



Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association  
1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 0900 hours  
DKI International Airport, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Center and Virtual by TEAMS

1. Meeting called to order by President Tommy Perkins.
2. Roll Call: President Tommy Perkins, Vice-President Jeff Murray (TEAMS), Secretary Meri Peter, Treasurer Sheldon Kalani Hao (TEAMS), Parliamentarian Darren Rosario, Sgt at Arms Oric Kuapahi. Members Gavin Fujioka, Michael Gibson (TEAMS), Jay Hatayama, John Kennedy, Roger Mills, Earl Nishikawa, Kazuo Todd, Bradford Ventura (TEAMS), Robert Westerman, Scotty Rhode (TEAMS), Eric Moller, Clay Arruda, Jason Ornellas (TEAMS), Roger Mills (TEAMS),
3. Motion to accept agenda by Rosario, second by Nishikawa.
4. Motion to amend agenda by Rosario, second by Westerman. Agenda amended to include discussion on supporting Onahou initiative.
5. Update on Steve Kennedy request. He wants to produce a video with an endorsement from HIFCA. Perkins declined and he is now contacting other Chiefs. Perkins confirmed alignment amongst all Chiefs that we do not support initiatives for private business.
6. Motion to accept November 2023 meeting minutes by Westerman, second by Kuapahi.
7. Treasurer's Report.
  - a. \$73,141 net return to HIFCA from recent conference.
  - b. Motion to pay \$5,000 to National Fallen Fire Foundation made by Nishikawa, second by Hatayama.
  - c. End of 2023: \$238,118.14 in treasury.
  - d. American Savings Bank accounts will be transferred today to S. Hao.
  - e. Scholarship funds: Hawaii CC – paid and appreciation/receipt acknowledgement received; Honolulu CC did not formally request funds yet.
  - f. Taxes: Will apply for an extension for Federal taxes, originally due May, will apply for extension to August. Since we are a non-profit, anticipate no federal taxes and will have state taxes from the CDs.
  - g. Motion to accept Treasurer's Report by Kuapahi, second by Nishikawa.
8. County Updates.
  - a. HI County. Anticipating procuring 13 trucks by the end of the month from grant and donations. Budget cycle in process.
  - b. Kauai. Budget cycle in process. Two engines awarded; first delivery scheduled for April 2025. Recruit class scheduled for July 1 with 3 vacancies.

- c. Honolulu. Budget cycle in process. Challenges with apparatus maintenance, capital projects for facilities, requesting 5 engines and 2 towers. Staffing challenges include anticipating 70 retirements this year, filling 40 vacancies with recruit classes in January and July.
- d. Molokai. Runway repairs scheduled, which will impact air medical transport. They are looking into helo transportation as an alternative.
- e. Chief Oric. Budget cycle in process. Interviewed 2 recruits. Installation expecting an inspection in March from Washington, DC.
- f. Honolulu CC – Scotty Rhodes. Appreciation for hiring former students: 12 Federal, 2 EMRF, 1 Kauai. High School exploratory program will be offered this summer, (3) 2-week sessions with hands-on EMS training. Students may be an option to help with conference this year. Scotty will also provide contact to Bob regarding scholarship request.
- g. Jay Hatayama. Budget cycle in process.

#### 9. Old Business

- a. Treasurer. Transferring accounts to Chief Hao.
- b. Hawaii IMAS. Plan needs to be updated to address realistic equipment deployment in a statewide disaster.
- c. DCCA reports and documents need to reflect the new address. Need to identify new phone number.
- d. Recap of the elections: VP: Murray, Secretary: Peter, Treasurer: Hao, Re-elected Hatayama, Kennedy, newly elected: Mills.

#### 10. New Business

- a. Maui Aloha Fund. Perkins and Ventura to discuss further and determine final amount. Hatayama motions to make up the difference from other donations, up to \$10,000, second by Kennedy.
- b. By-laws. Perkins to meet with attorney. If others want to participate in reviewing, and revising if applicable, contact T. Perkins. Review recommended every 5 – 6 years.
- c. AFG Grant Review Committee. Grant review is scheduled for April 9 – 14. Candidates to screen applications have been submitted: Kauai: J. Kinoshita, J. Pablo, L. Settle; Honolulu: M. Haruno, B. Bright; Maui: I. Guth; Hawaii: K. Todd.
- d. Membership. T. Perkins will review and propose language for by-laws that will address Board organization and size.
- e. Ahaina Hou Community – Kauai dome housing. Agreed that HIFCA will not support the request to support the community created by the dome housing. This is aligned with the purpose of the association.
- f. Western Fire Chiefs Association annual conference. Conference participation is by invite only. Motion to support participation by paying for conference fees for 1 person per county by Nishikawa, second by Westerman.

#### 11. Motion to adjourn by Nishikawa, second by Rosario.