

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAUI POLICE COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M.
CHIEF'S CONFERENCE ROOM, WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII**

PRESENT Doreen Gomes, Chair
Verna Boonstra, Member
Tina Gomes, Member
David Jorgensen, Member
John Ornellas, Member
Kirk Tanaka, Member
Kim Sloper, Deputy Corporation Counsel

ALSO PRESENT Thomas M. Phillips, Chief of Police
Gary Yabuta, Deputy Chief of Police
Sydney Kikuchi, Assistant Chief Investigative Services
Wayne Ribao, Assistant Chief Uniformed Services
Clayton Tom, Assistant Chief Support Services
Mr. Greg Takahashi, Business Manager
Victor Ramos, Captain, Wailuku Patrol
Bobby Hill, Lieutenant, Traffic Section
Ron Vaught, Commissioner Appointee

EXCUSED Keone Ball, Vice-Chair (Mainland)
Sean Connolly, Member (Philippines)
Leil Koch, Member (Mainland)

**CALL/
QUORUM** Chair Gomes called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. A quorum was ascertained with six Commissioners present to conduct business.

OPENING PRAYER The opening prayer was offered by Chaplain Milton Fricke

PRESENTATION **By the Public of Oral or Written Testimony on Agenda Items of the Commission:**

Mr. Vaught expressed his pleasure at being re-appointed to serve another term on the Police Commission.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA **A motion was made by Commissioner Tanaka to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen and carried unanimously.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES **A motion to approve the minutes of February 18, 2009 as circulated was made by Commissioner Jorgensen and seconded by Commissioner Tanaka. The motion carried unanimously.**

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LETTERS OF COMMENDATION (2)

The following personnel received Letters of Commendation during the month of February: Officers M. Hada, M. Sagawinit

A motion to accept and file the Letters of Commendation was made by Commissioner Jorgensen and seconded by Commissioner Tina Gomes. The motion carried unanimously.

CHIEF'S REPORT Chief Phillips stated he would like to thank Commissioner Boonstra for her five years of commitment to the Police Commission and the County of Maui.

Chief Phillips then introduced Captain Victor Ramos who provided an update on the police intervention with the Reinstated Hawaiian Government. The Department of Parks and Recreation had asked for police help because various beach parks were being occupied. The final result was that everything went smoothly and the parks were vacated.

(Captain Ramos exited the meeting)

Commissioner Boonstra was awarded a Certificate of Appreciation from Mayor Tavares for her loyal and honorable public service. Commissioner Boonstra was also awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for her contribution to the Maui County Police Department, and a Certificate of Appreciation for The Best Dressed Police Commissioner in recognition of her outstanding sense of fashion.

Chief Phillips stated that with regard to the budget, the Mayor has been very supportive for the police department. The budget going before the Council has had the funding cut for 25 sworn positions for six months in order to fund the substantial pay raise which are due in July and will total \$1.6 million. Last year, overtime was \$1.8 million over budget, and about the same figure is expected this year. With the overtime rates increasing, overtime will have to be cut drastically. Commanders will need to watch their budgets every month. We did receive \$359,000 over last year's budget, but spending costs will go up and since we will be short next year, cuts will have to come in services.

Prevention programs such as D.A.R.E. and school resource programs will be the first to go; then community police programs; then pro-active policing will be cut; and then training will be cut. Services cannot be provided at the same level as they have been because we'll run out of money.

The Department has done away with the hiring bonus as well as the \$250 a month Service and Retention allowance for sworn personnel.

Chief Phillips reminded everyone this will not be permanent - as the economy improves, so will the situation.

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Chief Phillips commended Deputy Chief Yabuta and Mr. Takahashi on the excellent job they did completing the budget. The MPD budget hearing is scheduled from 9:00 to 3:00 on April 1st before the County Council. When asked if Chief Phillips needs the support or testimony of the Police Commission, Chief Phillips stated it's always nice to know the Police Commissioners are in the audience.

Assistant Chief Kikuchi gave the report for the Investigative Services Bureau.

A.C. Kikuchi thanked Commissioner Boonstra for the time she has served, especially for being so supportive, but mostly for being a good person in our community.

Assistant Chief Wayne Ribao gave the report for the Uniformed Services Bureau.

Officers of the Month were:

District 1 – Officer Levon Freeman
District 4 – Officer Kelly Pauole
District 5 – Officer Rusty Lawson
District 6 – Officer Brian Abe

A. C. Ribao thanked Commissioner Boonstra for everything and for making the meetings so interesting.

Assistant Chief Clayton Tom gave the report for the Support Services Bureau

A. C. Tom thanked Commissioner Boonstra and said she has made it a pleasure to attend the meetings. He invited her to attend the meetings as a civilian.

FINANCIAL BUDGET Mr. Takahashi handed out the General Fund Expenditures for the period ending February 28, 2009. There was a carryover savings of \$1.9 million. There is 36% of the budget remaining, so we are on track for spending. Last year's overtime exceeded \$6 million. As of February 28th, total overtime expenditures were \$4.2 million. If we continue to spend at the rate we have been, we'll exceed \$6 million in overtime this year.

PERSONNEL Mr. Takahashi handed out the March 18, 2009 Staffing Report which reflects 35 sworn and 23 civilian vacancies. There have been 20 conditional offers made for sworn personnel and 6 for civilians.

Deputy Chief Yabuta thanked Commissioner Boonstra for adding dignity to the board and said it's been a pleasure working with her.

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Chief Phillips announced that the Maui Police Department is hosting the H.S.L.E.O.A. Conference on September 23-25, 2009 at the Ritz Carlton Kapalua.

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. PC 09-14 Letter from Hawaii State Law Enforcement Officials Association
- b. PC 09-15 Honolulu Police Commission Meeting Minutes of 01/07/09

A motion to file the correspondence was made by Commissioner Ornellas and seconded by Commissioner Tanaka. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion to Defer the Selection of Chair and Vice-Chair from the April Meeting to the June Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Ornellas to defer election of the Chair and Vice-Chair until the June meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanaka and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tanaka to move into Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- a. Sub-committee Report on Process of Selecting the Chief of Police

Chair Gomes reiterated the dates for the Selection Process:

- Applications are due in the Office of the Police Commission by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 13, 2009
- Application packages to be picked up by each Commissioner by April 17th if they're not available at the regularly scheduled meeting on April 15th
- Mr. Takahashi will complete the background checks by May 4th
- All available Commissioners will meet on May 6th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to review the applications. Lunch will be served for this meeting and a court reporter will be in attendance
- On May 13th interviews will be conducted between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Lunch will be served and a court reporter will be in attendance
- May 14th between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., conduct additional interviews if necessary and make the selection of the new chief
- May 15th has been left open for last minute details
- At the May 20th Police Commission meeting, the announcement of the new Chief of Police will be made. By then, the applicants not selected will have been notified by letter

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Chair Gomes announced at the April 15th meeting, questions for the interviewees will be reviewed.

Commissioner Jorgensen made a motion to allow the application for Chief of Police to be provided in digital format to the applicants. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tanaka and carried with Commissioner Tina Gomes voting nay.

REGULAR SESSION A motion to return to Regular Session was made by Commissioner Boonstra and seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen. The motion carried unanimously.

RATIFY A motion to ratify the actions taken in Executive Session was made by Commissioner Boonstra. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen and carried unanimously.

ADJOURN (11:45 a.m.) A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Boonstra and seconded by Commissioner Jorgensen. The motion carried unanimously.

SUBMITTED BY

Jeanne L. Berrigan, Secretary

APPROVED

Doreen N. Gomes, Chair