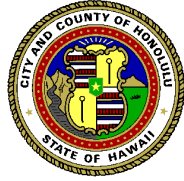


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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DR. JOSEPH W.C. YOUNG

MAX HANNEMANN

CHARLOTTE NEKOTA

STEFANIE LEE

WILLIAM HONG

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting  
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters  
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium  
Wednesday, December 20, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Chair Wong called the regular meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Arnold Wong, Dr. Joseph Young, Max Hannemann, Charlotte Nekota, and Stefanie Lee.

MEMBERS EXCUSED: James Wataru and William Hong.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Manuel Neves (HFD), Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara Jr. (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Ron Rico (HFD), Chief Socrates Bratakos (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Nathan Ramos (HFD), Battalion Chief Alan Carvalho (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasui (HFD), Battalion Chief Damien Kahaulelio (HFD), Battalion Chief Paul Fukuda (HFD), Battalion Chief Sheldon Hao (HFD), Battalion Chief Daryl Evangelista (HFD), Battalion Chief Mark Nakagawa (HFD), Battalion Chief Craig Uchimura (HFD), Battalion Chief Jeff Hooker (HFD), Battalion Chief John Bowers (HFD), Battalion Chief John Pacheco (HFD), Battalion Chief Jeff Sanchez (HFD), Battalion Chief Howard Naone (HFD), Bobby Lee (HFFA), Aaron Lenchanko (HFFA), Celeste Nip (HFFA), Jolyn Prieto (HFFA), Frank Johnson (HFFA), Chris Powell (HFFA), William Thornock (HFFA), Amanda Furman (Corporation Counsel), Randall Ishikawa (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Vice Chair Wong asked if there was anyone from the public who would like to give public testimony. Honolulu Fire Fighters Association, Bobby Lee introduced himself and Aaron Lenchanko. Mr. Lee distributed a Minute Order dated September 18, 2017

from the Hawaii Labor Relations Board and briefly went over it with the Commission and highlighted certain interest of concern.

Vice Chair Wong asked if Chief Neves he had any questions or if there was anyone else from the public who would also like to give testimony, there was none.

Vice Chair Wong apologized to Mr. Lenchanko for not having his statement on the agenda. Mr. Lee asked the Commission if Mr. Lenchanko's statement can still be presented.

Mr. Lenchanko distributed his statement regarding the Marco Polo incident and briefly went over it with the Commission and highlighted certain interest of concern.

Mr. Lee voiced his concerns regarding the press conference of October 16, 2017, in relation to Mr. Lechanko's statement. He emphasized that the statements issued by the Department were issued 3 months after the incidents and did not show that there was a competition resources.

Vice Chair Wong indicated that Mr. Lenchanko's request will be on next month's agenda.

Vice Chair Wong asked if there was anyone else from the public who would also like to give testimony, there was none.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2017: Vice Chair Wong called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of November 15, 2017. There being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as circulated.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2017: Vice Chair Wong called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of November 15, 2017. There being no further comments or corrections the minutes were approved as circulated.

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

1. Battalion Chief Assessment Center. Chief Neves informed the Commission that currently there are 3 vacancies in the Battalion Chief's position.
2. City Council Hearing. Chief Neves stated that the residential fire sprinklers initiatives were the topic.
3. Executive Chief Officers Retreat. Chief Neves mentioned that the retreat was held at the Queen Emma Summer Palace and the department's spoke of its up-coming goals.
4. Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association's 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference. Chief Neves thanked Commissioner Lee for attending.

5. Honolulu Community College Donor and Scholarship Mahalo Reception. Chief Neves mentioned that he represented the Hawaii Fire Chiefs Association and 5

scholarships are given every year to students in the fire science program. This year 4 \$1,000 scholarships were given to students at the Honolulu Community College and 1 \$1,000 scholarship was given to a student at Hawaii Community College.

6. HFD Commendation Ceremony. Chief Neves thanked Commissioners Young and Nekota for attending.
7. Honolulu Police Department Swearing-in Ceremony. Chief Neves mentioned that the department participated in the swearing in ceremony.
8. Koa Ridge Groundbreaking Ceremony. Chief Neves mentioned that Castle and Cooke has donated land to the department for future development.
9. Meeting with the State Librarian. Chief Neves gave the Commission an updated status of the relocation of the Pearl City fire station.
10. New Hauula Fire Station Press Conference. Chief Neves mentioned that a notice to proceed had been obtained and by 2019, the new fire station should be up and running.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of December, HFD received 6 complimentary correspondences, and no complaints.
2. 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 indicated that the department will be receiving 6 new apparatus' come February 2018, for the McCully, Kaimuki, Waikiki, Kahuku, Waipahu, and Kalihi Kai stations with additional apparatus' for the Kaneohe, Manoa, Kalihi Uka, Mililani, Palolo, and Kaawa stations come April 2018. Chief Camara also indicated out to bid is a quint for the Kalihi Kai station and a ladder for the Moanalua station. Other bids for other stations include Waianae, McCully, Nanakuli, Kuakini, Wahiawa, Mililani Mauka and Pauoa.

Chief Camara informed the Commission that a Hoku boat is currently being built for the department.

Vice Chair Wong asked if the department is using a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Chief Lawton noted that if the department qualifies for the CDBG then the department will be applying.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Support Services. Chief Bratakos explained what a Battalion Chief Assessment is and mentioned that it's currently being conducted internally. Notices for the promotion were given to Fire Captains who qualify. Chief Bratakos noted that on November 1, 2017, an assessment was given at HFD with 33 candidates.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administration. Chief Lawton mentioned that the department has completed a review of the 2019 budget with the BFS director and Managing Director and are waiting for their feedback.

Vice Chair Wong advised the Commission if they want to get a better insight of the budget to attend a budget meeting.

#### VI. COMPLAINT REGARDING UNION REPRESENTATIVES TALKING TO ITS MEMBERS AT FIRE STATIONS:

Vice Chair Wong asked Chief Neves if he had any questions. Counsel Furman mentioned that this case is pending before the HLRB and informed the Commission of the status of the case.

Vice Chair Wong explained to the Commissioners that this matter will not be discussed with the public.

Commissioner Hannemann asked Chief Neves if anything has changed. Counsel Furman indicated that any further discussion should occur in executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Commissioner Lee moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded that the Commission go into executive session "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 1:41 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:27 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT: There will be a Public Hearing held on the proposed Rules of the Honolulu Fire Commission on January 16, 2018, at 1:30 p.m., at the HFD Auditorium.

Following the Public Hearing the Commission will go into its regular scheduled meeting at 2:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

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ARNOLD WONG, Vice Chair