts are open. Last  
4 week was our arbitration, so we concluded that and the  
5 arbitrator will be making a report to us sometime in the  
6 spring, we're guessing.

7 Glancing at the deputy report, the battalion chief's  
8 positions were all filled with, you know, a bunch of just  
9 really good people, gung-ho, want to support our members, want  
10 to be there to give everybody the support and growth that they  
11 need in our department. So those three members, Lee, Sandy,  
12 and Shawn, were promoted. We have been able to fill a couple  
13 of positions that were vacant in our civilian staff, and we're  
14 still pending a couple more, so we're working on filling our  
15 mechanic position as soon as DPS gives us a list. Logistics  
16 is key to any organization, and our mechanics are a main  
17 logistical part of our department's success.

18 I'll stop there. I do have a comment, a couple of  
19 comments kind of going back. Commissioner Sterling asked  
20 about the AT&T First Net. We, as a department, did a study  
21 for AT&T and had the same results that Herman mentioned. More  
22 towers are needed. What we did was we put a cellphone on  
23 every apparatus, including Molokai and Lanai, and we just  
24 basically drove around and tested their signal for quite a  
25 while back in the summer. After that, we tested their data

1 plan with laptops in various districts as well, kind of just a  
2 roaming commuter that was on all the time, and then that  
3 report was given back to AT&T so they can know where to --  
4 where the gaps are. So still, Verizon provides us with the  
5 best signal in all of our districts, so we do not have -- as a  
6 department, we do not have any AT&T First Net devices with our  
7 apparatus or operations, so that kind of answers that  
8 question.

9 Commissioner Kincaid, I tried to reach out three or  
10 four times to George Purdy. I'm getting a busy signal, so if  
11 you have an email address or another contact information, send  
12 that to Richelle, and I'll definitely try to get together with  
13 him on the -- the drone information, so (pause) --

14 And then the last thing I kind of have to report is  
15 kind of go back on the homework we talked about last month, is  
16 the Kahuola Award. So in your packets, there's a short story  
17 from somebody who submitted a nomination for the Kahuola  
18 Award. It is with you as a decision-making body to determine  
19 if they are -- should be recipients of this. I personally  
20 feel that these civilians that were not required to do this  
21 work that day could very much qualify for this; I'd be happy  
22 to honor them with it if you folks decide and support that.

23 That's enough. That concludes what I have. I can  
24 answer any questions you have.

25 CHAIR GINOZA: Does any commissioner have any

1 questions for the chief?

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I do. I just want to  
3 thank --

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Donna.

5 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you, Chair.

6 I just want to thank you for following up on the  
7 First Net. I -- and it came up with me a couple years ago via  
8 another organization. We were approached by this firstnet.gov  
9 to be here on Maui, so I just wanted to follow up. Because  
10 now we've got Starlink with Musk and things are gonna change  
11 and -- thanks for following up. I understand the concept now.  
12 Thank you.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Any other questions from  
14 commissioners for the chief?

15 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Chief, I'll have George Purdy  
16 contact you.

17 CHIEF VENTURA: Excellent.

18 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I've got your number.

19 CHIEF VENTURA: Thank you.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: So, Chief, do we -- do we vote on  
21 this award or -- the Kahuola, or how does it typically go  
22 forward? I've never seen it before, I mean, actually awarded.

23 CHIEF VENTURA: So I'm in the same boat as you. I  
24 would have -- I would say it's not as formal as a vote. It's  
25 more of an everybody reviews it, and we can have a short

1 discussion and if everybody's onboard that this was a great  
2 effort by a civilian at the right time at the right place,  
3 then we can, you know, show them some love and present them  
4 with this award. They're out-of-towners, so it'll probably be  
5 virtual, and we'll have to mail something to them, but, you  
6 know, it's worth it to make sure people understand that their  
7 efforts are appreciated. But no normal vote.

8 CHAIR GINOZA: Absolutely. I've read through it,  
9 and I'm supportive as well. I don't know if any commissioners  
10 would have any objections.

11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.)

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Donna.

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Chair, thank you. You know,  
14 part of what Punahale said this morning about engagement and  
15 communication, you know, as a commissioner, I think this is  
16 what we're supposed to do, acknowledge, address, read, do our  
17 homework. This was fantastic, the effort this woman took to  
18 write it up with details, you know, oh, I'm all for it. I did  
19 my homework.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. I don't -- I don't think  
21 anybody is objecting, so I think you have our endorsement  
22 to -- to go forward with that.

23 CHIEF VENTURA: Okay, great. And I saw Dylan's  
24 comment; he has no objections as well. So I'll have Richelle  
25 work on that and make -- make sort of a little packet and

1 presentation. We'll contact these people as best as we can,  
2 hopefully they have the same numbers, and we'll go from there.  
3 We'll probably do it virtually. Maybe Corporation Counsel  
4 Dan, I'm guessing something like this does not have to happen  
5 during the commission meeting and Sunshine Law required?  
6 Correct me if I'm wrong.

7 MR. KUNKLE: If -- I'm sorry, I'm trying to get my  
8 screen straightened out. If -- you know, unfortunately, if --  
9 oh, I'm sorry. Yeah, you can hear me. If you have anything  
10 more than two members of the commission together and  
11 definitely if you have a quorum of the commissioners together,  
12 it would need to be a formal meeting, and it could -- someone  
13 could accuse the commission of holding an illegal meeting. So  
14 if you do want to do it with a quorum or more of the  
15 commission present, I would recommend that you do do it at an  
16 open meeting.

17 CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. And if commissioners are  
18 okay --

19 CHAIR GINOZA: I don't think he was suggesting --  
20 yeah, I don't think he was suggesting having commissioners  
21 there, and so --

22 MR. KUNKLE: Oh, all right. Yeah, if it does not  
23 involve commissioners, then, yeah, no problem. It's -- yeah,  
24 the Sunshine and the meeting requirement would only apply to  
25 the members of the commission, you're correct, Chair.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Dan.

2 CHIEF VENTURA: Okay. So I don't want to put more  
3 work on you guys, so we can absolutely handle it ourselves and  
4 then provide notification and a report at the follow-up  
5 meeting.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. That would be great.

7 Any other questions for the chief?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, let's move  
10 on to Chief Lindo.

11 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Good morning, Chair. Good  
12 morning, Commissioners. In front of you is my report for  
13 December. Nothing huge to report, but I did miss a couple of  
14 things and -- and things that I wanted to focus on. Herman  
15 kind of went over the -- the incidents in December dealing  
16 with the flooding and the structure fire. You know, the guys  
17 handled it the best that they can, and it went well.

18 On the bottom there, on 1/14 was another missing  
19 snorkeler that we were able to utilize multiple resources,  
20 interagency ops and coordination. And we've been dealing with  
21 the U.S. Coast Guard the past couple of months with some --  
22 some issues, so these times were absolutely great when we got  
23 to close out -- even though it happened in a bad way where we  
24 had to close out meetings after 72 hours of searches, we were  
25 able to meet the family where they were at, address concerns,

1 let them know the resources and the hours that we put to -- to  
2 help try to resolve their family situation. And then, we were  
3 able to have personal conversations with the U.S. Coast Guard  
4 to address response issues and get it done and completed in a  
5 timely fashion, so that was huge.

6 On the training, in December, we were able to -- and  
7 I didn't put it here, and I apologize for that, but we had a  
8 biannual search and rescue exercise with multiple resources,  
9 including the U.S. Coast Guard, ocean safety, the fire  
10 department, our central dispatch. And what happens in these  
11 two-year exercises is we have an initial meeting brief where  
12 each agency is able to provide input, direction. Of course,  
13 the U.S. Coast Guard were worthy -- the ones running the whole  
14 exercise. And in this meet and greet, each agency got to  
15 provide their resources, their capabilities, what they're able  
16 to do, and we got to talk story and -- and ask questions  
17 and -- and provide input and then direction in the event of  
18 search and rescue incidents.

19 On the second day, there was an exercise, and in  
20 this exercise, we were able to test interagency operations,  
21 interagency communications, coordination, see what works, what  
22 doesn't work, and have an after-action review or a hot watch  
23 where we can discuss the things that happened, things that  
24 went good, things that went well, things that we need to  
25 address, and then address it right away, yeah. So the good

1 thing about that exercise which occurred somewhere around  
2 December 2nd in the -- between the wharf and the -- the waters  
3 fronting Olowalu and Ukumehame, and we got to utilize the  
4 rescue boat and ocean safety skis and the air one helicopter  
5 and really go from central dispatch dispatching all units to  
6 this report of a missing paddleboarder, and then we just ran  
7 from there, actually ran a real event. And something actually  
8 went wrong. Our helicopter, our air one resource, actually  
9 had a problem that didn't allow them to respond, and they had  
10 to return back. So it was real life, we were able to -- to  
11 complete the whole exercise, and -- and rescue the personnel  
12 and -- and do everything that needed to do, and then at the  
13 hot watch, we were able to address those things. So those  
14 kinds of things we absolutely look for opportunities to train  
15 together with outside agencies, so that's one of those things  
16 that -- that happens on a biannual basis.

17 And then Chief Giese was able to participate -- at  
18 the same time, they had an active shooter case dealing with  
19 the police and teachers and first response. On our end,  
20 because that's not really our -- our hands are not really in  
21 the cookie jar when we're dealing with an active shooter, so  
22 it's mainly tailored to the teachers and also -- all of that,  
23 but we still want to participate and provide input when we  
24 can.

25 So that's pretty much all I have on the operations

1 side. But we absolutely as a department always look for  
2 opportunities to train with other agencies, yeah. That's all  
3 I have. You guys have any questions or --

4 CHAIR GINOZA: That's great. Thank you, Chief  
5 Lindo.

6 Any questions from commissioners?

7 (No response.)

8 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, I think  
9 Chief Giese has a free pass this month since he was just put  
10 into the position. So thank you, thank you all for -- for  
11 that report from the fire department.

12 I put two items on the agenda that I wanted to -- to  
13 discuss. One -- the first one is about site visits, and I  
14 just wanted to get some input from members. Before -- Gregg  
15 and I are old-timers, so before, we used to schedule station  
16 site visits every once in a while, and just due to COVID, we  
17 stopped it. And I just wanted to query members to see if it's  
18 something that we would like to reinstate. And the -- the  
19 thing about it is, you know, if we have to have quorum,  
20 have -- because of Sunshine Law, post a meeting and -- and ask  
21 for public testimony and such. But it is something that -- I  
22 don't know if members had gone as part of the -- the interview  
23 process for the chief to -- to stations by themselves, or if  
24 they'd rather have a more formal -- I don't know presentation,  
25 but a formal tour with other members.

1           But that's something that I just thought because --  
2           and it was kind of before the Omicron kind of hit so badly, I  
3           thought, you know, perhaps it was kind of tailing off, that  
4           we'd have more visits, but -- or we'd reinstate visits. But  
5           that was my intention, was just to have a discussion, and if  
6           there was interest in members having a coordinated visit, we  
7           could work with the chief to try to just schedule some to see  
8           how it goes. But I just wanted to see if any members would  
9           have any interest. You know, obviously, we'd coordinate  
10          having -- if we started on Maui -- for instance, I think the  
11          next one we were -- Gregg and I and the old commission was  
12          gonna have was going to Molokai, but that got tabled because  
13          of COVID. So it is something that I think is a -- is  
14          beneficial to the commission to be able to see stations.

15                 So does -- does anybody have any input? And, you  
16          know, if -- I don't mind just kind of meeting with the chief,  
17          you know, to try to set something up if --

18                         COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.)

19                         CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Donna.

20                         COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. So, Chair, my feeling  
21          is right now in the -- in the environment, the atmosphere with  
22          the rural areas, in which I am too, I would really like to  
23          visit Hana, Molokai, and Lanai. It -- you know, Maui is Maui,  
24          but I really would like to see the rural fire department  
25          stations. Great idea, yeah.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Dan.

2 MR. KUNKLE: Chair, yeah, I think you already  
3 mentioned this, but I just thought I would mention that --  
4 just me regarding the Sunshine Law, I would recommend that you  
5 do that in groups of less than a quorum, so I guess four, four  
6 or less at a time. Otherwise, I think you noted then;  
7 otherwise, it does need to be a formal meeting. You could do  
8 that, but after the emergent -- the current emergency order  
9 terminates in -- at the end of February, meetings from March  
10 onward, at least as it is now, will have to have that physical  
11 location ready for anybody to show up at that you plan to use,  
12 you could all meet there, but it would have to be a formal  
13 meeting like I say if it's a quorum or more of you. That's  
14 all I wanted to say.

15 CHAIR GINOZA: For clarification, so if we were four  
16 or less, there is no --

17 MR. KUNKLE: You're correct. As long as it's less  
18 than a quorum, so four or less, there's no problem.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.

20 MR. KUNKLE: Yeah. And I know this might sound  
21 absurd to people, but it -- it applies even like when the  
22 commission members do not even intentionally do it. If you  
23 all see yourselves together at -- for some event and there's a  
24 quorum or more of you, then it's in your interests for some of  
25 you to depart from it because someone could accuse you of

1 holding an illegal meeting even though that would not be what  
2 you would intend. But that has happened and -- in some  
3 other -- not with your commission, but with some other  
4 agencies, so it's something to watch out for. Yeah, four or  
5 less is fine.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great. Thank you.

7 Any other comments or is there interest from other  
8 commissioners? Max.

9 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: Mr. Chair.

10 CHAIR GINOZA: Oh, Gregg.

11 COMMISSIONER LUNDBERG: I just wanted to -- I just  
12 wanted to say I would support it tremendously. We did it with  
13 the police commission; we did a -- we talked about it with the  
14 fire commission a couple of times. I agree; I think that  
15 especially the outer islands, where we give them an  
16 opportunity to come testify or talk, to bring up any of their  
17 topics that they would like to do as a -- as a community in  
18 their community, I think it would be a great -- a great  
19 benefit for the team.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Gregg.

21 Yeah, so some people are chatting that it's good,  
22 so -- oh, go ahead, Max.

23 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I think it's a good idea, but  
24 I think if we just get in touch with the chief, let him  
25 contact the respective fire station and set up a meeting with

1 maybe the island commissioner that lived on the island to go  
2 and meet them also. I would refrain from just -- I go there  
3 all the time, it's like my second home, but, you know, it's a  
4 dormitory, man, you know, and -- to meet in a conference, I  
5 would prefer more to see the community being able to see what  
6 kind of new equipment we have and how they operate and the  
7 kids love it.

8 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.

9 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: More so than a personal  
10 visit.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Max.

12 Makalapua, did you have a question or a comment?

13 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: No question.

14 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.

15 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: I support it as well.

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great. Thank you.

17 Yeah, so we'll try to figure something out, and we  
18 will have further discussion at the next meeting.

19 The other item that I've put on the agenda is there  
20 is a request from the salary commission that I represent the  
21 commission on discussions about the fire chief's salary. And  
22 I've actually been -- when I was a county director, I had to  
23 go in front of the salary commission, and it's basically  
24 trying to understand for -- for the commission to understand  
25 what the duties are of the position and not so much how the

1 person who is in the position doing either favorably or  
2 unfavorably. So it is something that -- where what my role  
3 would be is to just give facts about supporting that, yes,  
4 there are a lot of people in the fire department made up of  
5 these different divisions and it's really, as Chief Ventura  
6 has mentioned, the directors are going in front of the  
7 commission just kind of explaining their roles and  
8 responsibilities. But because there are a few -- few  
9 directors that have commissioners that oversee them, the  
10 salary commission had asked the commission chairs to be a  
11 resource at these meetings.

12 So I anticipate -- because, actually, the last time  
13 I went to salary commission was as a resource because I was  
14 both a director and in the private sector, Gary Murai was the  
15 corporation counsel that supported that commission, and he  
16 said that really, we are only speaking of the position and not  
17 the person. So of course, if they ask, you know, that is  
18 something that I would like to see if the commission has any  
19 other comment -- or, one, to be allowed to represent the  
20 commission at the salary commission meeting, but also if there  
21 are specific comments that any commissioner would like to  
22 make -- would like for me to make as representing the  
23 commission as a whole.

24 So does anybody have any questions or -- or comments  
25 as far as, one, whether you -- I mean, you know, any questions

1 or comments?

2 COMMISSIONER STERLING: I do, Chair.

3 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Donna.

4 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Thank you, Chair. I really  
5 feel confident in what you've presented with your credentials  
6 and your experience with the deputy director, and for me -- in  
7 other words, I feel confident that you can make the decision,  
8 but also, are we gonna be -- are you gonna be considering fire  
9 chief here salary versus fire chief in Chicago, which is a  
10 high population? Is that -- how are you gauging the -- the  
11 dollar amount to our fire chief? How is that bar? Was that  
12 ever discussed or --

13 CHAIR GINOZA: So it's not some -- I mean, it is  
14 something that we can put forth as data for them to consider.  
15 It is not something that the commission actually tries to  
16 establish, our commission. It's under our -- our purview is  
17 to select the chief, but as far as what the chief actually  
18 makes, that's under the purview of the salary commission. So  
19 what they do typically is try to understand the depth and  
20 breadth of the roles and responsibilities of our chief in the  
21 department that we have, look at other reference points,  
22 whether it's other counties or, as you mentioned, other  
23 mainland jurisdictions, as well as looking at what they  
24 consider salary inversions where some of the staff make more  
25 than the chief, and so, you know, how do they either rectify

1 that or try to just reconcile the fact that, hey, in what  
2 organization do you have like kind of the CEO make less than  
3 some of the line employees or the lower employees? So  
4 that's -- that's the challenges they kind of look at, as well  
5 as just kind of the fiscal environment for the county and the  
6 state.

7 So, you know, they -- as maybe you recall, like  
8 for -- I think for all the directors as well as the mayor and  
9 the council, the last time it came up, maybe, I don't know, a  
10 couple years ago, they had mentioned, oh, because of the  
11 economic environment, I think the mayor had said don't give us  
12 a raise, and the -- the salary commission, I believe, said,  
13 okay, yeah, let's just keep it the same. So it is something  
14 that they reevaluate every -- whenever they feel like it,  
15 maybe every one or two years, and there are a number of  
16 factors that they look at. If we want to put forth something  
17 that references other jurisdictions, I mean, that is something  
18 that -- that I can try to research or just provide to them.

19 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah. Well, you've given a  
20 good explanation. I just wanted to be educated and to learn  
21 more about the salary commission. Great, great. Thanks,  
22 Chair.

23 CHAIR GINOZA: And definitely after it, I can report  
24 at our next meeting how --

25 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yeah.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: -- how things went. But, yeah, it is  
2 really just to kind of reinforce what the chief had -- had  
3 demonstrated to the commission that his roles and  
4 responsibilities are and, you know, what justification there  
5 may be for the current or any other different salary.

6 MR. KUNKLE: (Gesturing.)

7 CHAIR GINOZA: Dan, do you have a comment?

8 MR. KUNKLE: Chair, I would recommend that you  
9 entertain a motion to approve your taking on this role of  
10 appearing on behalf of the whole commission. It would just be  
11 prudent.

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Yep, I was gonna do that; I just  
13 wanted to make sure there was no more comment.

14 Okay. If there's no more comments, could I have a  
15 motion that permits me to speak on behalf of the fire and  
16 public safety commission in front of the salary commission on  
17 February 11th, 2022? Which, incidentally, is my birthday.

18 COMMISSIONER ANDRION: Happy birthday, and so moved.  
19 This is Dylan.

20 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you, Dylan.

21 Do I have a second?

22 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: (Gesturing.)

23 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Max. Okay. So all in  
24 favor, please raise your hand.

25 (Response.)

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. And I see Lisa and Dylan  
2 provided chat messages because we can't see them, so it's  
3 unanimous. So the motion carries. Thank you very much,  
4 everyone.

5 The next meeting is on Thursday, February 17th, so  
6 it's the week after the salary commission meeting, so I can  
7 provide comment on what transpires there. It will be  
8 attending via BlueJeans as usual. Sorry that the meeting took  
9 longer than normal, but I think we got some very good  
10 information.

11 COMMISSIONER STERLING: (Gesturing.)

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Donna, you have a comment?

13 COMMISSIONER STERLING: Yes, I do. So I have two  
14 comments. One is off the record, but I went to the rubbish  
15 dump a couple weeks ago to do my rubbish, and as I'm hauling  
16 the trash bags up, this gentleman next to me, next truck, went  
17 throwing his rubbish away, and he made a comment to me. He  
18 says, "Good choice, Donna."

19 And I said, "Oh" -- I didn't recognize him. I said,  
20 "I know you're a fireman, but I'm sorry, I don't know who you  
21 are."

22 Bloody. It was Chief Thyne, thirty pounds -- Chief  
23 Thyne was 30 pounds lighter. He said, "Donna, it's me." Holy  
24 moly. He had a beard, you know, he looked -- you know,  
25 brought out rubbish and -- I must say, so retirement has been

1 really good. I didn't recognize him. I -- he's doing well.  
2 He looks good. I didn't know he was the former chief. He  
3 looks good. Yeah, that's all I wanted to say.

4 Oh, and the second thing is that I'm out of here,  
5 terms up on March 31st, I'll be leaving the fire -- the fire  
6 safety, yeah. Thank you.

7 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Thank you.

8 COMMISSIONER STERLING: You're welcome. Yeah, pau  
9 talk.

10 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. So unless there's any other  
11 comments or questions, thank you, everyone, for your  
12 participation today and members of the public. And thank you,  
13 Herman and Chiefs, for your updates; it was very informative.  
14 It is 11:36, and I'll -- I would like to -- I'll adjourn the  
15 Maui County Fire and Public Safety Commission meeting. Thank  
16 you, everyone.

17 (The proceedings were adjourned at 11:36 a.m.)  
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