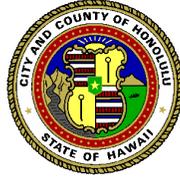


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 9<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
Phone: (808) 723-7321 Fax: (808) 723-7397

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



JAMES S. WATARU  
CHAIR

STEFANIE LEE  
VICE CHAIR

MAX HANNEMANN

CHARLOTTE NEKOTA

WILLIAM HONG

DENNIS MORTON

CRAIG NAGAMINE

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting  
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters  
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium  
Tuesday, January 15, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Lee called the regular meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

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

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 Nathan Ramos (HFD), Battalion Chief Wayne Masuda (HFD), Battalion Chief John Bowers (HFD), Battalion Chief Carlton Yamada (HFD), Battalion Chief Jeff Hooker (HFD), Battalion Chief Jason Samara (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasui (HFD), Battalion Chief Emmett Hull (HFD), Karen Carlen, Brian Ancheta (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

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

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2018. Vice Chair Lee called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of December 19, 2018. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were minor corrections on page 4, under Deputy Fire

Chief Lionel Camara, Jr., first paragraph. Fire Chief Neves indicated that 2 Council add's should read 2 budget issues and on page 5 under Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton, FF2 and FF1 should read FFR2 and FFR1. Commissioner Nekota moved and Commissioner Morton seconded, there being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as adopted.

IV. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF. Fire Chief Neves passed out copies of his monthly report for December 2018 and highlighted the following:

1. Fires. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 10 structural fires this month and not all residence have working smoking alarms. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department will continue to push for more smoke alarms.
2. Equipment Status. Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that there are six frontline apparatuses that are currently out of service and a backup is ready should there be a need.
3. Vacancies. Fire Chief Neves indicated that the department has anticipated that the Fire Fighter I vacancy will continue to rise. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the new recruit class has completed their physical agility test and is hopeful that it will start sometime this April/May of this year.

Fire Chief Neves also mentioned that he is hopeful that the next class will be larger to help alleviate the large vacancy in Fire Fighter 1.

4. Injuries- Report of Industrial Injury or Illness (ISWC). Fire Chief Neves went over the injury list with the Commission as well as the loss of time incidents.
5. Grievances. Fire Chief Neves went over the grievance with the Commission and went over pending grievances, and Step 1 and 2 of the Bargaining Unit 11.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of December, HFD received 4 complimentary correspondences, and no complaints that were responded to. Details are in the monthly report.
2. Fire Chief Neves had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their section's recent activities.

Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr. Chief Camara updated the Commission on the budget and indicated that the Mayor and the Managing Director have not finalized their cuts.

Chief Camara mentioned that he should have an update of the budget next month.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administrative Services. Chief Lawton gave a brief description on the Hauula Fire Station to the Commission and indicated that due to its age, size, design, deterioration, and being in a flood zone the department decided to rebuild and relocate it ¾ miles from its original site. Chief Lawton mentioned that the new station broke ground last year with a little over \$8 million dollar to construct and currently it's 70% complete.

Chief Lawton mentioned that it is designed to achieve the leadership and energy environmental design for the Lead silver certification from the U.S. pre-building council. It will accommodate an engine and a tanker and house 6 personnel shifts and is hopeful that completion will be by June 1<sup>st</sup> with services commencing prior to July 1, 2019.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Fire Chief Bratakos updated the Commission on high rise fire safety prevention preparedness and Ordinance 1814. Chief Bratakos mentioned that Ordinance 1814 affects 360 high rise buildings that are not equipped with automatic fire sprinklers. Chief Bratakos mentioned that the Mayor had vetoed Bill 72 which added more time to have people work on a life safety evaluation which means they would be sending the department a letter informing them that they will be complying with the ordinance.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that HFD has received 320 letters and it's answered on a timely manner and indicated that there are a few dozen that have not responded and the department will be conducting a follow up to see that they are not in violation of the ordinance.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that HFD is in contact with designers and engineers who are conducting life safety evaluations on several properties.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the department continues to educate about preparedness regarding training.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the department will be conducting a high rise training in a few months and mentioned that new equipments have been purchased and the department will be computer training its personnel first, then an all day drill will be conducted.

Commissioner Nekota asked Chief Bratakos what did the 360 high rise respond too and how did they respond.

Chief Bratakos answered that 360 high rise buildings have to respond to a letter indicating that it will comply with the ordinance. Chief Bratakos mentioned that property managers have sent in a 1 page letter indicating that they will comply with Ordinance 1814.

Commissioner Nagamine mentioned that the Marco Polo fire is still quite fresh in the minds of the public and suggested that the department should inform them on how the department is ensuring public safety.

Fire Chief Neves agreed and indicated that the department is currently in the process of hiring someone to inform the public of the positive things that the department is doing to ensure safety.

Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos- Planning and Development. Chief Ramos updated the Commissioners on the Port Security grant program.

Chief Ramos mentioned that the HFD was recently awarded \$340,000 to procure a rescue boat.

Chief Ramos mentioned that it will support building and sustaining port capabilities for enhancing strategic port resilience, training and exercises.

Chief Ramos mentioned that the rescue boat is being built by Hoku Boats LLC and it will be a 23 foot long fiberglass haul, equipped with a 500gpm fire pump and a mounted electronic side winder monitor and a portable radiological nuclear detector and side scanner solar system.

Chief Ramos mentioned that it's near completion.

Commissioner Nekota asked where it will be stationed.

Chief Ramos answered, "Kalihi Kai".

Commissioner Hannemann asked about the current boat.

Chief Ramos indicated that the 2 existing rescue boats are currently being utilized by the departments rescue company and this will be an addition.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department currently has a 3<sup>rd</sup> boat which is used for backup and this purchase will be its 4<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Morton asked if there is Rescue 3, and who is going to be Rescue 3's .

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that it will service the ports.

Commissioner Morton asked if it was the Harbors, Fire Chief Neves answered, "Yes".

Commissioner Hong asked if this boat meets the department's needs.

Fire Chief Neves answered, "Yes", and mentioned that the department likes to have boats a certain size which can easily be trailered it to locations where it is needed.

Commissioner Hong asked how the sea worthiness of the boat is.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that over time the department has found out that it likes the v-shaped haul.

## V. PRIVATE CITIZEN COMPLAINT:

Vice Chair Lee mentioned that the Commission received a complaint relating to the current recruit class and that a grievance was filed.

Vice Chair Lee indicated that the Commission will go into executive session to discuss the matter.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Annual Evaluation of the Fire Chief. Commissioner Nekota moved and Commissioner Nagamine seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding the evaluation of the Fire Chief “to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employer or employee where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved” [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(2)], 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)]. The Commission went into Executive Session at 2:52 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 3:53 p.m.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, at 2 p.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business Commissioner Hannemann moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission end its meeting. It was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

---

STEFANIE LEE, Vice Chair