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FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

COUNTY OF MAUI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

REGULAR MEETING

Held via BlueJeans, commencing at 9:03 a.m., on  
July 21, 2022.

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

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ATTENDANCE

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Kyle Ginoza, Chair
- Lisa Vares, Vice Chair
- Dwight Burns, Member
- Punahuele Alcon, Member
- Max Kincaid, Jr., Member
- Makalapua Kanuha, Member

STAFF:

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

1 (July 21, 2022, 9:03 a.m.)

2 \* \* \*

3 CHAIR GINOZA: My name is Kyle Ginoza, chair of the  
4 fire and public safety commission. It is July 21st, 2022, and  
5 it's 10:03 a.m. Sorry for the little late start, but I'll  
6 call the meeting to order, and we'll start off with roll call  
7 of our commissioners as well as resources that we have.

8 Vice Chair Lisa Vares.

9 VICE CHAIR VARES: I'm here. I'm in my home office,  
10 and I am alone, there's no one here with me.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you.

12 And for each person after that, please also state  
13 whether -- where you are and whether anyone else is in the  
14 room with you.

15 Dwight Burns.

16 COMMISSIONER BURNS: I'm here, and I'm at home, and  
17 my wife is in the other room.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great. Thank you.

19 Punahuele Alcon.

20 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Here, home alone.

21 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. You're at home. Okay. Thank  
22 you.

23 I don't think Max -- Max hasn't joined us yet.

24 Dylan just resigned from the commission because he  
25 moved off island. Unfortunately, we couldn't congratulate him

1 and thank him for his service, but if you do see him around,  
2 please let him know.

3 And Makalapua Kanuha.

4 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: I'm in my office at the Royal  
5 Lahaina Resort, and I'm alone.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great.

7 And I forgot to mention, so I'm in my office in  
8 Makena, and I'm alone.

9 Okay. So we have five out of six members, so we  
10 have quorum.

11 Next agenda item is approval of the minutes. Sorry.  
12 Before I continue, so even like this, Dan, we should ask for  
13 public testimony?

14 MR. KUNKEL: It's unfortunate. At least so far, it  
15 seems like, you know, for example --

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.

17 MR. KUNKEL: I think at each of the Roman numerals.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay.

19 MR. KUNKEL: And maybe we'll arrange the agenda  
20 slightly differently in the future --

21 CHAIR GINOZA: Sure.

22 MR. KUNKEL: -- in light of this. Sorry about that.

23 CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, no problem. So before -- so  
24 our next agenda item is approval of our minutes from June 16th  
25 from last month. Do we have anyone from the public wishing to

1 testify about the minutes that we have for last month? If  
2 anyone from the public would wish to testify, then please just  
3 unmute yourself and make your presence known if you would like  
4 to testify.

5 (No response.)

6 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, no public  
7 testimony on approval of the minutes. Could I ask if each  
8 commission member has had the chance to look through the  
9 minutes?

10 And, sorry, I forgot. Before we move on to this  
11 agenda item, I forgot to recognize those in attendance from --  
12 Chief, from the fire department, who do -- who do you have  
13 with you?

14 CHIEF VENTURA: Aloha, good morning, everybody.  
15 We're here at Kahului Fire Station in the conference room, and  
16 we have myself, Chief Fujioka, Chief Lindo, Chief Giesea,  
17 commission secretary off camera, Richelle, and with us for  
18 presentation Firefighter 3 Dennis Swain.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you very much.

20 And representing corporation counsel, it looks like  
21 we have Dan Kunkel and I -- we also have Moana Lutey on the  
22 call.

23 MR. KUNKEL: Aloha.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: Corporation counsel.

25 And I believe we have Herman from -- Herman Andaya

1 from (inaudible). Sorry about that.

2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: No, I'm here. Thank you.

3 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

4 And so, let's move on to the approval of the  
5 minutes. I -- since everybody got a -- each commissioner had  
6 a copy of the minutes prior, I presume no one needs additional  
7 time to review, so I'd like to have a motion to approve the  
8 minutes from last month from June 16th.

9 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Motion to approve the minutes.

10 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Dwight.

11 And could I have a second?

12 VICE CHAIR VARES: I'll second it.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Lisa.

14 So all in favor -- I'm gonna do a roll call vote.

15 So, Lisa.

16 VICE CHAIR VARES: Approve.

17 CHAIR GINOZA: Dwight.

18 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Yes.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: Great.

20 Punahale.

21 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Yes.

22 CHAIR GINOZA: And Makalapua.

23 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Yes.

24 CHAIR GINOZA: And I approve as well.

25 So the minutes are approved.

1           Next we move on to public testimony for agenda  
2 item -- this is a blanket, a blanket request. And as we  
3 mentioned earlier, we will ask for each agenda item as well if  
4 there's any public testimony. Is there anyone wishing to  
5 testify from the public currently?

6           MS. WAKAMATSU: I don't have anybody physically  
7 here, and we also will notify you if we do as we go along the  
8 meeting.

9           CHAIR GINOZA: Okay, great. Thank you, Richelle.

10           I don't think there's anyone on notifying they wish  
11 to testify, so we'll close that agenda item, and we'll move on  
12 to Maui Emergency Management Agency. Is there anyone from the  
13 public wishing to testify prior to Herman's report from his  
14 agency?

15           (No response.)

16           CHAIR GINOZA: Okay. Seeing none, Herman, could you  
17 please give your report today?

18           MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Good morning, Mr. Chair and  
19 Members of the Commission. We had a couple of tropical  
20 cyclones this past month that came our way, and, fortunately,  
21 they were met with cooler waters and strong wind sheer that  
22 caused them to dissipate, so we're very lucky. We did have  
23 Tropical Cyclone Darby that came by, but luckily, it tracked  
24 south of the Big Island, so we felt very little impact from  
25 that. However, there was a swell that came from Samoa, and I

1 guess in combination with hurricane -- or Tropical Cyclone  
2 Darby, did create some -- some impact on the island, and so  
3 there was some damage done to our state infrastructure, but  
4 none to our county infrastructures. So we'll be reporting --  
5 we'll be working with HIEMA on that to see if we can get  
6 reimbursements from -- from FEMA.

7 Also, there was a situation on Lanai where there  
8 were -- there were some stranded visitors there, visitors and  
9 residents, and so our EOC was activated, and we were able to  
10 get them back home by using a plane that was able to get them  
11 back home, so about a hundred of them were able to return home  
12 on I believe it was Sunday.

13 We continue to encourage the public to prepare for  
14 emergencies, especially in this hurricane season. We are  
15 continuing with our public messaging regarding preparedness.  
16 We have participated in community meetings and events,  
17 including most recently the Pineapple Festival on Lanai. So  
18 three of our -- three of our staff members went over to Lanai  
19 and participated in that festival, and we handed out  
20 information preparedness as well as some document bags. So we  
21 have these thick document bags that should be in your  
22 emergency kit, and so we handed out -- handed those out. We  
23 also create commercials on TV and radio, and you may have  
24 already heard or seen some of them recently.

25 Also, we're converting to a new incident management

1 system called Crisis Track, and, in fact, as we speak,  
2 representatives from various departments who are EOC partners  
3 are going through training. And so, Crisis Track is a way of  
4 keeping track or collecting information for -- during an  
5 incident. And so during a -- during an incident, what's  
6 really important during the EOC -- in the EOC is that we have  
7 situational awareness, that we know what's going on outside  
8 and, you know, we're operating with a common operating picture  
9 and so we do that by getting all information and letting all  
10 of our partners know what's going on, so that's what I mean by  
11 a common operating picture. And so this software will help us  
12 do that, and so that's the reason why we're getting all of our  
13 partners involved.

14 Also, we're seeing -- we're first using the system  
15 Crisis Track now with the -- what I had mentioned earlier  
16 about the -- the large swells that came in and some of the  
17 damage. So there was some property damage, and so we did send  
18 out a press release asking the public to report in any damages  
19 that they may have received, and this is being done through  
20 Crisis Track. So we are putting this new system to the test  
21 and see whether or not this is something that we -- that will  
22 benefit -- that will allow us to collect information a lot  
23 more efficiently.

24 Lastly, the last one I want to bring up is our new  
25 system for alerts and notifications. So for many years, we've

1       been using what's called Everbridge, and that's how we use  
2       mass notification to the public. Sometimes, if you signed up  
3       for it, Everbridge, you may have gotten a text message or an  
4       email or a voicemail whenever it does an event. And so we are  
5       switching over to -- to Civic Ready, and there's some new  
6       capabilities with that, and so we're excited about using that.  
7       I think it'll be great for our visitors especially. So  
8       remember, we have to take care of our visitors as well. A  
9       quarter of our population at any given time are visitors, so  
10      we want to make sure that they receive notifications as well,  
11      and this will allow the -- allow them to do just that. And so  
12      we're going through that process, switching over, and we hope  
13      to be switched by August 1st.

14               We also changed the name, so we went from Makaala,  
15      we went from Makaala, and we switched to -- we're now using  
16      the name instead MEMA Alerts. And the reason why, and a lot  
17      of it is due to this commission, this fire commission -- not  
18      this one, but about two years ago, the fire commission  
19      recommended that we change the name because they don't -- they  
20      didn't -- a lot of people in the public didn't know what  
21      Makaala meant, including Native Hawaiians, you know. In fact,  
22      I believe Chief Lindo was part of that commission when -- oh,  
23      no, I'm sorry, not Chief Lindo; it was another -- it was  
24      another person, but we took heed to that. And it's true, when  
25      people hear it, we want them to pay attention to it, and so

1 that's the reason why we went with the name MEMA Alerts and  
2 hopefully that will force people to -- to know, okay, this is  
3 something we need to pay attention to.

4 So that's all I have, Mr. Chair, pending any  
5 questions.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you very much, Herman.

7 Does any commissioner have any questions for Herman?

8 VICE CHAIR VARES: (Gesturing.)

9 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Lisa.

10 VICE CHAIR VARES: Aloha, Herman. Thanks so much  
11 for that report; that was really informative. And I'm on the  
12 Everbridge, and I get all of the -- the alerts that come  
13 through. And when Everbridge switches over to Civic Ready,  
14 will those of us that are already signed up, will we get any  
15 kind of -- will there be any dysfunction or any notification  
16 that something's happening, or is it just gonna be seamless?

17 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Oh, that's -- that's a very  
18 good question. And so we're going through the process of  
19 switching over or transferring all of those people over to --  
20 those that are current Everbridge users over to Civic Ready.  
21 And so there's a very short process that you have to go  
22 through. You have to sign up in Civic Ready, and you can find  
23 that process -- it'll be on our website, and we're encouraging  
24 the public, we're sending out press releases and sending out  
25 public messaging to -- to tell the public how to switch over

1 from -- from Everbridge to Civic Ready. So we want it -- we  
2 want it to be as seamless as possible. We are -- we are  
3 switching over your information over to Civic Ready, but we  
4 just need for you to go in -- because there's some new  
5 capabilities to the system, and so we want you to be able to  
6 choose what it is that you want to -- want to receive, what  
7 kind of information you want to receive, how do you want to  
8 receive it, you know, those kinds of things. So there is  
9 still some -- you still would need to set the settings, in  
10 other words, you know.

11 VICE CHAIR VARES: It's great that there's actually  
12 settings to manipulate because it will be a little  
13 overwhelming sometimes when we get, like, nine or ten alerts,  
14 which is really appreciated, but after a certain point, I'm  
15 like, ah, I kind of want to be able to dial these back a  
16 little bit. I get it. So I appreciate that. That's  
17 wonderful.

18 And then switching Makaala over to MEMA Alerts,  
19 that's really appreciated. When you explained it to the  
20 commission why Makaala was chosen, it was -- it made complete  
21 sense, but I do appreciate that the public or anyone that's  
22 just like, hey, you know what, I really wish I was getting  
23 some alerts for some of this -- the emergencies that are  
24 coming through our island, but they wouldn't know what to  
25 search for. And MEMA Alerts is perfect, so that's very

1 appreciated. Thank you so much.

2 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Commissioner.

3 VICE CHAIR VARES: That's all I've got. Thank you.

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Lisa.

5 Any other commissioners have any questions?

6 (No response.)

7 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you  
8 very much, Herman, for your information today.

9 MEMA OFFICER ANDAYA: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

10 CHAIR GINOZA: Next, we'll move on to the fire  
11 department agenda item. Do we have anyone from the public  
12 wishing to testify prior to the fire department's  
13 presentation?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, Chief  
16 Ventura.

17 CHIEF VENTURA: Aloha and good morning, Chair and  
18 Commissioners. Thank you for being here today so that we  
19 could have quorum. We really appreciate you guys being a  
20 small team right now and making the sacrifice to be here all  
21 the time to hear us out.

22 So my report today, I'm gonna go through the three  
23 normal handouts prior to my report. Let's first look at the  
24 monthly update, two-sided or two pages with recognition of our  
25 softball team that went up and was the champions of their

1 bracket. That was very cool. It's something they've done for  
2 years and years but never had won, so we're happy to support  
3 them for that as well as all of the families that we have in  
4 the department who had graduates this year, graduates from  
5 either high school or college, so there was a number of them.

6 On the front of the monthly report, you'll see the  
7 top left corner we continue to, you know, push out as much  
8 support as we can for our members as far as mental health  
9 goes. There was even recently a new phone number for crisis  
10 intervention that will go out in the next month's report so  
11 that they have 24-hour access to that 988 number.

12 Looking at the budget real quick, we did kick off  
13 our FY '23 budget two and a half weeks ago, so we are fast and  
14 furious on having meetings and communicating with all of our  
15 members who are in a procurement position to give them  
16 guidance on what they need to do so that they can properly  
17 effect that part of our budget.

18 The recruitment, ocean safety's recruit class  
19 graduated; that was a great event we had here at Kahului Fire  
20 Station. And some of you may have heard some of the recent  
21 recruitments on the radio for our next recruitment that's  
22 going out for ocean safety officers, so we've pushed hard  
23 because we're trying to create a large pool of ocean safety  
24 officers because we have a busy year ahead of us. So radio,  
25 social media, we have signs on the towers, we've pushed it out

1 to all fire and all ocean safety to share with their members,  
2 so that has been a heavy recruitment effort. That kind of  
3 wraps up the monthly update.

4 Next, I'm gonna go over the training report, which  
5 is the page with all of the training report numbers on there,  
6 and just highlight a few things here. We're continuing to do  
7 our wildland training as we are in the midst of our wildland  
8 season. We're a little behind on this because we had to  
9 postpone several days due to high winds. The training that  
10 we're doing is actually conducting live fire training, and  
11 then dangerous high wind situations can be very -- you know,  
12 not advised to be done. So we've canceled a few days, so  
13 that's pushed our calendar back a little bit, but we're  
14 continuing to do that.

15 Rescue boat operations, you'll see on the left  
16 column is highlighted 70 different trainings. And Firefighter  
17 Swain will go over this program later in this meeting, but he  
18 has just conducted all the training for all of our vessel  
19 operators and crews, so that was a big push.

20 Another big training event that happened last month  
21 was our new helicopter and all of the training that needed to  
22 be done on that for all of our rescue personnel. We are  
23 fortunate enough to have a good relationship with the  
24 helicopter company. They put forth several hours, dozens of  
25 hours of training opportunities for our crews so that our

1 members could be ready to go July 1st. And they have been --  
2 and Chief Lindo may cover some of the calls that they went on  
3 coming up shortly.

4 And then lastly on the training, we kind of  
5 restarted our all-hazards incident management team training.  
6 So on the right column, you'll see some small numbers, but  
7 it's the IMT type 3 class as well as the EOC IMT interface  
8 class. And that class is important for our incident  
9 management team because it builds relationships between  
10 Director Andaya's team and our operations team. And so that  
11 class was given, and MEMA did send some students to it along  
12 with our firefighters, and that class was conducted. So a  
13 good time, especially during hurricane season, it was a good  
14 prep and refresher for some of our people and then to  
15 introduce new people to the -- to the landscape of large-scale  
16 emergencies. That was a good class.

17 The last report is the incident calls, the yellow  
18 page for the month. There was actually a dip in wildfires,  
19 which we're always happy to see. I think it's a little  
20 premature to think that's gonna be a trend throughout the  
21 year, but we did have a few, you know, days of rain, and that  
22 probably contributed to higher humidity and less likely of  
23 brush fires to start.

24 So those are the three handouts as I get into my  
25 report here, the two pages that I'll go over. Meetings with

1 the mayor, so our fire prevention bureau has created  
2 amendments for the fire code with corporation counsel. It's a  
3 big project, hundreds of hours go into that, and we're just  
4 waiting on final approval from the mayor's office so that we  
5 can change our fire code to the most recent version, which is  
6 the 2018 version.

7 The second bullet point on there I want to  
8 emphasize. I met with the managing director's personnel,  
9 department of personnel services, and personnel who conduct  
10 the reorganization in our department. So this is a big, big  
11 project that we have this year. As you are well aware from  
12 some of the budget presentations I've shared over the last  
13 several months, we got an additional 24 ocean safety officers.  
14 What does that mean? That means we have to kind of reorganize  
15 that bureau. It also has new leadership, a new position  
16 that's being created, so that's part of the reorganization  
17 also. We're also creating a tower on the west side, Puu  
18 Kekaa, so that's part of the reorganization. So that's one of  
19 four re-orgs we have to do this year. The other three are the  
20 battalion chief of admin, so we're moving that ocean safety  
21 chief, and we're moving it over to our support services, where  
22 they'll oversee our bureaus. And then we've gotten some  
23 additional positions that are critical, like our building  
24 maintenance repairer, so we have to do a reorganization with  
25 UPW and with that union because we're having different

1 supervisory org in that section of our org chart. So that's  
2 gonna be a lot of work for our HR in our office and the  
3 mayor's office and DPS before we can even hire anybody. So  
4 there's a lot of work that needs to be done here in the next  
5 few months.

6 Moving down to the second box there, the meetings  
7 with various agencies, we provided upstaffing on 4th of July  
8 because of the threat of firework fires; as well as last  
9 weekend the ocean safety was upstaffed additional skis because  
10 of the high south shore advisory and surf that came in. So  
11 some of that comes out of those meetings that we have with  
12 other agencies to make sure we're all on the same page and  
13 come up with a good plan to protect the community.

14 Moving down to council interactions, there may have  
15 been on your radar or not, depending on where your involvement  
16 is; there was a bill that was proposed by the council to  
17 protect the seabirds, and what it was affecting was the  
18 lighting that we have on buildings and vehicles and in many,  
19 many arenas of the county including sports parks and such. So  
20 there was a lot of public testimony, including department  
21 testimony, fire, police, and that bill was sent back to  
22 committee to be kind of rewritten and revised to meet  
23 everybody's needs. It was very, very strict and it wasn't  
24 gonna, for example, work with us and our emergency service  
25 scene lights. We would have had to reduce the amount of

1 lighting we have on scene or change the type, which dimmed  
2 down the area in the evening, which would have been an unsafe  
3 situation. So a lot of testimony was given, that was sent  
4 back to committee, and that is going to be revised.

5 The second one, we met with Councilmember Paltin.  
6 As you know, she is an ex-ocean safety officer, she has a big  
7 heart for them as well as a lot of the expansion that's going  
8 on in ocean safety this year is happening in her district on  
9 the west side. So we met with her to kind of give her a  
10 heads-up as to what our plan is and give her an overview and  
11 get her support and see if she had any questions that needed  
12 to be answered.

13 On the back page, the few items there, I'll go down  
14 to the miscellaneous. HGEA arbitration, the directors were  
15 called to testify. We can't talk too much about this right  
16 now, but basically, there's a request for temporary hazard pay  
17 due to the COVID pandemic, and that's all I can say about that  
18 situation right now.

19 The Makena MOU, which is a big MOU between the  
20 county and DLNR, has been going back and forth between us and  
21 the attorney general and DLNR. We've finally come to an  
22 agreement on terms. We are receiving 100 percent of the  
23 salary that we requested. We did need to bump that number up  
24 as the number that they had on the MOU, the draft MOU, was  
25 insufficient, but they agreed to increase it, so we should be

1 covered for all of our salary.

2 Pacific Cancer Foundation, we are preparing for the  
3 kickoff of our Go Pink campaign in October, so we've had a  
4 meeting with them to support their efforts. Some of you may  
5 remember in October, both police and fire wear pink, and that  
6 supports the Pacific Cancer Foundation's awareness effort.

7 And then lastly, Maui Emergency Management Agency,  
8 we have a -- we have a variety of things going on with them as  
9 Director Andaya mentioned, but something else is a Fire  
10 Management Assistance Grant is when we spend a certain  
11 threshold of money on wildfires, that we can now get  
12 reimbursed for fires following that threshold. Traditionally,  
13 it was done at a county level, so all we did was worry about  
14 our county spending, but this year HIEMA, the state emergency  
15 management agency, is managing this grant from a state level.  
16 So they're collecting data from all the counties, and once we  
17 reach that threshold, then the whole state will be -- will  
18 have access to potentially reimbursable expenses for all  
19 wildfires. So Chief Giese is working with HIEMA, they've  
20 requested several days of information from him, and we have  
21 our accounts pulling reports. It's a lot of work, but it's a  
22 lot of potential for us to get money back for the county, so  
23 we're totally willing to do it. We think that it could be by  
24 the end of the year a substantial amount of money if the state  
25 reaches the threshold, so we are working with the state on

1 that.

2 That concludes my report. Any questions?

3 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Ventura.

4 I just want to recognize as well that Max has been  
5 able to join us, so welcome, Max.

6 Does any commissioner have any questions for the  
7 chief?

8 (No response.)

9 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, Chief  
10 Fujioka.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: Good morning, Chair. Good  
12 morning, Commissioners. I'll go over my monthly report here.  
13 Department interviews and promotions, so we just completed  
14 interviews for our next ocean safety recruit class, and I  
15 believe we have selected six candidates for the positions.  
16 We'll be looking at norming a new rescue agility test next  
17 week, kind of trying to change a little bit of the physical  
18 testing for our recruit -- I mean, our rescue personnel, so  
19 we're looking at norming that test next week.

20 Apparatus committee, we had Chief Giese and our  
21 mechanic went up to Texas, did a final inspection on Mini 7,  
22 which would be going out to Hana, and that truck is scheduled  
23 to be here sometime in August.

24 ]And then, like Chief Ventura talked about, our FY  
25 '23 budget, we're -- we've got a bunch of vehicles to be

1 worked on here, so we're kind of starting to get the easy ones  
2 out to bid and start that process, so hopefully, we can start  
3 moving on the bigger projects right behind that.

4 Union interactions, you know, we had several  
5 meetings with HFFA. We had a couple Step 1 grievance meetings  
6 with several personnel on different -- different items. We've  
7 also consulted with HFFA on a new grooming policy. I think  
8 our grooming policy is very outdated; it's like from the  
9 1980s, so we're looking at redoing that. Also consulting with  
10 the union as far as required Maui Fire Department training and  
11 MQs and what we can do as a department to hold our personnel  
12 accountable to meeting with those MQs.

13 And then a real big one for us on the HGEA side is  
14 we're still working with HGEA on the 4/10 schedules for our  
15 ocean safety officers and working on -- I think it's an MOU  
16 with HGEA for the 4/10 schedules.

17 And then, just transmittals from the public, the  
18 mayor's office received an email from a beachgoer who alleged  
19 they witnessed egregious behavior involving our ocean safety  
20 personnel. We have launched an investigation into the -- into  
21 the claim, but we've kind of hit a wall because the person who  
22 sent the email, she has refused to come forward and give any  
23 more statements or cooperate with our investigators. So we've  
24 kind of hit the end on that; we can't move on, move forward  
25 unless she comes out and is willing to cooperate.

1           We had a letter from a resident regarding a vacant  
2 lot next to his property with overgrown brush. We've received  
3 phone calls, letters from him. Our fire prevention bureau has  
4 sent an inspector out and is in communication with the  
5 landowner to see if they can resolve that issue there.

6           We also had a conference call with several Lanai  
7 residents regarding an incident that happened several years  
8 ago; this was just in the start of the pandemic involving an  
9 off-duty firefighter. So we were able to have this conference  
10 call and hear, you know, both sides of the story and, you  
11 know, in the end, I think everything -- everybody was able to  
12 get their side of the story out, you know. On our end, we --  
13 no disciplinary action from our end; our member was off duty.  
14 So at least we were able to hear everybody out, and hopefully,  
15 the parties on Lanai can come to an agreement or, you know,  
16 recognize that this -- our employee will, you know, try to  
17 hold to a higher standard or whatever may be while he's on  
18 island.

19           We did receive a thank you email from a resident who  
20 visited the Wailea Fire Station and received exceptional  
21 treatment while at the station, so thank you to our Wailea  
22 guys.

23           And then the last one here is just a thank you  
24 letter from Maui Police Department. Our investigators, fire  
25 investigators, you know, provided a presentation and

1 demonstration pertaining to fire behavior, evidence recovery,  
2 and career opportunities in the fire department for the -- for  
3 MPD's tenth anniversary Crime Scene Investigation Camp.

4 That concludes my report for this month, and if you  
5 guys have got any questions, I'd be more than happy to answer.

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Fujioka.

7 Any commissioners have any questions?

8 COMMISSIONER ALCON: I have a question.

9 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Punahale.

10 COMMISSIONER ALCON: For the first incident, the  
11 beachgoer that said she witnessed poor behavior; what is your  
12 investigation process when someone does report something?

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So -- you want to? Sure,  
14 yeah.

15 So the report will come in, it -- where it gets  
16 received initially kind of depends on whoever is sending the  
17 report and where they think is the appropriate place. It  
18 ultimately will come in to our chief's office and, you know,  
19 we -- we basically will read through the report, and if we  
20 believe there's anything here that calls for, you know,  
21 potential disciplinary action, we'll initiate a formal  
22 investigation with our internal affairs officer and, you know,  
23 share the relevant information with him and then he'll  
24 initiate an investigation and ultimately that will issue an  
25 investigation report that comes into the chief's office, and

1 we'll decide on appropriate action. There are other avenues  
2 too. In some cases, depending upon the nature of the  
3 complaint and the circumstances, we may address it more as a  
4 performance issue rather than a disciplinary issue. You know,  
5 in some cases, it's not so much that someone's breaking the  
6 rules as much as it may be that maybe they're -- you know,  
7 they need some additional training or guidance in how to do  
8 their job more effectively and safely. So it really kind  
9 of -- it'll depend upon the nature of the complaint. Of  
10 course, we always want to follow up with the reporting party;  
11 that's an important part of the due process that we have to go  
12 through.

13           You know, as a government agency, there are a lot  
14 of -- a lot of parameters on how we conduct investigations.  
15 You know, everything in the Constitution applies to us as a  
16 government agency, so there's due process considerations we  
17 have to go through and, you know, rights that the accused  
18 employee has. So it can be a fairly involved process, even  
19 for things that are relatively simple, if we want to pursue  
20 disciplinary action. In the case that was mentioned, you  
21 know, one of the things that anybody has a right to as a  
22 citizen is to be able to confront the witnesses against them,  
23 right, to see the complaint, to answer things and such, so it  
24 becomes very difficult to pursue a formal disciplinary  
25 investigation if we can't follow up with the complainant

1 and/or other witnesses or the victim, right? In this case,  
2 the complainant wasn't even the victim, just it was somebody  
3 on the beach that didn't like what they saw.

4 So initially, just to kind of wrap it up, in a  
5 nutshell, we receive a complaint, we decide whether this  
6 merits a full disciplinary investigation or just an inquiry or  
7 if it's more of a performance issue, and if it is a  
8 disciplinary investigation, we assign it to our internal  
9 affairs officer who will ultimately issue a report to us, and  
10 then we'll work on implementing appropriate action with the  
11 goal of correcting the behavior, right? That's ultimately  
12 what the whole process is about is getting all of our  
13 personnel doing the right thing all the time.

14 COMMISSIONER ALCON: So is there a confidentiality  
15 clause in the investigation and any protections against people  
16 who may be reporting any non-retaliation rules that you have  
17 in place to protect, you know, the general public that might  
18 want to let you folks know that somebody's doing something  
19 that they should not be doing? Because if you tell your staff  
20 that this certain person reported you, could they go and  
21 threaten that person to not come forward later on?

22 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So what I would say, the  
23 way we handle this, ultimately, if there's going to be  
24 disciplinary action --

25 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Well, not even if it's gonna be

1 disciplinary action, just something to let you folks know that  
2 something may or may not be happening. I'm not saying that  
3 somebody should be disciplined, but is there a process to  
4 protect both sides?

5 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So we do our best to  
6 protect -- we also are very clear with all of our personnel  
7 that any kind of retaliation is absolutely intolerated, and  
8 that's an important part of our world. Ultimately, if there's  
9 a complaint against an employee, depending upon, you know, how  
10 serious and how much they want to pursue it, they ultimately  
11 do have a right to know who it was who made the complaint.

12 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Right.

13 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So while we don't -- we try  
14 to keep that in as tight a circle as possible to avoid the  
15 sort of thing you're talking about and also to encourage  
16 people to bring things to our attention.

17 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Right.

18 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: That's the main thing,  
19 right? We don't want to discourage information that can help  
20 us solve problems, especially before they become big problems,  
21 right? So we do our best, but ultimately, the person who is  
22 accused does have a right to know that if they -- you know, if  
23 they're concerned for that. So in those cases, we just make  
24 it abundantly clear to our employee that any kind of  
25 retaliatory behavior will not be tolerated and will be met

1 with disciplinary action following, of course, an appropriate  
2 investigation and all of that.

3 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Okay. Thank you.

4 CHIEF VENTURA: And, Chair, could I add to that as  
5 well?

6 CHAIR GINOZA: Absolutely.

7 CHIEF VENTURA: So -- and then there's also  
8 different thresholds for different types of investigations.  
9 So if it's a workplace violence, a sexual harassment, or  
10 something of that nature, it goes right up to the managing  
11 director's office, so everybody in the chain of command is  
12 notified. And they may allow our internal investigator to do  
13 the investigation, or they may choose to take over the  
14 investigation. Additionally, our investigator might have one  
15 or two, maybe three investigations going on, so we have  
16 trained several of our battalion chiefs to do investigations  
17 as well. We've brought in a lawyer from Honolulu for a day  
18 class to go over due process, just cause, Garrity rights, and  
19 all those sorts of things so that an investigation is  
20 conducted properly so that it doesn't fall out due to process.  
21 So there's a -- there's a few different layers of availability  
22 in the investigations for us.

23 But in these cases, we want people to come forward,  
24 and if they're -- if they're saying, hey, I want to remain  
25 anonymous --

1 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Yeah.

2 CHIEF VENTURA: We'll -- we'll in their request  
3 protect them, but we will still approach the -- the personnel  
4 involved in this incident, and we will train, we will provide  
5 direction, maybe management or supervisory training so that  
6 they know how to deal with difficult people or that situation  
7 that they did that was dangerous needs to change. So it might  
8 not lead to discipline, but it --

9 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Right.

10 CHIEF VENTURA: -- leads to improved behavior no  
11 matter what. That's the goal.

12 COMMISSIONER ALCON: Thank you.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Great. Thank you for the question,  
14 Punahale.

15 Lisa, did you have a question?

16 VICE CHAIR VARES: Yes, I did, actually, just a real  
17 quick one. Regarding the Lanai incident, it said it involved  
18 an off-duty firefighter, was that a firefighter that was just  
19 visiting Lanai, or was that an actual firefighter assigned to  
20 Lanai that was currently off duty at the time?

21 COMMISSIONER BURNS: (Inaudible.)

22 DEPUTY CHIEF FUJIOKA: I believe -- I believe he was  
23 visiting. He was on his boat.

24 VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay, that clears it up. Thanks.

25 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I have a question.

1 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Max.

2 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: My background is with the  
3 police department, and from what I gathered -- I was involved  
4 in that investigation from the outside. I couldn't really  
5 touch it because I'm not familiar with MFD's standards, but am  
6 I right to -- my understanding is there is no real -- like we  
7 had a code of ethics as far as our work and with the fire  
8 department, it doesn't -- there isn't other than what would be  
9 considered not appropriate, I mean, you know, if a guy -- if  
10 he's a fire -- fire employee, fire department employee, and  
11 he's off duty, then he's allowed to be outrageous in some of  
12 the things he does? I mean, that was kind of my gist of the  
13 whole situation.

14 CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So good question. So if I  
15 can give some background, the Maui Police Department has  
16 what's called standard of conduct pay, and that basically  
17 means that you're required to be as professional as their  
18 officers are expected to be both on duty and off duty. That  
19 is something that they negotiated with their union, and it  
20 comes with a whole lot of strings attached; for example, they  
21 have the duty to act while off duty if -- they're carrying,  
22 you know, certain responsibilities while off duty. Our HFFA  
23 union has never negotiated for that, nor do they want to,  
24 according to them.

25 So you're right; we don't have quite the teeth that

1 the police would have for their off-duty personnel that we do  
2 for our fire personnel. Now, we will still do counseling; we  
3 will still approach them; we still have these meetings because  
4 we agree that no poor behavior is acceptable on or off duty,  
5 but we do not have the right to discipline them if they're off  
6 duty.

7 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Oh, you guys got it easy.

8 CHAIR GINOZA: Does any other commissioner have any  
9 questions for Chief Fujioka or Chief Ventura?

10 (No response.)

11 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you  
12 both.

13 Chief Lindo.

14 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Aloha, good morning, Chair  
15 and Commissioners. Great to see you guys all. My report  
16 should be super short, yeah. The first part of my report is  
17 the major incident summaries for our fire as well as ocean  
18 safety. As you can see, for the month of June, we may not  
19 have had the amount of brush fire, which is good, but you can  
20 see the uptick in structure fires, yeah. As far as our ocean  
21 safety, these are some of the calls they had. Meeting on  
22 Makena State Park, and you can understand, most of the people  
23 that go there and get hurt are those who are not from here,  
24 yeah, so the conditions, they absolutely would work that.

25 When you turn over the page, these are our bureau

1 highlights, and for the training bureau, probably one of the  
2 main things I want to key on is that wildland burn. We like  
3 to hold it in the first quarter leading up into summertime  
4 and, of course, the strong winds, there's parameters that need  
5 to be -- that are established in our fire plan, and any time  
6 it goes beyond that, it's a no-go. So the strong winds did  
7 hamper that, but we were able to start back operations and, at  
8 the same time, utilize our new Air One aircraft. It's a  
9 bigger aircraft with a bigger bucket. We've got these huge  
10 water -- portable water tanks, yeah, so we wanted to give the  
11 opportunity for our pilots to make sure that everything works,  
12 and they're absolutely wonderful and awesome, and it did what  
13 it needed to do with a huge amount of gallonage, so that was  
14 excellent.

15 In our ocean safety bureau, these are some of the  
16 highlights. Last month we discussed about the celebration of  
17 life for OSO Randy Hillen. Our OSOs were able to train our  
18 police recruits in ocean safety. Huge thing, the junior  
19 lifeguard program, which was deficient through COVID, we got  
20 to start back up again. It was absolutely wonderful. Myself  
21 and Fire One got to go down last week as they created an  
22 opportunity for all the junior lifeguards in the different  
23 districts to come together and put on a challenge amongst each  
24 other with different types of events. So we got to be a part  
25 of that, at least in the beginning, we had other things that

1 we had to get to. We're hoping to start the new OSO class of  
2 six personnel hopefully by September 1st, so we're moving  
3 along with that. We did receive the UTVs and the rescue water  
4 crafts from fiscal year budget 2022. Those are online.

5 This DAIPAC or this Hawaii Beach Safety Week there,  
6 they're planning on doing it in August and what they want to  
7 do is provide an opportunity to recognize lifeguards from each  
8 island who did some awesome work in the line of duty. So this  
9 past weekend, you guys know that we had the huge swells, and  
10 Makena took cracks. The beautiful thing is there was a  
11 rescue; someone was out in the ocean that probably shouldn't  
12 have been there, and our rescue personnel, our ocean safety  
13 personnel were able to go out with 15-foot faces and grab this  
14 guy. And basically what happened was, I mean, he's panicking,  
15 he's hyperventilating, he's -- he's thinking he's dying; so  
16 our ocean personnel told him, you know what, with this wave  
17 coming in, brother, you gotta hold your breath and we gotta go  
18 under. So they were able to do that, bring the person in, and  
19 then put themselves in harm's way to do what they had to do.  
20 So that was -- they're gonna be recognized next month, so we  
21 want to give big dibs to those guys.

22 Right now, they're going through the ocean safety  
23 yearly assessments and evaluations, yeah, physical assessments  
24 and evaluate the skills, so that has been held at Keawakapu  
25 and Makena Beach. Of course, with the huge surf, we had to

1 put that on hold, so we hope to start that back up again.

2 And that's all I have on my part. Is there any  
3 questions?

4 CHAIR GINOZA: Any questions from commissioners?

5 Thank you, Chief Lindo.

6 VICE CHAIR VARES: (Gesturing.)

7 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes, Lisa.

8 VICE CHAIR VARES: Aloha, Chief Lindo. I was off  
9 island during this whole monster swell that came through last  
10 weekend, so I was just watching it from the mainland and the  
11 news. Were any county beaches closed when there were these  
12 15-foot south swells on beaches that do not normally handle  
13 this kind of dangerous surf, and what are the conditions for  
14 ever closing a beach?

15 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Can I answer that, Chair?

16 CHAIR GINOZA: Yes.

17 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Yeah, that's a very good  
18 question. And our lifeguards, you know, they have certain  
19 parameters that they look at, and that's one of the things as  
20 an administration and with our ocean safety, we kind of tackle  
21 beforehand, yeah, before it actually hits. So we give our  
22 officers out there the opportunity to look -- none of our  
23 county beaches warranted us closing them because the impact  
24 was minimal. Yeah, the waves were huge. What we did do was  
25 staff extra personnel on the beaches to take care of people

1 wanting to go in the water, but it didn't impact the beach  
2 itself in a way that would warrant closing it. Unlike Makena,  
3 the state, they saw an issue with it, and the amount of people  
4 that go there is a lot of tourists and people who don't  
5 understand, so they saw the need of saying, you know what,  
6 let's go ahead and close it. It didn't mean that we took our  
7 personnel off the beach; we absolutely left them on. And at  
8 most county parks, I mean, the waves were huge, you know,  
9 people were like, ah, we ain't gonna go in the ocean. So a  
10 lot of our ocean safety officers, they did a lot of  
11 preventative actions by notifying, stopping people, warning  
12 them, so great job.

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Lisa.  
14 Makalapua.

15 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Yeah. Thank you, Chief Lindo,  
16 for this report. So I'm just looking at the junior lifeguard  
17 program, so maybe down the road, have we thought about  
18 creating a junior firefighting program? And the hope is to,  
19 like, inspire our young people to want to become firefighters  
20 for our county. I mean, that might be on a -- like an  
21 overreach 'cause it's a whole different function; however, I  
22 just think maybe this might be an opportunity for our young  
23 people.

24 ASSISTANT CHIEF LINDO: Yeah, I can let Fire One  
25 answer that.

1 CHIEF VENTURA: Great question. So we would love to  
2 provide something. Our window is similar to the junior  
3 lifeguard program, where the kids are out of school during the  
4 summer. And what we have done in the past is when we have  
5 people reach out to us via any method, we create an  
6 internship. And so you might -- some of you might remember we  
7 reported out on a few internships while we have a recruit  
8 class. It's a great opportunity for us to get those kids,  
9 candidates in to various trainings with the recruits so that  
10 they know exactly what recruit school looks like, and we'll  
11 just take on -- take the opportunity that the child has. So  
12 last summer, we had a couple of kids that were only available  
13 on Thursday and Friday every week because they worked Monday,  
14 Tuesday, Wednesday. We'll accept that, and we'll create a  
15 program around that child. Then we've had kids that are  
16 available five days a week, and so they came every single day  
17 for two and a half months. And so there are certain things we  
18 can allow them to do, of course, and certain things we cannot.  
19 They can't drive a fire truck, they can't go in a fire, but  
20 there's a lot of stuff that they can do that -- and we'll  
21 always create the opportunity. We won't wait for necessarily  
22 a whole year. If a child wants to do it in the winter, we'll  
23 find an opportunity to do it.

24 You're right; it's not a clearly advertised program  
25 because we don't have the bandwidth to -- in our training

1 bureau. So, for example, right now, they have 20 recruits;  
2 they're all busy, obviously. We would need additional  
3 training bureau personnel to run an academy like this. So  
4 ocean safety, their training bureau, they just finished the  
5 recruit class, and they did junior lifeguards right after it  
6 so that they were able to go from one project to another  
7 project. We could definitely see something like that  
8 happening with our youth for fire.

9 COMMISSIONER KANUHA: Thank you, Chief. Thank you,  
10 Chief Lindo.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Makalapua.

12 Any other questions from commissioners?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, thank you,  
15 Chief Lindo.

16 Chief Giese.

17 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Yes, good morning,  
18 everybody. So I'll just hit a few of the highlights and  
19 expand on a few things from the written report you have here.  
20 One thing that was going on on our fire prevention bureau over  
21 the last month is we got some input from some members of the  
22 public in the event-planning industry who were hoping for  
23 some -- let's just say a simple, functional adjustment to the  
24 rules about aerial fireworks and the times at which they could  
25 be displayed, and so we worked cooperatively with them, and I

1 think we came across a -- or came upon a process that's gonna  
2 work for everybody. I think they were satisfied, and I think  
3 the public will be satisfied. So that was something that we  
4 were working on this last month.

5 As you can see under the training and public  
6 education, you know, for quite a while during COVID that box  
7 was pretty much empty and now it's the biggest box on the  
8 page. So we're, you know, kind of resuming that in full force  
9 so you can just see some of the highlights there of, you know,  
10 the types of events that our fire prevention bureau personnel  
11 participate in to provide education to the public.

12 A couple things that didn't make it onto the page  
13 here that I reported on before, but I'll just remind  
14 everybody. We've got some new personnel coming into fire  
15 prevention. We got a new captain in this fiscal year's budget  
16 and an additional plans reviewer, so our building maintenance  
17 repair person has been working on building office space for  
18 them. So that project's been going along really well, so we  
19 should be able to accommodate them as soon as the reorg that  
20 Chief Ventura was talking about is complete and we're able to  
21 do those promotions.

22 With respect to health and safety, I think I can  
23 expand a little bit on this incident safety officer class. So  
24 as you may or may not know, there is a nationwide system  
25 called the National Incident Management System that

1 incorporates a National Incident Command System, and pretty  
2 much all first response agencies in the country are supposed  
3 to follow this, and we do; we've been doing it for quite some  
4 time. One of the key roles in that system is an incident  
5 safety officer so when you have incidents that have particular  
6 hazards or, you know, reach a certain magnitude, it's best  
7 practice to assign somebody whose only kuleana is to be the  
8 safety officer. And what that person does is they identify  
9 safety issues on the incident, they suggest mitigations to  
10 those safety issues so that we can operate safely, and then  
11 they will monitor incident activities to make sure that that  
12 safety plan that they've generated and shared with all of our  
13 responders is actually being followed. They also have the  
14 power to stop immediately any unsafe act if something's about  
15 to happen that is gonna get somebody hurt. So it's a position  
16 that requires a fair amount of training and so our health and  
17 safety bureau, along with other safety officer cadre members,  
18 delivered a class to train additional personnel to fulfill  
19 that role. So that was an important thing that happened and  
20 is a -- just, you know, an incidence of our health and safety  
21 bureau interacting with our operations personnel to help make  
22 operations more safe.

23 I also wanted to highlight, I don't remember if I  
24 mentioned this last time, but we got a very generous donation  
25 from BedMart. They dropped off 80 high-end mattresses to us

1 to distribute out to fire stations, which is -- that's  
2 extraordinarily generous. So we received those, and they are  
3 being distributed. We have some still here at the warehouse  
4 for future needs. So I just wanted to make sure in this  
5 public forum we gave them some recognition for that.

6 We're continuing with our update and upgrade of our  
7 HIOSH compliance program, so you can see there our exposure  
8 control plan, that has to do with exposure to bloodborne  
9 diseases and such out in the field. You know, we deal with a  
10 lot of trauma patients, and so that's a risk to our personnel,  
11 so OSHA requires that we have a plan in place and such. The  
12 same thing for respiratory protection. Hazard communication,  
13 that has to do with chemical hazards in the workplace. So  
14 we're continuing to review and revise and upgrade those  
15 programs to make sure we're in compliance with all those  
16 regulations and keeping our personnel safe.

17 A few highlights on the CIP projects. You know,  
18 when we do this every month, CIP projects don't always change  
19 a lot from month to month, but I can give you some updates.  
20 We did start construction at Hoolehua, which is great, so  
21 working on, you know, renovating that station and building a  
22 carport addition for -- you know, to protect other equipment  
23 that's out there.

24 They are also slated to get an extractor this year.  
25 An extractor is basically a heavy-duty washing machine

1 designed to clean our fire response gear. So fires produce  
2 all sorts of nasty chemicals, and you wouldn't want to have  
3 those in your home washing machine or even the station washing  
4 machine in which you wash your regular clothes. And it takes  
5 some specialized equipment to really get those clean, and so  
6 we call that device an extractor. With this year's budget, we  
7 should end up having an extractor at just about every station  
8 in the department, so that includes Hoolehua, and I think  
9 Kihei is getting one this year as well, which is a tremendous  
10 upgrade. More and more research has been coming out over the  
11 last decade or more about the cancer risks of just having  
12 dirty gear. You know, it used to be a dirty helmet and dirty  
13 gear was a sign that you're one real fireman, right? And now  
14 it's a sign that you're just exposing yourself to that thing  
15 that's gonna shorten your retirement, right? So we're getting  
16 much smarter there and making progress with our personnel.

17 The Wailuku bathroom renovation is just about done.  
18 They have a deadline of July 28th; I believe they're racing to  
19 meet it; hopefully, they will.

20 And, yeah, you know what, I'll just give you a  
21 little update on the relocation of the Pukoo Station. So as  
22 we reported previously, we got the property, and we've also  
23 entered a contract with G70, a firm that's gonna help do our  
24 environmental assessment as well as do a rough design mockup  
25 for the project. And so our next steps there are doing a

1 survey so we can get some stacking and mapping of the actual  
2 property boundaries there. And also, we're working with the  
3 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, who owns the adjacent  
4 property, to basically purchase rights to use or basically  
5 expand a long driveway that would give us extra access options  
6 to that station. So the survey is gonna help us figure out  
7 just how much of their property we need to ask them to be able  
8 to borrow to put that driveway in when we're ready for that  
9 phase of the project. And then we're gonna be hiring a firm  
10 to do the plan/design and put a bid package together for the  
11 construction, and then a construction firm to get it all done  
12 for us. So that's basically an update on that.

13 And I think that's all I've got for you folks. Are  
14 there any questions?

15 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Chief Giese.

16 Any questions from commissioners?

17 VICE CHAIR VARES: I've got one.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Lisa.

19 VICE CHAIR VARES: Hi, Chief Giese. Thanks so much  
20 for that report. I've seen on previous commission reports  
21 that the Kahului hose tower stairs need refinishing and that  
22 you're searching for contractors capable of (inaudible).  
23 What -- what is -- I guess, what does that entail? Why is it  
24 so hard to find somebody to do that? Are the (inaudible) need  
25 to be recovered? I have no idea.

1 CHIEF VENTURA: That's rust.

2 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: What's that?

3 CHIEF VENTURA: That's rust, that's why.

4 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Oh, yeah. So the main  
5 issue with the hose tower stairs is they're rusting. The  
6 reason why this is on there and not anything has really  
7 changed month to month to month is largely because of  
8 everything else that's on here. And it's just one of those  
9 things where, you know, we only have so much bandwidth, and we  
10 have to prioritize, and basically, we just haven't gotten  
11 around to finding somebody yet who can complete that project.  
12 Yeah, as far as I'm aware, it's more of an issue of this  
13 coming up to the front burner and less of an issue of we just  
14 haven't been able to find anybody at all who could possibly do  
15 it.

16 VICE CHAIR VARES: Gotcha. (Inaudible.)

17 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: So I'll be happy to look  
18 into that in more detail and get you a better update than that  
19 for next month if you'd like.

20 VICE CHAIR VARES: No hurry. You've got plenty on  
21 your plate. I was just wondering -- so they're a metal stair  
22 system that is rusting?

23 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: Yes, yeah.

24 CHIEF VENTURA: Yeah. So the station hasn't shared  
25 with us that they are concerned regarding safety yet. It's

1 more cosmetic, but we know once rust starts, it will  
2 eventually become a safety issue. So it's on our radar to  
3 make sure, but we probably have to find an engineer who likes  
4 to look at metal and then somebody who welds and then somebody  
5 who paints and then, you know, put that all together.

6 VICE CHAIR VARES: I understand the desire to keep  
7 that on the back burner until it's a more pressing matter.  
8 All right. Thank you so much for the -- for the info.

9 ASSISTANT CHIEF GIESEA: You're very welcome.

10 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

11 Any other questions from commissioners?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIR GINOZA: All right. Seeing none, Chief  
14 Ventura, could you introduce Mr. Swain, our guest presenter?

15 CHIEF VENTURA: Certainly. So today we have with us  
16 Firefighter 3 -- who's a driver -- Dennis Swain. He's on our  
17 Rescue 10 crew here at Kahului. He's a 20-year veteran of our  
18 department, and he is our program director for our boat  
19 operations. So without getting too much more into the  
20 operations part of it, I'll let him lead away with his  
21 PowerPoint, and Richelle is helping him pull that up right  
22 now.

23 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Good morning, everybody,  
24 Chair, and the rest of the commissioners. Like Chief Ventura  
25 said, I've got a quick PowerPoint for you folks that I want to

1 share. I hope that I can answer a lot of those questions  
2 through the PowerPoint, but if you've got questions at the  
3 end, I can also address those questions.

4 So we'll get right into the PowerPoint. Yeah, okay.  
5 So this first slide is just a photo of our stern view, kind of  
6 that quarter panel stern view of the boat, and we just wanted  
7 to show you guys our rescue boat here at the Kahului Fire  
8 Station. You can see that hose tower that you guys were  
9 talking about off in the background.

10 So this next slide is just a little bit of history  
11 about our boat. It's a Radon, named after Ron Radon and Don  
12 Radon. So Ron Radon's dad was the original owner and builder  
13 of this, Ron Radon. It's just a style of hull that's very  
14 popular here in Hawaii because of its capabilities. So it's  
15 built in Santa Barbara by Don Radon. Basically, it's designed  
16 to surf and operate in rough ocean conditions, so that's what  
17 makes it more favorable to be a sought-after boat here in  
18 Hawaii.

19 Our weight capacity, we can carry upwards of 5,000  
20 plus pounds on the vessel. That's not counting the fuel, the  
21 motors, and the hull itself. We can go upwards of, you know,  
22 5 to 6 thousand, but we put 5,000 just to keep everything safe  
23 and in good operational ranges.

24 Our fuel capacity is anywhere from 150 to 200  
25 gallons between the three rescue boats. And just to give you

1 a background, our boats could run to Honolulu and back and do  
2 operations and not have to worry about fuel, so just a little  
3 background on the fuel capacity.

4 Our next slide's gonna show you the boats and the  
5 stations that they live at. So the first boat would be RB3,  
6 our oldest boat that's at the Lahaina Fire Station. Ladder 3  
7 is assigned to that, that vessel, RB3 is its call sign, and it  
8 was built in 2008.

9 Our next rescue boat is at Kaunakakai Fire Station  
10 over on Molokai. Engine 4 has that boat, RB4. It was built  
11 in 2011 with some small differences. As the years went on, we  
12 made some adjustments. Once we found that the department  
13 needed specific needs in their locations, then we made  
14 adjustments as needed.

15 Our last boat that I want to talk about is over here  
16 at Kahului Fire Station. It's assigned to Rescue 10, RB10,  
17 and built in 2015. I was able to take part in that building  
18 and layout of the boat, and I got to see the foundation work  
19 over in Santa Barbara. It was a cool experience.

20 Some photos of the rescue boats. Your left picture  
21 is gonna be RB10, Rescue Boat 10. On the top right-hand photo  
22 is RB4 with their new utility. We did some training over  
23 there, and they've got a good setup over there as well. Your  
24 bottom right-hand photo is gonna be RB3 stationed in Lahaina  
25 Fire Station. We have three rescue boats here in our county.

1           Our MFD boat operations program, basically, we  
2   comply with online state requirements, the NASBLA, so the  
3   National Association of Safety Boating Licensing Agency.  
4   That's a basic safety requirement that you do online, and  
5   everybody who operates a jet ski or a vessel or a boat here in  
6   Hawaii needs to take part in that, that training. But they  
7   don't get into the operational side in that aspect of the  
8   training, so we went a little bit further, and we recognized  
9   that we needed some training here in the department, so our  
10   last administration, which Chief Ventura was a part of,  
11   approved us to put together a program and with support of our  
12   current administration, we were able to roll our training  
13   program out. So what we did was we developed a training  
14   course from scratch. There's nothing like it in the state  
15   right now. We reached out to Kauai Fire Department, Honolulu  
16   Fire Department, and also on the Big Island, and right now,  
17   they just do OJT as far as their rescue boat training.  
18   Through that strategic plan, we identified that people want --  
19   our personnel wanted more training; they wanted the foundation  
20   built so that it wasn't up to the person with the most amount  
21   of experience to train and develop the training. So we went  
22   into this program building 25 skill sheets and lesson plans,  
23   and we went as far as pre-tripping the boat to post-tripping  
24   the boat, and everything in between. So once they're done  
25   with this course, which took part in January and we got

1 wrapped up in about April with the three rescue boats, we were  
2 able to get these guys to the operations technician level.

3 This is just a photo of our closed course. So one  
4 of the things that we identified was we needed to get them  
5 more trailing time, so we got these cones developed in this  
6 safety area basically, and they get to practice trailing these  
7 boats, you know, reversing the boats, getting them into the  
8 simulated parking stalls, simulated boat ramps so that they  
9 don't have the stresses of going out to the boat ramp and then  
10 getting pressured by the public or the local fishermen and  
11 whatnot. What we didn't want is to add more pressure and to  
12 get them comfortable before we got them out into the real  
13 world. So this is just a photo of one of the courses that we  
14 used and developed.

15 More photos of our training. This is over at the  
16 Kahului Boat Ramp on your left-hand photo. Right now, they're  
17 just showing like the reversing of the ramp, all the safety  
18 precautions getting on and off the ramp, how they're gonna  
19 deploy the boat, how they're gonna get the boat back on the  
20 trailer, and whatnot.

21 On the top right-hand photo is just one of the  
22 photos for the boat being tied up alongside. What we wanted  
23 to show them was how to use the mooring lines and fenders and  
24 stuff correctly so we can prolong the life of these vessels.  
25 One other thing that we found out was we don't just need to

1 know how to operate the boat; we needed to show them how to  
2 take care and care for the boat. And it's not just a one-day  
3 operation; we wanted the department's and the county's  
4 investment to prolong the life of these vessels, so we also  
5 took care of preventative maintenance, upkeep of the vessel,  
6 how to return that vessel back to the station and take care of  
7 it so that we can get it cleaned, ready, and back in service  
8 for our next call or training scenario. So that bottom  
9 right-hand photo just shows them the idea of opening the  
10 engine blocks, paying out some of the equipment, making sure  
11 that everything is dry and ready to be put back into storage.

12 This next slide shows some of the training that we  
13 had over on Molokai. We were there March and April. We got  
14 to train all the crews from Station 4. So that just shows you  
15 a photo of getting alongside the dock, and what we were  
16 showing them was some of the anchoring techniques and all of  
17 that stuff. The top right-hand photo would be just more  
18 pictures of our training while we were there on the island.  
19 Your bottom right-hand is the closed course. We needed to  
20 have that FADOP or that closed course with the cones, so we  
21 just went ahead and did it at the station. The station  
22 grounds proved to be good -- a good training site, a big nice  
23 layout in the parking lot, so we had the closed course there  
24 at Station 4.

25 So our rescue boat operations, we support scuba

1 operations. So a lot of the searches that go on longer than  
2 that first day tend to become somewhat involved with scuba, so  
3 we do support the scuba operations. It affords a platform  
4 away from land if we need to be, for instance, in one of the  
5 outlying stations -- or districts, sorry. And an example  
6 would be like Molokini where we cannot run command from shore,  
7 it just becomes difficult, so we need that platform. The boat  
8 becomes a safety platform and operational platform alongside  
9 scuba.

10 We also support ocean searches, and I'll show you  
11 upcoming slides on what I'm talking about with the ocean  
12 searches.

13 We go hand in hand with jet ski operations. The jet  
14 ski is super beneficial. They can get in nice tight impact  
15 zones, but they are not able to operate at night, you know, in  
16 deeper, open conditions, so they kind of go hand in hand, and  
17 we try to educate that as well.

18 We also support the heli ops operations, so  
19 helicopter operations. More importantly, this last few  
20 months, we were training off of Hookipa, and because it's a  
21 new aircraft and we're flying over water, we needed to have  
22 our safety divers and support there on scene at Hookipa. So  
23 the boat also becomes a platform for helicopter operations and  
24 also when they're crossing the channel.

25 Vessel towing/assistance is pretty straightforward.

1           One other thing that we do a lot is the supply and  
2 equipment runs to Lanai and Molokai. More recently, this past  
3 weekend, with the big storm south swells, we were out running  
4 some supplies to Molokai. It becomes also a good training, a  
5 training opportunity for some of the younger operators to see  
6 some type of ocean conditions, what we're dealing with at the  
7 ramps that we're entering and exiting, and we were able to see  
8 some pretty adverse ocean conditions over the weekend.

9           Manpower is another thing that we consider. So that  
10 same -- this past weekend, the turnover for Lanai didn't take  
11 place until Monday but had it been Saturday or Sunday, then  
12 our battalion chiefs would be faced with a decision, you know,  
13 to fly personnel to switch out or not, or in the past, they  
14 also asked us to run the crew over, the oncoming crew over,  
15 and then pick up the off-going company as well. So in some  
16 other emergencies, we've been running people over -- not  
17 running people over but taking people over, sorry. Excuse me.  
18 Taking personnel over to the other islands, yeah; hopefully,  
19 not running people over.

20           So this is that search pattern on your left-hand  
21 photo. That's just one of the techniques we use; we drag  
22 behind the boat. We just have a little line coming off of one  
23 of our stern cleats, and you've got two rescue personnel kind  
24 of just dragging behind. This affords a great technique  
25 because we're able to drag for a longer distance versus them

1 swimming. We can control the pattern, their search pattern,  
2 so we can also keep track of our GPS coordinates so that we  
3 can show and justify our points, you know, and our patterns on  
4 what our objective was and what we actually had from the  
5 outcome. It's a pretty relatively safe technique, especially  
6 if you've got good trained operators. You can see like those  
7 bubbles in front of those divers, those safety divers are not  
8 (inaudible), and on the right side or your starboard side, the  
9 motors and the boat was our base. So what we're doing is we  
10 kind of shut down that one motor, or we just turn it off so it  
11 increased visibility and becomes a better way to mitigate the  
12 safety with the engine props and all of that, so a good  
13 technique. We can also pay out more line so they're farther  
14 away from the boat as well. That's just that photo.

15 On the top right hand is the jet ski operations like  
16 I talked about at Molokini. So it becomes difficult for the  
17 boat to get alongside some of these shallow conditions.  
18 Especially with wind-generated storms, it tends to push us up  
19 against the crater, so this is where we get to work alongside  
20 with the jet skis. They can become that firsthand safety  
21 operation for surfers, swimmers, or scuba divers, and then the  
22 vessel or the boat becomes that backup station area just  
23 outside.

24 On your top -- sorry, bottom right-hand is just that  
25 Hookipa training that we talked about earlier, so this is just

1 RB10 supporting our helicopter operations.

2           Some of the limiting factors for our rescue boat are  
3 storms and lightning conditions, yeah. More importantly,  
4 wind. Wind is our biggest enemy, even more so than surf,  
5 yeah. So the type of wind, its direction and its speed. We  
6 can't run away from the wind, yeah; we can only just get back  
7 to shore. But once we figure out what type of wind we're  
8 dealing with, then we can start maneuvering our boat  
9 differently or maybe just our whole operation, yeah, but  
10 definitely, wind is our biggest critical factor.

11           Surf is also important to us. We can mitigate that  
12 by launching and coming in from different boat ramps or just  
13 staying away from the impact or surf zones like we did on this  
14 past weekend. Saturday and Sunday, we were able to come  
15 across four different boat ramps: Kahului, Molokai, Lanai  
16 Manele, which was kind of closing out big surf, and then  
17 Maalaea. So it also turned into a great training, training  
18 site.

19           The location is also a limiting factor, how far  
20 offshore, all of that stuff.

21           The time of day, day or night or early morning hours  
22 and all of that, it becomes limiting factors.

23           And, of course, your crew capabilities.

24           Some of the mutual aid and other organizations we  
25 work with was the United States Coast Guard, which we do

1 often, especially when we start dealing with the boat, DLNR,  
2 and then also with the United States Navy. So a couple of  
3 times on our longer extended searches, we are in communication  
4 with the navy as well.

5 Some of the photos and examples from our training.  
6 On your left-hand photo is with the Coast Guard over here,  
7 small boat Maalaea station. They come alongside our boat;  
8 they do some training, they check on our safety equipment,  
9 they ask a bunch of questions about our procedures and our  
10 equipment. We show them all of that, and it becomes like a  
11 training opportunity for them as well. So in this scenario,  
12 they went and boarded our boat, and they -- it was pretty much  
13 like a mock drug seizure. So the other photos to follow on  
14 your right and left -- sorry, on your right-hand side, the top  
15 and bottom, that shows more pictures of that training that we  
16 did with the Coast Guard.

17 That's all I've got. And if you guys got any  
18 questions, I can go ahead and answer those.

19 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you, Dennis.

20 Any questions from commissioners?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIR GINOZA: No questions?

23 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Are all of these boats  
24 diesel?

25 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Diesel engines?

2 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yes, they are. All twin  
3 engine diesels, RB3 and RB4 has Yanmars, and then RB10 has  
4 Volvo Penta twin diesels.

5 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: What's your top speed?

6 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: We've got it up to 35 knots on  
7 testing and sea trials. I believe they can go up to like 38  
8 or 39, give or take on the sea conditions, which is more than  
9 enough power that any of our operators would be comfortable  
10 operating it in.

11 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: How often do you guys do --  
12 how often do you guys do rough water training with these  
13 boats?

14 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: It kind of just varies  
15 depending on the crew. We just got done with the training --  
16 we started training in January or late 2021, and we just  
17 wrapped it up in April. And we've been having great support  
18 from the administration so far on the need for training, so  
19 we've been running these boats a little bit more lately as of  
20 lately, and we definitely want to get more training out and  
21 more opportunity for these guys. So an example, that rough  
22 water training was definitely this past weekend, right? And  
23 so a lot of captains or other personnel were concerned with  
24 the conditions, but we're -- we're liking the training  
25 opportunity. Some of these calls would happen in these types

1 of conditions, and you need for -- you need to be comfortable  
2 in these scenarios, to be operating in these types of  
3 conditions. So it affords us the training, and we definitely  
4 want to push more rough water training in moving forward with  
5 the help of everybody else.

6 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Okay. The most important  
7 question is: When do we get our ride in?

8 (Laughter.)

9 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: They're all your ride. It's  
10 all three of them. Everybody's riding.

11 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: I want my own here.

12 (Laughter.)

13 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Me too.

14 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: And can you outfit it with  
15 fishing poles?

16 (Laughter.)

17 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Thank you.

18 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

19 Dwight, do you have a question?

20 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Thank you for that  
21 presentation. That was a great presentation. I was just  
22 wondering, how often do you guys get called out where you guys  
23 have to use the vessels to do rescues and stuff? Like how  
24 often do you guys get called out?

25 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: So right now with -- our

1 Rescue Boat 10 I can speak more intelligently on because I'm  
2 assigned to that boat. I've been a part of that boat for a  
3 very long time, and it's assigned to rescues, so we're more  
4 prone to taking those boats out. It probably varies, you  
5 know, it just depends, you know, on the season, the time, the  
6 time of day, and all of that stuff. If we launch the boat on  
7 every single opportunity we had, then we'd probably be looking  
8 at maybe once every two or three months at best, yeah. It  
9 kind of just varies. Sometimes we go out every week, you  
10 know, and sometimes we go out after a couple of months. I  
11 think in the past, everyone was afraid to take out the boat  
12 because of the lack of training, but now that we've identified  
13 the training aspect and got our operators a lot more  
14 comfortable, I believe that we will see the boats be going out  
15 a little bit more often whether it's training or on calls. We  
16 definitely do not wish for any calls, right, but we will be  
17 ready if it does happen.

18 COMMISSIONER BURNS: So you guys cover like the Hana  
19 side too with these?

20 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yes, yes. So Rescue Boat 10  
21 with myself and some of our cadre members, we were able to  
22 test the boat's capabilities by taking it out on numerous  
23 rough days. And we also circle dive, and we also circle in  
24 Molokai just to see what kind of range we're operating in, get  
25 our guys comfortable in these types of conditions. And just

1 to give you an example, the north shore, we were operating at  
2 no more than 7 knots because it was just brutal out there as  
3 far as the ocean conditions, and it took us several hours to  
4 get around the island. But just knowing how to operate, the  
5 type of condition, the type of rpm's and all of that stuff,  
6 our heading; we're able to get through almost any condition we  
7 like to say, you know, aside from gale force or hurricane  
8 winds. We're more than satisfied with our boat's  
9 capabilities.

10 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Okay, thank you.

11 CHAIR GINOZA: Lisa, did you have a question?

12 VICE CHAIR VARES: Yes, I did.

13 Thank you so much. I was wondering -- sorry, were  
14 the trainings for the crew, the manpower, that's part of a  
15 cadre for the boats? Basically, you can just kind of sign on  
16 to be part of that, that crew that's called -- that's picked  
17 from whenever there's an emergency? Is that accurate?

18 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: No. So right now, those boats  
19 are assigned to -- specifically and intentionally in certain  
20 districts, yeah. So one, because it's so remote, they have a  
21 crew on Molokai with Engine 4. So they still have their  
22 regular job description and responsibilities, you know, with  
23 fire suppression and everything else that goes along with  
24 being an engine company with the addition of that Rescue Boat  
25 4. The same thing with Ladder 3 in Lahaina; they have the

1 ladder capabilities and then they also have the rescue boat.  
2 More specifically, for rescue, we do that search side of  
3 stuff. So we have our fire apparatus, which doesn't hold any  
4 water, right, so we have our apparatus for that. We have a  
5 utility, we have our jet ski, our aircraft, which is the  
6 helicopter, and of course, the rescue boat. So we are more  
7 specific to the boat a little bit more than other companies.  
8 Not sure if that answered your question.

9 VICE CHAIR VARES: I think so. So basically, it's  
10 just Station 10. If you're -- if you're assigned to Station  
11 10, you could be part of the boat operations at any given day,  
12 any given time, or do you kind of have guys -- you know, every  
13 shift you've got a couple of guys that are already trained up  
14 on the boat operations?

15 CHIEF VENTURA: I can kind of expound on that. So  
16 we have about 45 personnel that have been trained to operate  
17 the boat; 15 of them are on Molokai, 15 of them are in  
18 Lahaina, and 15 of them or more in Kahului on the rescue  
19 company.

20 VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay. That -- that's kind of  
21 what I was asking.

22 CHIEF VENTURA: So there's -- if Lahaina gets  
23 dispatched to an ocean rescue and it's after the lifeguards  
24 are off duty, what happens is an engine company goes to the  
25 shoreline, and the rescue boat is prepared for launch. So the

1 rescue boat might be prepared for launch literally 20 times in  
2 a month and never see the saltwater if the firefighters are  
3 able to effect a rescue from the shoreline or if the  
4 lifeguards can come up with the jet ski. So once --

5 VICE CHAIR VARES: Okay.

6 CHIEF VENTURA: -- they're off duty, then the boat  
7 will be more prone to launching in the after-hours.

8 VICE CHAIR VARES: Got it. All right, thank you,  
9 both of you, for that info. Thanks so much. Great  
10 presentation.

11 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Thank you.

12 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: (Inaudible.)

13 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you. Any other commissioners  
14 have any questions?

15 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah. Dennis.

16 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: You guys ever get an  
18 opportunity to come to Lanai, bring that boat, let me know and  
19 I'll go with you and familiarize you guys with our reefs. A  
20 lot of you guys are not familiar with Lanai, and there have  
21 been a bunch of boats going aground recently like that tour  
22 boat you guys are aware of.

23 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yes.

24 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: But I've dove there; I've  
25 lived here all my life. We can do a fast run about and show

1 you the worst areas you can get in trouble in.

2 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Yeah, we'll definitely take  
3 you up on that. Thank you very much.

4 COMMISSIONER KINCAID: Yeah, let me know.

5 CHAIR GINOZA: That's great, Max. Thank you.

6 Any other questions from commissioners?

7 COMMISSIONER BURNS: I've got one more.

8 CHAIR GINOZA: Go ahead, Dwight.

9 COMMISSIONER BURNS: So, Dennis, what is the range  
10 you guys cover? Like say one vessel's, say, in distress out  
11 by the buoys, like out JJ Buoy or something like that, is that  
12 you guys or is that the Coast Guard that covers that range?  
13 Like what is you guys' range for (inaudible)?

14 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: So right now -- and Chief  
15 Ventura can probably elaborate a little bit more, but it  
16 definitely is a collaborated effort. The Coast Guard  
17 typically will operate outside of 2 miles offshore, but our  
18 islands here, the county is, you know, really different with  
19 the islands, Lanai, Molokai, Kahoolawe, and such. And like  
20 that dangerous buoy you just talked about, JJ, right, so our  
21 boat is more than capable to get out there in those  
22 conditions. I myself have been in dangerous conditions in  
23 those areas with lesser of a boat, so I feel very comfortable  
24 that our boat could affect, you know, most ocean conditions  
25 and, of course, anywhere within our county. That's why we

1 talked about that training that we had. We had numerous trips  
2 where we went around Hana; we circled the island of Molokai  
3 just to see those types of conditions and crossing those  
4 different channels and seeing what we're working at. And I  
5 can attest that none of those conditions were nice conditions,  
6 yeah; they were less than favorable, just so we could see what  
7 those capabilities were. But yeah, we definitely can affect  
8 that, those deeper, dangerous channels like you do in JJ and  
9 stuff like that with the rescue boat.

10 COMMISSIONER BURNS: Thank you.

11 FIREFIGHTER 3 SWAIN: Thank you.

12 CHAIR GINOZA: Thank you.

13 Any other questions from commissioners?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIR GINOZA: Seeing none, thank you, Dennis, that  
16 was very informative. As you can see, everybody's so  
17 interested in that aspect of the department.

18 And we'll continue to have these guest speakers, so  
19 if the commissioners would like to see a particular aspect of  
20 the department before others, I mean, the chief and I kind of  
21 talk about what we'd like -- what I think we'd like to see, so  
22 if you'd like to see something in further detail more --  
23 sooner, just let me know, and we can put it on the agenda.

24 That's pretty much the end of our agenda. The next  
25 meeting is on August 18th, a month from now. It will be again

1 via BlueJeans and at ten o'clock in the morning.

2 So if no one has any other questions or concerns,  
3 thank you, everyone, for your service, and hope everyone has a  
4 great day. It is 11:33, and I will adjourn the fire and  
5 public safety commission meeting for today. Thank you,  
6 everyone.

7 (The proceedings were adjourned at 11:33 a.m.)

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