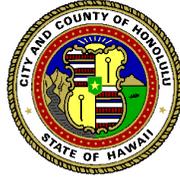


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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VICE CHAIR

DR. JOSEPH W.C. YOUNG

MAX HANNEMANN

CHARLOTTE NEKOTA

STEFANIE LEE

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium
Wednesday, April 19, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Wataru called the regular meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Wataru, Arnold Wong, Dr. Joseph Young, Max Hannemann, Charlotte Nekota, 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 Nathan Ramos (HFD), Battalion Chief Jeff Sanchez (HFD), Battalion Chief Mark Murakami (HFD), Battalion Chief John Pacheco (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasue (HFD), Battalion Chief Anthony Lee (HFD), Battalion Chief Albert Mahoe (HFD), Battalion Chief Paul Kato (HFD), Battalion Chief Ryan Young (HFD), Bobby Lee (HFFA), Andrew Fukuda (HFFA), Jolyn Prieto (HFFA), Amanda Furman (Corporation Counsel), Randall Ishikawa (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

Chair Wataru asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to provide public testimony. There was no public testimony.

Chair Wataru introduced Stefanie Lee to the Fire Commission as its newest member.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2017: Chair Wataru called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of March 1, 2017. There being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as circulated.

APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF MARCH 1, 2017: Chair Wataru called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of March 1, 2017. There being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as circulated.

REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF: Chief Neves passed out this monthly report and highlighted the following:

1. Budget Review at the Honolulu City Council. Chief Neves informed the Commission that the department's budget is currently under \$130 million dollars with a reduction of \$1 million dollars from the 2017 budget. Chief Neves noted to the Commission that the department has gotten a request from City Council asking if the Fire Commission could establish a website for submitting complaints and posting its agenda. Chief Neves noted that the department will work with the Commission's secretary if the Fire Commission decides to do so.
2. Meeting with the American Heart Association's Western States Board of Directors. Chief Neves noted that the department got to present its current procedures in CPR and the new high performance CPR program to the American Heart Association.
3. Senior Managers Meeting. Chief Neves indicated that the Mayor had attended and questions could be addressed one on one.
4. Site Visitation of the Pearl City Fire Station with Managing Director. Chief Neves mentioned that the department has a tentative agreement to secure future property for its Pearl City Fire Station.
5. The Deputies Breakfast Meeting. Chief Neves mentioned that The Deputies is a non profit organization which supports its scholarship programs for fire fighters, as well as its explorer's program.

Board Member Young asked whether the department has taken a position on the use of drones by the department. Chief Neves responded that the department was working with the Department of Emergency Management on this issue.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of March, HFD received 2 complimentary correspondences, and no complaints.
2. Chief Neves informed the Commission of a promotion ceremony on May 12, 2017, at the Mission Memorial Auditorium. Chief Neves noted that there will be promotions for 2 Battalions Chiefs and 26 Captains.

3. Chief Neves informed the Commission on the unveiling of the new Keiki Fire Safety House on May 13, 2017, at the Honolulu Fire Museum and Education Center.
4. Chief Neves passed out a 2016 Service Efforts and Accomplishments Report to the Commission.

Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara Jr.- Chief Camara updated the Commission on its budget and noted that there were no changes to the department's operating or CIP budget. Chief Camara mentioned that the only concern is the extension of the general excise tax which could affect agencies within the City. Vice Chair Wong asked about raises, new stations, and if the department will be going back to Council to increase the budget. Chief Neves indicated that it's included in the collective bargaining unit and the department will move forward to whatever decision the Mayor makes on the outcome of the general excise tax.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administrative Services. Chief Lawton highlighted on the Fire Chief's goal on providing two sets of turnouts for personnel at the end of this fiscal year. Chief Lawton explained what turnouts are to the Commission and noted that an order has been placed and delivery should be expected sometime in June with 90% of its personnel having two sets. Chief Neves indicated that because this goal was met the upcoming budget is currently being reduced. Chief Camara noted that the lifespan of turnouts is 10 years.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Support Services. A handout was passed out and Chief Bratakos had Battalion Chief Yasui explain the department's training program. Chief Yasui gave a brief summary of the Training Research Bureau Academy and mentioned that it has 6 divisions with 9 sections. Chief Yasui went over the sections with the Commissioners.

Vice Chair Wong indicated that in the last survey there was an issue regarding moving up in rank and asked if there's a guideline for fire fighters. Chief Neves noted that there are requirements indicated before a written test is given.

Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos- Planning and Development. Chief Ramos indicated that the Planning and Development supports grants for the Honolulu Fire Department and through the grants the department is able to support acquisition of equipment and training.

Chief Ramos updated the Commission on personnel changes and noted that Fire Captain Lance Gaspar has transferred into this department and that its current grant manager decided to move back to HPD.

VI) Complaint pertaining to conduct of the Fire Chief and VII) Annual Evaluation of the Fire Chief: EXECUTIVE SESSION-

Vice Chair Wong moved and Commissioner Lee seconded that the Commission go into executive session on both matters “to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer 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 motion passed unanimously. The Commission went into Executive Session at 1:31 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 3:24 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT: The next meeting will be held on May 3, 2017, at 2:00 p.m., at the HFD auditorium.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

JAMES WATARU, Chair