

COUNTY OF KAUA'I
 Minutes of Meeting
 OPEN SESSION

Approved

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| Board/Commission: | Kaua'i Fire Commission | Meeting Date: | March 19, 2024 | |
| Location | Boards and Commissions Conference Room, Pi'ikoi Building 4444 Rice Street, Suite 300, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766 | Start of Meeting: | 2:01 p.m. | End of Meeting: 3:00 p.m. |
| Present | Chair Rodney Yama; Vice Chair Gary Pacheco; Commissioners: Trevor Ford, Linda Kaauwai-Iwamoto, Alfred Levinthol, Alfredo Garces Also present: Boards & Commissions Office Staff: Support Clerk Lisa Oyama; Administrator Ellen Ching; Office of the County Attorney: Deputy County Attorney Jenna Tatsey, Kaua'i Fire Department: Fire Chief Michael Gibson, and Chief's Secretary Soncy Tamashiro. | | | |
| Excused | Commissioner Jen Chahanovich | | | |
| Absent | | | | |

| SUBJECT | DISCUSSION | ACTION |
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| Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call to ascertain quorum | Chair Yama called the Fire Commission March 19, 2024, meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. A roll call ensued that quorum was established, six (6) Commissioners were present to conduct business. | Quorum was established with six (6) Commissioners present. |
| Approval of Agenda | Chair Yama called for a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. | Vice Chair Pacheco moved to approve the March 19, 2024, agenda. Commissioner Kaauwai-Iwamoto seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0. |
| Chair's Announcements | Next Regular Monthly Meeting will be 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at the: Boards and Commissions Conference Room, Pi'ikoi Building 4444 Rice Street, Suite 300, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766 | |
| Public Testimony | Chair Yama called for public testimony. Being there was no written testimony, or members of the public present at the meeting. Boards & Commissions Administrator Ellen Ching recognized that this was Commissioner Kaauwai-Iwamoto and Commissioner Levinthol's last meeting. Ms. Ching thanked them both for their service to the community for the past six years. Chair Yama also gave his gratitude. Commissioner Garces expressed his gratitude as well. Commissioner Kaauwai-Iwamoto thanked the Commission and Staff for all their support | |

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| | <p>throughout the years. Commissioner Levinthol also gave thanks to fellow Commissioners and Staff for allowing him the opportunity to serve his community.</p> <p>Ms. Ching stated for the record that it would not be necessary for Chair Yama to call for public testimony on each agenda item.</p> | |
| <p>Approval of Minutes</p> | <p>Chair Yama called for a motion to amend or approve the minutes of the February 20, 2024, meeting.</p> | <p>Commissioner Ford moved to approve the February 20, 2024; meeting minutes as circulated. Commissioner Garces seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved. 6:0.</p> |
| <p>Chief's Monthly Bureau Reports and Updates for February 2024</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Update on Kaua'i Fire and Ocean Safety, including updates on Partnerships, Resources Highlights, and Wildfire/Council b) Administrative Bureau Update, including updates on the budget, staffing, overtime report, facilities, and fleet c) Fire Operations Bureau Update, including statistics on calls for service and brief description of some of the incidents responded to d) Fire Prevention Bureau Update, including monthly statistics e) Fire Training Bureau Update, including monthly statistics f) Ocean Safety Bureau Update, including monthly statistics and bureau highlights g) Update on Fire Chief Gibson's progress regarding the Goals and Objectives for FY 2023-2024 <p><u>Fire and Ocean Safety</u></p> <p>Firefighter Trainee Recruitment applicants were at 140, but only 75 showed up for the written test, of the 75, 35 passed the test. 17 passed the agility testing, that will be going to interviews. There are three vacancies that need to be filled.</p> | |

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| | <p><u>Partnerships</u> United States Fire Administration to donate 20 more Wildfire Detection Sensors to each island. Kaua'i is being used as a tester for these sensors. 16 of the sensors will be placed Kōloa and Anahola, the 4 extra sensors will be used remotely. Sensors should be in place by May. Kaiākea clean up is underway and will take longer than estimated due to the amount of debris.</p> <p>Commissioner Kaauwai-Iwamoto inquired how far north is the clean-up.</p> <p>Chief Gibson stated that clean-up will go all the way to the cemetery, and up towards Mahelona Hospital and Easter Seals, about 13 acres.</p> <p><u>Wildfire and Council</u> Elizabeth Picket, from HWMO is working with KFD to update the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. KFD along with Red Cross for the Sound the Alarm, installed 120 smoke detectors in homes in Kaumakani, a total of 60 homes.</p> <p><u>Resource Updates</u> FY 2025 budget, a third Water Tender is awaiting approval from Council. Tentatively approved is the new type of Brush Truck, which is a Type 5 Truck, it can carry 400 gallons of water.</p> <p><u>Administrative Bureau</u> There are three vacancies for Firefighter Trainee. Ocean Safety FT has two vacancies to be filled to be at full staff. Ocean Safety ST has four vacancies. Waimea Fire Station is having the rear driveway asphalt redone at a cost of about \$65k. Kaiākea Fire Station has had several roof leaks, Public Works and a contractor looked at it and discovered that it was due to the solar lights rusting at the base. One has been repaired, another eight to fix, at a cost of about \$1500 each.</p> | |

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| | <p>The beach has been eroding at Anahola Lifeguard Tower, about 20 feet, in the last few months. The beach is 1 foot from the base of the tower. A request has been put in with Department of Public Works for assistance in moving the railing and stairs to the side of the tower.</p> <p><u>Fire Training</u> Three personnel will be attending FDIC in Indianapolis in April. Four personnel will be attending a leadership series, a countywide training.</p> | <p>Commissioner Kaauwai-Iwamoto moved to receive the Chief's Monthly Report. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, motion passes. 6:0.</p> |
| Executive Session | None. | |
| Adjournment | Chair Yama called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. | Commissioner Levinthol moved to adjourn. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded. Hearing no objections, meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m. |

Submitted by: *Lisa Oyama*
Lisa Oyama, Commission Support Clerk

Reviewed and Approved by: _____
Rodney Yama, Chair

- (X) Approved as circulated (April 16, 2024, meeting)
- () Approved with amendments.