

COUNTY OF KAUAIMinutes of Meeting
OPEN SESSION

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| Board/Commission: | | Kaua'i Fire Commission | Meeting Date: | January 21, 2025 |
| Location | Lihu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building Meeting Room 2A-2B 4444 Rice Street, Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i | | Start of Meeting: 2:00 p.m. | End of Meeting: 3:12 p.m. |
| Present | Chair Rodney Yama, Vice Chair Gary Pacheco; Commissioners: Lori Almarza, Jen Chahanovich, Trevor Ford, Alfredo Garces Jr. (entered meeting at 2:01). Also present: Boards & Commissions Office Staff: Support Clerk Lisa Oyama; Administrator Ellen Ching; Office of the County Attorney: Deputy County Attorney Jenna Tatsey | | | |
| Excused | Commissioner Jeff Murray | | | |
| Absent | | | | |

| SUBJECT | DISCUSSION | ACTION |
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| Meeting Called to Order/Roll Call to ascertain quorum | Chair Yama called the Fire Commission January 21, 2025, meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. A roll call ensued that quorum was established, six (6) Commissioners were present to conduct business. | Quorum was established with six (6) Commissioners present. |
| Election of Chair Pro-Tem | Chair Yama was selected as Pro-Tem. | Commissioner Chahanovich moved to appoint Chair Yama as Pro-Tem. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0. |
| Election of Chair and Vice Chair for Calendar Year 2025 | Commissioner Ford nominated Chair Yama for Chair. Boards and Commissions Administrator Ellen Ching stated that a Chair can only serve one year. Commissioner Chahanovich made a motion to select Vice Chair Pacheco as Chair. Commissioner Almarza seconded the motion. Vice Chair Pacheco accepted the position as Fire Commission Chair. Commissioner Chahanovich motioned for Commissioner Almarza as Vice Chair. Vice Chair Pacheco seconded the motion. | Commissioner Chahanovich made a motion to select Vice Chair Pacheco as Chair. Commissioner Almarza seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0. |

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| | <p>Commissioner Almarza declined the position. Commissioner Chahanovich withdrew her motion for Commissioner Almarza as Vice Chair. Vice Chair Pacheco withdrew his second.</p> <p>Commissioner Garces nominated Commissioner Ford as Vice Chair. Commissioner Chahanovich seconded the motion. Commissioner Ford accepted the position as Fire Commission Vice Chair.</p> | <p>Commissioner Garces nominated Commissioner Ford as Vice Chair. Commissioner Chahanovich second the motion. Motion carried 6:0.</p> |
| Approval of Agenda | Chair Pacheco called for a motion to approve the agenda as circulated. | <p>Commissioner Almarza moved to approve the January 21, 2025, agenda. Commissioner Yama seconded the motion. Motion carried 6:0.</p> |
| Chair's Announcements | <p>Next Regular Monthly Meeting will be 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at the: Līhu'e Civic Center, Moikeha Building Meeting Room 2A-2B 4444 Rice Street, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766</p> | |
| Public Testimony | <p>Chair Pacheco called for public testimony. No public testimony was received. Ms. Ching stated for the record that there is no one in the audience therefore it would not be necessary for Chair Pacheco to call for public testimony on each agenda item.</p> <p>Councilmember Felicia Cowden stated her concerns for the increase in fires.</p> | |
| Approval of Minutes | Chair Pacheco called for a motion to amend or approve the minutes of the November 19, 2024, meeting. | <p>Vice Chair Ford moved to approve the November 19, 2024, meeting minutes as circulated. Commissioner Chahanovich seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the minutes were approved. 6:0.</p> |

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| Chief's Monthly Bureau Reports and Updates for November and December 2024 | <p>a) Update on Kaua'i Fire and Ocean Safety, including updates on Partnerships, Resources Highlights, and Wildfire/Council</p> <p>b) Administrative Bureau Update, including updates on the budget, staffing, overtime report, facilities, and fleet</p> <p>c) Fire Operations Bureau Update, including statistics on calls for service and brief description of some of the incidents responded to</p> <p>d) Fire Prevention Bureau Update, including monthly statistics</p> <p>e) Fire Training Bureau Update, including monthly statistics</p> <p>f) Ocean Safety Bureau Update, including monthly statistics and bureau highlights</p> <p>g) Update on Fire Chief Gibson's progress regarding the Goals and Objectives for FY 2024-2025</p> <p><u>Fire and Ocean Safety</u> Ka'eo Lopez was promoted to Ocean Safety Captain. Russell Fujimoto and Billy Miller were promoted to Firefighter III. Lance Dettle was promoted to Firefighter II Hazmat. Currently have seventeen (17) personnel out due to injuries or illnesses.</p> <p><u>Resource Updates</u> Battalion Chiefs vehicle has arrived, is currently being outfitted with the graphics on the outside and radios.</p> <p><u>Administrative Bureau</u> 2 vacancies in office, one is for an accountant, the other is for a secretary, looking to reclassify the position to administrative clerk or trainee. Ocean Safety has one full time position open.</p> | <p>Commissioner Chahanovich moved to receive the Chief's Monthly Reports. Commissioner Yama seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, motion passes. 6:0.</p> |

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| Adjournment | Chair Pacheco called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. | Vice Chair Ford moved to adjourn. Commissioner Garces seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m. 6:0. |

Submitted by: Lisa Oyama
Lisa Oyama, Commission Support Clerk

Reviewed and Approved by: _____
Rodney Yama, Chair

(X) Approved as circulated (February 18, 2025, meeting).
() Approved with amendments.