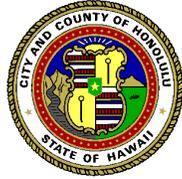


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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CHAIR
CHARLOTTE NEKOTA
VICE CHAIR
JAMES S. WATARU
STEFANIE LEE
MAX HANNEMANN
WILLIAM HONG
DENNIS MORTON

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium
Wednesday, January 15, 2020

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nagamine called the regular meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Nagamine, Charlotte Nekota, Max Hannemann, Dennis Morton, William Hong, James Wataru, and Stefanie Lee.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Manuel Neves (HFD), Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr. (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala (HFD), Battalion Chief Craig Uchimura (HFD), Battalion Chief Jeff Hooker (HFD), Battalion Chief Robert Thurston (HFD), Battalion Chief Carlton Yamada (HFD), Battalion Chief James Pacheco (HFD), Battalion Chief Bryan Soares (HFD), Battalion Chief David Morgan (HFD), Battalion Chief Joseph Kostiha (HFD), Battalion Chief John Bowers (HFD), Battalion Chief Damien Kahaulelio (HFD), Andrew Yim (HFD), Daisy Canite-Miyashiro (HFFA), Brian Ancheta (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY. Chair Nagamine asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to give public testimony. There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2019. Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of November 20, 2019. Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded. There being no further

comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the minutes.

V. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF. Fire Chief Neves passed out copies of his monthly report and highlighted the following:

November 2019

1. Injuries- Report of Industrial Injury or Illness (ISWC). Fire Chief Neves went over the injury list with the Commission and highlighted a few sprains/strains and mentioned that exposure reports (no injuries) will now be separated from its regular report.
2. Grievances. Fire Chief Neves mentioned no new grievances were reported. Details are in the monthly report.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of November, HFD received no complimentary correspondence and 1 complaint. Details are in the monthly report.
2. Fire Chief Neves went over station visitations, and indicated that visitations will restart in January 2020.

November 2019 (5/1,240)

December 2019

1. Fires. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 5 structural fires.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that on December 11, 2019, the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD) responded to a two-alarm building fire on a 20-story condominium on the 15th floor.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned it was started with a combustibles being stored to close to the stove.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department is continuously educating the public on fire safety. Details of the fire incidents can be found in the monthly report.

Fire Chief Neves asked the Commission if there were any concerns on the fire incidents. There were none.

2. Vacancies. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that this report doesn't reflect the people who had retired at the end of December 31, 2019.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 19 retirees (2 Battalion Chiefs, 9 Captains, 7 Fire Fighter III's and 1 Fire Fighter I).

Fire Chief Neves mentioned for the year 2019, there were 42 uniform employees who separated from the department and 4 civilians.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned currently there are 45 students in recruit class.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of December, HFD received 5 complimentary correspondences and 2 complaints. Details are in the monthly report.
2. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the 106th Fire Fighter Recruit Class graduation will be held on January 17, 2020, at 11 a.m. at the Pomaikai Ballroom's Hokulei Ballroom.
4. Fire Chief Neves had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their sections' recent activities.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administrative Services. Chief Lawton went over facilities with the Commission.

Chief Lawton mentioned that out of the 50, 43 are fire stations and occupied 24/7, 365 days.

Chief Lawton mentioned to upkeep the facilities the department relies on the Department of Facilities Maintenance (DFM) and the Department of Design and Construction (DDC).

Chief Lawton went over its funding resources.

Chief Lawton mentioned that its bulk fund is used towards repairing stations and its CIP fund is its capital fund.

Chief Lawton gave an example of bulk funding.

Chief Lawton used Central Fire Stations as an example and mentioned that the department would like to automate its doors as it would improve on its response.

Chief Lawton mentioned that its art décor door needs to be refurbished and the department recently learned that it was filled with asbestos.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned a resolution was recently introduced to see if the City would be interested in utilizing the park next to the Central Fire Station, if passed the department would like to extend the station and permanently close its existing doors and use the extension as a new entrance.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that Central is one of the busiest stations on the island.

Vice Chair Nekota asked who owns that land.

Chief Bratakos answered, the City owns the land under the station and by executive order it's owned by Harbors under the State.

Vice Chair Nekota asked if the doors were historic.

Chief Lawton answered yes and the department has a historic preservation person.

Chief Lawton mentioned that its Kalihi Kai station has been having problems with waste gas coming from the sewer line and the company will need to be relocated for repairs.

Commissioner Wataru mentioned that he recalled that it recently had renovations.

Chief Lawton mentioned that Phase I was installing a one way valve to help the problem but now pipes need to be replaced due to deteriorating pipes from the waste water.

Chief Lawton mentioned that due to age all stations need different maintenance.

Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala- Support Services. Chief Samala informed the Commission that on December 9th the department started its first Fire Fighter Recruit 2 class and it's made up of 7 candidates.

Chief Samala mentioned that these recruits have their 5 certifications, with this certification it reduces the training from 8 ½ months to 5 months.

Chief Samala mentioned that there is one female in this group and several fire fighters from the country.

Chief Samala went over Ordinance 19-4 and the importance of installing automated sprinkler systems.

Chief Samala mentioned that as of December out of the 375, only 10 have submitted its life safety evaluations.

Chief Samala mentioned that the department will now take an aggressive proactive approach and have fire inspectors hand deliver reminder cards.

Commissioner Hanneman asked if Fire Fighter II is a higher position that is sought after.

Fire Chief Neves went over Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II and Fire Fighter III and mentioned that this recruit class is a Fire Fighter recruit I and Fire Fighter recruit II.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that when you come in as a recruit you come in with certifications with higher pay and classes are shorter in addition, tests are different.

Commissioner Morton asked how long the certification is good when new recruits come in.

Chief Lawton answered there's no expiration and the EMT will go through a refresher every 2 years.

Chief Lawton mentioned that the new recruits will have refresher course training based on what is being assessed on their skill level.

Fire Chief Neves explained the certification process to the Commission.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned other departments like the State and Federal departments have been hiring them as soon as they've graduated.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned the next recruit class for Firefighter Recruit II will be in August following the Honolulu Community College Graduation in June/July 2020.

Chief Camara mentioned that the department also has an entrance exam.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Planning and Development. Chief Bratakos informed the Commission that the Joint Traffic Management Center has opened.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the departments dispatching will move in on January 27th.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that EMS has already moved in with HPD to follow.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that its current site will remain as a backup.

Commissioner Hannemann asked where the backup is.

Chief Bratakos answered it's in the basement of the Frank Fasi Municipal Building (FFMB).

Fire Chief Neves went over the departments 2019 Annual Executive Report.

Fire Chief Neves highlighted a few with the Commission, details can be found in his report.

A. Powers, Duties, and Functions of the Fire Chief

- Manage the operation and administration of the department
- Train, equip, maintain, and supervise a force of firefighting and emergency response personnel
- Review construction plans and inspect buildings
- Investigate fires and explosions for cause and origin
- Provide educational programs related to fire prevention and life safety

B. Training

- Active Threat response
- Tactical Emergency Critical Care
- Biennial water safety certified training
- Hazardous Material Incident Technician refresher
- Hazardous Material Incident Management refresher
- Assist with an All-Hazard Incident Management Team for the Kauai Emergency Management Agency
- Helicopter

C. Equipment

- Personal protective equipment
- Third helicopter
- Fourth helicopter
- Seven pumper apparatuses
- Trailered breathing compressor
- Various Project 25 radio system
- Desktops, tablets, laptops, and printer
- Grant funding
 - Medical equipment
 - Fire Prevention
 - Shaker Beds
 - Hauula Fire Station
 - Young Street property
 - Waialua Fire Station
 - Pearl City Fire Station
 - Wailupe Fire Station
 - Pier 19
- Maintain
 - Peer Support Team
 - Tracking inventory
 - Renovations
 - Mechanic Shop
- Supervise

- Kapolei Local Emergency Action Network
- Local Emergency Planning Committee
- Shared information with HPD
- Joint Terrorism Task Force
- Hawaii State Response Committee
- New Zealand's National Hazardous Substances Advisor

Chair Nagamine asked if there were any questions. There were none.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2019.

Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of November 20, 2019. Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded. There being no comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the executive session minutes.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Review Pursuant to Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1 re: Fire Recruit Training and Testing Programs.

Commissioner Lee moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1, to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:50 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

VI. Fire Commission Report for Periodic Review by City Council, Pursuant to Ordinance No. 17-44 (Codified as Chapter 3, Article 15, Revised Ordinance of Honolulu)

Chair Nagamine mentioned that the Commission had made suggested inputs to the draft and Counsel Ancheta went over the changes with the Commission.

Commissioner Nekota moved and Commissioner Morton second that the draft be adopted.

VII. Discussion of potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission.

Commissioner Hannemann moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission, and to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:54 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:56 p.m.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 2 p.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Hong seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

CRAIG NAGAMINE, Chair