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GOVERNOR OF HAWAIʻI

KE KIAʻĀINA O KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI

# STATE OF HAWAIʻI

In reply, please refer to:

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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

## KA ʻOIHANA OLAKINO

###  P. O. BOX 3378

### HONOLULU, HI 96801-3378

HAWAII STATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION

MEETING # 133 Friday, March 15, 2023, from 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; Kimberly Fuller, Dept. of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR); Chris Takeno, Dept. of Transportation; Tom Eisen, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Darwin Okinaka, Hawaii County Fire Dept; Greg Takeshima, Dept. of Agriculture; Carlton Yamada, Honolulu County Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC); Abraham Mohr, Kauai County LEPC; Jeff Kihune, Maui LEPC; Jonathan Chin, Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism

Non-Voting: Sharon Leonida, Isaiah Kela-Pacheco, Adam Teekell, Liz Galvez, Thu Perry, Dept. of Health, Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response (HEER) Office; Eric Jensen, Tetra Tech; Lenn Pitt, Shannon McGregor, Bill Marhoffer, United States Coast Guard; General Lance Okamura, Janel Fujinaka, Hannah Lehmann, Melani Tescher, Reyn Kaupiko, Joint Task Force Red Hill; Karen Balabis, Rusty Nall, Jeff Hart, Marine Corps Base HI.;

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am by Liz Galvez.
	1. Introduction of attendees on Zoom and in person
	2. Motion to approve minutes from meeting #132. Motion to approve accepted and approved.
	3. Announcements: The meeting covered a range of topics including local emergency planning committee quarterly reports, recent activities and plans, personnel assignments, hazmat activities, training updates, and updates on the department's certification and new equipment. A unique operation involving a US Navy aircraft making an emergency landing in Kaneohe Bay was also discussed. The team emphasized the importance of using the Incident Command System (ICS) in emergency management and shared insights from a recent incident involving a military aircraft. There was also a discussion about the natural resource assessment following an emergency restoration process after a plane crash. The conversation ended with a presentation highlighting the unique challenges faced by their region due to hurricanes, tsunamis, sea level rise, and earthquakes.
2. LEPC Updates:
	1. Hawaii County: Chief Darwin Okinaka
		1. LEPC meeting was held on February 8. There were 12 members in attendance.
		2. They have recently held a tabletop exercise for tsunami evacuations with internal partners. There is a larger scale exercise scheduled for April.
		3. The fire department reported they are working on acquiring a new Hazmat vehicle.
		4. Emergency Response Guidebooks 2024 (ERGs) were received and dispersed.
		5. Tier II reports are being received.
	2. Kauai County: Abraham Mohr
		1. Last LEPC Meeting was February 23, approval was received to purchase two Multi-raes to replace older one.
		2. ERGs were received and dispersed.
		3. Mayor’s approval was received for hazmat apparatus, awaiting county council approval.
		4. There was a bleach incident, an explosion where an individual was making bombs, and an incident at the Sheraton Hotel involving propane.

* 1. Maui County: Jeffrey Kihune, LEPC Chair
		1. Their last meeting was held on December 21, with 7 attendees.
		2. They responded to two incidents, one caused by lithium-ion batteries
		3. Two personnel were approved to attend upcoming conference in Chicago.
	2. Honolulu County: Carlton Yamada, LEPC Chair
		1. Next LEPC will be held on March 19, at the Federal Fire Department Headquarters.
		2. Both hazmat units did a site visit to the Kapolei Energy Storage Facility.
		3. There was a Cameo Training with 60 people in attendance.
		4. First Responder Operation Training is going on, with 116 recruits due to graduate on March 28. There will be a Hazmat First Responder Operations Refresher for all 1,100 incumbent personnel.

1. Case Study: Navy Boeing P-8 Poseidon Jet Down at Kaneohe Bay: Major Hart, Karen and Rusty presented the case study the Boeing 737 in the Bay P-8 Poseidon Aircraft. The meeting discussed a unique operation involving a US Navy aircraft that had to make an emergency landing in the Bay. The aircraft ended up in about 10 feet of water, 100 feet off the end of the runway, with 9 crew members safely exiting. The immediate concern was the aircraft's 2,000 gallons of jet fuel, but no spill occurred. The waterfront operations team responded quickly, deploying booms to contain any potential leaks. The team maintained a security zone for 15 days and notified state and federal agencies within 30 minutes. The incident management team was organized using the joint operation planning process, with objectives focused on safety, protection of the environment, and recovery of the aircraft. The meeting also highlighted the similarities between the incident management system used by the military and the Incident Command System (ICS) used in civilian contexts. There was a discussion about the challenging process of extracting an aircraft from the water using roller bags. The speaker highlighted the unique nature of the task, as the aircraft was the first to be defueled when the fuel fittings were underwater. The speaker also emphasized the importance of careful monitoring and control during the process to ensure the aircraft was extracted safely. The aircraft is currently being assessed for repair and restoration. The team discussed the use of the Incident Command System (ICS) in emergency management, highlighting its importance and the need for training. They also shared insights from the recent incident, emphasizing the challenges related to jurisdiction and communication. The team agreed on the need for continuous learning from such incidents and the importance of geographical response strategies. The discussion concluded with no remaining questions.
	1. Kimberly Fuller, DLNR biologist, discussed the natural resource assessment following an emergency restoration process after a plane crashed in November 2023. The initial site inspections revealed significant coral damage primarily from the landing gear, with an estimated area of less than a quarter acre. The affected area was approximately 4.6 acres, involving the deployment of anchors. Emergency restoration efforts involved flipping over 180 coral colonies on December 6th, with the majority being rice and finger coral. Future plans include completing surveys of the main impact scar and reference sites, as well as possibly conducting coral colony counts in the affected area. Kim clarified that the Department of Defense (DOD) staff had assisted with the large corals, but the rest of the restoration efforts were handled by the natural resource agencies.
2. 2024 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Conference: Sharon Leonida, who had attended a conference in Las Vegas, touched upon the challenges faced by states with large land areas in organizing meetings and the role of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in assisting them. There was also mention of a radio announcement initiative aimed at informing people about responses to chemical releases. The conversation ended with a presentation highlighting the unique challenges faced by their region due to hurricanes, tsunamis, sea level rise, and earthquakes.
3. United States Environmental Protection Agency Updates: N/A
4. Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Report Updates: Liz Galvez shared that they are applying for a grant, despite facing other priorities.
5. Updates on Health Department: Kathleen Ho gave updates on Covid guidance on website. For Legislature, the focus is on the Maui Wildfires, some budget requests did not make it to the Governor’s Executive Budget, but the ability to hire medical toxicologist and personnel for the Clean Water Branch is still moving forward. An inquiry was made about turning their advisory letters into rules, but they decided against it due to the cumbersome nature of rule-making.
6. Announcements from other Agencies
	1. The meeting wrapped up with a Coast Guard update, revealing that the final ESF-10 closeout bill was approved for submission to FEMA.
	2. National Response team meeting scheduled for April 23-25 in St. Louis. The discussion also covered the agenda, which includes a presentation on the Maui wildfires response by the Coast Guard and EPA, a separate presentation by EPA on their precedent-setting lithium ion battery response, and the Coast Guard Sector Honolulu's emergency management plans.
	3. Coast Guard will have a functional area maritime security exercise and are designing the Port Recovery Portion of the National Level exercise with DOT Harbors.
	4. The Hawaii Area Contingency Plan is up for a mandatory 5 year revision.
	5. The Coast Guard headquarters is working on a streamlined responder focus area contingency plan architectures, and a Coastal Zone Area contingency plan handbook.
	6. General Lance Okamura provided an update on the Joint Task Force Red Hill, stating that they will hand over responsibility to the Navy Closure Task Force on March 28.
7. Open Forum: Public Comment: N/A
8. The next meeting was scheduled for June 21, 2024.