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DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

KA LUNA HOʻOKELE

#### JOSH GREEN, M.D.

GOVERNOR OF HAWAIʻI

KE KIAʻĀINA O KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI

# STATE OF HAWAIʻI

In reply, please refer to:

File:

## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## KA ʻOIHANA OLAKINO

###  P. O. BOX 3378

### HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

HAWAII STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

MEETING # 131

Friday, September 22, 2023, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Hybrid Meeting at Red Conference Room located at 2385 Waimano Home Road, Pearl City, HI 96782

And via Zoom

Attendees

Voting: Kathleen Ho, Deputy Director of Environmental Health; Gerald Kosaki, Hawaii County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) Chair; Carlton Yamada, Honolulu LEPC Chair; Jeff Kihune, Maui County LEPC Chair; Abraham Mohr, Kauai LEPC Chair; Dr. Yuanan Lu, Thompson School, Social Work & Public Health; Kimberly Fuller, Dept. of Land and Natural Resources; Chris Takeno, Dept. of Transportation.

Non-Voting: Grace Simmons, Sharon Leonida, Isaiah Kela-Pacheco, Adam Teekell, Terry Corpus, Allison Hutto, Thomas Gilmore, Liz Galvez, Dept. of Health, Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) Office; Chris Reiner, United States EPA; LCDR Jesse Harms, William Marhoffer, United States Coast Guard; Eric Jensen, Tetra Tech; Bob Harter, City County, Dept. of Emergency Management

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:06 am by Kathleen Ho.
	1. Introduction of attendees on Zoom and in person
	2. Motion to approve minutes from meeting #130. Motion to accept from Gerald Kosaki, seconded by Carlton Yamada. Motion approved.
	3. Announcements: The Joint Task Force -Red Hill has successfully repacked the lines. There was 165,000 gallons of F24, 215,000 of JPS, total of 380 gallons. This is on track for defueling in mid-October.

For Maui fire, air monitoring is continuing, Kathy mentioned the different types of equipment. Working with the county, ATSDR to determine the locations where the equipment will be placed.

September 21, Kula homes were sampled for ash. Sampling for Lahaina will begin when EPA makes the decisions.

Town Hall meeting at Lahaina Civil Center, September 22. September 23 there will be a Filipino Resource Fair at Lahaina Civil Center. September 24, Town Hall at Maui Culture and Arts Center.

Several advisories were sent out and are on the Department of Health website. An advisory for the re-entry to Lahaina will be available in the packets for the residents.

1. LEPC Updates:
	1. Hawaii County: Gerald Kosaki, LEPC Chair
		1. LEPC meeting was on August 17, 2023. There were 15 members and 5 non-members.
		2. Several Hawaii Fire personal were on Maui.
		3. There were several fires on Hawaii Island at Kohala and the Mauna Kea

Beach area. Some structures were damaged. A previous fire was allowed to burn. The runoff went into the ocean and resulted in a fish kill.

Vehicle crashed into a transformer, two hundred gallons of non-PCB oil was spilled on soil and concrete at Walmart. Spill contained and mitigation. HEER office was notified.

A fire of hot coal mix ignited it was extinguish. There were concerns about the toxic plume that was generated.

EMS came into possession of bags of Fentanyl. This was in Hilo and Kona. They are trying to track it to see where it came from. They talked about the use of NARCAN in night clubs.

* + 1. Three personnel to Continuing Challenge and will submit their reports when they return.

Lithium-ion Battery Training was held June 21 in Kona and June 22 in Hilo. Everyone enjoyed this training.

Liz added information about the Table Top and Exercise on Chlorine that was held September 13th and 14th..

Chris Leonard, President of Hawaii Association of Newscaster was concerned about the communication failure at the Maui Fire. If the telephone lines are down, you need to depend on radios and other media to notify the public.

Gerald noted that his LEPC committee has a good mixture of different groups and agencies.

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* 1. Kauai County: Abraham Mohr, LEPC Chair
		1. July 28 was the last LEPC meeting, the next meeting will be October 26.
		2. LEPC check that had expired was replaced by the HEER Office.

Funding approved to send Captains Mohr and Abreu to a Train the Trainer Class. Using this training, they will be teaching the HazTech class starting October 2, 2023. This will be a two-week class with twelve recruits.

A meeting with the 93rd Civil Support Team is planned to discuss training for next year.

November 9, there will be a joint training with Police Department. They will set up a scenario and practice skills that would be used in an incident.

A HazMat I.Q. course was purchased, they are planning to train thirty (30), personnel.

* + 1. Fire has plans to do boom deployment practice with fire stations that have.

Boats. Capt. Mohr has talked to the Coast Guard; they will loan booms to the department. Several locations for the exercise were mentioned.

* + 1. Fire in a strip mall, business with a small location. While doing clean-up, a

propane line with fuel was ignited. A fire captain had a flash burn. Air monitoring was done while the utilities were turned off.

Two propane specific monitors have been purchased. They should arrive in several weeks.

* 1. Maui County: Jeffrey Kihune, LEPC Chair
		1. Jeff thanked everyone from the different agencies for volunteering to help with the Lahaina Fire.
		2. HazMat had no reportable incidents this quarter. There were several small problems that were handled.

They have been doing air monitoring for the clean-up. No major chemical gases were detected.

* + 1. New equipment has arrived, level A and B suits, 4 single gas monitors. Two

monitors are for ammonia and two for chlorine.

* + 1. Next week is Maui’s LEPC meeting.

Check that was issued to the LEPC, has been deposited.

* 1. Honolulu County: Carlton Yamada, LEPC Chair
		1. Last LEPC meeting was held on September 19, 2023, fifty-three total attendees, forty-five in person.
		2. General Lance Okamura from the Task Force Red Hill gave a presentation.

Admiral Steven Barnett, Commander- Navy Region Hawaii and several Federal Fire Department Chiefs also attended.

General Okamura gave a review of what events have occurred and a timeline of what happens in the future.

Once defueling is complete and tanks are closed down, Admiral Barnett will take over. When this happens, Federal Fire Department will be the primary emergency responders. Honolulu Fire will provide support if needed.

* + 1. Dustin Hardbottle from the City and County of Honolulu, Facility Maintenance, Stormwater Quality Branch came to provide information on what his office does.

An example of an incident that involved someone purchasing a tote with a detergent residue was presented. While cleaning the tote, the contents was washed into the street and into the storm drain. Hazmat responded and the HEER Office was called.

Me. Hardbottle informed the LEPC what is allowable to go into the storm drains.

Permits must be obtained when doing any projects. Examples were given on what a home owner can allow to go into the storm drain.

* + 1. Coast Guard provided the Incident Management Division updates for this quarter. They also spoke about their role in the Lahaina Fire.
		2. HFD has been invited by the Federal Fire Department to do a walk through of Red Hill. This is in support of a possible incident. They are coordinating a date to allow as many personnel to attend as possible.
		3. Four HFD and one EMS was sent to the Continuing Challenge Course.
		4. The HazMat Tech Initial training was completed this quarter. There were twelve HFD, two HPD, and one EMS attending.

Completed joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear training, (CBRN), with the 93rd CST at the ending of August. This was a 3-4 day event that included HFD, FBI, HPD, EOD and Hazmat.

Bob Harter added that the LEPC has offered in past years to sponsor HPD and EMS for training at the Continuing Challenge.

* + 1. Handouts from EPA were available. These references were on House Hold

Hazardous Waste for protection and prevention.

Bob encourages other counties to have these collections annual.

Bill Marhoffer explained about the different funds from the U.S. Government and when they can be used.

1. Hawaii Island Request to have the Military as a Member of Hawaii Island LEPC

A letter from Hawaii Island Mayor, Michell D. Roth requesting the LEPC be able to add a military representative to the voting membership. A request came from the public attendee to the LEPC, that this would help with the committee to have better information available to the public.

Carlton made a motion to grant a military voting member to be added to the Hawaii Island LEPC, Abe Mohr seconded. HSERC voted to approve this request.

1. Transfer of Annual Tier II Information received from Facilities, twice a year, to LEPCs.

Sharon cited the supporting documentation to share the Tier II information with the LEPCs. The public can request the information from the HEER Office.

1. Scheduling of Future HSERC Meeting for 2024

The HSERC commission has agreed on:

March 15, June 21, September 20, and December13, 2024 as the meeting dates.

1. USEPA Updates including Current Handouts when available -Chris Reiner

Lithium-ion battery training was completed in each county, response from attendees were positive. Fire departments in the mainland would like to receive similar training. EPA is working to put together this training as a package that can be used for other locations.

The attention is mostly on Maui. EPA has started re-con of the impacted parcels. On August 25, they collected the first Hazmat samples. There are nine collection teams that are focused in Lahaina. There is a total of 215 people from EPA and contractors. A lot of these people had been working in Guam for typhoon Mawar.

Help has been requested from the other EPA Regions. Eight of the ten EPA regions have staff working on Maui.

 On the progress of cleaning household hazardous waste, there are a total of just under

 1,600 parcels that need to be assessed and cleared. As of September 21, EPA has

completed 46% of the area. However, sometimes there can be lingering issues that can

take time to complete.

Bill Marhoffer asked if there are two phases to clean up. EPA considers phase one as

Household hazardous waste. Phase two is the larger debris, EPA does only phase one.

The Army Corp of Engineers, State, or County would do the larger items.

Bob Harter has about household waste. Power walls and residential scale Lithium-ion

Battery storage system are an issue. They need to develop a system for removal and

decommissioning.

Chris is unsure about other items and how different debris is being handled. He will be

going to Maui soon.

Discussion on electric vehicles. Complicated legal process for condemning, towing and

scrapping vehicles. It’s a complicated process and innately hazardous one.

Jeff was assigned to do human remains removal with the anthropologists and EPA. He

Observed that most of the hazardous materials were burned due to how hot the fire was.

A surprise was that they never found a toilet.

Liz had been on Maui with Brian Vassar, Chief Rob, and Greg Jenkins, who are trying to

solve this lithium-ion battery problem. Hopefully what they develop can be used for the

future.

A chemical Safety Day was held on the Big Island, September 13, 14. Tabletop was

held on the 13th, the functional was held on the 14th.

EPA did all the legwork ASTI, Ammonia Safety and Training Institute, did the training.

There were fifty attendees on the 13th, the exercise on the 14th were limited to the fire

department and Hawaii County Department of Water personnel, about thirty in total.

This location had one-ton chlorine cylinders that were being used. The fire department

did a drill and suited up to use their B kits. This was an eye-opening event for the county

water personnel. Using CAMEO program, it showed a release would have gone to

Waimea.

Civil Defense administrator Talmadge Magno attended. The agency does not have a way

to notify the public in case of a chemical release. They need to develop a plan.

EPA and Chief Darwin from the Hawaii Fire Department did a lot of work to plan this

event.

1. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) Report Updates – Harold Lao

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, PHMSA, has increased our HMEP Grant. It is for another $40,000 for the second year of the grant. That’s additional money that can be used for planning and training. Let Harold know if you have any ideas on how to use funds.

The subject of CAMEO training has been mentioned, it is one of the allowable expenses .

Harold confirmed it is, he can schedule training.

1. Updates on Health Department – Kathleen Ho

Kathy has given most of the updates. At the last meeting in June, we had a draft of the Lithium-ion Battery Flyer Safety Information handout. This has been finalized and is online. We can e-mail or make copies for members to distribute. This is on our website along with the Chlorine Chemical Safety Day information.

1. Announcements from Other Agencies

Bill Marhoffer announced that the Coast Guard responded to the Maui Wildfire.

Sector Honolulu responded under their Federal -on-Scene Coordinator authority. This is covered by the Liability Trust Fund. There are close to a hundred vessels that are damaged or sunk in the vicinity of Lahaina Harbor. There is a potential for hazardous substances. This would be propane, cylinders, batteries, fuel tanks. The initial response was to be off of Lahaina Harbor. Maui County requested that storm drain outfalls be boomed off. Total of 17 or 18 outfall in the burn area.

 U, S. Federal Coral Reef Task Force considers the West Maui Reef a coral nursery. This

 supplies the entire main Hawaiian Islands.

Bill explained how an Emergency Support Function, ESF 10, for oil and hazardous substances, has been issued with an ESF 3, Civil Engineering Debris removal. Debris from wreck vessels will be decontaminated and offered to owners or scrapped.

EPA has agreed that small amounts of hazardous materials that are recovered can be incorporated into their disposal debris steam. We also have an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division, that any debris from vessel wrecks, that can be crushed, will be able to be incorporated into their debris disposal as well.

Bill reviewed the meeting of the Coast Guards National Review panel looking at the Area Contingency Plans. This is the second round of a five (5), year cycle. During the five years, thirty-eight (38), Coast Guard Coastal Zone Area Contingency Plans are reviewed. The Coast Guard is coming out with a new Contingency Plan format. This is to streamline the plans. Hawaii’s plans are due for revision in 2024. There will be a 3-year phase in period to do this update to the new format.

The original ORRT meeting has been cancelled. We may have a slightly scaled back meeting. We would be looking at Lessons Learned from Typhoon Mawar and Maui Wildfire. Both are unique because of being in remote areas. Shipping things to the islands for responses and off island for debris and hazardous materials removal is a problem. No set plans, we are scaling back from training that was planned.

National Response Team Meeting for 2024 looks as if it will be in mid-April in St. Louis, Missouri. A discussion within the NRS executive secretariat will determine the agenda.

Commander Harms has been in Lahaina at the EOC. He will be going back October 2 – 16 to help lead the Stakeholder Outreach for the Harbor and the various vessel owners and businesses in the area. He forwarded an e-mail to Liz and Bill for a request on decanting. This is for Lahaina Harbor and Penco is doing the request. He will be sending it to Global, they are the lead contractors.

Commander Harm met with fourteen (14), other partner nations during his Australian trip for the International Maritime Organization.

These nations want to develop their own National Plan and Regional Contingency Plan that will help give them IMO protection. This meeting would give them good feedback and partnership to help communicate to their government on how they can be more resilient. This covers a large range of countries, small island nations to islands like Fuji. There will be a lot of work to do. He has briefed visitors from Sri Lanka, Maldivian on how the port operates and some state representatives were involved also.

They will continue to do international outreach and show how partners in the state and county, with federal government, work together.

Bill gave information on the International Spill Com, that helps the small developing pacific island nations develop their own pollution preparedness plans.

There will be a Pacific States, British Columbia Oil Spill Task Force annual meeting on November 16. California, Oregon, Washington State, Alaska and British Columbia make up the task force. Liz will provide the link to register.

Kim Fuller from the Department of land and Natural Resources, Division of Aquatic Resources has partnered with the US Coast Guard for collecting water and sediment samples from Lahaina waters. They are seeking FEMA funding to do the analysis.

There are questions concerning if the water is safe to swim in and is the fish safe to eat.

Liz explained about the Unified Command for Lahaina Harbor, this includes US Coast Guard, Dept. of Health – HEER, DLNR – DOBAR (Ed Underwood and Megan). The environmental unit would be the place for this, and Kim was asked to join.

Bill added, the federal agency for this would be the FDA. They have asked the FDA to help along with other responders.

1. Open Forum:

No comments from the public.

Jeff Kihune informed the HSERC that former Maui LEPC chair Scott Kekuhiwa has passed away.

1. Next HSERC Meeting: December 15, 2023

Meeting Adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectively Submitted,

Sharon L. Leonida, Environmental Health Specialist IV