

COUNTY OF KAUA'I
 Minutes of Meeting
 OPEN SESSION

Board/Commission:	Kaua'i Fire Commission	Meeting Date:	August 20, 2024
Location	Lihu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building Meeting Room 2A-2B 4444 Rice Street, Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i	Start of Meeting:	2:02 p.m. End of Meeting: 3:06 p.m.
Present	Chair Rodney Yama; Vice Chair Gary Pacheco; Commissioners: Lori Almarza, Jen Chahanovich, Alfredo Garces Jr., Jeff Murray. Also present: Boards & Commissions Office Staff: Support Clerk Lisa Oyama; Administrator Ellen Ching; Office of the County Attorney: Deputy County Attorney Jenna Tatsey		
Excused	Commissioners: Trevor Ford		
Absent			



SUBJECT	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call to ascertain quorum	Chair Yama called the Fire Commission August 20, 2024, meeting to order at 2:02 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 amend the agenda, to continue KFC-2024-4 until the September 17, 2024, meeting, in Executive Session.	Commissioner Chahanovich moved to approve the amended August 20, 2024, agenda. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0.
Chair's Announcements	Next Regular Monthly Meeting will be 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 17, 2024, at the: Lihu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building Meeting Room 2A-2B 4444 Rice Street, Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766	
Public Testimony	Chair Yama called for public testimony. No public testimony was received. Ms. Ching stated for the record that it would be necessary for Chair Yama to call for public testimony on each agenda item.	
Approval of Minutes	Chair Yama called for a motion to amend or approve the minutes of the July 16, 2024, meeting.	Commissioner Garces moved to approve the July 16, 2024, meeting minutes as

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		circulated. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved. 6:0.
<p>Chief's Monthly Bureau Reports and Updates for June and July 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 2024-2025 <p><u>June 2024</u></p> <p><u>Fire and Ocean Safety</u> Just three candidates in Recruit Class 33, two are from PMRF. Five firefighters are on long-term leave. Five retirements are expected by end of the year.</p> <p><u>Wildfire</u> June 13, the Waimea Canyon fire, which burned 300 acres. DOFAW and DLNR assisted KFD in extinguishing that fire.</p> <p><u>Council</u> House Bill 1889 was passed to add language to additional cover cancers that may affect female firefighters. House Bill 1842 passed, which increases maximum fines for violations to fire protection laws. House Bill 2193 passed, authorizes law enforcement and fire officers to</p>	

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	<p>enter any licensees or permitting premises to verify compliance with State Fireworks Control laws. Calendar year 2023, over 200,000 pounds of fireworks were seized in the state. Senate Bill 2085 passed, establishing the Office of the State Fire Marshall, the State Fire Council is drafting a job description, and the State Fire Council will be selecting a candidate for this position.</p> <p>Vice Chair Pacheco inquired about the Chief’s request for the recruiting of trainees. He asked if it would be beneficial if the commission submitted a letter to the mayor supporting the Chief’s request.</p> <p>Chief Gibson stated that it would be most helpful to submit it to the Managing Director.</p> <p>Vice Chair Pacheco asked if he needed to make a motion.</p> <p>Deputy County Attorney Jenna Tatsey suggested that the commission might want to add this topic to the next agenda, so that the full commission can discuss it.</p> <p><u>July 2024</u></p> <p>Chief Gibson gave a statement about the helicopter crash that happened on July 11, 2024, and also gave a report on the fire in Kaumakani. He also gave a report on the Koke'e fires.</p> <p><u>Fire and Ocean Safety</u></p> <p>One retirement in July, another retirement will happen in September, and up to five could retire by the end of the year. The earliest they can start a second recruitment class is January 2, 2025. Accountant 3 position is still vacant, one is for a Contract Specialist, a position that KFD really needs. FEMA approved \$125,000 for damage to the Kōloa Fire Station from rains in April.</p>	

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	Chair Yama called for a motion to receive the Chief’s June and July monthly report.	Commissioner Almarza moved to receive the written Chief’s Monthly Report. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, motion passes. 6:0.
BUSINESS	<u>KFC 2024-4</u> Deferred until the September 17, 2024, meeting.	
Executive Session	None.	
Adjournment	Chair Yama called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.	Commissioner Chahanovich moved to adjourn. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded. Hearing no objections, meeting was adjourned at 3:06 p.m. 6:0.

Submitted by: Lisa Oyama
Lisa Oyama, Commission Support Clerk

Reviewed and Approved by: _____
Rodney Yama, Chair

- (X) Approved as circulated (September 17, 2024, meeting).
- () Approved with amendments.