

The departmental budget reviews reconvened on April 9, 2012 at 9:18 a.m., and proceeded as follows:

Councilmember Bynum (*present 9:22 a.m.*)
Councilmember Chang (*present 9:31 a.m.*)

CIVIL DEFENSE:

Chair Furfaro: Good morning Ted.

THEODORE DALIGDIG, CIVIL DEFENSE MANAGER: Good morning Chair. My name is Teddy Daligdig and I am the Civil Defense Manager for the County of Kaua'i. With me is Karleen Abalos who is the Secretary and I would like to bring her forward so she can assist me in answering any questions that you may have. I would like to start by saying the mission of the Civil Defense and that is "to protect the lives and property of all the people living in Kaua'i County during emergencies or disaster events.

We have a number of goals that we rely on in order to make this happen. Our first goal is to increase public awareness through outreach education programs in order to enhance timely, orderly and safe emergency response and preparedness. Number two (2), improve the operating efficiency of the Emergency Operations Center or as we call it – EOC. Number three (3); train our staff, governmental and non-governmental emergency responders by their participation in exercises and attendance at formal training sessions. Number four (4); improve the timeliness and efficiency of the local disaster warning and notification procedure. Number five (5), increase public awareness of the civil defense programs through public presentations, public relations news releases, hazard awareness programs, and distribution of emergency preparedness literature.

Now I would like to go into the success and achievements for fiscal year 2012. Since July 2011, we initiated five (5) Flash Flood Warning partial activations with the most recent event March 3-10, 2012 having a County Disaster Declaration and State Disaster Declaration. We are awaiting approval from the Federal Governmental for a Federal Disaster Declaration which may release federal funds to help support the disaster recovery costs. Number two (2), since July 2011, we initiated one (1) Po'ipū fire partial activation. Number three (3), conducted the annual Weapons of Mass Destruction full scale exercise with Civil Support Team (93rd CST HANG), KPD, KFD, EMS, DOT Highways, Airport Security, and Harbors Division in September 2011. We also support grant purchases for the Kaua'I Police Department and the Kaua'i Fire Department. One of the other achievements is number five (5), seventeen (17) public presentations and outreach to community schools, organizations, interest groups around the island. Conducted a statewide Kai Mimiki 2011 Distant Tsunami Exercise this past October and we completed a comprehensive island-wide reservoir dam failure modeling and evacuation mapping project.

Challenges. Number one (1), meeting the obligation of all grants administered through County Civil Defense Agency. Number two (2), general maintenance upkeep of forty-eight (48) State owned sirens. Continues collaboration with State Civil Defense Agency may produce new siren complete siren sites, replacement or upgrade of specific units. This project is ongoing and is expected to occur in late 2012 or early 2013. Number three (3), County employees serving in key department positions being trained in appropriate levels of Incident Command Systems (ICS) for operational and compliance requirements with the Department of Homeland Security. An increase in trained personnel has occurred over the last three (3) months. And finally number four (4), Department of Personnel lack experience with the upkeep of our communications systems. This is a serious discrepancy that is being addressed currently by management.

Improvements. We added a new satellite dish to Civil Defense inventory increasing redundant emergency communication capabilities. We accepted the pandemic influenza plan and

approved by the Administration. Number three (3), multiple emergency AC generators test with positive results, as recent as January 25 of this year. Enhanced communication updates with the Mayor's communication team and designated PIO office within the Emergency Operating center (EOC).

The upcoming initiatives, I think this is important for me because it makes me be as proactive as possible. Ongoing Tactical Interoperability Communication Plan (TICP) administration. Ongoing training and exercise in ICS, and EOC activation. Increase education and outreach efforts communities as well as to schools and other private agencies. Update tsunami evacuation mapping for the island. Marketing of community evacuation route with standard State Civil Defense Signs. Identify and designate safe holding area for Kekaha and Waimea communities. Identify and designate safe holding area for residents and visitors of the Hā'ena/Hanalei communities. Spearheading Kaua'i portion of the 2012 Homeland Security Grant application and investment justification cycle.

The next page is a graph that shows the breakdown of our budget, I am not going through each one of it. Me, personally, I like graphics and I am sure you like it too but it is pretty self explanatory. The biggest piece is our salaries and wages.

On the next page you can see the comparison between 2012 and 2013 and as noted there, there is a total reduction in our current proposal versus 2012.

Operating budget discussions. New positions or changes to any existing positions, indicating contractual, civil service, exempt, or appointed and the respective salary... we have none requesting or requested. Number two (2), we do not have any current vacancies or anticipate any vacant positions. Number three (3) we have one emergency management grant coordinator, fully funded hundred percent by Department of Homeland Security Funds and her contract expires in June 2012 with a year extension.

That concludes my presentation and I am now ready to except any questions that you may have.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you, Ted. Did you touch on any part here regarding the CERTs program?

Mr. Daligdig: No, I did not. I can elaborate a little bit if you would like.

Chair Furfaro: That is something that we are interested in as it relates to coordination with Police and Fire that we have these volunteer communities but I did not hear any narrative on that. How about civil air patrol?

Mr. Daligdig: I did not touch on that but I am ready to touch on it.

Chair Furfaro: I think they are part of your first responders as well.

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: We do grant them some funding as well. Regarding your operating center backups for redundancy, can you explain to us a little bit more if we had to vacate the new Civil Defense facilities, what is our plan as to where we go as the emergency generator here which concerns us has been disconnected and salvaged, what is the long term plan there?

Mr. Daligdig: Our long term plan for a redundancy emergency operation is to move to a new location which is the one that has just been completed in the – I call it the round building – the Piikoi Building. We have a space that is located upstairs on the second floor and it is currently equipped with the necessary equipment if we needed to move. I must tell you right now that if we had to move right this minute, that would be a problem. The priority was getting the Fire Department in there and getting their systems up so that we have a continuity of services between the Fire Department, Police Department, Dispatch and so as far as Civil Defense, we are still upgrading our system is not quite there yet.

Mr. Rapozo: Thank you Teddy for being here. The Chair touched on a few items that I would like to get clarity on. First of all in the budget I noticed that there is a fifteen thousand dollar decrease in the civil air patrol budget and there is a little over fifteen thousand dollar increase in the other rental section. Let us start with the civil air patrol, is there any reason why we cut fifteen thousand dollars from that line item?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes, you brought up two (2) very important points. One that is the support we get from the civil air patrol which I think is very important and the second item has to do with communication systems, maintaining a current communication throughout the island. When we looked at and I had to prioritize this which one would take the cut, I felt the one that would have the least impact on our services would be civil air patrol which is coastal aerial surveys for us. On the other hand I felt that communications which is the cost and pay to have continuous communications around Kaua'i was important, so in evaluating that I felt that the communications piece has to be maintained.

Mr. Rapozo: Where is that fifteen thousand dollars for other rentals because we have the breakdown but I do not know where... I can see it because in the current budget it is sixty-four, five, twenty-four in the new budget, so I can see the increase but I am not sure what line item that fifteen thousand dollars went to. I noticed and this is a question I ask every year, is the Kukuilono Park radio lease is forty-seven thousand dollars versus the other radio site leases which substantially less, so is that where the fifteen thousand went?

Mr. Daligdig: Can I defer to Karleen for the information.

Mr. Rapozo: I just want to know where that... first of all I think civil air patrol; they help tremendously in the warning system. I know we have problems with our sirens and I sure we still do, I do not think we fixed the sirens since the last year's budget.

Mr. Daligdig: No, but we are in the process.

Mr. Rapozo: Well that is what they said last year. All we have in tsunami, hurricane for those residence that live on the coast that are near the sirens that do not work, really is the civil air patrol. I was speaking with the civil air patrol people recently and the increase of fuel has basically limited them from any training flights right because they do not have the funds. Our funding is the only hope for them to continue the training and to continue to be ready, so I am concerned. The question on the Kukuilono site, why is Kukuilono so high compared to the others?

KARLEEN ABALOS, PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE SECRETARY: That is the lease rent that we negotiated. The lease is coming up, it expires June 30, 2012, we need to renegotiate again for another lease agreement. It is hard to estimate how much they are going to require us to pay based on increase. Our Grove Farm one already expired, the contract expired and I think Grove Farm – we were paying only about twenty-five hundred a year.

Mr. Rapozo: Well your budget is showing ten thousand three hundred.

Ms. Abalos: Yes, because he is saying now because of the new lease agreement he wants to charge us up to three thousand a month based on appraised values. We are not sure because our contract, we have not even seen what they want us to pay for that.

Chair Furfaro: Could I interrupt just for a second?

Mr. Rapozo: Please.

Chair Furfaro: I want you folks to know, this has been a long issue with this Council and two (2) years ago, three (3) years ago when we knew we were close to the leases is coming up and so forth. I just want to ask you, has the County Attorney's Office been involved in negotiating these to a better price point for the County, a simple yes or no. Has the County Attorney's Office been involved to renegotiate these to a better price point?

Mr. Daligdig: The answer is yes.

Chair Furfaro: And yet the outcome is that we are seeing the increase in rentals rather than...

Mr. Daligdig: We are anticipating an increase based on discussions that we had with them.

Chair Furfaro: You know how often they had met with these individuals to portray our plight?

Mr. Daligdig: I am not certain, no.

Chair Furfaro: Okay, we will send over a communication.

Mr. Rapozo: So, in your budget the other rentals, where is that fifteen thousand, forty dollars... where does that show up in your line items?

Ms. Abalos: This is for the increase in the other rentals?

Mr. Rapozo: Yes, on your other rentals line you have six (6) items, Grove Farm is ten thousand three hundred but you are saying that may go to thirty-six thousand. Moloa'a is twenty-four hundred, Anahola is eleven, six and then Kukuilono has this forty-seven thousand which I am not sure why that one is so high and then the Kalepa Ridge is twenty-five hundred, so where is that fifteen thousand increase, in which line item? Is it the Kukuilono line?

Ms. Abalos: It will be the Kukuilono, it will be spread out between three (3). We have Kukuilono, Anahola site which we need to renegotiate also and the Kalepa is the Grove Farm that is owned by Grove Farm – the Kalepa Ridge.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay well you have Kalepa Ridge and you have one for Grove Farm.

Ms. Abalos: Grove Farm is a different site, it used to be owned by Grove Farm but Panicle took it over, so that is that one.

Mr. Rapozo: Maybe we should update the budget. So the fifteen thousand right now, the increase and I am just going to be honest with you, I am going to hope this Council

replenish the CAP funds because I think that is a critical component of the Civil Defense system especially when we have inoperable sirens, I think it is... I do not know what you expect those residents to do, they live on the coast.

Chair Furfaro: Excuse me; can we get some clarity on that? Mr. Rapozo has a separate meeting along with me with the State who is involved in those sirens. This is a year ago. They have not responded yet?

Mr. Daligdig: They have Mr. Chair, I have been in consistent negotiation with the State as (inaudible) this morning for the upgrade installation of new sirens around Kaua'i. In fact, we are going through the approval process right now and all the applications are before the various departments for their approval before it can be reinstalled.

Chair Furfaro: I think though the way we left it with the State, Teddy is we wanted them to identify island some repair and maintenance contracts that could be pursued, so we did not have to wait in line for their vender to come over to fix sirens. We asked them to identify someone on island. Has that happened?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes and no. Let me first clarify what I mean by that. We do have to team that comes from O'ahu that does periodic maintenance, one supporter. I have determined that it is not enough especially for the sirens that are on the coastal area. We have negotiated with them to have our own people go ahead, our own local contractors and repair the sirens and the bidding would be through a grant from State Civil Defense. We have one individual who is actually doing that right now but he is not yet on the contract, he is on a call out basis. If we have a siren problem area "E" and he goes out there and repairs the siren but there is no contract in place.

Chair Furfaro: I am sorry to hear that we have not advanced that idea a little further with the State.

Mr. Rapozo: We will submit some questions over and the questions are going to be real simple, the status of all the sirens on Kaua'i – we will compare that to the report we got last year and of course I would like to know more about the lease agreements because for the life of me... if we are going to be paying forty-seven thousand dollars a year for a little parcel of land for a tower, then maybe those are the kinds of parcels we should be going after for condemnation because I cannot imagine it being that expansive and it is for public benefit. Forty-seven thousand to rent a little plot for a tower, that comes up every single year and it never gets resolved.

Chair Furfaro: I think we told them that were not acceptable.

Mr. Rapozo: Follow up on the Chair's deal, I thought we had and you were not here Teddy last year, I do not believe you were here last year.

Mr. Daligdig: I came in July.

Mr. Rapozo: You came in after.

Mr. Daligdig: I take full responsibility.

Mr. Rapozo: Well this is not about pointing fingers, it is about getting these things fixed and it does not matter who but I believe this Council send a very strong suggestion and the Chair touched on it, rather than waiting for the State to send their crew... research the opportunity to go out and contract local electricians and people that are trained and knowledgeable

in repairing these sirens because that is such a critical component of our Civil Defense. The final comment which is very disturbing is the backup EOC. I was under the impression until the last power outage that downstairs was the backup, all of us here thought that the basement of this building was the backup EOC. When the power went off during a Council Meeting and we had no power, I walked around the building with Eddie Topenio to find out where the generator was and I was shocked to find out that this building does not even have a backup generator, so how could it be a backup EOC. I then found out that the backup EOC was moved to the Fire building. Now I am hearing that we are not even outfitted for... I am deeply concerned as a Public Safety Chair that we have the space down below, we need to get a backup EOC asap because when something happens, it is going to be too late to try to get a generator someplace, to be getting radio communications someplace and that kind of bothers me. My third question is what is the plans for the backup EOC and I am going to be honest with you, I find it real troubling that in the last few months, there has been a huge push with moving of positions and all of these things for HR and yes, I understand HR is a good direction but we have not moved an inch in Public Safety. That bothers me as the Chair of Public Safety that the sirens are still not working and now I am really concerned that we do not even have a backup EOC. I do not know what we would do if something should happen, where would we go? We do not even have a generator here, so this place is out of the question. Fire Department, I guess they are moving their personnel so that is out of the question. Where in the world would we go? That is the three (3) questions that I send over, I do not expect you to answer on the floor today and I do not mean to be pushy but I just have a real deep concern because it seems like an annual thing – we are working on it, working on it... you cannot take responsibility for what you were not here for. I am not here to blame you but I do expect you to...

Mr. Daligdig: Move forward.

Mr. Rapozo: Yes, thank you very much.

Ms. Yukimura: The Chair asked about the CERTs maybe you could tell us how the Civil Defense is working with them and the other emergency response agencies.

Mr. Daligdig: Yes. The CERTs organization is very strong in the Princeville and somewhat strong in the Kekaha area however throughout the rest of the island they are pretty weak to nonexistent. Training for CERTs is usually done by local Fire Department and they have done a really bang up job in training the people that are available. The problem that we have is the volunteers that we expect to get, we are not getting and that is a serious problem that I face right now. I have initiated out there to try to increase- I would call them civil defense volunteers, they used to be around when I was growing up and kind of more than into CERTs for different areas (inaudible). I was able to recruit four (4) people within the last forty-five (45) days which is not too encouraging.

Ms. Yukimura: I am not sure that it is the best way for you... it is admirable but to just have one (1) person try to talk to people they know, is there not a way to... there is such a willingness to volunteer here on the island, could you possibly through the retired senior volunteer program or other recruiting mechanisms develop... I do not know if people know that there is this program to volunteer for. It may be a lack of awareness and it maybe something that has to be developed programmatically in terms of outreach and information. I do not know that it needs to be your job personally, necessarily but maybe there is someone in your division or in Fire Department or a team of emergency responder agencies that are crossed agencies and they develop a program.

Mr. Daligdig: That is an excellent idea. I have covered in my discussions in outreach programs about the volunteer programs but I think it is time to go another step further like you suggested. Let me take it under advisement and see if I can come up with someone to do it.

Ms. Yukimura: I am just aware of how important these committees are or these teams are when communication is cut off and there is mobility of really being in touch with the central body or even when you can be in touch how important it is to have people in the outline areas who have been trained, who know where the resources are, who know how to contact, who can help be leaders in the time of emergency. I just think it is a good insurance policy to develop these things and just wondered where we were on it.

Mr. Daligdig: I totally agree and let me look into that and I will not make any promises, because we do not make any promises right but I will push it forward.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, yes, we will look forward maybe in the next budget to hear or even before then to maybe hear out in the public your recruiting program. I know it is not easy people come and go and yet we have a probably more stable community than most places in the Country and there are people who are willing to help especially if trained. My other question is there were concerns that the website notification had no emergency power during the last emergency, just wondered if there was something being done with that, I have no idea how complex or how simple that is but it seems that we referred people to the website and then when the power was down, they were not able to access it. Maybe the responses always just go to the radio then but that is my question.

Mr. Daligdig: Can I...

Chair Furfaro: We can send the question over to you if you would like but please respond to us and I set a new standard here, responses are required within forty-eight (48) hours, we do not go pass the second work week.

Ms. Yukimura: I still have a couple more questions but if others have.

Mr. Bynum: I would like to follow up on the CERTs and I know that you haven't been here all that long but I believe still housed in the Fire Department and so I hope the Fire Department gives responsible and straight forward answers. CERTs started, it was very active I was attending events, people were getting training, they were being recognized, they were getting certificates, they were anxious to support the community, they was a volunteer coordinator. We know the history of this, there was a kaleo program, one of those people got stationed in the Fire Department and they were carrying on a lot of the activities that occurred including graffiti busters and park volunteers and CERT and they were housed in the Fire Department, that person was not retained by the current Administration and CERT was assigned to a different Fire person. Those events I think just virtually stopped, I do not get invited to them anymore, and I do not know what trainings are happening. I talked to the Fire Chief several months ago that our website, our County website still referred people to Catherine who did not even exist anymore for like the last two (2) years. The website was not up to date, you try to call this person and there will be a blank line, if we abandoned CERT, let us just say that, let us be honest about it... like we are still providing support to it when we are not. I know some of the volunteers are very frustrated, even if we did not have very targeted things for those volunteers to do, having the (inaudible) of trained people that do CPR, disaster preparedness and readiness in the community was a real benefit and they were anxious to help, they were asking please when you have a big event, let us do traffic control, let us help with communication, find a role for us and so I will be very sad to see all of that good work fade away, but let us be straight up... CERT is not a priority, it is not being staffed, tell us. If it is at a reduced thing, tell us. Certainly something I want straight forward answers on during this budget process.

Chair Furfaro: Mr. Heu is raising his hand.

GARY HEU, MANAGING DIRECTOR: Good morning Councilmembers, Chair, for the record Gary Heu. I just wanted to pop up and say I hear your concerns Councilmember Bynum and I think there were good questions raised by Vice Chair Yukimura. In our recent after action review of the storms that we had in March, the CERTS teams were an issue that was raised and primarily centered around the fact that what we found during the after action review was that there were two (2) areas that the issue was raised. Number one (1) was that it appeared that the America Red Cross to the nature of the storm and the current levels of staffing, you understand they are a primarily volunteer organization was unable to fully support the number of shelters that we were intending to proposing to open. Another issue that came up was when we had different areas within the island that became isolated, first it was Hanalei and then you had the section between Kalihiwai Bridge and Hanalei isolated at Kalihiwai Bridge, it became apparent that what we have imbedded in those communities were CERT teams. As you identified CERT teams that had previously been trained and there was some very enthusiastic volunteers staffing those team, so again the issue was raised in the after action review of what about CERT teams and as you identified these people were trained and if we needed additional training relative to having them assist in supplementing or actually manning shelters, why wouldn't that be an appropriate use of those individuals if in fact that is something they were trained and prepared to do. What I can commit to you is that the Administration is fully supportive in looking at a more robust role that CERT teams can play. Again in any given response, the County's resources are limited whether it is Police, Fire, Public Works... so anytime that we can engage citizen volunteers in such activities like you mentioned some appropriate levels of traffic control and/or as I said possibility of using them to help man holding areas or shelters, certainly I think we want to take a look at that and one thing I heard thrown out as a potential obstacle in past is liability and that sort of thing. Well if it is a liability issue, let us work with the County Attorney's Office and figure out how it is that we can provide adequate protection to the County as well as the citizens and volunteers. I certainly do not think that should be a road block for us, we should find a way to get around that. I just wanted to share that with you this morning that that again it was an issue that was raised during the after action review and that is something that is going to be getting a lot more attention based on the fact that they are (inaudible) resource in the communities.

Chair Furfaro: I wanted to let you know that on Friday we agree on a procedure of two (2) questions per Councilmember as we go around the table and we will keep it up until we exhaust time but you still have the floor.

Mr. Bynum: During these recent weather episodes, were CERT people activated, is there a mechanism to active them? What is the status and I do not expect all these answers now but it is certainly something I want to hear from the Fire Department. Like I said I told the Chief months ago, your website is none functioning, it has misinformation – I gave him a heads up, I really want to know if you really have these people but there is no mechanism to actually engage in them, it is kind of meaningless. You cannot run a program without the resources and connectivity because I used to attend their events. I do not see any evidence of that any longer, perhaps I am wrong but maybe just that one (1) question was they activated during the weather events when the place was isolated?

Mr. Heu: They were none activated.

Mr. Bynum: Heads up on the Fire Department comes – I would like a more robust and what are we going to do with this resource? It is similar questions for the Parks Department about Adopt-A-Park, we had volunteers, and we had budgeting for recognition, signage at Parks to recognize those many groups that do volunteer. I do not know that it is that organized, I do not know what came of those things.

Mr. Heu: I am not prepared to speak about the Parks stuff and I do not think you want to discuss Parks.

Mr. Bynum: I was just using it as an example.

Mr. Heu: However, what I would say I think your questions are right on point and I would tend to agree that we need to find an appropriate level of participations for these citizens volunteers in their local communities during these types of activations. If we cannot find a way to make that happened, and then you are correct, we should walk away from it but I do not think walking away from it is a place that we want to be at this point in time.

Mr. Bynum: Thank you.

Mr. Heu: Hopefully we will try to find a way to make it happen.

Chair Furfaro: Is it fair and reasonable for us to perhaps plan to schedule an update on CERTs within the next forty-five (45) days?

Mr. Heu: Sure, I think that is fair.

Mr. Chang: I apologize I got here a little late but did want to clarify the acronym CERTs, Community, Emergency, Response, Team because I think a lot of people out there are wondering what are we talking about with CERT. I remember when the in section first started with Battalion Chief Bob Cayden that was taking care of this. I remember specifically the pride within the community, it was like to be on the CERT team, the community emergency response team, it was just like a no brainer when the community realized something was right around the corner, they were able to organize and deploy and I think the point as how important this response team is for all of Kaua'i. During that time and era the pride was huge and it was very well organized and it was like if someone knew something was coming, they were already ready to response. I wanted to follow-up on the alarms because if my mind serves me correctly, during the time of budget last year, at around that same time where we talked about the alarms not working that we identified various places in Kapa'a Town or different parts of the island soon thereafter or it might have been the same week, the State people were on island and we were going to piggy back with our Civil Defense people, I do not know if the Public Works – but we were going to watch them check the alarms so we would know how to do it. We were going to train at that point and I guess at that point, I really never thought about any kind of follow up so I am just going to ask that question, what actually happened because it was right during budget that we had the State people that were going to come to the alarms that our County people were going to follow them, so that they could learn and train to see which one were working. Some of them I think were solar and you could not – even if it was blinking, some of them were not working. It looked like it was working from the ground but then we realize it was not working so it did not matter if something was flashing, it never worked. That is my follow up question.

Mr. Kualifi: Aloha and Mahalo Teddy and Carleen. Whenever I am looking at the budget and see the word other, I usually want to usually end up wanting to know more. When Councilmember Rapozo asked about the other rentals and you talked about all the radio sites leases and all that that gave me the information and detail I wanted there. I too agree that we need to not have this recurring and that work out arrangements where we are not spending so much money for this public good that everybody benefits from including the people who are leasing the properties to us. On the other item though on other services there was some talk about the sirens maintenance and repair and when I look at that other services, I see a breakdown and I see contractual services for siren maintenance slash repair nine thousand one hundred and nine dollars, is that line item continue with contractual services or is that a separate line item?

Ms. Abalos: (inaudible)

Mr. Kualii: No but the detail under other services, I see three (3) what looks like three (3) different items. So one (1) of them contractual services for siren maintenance slash repair nine thousand one hundred and nine is the second item (inaudible) and there are no dollars accounted there?

Ms. Abalos: That is all one item.

Mr. Kualii: Okay. The next item says connect city fifty-five thousand, what is that?

Ms. Abalos: That is the automated emergency call to everyone that we use.

Mr. Kualii: So the automated emergency call actually takes up most of that other services line item?

Ms. Abalos: Yes.

Mr. Kualii: So even though the siren maintenance and repair is a priority and something that needs to happen, there is only nine thousand dollars put in that line item. How much was put there for that purpose last year and how was it spent?

Ms. Abalos: We had a little bit more, we cut back down. Usually we can use the County Public Works personnel and that is why we do not need to go outside to a private contractor to fix our sirens and we can call the State Civil Defense people to come down. Unfortunately this year we might tap into that a little bit more because the County electricians, they did not want to do a replacement of batteries.

Mr. Kualii: That would be interesting to know that there is actually a job that you are responsible for getting done and that you actually have some of these moneys here for contractual services when you have to but that you actually are utilizing the services of another department to get it done. Somewhere in your narrative, you should tell us about things like that. The last thing for now is about positions, I saw a in the vacant positions report from the Department of Personnel Services that there is a Civil Defense position 9402 for a grants specialist two (2) and it is a contract position I guess, the effected date was 12/16/2010, so it is showing as vacant and it is showing as State funded, that I do not see it in your budget at all, is it that since that time of December 16, 2010 when the positions was vacant, is there any State grant funding to fund it? Do you anticipate any going forward?

Mr. Daligdig: In fact we anticipate the opposite, the budget is getting smaller. We do not anticipate filling that position at all.

Mr. Kualii: I think the interesting thing going forward it would be helpful to us when we are wanting to know about each and every position because it is our responsibility to budget those – provide those funding for those positions and to know how we are spending the money on positions. In fact if a position does not get granted and you are not applying for any grants then maybe you can report to Human Resources that it is closed or some kind of status that says it is not going to be in our budget, we are not applying for any grants and yet I thought I heard you say that you needed that kind of help. I guess it is a funding matter.

Chair Furfaro: So we all understand that there are two (2) parts of that question, the needs for a grant writer that at one time was part of Police, Fire and Civil Defense and the second part if we are not getting any subsidies from the State, let us make a decision to get it off the radar screen with Personnel.

Ms. Nakamura: Good morning Ted and Carleen. I have some questions and some have already been asked and so I am going to move on, in you last year's strategic plan, one of your upcoming initiatives was to update tsunami evacuation for the island and I noticed that it is on this year's initiative as well, I want to know what was done last year and what do you plan to do this year?

Mr. Daligdig: It is being done in fact the entire State is being updated, Kaua'i being the last. I think that is positive for us because we are (inaudible) island's, some of the problems that they are having. Our update should come out by this July and preliminary indication show however that the changes would be very minimum for what you already see. (inaudible) that information will be coming out sometime in July.

Ms. Nakamura: It maps the tsunami inundation areas?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: But does it also get into once you know what are the procedures?

Mr. Daligdig: I also have an initiative that I call my evacuations route initiative and it is an initiative whereby once we establish the inundation areas, we now have an evacuation area which is usually larger than the inundation area. What we are finding out is that local people know that to head to high ground but the problems that we face is our visitors do not know that. I have an initiative in place right now, we are in coordination with the State, Public Works, the KPD where we actually going to mark the evacuation routes. In fact, I was worried about budgeting and I was able to get all the signage which I already have in my office. We are waiting for the approval to get the poles paid for and the entire initiative, the only cost to us would be Public Works would have to help us put it up once the actual locations and roads are identified in coordination with the Police Department road blocks and so forth. It is an initiative that I take personal responsibility because I think it is very important that we have people up and safe.

Ms. Nakamura: My other question is that that is number five (5) on your upcoming initiatives, marking of community evacuation route with standard State Civil Defense signs. So you are saying you have the funding for signs in place?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes. I already have the signs.

Ms. Nakamura: You have the signs?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes, they came in about a week and a half ago and now we have been told that the poles can be funded also through the State, so it is at low cost to the County which I am very happy. Initially the project was seventy thousand dollars, so I am saving seventy thousand dollars, how happy can you be? So far the work that has been working on this initiative has been very responsive and I hope to have it all in by the end of the year.

Ms. Nakamura: This is using in-house Public Works staff to then install the signs?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: The actual protocols with the different hotels, as you said the visitors, the residents know where to go, it is the visitors and the coordination with the major hotels where the managers sometimes change over time and may not know what is going on, so what is the protocol that you have to continually update the visitor industry representatives?

Mr. Daligdig: Couple of weeks ago, we had a real good meeting with the north side hotel industry and I felt that it was so positive that I am working on a plan to get the entire island especially the south side of the island involved in that kind of planning. So that there is a continuity of sharing information as new managers come and go, you are right what I am seeing is that with the change of new managers, there is lost information, there is no continuity. I am hoping to reestablish that and make it part of my evacuation plan.

Ms. Nakamura: Is that part of the existing evacuation plan protocol? Or is it in writing anywhere?

Chair Furfaro: Ted, maybe you want me to answer that, okay, because I am very disappointed with your statement. Civil Defense is supposed to meet quarterly with the Hotel Association Security Departments. There are four (4) Christmas trees that are set up for the north shore, Wailua-Kapa'a, the Kalapaki area, and for Po'ipū. They in fact get one (1) call from Civil Defense, maybe that is where the breakdown is and those security departments then relate to the Christmas tree and each resort is then responsible to call to other destinations. I think Nadine commented the fact of the matter is the General Manager are consistently changing but the security chiefs are not. I participated in that discussion out at the north shore and the two (2) General Managers that were present, you have got to put some responsibility on them or you have got to reactivate what is already in place for that. I can speak on that as past Chairman of the Hotel Association twice over a thirty-eight (38) year period. The system existed, you have to make about four (4) calls and then they call downward on the Christmas tree. The people that you need to reach out are not the General Managers, it is their Security Departments. I tell you one of the good leads for you is the gentleman that just got appointed, he was at the Hyatt, he is now on our Police Commission and he would be an excellent person for you to start and recreate that but it does exist.

Ms. Nakamura: Maybe it would be helpful in the upcoming year to have some sort of system reinitiated if it already exist or some sort of training or something that I think shows that the system is working. Rather than wait for an event to happened, seems like you do a lot of good training for different types of emergencies and this might be something to put on the radar because we know it is a weakness.

Chair Furfaro: I do agree with you going out with the north shore group was a good start but I think some of the initiative needs to be followed up through Civil Defense and the Security group.

Ms. Yukimura: I would like to know the status of the upgrade of the eight hundred megahertz system, I think it has a different name now but I know Elton in your office has been part of a cross agency team that is working on it. It is very critical because it is the communication link for all emergency responders and I know there was a big – it has come of age and we need to make this big jump. Where are we on it and if you do not have your resource people here right now, we will follow up with a question but it is a pressing question for me and I think for other Councilmembers as well. Without it, you cannot respond effectively to emergency.

Mr. Daligdig: Thank you for the question. Because it is (inaudible) I would prefer to answer the question in writing to you so that you would have... I can assure you that the

communication system is being upgraded and it has been worked on and at this moment, I do not anticipate any problems.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay then you will be able to give us a time table of costing where we are going to get the funding from – that kind of thing so we know it is going forward?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes. It is probably something more for the IT Department to answer. Although Elton is the lead person for us, the IT department is really the ones that are taking the lead on the project.

Ms. Yukimura: That is fine except that to me it is a core piece of Civil Defense puzzle, I am assuming that you folks are at minimum monitoring it.

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: And just making sure that it is going to be happening so that you can transmit that information even though it is from IT. At some point we can have it as a briefing in Committee after budget but for now at least to give us an overview of its status.

Mr. Daligdig: Okay, can do.

Ms. Yukimura: My second question is on your pie charts, on page three (3) – I am sorry it is not self evident to me what the light blue wedge stands for.

Ms. Abalos: That was the equipment.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. Your salaries and wages have gone up from sixty-nine percent of your budget to seventy-two percent of your budget?

Ms. Abalos: Yes and mostly due to the benefits. The wages stayed the same but the benefits increased.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. Do you know what is causing that benefits increase, it is happening across the board... nobody knows but everyone is having to pay...

Chair Furfaro: We have the background on that which when we had the Personnel Human Resource Department over the State, we can pull out our narrative but I was of the impression that the testimony that they gave us here was shared with all the department heads. I will dig it out again and I will share it with everyone.

Ms. Yukimura: Yes, thank you. It is just coming up consistently.

Mr. Bynum: Ted, I do not want to beat a dead horse but I just looked at the County's website for CERT, it talks about the training schedule for 2008 and 2009. In 2008 and 2009, we were having seven (7) to ten (10) trainings a year teaching citizens basic first aid, CPR right now there is none and even though I alerted this months ago, the out of dated website is still on.

Chair Furfaro: Hopefully it is updated by the time we call you back in forty-five days because it will be an agenda item in Mr. Rapozo's Committee.

Mr. Rapozo: We do have a deferred item in my Committee for the storm update, so we can address a lot of those concerns there but Teddy, I want to go back to the question KipuKai asked about the grant. That State funded grant position is still vacant?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes, it is still vacant because we do not have the funding to fill the position.

Mr. Rapozo: What do you mean we do not have the funding?

Mr. Daligdig: We do not have the State grant who will allow us to use to fund that particular position.

Mr. Rapozo: So it is not State funded anymore?

Mr. Daligdig: It is not State funded.

Mr. Rapozo: We do not have the money?

Mr. Daligdig: No.

Mr. Rapozo: And what was the funding for that position? What does that position call for, how much money?

Mr. Daligdig: I am not sure because I was not here.

Ms. Abalos: I believe it was about fifty-five thousand annually, plus benefits though.

Mr. Rapozo: Well I...

Ms. Abalos: There is a grant specialist which was grant funded and the grant coordinator which was County funded, there were two (2) different positions.

Mr. Rapozo: Right and the Administration took the grant coordinator position to create this new manager position but we were assured on this table that grants would have been addressed and I see that is one of your challenges – meeting the obligation of all grants but then in your successes your are showing that you are supporting the grant purchases for the Police and the Fire so who is doing your grant work now? Have any grants been jeopardize because of this, have we lost any grants?

Mr. Daligdig: We have not lost any grants, we have lost the amount of the grants. We have one (1) person who re-designated from a grant specialist position to a grants coordinator.

Mr. Rapozo: In Civil Defense?

Mr. Daligdig: In Civil Defense. It is a Federally funded position that I talked about earlier.

Mr. Rapozo: So, how many people in your office right now?

Mr. Daligdig: There is me, plus four (4).

Ms. Abalos: Four (4) permanent and one (1) contract.

Mr. Rapozo: So there is the Executive Session to the Mayor and then there is an Emergency Management Officer, there is a plans and operations officer and then there is a public safety services security that is what is on the budget

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Do you have anyone else?

Mr. Daligdig: We have one (1) person that is paid by grants.

Mr. Rapozo: Federal grants?

Mr. Daligdig: Federal grants, one hundred percent.

Mr. Rapozo: And that person does the grants?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: So do you have the coverage for all the grants?

Mr. Daligdig: Right now, that is what we did, we arranged it so that we do have the coverage.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. Is it still a challenge?

Mr. Daligdig: It was up until two (2) months ago when I reallocated a position and responsibilities. I did not make the adjustments on the slides that you have and I apologize for that.

Mr. Rapozo: No problem. I just assumed that the State position failed and the information we get from Personnel is so old that I just had assumed that we had failed that position but if that funding from the State, when did that funding stop?

Ms. Abalos: Actually it was filled by Gregg Morishige and he had to take a break due to not having the six month break after retirement.

Mr. Rapozo: Correct.

Ms. Abalos: So he did vacant the position but we could not fill again because the Homeland Security Grants that has been allowed to Kaua'i County has been decreasing every year we have been getting a reduction in that Homeland Security Grant. Because of course of federal, the federal government has been decreasing the applications to all the State.

Mr. Rapozo: So the State funded position is that a Homeland Security Grant that funnels through the State?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: So that got cut?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Abalos: Well we did not have enough money.

Mr. Daligdig: It was reduced.

Ms. Abalos: We could not pay the two (2) positions.

Mr. Rapozo: I guess I have to look at the - I do not know because I am really confused... so we get two (2) grant funded positions, one (1) from the federal and one (1) from the state?

Ms. Abalos: No, they are all federal.

Mr. Daligdig: They are all federal but I refer to them as state because of it is the federal funds that come through the state to us.

Mr. Rapozo: Right, okay.

Mr. Daligdig: So we refer to them as State position but actually with federal moneys.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay, I understand that. But you said we have one (1) person there now that gets funded by a federal grant?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: Let us have some clarity – and that federal grant comes directly to us?

Ms. Abalos: Through the State.

Chair Furfaro: Through the State again, yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. Let me get a paper so I can draw this picture. There was a time where and normally we do not use name but you mentioned Murashige – did you have two (2) positions?

Ms. Abalos: We had two (2) at that time.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay, so I am going to put number one (1) and number two (2) because...

Ms. Abalos: And both paid by Homeland Security Funds.

Mr. Rapozo: Right, so this is Homeland Security Funds and you had one (1) person in the first position and one (1) in the second position.

Ms. Abalos: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: That funding and let us just say that this position is “A” and he left because of the change in the law that said you need a six month break from retirement – okay, so now he leaves – what happened to that position?

Ms. Abalos: It is vacant and I do not think we can fill it.

Mr. Rapozo: You cannot fill it, why can't you fill it?

Ms. Abalos: Because of lack of funding. Initially we had two (2) and a quarter million dollars coming in from Homeland Security Grants and that got reduced to nine hundred something thousand of which they took a portion for (inaudible) so we actually coming to us was sixty hundred thousand and I think we are going to be reducing even further.

Mr. Rapozo: So the grant funds that we get from Homeland Security is not position specific?

Ms. Abalos: No.

Mr. Rapozo: It is not for – use this money for positions...

Mr. Daligdig: No.

Mr. Rapozo: So they give you the money and you decide how you want to spend it?

Mr. Daligdig: There is a form that allows to spend for certain things and they are identified, so you cannot spend it on anything that you want. Positions for example, certain percentage of the grant can be spent towards a position.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. So the amount of the total grant was reduced? So there is no money available to hire that person again, that contract person? Is that what you are saying?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. I will follow up on some written questions.

Chair Furfaro: We would like to have the questions going over today, so that they can turn it around of business on Wednesday.

Ms. Yukimura: You have a pretty high level emergency management officer, is there a problem with him overseeing grants?

Mr. Daligdig: Part of his responsibilities is to oversee and manage the grants.

Ms. Yukimura: So he does have grant responsibilities?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: So you said you had a problem with grant writing but now with the – you have an emergency management grant coordinator who is federally funded.

Mr. Daligdig: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: So between the two (2) of them now they can handle the grants?

Mr. Daligdig: We are currently organized so that we are able to manage the grants, the other person mostly tracks how the grant is spent, provides the reporting to the State on how it is spent. The emergency management officer manages the grant (inaudible) how Police, Fire uses the money and what they can use this for.

Ms. Yukimura: But within the Police and Fire department's they are managing their grants too.

Mr. Daligdig: They are but ultimately Civil Defense is responsible for the actual management of the grant.

Ms. Yukimura: Well and that is in the monitoring and accounting of the grant, right? So doesn't your grants manager do that? The reports come back, he or she has to make the reports back to the federal agency that has given the grant.

Mr. Daligdig: Correct.

Ms. Yukimura: So isn't there that monitoring process anyway – the accountability process?

Mr. Daligdig: Yes, if you say it that way, yes. She is responsible for monitoring the grants in that respect.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay and then you also have to have grant writers or people writing up grants?

Mr. Daligdig: Currently we do not have a grant writer.

Ms. Yukimura: And your emergency manager officer cannot writes grants?

Mr. Daligdig: (inaudible) I do not think he is really qualified to write for specific grants. We were told that we can ask for assistance from management if we needed to apply for specific grants that are out there that we can go after.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. There was also a person in the County that was helping people write grants. Now she has become part of the budget team, so is there still that function in the County to assist in grant writing?

Mr. Daligdig: As far as I am concerned, as far as I know, yes. If we need to have a grant written, someone from my section will go that person and will assist us in writing for that grant.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. Are you saying that your basic issues with grants are pretty much being addressed or that they are still a challenge?

Mr. Daligdig: (inaudible) has been addressed. Challenges are that we would like to be able to do it ourselves but that is not possible, so we will continue to work with management and do the best we can with that person that we have up there to assist us.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: Members, we were to go to 10:30 with Civil Defense but I am going to take it another ten minutes and just adjust our schedule to be able to go from a later time till 12:30 with the Humane Society. Please have your questions focused, we have got about ten more minutes here. Teddy, I just want to say that it is the position of this Council and it has been for several years to take advantage of grants, period. So make sure you have an understanding, so make sure you have an understanding what kind of kōkua you can get because we have to look to found money.

Ms. Nakamura: Just a follow up to Councilwoman Yukimura questions, so you have asked management for assisting in grant writing?

Mr. Daligdig: I have not asked them right now but they have offered that services to us.

Ms. Nakamura: And who from the management would assist Civil Defense with grant writing, if that is indeed a need?

Mr. Daligdig: They gave me the person name, it was a female, I do not have her name.

Chair Furfaro: It is Ann. Ann has gone from grant writing to the new budget team. That is the person you want to be talking to.

Ms. Nakamura: One of the other challenges that you mentioned here is number four (4) on page – number two (2) department of Personnel lack of experience with the upkeep of our communication systems. This is a serious discrepancy that is being addressed by management. Can you explain this a little bit more about part of the communication system that need to be worked on.

Mr. Daligdig: Yes. Councilmember Yukimura mentioned this earlier that communication is very important – and it is. In the Civil Defense Department, we do not have anyone that specifically trained to manage communication, by that I mean they are trained to know the system inside out. Yet we are responsible to ensure this continuous (inaudible) County. There is a plan right now that is being worked on by management to get any individual identified to be a person that can work on the system as we have wanted for a long time. I do not know what the plans are right now and I am not ready to answer any questions as who that person might be or who the plan might include.

Chair Furfaro: Wally are you going to answer that question?

WALLY REZENTES, JR., DIRECTOR OF FINANCE: I just wanted to mentioned that right now the telecommunications officer resides in the Department of Finance and our intention is to move forward with the hiring of a County Telecommunications Officer. We are in the recruitment mode right, our current employee is out on extended sick leave and will be retiring and so we are in a transition period right now but we intend and have requested funding and you will see it in the IT budget presentation a request for added funding for the telecommunications office position. We are also looking at the possibility in the May submittal to transition or transfer the position over to the Civil Defense operation to hopefully fill the gap. A lot of what the telecommunications officer does is public safety related and we felt that an appropriate home would be Civil Defense because they have the total outlook of public safety and communications.

Ms. Nakamura: Thank you for that explanation Wally. Just as a follow up since you are here, the previous question had to do with Anne Wooten moving over to budget and who will be doing grant applications to assist Civil Defense?

Mr. Rezendes: Well Anne's role is not so much as seeking grants. Anne help manage grants and helps make sure we are dotting our "I" and crossing our "T" relative to grant compliancy. She works hand in hand with all the department personnel that have the specific knowledge within their own operations. That is basically her role in the past – it also has expanded to include a budgetary hat with our new budget team member. The intention would not to move Anne to Civil Defense, her role again is different in that it is not as much as a go out and seek grants although she helps facilitate that process, it is more ensuring that it is compliant, making sure that we are setting up the grants appropriately with the approvals from federal state and other agencies. Again working hand and hand with the individual accountants and department personnel that manage grants day to day.

Chair Furfaro: Wally, can I summarize that if there are implied warranties for this equipment that Ted is pointing out to us that we are a little short of, we would in fact extend some of these warranties for relatively new equipment?

Mr. Rezendes: Yes, sure. As much as we can push on our contractors, we do so. Usually that involves the negotiation in an RFP type of setting to ensure that one (1) whatever we get works and all the bugs are weeded out before we cut them loose, as well as we carry maintenance contracts with outside venders to ensure that the equipment is functioning as they should.

Chair Furfaro: I just wanted to make sure that we are on the same page with the warranties. We have about five (5) more minutes before we take a break, Mr. Bynum, you have the floor.

Mr. Bynum: Now I am confused and I will now request that – two (2) years ago we had the Civil Defense Agency which consisted of what... versus – and I would like to see this in writing – what our Civil Defense Agency consisted of what personnel who are assigned to what projects versus our Civil Defense Agency now. Because we had a grants coordinator who was moved to a different position and that position was converted to another executive level person, and now I am hearing that there is now – that Anne Wooten did not generate grants, she managed them. Who generates the grants now? Who is fulfilling those roles, I am not clear, so if somebody can compare the agency two (2) years ago, with the agency now.

Mr. Rezendes: Not wanting to talk for Ted, I know that the department – Civil Defense has had a team approach to grant applications and process with more than one team member there. I have sat in numerous meetings where Civil Defense staff two (2) or three (3) of them have facilitated a different appoints and time in grant processes working with federal agencies in the application process working with State Civil Defense employees as well. Again, it is I think more of a team approach as we speak and Ted can probably enlighten you a little more on how it has been handled since the positions have moved around.

Mr. Bynum: We are coming to the end of the time, I have listened all morning and so if somebody could in writing just say Civil Defense Agency two (2) years ago was like this, we made significant changes in the structure and personnel. What were the issues that we needed additional personnel?

Mr. Rezendes: How duties and responsibilities shifted and all of that...

Mr. Bynum: Yes. But also why did we add personnel and change positions – what was the need two (2) years ago and how did we address that need under the new structure. I do not need an answer now but I appreciate an answer in writing because I have listened the whole morning and I do not understand that.

Chair Furfaro: Ted on that note and on that particular question, I will give you till the end of the week to make the comparisons but all other questions that have been posed today – 4:30 on Wednesday, we would like to hear, you have till the end of the week to show the variances between the department two (2) years ago and the department now.

Mr. Heu: Thank you Chair, for the record again Gary Heu. I just wanted to address one (1) issue that was raised right out of the gate this morning. Sorry I was not paying close enough attention, there was some discussion about the relocation of the alternate EOC site from its previously identified spot in your basement to the newly renovated fire head quarters. First of all I want to apologize if we as an Administration have not communicated effectively over the past couple of years relative to the development of the alternative EOC site as part of the fire build out. That was one of the reasons that we had expressed for a delay, we had a much shorter interval to complete construction but as we were developing the fire space, it was identified that we needed to find a more appropriate location for the alternate EOC and there was also a need for an alternate dispatch. As you know in our IT area there is a (inaudible) alternate dispatch center that has been used in the past for the purpose. Now both those functions are going to be co-located at the new fire head quarters. I know Councilmember Rapozo was very alarmed that if there was a need for an alternate EOC today, what would we do? The fact of the matter is that we do have space as I said over at the new fire head quarters, there is emergency power available. We have our hand held radios that are available, we have tables, chairs, mapping at that location as well as mobile communications with our communications van which includes internet access as well as satellite communications. If something were to happen today and we needed to redeploy the EOC functions, we would have a place to go and capability to manage that. It should be noted and in a follow up response we can provide a status of a particular grant that was actually applied for to fully equipped that alternate EOC and the alternate dispatch. So we can follow up on a communication to you what that status of that grant application is.

Chair Furfaro: We look forward to that Gary but in the mean time though I know there was not any discussion about the redundancy in this building and that should be a new topic for the fact that things with Mother Nature happens on Wednesday too, so we need to have some redundancy here on those days of the week. I will end it at that.

Mr. Chang: Gary, just for the members of the audience and the viewing audience, can you specify what is EOC?

Mr. Heu: Emergency Operation Center.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended.

MAKA'ALA KAAUMOANA: On behalf of the Hanalei Watershed Hui, I just wanted to provide a couple of comments specifically to this budget item related to the work that is going on in Hanalei. First of all, I wanted to mahalo and commend Mr. Daligdig for his corporation with our community as we processed a larger community resiliency plan which includes a disaster preparedness program. We have been on this contract and grant for two (2) years, we currently applying for three (3) more large grants as usual Hanalei will just do our own. It included a door to door survey of the people who were in Hanalei last summer and included responses from some of our regular visitors who all seem to think that they know exactly what to do and where to go. That is comforting but they were wrong. The process is ongoing and I am not here today to describe that

process but I want to be sure that this Council knew that our researcher and myself and some of our key information people from the community have met with all of the Administration Heads and very recently with Ted and his corporation is forthcoming and very appreciated and will matter. We did a debrief in Hanalei after the recent floods and I would like to make a small correction to the record and that it that it was not just Hanalei and Kalihiwai that was isolated, Mānoa ford isolated everyone to the west of it – Hā'ena Beach Park. Lumaha'i was isolated between Hā'ena and Lumaha'i because of mountains slid and Waikoko had a major slide, so there was a pocket between Lumaha'i and Waikoko, there was a pocket between obviously between Waikoko and Hanalei because Hanalei road closed. There was a pocket from Hanalei Bridge to Princeville and for the first time every Princeville to Kīlauea was isolated and then please do not forget the covert in Kīlauea which nobody can believe how fast that alternate route was put in and how well that work went and we commend all of our partners in that. But in fact, there was another pocket and I am just not aware of the pockets in the other parts of the island, that is not where I stick my nose. It was a unique situation and there were some unique responses and one was Facebook. There were seven or eight of us that stayed home but had capacity to at least provide that communication. The problem that we have is not with our hotels, the problem we have is with our TVRs. The problem we have is with all the people with all the condos and homes and even the timeshare folks, that is the problems. The hotels are terrific at all these stuff. There is a discussion in Hanalei about revamping our CERT we are one of the communities that did not step up with a lot of the volunteers that wanted to do it. Two (2) reasons, one (1) we think we know it already and we probably do not and two (2) as a community going through some other processes that will booster and support CERT but we do not identify CERT as a distinct need right now, we see it as part of a larger program and it is probably my fault because I have been promoting this larger, more integrated effort. The Red Cross was in communication with me, it turns out that our researcher is a very highly disaster response and she was in O'ahu and they were responding as best they could from O'ahu, they were flown over to be a part of the problem. What did become part of the problem after the road opened was something that we need as policy, we need for the visitors who have a car and a map and a board to stay home instead of come to see what happened. I wanted to take this opportunity to say that when the police first opened the Hanalei road they let everybody out and nobody in, yes, but when they finally reopened it, they said they did not have the capacity to limit people reopening to residence or people who could show that they were staying in a TVR in Hanalei, that would have been okay if they wanted to go back to where they were staying.

Chair Furfaro: Maka'ala, we are going to have a separate discussion item at the request of Mr. Rapozo, we are a little bit behind and I limited testimony to three (3) minutes. Thank you for pointing out amount the stream, the fortunate part we had three (3) county workers that live on that side as they go to kōkua and I think the point you made about the TVRs is something that need to be pursued by the visitors bureau, I have asked Mr. Chang to do that, I concur with you about the hotels being a resource but more importantly I think the police did the right thing and only letting traffic exit from Hanalei and we will be on an agenda item on the 18 if you would like to participate again in Mr. Rapozo's Committee.

The budget review was recessed at 10:50 a.m.

The departmental budget reviews reconvened on April 9, 2012 at 11:12 a.m., and proceeded as follows:

Excused: Councilmember Tim Bynum

HUMANE SOCIETY:

Chair Furfaro: We are back in session and Ernie, I just want to say for future if you could remind the various department heads, it would be demonstrating a great tradition of aloha if the department that is being reviewed remained in the Chambers until we took all public testimony. I want to point out that listening is a very important skill to be shared in a communication. I was a little bit bothered that all three (3) individuals from Civil Defense left before people who offered testimony was able to speak. If you can just make a note of it of my expectation when we live aloha, we listen to both sides of the story. On that note, this is an addendum to the schedule for the Kaua'i Humane Society that I am sorry I did not pass out earlier to you but I had this discussion with Laura Wiley a while back and here are the addendums to that.

There being no objections, the rules were suspended.

LAURA WILEY: Aloha Council, what a pleasure to be here. For the record, I am Laura Wiley and I would like to introduce the lovely lady to my right. If I could clarify one (1) thing before we proceed. Many of you may know that I retired from the Humane Society Board of Directors in January after nineteen (19) years of service. I still remain there CPA and Financial Advisor on a volunteer basis and the Board has asked me to accompany Shannon here today and I am very happy to do so. I also want to say that I called each of you individually in September to tell you the good news that we had hired a new Executive Director and you extended your aloha and asked me to bring her to Council Chambers and that was our full intention when she arrived, she hit the ground running and has been going at hurricane pace. I do apologize that we did not get to see you earlier but I am very pleased that we are here this morning. Those of you that have gone through an Executive search know how time consuming and how challenging it is and I would just like to relay on behalf of the Board of Directors how thrilled and pleased we are with our choice and having said that, I will introduce Shannon Blizzard our Executive Director.

SHANNON BLIZZARD, Executive Director – Humane Society: Good morning.

Chair Furfaro: Who will start your presentation with some general overview of the goal and mission of the Kaua'i Humane Society?

Ms. Wiley: I will go ahead and start and I have told Shannon that if she wants me to stop talking to give me the elbow. Of course we are a private independent none-profit organization; we are govern by a Board of Directors and also governed by many regulatory agencies of course. We are mission based and our mission is to ensure compassionate, informed care of all animals on Kaua'i and to promote the human-animal bond. We have been blessed to have a really good working relationship with the Administration and with the Council as most people know we do operate the shelter in Puhi and we have many programs that we are proud of. I think that today we probably want to focus on the animal care and control aspect of our job which is what you contract with us to do. Basically, I think as far as this year goes, Shannon brings with her multitude of experience in the animal welfare industry and a lot of it is leading edge and cutting edge and our main purpose for this session in particular was pretty much to let Shannon go through her first year and learn and absorb. When she came to our shelter she saw things that needed to be changed immediately and she did so but with the bigger picture, she's kind of just taken the let me get a year under my belt and then I will know more what to say. That is why we submitted our current budget

flat sort of speak, the same amount as what was requested last year. She can talk more about that and she will get more of a feel about what she proceeds things are. That is why for this budget hearing, we just decided to keep things the way they were last year. We do have a lot of changes that I suspect we will be talking about and hopefully can start talking about off season like in the fall before you guys are swamped with budget. Overall, we are very proud of the job that we do and the service that we provide to the community. We feel that we are a vital part of Kaua'i family life. We are very proud of our shelter, we have a terrific landlord, Grove Farm of course who has leased us the land and we built a beautiful facility. We feel that we operate smoothly and efficiently and put Kaua'i's animals and families for front. Anything that we can do to answer any questions, please feel free.

Ms. Blizzard: Good morning again Council and thank you for having us here. To answer your question as Laura mentioned I came from the community of Phoenix that is very progressive in the industry that we are in which is animal welfare. That community is seeing an influx of about a hundred thousand homeless pets per year enter the shelter and system. I come from a back ground that has trained me to think about how do we save more lives and that is what I bring to Kaua'i Humane Society directly as our goal. This is not the same perhaps organization it was ten, fifteen or sixty years ago – we are celebrating our sixtieth year this year in serving Kaua'i families. The expectations of the organization such as ours have changed over the years and it is not just picking up stray dogs and housing them until someone comes to claim them and if they are not claimed then they are put to sleep or euthanized, that is not the expectation for our mission, that is not our expectation of ourselves and it certainly not the community that supports us with their donation and programs and services we offer, that is not their expectation either. It is so that we maintain the animal shelter and an adoption center and to answer the question directly, we are here to save more lives, we are here to improve the lives of companion pets in our community, protect all animals in our community and serve the people in our community that have pets and have animals with different programs and services that allow them to maintain a responsible relationship with their pets.

I think you will see that coming in our initiatives and our program goals and our growth over the next few years, is that we are really aiming to raise the status of the shelter pet that they are not some damaged animal in a shelter that no one else wanted so why should we come down to adopt them and really increase the communities awareness about what it means to be responsible.

Chair Furfaro: Can you broaden your definition of animal welfare?

Ms. Blizzard: My definition of animal welfare and for Kaua'i Humane Society is addressing the issues of pet overpopulation by increased adoption, increasing our spay and neuter initiatives and increasing the amount of animals that went lost and strayed from their original owner are returned to their original owner. Increasing the opportunity for our community to have access to information and services that increase their ability to be responsible, meaning that they are kind and compassionate, that they are providing appropriate medical and nutritional needs for their pets, also that we are impacting the next generation of pet caregivers which is a big part of our mission as well. We would love to be – the Kaua'i Humane Society did not have a purpose sixty years down the road, the human component means that we would probably will have that but we really want to do what we can to impact the lives and animals in our community primarily focused on the companion animals. That means dogs, cats, and small animals.

Chair Furfaro: I would like to know if you have any new thinking for our island community as it relates to our chicken population.

Ms. Blizzard: Not specifically related to chickens. Again, our mission is really focused on the companion pet. The chicken population – that is not a companion pet. We do

try to provide a service of care for individuals who may bring in an injured chicken to our care but our focus is on the companion animals, I do not have a good solution for you on that topic.

Chair Furfaro: I wanted to get a clear understanding as your definition of your mission focused on companion animals versus in many areas what is turned out to be a very difficult challenge in our community but I would say that if in the past people brought chickens to the Humane Society I understand the kōkua there was to euthanize them – the humane in that sense, is that still an existing practice and is there a charge if that does happen?

Ms. Blizzard: We have recently instituted a small fee because there are cost associated for us on the other end. The cost of veterinarian care and that includes solutions for humane euthanasia continue to rise just as business – the cost of business increases. We would really like to have an alternative for those people because the Humane Society is not an exterminator. We do offer euthanasia services but they are primarily targeted at families, people, responsible pet owners who are seeking end of life care and not in a community who is trying to rid itself of a problem pest. That just not what the Kaua'i Humane Society is mission driven to do.

Chair Furfaro: Just so we are real clear I am just asking and the word I used was kōkua on what many people see as pest in our community. Do we have any idea what the population is of chickens?

Ms. Blizzard: I have no idea.

Chair Furfaro: Wild chickens.

Ms. Blizzard: Again our focus is primarily on the companion put so that is not something that we have engaged in counting or managing or trying to address as it does not impact our mission directly.

Chair Furfaro: Okay. I had my two (2) questions this round and that is how we do it. We try and go round the table allowing members to at least ask two (2) questions and then rotate on. Mr. Chang and then Mr. Rapozo.

Mr. Chang: Thank you, Shannon for being here. I remember I could never forget your name because you are Shannon Blizzard from Phoenix. I was going to ask you when you mentioned the programs and the services that the Humane Society provides, is it in the quarterly bulletin or is it on the website of the programs of the services you folks provide?

Ms. Blizzard: We have a very extensive website Kaua'iHumane.org that list our programs and services and just some general resources for pet owners or people wondering about certain topics related to companion pets. Programs include adoption, they include dog training, they include ways to interact with people that have pets and that need services. Obviously spay and neuter falls as a program for us, it is considered as a program because it addresses our mission but it is also a service that we provide. All of those things are listed on our website. I have a very active social media campaign too as another way to extending into educating the community at what we do and how they can find out more information about how we might be able to serve them.

Mr. Chang: Is there any portion of the program – it is really sad when you go through any neighborhood and you see a dog on a chain and the dog can barely reach water or food and it is just evident and it is sad to see pretty much a pit because they can only... and I was just wondering if there is a program that maybe somebody can adopt the dog and walk the dog for the owner. When you see responsible dog owners on the multiuse path, everybody is happy. Everybody is happy and healthy and then when you see these – we had testimony here I remember

during the debate of responsible owners on the multiuse path, owners themselves that we just scared of their own dogs – they are in the cage, they need love or they are trying to communicate and then you just try to push the food in or water in and that is the show of love. I just wanted to see if there was kind of communication that we can give our owners out there an opportunity to really get out there, exercise but more importantly take care of the put as a responsible owner.

Ms. Blizzard: We have program and again being new into the organization trying to adjust the priorities and how we will address some of those things called our Aloha for Animals Program. It was a program designed to take our vehicle and maybe a vet or a member of our team, volunteers and really try to canvas use the size of the island to our advantage to be able to really network within our community and spread word about responsible pet ownership. I will not quote the statute directly but my understanding is that it is legal in the State of Hawai'i to have a animal tethered on a chain as long its twice the length of its body. A small dog does not have to have a very long chain. It is part of the legislative issues that I think we are going to need as an agency to start to address. I had the pleasure of working with JoAnn on some topics but we are really trying to focus right now our attention spreading the word about who we are. When I came on I was not really sure what the community's perception of those programs and services were. We did launch a website that got a lot more information and we did launch more social media but it is really within the law that people can have that and I think that is where we need to address it. That does not make them responsible, that is not a definition that we can – but it is adequate which is the way the law reads. As you mentioned a dog is – especially dogs are highly social creatures and so we need to honor that part of them by providing them with the proper interaction and training, manners that really acclimate them into our family life and that is what we are seeking to do. Again, bringing the word companion back that this is a member of your household that you are dedicated to – it is mental and physical wellbeing.

Mr. Chang: Thank you. Lastly, I do not have any more questions but can you just repeat the website?

Ms. Blizzard: It is Kaua'iHumane.org.

Mr. Rapozo: (Inaudible – mike off).

Ms. Blizzard: I would just like to add to that – what you are saying is a definition of animal care taker, someone that maintains the animal shelter, the cleaning, the feeding, the enrichment, exercise, medication – the Humane Officers there are three (3) and they are badge and they are part of the contact that we carry with the County. They enforce the law, that pick up the stray dogs that respond, they have the training and the legal expertise in order to interpret and enforce those laws. I think by definition of the term animal caretaker, I could see if you were not clear on that why you would think we had much more staff to address those needs then we do actually have those trained and badge on staff. I will also add that I do not think you received an email – I was part of that email stream that would have said we do not have enough staff. We are always going to be under resourced, we are a private/non-profit organization with a growing demand. I would not have responded to the concerns that way, I agree with you. We are doing a lot of work in trying to shift the expectations for customer service and professionalism within our organization as it meets those law enforcement needs in trying to balance enforcing law but also trying to volunteering compliance because we are not trying to get more animals into the shelter that we cannot care for. We are trying to encourage a positive and responsible pet ownership. There is a limited amount of resources and our three (3) staff members that are dedicated for the enforcement of those laws again which would include the pickup of stray dogs or management of the leash law are working three hundred sixty-five days a year, they are on-call twenty-four hours a day and we do get calls about chickens and we do get calls about things that take our time about addressing because that is the right thing to do but it is a matter of prioritizing and we are working really hard at trying

to respond at a timely manner to call of the calls we get. I want to clarify animal caretaker is not someone that is in a staff position to be able to go out and enforce laws, we only have three (3) of those.

Mr. Rapozo: Maybe we need to boost that.

Ms. Blizzard: Perhaps.

Mr. Rapozo: (inaudible)

Ms. Blizzard: But the management of the animal shelter is mandated by the...

Mr. Rapozo: (inaudible) the statute does not provide to the County to fund the Humane Society.

Ms. Blizzard: No it does not.

Mr. Rapozo: It says we are to contract with the Humane Society (inaudible) unlicensed dog and the maintenance of the shelter (inaudible). What I am saying is that we fund the Humane Society with a lot of money. That money if you look at the State law should be limited to just dogs and we are not we are funding the maintenance of the shelter for the cats, rabbits, for horses – for whatever else. That animal care taker that you talked about – eight (8) of them are not just taking care of ceased dogs or unlicensed.

Ms. Blizzard: That is correct.

Mr. Rapozo: I am just trying to say that we need to make the system right.

Ms. Blizzard: I believe our contract definitely needs to be looked at.

Mr. Rapozo: Right.

Ms. Blizzard: I went back ten (10) years and could not find anything different then what is currently in front of me.

Mr. Rapozo: (inaudible)

Ms. Blizzard: But it is time for us to have a better clarity.

Mr. Rapozo: Definitely clarify the rules and budget accordingly. If we need to expand the scope, that is fine as well but I think what the problem I have and other Councilmembers is that a constituent called says the Humane Society told me yesterday to pick up a dog and they wanted me to pay x amount of dollars, I thought the Humane Society was paid by the County. And this is the sort of thing that goes on and they do not understand (inaudible). I know myself that when we went to pick up my dog they told me that it was going to cost so much per pound, so I know what happens and I have no problem but the people need to know that the Humane Society does this for free and this for a charge. It is hard to explain to them especially when they see the budget session and they see that it cost six or seven hundred thousand dollars and they got to pay ten dollars to drop off a chicken. When I look at the State mandate we are funding a lot of money to take care of dogs but with that money this Council – County has funded a lot more services than what is required. I just think we need to understand that.

Ms. Blizzard: The portion of the budget that you have is just about the allocated areas that you fund. We do have a much larger budget that is not funded by the County upwards of two million dollars that is funded by the other programs are supplemented through our fundraising and donations and program services and things of that nature. I do understand what you are saying and I respect your position and I would like to work with the Council in updating and bringing our contract and the expectation that we have of each other closer in line to where I think it needs to be which is again why I came in this year with a flat budget request. I have requested with Chairman Furfaro and the Department of Finance that we take a look at the contract and what that means so that we can better define what you are funding and what we are subsidizing because we are a mission based independent organization and not a government department. It is a little tricky sometimes. Thank you for that feedback.

Mr. Rapozo: And do not take this the wrong way but the reality is when you look at the County funded positions in your list that you provided in your report including the (inaudible) technicians, there are three of them, four (4) front desk clerks – all these people, that covers a lot more than just the ceased and maintenance of the unlicensed and loose dogs.

Ms. Blizzard: Would you like to talk about the prevention of cruelty, the animal portion of our contract too.

Chair Furfaro: Before we go any further, Mel, I just want to let you know I had separate correspondence over to the County Attorney's Office over the next sixty days to revisit the contract which has not been revisited in ten days and I hope to have...

Mr. Rapozo: Ten years.

Chair Furfaro: Ten years – that has not been updated in ten years and when they have comments for me, I plan to have a meeting with Wally and then we will have something back to the Council within the first quarter of this new year but this request will go over to the County Attorney's Office.

Ms. Wiley: I would like to say something. Yes, we have been feeling the crunch of the contract for many years and knowing that we need to revisit and revise. The first few pages of our contract talk about some of the statutes that Councilmember Rapozo listed. The summarizing paragraph in our contract says where as in light of the proceeding authorities the County and the society therefore desire to maintain an animal shelter and carry out a general program of animal control and a program for a the prevention of cruelty to animals. That is kind of what is the glue that has held everything together for us and when Shannon and I started looking at the contract a couple of months ago, I think Councilmember Rapozo, we are talking about the same thing. We are talking about clear definitions of services provided etc., and clear cost associated with those services... I think we have outgrown it a lot, I think you guys have out grown it a lot as well. We really do look forward to a nice revamp of the contract.

Chair Furfaro: Could you share with us the interpretations of some of your abbreviations and acronyms here for example, on your budget line the term CAM, the next term S&N as it relates to how you have allocated those money. I assume S&N is Spray and Neutering.

Ms. Blizzard: Spay. And CAM is County Animal Management.

Chair Furfaro: County Animal Management and if I look at the entire line of your organization will run as a deficit of three hundred thirty thousand dollars for the upcoming year, am I interpreting this correct?

Ms. Blizzard: That is correct.

Chair Furfaro: Vice Chair, did you have a question?

Ms. Yukimura: The reason why I am so appreciative of the work that the Kaua'i Humane Society does in terms of animal control and management is because when I first came aboard with the County, we were doing it as an in house function and it was not working. I had seen a tremendous increase in effectiveness even though the problems have increased in population of both humans and animals. Our phones would be ringing off the hook if the management and control of animals were still being done in the way that it was by the County years ago. I have appreciated I think doing it through a non-profit as long as we are clear about the lines about responsibility and accountability is much more cost effective then if the County were to try to do it. I just want to say how much I appreciate the work of the Humane Society. I also want to say that I think it is more than one statute that we are looking at here in terms of defining the work of animal control and management. It is actually a health issue at its worst and then it is about companionship and how we include animals in our lives at its best. This portion of our budget is really important and I wanted to ask some questions about it. The decrease in pet overpopulation through spay and neuter is your first goal and objective and I just wondered if you could summarize your approach in the next budget basically. It is in my mind and I guess in the discussions that will follow, I hope they would be included as part of the animal control part of your work that is it is something that the County should be funding as far as animal control. How are you approaching it in this next year?

Ms. Blizzard: Topic of spay and neuter? Well with one it is more awareness to our community that we provide the service. I want to make very clear though that we definitely encourage every adopter and every person we interact with to have an established relationship with a private veterinarian because we do not offer full range services. The reason why spay and neuter is so important to us as an agency and I would argue all animal welfare agencies is because we are left with the bargain of the over population of more pets being born and influx into the shelter, the increase of cost and also the resources we have to serve those animals. Addressing more awareness to our community that spay and neuter services are available, trying to interact with certain parts of our community that may have some misconceptions about the importance of an unneutered dog to their lifestyle versus a neuter dog to their lifestyle, making that conservation okay to have and not one full of judgment. I think is really important step, it is working with other groups that are focusing on issues with cats in the community rather than the companion pets that we are trying to serve within the shelter walls. Making our services for spay and neuter more assessable, we have doubled our mobile schedule meaning our veterinarian and the bus – our Aloha for Animals bus goes out into the neighborhoods and makes those service available to those who may not be able to make it all the way down to the shelter. I have gone so far as to just our officers or volunteers or staff if they live in the neighborhood to pick up a pet and drop it back off to someone who is unable to physically transport the animal. It is such a critical part of our mission that we try to slow the flow down because it is not just puppies and kittens that we are seeing. It is the puppy and kitten that replaces the adult dog that has been a part of their family that is now not as shinny and new, so we got owner relinquishments happening. It is not just about the puppies and kittens but it is also about how it impacts the family dynamic when presented with opportunity for a new pet. Advertising, awareness, access – I think is how we are approaching spay and neuter this year.

Ms. Yukimura: And we have here in your – so last year we funded spay and neuter to the tune of sixty thousand? Is that correct?

Ms. Wiley: Sixty-five.

Ms. Yukimura: Oh okay. Sixty-five for this year and that is what is being asked for this year?

Ms. Blizzard: Correct.

Ms. Yukimura: Are you saying that people are not accessing it so that there is leftover money?

Ms. Blizzard: Oh no, there is still leftover money. There is a line in our contract that says we cannot charge for spay and neuter services whatsoever. I have a particular issue with that statement in our contracts because I am responsible for trying to succeed in the mission and to be limited in liability to have a range of ways I determined...

Ms. Yukimura: You can do ability to pay or?

Ms. Blizzard: If someone had the ability to pay or someone did not have the ability to pay being able to serve both – we do ask for a donation but I think there might be some psychological difference between making a twenty dollar donation or fifty dollar donation or paying twenty dollars or fifty dollars for a service. Sometimes we see more on that line for the service. Sometimes when we just ask for the donation and again this is appealing to people that cannot afford the service otherwise that value it but cannot justify the cost of what it might be in a different clinic. We do not have any leftover money in that program, we run out of deficit and we would like not only to address the language in the contract that says we cannot charge for this service but also talk with our community partners and coming up with some alternative programs that would encourage spay and neuter but perhaps not come out of our bottom line through the grant.

Ms. Yukimura: Excellent. My second question is you have a line called or at least in this summary sheet that we have been given AC&C, does that ring any bell?

Ms. Blizzard: To me it means Animal Care & Control but...

Ms. Yukimura: That is what that means?

Ms. Blizzard: Animal Care & Control.

Ms. Yukimura: And that is the rest of your budget? At least I am seeing your budget in two (2) summary lines spay and neuter and animal care and control and that line refers...

Chair Furfaro: Animal care and control and services.

Ms. Yukimura: That is mainly the maintenance of the shelter for its basic function, is that right?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes. Do you want to add to that more?

Ms. Wiley: I want to apologize for all the confusing initials we have thrown out. We have said that CAM is County Animal Management and it is and that is the same thing in our mind as Animal Care and Control or the animal welfare industry keeps getting better and better and we have more new hip acronyms that we need to use and we have crossed... we have made a mess of it.

Chair Furfaro: Would you yield to Mr. Kualii or do you have one (1) more question?

Ms. Yukimura: Just one more question which – of that positions that you have listed on the last page of your presentation, is this hundred percent funded by the County? Are these positions hundred percent funded?

Ms. Blizzard: No. They are not a hundred percent funded by the County, again there is some humane officers listed here that you received, there is two (2) listed.

Ms. Yukimura: Yes.

Ms. Blizzard: That is just the internal staffing issue with us as we go through some changes. Those are primarily covered there but the animal caretakers and things of that nature that are listed...

Ms. Yukimura: They are proportional they are funded in part by the County and in part by some of your other programs.

Mr. Kualii: Aloha. Welcome and thank you for the work that you do and thank you for being here today. Looking at the budget, I kind of want to see how the numbers add up and Vice Chair Yukimura was just asking about those positions and so it would be helpful to know which are the positions and with what dollar amount as far as the budget for this County total of six hundred and sixty thousand. If it is work that you have to do, you can submit it later but you kept mentioning three (3) humane officers but listed here is only two (2) right or is there a third one someone?

Ms. Blizzard: She starts today. I just pulled our current numbers when I pulled that together, so that was more actual then budgeted.

Mr. Kualii: Those are all at what salary level?

Ms. Blizzard: Somewhere between twelve and eighteen.

Mr. Kualii: What does that mean? Is that a part time position?

Ms. Blizzard: Per hour. Twelve dollars to eighteen dollars per hour.

Mr. Kualii: Are they all full time positions?

Ms. Blizzard: We have one part time position right now and...

Mr. Kualii: One of the three?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes. Two full time and one part time. Again we had some changes in staffing over the last few months and taking that opportunity to really look because again those staff members are on call at night. They are responding over night and taking phone calls, so trying to create some level of balance for them has been a challenge with the amount of staffing that we have allocated to run those programs.

Mr. Kualii: In this handout that we just got, that is the County budget. It has the five hundred ninety-five thousand and the sixty-five thousand and those are the amounts in this current fiscal year and is what you are proposing for the next fiscal year. But when you put it down here, you have this total income, is all the other income program services, are those from fees?

Ms. Wiley: Yes. We have an adoption fee and so...

Mr. Kualii: The microchip, the pet surrender, the stray boarding?

Ms. Wiley: Yes.

Mr. Kualii: Okay. And then there is a grant line item, contribution and grants. Contributions and grants fifteen thousand for the County animal management and twenty-five thousand for spay and neuter, you must have another set of figures for the same work. Because that seems like a really small amount of money for the big organization that you are and the kinds of support that you receive from the public at large.

Ms. Wiley: Right.

Mr. Kualii: Maybe I am just talking about the national...

Ms. Wiley: You are right, again this first column County animal management is just the services provided under the contract. Contributions and grants of fifteen thousand and twenty-five thousand I will tell you that we included it on one line, we could have had a contributions of fifteen thousand and that is what Shannon is talking about if somebody does surrender a pet or does come in for spay and neuter surgery and we ask if they can make a donation. If they do make a donation we feel that we need to accord it as revenue to help with the whole county and animal function because that is where it belongs. The twenty-five thousand dollars was a specific grant earmarked for spay/neuter so we could have put those on two (2) separate lines. But yes our Humane Society has all kinds of programs, humane education, the dog park, etc., I believe our total budget is about two point two million dollars.

Mr. Kualii: The Chair had just mentioned earlier how this Council likes to see our departments working on grant funding as well, what do you foresee for this next year as far as the potential for going after grants for either the County animal management piece or the spay/neuter piece? And amounts if you have them.

Ms. Blizzard: I will address the spay/neuter possibilities first and in the last eight months in doing some research into spay and neuter grants again coming from Phoenix where pet smart charities one of the largest animal welfare funders is located, have some good connections with those folks and they are telling me because my contract says I cannot charge for the services, they cannot provide me any grant moneys because it is there to subsidize and get me to lower my cost. I had been turned down for grants for spay and neuter. The grants in the County animal management side are really going to focused on increasing awareness about adoption. Again our focus is to reduce our pet population but also to save the lives of the animals entering the sheltering system. My focus is grants on trying to increase adoption, increase micro chipping, tagging and responsible pet ownership and access where we can for other services that they need to maintain that responsible lifestyle with their pet. The spay/neuter grants are and I think my professional opinion will be it will continue to be difficult to get with that wording in the contract.

Chair Furfaro: Since you asked that question, could I ask Mr. Rezentes to come over because on March 23 I sent him and the County Attorney a piece of correspondence regarding and Wally as you walk up, I share this was after my meeting with Shannon Blizzard if there was any particular reason the County contract restricted this charging for any spay and neutering. I asked to be able to meeting with you and the County Attorney in particular on the grant hurdles that this puts in front of the Humane Society.

Mr. Rezentos: We have not had the opportunity to meet yet. In fact, this morning I had text Al to see where we are at with respect to the meeting and I did want to make sure that I could attend the meeting with the County Attorney's that you had requested as well as the Humane Society. I think something should be in the works very shortly.

Chair Furfaro: I just sent over another correspondence to the County Attorney on spaying and neutering and so we will get current on that first chance we have.

Ms. Wiley: May I add something Council Chair? For the most part, a male cat that is not spayed will spray.

Chair Furfaro: Got it.

Ms. Wiley: So you are right. You nailed it.

Chair Furfaro: I dealt with that a lot with the places where there is food present and then they come up and spray and mark their territory. We are going to pursue that and I have a secondary meeting coming up with Wally.

Ms. Blizzard: I would like to add to that. The spay and neuter services when it comes to the management of an animal shelter is for every pet we send out for adoption as well, there is no way in this world I am going to adopt a pet out to a member of a community with – no matter how responsible they are, that is not already spayed and neuter. I will not put that responsibility in their hands. I want to be clear, it is not just about the community members, it is also about the animals that enter the shelter that leave through adoption which unfortunately, that is why we are in this business, ninety-nine percent of them need that sterilization services as well.

Chair Furfaro: Shannon, I want to give the floor back to Councilmember Kualii. I just wanted to make sure all the members were aware of my correspondence in trying to lift what might be the hurdle for the Humane Society in generating some revenues.

Mr. Kualii: One last thing on the numbers, I see on the top section on the income and then on the bottom section on the expenses, really the payroll line item is the largest item and that ends up being more with the six hundred thousand for the CAM and the hundred fifty thousand for the spay and neuter being seven hundred and fifty thousand or more than what the County is funding. This list of positions become more important because it tells me how that money is spent and what it represents. When I just see the total and a list but I do not know how to relate them and in one of the answers to Vice Chair Yukimura's question was that some of these positions could be partially funded by County money and other money and some are fully funded – a list of the positions with the dollars attached to justify the expense of payroll would be helpful to me.

Ms. Blizzard: Sure.

Mr. Kualii: The last thing is when Councilmember Rapozo talked about the people needing to know, I agree with that. I have come across some very specific examples and some even a little heart breaking where and you mentioned the website and my i-pads is not working right now, so I could not get to it. Do you also provide a brochure and is it available in the Veterinarian Offices that talks about what services you provide, what services you provide for free, what services you provide for sliding scale contribution, requested but not required and then what services you provide what for prices. I think everyone who loves their animals and takes good care of them and ends up taking them to the Vet from time to time, may come to the point where they need your services. I know one service that you – the Humane Society provided to my parents was when our family dog which they had for a very long time like seventeen years and when he was so

sick that he was suffering and the Vet said, his time is pau... that they took him to the Humane society for euthanasia and when he was put to sleep and it was just my mom and dad and they are both in their seventies, retired and living on fixed income and they did it without the rest of the family knowing. If we knew, we could have come up with some money to pay whatever fees or – and they understood it to be a fee, I do not think they thought it was any kind of contribution. Our dog was euthanized and they were having to make the choice of either just paying a smaller amount of thirty dollars and the Humane Society would – what do you call when they burn them? Cremate and bury in the garden with flowers which – or they had to pay over a hundred dollars to bring him back home and I think that they just made that decision on money. The rest of the family who was kind of sad that the family dog did not come back home and get buried in our backyard and our little niece was seven years old who lives with my mom and dad – that was her animal her whole life. Her crying to my mom and dad made it really hard for my mom and dad too. So it was just a horrible situation that I think should not happen. Whatever your policy is it needs to be more compassionate to the humans too not just the animals who are in that situation and make sure that everybody communicates clearly what is required and what is not required. That people really have the option of taking their animal home if that is what they would have wanted to do.

Ms. Blizzard: I agree with you that communication and compassion is important to what we do and I am sorry that the experience that I would like to have seen did not live up to your expectation. We try but cannot be all things to all people and we do have some cost associated with it and they are reasonable when you consider the expenses behind it but I think that we all can always improve on outlining what is available, what those services cost and any alternatives if we cannot fit their needs. To go back to your original to your question about do the Vet offices have that? There is some improvement in those relationships that we need to continue to work on for the Kaua'i Humane Society and that industry because although to the community we look a lot alike in some of the services we provide, we are actually different businesses so I am going to continue to work on that and use the most cost effective ways I can which is electronic advertizing on social media to get that across. I think we can always improve on that and I will continue to remember that story when I think about ways to do that.

Mr. Kualii: And for sure I do not want to hear that you are saying about cost effective, I want you to realize that I do not see and the average citizen would not see any additional cost once you have put the dog to sleep, where in fact that you now cremating the dog and that was more cost. It would have been less cost to allow them to take the home if that is allowable.

Ms. Blizzard: I do not know the specifically the situation that you are referring to and I will not go into detail here in this area in the differences in ability to cremate a dog and get you the ashes back directly or in bulk but we are always going to be searching for ways and again that is part of what my strengths in coming to the organization are is to bring some passion and compassion to what we are doing. This is the only line of work that I can imagine doing, this is what makes my heartbeat and what gets me up in the morning, to make a difference in the lives of homeless pets in the community and I really want you to know that there are cost of business but we also do a lot of things that our donors and our supporters make up on the other end and we just have to get in line with ourselves on occasion and reevaluate our relationships and where we are including meetings and opportunities like this to receive some feedback and it is always a challenge, I know as the Executive Director, I do not get a lot of the calls that are complementing the services we provide or telling your staff did a great job that day and thank you so much, it is usually the people who want to complain about something. I would encourage any of the audience that is out there to share more positive things and keep the positivity flowing. Because what we do is incredibly emotional for us, it is a lot of – we take a lot of it home with us at night and we are there because we care about the lives of these animals and the lives of our community members, so we take that with us when we go forward.

Mr. Kualii: I just wanted you to know that I really appreciate – we appreciate and it is very important work that you do and whatever we can do to help for our community.

Chair Furfaro: Is this right, I am looking here – it looks like there are seven active Vets on Kaua'i?

Ms. Blizzard: I believe that is accurate.

Chair Furfaro: Okay.

Ms. Nakamura: Thank you for being here and for your presentation. What is your definition of companion animal?

Ms. Blizzard: Dog, cat or small mammal like a rabbit – we deal with rabbits. There is not the guinea pig problem here that I am aware of or issue, we have some but that small mammals – dogs and cats, the occasional bird. We do go outside the lines of that and has been well publicized, we have sixteen horses in our care that are not considered a pet animal, they are considered a working animal. But yet because we are in an organization named of trying to prevent cruelty to animals, that is a branch that we have to go down. When I say companion animal, I mean dog, cat, small mammal and the occasional bird but primarily dogs and cats.

Ms. Nakamura: And is it within the home or outside the home or does it matter?

Ms. Blizzard: Primarily within the home. It does matter a lot inside the home or outside the home and I think what you are referring to is the feral cat population. Those are not companion pets, I cannot re-home a feral cat, I cannot bring it into my shelter, make sure it is health, spay and neuter, vaccinate it, and expect a reasonable member of our community come and adopt it as their companion because that is not what a feral cat is capable of providing for most people. Our focus – it is an important word to highlight that it is about the companion pet and those are the and that does not mean they live inside the home but they are part of that family, there is a relationship. I would like to think they have a name, I would like to think they have a toy or a bed or something of that nature but - a minimum a name would be...

Ms. Nakamura: So one of the criteria is being part of a home?

Ms. Blizzard: Part of a home, someone taking responsibility for that animal but does not extend to the feral cat population or protection of their safety and prevention of cruelty for them is a part of their mission. But in the shelter operations when they come in, I cannot re-home that animal, so that is not part of the programs or services that we are talking about. Adoption and increasing what I refer to in the presentation is a live release rate which I know is a really raw term and not a very fluffy term but it is the industry about how the animal comes into the shelter and how it leaves the shelter and I cannot re-home a feral cat. It is primarily part of somebody taking some level of responsibility for its care.

Ms. Nakamura: If someone brings in a feral cat to be spay and neutered, you do provide the services for free?

Ms. Blizzard: I do provide spay and neuter.

Ms. Nakamura: Through this County program?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes and many of the people make a donation for that service but it is provided at no charge but I cannot re-home it if it enters my shelter system permanently. If we take it in and we just do not provide a service, I cannot re-home a feral cat.

Ms. Nakamura: I am looking at page three of your plan, so it is the second – the middle section here where you have the five thousand eleven overview where you have your intake numbers by dogs, cats and others. Your intake for dogs for example was two thousand five hundred and then you returned about seven hundred and fifty of the dogs to owners. About six hundred may have been adopted and then you euthanized about thousand and so that balance then of about a hundred fifty would be the number of dogs that you keep at the shelter?

Ms. Blizzard: At one time?

Ms. Nakamura: At that point in time, yes.

Ms. Blizzard: The capacity? Yes. Through in house and through foster care which is a small amount but we do have some foster care opportunities but yes that is our capacity. You have to include the time factor involved at what we do if an animal is picked up as a stray and it is license which is the law or microchipped, we can extend the time to look for that owner versus something that is not license, not microchipped which is another really important part of our outreach. So, yes about a hundred and fifty at a time.

Ms. Nakamura: And so just to clarify where you want to take this organization is that you want to increase the numbers on the columns return to owner?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: Adoption?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes. And I want to see intake and euthanasia go, I want those columns to flip. I want to see that our intake slows down, the flow of the animals into the shelter slows down and the animals going home through adoption or return to owner are the increase numbers and then our euthanasia numbers go down. To me that is not an acceptable formula there that you have in front of you, it needs to improve, we need to save more lives.

Ms. Nakamura: And so the way to do that is through education on spay and neuter, do you believe that mandatory spayed and neuter for a pet is something the direction we need to go?

Ms. Blizzard: Personally no. Because who is going to enforce that, how are you going to legislate that. The more you tell a person they have to do something it seems the more resistant they get so I do not think mandatory spay and neuter for all owned animals. In Phoenix, we were just introduced with an new opportunity that required shelters when an animal entered the sheltering system, could not be released back to an owner if it was not spayed or neutered or there was some type of reclaim view which is outside the reach of a lot of people, it was easier to get it spayed and neutered if it was a cost matter for them. And that just hit the ground where I was from before here so I do not know how well it has gone over but it is a start in the right direction. So if you are being responsible with your unspayed and un-neutered pet, that is one thing. When it impacts the animal welfare community and now it is part of the sheltering system, then it is another story. That might be one area that I would talk about but I think that would be putting the cart before the horse just a bit.

Ms. Nakamura: Last year's budget and I see it again in this year's budget, advertising and promotion is one component and it is relatively small component of your budget that is being presented here, so fifteen hundred for the county animal management program and then seven thousand for your spay and neuter program, last year was this full amount spent?

Ms. Blizzard: In advertising and promotion, yes.

Ms. Nakamura: It was. Do you feel that this is an adequate amount?

Ms. Blizzard: We can do more with more.

Ms. Nakamura: If the goal is to reduce – it seems like... do you think....

Ms. Blizzard: I definitely think we could use that money to our advantage to spread message into provide outreach. Right now, again, as a private non-profit we are always going to have this eclipse of needs and resources and the social media craze and web-sites and electronic marketing is some of the things I am trying to bring that is so much more cost effective – radio is a big hit here. We are blessed to have friends in radio but... lots of friends in radio. We try to make the most and again I think coming from – for me personally having adjusted from a City of four point three million to a much smaller community where it has some challenges, it also has some benefits because this coconut wireless thing is powerful and we can use it to our advantage. We can use opportunities like this to our advantage to spread the message. I think we as an agency need to be confident in our message, I think we need to not make excuses for our message because it may not be in line with what someone else does or thinks but that we are reasonable in working with those folks but there are lots of ways to get our messages out and I think if we are talking about increasing funding for what we provide, I would like to see it go to increasing life saving and treatment of animals that can be treated in our care and then re-home. If you want to provide some more money to us, you are welcome to do so but I think we are at an advantage here that we can use that money more wisely in other ways.

Ms. Nakamura: Thank you.

Chair Furfaro: One of the things that we did not touch much on and I just want to say that my wife and I remember in the 70's when you did not see Nene goose in the North Shore and we do now. (inaudible) bird is making a comeback and all of these things that I think are very important for our host culture as we look at these indigenous pieces and for great reason that is why I ask about the feral cat population and the chickens, they then compete with – but maybe that is another discussion. Do you have anything to add before I ask for public testimony? I will be in touch with you again after we talk again with the legal department. Do I have anyone in the audience that wants to speak and I also want to let you know that I have two pieces of written correspondence for testimony that my staff can share with you if you like. Makaala, you have the floor.

MAKAALA KAUOMOANA: For purposes of this subject, I am representing Hui (inaudible) which is the organization that provided the Kaua'i Plaintiff in the Seabird incidental take process with the County, KIUC, and the Saint Regis Hotel. I like to start by saying my first very pet was a chicken and her name was Bitty and her favorite thing to do with me was swing on my swing set. She lived on our porch screened in. All three of my personal pets have come from the Humane Society, the current ones that I have. The feral chickens, I take no responsibility for. I usually prepare written testimony, this body knows that. I would like to appear with a script. I do not have it today and I appreciate staff and Councilmembers generosity in providing me this morning with the submittals that the Kaua'i Humane Society has submitted today but I did not have it till this morning, so I am not as well prepared as I would like to be and depending on how things go, I will

submit written testimony if I think is needed. I do appreciate receiving the information this morning. I remind the County that the last time I appeared on this issue, the end of this conversation was the County Attorney stating that because the County is still on federal probation for take of the endangered sea birds that you cannot support with money or any other way any action that might threaten those seabirds further or in anyway. Therefore my interpretation because I am not a lawyer, I am a community volunteer in this matter, my interpretation is that you cannot fund TNR or TNRM unless you can evidence of the management of the returned animals is such that they cannot hunt or cannot escape. What would be... Sorry... Trap, Neuter, and Release and the "M" is Manage. Sometimes Trap, Neuter and Return. In the interim between when I testified last on the last subject matter of feral kittens, our organization did take it upon ourselves to provide communication information correspondence with some of the major landowners that we were able to independently identify who may have feral cats feeding stations on their property. I know for a fact that some of them did not know that – explaining to them via our Attorney – Earth Justice and they are also liable and that they need to pay attention to those activities that are occurring on their lands, that was not a legal action, that was something that community volunteers did and I would be happy to do it again if I could indentify folks that need to understand the issue. For this item on your budget what I would request is that more specifics be provided, I think you folks did a really good job in following my notes as to what might be needed in further information related to the budget. I for one would like to know how much if any of the County money is being expended on the return of feral cats and hence the potential take of seabirds or other issues. Remember last time we talked it included from the Division of Aquatic resources the concern of toxoplasmosis and a few other things, so it is not just whether or not we find a dead bird, it is an issue of impacts on our community just by their existence. I would hope this Council would air of the side of caution and somehow develop some sort of estimate as to how much of the funding you are providing is expanded to the best they can tell. I acknowledge that it maybe a difficult issue but I would like to see that information published specifically for the item under income of spay and neuter program, the sixty-five thousand. Specifically under the item in expenses of professional services for spay and neuter because it is still an expense of funds, it is not the kitty but the guy going it and maybe specifically in supplies, I do not know. This is the only budget I see, I do not have it broken out – I do not know whether the supplies is for the center or whatever it is. But that is my main concern that KHS be asked to audit their program expenses and identify and report any money spent on trap, neuter and release animals or feral animals that are brought to them and demonstrate a verifiable alternative source of those funds other than the County. So if they say, we are not using County funds for that, we are using our grant money for that, so be it but I think we have a right to know that as a community. Mahalo.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you very much. Welcome, please come right up and introduce yourself. You have three minutes on this subject matter.

HOB OSTERLUND: I am a North Shore resident and a volunteer that has created a organization called Kaua'i Albatross Network, you can see the website AlbatrossKauai.org for more information. I have submitted testimony that you have in front of you. I have been observing our wildlife since the County Council of 1979-80 on the first photo on your right there when Councilwoman Yukimura was the first child protege on the County Council. I think you were twelve.

Mr. Rapozo: Eleven.

Ms. Osterlund: Eleven – okay, I knew it was something like that. You see in front of you my concern as well as my mahalo to the Kaua'i Humane Society and to the County Council for your great attention to this important matter. You will see that the cats now – wild feral cats now are named the world's worst invasive species for the damage that they are doing to our water ways, wildlife, to disease and that even when cats are fed and neutered, they continue to kill.

It is something that I think here on Kaua'i in particular, we cannot afford to see happen. You notice there on the bullet points the significant issues beyond the predation: the public health issue, the cat welfare themselves, the cats are often diseased, injured, they have a very short lifespan compared to housed cats and what they do to the environment in terms of fecal pollution in the public nuisance that they are, you will note that even PETA who you might remember even objecting when President Obama swatted at a fly, these people – even them against the trap, neuter and release programs because of the suffering it provides both for the cats as well as the wildlife. I would also like to also emphasize something else in the bullet points below about why in particular on Kaua'i. We have and focusing specifically on the albatross – if I might – KipuKai if I could pass this to you to pass around just so you can get a quick glance of a few photographs of the albatross here on Kaua'i. This is just one of many species of concern here but I want to focus on them in particular. First of all we have an unprecedented and cooperative program among four federal agencies, the State agency through DLNR and private landowners here to prevent bird / aircraft strike at PMRF by adoptive process of taking those eggs and adopting them to birds that need them up on the North Shore, it is a model. I am nationally publishing an article about that model here on Kaua'i this summer. The albatross is native here and it disappeared when people – because it was food as was their eggs. The first pair returned in 1979 the same time that Councilwoman Yukimura was on the first Council and I arrived. They have been able to gradually increase. We have about a hundred and fifty chicks right now, they are about two months old along the island of Kaua'i and hopefully all will fledge in about June or so. The coastal nesting property really is from Anahola to Princeville, that is basically fifteen miles of coastline that is a bit of a Noah's Ark for them, Midway is there main nesting colony but as you know Midway is at sea level when the Japanese Tsunami came through a year ago, it took two of the Midway islands went completely submerged and the other island got a five foot wave that came in and washed out two hundred and twenty thousand chicks. Kaua'i specially the North Shore of Kaua'i serves a bit of a Noah's Ark, we have coastal bluff, we have almost an absence of mongoose and we have people who care – almost an absence of mongoose, I hope we can say absence again. Those three elements make it possible for those native seabirds to have safe habitat, regular fencing that keeps out dogs which is their main predator and pigs will not help with cats. There are areas that have had albatross colonies historically that no longer do because of predation (inaudible) how many times the predation was from dogs, how many was from cats, how much was human encroachment but we have disappear colonies. They have a cultural significance, they are called moli, they are called “kane's bird” or the “great white albatross of Kane” and the “spirit of the high places of the wind” in Hawaiian stories. The bird is also considered an aumakua. Economic importance – I cannot under estimate the amount of people interested in bird watching now in the United States alone, an estimated of sixty-two million people call themselves birdwatchers and they dropped in 2006, thirty-six billion dollars into our economy to go bird watch. Kaua'i is the only place – the only assessable place, almost – well two places in the entire world that you can go and be up close with albatross. There are twenty-four species of albatross and most of them nest in remote islands that would be so hard to get to that no one could possibly get there, it is way off the coast of New Zealand, those kinds of places would be too uncomfortable to go to and too expensive and a lot of them you cannot go to them legally. But on the island of Kaua'i, you can go on a tour and go up close and personal with the birds, you can take a walk on Lepeuli or Larson's Beach, you can go to Kilauea Point and watch them fly by you at eye level, no other place in the world can you do this. Although there is a small colony on O'ahu...

Chair Furfaro:

You got your six minutes.

Ms. Osterlund: There about twenty chicks this year in Princeville, the private lands actually have – these last couple of years support a better survival then even the Kilauea Point for some reason we do not know but there are private lands that really matter. Basically, I would personally invite you, I got the okay from (inaudible) this morning to personally invite any or all of you to come on the tour, I guide that tour as a volunteer, I will take you on your very own special tour to go see these birds. They are extraordinary, they change your lives and here on Kaua'i is

really the only place these thirty-six billion dollars worth of money can be spent to come see albatross. I want to support the idea of Kaua'i as a bird watching destination and for your support in keeping the feral cats away from them.

Chair Furfaro: We will make an attempt after the budget process to contact you on a site visit.

Ms. Osterlund: The budget process is over when?

Chair Furfaro: Somewhere around – the whole process about May 15.

Ms. Osterlund: And May 15, I will take you out and you will see half grown chicks at that point.

Mr. Rapozo: I know we are really pressed for time but I got to ask you about your comment about the mongoose because you said almost, have you – the reason I asked is because my brother was running down by the Marriott and saw one about two weeks ago and he knew what he saw, it was not a rat or cat. So it is just coincidental that you bring that up today. I am getting concerned.

Ms. Osterlund: Me too.

Mr. Rapozo: So what do you know about the...

Ms. Osterlund: The Kaua'i Conservation Alliance who you all have met now had a meeting about that last week that I missed, so I did not get the update on that but I understand that there are some mongoose on Kaua'i. I do not know if it is two or a hundred, I hope it is two and that they are elderly and maybe a feral cat will get them.

Chair Furfaro: Do we have anyone else that wishes to testify?

MARSHA HARTER: I am a resident of Anahola and I submitted testimony which I believe you have and much of that was also discussed by Hob so I think I will just highlight a couple of points and then if you have any questions for me, please feel free to ask. My involvement with this issue has come about because of my interest of the albatross and I have been working with a small group of people who are supporting a landowner that is interested in reestablishing an albatross colony on their property that existed up until a few years ago and then through predation and perhaps some human encroachment is now gone and one of the – there is a large cat colony or there was a large cat colony in that area which is suspected to be part of the predation of the birds. I offered to – along with some others to help trap those feral cats. Just to give you a sense about how – in one month we trapped thirty cats and they ranged in age from a couple of months to quite mature cats, they were all obviously quite wild. I am not a veterinarian but did not look like in very good health. To give kudos to the Humane Society, I know that you do not often get them – everyone sees what you do not do and not what you do, do. They were incredibly supportive of our efforts. We would set the traps in the afternoon and they were covered and all the cats we caught during the night and in the morning we would call the Humane Society and they would come and pick up the trapped cats and take them to their facility in Puhi and euthanize them. We worked very efficiently together, they were incredibly responsive so I am just so grateful, we would not have been able to do that had it not been for the support that we had of the Humane Society. But just to give an impression about what that means for the bird life in the area, there are a lot of estimates out there about how many birds are killed by cats and it is not just the one they capture because cats have a lot of bacteria in their mouths and if they just even puncher a bird that still might survive, it usually ends to a bacterial infection. It is sort of a midrange estimate that one cat – free ranging cat

domestic or feral probably kills about a hundred birds a year. So in the time that I have trapped thirty cats, we figured that is twenty-seven hundred birds that were not killed or will not be killed because of feral cats this year. It is just an astounding number when you put it that way, so I wanted you to understand the ramifications of each feral cat and what on the environment. The other issue is that TNR – is projected as a solution to this problem but there really is not, there is so much mythology about TNR. First of all, if you feed cats you prevent them from killing and actually in the neuroanatomy of cats, the instinct for predator is quite separate from the instincts regarding hunger. A fully fed cat is going to prey on animals and hunt just as well as one that is not. Trap, neuter and release would reduce cat colonies, really there is just almost no evidence of trap, neuter and release programs around the United States that actually reduce colonies. I have sighted one in and probably the most dramatic one and that is such a carefully controlled and managed situation with so much money behind it. They have a full-time staff person and a part-time vet to take care of that colony. I think it is also important to consider that releasing feral cats – trap, neutering and then releasing for cats back into the wild is really in humane for those cats, their lifespan is less than five years whereas a cat that is in your home would probably live to fifteen or seventeen years on average. They have all kinds of diseases, not only diseases within the colony which colony is really good breeding ground for transmission for diseases because it is more concentrated but they also pass these diseases on to humans and to other mammals which can be quite critical health – a public health problem. For these multitude of reasons I really like to support the Humane Society's neutering and spay program but I do hope that you will consider this in any kind of funding that might be for supporting a feral cat or returning cats to the wild.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you very much. We do have your testimony and the statistical information you just gave us is in paragraph four and five of your testimony.

Ms. Harter: Yes it is and if you need the citations for that I am happy to provide that actual studies of which those numbers were based. Thank you. I also want to say thank you to all the Councilmembers, I know that you expend incredible amounts of time and on behalf of all of us on Kaua'i and I just really appreciate it.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you. Is there anyone that wishes to testify on this item? Please, come right up. Could someone call the Fire Department and tell them, we will not recess again till 1:45.

Ms. Wiley: We just had a couple of numbers for Makaala that Shannon was going to answer some of her questions.

Ms. Blizzard: In the first half of this fiscal year July through December, we have provided eighteen... one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four spay, neuter services. That means we are on track to do almost four thousand over the course of the year. Of that so far, of that eighteen – nineteen hundred that we have done so far, two hundred and fifty-two which is a small percent of those have been track to feral. I think they bring up some good points and as you know we have the SOS programs, so we are aware of the importance of predator control. I want to point out another statistic is that one un-spayed cat over the course of seven years, statistically is responsible for forty-two thousand birds and so to pull back on spay, neuter creates more cats to then threaten the birds. I think there is going to have to be some real shift in paradigm how we work together to address these issues and I am hoping to doing that. I also think we need to bring in the groups that focus on this particular work – this feral cat work that are actually doing the trapping, the neutering, and the returning or the management of the colonies and recognize that the Humane Society's role primarily with the exception of the few times we may have helped the community member out is really focused on the spay, neuter portion not the trap, neuter and return or management of those colonies. I also think that it is important to work together in this and come up with some ways that work for both groups and respect to maintaining the wildlife and the birds and

also not expecting the Kaua'i Humane Society to come in and act as exterminators for these cats. There are groups that we need to embrace and bring in to this conversation and that particular group is Kaua'i Feral's, I have spoken with them previous to this meeting and have discuss some alternative funding or revenue... let me say it again, because it is a small portion of the services the County provides and we do run it as a deficit in the spay/neuter program as you know and I am contracted not to be able to charge for those services. If we can adjust the contract, they are willing to pay some portion of those expenses as revenue so that it would no longer be any confusion about whether it is County money or not and take that conversation to the next level. We as a private organization could work out with them specifically and to address some of the concerns that folks gave testimony here today.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you, Shannon. Any questions of Shannon?

Ms. Yukimura: Thank you for the information that you just provided, can you give me that statistic again, one un-spayed cat over a period of?

Ms. Blizzard: Seven years.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Ms. Blizzard: Statistically they calculate forty-two thousand cats and...

Ms. Yukimura: Cats are produced?

Ms. Blizzard: Yes. Because in the breeding cycle for cats are typically seasonal, they are pregnant for nine weeks approximately so in a season, they can have two litters which are approximately are six cats. If all those cats are not spay and neutered, you see how the pyramid continues to expand. The impact either way we go it is measurable and is great and is important to recognize on both sides but I think we need to come up with a new solution rather than not spay and neutering that would increase the population of cats quickly and then be more damaging and dangerous for those birds as well. I welcome some of those conversations but again I just want to point out we are not actively participating in the trapping and returning management, we do provide a spay/neuter service for someone who is willing to claim ownership of those cats. We statistically know if they are feral, we deal with them so we account for that accurately in our records. It is on track to be about four hundred/five hundred over the four thousand we are going to do this year, so it is a small percentage but one worthy of noting.

Ms. Nakamura: Last year some time we were talking about the TRN program, one of the conversation that came out of it was the need to craft a solution for Kaua'i. There are a lot of groups, stakeholders involved and I believe we need to address this issue or it is only going to get worst. I would like to be looking at funding a process to bring the stakeholders together and to craft the Kaua'i solution because I do not think we can wait for the State or anyone else to solve it for us. I just was wondering whether you would be willing to be a participant in that discussion?

Ms. Blizzard: I absolutely be willing to participate in that discussion and I was saying to the women that gave testimony, a few of them outside that we need to work together. We both have reasonable compassion and passion about what we are doing and if we can come with some level of respect and meet with each other and respect for each other's positions, I think we can get farther than just saying kill the cats or no, do not kill the cats. But we need to have the right people at the table for the discussion and as we mentioned the Kaua'i Humane Society cannot be all things to all – just because we are animal related – we need to bring other groups in to this. Yes, I would be happy to participate and have some suggestion to bring to the table as well.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you very much for your presentation today. We will stay in touch on your review of your contract when I get together with Finance and Legal Department.

The budget review was recessed at 12:45 p.m.

The departmental budget reviews reconvened on April 9, 2012 at 1:46 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Councilmember Kualii (*present 1:50 p.m.*)
Councilmember Yukimura: (*present 1:49 p.m.*)

Excused: Councilmember Bynum

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Chair Furfaro: Mr. Bynum will be absent for the rest of the day. Both Councilmember's Kualii as well as Council Vice Chair Yukimura will be joining us shortly but we have a long way to go today and as long as I have four members, we can begin the process. I will turn the floor over to you, Chief. Chief, is this an amendment to your original?

ROBERT WESTERMAN, Fire Chief: Yes, Chair. I apologize I did find some errors. The corrections are on page four and five but the way I had to print it so that you could put it in your booklets for replacements.

Chair Furfaro: I did not want you to redo the whole book.

Mr. Westerman: Right.

Chair Furfaro: So if you could reference us, we will go to those points. The floor is yours.

Mr. Westerman: Aloha and thank you for your service, we really appreciate that and I would also like to thank all the members of the Kauai Fire Department for another successful year and all the sacrifices they have made to make a difference and to make it happen. I would also like to dedicate this year's presentation to one of our members, who passed away shortly after retiring still in the prime of life. Let me start my budget briefing with a quote from Charles Darwin – we must never allow those things that matter most to be at the mercy of those things that matter least. I have to admit I am guilty of that sometimes, you can just ask my kids. They kind of remind me of that.

What I am going to do today is allow our bureau Chief's as you see we have quite a group in the audience. I also have additional personnel in the audience today and this is part of my succession planning effort and a little later on I will explain it in more detail. Each will brief their bureaus as we move along. I am not yet into page one of your budgets; this is just my overall brief. As we review the budget you will see that with less cash in hand, we have to make a difference on which programs or make decisions on which programs we will continue to operate and the long term effects of those in our community. Before we start let me help explain the budget and to further explain our needs and reducing the risk to our community and reducing the risk to our fire fighters and how those reductions reduce that in turn reduces the liability to the County of Kauai. Please at anytime you can stop us at anytime, we would like this to be an open discussion back and forth about our budget and the same with any of the bureau Chiefs. Today, baby boomers are seventy-five million strong and of the three hundred six million populations today and every seven point one seconds another member joins that society, they turn age seventy. They are twenty-four percent of our population, the largest demographic group in ever in the history of the United States. They are living longer, living longer than the silent generation by more than fifteen years and are the most demanding and educated people on earth. They grew up with Woodstock, Apple, IBM, Microsoft and John F. Kennedy. They used to say ask not what your country can do for you but what you can do for your country. Today they are saying and demanding that we want government to do for us and to do it right now. Just read your local newspaper, listen to any talk radio station or read the blogs, it

runs rapid on the internet every day and they want to know why government is failing yet they demand small government. The old saying of have your cake and eat it too comes to mind. They are going to expect that when they call 911 that they get immediate gratification and if they do not, we will definitely hear about it and I am sure you get plenty of those calls because I know we do. If you think the extras are the most plugged in, think again. They are just techno geeks talking to each other. The boomers are against increase in taxes for education because most of their kids are in their fifty's and their grandkids are in their thirties. They are going to demand services that fit their needs. They want improved and immediate medical response and facilities, increase senior programs, and increase bus services just to name a few. Then add our normal population changes and the national legislative reforms and the magnitude of the challenges, only increase. When establishing community priorities both the challenges and opportunities it presents, there is a call for open and honest dialog with the public. The Fire Department is and must be a contributor to the community's wellbeing and economic recovery. I think we will show that in our message today. For the Kaua'i fire service seventy percent of our responses are for medical needs and most of them are seniors living at home. We must plan for the future and how we will serve this population not at the expense of others but in concert with the rest. At age sixty-five they are sixty percent more likely to get burned in the home or have increase incidence of fires, at seventy-five they are seven percent more likely and eighty-five they are eight percent more likely. Forty-six percent of non-confined residential building fire extends beyond the room of origin. The leading cause of these fires are electrical malfunctions, sixteen percent unintentional or careless acts, fifteen percent, intentional twelve percent and open flame eleven percent. We had a lot of those open flames candles fires on Kaua'i. Smoke alarms were not present in twenty-one percent of the larger none confined fires in occupational residence. Most building detectors were installed when the home was built, if you remember, in the 70s we had a big push to get smoke alarms in homes. Well today, those homes are still here, most of the smoke alarms are still there and about fifty percent of them do not even have batteries in them because they have gone bad and never been replaced. Active community outreach is needed to reduce these incidences of none working smoke detectors. More education programs are needed and are proposed in the budget.

Kaua'i fire loses, sixteen fires in 2011. Residential structural fires resulting in over five point seven, five, five million dollars in property lost and one loss of life in the late hours with no smoke detectors. The national death rate for structural fire is about point six percent, on Kaua'i it is seven point six percent and of our loss of five point seven, five, five million that is three hundred and sixty-six thousand dollars average per fire. Our rate is a little bit higher because we have fewer fires to mark that against – but still it is still a fairly high rate.

We receive over twenty letters of commendation last year for the men and women of the department from every single bureau. Comments as simple as “Chief the men and women really look sharp in their new uniform” not knowing of course – we also made sure that those uniforms were NFPA compliant station wear. They look sharp but they also were purchased to reduce injury or the risk of injury of fire on the job. Thanks to the new Kaiākea station, my insurance went down by half because it is within five miles of the fire station, not realizing that this also helps us get closer to compliance with the national standards of response times. An amount of personnel on a fire within five minutes. Of course this is a reflection of the Council and Administration support of the Fire Department. The support of community cannot be higher as shown in the support of the first (inaudible) concert as a fundraiser for the Ocean Safety Bureau last year. Community feel empowered and wants to support these events. These events also help us to hold down budgets and to reduce the risk of community and our water safety officers. But let us talk about ninety-nine percent. No we are not talking about occupy Kaua'i ninety-nine percent movement. The fire budget last year in 2011, we spent ninety-nine point nine, nine percent of the our budget and out of twenty million dollars to expand all the way down to ninety thousand dollars was a challenge. Yes it is commendable but how can we possibly be that close. We did not come without issues. Issues of fire fighter safety when we reduced our staffing below three of our minimum four. This means that we

responded to fifteen fewer fires than eighty percent of the time with the required minimum to do an immediate search and rescue for a trapped resident. Or it meant that we did so without the mandated two in two out rules and has it fully deployed. I know it is difficult to understand that even though fire and fire rescues are less than one percent of our daily work, it is the most costly due to equipment and time for training.

Chair Furfaro: Excuse me, Chief, for members that have not been with us all this time, the two and two response, I thought we were very close to achieving that ninety-nine percent of the time?

Mr. Westerman: Yes sir, we really are. The Kaiākea station actually went along way to supporting that. The trick of course in explaining it briefly is that it takes about fifteen fire fighters, seven and a half minutes to do the twenty-one basic task in fighting a fire and we will talk about that a little bit later on. But the two in and two out rule is getting enough fire fighters on the scene within the first five minutes so that we have two fire fighters to go into to do a rescue and two fire fighters fully outfitted with their SCBA's and the (inaudible) to do a rescue on the outside. Yes, we are pretty close to that thanks to the safer program helped us getting the additional fire fighters on the Kaiākea stations.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you for that clarity, Chief.

Mr. Chang: SCBA?

Mr. Westerman: Self Containing Breathing Apparatus. We also reduced our inspection cycles, we reduced our training significantly and by doing this we placed rescuers at higher risk by training less in our most critical areas such as diving and flying and we will talk about how we want to address that in the budget this year. Fire fighting and policing remains the most stressful jobs, according to a recent report fire fighters continue to be one of the most professional, stressful professions, second only to in listed military soldiers and rounding up the top five are airline pilots number three, military is number four and of course our police officers number five. Our dangerous work environment is one obvious factors contributing to the (inaudible). In 2011, the US on duty fire fighter fatalities actually was reduced for the first time below a hundred per year. In Hawai'i 2012, we had one on duty fire fighter death. We had reduced the national and annual fire fighter on duty deaths to under a hundred but still the number one killer is heart attacks. Kaua'i Fire has had two fire fighters have heart attacks while working or at home within the two years, so you will notice an increase in our annual physical budget, this year to do more in-depth and thorough testing. We hope to find the problems before they are one and to get them healthy hereby reducing the risk to the firemen, the community and the County. Without further ado, I will turn over to Deputy John Blalock and we will talk about our overall operating budget for the Fire Department.

JOHN BLALOCK: Thank you, Chief. Chair Furfaro and Councilmembers, for the record John Blalock, Deputy Fire Chief, Kaua'i Fire Department. I will be discussing our operating budget for the Kaua'i Fire Department. Our overall budget will show a five point one, four increase over last year but like you heard in many departments so far, one point two million of the one million are salaries and benefits. If I break this down even further, two percent or roughly two hundred thousand is due to safer grant. What happens with the safer grants as we move into year three and year four, the County absorbs more of the responsibility of the cost that we initially were afforded. Over the five years that we will have this grant, we will have a savings of over one point five million to the County. Our largest dollar increase is our benefits, social security, health fund, retirement system, workmen comp, unemployment, and (inaudible). The line item is a thirteen percent increase over last year and is one million dollars increase. Our largest percentage increase in salaries is CBA items or overtimes, premiums, mileage, equipment allowances, annual physical,

drug screen and vacation payout. Which amounts to a twenty-two percent increase or roughly four hundred thousand. This also includes for the first time a fifty thousand dollar increase for vacation payouts. In the training bureau we have pushed and pulled training because of cuts and budget and as we try to manage our budget over the last two years, this year the training budget has increased by ninety-three thousand which is a thirty-six percent increase over 2012 and again this is playing catch up when we tried to push things into back years and try to catch up into coming years as we move and which fiscal year that we conduct the training in. Over time cost has also increased over last year about two hundred thousand. Currently, we are not able to maintain staffing levels as Chief has touched on eighty percent of the time, with the overtime dollars that have been budgeted. This year we are trying to be better prepared as we maintained the minimum levels. If you take a look at the graph there our operating budget is actually only ten percent of the overall budget which equates to two point four million. Twelve percent or three hundred thousand of that is due to training, next we pay eight percent or two hundred thousand to utilities and out of the twenty-seven percent, sixty-four thousand goes to equipment leases and that leaves us about fifty-two percent of that original ten percent, one point three million to apply to the rest of the bills like gas, oil, paper, daily supplies, oxygen, medical supplies and vehicle repairs. As we had in the past we have continued to seek grant funding from many of our sources, we have received over one million dollars in grants over the last year and over six and a half million in the last five years. Some of the examples, we have a hundred and thirty thousand that we received this year for fire educational trailer, we had two hundred fifty thousand that we been awarded from the state to help fund Kē'e Beach lifeguards, we received another ninety-six thousand from the Forestry and Wildlife to help with fires and even part of that money, twenty-two thousand was used for helicopter training. We have receive over five hundred thousand from FEMA grants and another hundred fifty thousand from Homeland Security to assist with our training with the (inaudible) CST – Civil Support Team. The Civil Support Team was so impressed with our personnel that they were also invited to participate in the Maui training and also traveled to Colorado to assist in a training there that covered the "X" games.

Let me talk about some of the successes and achievements that we have come up this year. To better manage our personnel and resources and to minimize multiple inputs and the time associated with those extra actions we are moving to use our RMS – records management system to its full potential. We started to use our daily log book to help duplicate functions at the stations. We also use it to do daily staffing, timekeeping and to manage our time sheets. Hopefully one day to integrate it into the County system. Fire Prevention and line personnel has improved their grant writing capabilities by taking more classes and also attending the National fire academy to help us with grant management. These again, all help us as we try to manage our budget.

The prevention bureau also has been with the Mayor's communication team to put out important safety messages such as the Kaua'i Family Magazine. Some of our upcoming initiatives, as you can see we are currently in our new Head Quarters which we will be adding a backup EOC – Emergency Operating Center and an alternative dispatch. This will help us to do maintenance work on the dispatch, test systems and allow for cleaning without allowing a break in services.

Chair Furfaro: Before you go any further, on the redundancy for the Emergency Backup there was a discussion earlier here at the Council as our (inaudible) level used to be the redundant backup for emergency services, do you have an idea of when this facilities will be complete with the backups and the 911 emergency calls, are we talking a hundred and twenty day, are we talking six months, do you have an idea?

Mr. Blalock: Currently like I said we are in the process and the procurement process of some of the units that we are going to have there. Currently, we are going to be housing Purchasing for a time being about a hundred and twenty days in that space but again

there is some lag time between when we get the equipment procured to occupy the spaces that we do have there. I am looking at six months and maybe longer than that.

Chair Furfaro: All of the funding for the completion for that is in place now and will be encumbered by the end of June, do you know?

Mr. Westerman: Chair, if I may, yes, this is both police and fire initiative, not just fire initiative. The alternative dispatch center which was built in as part of our renovation of the Piikoi space.

Chair Furfaro: Part of Fire Department's renovation, right?

Mr. Westerman: Right, a part of Fire Department's renovation space. Their funding is secured through the department of Homeland Security grant, they are currently at a position where they are waiting on an environmental study for FEMA to release those funds. Our money is either in budget or is also in what we can get in the Homeland Security grant and again is waiting on the environmental study. We kind of had the things bought but the problem was FEMA has changed their rules for these grants, that you have to have environmental studies so if you are not just purchasing equipment which we kind of felt that is what it was because it is attached to a building – they have to do this study. That is being done and should be accomplished fairly soon but the deputy's estimates is about right, we are estimating six months. It was decided as we went through this process of building or remodeling the emergency – the Piikoi Building for Fire that there was space to do that. Police have expressed an interest that they needed an alternate dispatch location, so it kind of worked out – they were willing give up the space that they needed for that. It was an ongoing thing and so it was all done as part of the renovation cost, it was all put in the renovation cost. The other thing that was not done yet is the backup generator.

Chair Furfaro: That is the one I am looking for.

Mr. Westerman: Well there is one currently and it works. And it worked this weekend actually it came on when...

Chair Furfaro: Was it the one that they took out of this building?

Mr. Westerman: No sir, this one has been there for a while. It was there... because it used to be the dispatch – down stairs used to be Police Dispatch so it is there but they are sizing it larger so as the facility grows, they are putting in a bigger one for future growth, current growth and future growth. Six months is probably where we think we are.

Chair Furfaro: I am more concern about the generator. Do you know if they replaced the new one, if there is going to be any salvage credit going to the project for the smaller one or if the smaller one is rescheduled to come back to this building, do you know?

Mr. Westerman: Sir, I do not know. You would have to ask Doug Haigh that question.

Chair Furfaro: Okay, he is coming up soon.

Mr. Westerman: I really do not have the answer to that but like I said – this one has been there. This generator that is there currently has been there for many years.

Mr. Rapozo: Just so you know that the one that was here has been gone for many years too.

Chair Furfaro: That is the one that is over there. I almost think it because we do not have any disposal records of our generator and there is no salvage credits, so it had to go somewhere.

Mr. Westerman: Right. We would have to let Doug answer that question.

Mr. Rapozo: My question was more of a clarification because I think there was some confusion, there is an alternative dispatch and there is an alternate EOC and I think we might be getting confused. The alternate dispatch is self explanatory it is just a whole other console where in the event something happens at the building, they can mobilize the dispatchers to another location and they can operate 911 and so forth. But the EOC is the one we had the discussion this morning and I think you are talking about an alternate dispatch, you are not talking about an alternate...

Mr. Westerman: Well I was talking about both actually, I apologize.

Chair Furfaro: I got that impression this morning, ultimately you were going to be both.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: But we will continue to probe Mr. Haigh.

Mr. Rapozo: So your space where you are relocating has enough space for an alternate dispatch as well as an alternate EOC?

Mr. Westerman: Yes and we designed the facility so that actually our big training room space is going to be the alternate EOC as it be co-located with the alternate dispatch and since we are making sure that there was back up power for the alternate dispatch – it kind of all fit together, why even create an even third space. They asked me if I can give up the training for those kinds of events, well, of course if we have a significant event that the EOC is down and we need an alternate EOC, I am not going to be doing any training, so to use that room we kind of changed the scope a little bit to change the size of the room and put in the technology so that we can make it an alternate EOC also.

Mr. Rapozo: And that is about six months out?

Mr. Westerman: It is about six months out and I apologize that we did not get the full story to everybody sooner. It would kind of work its way through the system and it became what it is. As the deputy exposed, we are not going to even be able to use the space for about six months because Purchasing is going to move up into that space since we do not have the electronics yet to put in it and use it for their temporary office while they remodel their facilities downstairs. That is six months.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, you have answered our questions... We do have a space planner onboard, we will be sending a separate communication after budget over to the administration. We wanted to be sure that we were in concert when we talked about the redundancy of the emergency facilities as well as 911 and you are only affirming to us that the information that we got from Civil Defense this morning is being worked into your plans.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: And I think we are good with that at this point.

Mr. Blalock: Another initiative that we will be coming up this year is our CADS systems which is Computer Aided Dispatching System that would allow our fire fighters really up to date things – they will be coming around the corner and we will be providing them with pre-fire plans, pictometry imaging, record management system, high speed internet also command post and communications for those. Part of this package also is our communications van which some of you have seen and we have utilized it a couple times in some of our incidences which was purchased with a public safety grant. This will enhance the command and control that we will have at both scenes here. Another one of our initiatives that we have done – to help hold down cost is that we continually as part of our organization we have asks for excess properties to help with managing our resources as a fire service. We have again requested and will be receiving – I think we have sent a communication into you folks – I do not know if it's there yet but we did send letters in to receive excess property of water tender to help us with water supply in areas that water is limited. We have also have been in dialog with the Honolulu Fire Department to receive one of their older water tenders which would again give the capacity to bring water to areas that is limited in water. We have also utilized a student from KCC to help us with data input and again to no cost to the County. It is a win/win for both of us as far as the student, she has some skill sets that she would be using to apply on top of her resume and it helps us as far as data input along with the prevention bureau. As referred to earlier, we talked about realignment and relocation plan for the ocean safety bureau and it will help us to better manage the ocean safety bureau. This would probably be a reoccurring theme throughout this presentation. Part of it is getting an ocean safety bureau in prevention and public education, so again education, education, as we go through this and as we try to better serve the community here. Kalani Vierra will be attending the National Conference in Miami and see Presidential approval for a National Beach Safety Week. Again, this year we have no large capital equipment items on the budget, although we do have some small vehicles on the budget that we are seeking approval for, for replacement.

Chair Furfaro: On that note, are we going to be getting separately, I know that the ten years I have been on the Council, we have aggressively tried to have a replacement schedule for your main equipment as well as having maybe two of the trucks – the tankers, in reserve but will we be getting an aging inventory of your equipment even though you do not show any major replacements, will we be getting that Chief?

Mr. Westerman: Yes, it is attached at the very end. You are absolutely right. We actually have – our two spares are significantly older vehicles and next year starting in budget, you will see that we are going to replace one because we have a lease falling off and so we want to pick up the next one as the lease comes on so the budget stays steady. The year after that 2014 budget or then 2015 budget, we will be requesting another one replacement so that way our in service reserve vehicles are not so agent that they become pretty much worthless and it is kind of the situation almost that we are in now. We put a lot of time and money and energy to keep the two reserves we have plus they also use them for training and we will identify that later on in the budget also.

Chair Furfaro: Between pages twenty-three and twenty-five, is your aging inventory.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: And I want to make sure I confirm, as we had fall off on one lease, you will see on 2014 we will be starting a new lease as such.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: That is the schedules on pages twenty-three through twenty-five?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: Thank you.

Mr. Blalock: Again, part of our vehicle replacement at least on our smaller vehicles, again, we have used some grant funding to help us with the replacement on that. Some of the challenges that we will be looking at this year is number one, community risk reduction – that is our number one priority and again firefighter risk reduction is our number two premise as we go through these challenges. As you have heard part of our problems that we look at again is staffing and staffing levels, trying to stay with seventeen, ten at the national standards that we are at. That also relates to staffing within our administration staff, again we have had a dollar funded clerk that we have had for four years and we continue to ask for the Clerk's position.

Chair Furfaro: Let me ask you on the staffing issues because in my entire ten years on this Council, this Council has never pinched the Fire Department, so I just want to make sure you understand that if there was something on your wish list you did not get, I do not think it came from this Council. How many vacancies do you currently have – non-administrative?

Mr. Westerman: Non-administrative - we have two firefighter vacancies.

Chair Furfaro: And what is your hope of filling those? Are we recruiting classes from KCC?

Mr. Westerman: The issue with...

Mr. Blalock: Chair, when we look at filling vacancies and part of it when we asked last year is that we did – part of it was tied to the safer grant. We could not fall on the minimum level.

Chair Furfaro: Understood.

Mr. Blalock: So what we did last year, we asked for – we always had three dollar funded firefighter positions. We went ahead and funded and hired those positions that are kind of our saving grace right now.

Chair Furfaro: From the grants?

Mr. Blalock: From the grants.

Chair Furfaro: And the grant was a three year period that depleted itself and we are almost out, right? So what is our plan now?

Mr. Blalock: Well we are still in it. We are in year four of it but again what we did is that because we hired the dollar funded position, it not an urgency that I need to go ahead and hire one firefighter within the ninety day period because we went ahead and done that. We did our homework and looking at that – we would be covered. Again, when we looked at two firefighter position, it is not conducive or effective or efficient for us to do a class of two. We are probably going to look and see what happens through attrition and through the end of the year and

then with that coming up we will look at again maybe doing a class of five or something like that. That is where we are at right now.

Chair Furfaro: Now I understand what you are doing for the firefighter positions. Of the eighteen positions that have been presented to us in the overall budget, are we filling the vacancy in your clerical spot?

Mr. Westerman: No.

Chair Furfaro: Okay, you have answered my question. That is something for us to look at down the line but that is one clerical position, am I right Chief?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: Okay, thank you. I am sorry to interrupt you but I have to take off at 2:30.

Mr. Blalock: No, that is fine. It gives me a break to catch my breath.

Chair Furfaro: I am sure you have a truck downstairs with oxygen.

Mr. Blalock: We are requesting again and it is something that we looked down are two AC positions. Again for us if you even look at us nationally, we really are top light. Prior to Chief coming in there was just Chief and BCs and Captains level. I have come into a position I think that has afforded us and when we look at it, it has been a good thing but again we still need that mid-management level because of things falling through and everything becomes reprioritize so as far as meeting deadlines and accreditation, acceptable standards of coverage, thing like that, we really need to assign somebody and have the accountability to place it to someone in that position is kind of what we are asking for. Without the AC's – accreditation will be put on hold and we will probably taken off our goals for next year. AC – Assistant Chiefs. We are looking at Assistant Chief of Administration and Assistant Chief of Operations.

Chair Furfaro: But, why would you be taking it off your goals?

Mr. Blalock: Well what I am saying is that when we look at what we need and the resources we need as far as accreditation goals, we might be looking – if we cannot achieve it, we will probably looking at to take it off our goals because it puts on the waste side, it is not prioritized.

Chair Furfaro: I guess what I am saying is that I would like the department to keep that on their goals and objectives and we are not limiting to just what we can accomplish in the next twelve months, let us look at the long term big picture and if that is something that is valuable to our accreditation, then we should not be holding it off year by year. It should stay in your narrative and it should be something that is on the wish list but at the same time, it has a little reach in it but it is obtainable. That is where we want to be.

Mr. Blalock: Again, thank you, Chair. It is something that Chief and I have discussed many times again in looking at our strategic plan and again presenting like you are saying even if the wish list but we need to plot out where we are going and how we are proceeding as a department. I appreciate that comment from you. It is something that we decided purposely to have in and continually to ask for the AC positions.

Chair Furfaro: I would ask you to continue to keep it in your narrative and obviously it is a goal and it has some reach in it but we should know that it is part of the overall accreditation plan for the department.

Mr. Rapozo: Chief, the two Assistant Chief's that you are requesting are – do they show up in the budget anywhere?

Mr. Westerman: No.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. So, you are asking us?

Mr. Westerman: No. We have already worked through the Administration and like what the Chair had said, we still need to keep this visible to everybody that we need this in order to move forward for certain programs. It is not that we cannot provide the service tomorrow without the AC's that is not the issue. The issue is that if we want to continue to grow and improve the quality of service to receive accreditation and to manage programs and reduce the risk and manage the programs or increasing programs that is just not enough senior level management in the department to do that. We cannot grow beyond where we are and actually I have turned down a couple of things that the Administration provided for me in the budget because I cannot manage it. It is okay to buy all the equipment in the world but if I do not have firefighters to drive the equipment, that is one thing. I can find enough firefighters to drive the equipment but if I cannot manage it safely, then that is where I have to say this is all we can do and we cannot provide anymore service than this. Now, if we want to go the next step, this is what we need and that is what we are identifying. We need the Assistant Chief in Operations to help us with that we have a couple programs that we would like to move forward, accreditation being one – Assistant Chief for the Administration the same way. And I am sure you know what that management level does for us...

Mr. Rapozo: And I do Chief but I am reading your second bullet on challenges and it says two things, we are requesting an additional clerk over four years ago and we continue to request and then the second part is that we have requested additional senior staff for years and are requesting two Assistant Chiefs in order to bring order to the department. I just cannot find any in the budget itself.

Mr. Westerman: Exactly and like what the Chair has said we need to continue to put that request forward and eventually the Administration will...

Chair Furfaro: Keep it on the radar screen. It is a long term continuity quest.

Mr. Westerman: And I am confident as maybe the economy turns around and there is a little bit more money that maybe the Administration will see that in order for us to push forward, that they will agree to that. We have had that conversation with the Mayor personally earlier today, we did discuss it some more and he has a good understanding of what it is that we want and what our desires are and I am sure some time in the next year or so, we will move forward with one if not two.

Mr. Rapozo: And you are losing a senior clerk?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: That is in the budget. You said you are requesting an additional clerk but in essence you are losing one?

Mr. Westerman: Well, that was a dollar funded position, it was never filled.

Mr. Rapozo: The one that is being removed?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Or taken away?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, Councilmember Nakamura has a related question and then after that we need to take a tape change.

Ms. Nakamura: Chief, what would be in your opinion the tangible benefits of accreditation?

Mr. Westerman: Well the very first that comes to mind is the safety of the firefighters. When we establish as part of the accreditation to establish accreditation, it is like a self inspection program and you assess what you have done and how you are doing it and you then evaluate it against nationally excepted standards even local standards. You evaluate them so that you can see whether or not you are doing them more safely – more safely as you can be. If you are not, it identifies that and that reduces your risk. To me, I always say if we can reduce the risk we can knock off a zero and we are not prepared, one of the first things that if we have an accident, oceans inspectors will ask us – they want to see our training records, for example. Accreditation – make sure we are training our individual's right and we are training against the standard and that we are doing it routinely and we are doing it like we are supposed to. That is kind of what accreditation is all about – how we are doing it, are you doing it based on a standard somewhere and do you continue to do that? Not, penciling it in and putting it on the shelf someplace.

Ms. Nakamura: It is really a risk management too.

Mr. Westerman: It is a risk management, yes.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, on that note, we are going to take a tape change.

There being no objections, the Council recessed at 2:27 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 2:37 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Mr. Kualii: Aloha Chief and Deputy. I am a little overwhelmed by what you had to present and it just tells me how much you guys have to do – it is a big job. I heard what you said about this – because we had quarterly reports from Human Resources and I was going to ask about those positions that you talked about specifically about the senior clerk and it being vacant on this report at least since April 1, 2009 and that Human Resources reports is as not recruiting nor request received. Obviously, you can initiate recruitment or a request if there is no funding and it is still showing as a dollar funded position. In the case of these two firefighter three positions, is that the two positions you were talking about?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Mr. Kualii: 711 and 774. So again, one of them was showing as effective date 11-1-11 and it says applications are being reviewed – County funded and then the other one effective 12-31-12, so more recent and same thing applications are being reviewed – County funded.

So in both cases it is County funded but it is because of the grant you talked about that was a three year grant but it was in its fourth year, it was still – got an extension for one year?

Mr. Westerman: No the two positions that are open are funded. It is just that at this point in time it is not feasible to run a recruit class.

Mr. Kualii: Oh okay.

Mr. Westerman: What they are indicating there is that we are going through the promotion process and some recent months here to promote firefighters to those firefighter three positions. Then it will be firefighter's positions that reflect on DPS – Department of Public Service.

Mr. Kualii: When the Mayor talked about the eighteen dollar funded positions that he is going to fund or proposing to fund and he funded them at eight months because he was allowing time for recruitment. In fact these positions if they are fully funded and they are not being recruited and not being filled and there is some lag to when it can be so – for whatever the fund reason, the size of the class or whatever, that would free up some funding to pay for the senior clerk.

Mr. Westerman: I guess I am confused. We have five positions in the Fire Department that are not filled right now. Two of them are the firefighters three and they are fully funded and the choice is mine not to staff them currently.

Mr. Kualii: And a wise choice if we can run a class of two.

Mr. Westerman: Two of them are water safety officers which we are in the recruitment, we actually we have done the interviews and everything and our water safety supervisor is getting ready to present a possible list for me to review for hiring. The fifth position is the dollar funded senior clerk position and that is one July will move to Department of Human Resources.

Mr. Kualii: But on that position it is dollar funded.

Mr. Westerman: Right.

Mr. Kualii: And it is (inaudible) to Human Resources as of December 31, 2001, not recruiting or request received.

Mr. Westerman: Right because there was no funding, so I cannot...

Mr. Kualii: I thought that perhaps when you were saying that those two firefighter's positions are not being filled but the funds were there but now you could use those funds to fill those...

Mr. Westerman: Oh, I see what you are saying. There is some dynamic there. The first one is I would probably get a complaint from the union using one union salary's to pay for different union positions. The second one is because they are not there, I now incur overtime cost for people because we have to staff a certain level every day, so that funding is not readily available. Maybe part of it is but the full funding is not readily available. Yes, I understand what you are saying.

Mr. Kualii: Okay. So the positions may be vacant and not recruited for yet but the funding is still being used to fill with other bodies and TA, overtime?

Mr. Westerman: Absolutely.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, on the matter on payroll, I did a summary for the Administration after six months and the under amount for fire department for six months, you are actually including the added overtime. You were about fifty thousand seven hundred dollars still under budget.

Mr. Westerman: That is good, that is close.

Chair Furfaro: That is a little good news there. That was through the period that Mr. Kualii is referring to through December, about fifty thousand seven hundred dollars under budgeted for six months.

Ms. Yukimura: I have a lot of questions but will we...

Chair Furfaro: Why don't we let you start.

Ms. Yukimura: Are we now in questions? We are done with the presentation?

Chair Furfaro: I do not think we are done with the presentation, we still have one more deputy to speak. Do you have anything that came up in the narrative thus far because the Chief overrode my rules where I let him make a whole presentation but he said stop us anytime you want and that was his roll of the dice.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, two questions then. Could you give us an organizational chart?

Mr. Westerman: Sure. That can be provided.

Ms. Yukimura: And then just on the tangible benefits of accreditation and follow up to Councilmember Nakamura's question, I was a little bit puzzled that safety would be... I mean I know there can be improved safety but surely we must already have safety addressed?

Mr. Westerman: Well yes but are we doing it right and are we doing it consistently and are we documenting it? That is what the rest of the program is. We have SOG's that say this is...

Ms. Yukimura: SOG's are?

Mr. Westerman: Standard Operating Guidelines, I am sorry.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: We have some standard and general operating guidelines that tell us a basic approach in how to do most of every function that we have and that has a lot of safety built into it. When you write it, you are done and are we practicing them routinely and are we documenting that we are doing it and then if we find problems with that and it that is the second part of the accreditation is the reaccreditation every five years. Are you updating them and making sure that you have now changed the way you are doing business? An example is they say you should put compressor form on our fires and now we do. As you learn technology through the years and things get better, do we change the way we are doing business that is part of the accreditation and reaccreditation process.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. Before we spend money for accreditation if our training as you say on page three of your presentation that we have not kept up with required certification and mandatory training, there seems to be an implementation here that we are in a catch up mode, it just seems like we should be really working on those things first before we go into the even finer areas of excellence. What I hear you saying and I have always supported accreditation for this very reason is that you reach higher level of excellence of performance, that is what I understood it accreditation to do in some respects. If we are not meeting our basic standards, I would prefer look at funding that first.

Mr. Westerman: And thus the increase in the budget this year and that statement come from the last three years of reduced budgets. As we started to reduce budgets, if I remembered at about two years ago, we tried to do as much as we could in the 2009 budget, to spend as much training money as we can to get all the certifications and qualifications pulled backwards, to get them updated. Because the budget was reduced, there is less money to do that. We pushed what we can push in a two year cycle off to the next year. And then in the next year you are only doing the very basic, the eleven budget and now again in the twelve budget as you saw, we spent ninety-nine percent of the money and still some things did not get refreshed that should have gotten refreshed since skills sets. But the most critical task stick and now in this year's budget we are saying look we have some things that need to get done, some certifications and re-certifications, qualifications that just simply have to get done. We are stretching, like you said we are stretching the envelope, absolutely. You are right... that is another thing with accreditation it tells you are you doing your training right? It evaluates your training program. What is falling off the plate, what are you not getting done? Are you being able to maintain your own standard that you set because accreditation is not always somebody else's standard. When you do your first accreditation you set your standard, what are you and your community willing to accept as the standard for your community? What level of service do we want? Do we want level four and we get there within a minute and we have fifteen fire trucks and a hundred people or do we get there in level one and we might show up sometime tomorrow? The accreditation process helps us set that level.

Ms. Yukimura: That actually addresses another question that arose in my head, are we trying to reach national standards that are applied to big cities and so forth when we are a rural area. I like that idea that we set our own standards because we are a very spread out community too and we have used Davis California before, they have two fire stations or whatever and we have six for the same population but because of the way we are set up. Hopefully, we will address some of that with our land use planning as well. Coming back to the training, in looking at your training program you have stretched it and now you need to address the basics, is that what it is – the basics?

Mr. Westerman: A good example of that is that we took some of the training money this year and we sent one of our firefighters out to get some special certifications and qualifications as a rescue diver instructor because we were lacking in maintaining that level of skill with our divers which is one of our most technical critical skills for our rescue firemen. We put the extra money into it this year because it reduces our cost in the future because if we do not have that skill in-house, we have to pay for that skill somewhere else. That means that we send a lot of firemen that are divers to get that skill or we bring multiple instructors over and consistently pay that. That is kind of what I meant how we push and pull and where we can make the savings in the program that makes it more beneficial in the long run.

Ms. Yukimura: This is my last follow up question. When you train in diving, are it just the people who are involved in diving rescues or is it the whole department? Is it all your firefighters?

Mr. Westerman: Well the diving, no...

Mr. Blalock: Councilmember Yukimura, I hear your questions and as far as what you are asking, they are because we have a rescue unit, there are a lot of specialty training that they have but even along with that there almost like an awareness (inaudible) type of training, it is not a rescue diver training which is higher up but we have firefighters that have (inaudible) in case they need to get in, they are not in a rescue dive mode but they also can go in as far as with the (inaudible) certification. A little bit of the push/pull things, I know you are a little bit worried about if we are letting certification lapse, we are not letting certification lapse, fiscal years and calendar years it does not line up and then generally what it is – for some of it certification and a refresher year and certification year, so it goes in two year cycles, not in everything but in some situations we can do that. As far as the refresher year versus a certification year, so that is how we manage some of those areas. We are not letting things fall but how we manage it is partly part of our job here and the training captains job in how we manages those training cycles.

Ms. Yukimura: My question though, I hear what you are saying and I have confidence that you are watching the basic certification so that the base of skills are not lost, it is just that are you also giving it out to others who do not really need it but it might be nice for them to have it? That is my question.

Mr. Westerman: No, we do not...

Ms. Yukimura: Are you giving your dive team the certification they need but then opening up the training to anybody else who wants it. It is a question about how you are using the training moneys.

Mr. Westerman: Right and we do not do that. We train to the level that we need to have the people available. We do not just say it is the rescue crew because the rescue crew could be two people that day, so we might have other firemen or firefighter three's that are in the department, that are in another station that are trained in that level. They maintain that skill set for a while and an advantage or disadvantage in that what you are talking about – an example is that we might have young rescue man come in – a rescue firefighter two and he gets all this special certifications, he gets promoted to firefighter three and now he has to move out, because there is no firefighter three spot for him promoted in the rescue crew. He goes out and we try to maintain some of those skills that that person has as a firefighter three in case we need them back in the rescue crew. Eventually those skill sets will fall off. One, they do not want to dive anymore, the hazards involved with it, they do not want to fly anymore and then of course we have to train the new person. You are right, it is not every firefighter in the department that we do that, hazardous materials is one of the few that we train the majority of the department in versus a few only because that incident requires a lot more people. Yes, we do look at that and no, we do not just train everybody just because we can. The other part of that is we got a lot of equipment for the individual we got to maintain, that kind of stuff too.

Ms. Yukimura: I like the answer trained to skill level that we need. That makes a lot of sense. Thank you.

Mr. Chang: Maybe on another agenda item I have seen a lot of video of your training within the swimming pool, what you guys do in the helicopter for your divers, so maybe on another agenda item, I think the video would be very informational to all of us just to show the training that we have been talking about, number one. Number two, can you explain the water tender? What is water tender that you made reference earlier?

Mr. Blalock: Water truck with plenty water. I guess the best way to kind of explain it is in the old plantations days when you had the big truck with a lot of water in it... sorry to be like that but it is funny because how to go east of the Mississippi is called water tankers and then west of it is water tenders and some other places is water tankers or airplane with water in it and does water drops. Basically, what a water tender is, it is just helping us to bring water supply where it is needed in areas where a hydrant readily available or just due to the operations itself that needs to be refilled on an expeditious basis or something like that.

Mr. Chang: Okay, thank you. Lastly, is there a number perhaps with all these responses and the incidences – do we have a breakdown as to how many are Kaua'i residents and how many are visitors?

Chair Furfaro: I would like to hold that until we get to the helicopters. We got three more spots here, you have narrative on training, we still have narrative on water safety and we want to have some special dialog about the helicopters and we have not touched on it. Why don't I make a new rule Chief and you are going to apply to my policy, let the two deputies make their presentation and then we will come back.

Mr. Westerman: We can go to our BC Albert Kauai and he can do his presentation and then actually we have each of the bureaus and you can choose whether you want to hear from them individually or not but we have the Prevention Bureau, the Training Bureau and the Ocean Safety Bureau.

Chair Furfaro: We would like to hear from all three of them.

Mr. Westerman: All three of them. So, if we just cruise on through all of them and then hold questions till the end?

Chair Furfaro: And then you can call them up when we direct the questions at you.

Mr. Westerman: Alright.

ALBERT KAUI, Battalion Chief – Operating Bureau: Good afternoon Councilmembers. Decreases in revenues and the resulting reduced budgets combined with our already lagging infrastructure continue to widen the gap in our ability to provide adequate services and our continued preparation for the future. We have had a steady increase in our call load as visitors return, population increases and population ages. At the current rate of increase we went over five thousand calls again as predicted last year. The eventual return of large scale building and large tourism numbers will have its effect as we move forward. We continue to work and adjust our long range strategic plan and our short term goals and objectives to adapt to the dramatic swings in the economy. Our plan is to work as smartly as possible within the budget line items and transfer between funds only as necessary.

In order to run as safely and efficiently as possible we have reduced some of our goals to below the accepted standards. As is the case with our daily staffing we try to maintain a standard of eighty percent versus the nationally accepted standard of ninety percent or better, in some stations close proximity helps, with the new Kaiākea station and SAFER staffing that helps but still without using more overtime and recalling firefighters we are still short of our goals. The NIST – national institute of standards and technology concluded that for a department to respond and complete the twenty-two most critical tasks safely and within reasonable timeframe the optimum daily staffing for an engine company is four firefighters. They concluded that the four person crews operating on a low hazard structure fire completed all the tasks on the fire ground on average seven minutes faster,

nearly thirty percent than the two person crews. The four person crews completed the same number of fire ground tasks on average, five point one minutes faster, nearly twenty-five percent better than the three person crews. It also concluded that time to water on the fire was improved by six percent over the three person crew. With the increased population and more so the increased call load for medical response, rescue response, natural and manmade disaster, and a host of other tasks that the department is asked to do today much less time is spent on training ensuring preparedness. This reduces the safety levels of our firefighters and increases the risk to our community.

Successes and achievements. While we are still behind the national averages on staffing levels the department being fully staffed was able to maintain a higher than normal daily staffing average. There is still significant risk to firefighters with a delay response times to fully assemble a firefighting force. We were successful in saving two lives this year as a direct result of our increase in AED training and placement. This last year we purchased an additional 26 AD's so every truck in the department from F1 to OSB at Kē'e have an onboard AED. So far in 2012 we have had 2 lives saved accredited directly to the use of an AED.

The County CADS contract is finally in full swing and with the additional of the ADAM software and the DECCAN software the program will be fully integrated with our RMS allowing for more information to our Captains as they respond to calls for service.

Again, using firefighters in house and diligently applying for grants, we have replaced three of our trucks. We added capabilities to our helicopter operations, improved our pilots skills and our rescue personnel skills all using grant funds.

This year the Fire Department responded to over 5033 calls for assistance a 9% increase over the previous year. We had 237 fire calls of which we investigated 16 fires this year with a total value loss estimate of \$5,755,000 in damage and property. The 2 busiest stations are Kapa'a and Līhu'e. Our new Kaiākea station changed the response percentage between Kapa'a and Līhu'e a little but still leaving Kapa'a as the highest call volume. The additional of Kaiākea has had several positive results. First, the ability to relocate and respond to the Hanalei district without leaving the busiest district exposed. With the addition of the eighth station relocation and out of service duties for training allows for more on duty training without increased risk to the community.

Some challenges. We cannot move forward without the proper staffing at the management level. The Assistant Chiefs of Operations and Administration are needed to keep programs on track like the defunct accreditation program. Many initiatives have been started but lack the following through without staff to monitor and manage the programs.

Having a spare Engine fully equipped and functional for line duty is imperative to the safety of the community. Even with new operational engines, a reserve fleet is necessary to ensure 24/7 operations and a training fleet to teach our recruits and update drivers without affecting operations.

Captain Tracy Cummings will do the Fire Training Bureau.

TRACY CUMMING, Captain – Fire Training Bureau: Good afternoon Mr. Chair and members of the Council. I am going to skip my mission and goals and go right down to our successes and achievements. This year we completed a 16 week training course for the 23 KFD recruit class. This included fire evolution, ocean and mountain rescue principles, extrication, and a team building exercise at the ropes course in Waipa.

We also had the completion of the KFD mandatory recertification training sessions which include 1st responder driver training, USLA, HAZMAT Tech, and HAZMAT awareness. We also conducted a joint search and rescue exercise with U.S. Coast guard, Civil Air Patrol, and Water

Safety Officers which consisted of utilizing radon along with Air 1 to effectively locate missing divers. The exercise reinforced our need for a better working relationship with the other agencies that may become involved and exposed the need for better communication training considerations for the future. We also had the additional of our grant acquired (inaudible) where communications capabilities immensely. We also conducted a state training exercise with the 93rd CST unit, along with the Kaua'i Police Department, the exercise consisted of the KFD's response to a clandestine situation along with KPD's Special Response Team and their clandestine team. The exercise improved our joint response to these situations and due to the success of the exercise it became a model scenario throughout the state. Due to the training bureau being instrumental in the planning and facilitation of the exercise we were invited to Maui County to be evaluators for their STX.

Additionally, we received over 800 hours of education at no cost to the County of Kaua'i courtesy of FEMA. We sent over 20 firefighters to the mainland for training such as, Incident Response to Terrorism Bombing (IRTB), Prevention of and Response to Suicide Bombing Incidents (PRSBI), Radiological and Nuclear Response Training (RAD/NUC), Tactical Emergency Response Training (TERT). This is very valuable training at a significantly reduced costs. The cost of a single course is over ten thousand dollars per student, with airfare, per diem, hotel, ground transportation, facility cost, and instructor cost and we pay only two hundred forty dollars for our flight per diem. That is a huge savings for the department. Domestic bombing incidents in schools and illegal meth labs all follow the same basic protocols and these courses allow us the opportunity to respond and practice in as realistic a situation as possible.

Some of the future initiatives of the training bureau is to establish and implement a "driver safety program" using MPRI's latest technologies in driver simulators. Also to establish and implement a respiratory protection program to ensure safety among fire personnel. To develop an initial fire attack program utilizing our burn trailer among fire line personnel that is measured and evaluated quarterly. To provide resources for further training and education in fire service fields of discipline through federal and state funded grants and opportunities thru FEMA, Department of Transportation, State Civil Defense and Homeland Security. Also we want to develop and maintain a more reliable and functional system of logging and tracking training records of all personnel and staff. To establish broader relationships with outside emergency resources such as PMRF, State Crash Fire, KPD, AMR, U.S. Coast Guard, Civil Air Patrol, and Civil Defense.

But, it came with some challenges. With the training bureau consisting of only 2 members, facilitating quality training opportunities for 143 members is mediocre. More personnel are needed to conduct, evaluate, and track training progressions of our personnel. Consistency in records keeping needs to be more systematic in order to track them accurately. More clerical support is an essential needed. The training bureau has a 1999 Chevy Blazer and a 1996 Ford F150 that are in constant need of repair. These vehicles are used to transport equipment and personnel as well as to respond as Safety Officer in a multi company emergency situation. Our two training fire engines are also used as spares for first line response. These two engines, both 1994 Seagrave Pumpers require costly maintenance and upkeep due to their age. With the lack of a fire training facility, often schedules have to be made around other county agencies for the use of certain venues. Time lines do not always coincide with learning resources. Completion of the annual physicals with limited funding denied us the opportunities to offer a more comprehensive examination. A more detailed and involved exam is needed due to the fact that we are exposed to many hazardous environments. Lack of certain exams such as pulmonary function has hindered our ability to attend certain specialized training due to noncompliance to OSHA requirements. This is part of our budget increase. That is all I have for you today.

Chair Furfaro: Let me ask you a couple questions.

Mr. Cummings: Yes, sir.

Chair Furfaro: Why the under budgeted money especially as it does deals with the health and wellbeing of the officers and we are not completing this pulmonary check periodically. I mean, is this something that we should be doing and we just did not budget for it?

Mr. Westerman: Well, it is budgeted this year. That is what he was saying.

Chair Furfaro: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: It was budgeted this year due to the increase pulmonary test and some other testing in the budget this year.

Chair Furfaro: And then on the vehicles real quick. We had the Ford and the Blazer but the Blazer is young of the two but why are we not replacing the 1996 Ford?

Mr. Cummings: The Ford is in fairly good condition.

Chair Furfaro: It is older but better condition.

Mr. Cummings: It is older but in better condition. The Blazer has been used as the old Battalion Chief vehicle. It has more mileage, it also caught fire on one occasion.

Chair Furfaro: Okay. So, the 1996 Ford is just aging with a little bit more dignity?

Mr. Cummings: Yes, sir. That is a good way to put it.

Chair Furfaro: Are these vehicles showing up on your aging on pages twenty-three, does that show up on that aging list?

Mr. Westerman: No, sir. This line is only the firearm apparatus.

Chair Furfaro: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: It is not the truck replacements – like ocean safety trucks or prevention truck or my truck – this is just firearm apparatus.

Chair Furfaro: But somewhere I am going to find the 1999 Blazer being replaced?

Mr. Westerman: Yes, it is.

Chair Furfaro: Do I assume that...

Mr. Westerman: We have four trucks in budget are being replaced.

Chair Furfaro: But the 96 Ford is not one of them this year?

Mr. Westerman: No, sir.

Chair Furfaro: Questions on training, members? Thank you for a good report.

Mr. Cummings: Thank you, sir.

Chair Furfaro: Vice Chair Yukimura.

Ms. Yukimura: You mentioned in challenges with the training bureau consisting of only two member facilitating quality training is 143 members is mediocre – is that what you mean?

Mr. Cummings: The facilitation of it is – because we have only two members, we have pretty much got to be everywhere all the time and it is pretty hard to get to be everywhere.

Mr. Westerman: What we are getting at is that it is a challenge for the two – just the two to ensure that everything gets done. We get a lot of assistance from the line firefighters to assist with the training.

Ms. Yukimura: That would make sense if you have senior members who are well trained in something, I am sure there is different levels of training running from watching videos to getting hands on training to actually getting out into the environment where you need the training. And you must hire some specialist as well to do certain kinds of training.

Mr. Cummings: Well it is not so much the training itself, it is the management of it all and the facilitation of it. For two members to plan and to facilitate it has been tough.

Mr. Westerman: An example is the last three and a half weeks, the second guy in training has been in Florida doing the divers certified training. That leaves the Fire Captain, Tracy Cummings, to do all of that training on his own. The challenges of the two individuals trying to maintain all of those records and the certification process for all of the firefighters.

Ms. Yukimura: In terms of the recordkeeping, the use of IT or technology – are there new ways to track these things?

Mr. Cummings: Well what we are using now is our record management system which is what we use to track our incident calls and stuff and we are slowly integrating our training records into that. As the crews do their daily training, they input it there and it becomes available to us. It is automatically kept in a data base.

Ms. Yukimura: I found that your successes and achievements mentioned on page five, using the daily log book and managing daily staffing and timekeeping, I found that very commendable. I am hoping that as you integrate that with the best practices and information technology, you might be able to do some of it without additional labor or positions. I thought that was not for Fire necessarily but for all of us that was to be the benefits of IT, right? I know that it is not a complete substitute but I am hoping that we are developing the best of those systems before we ask for positions?

Mr. Westerman: You are right Councilwoman but the other side of that is and (inaudible) the record management system we have for example, this is our system software is one of probably, I would guess what brand it has – forty-five or fifty different system software out there that IT has to help us manage. We have their support, Garret is onboard as our IT rep and we send him to training on our systems but it still requires input, it still requires management by Personnel and it requires a lot of management by IT to help us manage the software. The biggest problem is the integration of the software's.

Ms. Yukimura: Absolutely. And as we look at a payroll system and an employee records tracking system, we are going to need to interface all of this. The certifications, the trainings, they all have to be a part of the Personnel record, I would guess.

Mr. Westerman: Right.

Ms. Yukimura: And it is troubling that we do not have a basic system that is the very best that we can then work on the interfaces of that to – so we do not have forty-five different systems to train in or to manage. That is a County wide issue that has come up in previous sessions but...

Chair Furfaro: Chief, we do have Finance here tomorrow and we probably would reach out with that question with IT.

Mr. Westerman: But it is a challenge, I agree with you, to try to integrate them all is one but to try to get a system that fits everybody, I do not think you will ever find that shoe. There is still going to be issues in the way the PD handles their records management, how we have to have information...

Ms. Yukimura: "PD" is?

Mr. Westerman: Police Department. They have a records management system as part of the compute rated dispatch, they just brought theirs. We did not convert to their system, nor were we on the same system in the past as far as records management. It is just simply that is software manufactures are and I would say yes we can try to combine as much as we can but...

Ms. Yukimura: But that is why you have an in house IT, so that all the systems can be intergraded somehow.

Mr. Westerman: If that could happen, that would be good.

Ms. Yukimura: I guess for you folks, is there a system that is the best practice for fire departments?

Mr. Westerman: There are a hundred different record management systems out there for fire and we went through a big process to acquire this one and it is a good system and it functions well for us. It is able to integrate with the new CAD's that police just brought but we did not want opt to take the records management system that came with the new CAD's because it does not function the way we want it to function because the CAD's system bought is a police based CAD system. It does not function the exactly like fire. Believe me, we respond differently, our requirements are different, our reporting requirements are different, so that is why we get the then differences in the system.

Ms. Yukimura: And there is no jurisdiction in the Country where the Police and Fire have actually or a software provider has figured out how to make an integrated system between Police and Fire?

Mr. Westerman: I am not saying that there are not. There are integrated systems and there was one here if you wanted to spend twice the money then why replace the system that is working for Fire? Does that make sense?

Ms. Yukimura: Because it might cost you more money over the next ten years to try to integrate the system.

Chair Furfaro: Let us put that on our IT issue.

Ms. Yukimura: It is actually an IT but it is also interdepartmental.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, I guess the choice of the word “mediocre” it might...

Mr. Westerman: I will correct that in the future, Chair.

Chair Furfaro: Safety questions at this point? Training questions? If not,
Tracy, thank you very much.

Mr. Cummings: Thank you and I would like to call up Captain Daryl Date.

DARYL DATE, Fire Prevention Bureau: Good afternoon Council Chair and Councilmembers. Some of the successes and achievements of the bureau within the past year: the adoption of the NFPA 1 Uniform Fire code 2006 edition with local amendments. This code has taken effect for Kaua’i County on December 8, 2011. Presented the annual Fire Prevention Week Campaign message top over four thousand youth in an interactive and exciting skit. This type of presentation while very time consuming allows for a greater interaction with the youth and helps to start the conversation at home extending the reach of the program. The prevention bureau got awarded a fire safety grant of \$130,000 from FEMA to purchase a fire safety trailer. This trailer will be an interactive educational tool to teach community members of all ages, fire and personal safety. In keeping with the Mayor’s Holo Holo 2020 plan, we are reaching out and partnering with community to increase outreach, and expand the CERT program. Our fire inspector two, attended an installation of sprinkler systems class put on by the NFPA. The primary duty of the fire inspector two is plan review. This class has increased his competency level to perform this duty. The newest inspector in the bureau has attended and passed the new fire/arson investigator academy put on by the public agency training council. This inspector is now more proficient and self reliant in investigating structure fires. Three inspectors attended a burn to learn class on Maui. Actually, live burns on a variety of materials created a hands-on perspective to learning. There was also a side by side burn comparison of a mock living room with fire sprinklers in one and the other without.

Some upcoming initiatives for the bureau: the award of FEMA grant for an education trailer will allow us to improve our county wide relationship in education our keiki to kapuna in all hazards approach. We will provide fire education and prevention training, disaster preparedness training for hurricane and tsunami, and neighborhood watch. To input data of island wide businesses to populate the records management systems for the mobile data terminals. To utilize the MDT’s to its full potential, vital information that will be available to the responding engine company to any incident must first be inputted. Complete business inspections of apartments and condominiums. Inspections for all apartments and condos on the island are almost complete. Facilities on the North Shore are all the remain. Streamline process of collection of fees by the Bureau. With the adoption of the new fire code, three accounts have been created so that monies collected can now be used for the duties associated to the Prevention Bureau. One account is for fireworks permit and license fees. Another account is for miscellaneous permit fees such as temporary structures, LPG tank installation, and assembly occupancies of over three hundred. The last account is for plan review fees.

Incorporated an after action report of line personnel for structure fires. The focus is to enhance the work performance of firefighters at fire scenes, and complete the link between the fire attack operations to the fire investigation aspect of structure fires. The fire investigator of the incident will explain the origin and cause determination. Positive results that aided the

investigation from actions taken by firefighters will be discussed, as well as things that could possibly have been done differently.

Develop a prevention bureau website for more streamlined processes for information or permitting. Create FAQ page for different customer bases i.e., contractors, permit applicants, etc. Customers can find information on fire regulations they would normally call in for. Customers could also possibly apply for permits and pay on line. Permits could then be tracked and managed more effectively. Fireworks permit could be plotted on a map to verify locations. Need to develop standards guidelines for every activity in prevention bureau so that new inspectors can easily be trained.

Some of the challenges that we are facing in the bureau: education, education, education – is our biggest challenge we must continue to find ways to engage the community so that we can continue to educate them about the hazards. The local business person is so engrossed in just making the sales of the day they sometimes overlook the simplest on items. If we can meet with them at least once a year and go over the facility maybe we can avoid a fire or injury. The homeowner, is busy with their daily lives working and managing a household. If we can engage the youth at school and encourage them to take home the message then maybe we have prevented a fire in the home.

Upon the arrival of the fire safety trailer, a multitude of educational sessions will be requested by the community. At least two inspectors will be needed to manage these trainings. This will take away from the day to day duties that must be completed. This creates an opportunity to integrate the community via the CERT and other community based organization. To maintain the continuity of the prevention bureau. The creation of the firefighter one, two, and three positions provide lateral movement within the department. A means to make the forty hours a week prevention bureau more appealing to fire personnel must be created as so to prevent the revolving door. With just four personnel in the bureau, and two of them being firefighter three positions, must strain is put on the Lt. and Captain to constantly train the inspector one and firefighters threes to the point that their competency level allows them to be independent. Pay is not the only driving factor for recruiting and maintaining longevity in the bureau. Proactive use of technology can create more efficient use of time, and free inspectors from being kept in the office. Mainland and off island training may be appealing. The opportunity to quickly advance in rank is also attractive. We need to develop a package that is both appealing and efficient and start recruiting suitable personnel.

The inputting of data into the RMS system to feed the mobile data terminals is extremely tedious. Information from business inspections that were once and still is on hardcopy must now be inputted into the computer. There are over three thousand businesses on the island. It takes one inspector approximately eight hours to input a dozen businesses.

To maintain the business inspection rate at a five year cycle as mandated by State law. The Bureau averages about two hundred business inspections a year. This rate puts the inspection cycle at 15 years.

To have fire extinguisher training sessions be a one person operation. With the current vehicle that is used to transport the fire extinguisher trainer to and from different businesses and community locations, two inspectors are needed to lift the equipment onto and off of the vehicle. The bureau averages 45 fire extinguisher training sessions per year. It takes an average of four hours to complete a session, which includes loading, cleaning and put back of the equipment. This adds up to one hundred eighty man hours spent on fire extinguisher training sessions alone, for two personnel, which is half of the Bureau staff. To accomplish this goal, a van with a lift gate is requested. To keep up with the consistent growth of the island's business and residential sectors with limited number of staff. An increase in staff is needed to take on this increase of workload. To utilize vehicles as

mobile offices to go directly out into the field instead of first reporting to the office, then out to the field. Bureau issued smart phones could instantly report personal schedules to all inspectors. Phones can also keep inspectors available for standby duty. Call forwarding from office keeps inspectors available to public inquiry. Mobile tablets can be used to directly input inspections. Mobile printers can produce completed forms to business owners. Inspectors would just need to report to the office to synchronize data back to the database as needed. This concludes my presentation, any questions?

Chair Furfaro: I am going to give you, my two questions first and one is a statement and I do not want to get into a lot of dialog about it. In today's meeting with Civil Defense, there was a number of concerns raised with the citizen's emergency response team and support (CERTS). It is something that seems to have dormant on us and in forty-five days or so, we are going to have a special agenda item here but I would like to know, is the Fire Department taking the lead on this through Caption Date's office, is it Civil Defense? Who is the lead agency for CERTS?

Mr. Westerman: Well Chair, I know you said you did not want to get a dialog of it but...

Chair Furfaro: I just want to know who...

Mr. Westerman: The fire department is responsible, sir. It is an active program. I guess some people have a different opinion but as you can see we are very active with the Princeville CERT group who has volunteered to help us out with this training program. We have CERT people from Kekaha all the way to Princeville which you heard this morning of course, Hanalei does not seem to be interested in CERT right now.

Chair Furfaro: It is quite opposite from what I know from being out in Hanalei and we have talked about with Puupoa, that community – Bill Troutman in Kīlauea seems to be active but I just want to make sure, I do not want to have a lot of dialog but who is leading that and I appreciate the Fire Department saying that function is ours. Just the heads-up, we are going to have a discussion just of CERTS.

Mr. Westerman: I look forward to it.

Chair Furfaro: And what kind of resources we need to apply to that, I am good with that answer Chief, I am good with the Captain Date. When we talk about the training effort that you have, I know you gave us some good numbers here about the loading and unloading of the fire extinguishers and so forth, but if it is a hundred and eighty hours a year for that training, that is about eight and a half percent of your training time if the other person is doing two thousand eighty hours of full time work a year, can we discuss some of these training items by using volunteers? If we train the CERTS people, can the CERTS people eventually participate in some of the other training that goes into the department?

Mr. Westerman: Chair, I think that should be part of the discussion forty-five days from now.

Chair Furfaro: Great answer.

Mr. Westerman: Alright.

Ms. Nakamura: The discussion about the smart phones to make your operations more efficient.

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: Are any funds in this proposed budget to do this proposed budget to do this?

Mr. Date: No.

Ms. Nakamura: What would be the budgeted amount needed in order to do this? And this is something you can come back with – we will put in writing for you. Another question that I have is – it says here to maintain business inspection rated a five year cycle, it is mandated by State law, what is the ramifications if we do not do it every five years?

Mr. Date: I am not sure on that.

Mr. Rapozo: Just do not tell them.

Ms. Nakamura: Let us hope they are not watching. Because I think there is different ways to approach that. Either you have more inspectors or we would have to increase our goal of six hundred business hours per year in order to meet that five year goal.

Mr. Date: Right.

Mr. Westerman: And some of the data originally came about two years ago. Because we were not getting everything done, more so in Honolulu then on Kaua'i, with State facilities, State airports have taken over doing state facilities at the airports, that is giving us a little bit of reprieve but not much. Part of the problem additionally with this especially when you talk about businesses, in the five year cycle, the same building can have three businesses, so if you go to Kukui Grove for example, and you do all the businesses and you say, well I do not need to go back for five years, which is not the case. Three or four businesses can turn over there, so you end up going back, so it is a multiplier and I do not know that there is a quote/unquote fine for us not being successful but we try as Daryl had pointed out...

Mr. Date: All of the apartments and condominiums.

Mr. Westerman: And if you remember we did all the bars and restaurants the year before to try to get certain groups done.

Ms. Nakamura: How many inspectors did it take then to do the two hundred business inspections per year?

Mr. Date: Basically, two.

Ms. Nakamura: Two.

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: So to get to six hundred businesses per year, you would need four more bodies?

Mr. Date: Being with all the workload that we need to do within the bureau, four would be at the most.

Ms. Nakamura: You are saying it takes one inspector to input eight – it takes eight hours to input a dozen businesses?

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: And so that means that the – if you have three thousand businesses, that would take two hundred and fifty days out of the year in order to do this. Is it the inspector who is inputting this data or do you have clerical staff to input the data, or is it best to be done by the inspector?

Mr. Date: Like the Chief mentioned earlier, we do have an intern and we are currently using the intern to help us out in inputting this data.

Ms. Nakamura: It is quite a huge task to input it.

Mr. Date: Yes, it is very time consuming.

Ms. Nakamura: And then as you are doing the inspections then you need to update the data?

Mr. Date: Yes. Because up until recently all of the data was all on hard copy.

Ms. Nakamura: Thank you.

Mr. Chang: One of my concerns is what the Chair has brought up in the community emergency response team which we are going to hear about but anyway... for myself and the viewing audience again, I think you mentioned NFP and also LPG – if you can use that in a sentence and explain it because I kind of looked around and I could not find it.

Mr. Date: LPG stands for Liquid Propane Gas and I believe that NFPA used – stands for National Fire Protection Association.

Mr. Chang: My next question would be for the chief, are the other Counties National accredited?

Mr. Westerman: Honolulu, is and PMRF, is, and Maui is working towards it.

Mr. Chang: How many Assistant Chief's does the County of Maui have or say for example the Assistant Chief's for the Big Island, do we know that?

Mr. Blalock: Currently the Big Island have two Assistant Chief's and Maui also have two Assistant Chief's but again even below that layering of Assistant Chief's, they have special ops Chief's and maybe even two Battalions as opposed to one Battalions in which we carry. Their system also has afforded them clerical help in prevention, training – each division, they would have clerical help in these divisions also. The AC's again would have one in Admin, they would have one in Operations whereas the Big Island just due to their structure, they also have an AC of medical because they do have the emergency medical services on the Big Island.

Mr. Chang: So the layers would be consistent with Prevention or Training? In other words, we have two training, is that true – Mr. Cummings and Mr. Garcia, for example. So those other counties have additional layers of help that our staff does not have?

Mr. Blalock: Yes.

Mr. Chang: That is the consistent case with their staffing?

Mr. Blalock: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Please keep the questions to Training and not accreditation because we still got Ocean Safety which I anticipate a bunch of questions.

Ms. Yukimura: First of all, congratulations for completing all of the business inspections of apartments and condominiums.

Mr. Date: Thank you very much.

Ms. Yukimura: The layout of your report indicates a lot of thinking about how to do things better, so I appreciate that. With this fire extinguisher training sessions, it is brilliant to say that while we can do it with one person, that is like our automatic rubbish pickup, instead of three people, we have one person using as you put it proactive use of technology. Do businesses pay for this training or is it something that we give to them free?

Mr. Date: It is something that we provide free of charge.

Ms. Yukimura: Is there a thought that we might just require all businesses to have this training and then let the private sector provide the training? It could even be another nonprofit like the Chamber of Commerce or it could be a business where they come train because it is required that everybody has to get this training. How often does a business have to get fire extinguisher training?

Mr. Date: A lot of the businesses, they do it annually and I believe it is a mandate by...

Ms. Yukimura: State law?

Mr. Date: Yes. OSHA.

Ms. Yukimura: OSHA, okay.

Mr. Date: For a number of employees to train.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, so you already have a requirement that they have to do it and if they do not do it, then they are violating OSHA laws?

Mr. Date: Do not quote me as saying OSHA but it might be actually a corporate requirement, I am not exactly sure.

Ms. Yukimura: Well I am sure that... well I am starting to think that County – have we trained everybody to use fire extinguishers within the County itself. It is in the businesses self interest to have regular trainings of this, right?

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: Because you have change in personnel and so forth, so the person in the offices where the extinguisher is if the personnel changes, you have to update whoever

is new. It just seems to me that we are giving it free and is it perhaps you could just relieve the burden off us – the County and have it as a business, somebody who knows how to do the training just go around training but be paid for it?

Mr. Date: That is an idea.

Mr. Blalock: Part of it too even with the training, it is as the Fire Department we providing the service and part of it again is building relationships with those that are there. They are still part of all these shareholders in which we are responsible too. Part of it is building a relationship that is visible and there is value to that also.

Ms. Yukimura: I agree. Is that the only interface we have with businesses?

Mr. Date: No.

Ms. Yukimura: If we are only doing it every fifteen years, we are not having that much of a relationship. But I am really respect the way that you folks have been systematically trying to get it done, that makes... but if that is the only way we establish and it is the only effective way of establishing relationships with a business, I agree that has some value. Then maybe we should be charging a fee at least but I actually think this is something you can... we usually do things if the private sector cannot provide it better than we can and it just seems like... then you could do so much of the other stuff that the private sector will not do.

Mr. Westerman: We can surely look into that. There is other benefits, we do inspect their facilities when we are there and give them some hints on what might be safer practices for them and those kinds of things.

Ms. Yukimura: Do we do that as part of the training?

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Mr. Date: Fire Safety.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: And we can look to see if there is somebody else that would be to provide it, it would just be the expense that is pushed on to the businesses versus the County. Whatever you would like us to pursue. We kind of like the scenario because we do get that interaction in the community a little more so and it is a little more personal for us. There are companies that inspect the buildings that have systems in them and they are required to be inspected. This also gives us the opportunity to make sure that those businesses that are providing that service are doing it correctly.

Ms. Yukimura: I can see really some benefits to that if it is not fire extinguisher training but it is also inspection, are you also doing inspection of the business?

Mr. Date: Not every year. If we go out and do the training every year but we also include a fire safety presentation as well.

Ms. Yukimura: Because if you do both, it will take more time and it will not just be a hundred eighty man hours right?

Mr. Date: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: I guess it is just worth an analysis, I understand that it may be much more complex than I am looking at it and it may have more benefits than just training people to use an extinguisher. It is also – I can see labor intensive and I commend you for trying to figure out how to cut down on the labor. You have already identified one way by using the a van with a lift. Maybe just some analysis about what would be the most cost effective way to meet your multiple goals here.

Mr. Blalock: One specific training, just as an example, I think two or three days ago, Lihu'e Station actually went down and had a good exercise with the Marriot as far as high-rise that we have, along with their security systems and their staff there. So when you are saying – it is not only specific to fire extinguisher training, there are other trainings that go on as part of – just being part of the community (inaudible) and checking their system as they work with us within that system.

Ms. Yukimura: Did you train them in fire extinguisher as well at that time?

Mr. Date: Not at the same time.

Ms. Yukimura: I am not saying to put all of the trainings or work with businesses like what was just... I do not think there is anybody that could do the training that you just described so please do not misunderstand me. I am only talking about this extinguisher training.

Mr. Rapozo: Thank you. I will just tell you right now as a business owner if you charge me, I would not call you. You would never get to come to my business and give me tips. I am just being honest. Businesses come in and they having a rough time, they cut out anything like that and I guess I just disagree that that is the service that we should offer. Get you in the businesses, look at some safety issues, fire issues, save the guy some heartache down the road before his building blows up.

Ms. Nakamura: As part of the accreditation – would they be looking at... if we initiate it, would they be looking at inspection cycles?

Mr. Westerman: Yes and actually the accreditation looks at everything that we do.

Ms. Nakamura: So everything we are doing should be focused on how do we get to a successful accreditation and we should be working toward making that a priority if that is the direction we go.

Mr. Westerman: Yes, Councilmember.

Mr. Kualii'i: Very quick question. I did not necessarily hear the difference in the narrative but in the actual dollars under travel basically, airfare, per diem, car rental, there is a grouping called general and then another grouping that is called training, what is the difference between... why is it separated out like that?

Mr. Westerman: Which bureau?

Mr. Kualii'i: Prevention Bureau.

Mr. Westerman: Training is like the NFPA training that we sent the fire inspectors to – arson training, skill sets that they have to have that are training requirements. The other training are meetings like State Fire Council, they are – as part of the State Fire Council, we have the training captain as part of that and he travels for those meetings. Conferences local in the State that they are required to (inaudible) or we requested they attend, those are the kinds of other travels.

Mr. Rapozo: Ocean Safety.

KALANI VIERRA, Ocean Safety Bureau: Good afternoon, Council Chair and Councilmembers. I am the Operation Supervisor for the Ocean Safety Bureau. I will be skipping our mission statement and goals and objectives and will go directly into our successes and achievements.

The Ocean Safety Bureau was again successful with our Junior Lifeguard program and won for the eighth years in a row. They have worked hard through the year to improve our water safety message and managed to get a video presentation on Hawaiian Airlines inbound mainland flights discussing water safety with myself.

The Ocean Safety Bureau has worked hard over the last year to be inclusive and improve its interagency relationships. It has provided its Jet Ski training to the Kaua'i Fire Department, PMRF Fire Department, Department of Boating and Recreations, Department of Land and Natural Resources. The program is so well respected within the pacific region we were asked to go to Guam and assist with the department of a Jet Ski program and provide training for their ocean safety resource crews. Our own Jet Ski program along with the premium pay program has been extremely successful and is the example for the state and is currently being adopted by other county departments.

The last years drawing rates are down from a record high fifteen in 2008, fourteen in 2009, nine in 2010, and thirteen in 2011. We must attribute some of this to the relationships we have continued to foster in community with the Junior Lifeguard Program. Water Safety Task Force, Kaua'i and Hawaiian Lifeguard Association, Kaua'i Explorer Daily report, the WAVE project, and the Rotary rescue Tube Project and the Beach Guardian program. Without community support we could not make these great reductions.

In 2010, the OSB had a total of 1,683,925 beach attendance, 328 ocean rescues, 78,569 preventative actions, 3,200 1st Aids. In 2011, a total of 1,387,252 beach attendance, 378 rescues, 55,060 preventive actions, and a total of 3,416 1st Aids were conducted. As you can see our beach attendance went down but our rescues went up.

Beach Safety Week is an ongoing celebrated event every May of each year, promoting beach safety in schools, businesses, and including public safety announcements. OSB celebrated this important USLA vent with the nation. The near future plan is to ask the President to declare beach safety week. The Ocean Safety Bureau supervising officer has been reallocated from WSSO to WSO-V. Three new rescue jet skis and four new ATV's are being utilized at different beaches around Kaua'i. The Kaua'i lifeguard Association has put on a huge fundraising campaign called the 1st Wave, to raise funds for these state of the art equipment.

The standard operating policies and procedures are being updated. The operation can flow much smoother and with accountability. The Hanalei and Po'ipū storage/substation computer and printer capabilities. This will eliminate a lot of drive time to and from office with official paperwork.

The OSB started a monthly new article to provide information on our successes and present ocean safety information.

As discussed earlier OSB is working on a realignment and reallocation plan for the ocean safety bureau to better supervise and manage our water safety personnel. As part of the realignment we are proposing in the future an OSB Prevention and Education Officer to assist with public education. The Prevention/Education Officer will also assist the OSB is creating a Keiki Junior Lifeguard Program for kids 8 through 12 years old. OSB will follow the guidelines of the successful Junior Lifeguard Program. The first trial starting date will be in June 2012.

As part of the Fire Department Helicopter operations, we will be adding training and familiarization with our OSB personnel to assist in ocean rescue operations. The Jet Ski Program is the most effective part of the OSB operations, numerous lives have been saved. A pilot roving Jet Ski Program is in the initial stages. The hopes are this program will improve our water rescue response times. The Kaua'i Lifeguard Association and the Ocean Safety Bureau are collaborating with the Kapa'a Rotary Club to return the ocean safety video at the airport baggage claim areas.

Some of the challenges that we have are: Storage/substation facility for our East District is an ongoing problem, to protect some of our vital rescue equipment from the weather and salty environment. It would also serve as a work station for our East district supervisor. OSB is currently storing the trucks and ATV's at the Kapa'a Fire Station in the open weather after hours, creating possible vandalism, theft, and corrosion potentials. The long term injuries have been having an effect on manpower coverage. Overtime has gone up and the on-call lifeguard positions have been working on 40 hour 89 day contracts.

Within our ocean safety public awareness and education campaign, we have lost major supporters in the funding our beach safety guides. This is huge in our ability to provide these beach guides around the island to hotels and businesses. We are working hard trying to gather new supporters but without them our message is not going to get and this will have an impact on our drawing rates.

The OSB is not funded to change out our beach safety signs and a majority is either missing or rusting and ready to fall down. The challenge is maintaining and replacing these signs in the most corrosive environments. We are not staffed to do this work and depend on other agencies to budget, prioritize, and replace. Given the recent court decision on signs, we cannot afford to let this continue.

Periodic equipment maintenance and repairs, scheduling have some conflicts due to the availability of the fire mechanic or the transportation mechanics. Special equipment has to be sent outside of the County jurisdiction to be repaired, like the water crafts, or trucks with patch and paint requirements. We have two small vehicles and equipment that is in desperate need of replacement. The Hā'ena tower and Kekaha tower truck is need of replacements due to the corrosive frame and chassis. These vehicles are vital to the operations because of the towing and 4x4 capacities.

The OSB is requesting an increase of two on call lifeguard positions to assist with coverage, due to long term personal injuries, industrial injuries, vacation request, and sick leave. A re-allocation within the OSB operations could take place for the Prevention/Education Officer. Here is our little replacement plan on vehicles. Question?

Chair Furfaro: Kalani, your replacement of vehicles is a sublist in addition to what you got on page 23 through 25, Chief?

Mr. Westerman: Yes, Chair.

Chair Furfaro: But they do not show up on your list on page 23 to 25?

Mr. Westerman: No, but two of them do show up in the budget.

Chair Furfaro: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: Two of his four vehicles are in the budget and two like he said, we are having roof line replacements and major work on all of them.

Chair Furfaro: I think some of the narrative gets lost. We see money in the budget but we are hearing from him that they need replacement. We do not know if it has been budgeted to be replaced or you are asking us. So, the two trucks I guess that is Hā'ena and Hanalei, is that correct, Kalani?

Mr. Vierra: Yes, Hanalei and Kekaha.

Chair Furfaro: And you have four trucks in your total fleet?

Mr. Vierra: In our total fleet, no, we have more than four trucks.

Chair Furfaro: How many do you have?

Mr. Vierra: About eleven.

Chair Furfaro: Do we have an aging schedule for those vehicles?

Mr. Westerman: I can get that for you, sir.

Chair Furfaro: Okay. Make a note that we want to get the aging schedule for the lifeguard trucks. Do you know the year and make of those two trucks that you are getting replaced?

Mr. Vierra: Two – 2000 Dodge Dakota's and two – 2002 Ford Rangers. Two of the four is still in operation, the other two are limited on – I would not use it for emergency response.

Chair Furfaro: Do you know which two they are?

Mr. Vierra: The Dodge Dakota's.

Chair Furfaro: They are still in operation?

Mr. Vierra: No. The Ford Ranger's are.

Chair Furfaro: The Ford Ranger's, are, okay. But chief, they are different from the one we are seeing on page 23? On page 23, we have Hā'ena, Kekaha, Po'ipū, Hanalei...

Mr. Westerman: That is his four worse trucks and two of them are replacing.

Chair Furfaro: Understood, so they are in his report for replacement and they are part of the list that we are looking at right now?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: And the worse are Hā'ena and Kekaha, is that right Kalani?

Mr. Vierra: Well actually, we have two Dodge Dakota trucks, we have one that is not in operation but can be used. So, we have four trucks that is in need of replacement but we want to replace two out of the four.

Chair Furfaro: But according to your report, they are not all year 2000.

Mr. Vierra: No.

Chair Furfaro: Two of them are 2002.

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: And the 2002 trucks are in Hā'ena and Kekaha.

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: And so the more recent trucks but those are the two that you are trying to replace?

Mr. Vierra: I could have made a mistake, I think we need to replace the two Dodge Dakota's.

Chair Furfaro: So it Po'ipū and Hanalei.

Mr. Vierra: Yes, I am sorry.

Chair Furfaro: Not Kekaha and Hā'ena, right?

Mr. Vierra: The Kekaha and Hā'ena is in service and the other two is limited in service.

Chair Furfaro: And we are going to send you question about sending us an aging list of your vehicles.

Mr. Westerman: Chair, if you could just send over the request over for the entire department, I will give you the entire department.

Chair Furfaro: That would be outstanding. I have no problem doing that at all. Send over the entire department including Water Safety.

Mr. Rapozo: Chief, I do not know if you have the actual budget page 131 on the actual budget, this would be under fire operations actually, but I noticed the two ocean safety 4x4 trucks are there and it is listed as Kekaha and Hanalei. You have four vehicles on that item and it looks like new leases. You got the training SUV, you got the prevention van with a lift, you got the two trucks and then you get two water crafts, that lease pay... because you got the value of the equipment but you also – it is showing a lease payment of seventy-four thousand. I am assuming it is multiyear lease and can you tell me how long that... is that the same for all of those pieces of equipment?

Mr. Westerman: I do not understand the question.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay, are you looking at page...

Mr. Westerman: Yes. And you are right, one of those might be an error as to what truck exactly it is, it might be the Po'ipū truck.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay and that is fine. My question is if you look at contract number, it says lease purchase, new lease for below equipment seventy-four thousand, twenty-two dollars.

Mr. Westerman: Okay.

Mr. Rapozo: Right under that on the text you list each of the items that you are going to be leasing with the value of that asset.

Mr. Westerman: Okay.

Mr. Rapozo: So obviously it amounts to a lot more than seventy-four thousand and my question is the seventy-four thousand would be the annual lease payment for all of those.

Mr. Westerman: I am assuming Wally is behind me shaking his head and doing this?

Mr. Rapozo: I do not know.

Chair Furfaro: He is not behind you and I guess the better way to pose the question is what is the lease on each vehicle, is it thirty-seven thousand?

Mr. Rapozo: Well, I am showing seventy-four thousand for the total.

Mr. Westerman: For the total.

Mr. Rapozo: But they are only getting two.

Mr. Westerman: That is the total annual payment for that.

Mr. Rapozo: So my question is and maybe it is a Finance question – is it a three year lease, a five years lease?

Mr. Westerman: Oh that, I do not know.

Mr. Rapozo: How many years are we going to pay seventy-four thousand dollars is what I am trying to get at. Normally, it says year two of three year. This one is just seventy-four thousand, twenty-two dollars for about several hundred thousand dollars worth of equipment. I am just trying to figure out how long is that lease? And if Wally said five, he needs to come up to the mike because five years would be three hundred fifty grand – three hundred somewhat grand.

Mr. Westerman: Like our other leases, the first year is really a guesstimate until you get the purchase done and you know exactly what the lease terms are and then the next

year's budget will hold the exact dollar amount for the lease. I am assuming this is a guess on the cost of lease and what they might estimate might be.

Chair Furfaro: I guess I want to be more specific in that Chief, we would like to know for seventy-four thousand this year in that process, are we getting four trucks, two trucks, all the equipment, what is the answer there?

Mr. Westerman: Well that was estimated to be for four trucks, a Boston Whaler and (inaudible) inflatable.

Chair Furfaro: And then Mr. Rapozo's question is that is for five pieces of equipment for how many years and we need Mr. Rezendes to come up to the mike.

Mr. Rapozo: That is the real question for me – how long because a boat lease and a truck lease maybe different, I am not sure.

Chair Furfaro: Mine was a little shorter than that, I just wanted to make sure that was for five pieces of equipment.

Mr. Rapozo: It is actually for six pieces.

Mr. Rezendes: I apologize we usually have that detailed out. I believe it is for a five year term but I need to confirm. I do not have my financial calculator with me. I usually bring that over to the budget sessions to do the annual amortization payments. Again, I believe it is five but I just need to confirm that and we can get that information back to you folks. I apologize because it is usually in the detail saying first year of a five year lease etc., and that is not in the text.

Chair Furfaro: We will send that question over as Mr. Rapozo. I want to make sure that it is for all the equipment that is listed on that sheet. That is your understanding right Chief?

Mr. Rapozo: Okay, we will see what comes back. I just want to make sure, I think for us it is important to know how long the lease is for? I just never seen – I guess the boat lease is what my concern is but for that price, we could purchase it outright. If we spend seventy-four grand a year, my math tells me that we could purchase those things outright and with a lease at the end of the term of the lease, you do not own the asset. You have an option to purchase the lease, purchase the residual value which is how leases typically work. Unless it is a lease to own but if we are going to spend that much money on an annual basis, we may as well purchase the assets outright. I could be way off base but I just know because I lease my car and at the end of my lease term, they send me a bill saying you want the car, pay this, if not, turn it in.

Mr. Rezendes: It is of (inaudible) lease/purchase, so at the end of the lease, we own it.

Mr. Rapozo: A hundred percent?

Mr. Rezendes: Yes.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay. And maybe if you could put that in here. It helps a lot for us.

Ms. Nakamura: Thank you for your report one of the concerns that I have that you raised has to do with each signage either missing or rusting and ready to fall down in light of the

recent court decision of the DLNR signs that now the State has to pay for the lack of signage that lead to the death of a couple of tourist – visitor's. I am just wondering last year I asked for a comprehensive list of beach signs that needed to be repaired and replaced and you provided a response indentifying the beaches and the number of signs per beach, do you know if any of them have been repaired over the last year?

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: Maybe as a follow up why don't I ask the question of these signs that had to be repaired a year ago, how many were repaired or new signs are needed but I really think this is Risk Management issue that we need to be on top and I understand we need to coordinate with Public Works to order and install the signs for the Fire Department.

Mr. Westerman: It is kind of like a three (3) department deal – Public Works, Parks and us. Planning was actually involved in sometime in the past, they used to purchase the signs out of a grant that they had but they no longer have that. Now it is an issue of trying to coordinate it and keep the signs replaced.

Ms. Nakamura: Would you say that we are on top of it, most of these have been done or just a small portion? How would you characterize?

Mr. Vierra: Most of them have been done by us.

Ms. Nakamura: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: Define us.

Mr. Vierra: The lifeguards.

Ms. Nakamura: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: First of all, thank you lifeguards.

Ms. Nakamura: I really think we need to give the attention to this because it is so critical and we will be doing a follow up question on that with – just to find out in the past the funding for these signs have come out of a different budget, so now that funding is not available, so we need to identify what department do you think the funding should come out of? Is that a CIP?

Chair Furfaro: Quite frankly that is a pretty direct question. Chief, who is funding the signs and why are they not doing it and if you need some help from this Council, we would be glad to send some messages over.

Mr. Westerman: Again, like I said it is a multitude of department's trying to work together to get this done. It is kind of like anything, if you want me to do it, give me the people and the resources to do it but if we need to share then sometimes we do not get it done as fast.

Chair Furfaro: But chief, at the end of the day, this is a Risk Management issue for which Councilmember Nakamura has pointed out. I hope they are in the loop on this signage piece and so they can find themselves talking to the Building department as well.

Mr. Westerman: Public Works does the signs sometimes and sometimes we have to buy them. It is a matter of budget's and where they are with the amount of people that they have.

Chair Furfaro: You need to write another standard operating guy, so we all know who does that.

Mr. Westerman: I will take it as a point of interest and go back and sit down and talk with Public Works about how we can resolve.

Chair Furfaro: A gentleman as always, thank you.

Mr. Rapozo: We have Risk Management tomorrow.

Chair Furfaro: Did you hear him? We have Risk Management tomorrow.

Mr. Westerman: Yes, sir, I heard you.

Ms. Nakamura: On the period equipment maintenance and repairs, now that we are going toward a centralize equipment repair, will your equipment go to this centralize facility or are you still doing it on your own?

Mr. Westerman: You have asked me a question I know nothing about.

Ms. Nakamura: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: As far as I know my fire mechanic and hopefully my second mechanic will be working on my equipment. Right now we do still have the support of Transportation because we do not have our central mechanic onboard with our trucks. Hopefully as soon as we can get the issue resolve with our second mechanic, we will be doing all of our maintenance.

Ms. Nakamura: And so you are still looking then for a storage location in the Westside.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: And what size facility are you looking for to house the equipment?

Mr. Vierra: We have a two (2) storage facilities, one (1) in the Kōloa area, behind the Kōloa Fire Station and we have one (1) at the Hanalei base yard. And so we are looking at the similar size.

Mr. Westerman: The Hanalei base yard is about...

Mr. Vierra: Thirty by ninety.

Ms. Nakamura: And the location would be like the Kapa'a base yard for example... is a possibility?

Mr. Vierra: That was tossed around as a idea possibility.

Chair Furfaro: And just so we know, the Hanalei facility was built with contributions from the North Shore Rotary and it was built in the old base yard in Hanalei.

Ms. Yukimura: First of all, congratulations on your eighth win for your junior lifeguard. What a record! Following up on the question about the storage sub-station – thirty by ninety is how big? Is it about this room?

Mr. Vierra: Maybe a little smaller than this room.

Ms. Yukimura: A little smaller than this room. That is pretty big but that is because you are storing equipment?

Mr. Vierra: Trucks, trailers, equipment, ATVs, Jet Skies.

Ms. Yukimura: I was wondering why it was not included in the Kaiākea Fire Stations plans or could a site there be used still as a retrofit?

Mr. Westerman: I do not know why it was not approved in there. We did include other things in the Kaiākea Fire Station, extra space for a mechanic to work on that side. The lot was very difficult to work with even though it seemed like a lot of acres. We ended up with not very much usable space because of what we have to do. I am sure we can find a location that would not require the purchase of land, like the base yard as a possibility. When and if we move Kapa‘a Station location maybe we will locate it with the Kapa‘a Station.

Ms. Yukimura: Even with the Police planning for their sub-station, it really – if one could take... ask who is missing or what are the other things we have to plan for in the next twenty years, we might catch some of this synergy on facilities, for not just Fire but Water Safety... or even outside the Fire Department if it fits. Not of course if it does not fit. My other question is about the long term injuries that you say have been a challenge in terms of men power coverage. Has there been an analysis of these long term injuries and what cause them, whether it could be prevented? Because it is obviously that we really have a big problem in having operations work well?

Mr. Vierra: I do not think an analysis was done but there was a variety of different injuries from rescue board injuries to the Jet Skies response injuries to walk down the stairs on the tower type of injuries, there is a variety different injuries.

Ms. Yukimura: Well is there not...

Mr. Vierra: Some was long term and some was a few months.

Ms. Yukimura: I am sure the Chair is more familiar then I am but I think there is some kind of saying that almost no accident is an accident and this is that area again of Risk Management but I think company's everywhere are striving for zero accidents because they have such an impact on operations. I am just wondering if there might not be a way to access some resources for the Water Safety Bureau in terms of analyzing and then implementing increase safety measures.

Chair Furfaro: Has this been summarized for the Lost Prevention Department?

Mr. Westerman: The Loss Prevention Department has been with all the way on these injuries and actually two (2) of the long term injuries have actually since left the service with us. That is kind of helping us – like I said we are getting ready to hire replacements. I truly understand what you are saying, Councilmember Yukimura...

Chair Furfaro: Let me finish the question. I just finished my fourth computer test of Lost Prevention.

Mr. Westerman: Yes, sir.

Chair Furfaro: I want you to know so far I have not gotten one (1) wrong, I have all my diplomas... is the same thing happening for water safety?

Mr. Westerman: That is what I was going to say Chair, if we were sitting behind a desk and we were doing lost prevention behind the desk, taking that test, we were teaching someone how to use a fire extinguisher. Teaching them how to pick up a box, paper and not injured their back...

Chair Furfaro: I want to make sure you understand, I am not agreeing with sitting behind a desk to do... I want field training.

Mr. Westerman: These injuries result from water safety officers that are some of the fittest men and women living on the island of Kaua'i. In some of the most hazardous conditions hanging off of the back of a jet skies, bouncing through waves and yanking and grabbing people out of the water. There is nothing you can do other than to say take the injury, or not respond. These injuries are that level of injury. There not injuries from just walking down the beach or maybe picking up their board...

Ms. Yukimura: Walking down the steps though is one thing.

Mr. Westerman: Walking down the steps, I grant it but again... okay, you caught me on one (1) but for the most part and again we can create a class for walk down the steps carefully but most of the injuries we have are multiple years of injuries that happen to the water safety officers. Most of them are results from rescues or they are in a very hazardous condition and it is physically demanding on the body, those one we really... I do not know what we can do other than continue our physical conditioning and ask them to be careful. The other ones we do. We do participate in the Risk Management program but there has not been too many of them that was directly related to ocean safety.

Ms. Yukimura: You are saying that you have actually analyzed these long term injuries and they are primarily hazardous – they are from hazardous situations? Most of your long term injuries are that cause?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: And there are no training in terms of jet skies usage and so forth help to prevent some of that?

Mr. Westerman: We do have jet skies training. We do caution them on how to properly pull people out of the water and how to grab the people.

Ms. Yukimura: Do you know whether in these cases of these injuries they followed those rules or whether they did not or were not informed of the ways to do that? That is the kind of analysis I am asking because you are giving me an analysis but has it actually been done?

Mr. Westerman: Other than me reviewing the documentation, no.

Mr. Blalock: As we fill out the report there is actions that could have been taken to prevent and things like that. As we go through them, whether it is retraining or things that we have to go through to... and every situation... what Chief is saying is that not every situation is the same. Although we try to follow certain guidelines on how we do rescues or how we do jet skies operations and not every situation is the same. As we do fill out IA reports asking what happened, what could have been done better and then there is some retraining with that effect to it but again there is so much that we train and so much that we do. Tripping down the stairs on a wet day or something, I do not know... maybe we need more... we can look at something to put in more sand... What prevented the measures could have been done and putting more sand strips and things like that.

Chair Furfaro: Getting back to the water safety piece and I know Kalani knows this as well, I used to be a water safety instructor for the City and County of Honolulu and I think especially with the Jet Skies rescues, people do not realize that you are out there getting pounded in big surf that you should have no business in. Sometimes the waves are so thick, you cannot even see over as to the approaching next wave. I think it would be good to just periodically have some dialog about different techniques and approaches that have been used and just constant make improvements because it is the heat of the moment, the rescue, how you are approaching with the jet skies, how far behind the boogie board is being tallied, how you reach out and grab a risk, an arm, how you pull them up. It would not hurt in that really specialized kind of condition to just have some shared dialogs sometimes to talk about techniques because I think we really have a fine water safety department and when you are out in the ocean and so forth, reacting to instantaneous responses between the sets of a couple monstrous waves, it is good just to talk story kind of thing.

Mr. Vierra: Do not get me wrong, all the injuries is not work related, we have a lot of off duty injuries also that is long term.

Chair Furfaro: But I am just saying with the jet skies, I think it is just ongoing dialog and just constantly improving the techniques or experimenting with some new approaches that might be good for the jet skies in the water safety department.

Ms. Yukimura: Regarding this beach safety signs, how much does it cost to do replacement in a timely matter?

Mr. Vierra: For replace one (1) sign?

Ms. Yukimura: Well I mean... like when we are repaving a road, we say a repaved road have a expected life of fifteen years or something, so then if you post one sign then you expect that and in five years or ten years, it needs to be replaced. What I guess I am describing is a sign replacement schedule.

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: And if you have fifty signs or a hundred signs and they have all been put in at once then whatever the... of course conditions are different.

Mr. Vierra: Yes, the east side is where the most corrosive.

Ms. Yukimura: Right, right. So you would have a differential in terms of replacement need but if you kind of have it organized then you know every year, you need so much money or every five years or whatever it is and do replacement, put it in the budget like it is a regular thing and then a memo of understanding with Public Works that they would take it on or

something. Just to create some kind of a system to it, so it is not something you have to think about. It just comes up every interval or whatever. Is that a possibility?

Mr. Vierra: It is. I think the east side signs have probably a two (2) to three (3) year time as to Kekaha has a seven (7) to eight (8) year.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay, there you go. And then there is some vandalism which you would not be able to... it does not have a regular schedule. What ball park cost are we talking about? Because if it is not that much and it is of a critical nature, then we really should put the moneys in there.

Mr. Westerman: Well it is not the cost of the material, it is the cost of the time of the people to come in and put up the signs. And if you are running all over the island back and forth and replacing the signs, that is a lot of logistical.

Ms. Yukimura: Exactly.

Mr. Westerman: It is a lot of logistics and that really creates the problem. If you said this year we want to budget for Westside, we are going to replace all the Westside signs, you get them all done within a week or so then that is probably something that kind be done. On the South shore or half of the south shore... because it is not just on our beaches, I mean they are everywhere.

Ms. Yukimura: But having a system like that would even make it easier for Public Works is involved for them to do it because like you said, you go down there in one day or two days or one week or whatever you take, if you can assign out that kind of time, it is much more efficient than going back and forth. You will still have the occasional car bang the sign or something which would have to be case by case but... I am inviting you to tell us how money you think you will need annually on this.

Mr. Westerman: We can work on that.

Ms. Yukimura: But I am just thinking that if we do it like your vehicle or engine replacement schedule, it is just there... it pops up somehow.

Chair Furfaro: Kalani, you have provided us a list of all the signs and if you take there and evaluate some kind of rotating schedule and it would be a good place to start this discussion and then make sure that we get Loss Prevention to sign off on it.

Mr. Kualii'i: On the discussion about the long term injuries in your bullet on challenges, you said on-call lifeguard positions have been working on forty hour, eighty-nine day contracts... how many in an eighty-nine day period?

Mr. Vierra: We had about six of them on the eighty-nine day working contract.

Mr. Kualii'i: At the same time?

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Mr. Kualii'i: So in the bullet later on how it is being addressed when you say the OSD is requesting an interest of two on-call lifeguard positions to assist with coverage. In the budget, is it the same the temporary beach lifeguards?

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Mr. Kualii: So, four on-call lifeguards, twelve months at ninety hours per week, fifteen dollars an hour, that is what is going to address that?

Mr. Vierra: Yes.

Mr. Kualii: Is forty-eight thousand dollars enough for that? You say nineteen hours a week but it is really only like fifteen hours a week.

Mr. Vierra: Sometime we would work them eight hours a week, it all depends on the manpower. Sometimes we do not even work them for a month, it all depending on the manpower issues.

Mr. Kualii: Thank you.

Mr. Rapozo: It is a great opportunity to thank Kalani and the crew out there because you save a lot of people and it does not always make the paper. Somebody drowns, it goes Statewide, all the thousands of people you guys advise and warn and prevent from getting hurt, that goes unnoticed, so thank you very much. That leaves me to my first question. What about a system as far as the signs about sending a work request to Public Works because signs are not your job. Lifeguards should not be concerned about a stinking sign or it should not be. I appreciate the questions but... when I was in the military, I was a telephone guy, I showed up at a telephone service call and if I saw a problem with a sign or pole or whatever, we refer it to the civil engineers, they get it fixed. The phone guy did not have to go and fix a sign. You guys need to be on the beach watching the beach and not dealing with signs. We will deal with this with Risk Management shows up because it is their issue, it is not Public Works issues or lifeguards issues. What the heck are we doing when we know we get the lawsuits and the State paying all these millions out because of signs and it is being corroded and falling down and a simple form by your department to Public Works that sign needs to be up period and end of story and that is just my solution.

Chair Furfaro: Let us make sure Mr. Rapozo, it is the responsibility of water safety to report it.

Mr. Rapozo: Yes, no doubt about that. Because if we left that up to Public Works we would have no signs. The other question is about your storage facility every day I come into work I pass that big white tent on the golf course and I have asked Parks twice for a response what is the plan. Is that something you guys can use? That big white tent. That is an expensive that is all ripping already, it is falling apart and I am sure it can be repaired but is that something you guys could use if we had the site like at the base yard? Is that something that you guys are looking for where you could drive in and it is deteriorating right in front of our eyes, that is several hundred grand I believe that thing cost and it is sitting there flapping in the wind. I have sent several request to Parks, what is the plan and I get no response but if we could use that, we could relocate that to someplace where we got the land. Is that something you guys could use?

Mr. Blalock: We would rather have the trailers that is right next to the tent.

Mr. Rapozo: Well that is there too. I do not know what that is doing but you could not put your supplies in there.

Mr. Blalock: It would be an office at least for the site supervisor to work out of and to have a computer home base.

Mr. Rapozo: We can ask for that too but I know for in fact for that white thing, there is use for that and I just think as I am hearing you talk about the trucks, trailers, jet skies, boats... I think it is perfect. We will send that over in a request. Well that is all I have and I appreciate what you guys do. Public safety and that is my basis, it is just something that we should not compromise and all what I am hearing is you guys need so much and I do not know how we are going to make all this happen but it is up to us on this table to try to make as much of that happen as possible.

Chair Furfaro: As we go through this we will prioritize it but chief have we talked about helicopter at all?

Mr. Westerman: No.

Chair Furfaro: So when we do come back, we would like to talk about that. Do you have any other supervisors that need to report yet?

Mr. Westerman: No sir.

There being no objections, the Council recessed at 4:51 p.m.

The Council reconvened at 5:07 p.m., and proceeded as follows:

Mr. Chang: That display we had of all the rescues throughout 2008 or 2009, do we keep stats with how many are Kaua'i residents as opposed to off island tourist?

Mr. Blalock: As far as when we do fill out the report, there is a tab if it is possible that we do get the information we would input it. If we do not get that information at that time, we would not input it, it would be unknown. If it is available and we had the time to gather information for it we would input it.

Mr. Westerman: Basically what we are saying is that it would not be very accurate because we are not intentionally tracking it at this time.

Mr. Chang: That would be good information that we give back to our State Legislatures also especially because a lot of stuff happens on State land. When we are in discussions about keeping money's here on Kaua'i and asking for funding, that would be a good stat that we can look in the future for the benefit of all of us just to see where we are at.

Chair Furfaro: I think hand piece is the presentation.

Mr. Westerman: This particular handout that you have it does indicate which one were on State land rescues were on State land but it does not indicate which one maybe visitors and which may be residents.

Ms. Yukimura: Are these both helicopter and land?

Mr. Westerman: These are both.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: And of these if you look at the last page, a hundred and thirty-five Air 1 was used on a hundred thirty-five for these particular incidences.

Ms. Yukimura: Do you know what the total cost of operations is for Air 1?

Mr. Westerman: Yes, it is our line item in our budget, three hundred sixty thousand dollars for a pilot contract. A hundred thousand dollars for our parts and seventy-five thousand dollars for our fuel but last year we did not use all of our hundred thousand dollars in parts, so we saved about a eighty thousand... because it is still in the first couple years and we got lucky and did not have any major parts break. I can get you the exact cost if you would like that.

Ms. Yukimura: I would actually like to get on one page all the cost of operations. Are we still making payments on the helicopter?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Ms. Yukimura: Lease payments? So that was like two hundred?

Mr. Westerman: Two hundred and nine thousand thirty-four or something like that.

Ms. Yukimura: And then fuel is seventy-five thousand, pilot contract is three hundred sixty thousand. We are looking at six hundred thousand a year?

Chair Furfaro: I guess that is a rough number?

Mr. Westerman: I guess.

Ms. Yukimura: More than that? What are we missing?

Chair Furfaro: Did you do parts? Because they sent twenty thousand on parts.

Mr. Blalock: Parts change... it is all calculated.

Chair Furfaro: But you had a hundred thousand in your budget and you did not change anything?

Mr. Westerman: Minor stuff on maintenance. Three hundred hour inspection, some blade work but most of the stuff that we had replaced was under warranty.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay. So that number can be expected to grow as it gets older. Insurance? Do we have particular insurance for this?

Mr. Westerman: I do not have it in my budget but we do have insurance, we would have to get that from Risk Management, they handles the insurance.

Ms. Yukimura: How many usages, you said for the State lands it was a hundred thirty-five over a two year period... 2009... I do not know is this calendar years that we are talking about?

Mr. Westerman: I have the other two charts that I gave you. It was kind of last minute, I did not anticipate these questions but if you would like to send over the exact

questions that you would like answered, I can provide those answers. I do not want to guess even though I have some...

Chair Furfaro: Sure, understood.

Mr. Westerman: ...information here, I can provide those exact numbers to you.

Ms. Yukimura: I am just concerned about the cost of operation and if there were to be cost effective, there would be more than if we had contracted out or whatever. I was not here for the discussions on the purchase but I just wanted to see how it is all unfolding.

Mr. Westerman: We hired a consultant to do that evaluation for us and Dillon Management, they did that several years ago. I can send you a copy of that and of course the two main issues are one (1), we could have continued the way we were but we still maintained that we had the extreme risk that we had, we were not training and we were not flying within the FAA requirements. The next three options are ranged different way in which to do this. One of them was a complete contract that is helicopter, pilots, everything which was more expensive than this option. This option was the cheapest of the three which was to purchase and then do the pilot maintenance contract. We can send a copy of that over.

Chair Furfaro: Send them over here and so forth, the fact of the matter is we have already made the decision and at the time it was the best of the three options but why don't you send those over?

Mr. Westerman: Sure, can do.

Chair Furfaro: As we deal with this number, do you know of any other County's that at minimum at least charge for the fuel to go get somebody from the Valley, they at least charge for the fuel?

Mr. Westerman: No. Nobody is charging for the fuel. Nobody is charging in Hawai'i for rescues.

Chair Furfaro: How about in places like Arizona, the Grand Canyon do you know?

Mr. Westerman: I can tell you that a resort area in Colorado did several years ago and after about a year and a half, all the resort businesses ask that they stop charging because people left and went other places. What they did was they added a fee to the ticket to skies the mountains. When they added the fee, it cost more money to skies the mountains and that money was to pay for the helicopter rescue operations. Couple years later, they changed their mind because people went to other places. There is and we went over this before, there are two – County ordinance and there is a State law about us being able to bill for services. They have to have intentionally put themselves in harm's way and it has to be determined by our Corp Counsel and then we could consider charging people for that rescue event. I have not turned in a rescue report or operations report to the County Attorney since we have the helicopter and asked him to determine that – if it was intentionally put themselves in harm's way. I do not know if a rescue that would be close to me doing that.

Chair Furfaro: I understand but my question was very simple – charge for fuel. We do not charge for fuel?

Mr. Westerman: We do not charge for anything.

Mr. Chang: Is the Police Department using the helicopter also?

Mr. Westerman: Yes, sir.

Mr. Chang: I am trying to find, is in their budget that they have any line item helping with the cost of the helicopter maintenance?

Mr. Westerman: I do not know but we charge them.

Mr. Chang: Oh, okay. I understand. The last time we were here in discussion also, what are the hours of the helicopter? What is the earliest you can fly and what is the latest you can be?

Mr. Westerman: An hour before sun up and an after sun down.

Chair Furfaro: Depending on the season.

Mr. Chang: And that goes with the Police Department also?

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Mr. Chang: I remember one time we had a request for infrared, that stuff is not needed then?

Mr. Westerman: The helicopters configured for nine vision goggles and we have them available but we do not have the pilots trained to flight night vision goggles. And if we have a full moon enough, it is possible that it was I guess we really have to think about flying if it was a full moon because there might be enough light for the pilots to fly.

Mr. Chang: I guess that is when the Coast Guard kicks in?

Mr. Westerman: Usually.

Mr. Chang: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: I would not depend on the silowets of the mountain to guide me at night. I like the first answer chief.

Ms. Yukimura: I would be interested in receiving a rescue and operation report in terms of how many rescues we have made, how many have been – for what purposes and if we are doing it cross agency like for the Police Department, how many of those we have made and what charges back we have charged them. Actually when I saw in the budget for Civil Defense twenty-five hundred dollars for a helicopter to service our transmitting sites, I thought about how much it would cost to use our helicopter? Those issues come up when you have a helicopter and I am also interested in what the protocols are for determining when you use the helicopter and when you do not.

Mr. Westerman: We have a County policy on when the helicopter is used and we cannot use it if we take business away from a private sector, this is an emergency piece of equipment not a routine piece of equipment.

Ms. Yukimura: That makes sense. I would like to request a rescue operations report.

Mr. Westerman: That is just a regular RMS report for an incident.

Ms. Yukimura: I would like a summary report – how many rescues are made a year.

Mr. Westerman: If you can send over what you would like to see, we can compile that report.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: This is one of those questions that I will allow to go till Friday, instead of a forty-eight hour turn around.

Mr. Westerman: I think we can come up with it by...

Chair Furfaro: I am giving you the extra time, if you do not want it that is fine...

Mr. Westerman: It is a matter of if we can gather the data that you want and what format you want it in, then we can probably do that. Just so you understand, the Police Department, it is four hundred fifty dollars an hour for their flights time, that is fuel and basic wear and tear. Even as you noticed, Civil Defense have money in their budget to fly helicopters, Planning has money in their budget for helicopters, other departments have money in their budget for helicopters. For the none emergency flight times, so does Police but if they uses our helicopter... I take that back... if the Police uses the County helicopter, they pay us four hundred and fifty dollars to put in our budget to pay for the fuel and to pay for the wear and tear on the parts. It would be the same for anybody else, we would fly and have flown for a maintenance issue because it was down and we needed to fly immediately to find out if it was something that could be fixed right away, it was one of the radio systems. They discovered what was wrong, they came back and then they scheduled the maintenance flight for someone to carry up all the parts and equipment needed to make the repair of the facility.

Mr. Rapozo: Where did that policy come from that we cannot use the County helicopter if – we cannot take away from the private?

Mr. Westerman: Two things, one is the FAA issue. We are not a private carrier, we are public service and we cannot do private carrier work.

Mr. Rapozo: Okay.

Mr. Westerman: If we were to fly just people around the island.

Mr. Rapozo: I understand that part but if Planning wanted to go do a...

Chair Furfaro: Investigation.

Mr. Rapozo: Yes investigation or aerial survey of the north shore, why would they not be able to use the County helicopter for that?

Mr. Westerman: Again, that is a private use of the helicopter that is not public use of the helicopter. Public use is defined as emergency work for the helicopter.

Mr. Rapozo: And where does that come from?

Mr. Westerman: That comes from the FAA.

Mr. Rapozo: So the FAA prohibits us from using the helicopter for Planning?

Mr. Westerman: It does not prohibits us from it, it just kind of restricts what we can do and again if the function can be done and is not an emergency situation – life or death situation, or in this case the radio network is down which is really life or death in the long run if you are at the far end of it if you wanted to think about it... then it becomes a public use helicopter or private use helicopter. We cannot mix the two. That was the problem that we had was that we had that mixture and in the old fashion way for doing it, there was a in the old US code allowable for on occasion for us to take the private helicopter service, turned it into public and go do the rescue and let him have his helicopter back. Do you understand what I am getting at?

Mr. Rapozo: Yes.

Mr. Westerman: And then the FAA says that does not exist anymore and by the way this is not occasional use, you are using that helicopter all the time. Now you are doing both private and public with the same helicopter and that is what they do not allow. It has to be...

Mr. Rapozo: I guess...

Mr. Westerman: There has to be a separation.

Mr. Rapozo: I agree with that but I just look at the Planning use or the County use, any County use would be as not a public use, it would be a private use... a County use.

Mr. Westerman: Well, I agree with Planning. The Planning issue, we have them in our plan that we can do it for an investigation because that is almost like a criminal service trying to investigate and end up with a criminal service. The issue of we know we want to fly someone in to repair something and we know what all the maintenance and parts are, we are actually taking work away from a public service helicopter or a private service helicopter. That is when the FAA would step in and say you are over stepping your bounce.

Chair Furfaro: Chief, I have to tell you I have not seen these photographs but the Civil Air patrol that we support, I understand they took some wonderful documented pictures of Hanalei Valley during this period of flooding. I would think that we would have that same kind of flexibility with our aircraft because it would deal with potential public safety issues. It is something that we should probably ask the County Attorney's Office to give us kind of a definition of that. The Civil Air patrol did a great job with those photos from what I have heard from people on the North Shore yet we will have that kind of... for some of us that has been around for awhile, we remember the fire in Hanalei. That was kind of an emergency of understanding a brush fire to that nature. That clearly is to me an emergency use.

Mr. Westerman: Absolutely.

Chair Furfaro: I would think flooding would be the same.

Mr. Blalock: That would be covered under the public use because you are doing a damage assessment per say of any particular area and that would be allowable under the FAA. We are working on procuring cameras and that would be available for us to do something like that.

Chair Furfaro: Okay.

Mr. Chang: I think when we were first discussing the purchase of the helicopter, when we had the private vendor out on the Westside, because he was tour and travel, you would normally have a tour that is in the air and all of a sudden he would have to abort, go back to Burns Field refuel, get you guys there, so I think back then the discussion was the point was when you needed the emergency because the helicopter was stationed in Līhu'e, the point was there was nothing else involved if you needed to go just like that, you would be out the door sort to speak. That is kind of like the sense of urgency that we have and I guess we will continue to have because I can see if someone is doing surveillance or whatever is going out there then for them to respond back, those precious minutes could be damaging for a rescue operation.

Mr. Blalock: We do have something plotted out...

Mr. Westerman: On the lines of what you are saying...

Mr. Blalock: We charted one as far as what is our response time prior to and it was like an hour versus...

Chair Furfaro: Francisco, you need to come up to the table.

FRANCISCO GARCIA: We did an analysis of just one year prior to having Air 1 and our response time for helicopter rescues, the average response time for a helicopter was fifty-eight minutes, was taking to respond to a call. After Air 1, it is taking us sixteen minutes.

Chair Furfaro: One, six?

Mr. Garcia: One, six – sixteen. In some instances, it took the highest was close to four hours to have access to a helicopter to respond to a rescue.

Chair Furfaro: When we were using private...

Mr. Garcia: When we were using a private contractor.

Chair Furfaro: So we have gone as long as four hours to get something in the air to assist with that emergency but now we are averaging sixteen minutes.

Mr. Garcia: Sixteen minutes... and some of that – the sixteen minutes are actually sounds more than it actually it is because a lot of the calls come in as somebody needs assistance on Hanakāpī'ai Trail and until we have gotten confirmation that there is actually somebody in need of assistance, only then the helicopter goes into the air. We are not going to put the helicopter in the air until we have confirmation there is somebody that needs assistance.

Chair Furfaro: Well Mr. Garcia, this is good information for us to continue to track.

Mr. Garcia: Yes.

Chair Furfaro: Because that is definitely minutes that can make a difference in a rescue.

Ms. Yukimura: If it is somebody with a sprained ankle on that trail, do you automatically release the helicopter for a rescue? What is your protocol decision making?

Mr. Blalock: Depends where they are on the trail. If they are in Hanakoa, we would use a helicopter. It is not feasible to send fire fighters six miles in to hike and then carry them out six miles out of the trail.

Ms. Yukimura: But a sprained ankle? So we are spending four hundred fifty dollars an hour to help somebody with a sprained ankle?

Mr. Blalock: A lot of times it come in as a broken ankle. They will say it is a broken ankle, swollen... so we really do not know, we have to there and investigate.

Ms. Yukimura: What if they are just tired and hungry and hot and they say it is a sprained ankle and it is not even that?

Mr. Blalock: We still have to respond. We cannot ignore the call.

Chair Furfaro: I think we are going to pursue the question with the County Attorney's Office about at least recovering cost if it is feasible and it might be a judgment call. That was a little bit of an exaggeration if somebody was just tired and hungry and wanted to ride, but I think the point is well taken.

Ms. Yukimura: I am just asking how you distinguish between that request and others.

Chair Furfaro: I think what he is saying how they call it in for a description.

Mr. Blalock: We had a special instance today, last night somebody hiked out from the trail reporting we had ten people trapped on the other side of Hanakāpī'ai stream because of flooding. This morning we relocated Engine 8 up to Station 1 rescue 3 and Engine 1 hiked into the trail. On arriving in Hanakāpī'ai, we did not find anybody across the stream but a couple hiking out from Hanakoa reported there was a large group of people at Hanakoa. Previously I notified DLNR and advice them that we have some people trapped, so he had two (2) officers scheduled to fly in to Hanakāpī'ai to do some work and redirected them to Hanakoa via private helicopters. The landed and found that a lady was indeed was having some chest pains, her and her husband and the other nine people were hiking out. We did utilize Air 1 to fly in to bring the couple out. A lot of them – we have to go in and investigate, we cannot just... it could be more serious and the County would be liable, the Fire Department if something happened.

Ms. Yukimura: You cannot do everything and if you go through the proper assessment process, that would... I would guess that would somehow protect you or should in terms of how the law – what the law requires. I am not saying it is an easy call, that is why I am asking the question. How do you make these calls.

Chair Furfaro: I think for now, you understand our concern because we are already an hour over today's session. It is critical that we have some type of evaluation, confirmation somehow how that works, I think that if all possible you should ponder this.

Mr. Blalock: I think there is a misconception that you are saying as soon as we get the call...

Chair Furfaro: No, I think we understood.

Mr. Blalock: We try to gather as much information...

Ms. Yukimura: I am asking how you make the decision.

Chair Furfaro: She is saying when you get that information, how do you make the call?

Ms. Yukimura: I was just interested in how you make the assessment and the call to send in helicopters.

Mr. Chang: Do we keep in touch with the visitor industry? Are there eyes and ears for us, do we call various companies, they then call their Captains via radios, to confirm and assist because if it is a sprained ankle, it is a lot more feasible that they can drop off somewhere or bring them all the way back to Port Allen. Are we communicating with the industry people also that they can be helpful as they have in the past?

Chair Furfaro: And remember it is only a seasonal SOS.

Mr. Westerman: Right that is exactly what I was going to say. They do help us. Sometimes the SOS come in from the tour helicopters because they said somebody wrote "help" on the beach or "SOS" and they will not land and cannot land. The boats is probably the only one that can do a really targeted assistance and as the Chair pointed out, it is very seasonal. It is not that we do not talk to them or do not talk to them, it is not something that is automatic – we do not know who it is going to be, where they are. So it is really not likely to count on it to be there every day. I did want to address if I could real quick about your other question. If for some reason we are flying Planning and we do an incident, our plan is very detailed in there about what they would do... in some cases it might say that Mr. Planning, we are going to dump you on the mountain and leave you there, we are going to do the rescue and then we are going to come back and get you. We are not going to waste time and taking you all the way back. All of the Department's know what the County helicopter policy is and know how they will fit inside that function. There are times they are all addressed and you are right we can do some county work, we just have to be careful to the level of county work we can do but the policy is very explicit, it is for life safety is number one and than Fire, Police, civil Defense operations are number two and then down priority number six on who gets to be using the helicopter at any given time.

Ms. Nakamura: Of the two assistant chief positions that you think would be helpful, which one would be a priority?

Mr. Westerman: Assistance Chief of operations for sure to start the system off.

Ms. Nakamura: With the accreditation.

Mr. Westerman: Yes.

Ms. Nakamura: Who funded the beach safety guys previously?

Mr. Westerman: Before they visitor industry charity walk provided funding for us and Councilmember Chang has talked to us off line and maybe we can convince them to... and OED gave us some moneys in the past.

Ms. Nakamura: How much is the cost of brochures?

Mr. Westerman: Depends how much you order. Our orders have been as much as thirty thousand, depending on how many brochures we buy.

Ms. Nakamura: Councilmember Chang is going to follow up on that?

Mr. Chang: Yes. Obviously the more we buy, the less it is.

Ms. Yukimura: Is there a real direct correlation between drowning and the beach guide? I have been working in drug prevention and they make us really try to look at the cause and effect.

Mr. Westerman: Over the years the water safety task force has tried every avenue they could to make sure that we provide as much information as we can to the visitor industry. This is just one of many things that we do and we have never evaluated it.

Ms. Yukimura: Have we done survey's to see that visitors actually really read it and they learn from it or is it a website thing now that they do on their phone that is more logical? They say that you do these seminars on drug prevention and that would prevent kids from using drugs, there is no real correlation to that. That is what I am just asking. The visitor industry does do survey's so maybe we need to include some questions to check if there is a real correlation.

Mr. Westerman: We have done a couple different survey's Pat from the Wave Project has done one, I do not have all the specifics of that survey with me. I would say they must be doing something or they would have be using as many as they are. They do get picked up at the airport, we also have them at the airport and they get picked up at the airport and hopefully are looked at by visitors that picked them up and gotten some little knowledge from them. Again, there is no way... we have thought about an exit survey but do you know what it is like to get an exit survey at that airport, it is insane.

Ms. Yukimura: But the visitor bureau does that. You could just add a question in their surveys.

Mr. Westerman: Well I sure would like to find the person that would let me do that because we hit a couple stonewalls on that one.

Mr. Rezendes: My wife works for a hotel on the North shore and they use the beach safety guides extensively and they do try to educate they guest with the guides. The reason why I know that is I am always asked to go to OED and pick them up boxes to take home so she can take it to work.

Ms. Yukimura: That is good information.

Mr. Rezendes: I am sure it is something... I know when they meet and sit down with their guest, they do provide that and they try to provide... give them some words of wisdom in some areas not to go and they use the guide extensively.

Ms. Yukimura: So it makes sense as an education visitor industry related expenditure to spend that money.

Mr. Rezendes: I believe so, yes.

Ms. Yukimura: Okay.

Chair Furfaro: I just want to add to that, they order four hundred and eighty thousand brochures a year and they distribute it to most of the travel desk throughout the hotels and most of the time share complexes then do part of their breakfast briefings review of their brochures.

Ms. Yukimura: What is that cost we are looking at?

Ms. Nakamura: Fifteen to twenty thousand.

Ms. Yukimura: My last question is you have five thousand calls approximately and it has been five thousand since 2007 or less, it is starting to go back up again, of that how many are fire related calls?

Mr. Westerman: Last year, it was two hundred and thirty-seven if I remember my report correctly.

Ms. Yukimura: Two hundred thirty-seven were fire related and how many fires? Oh, we had thirteen.

Mr. Westerman: We had sixteen investigative fires, last calendar year.

Ms. Yukimura: So 2011 – sixteen investigated fires.

Chair Furfaro: Any other last questions for the Fire Chief? Let us not confuse the rules, if you are sending over questions in writing, we want to get them turned around in forty-eight hours. Except for the two that I had identified. Could you give the Chief an idea, is there ten questions going over in writing?

Ms. Yukimura: About five more questions.

Chair Furfaro: About five more questions coming over in writing from what you did not hear verbally. Chief, I have a message for you, I appreciate all the work from your team and everything but it was very hard to follow some of your narrative that said you need this but yet when we look at the budget, we see it is in there. Thank you for an excellent job today by all of your department heads. On that note, I am going to call it an end to the Fire Department.

The budget review was recessed at 5:46 p.m.