



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
4204 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816

MINUTES

Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management [HACEM] Meeting
Virtual [Microsoft Teams]

July 12, 2022

HACEM Members: Darryl Oliveira, County of Hawaii *[Chair]*
Ronald Cox, City and County of Honolulu
Gerry Silva, City and County of Honolulu
Glenda Nogami-Streufert, County of Kauai
Mona Curry, City and County of Honolulu

**DOD, HI-EMA, and
State Partners:**

MG Kenneth S. Hara, Adjutant General
BG Stephen F. Logan, Deputy Adjutant General
Luke P. Meyers, Administrator of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
David A. Lopez, Executive Officer of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Michael Vincent, Deputy Attorney General
Hiro Toiya, Director, City & County of Honolulu, Depart. of Emergency Management [Regrets]
Elton Ushio, Administrator of Kauai Emergency Management
Herman Andaya, Administrator of Maui Emergency Management
Talmadge Magno, Administrator of Hawaii Civil Defense
Adam Weintraub, Communications Director of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Carlos Rowe, Logistics Branch Chief of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Matthew Wall, Operations Branch Chief of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Jonathan Levy, GIS Specialist, Operations Branch of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Helen Au, Administrative Manager of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency [Regrets]
Lorinda Wong-Lau, Resilience Branch Chief of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency
Kelli Nicklaus-Cicccone, Private Secretary of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

Guest(s): David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i
Douglas Carroll, Senior Special Assistant, Office of the Governor, State of Hawai'i

Public: None

I. Welcome/Call to Order Virtual Introduction

II. Open Remarks

- Luke Meyers/Darryl Oliveira – Welcome, call meeting to order, and roll call. Thank you for participating to share insight and wisdom, to support the Governor, Luke Meyers, General Hara, and the Emergency Management mission across the State.
- MG Hara – Thank you to all giving the time to meet, the participants provide recommendations to the Governor. Express my appreciation for all that you do and giving us the time. With Hurricane Darby heading towards the 140-line, downgrade is expected, but weather could still have impacts. Today there was 6.6 earthquake near Easter Island, these are reminders that a no-notice disaster could occur at any time. To the HACEM Members, and recommendations to the Governor. Sirens – Ask to help us in setting this as a priority of funding and recommendation by letter to the Governor, State legislature, and district to support what the overall purpose and priorities are for new sirens, the repair parts and maintenance of to meet requirements, and move on a path to install sirens along the coastlines and inland. Governor Ige signed bill creating the Department of Law Enforcement. Tied to this bill is moving Office of Homeland Security (OHS) from Department of Defense (DOD) along with Hawaii State Fusion Center to become part of the Department of Law Enforcement. Exact timeframe is uncertain, 2024 is year targeted. Ukraine and Russia situation, working closely with partners from critical infrastructure as we monitor everything that’s going. No indicators of Hawaii threats currently.
- Mona Curry – Regarding new State Law Enforcement moving the Fusion Center and Homeland Security, what kind of impacts are to be expected and how does that impact Emergency Management?
- MG Hara – Homeland Security was moved from law enforcement point of view. Historically, OHS was section under HI-EMA and then they created a new Chapter 128 in Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) creating new Office of Homeland Security. Concern of potential communications and situational awareness challenges when residing under separate entities, but with a close relationship coordination and leveraging technology will mitigate issues.

III. Governor’s Remarks

Governor David Y. Ige –

- Thank all for participating on the Hawaii Advisory Council on Emergency Management, you are an important part of helping us respond to emergencies more efficiently and effectively. Welcome Mona Curry and Glenda Nogami-Streufert to HACEM. Appreciate your interest in serving the community. Thank you to Darryl and Gerald for agreeing to serve another term. Your continuity provides stability to the Advisory Council and the interaction between HI-EMA and the community. Unconventional times across our country, with changing threats and we see increasing reflection of this uncertainty reflected in our emergency response. Increase in concern about cyber terrorism, climate related disruptions, droughts, wildfires, and floods amongst the western states. Discussions have lengthened at the National Governors Association and Western Governors Association due to concerns about access to clean water. Drought conditions across the West with falling water tables, increasing rain bombs, and flood activity affecting more and more of our community. In Hawaii, seen more wildfires on the Island of Hawaii and Maui last year. Thank all of you with HI-EMA for looking inward and restructured their organizations by adding branch chiefs and specialist committed to investing in Emergency Management.
- Proposing several changes were successful in getting several that we supported or had introduced into the legislative process. A Senate Bill 3087 was Governor’s initiative, signed in law as Act101 and put into statute the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) so that we are prepared to

interact with other State and jurisdictions and as needed. Measure was part of a Governor's package, House Bill 2120 that provided updates to Chapter 127 that I think modernized and created more consistent language. Passed House Bill 1587, which became Act 95 – Interstate Mutual Aid, supports help between counties like EMAC. House Bill 1586 passed, dealt with the major disaster fund. With emergencies occurring, the response that's required is becoming more expensive. Feel those limits to be increased so Emergency Management would be better prepared to respond to emergencies. HI-EMA working very closely with county emergency managers. Have always believed that the emergencies should be county led, but State and federal supported those closest to the residents are in the best position to shape the emergency response. All of you have vital role to play as we look at our emergency procedures and how we respond to the emergency situations. Thank all of you for taking the time and interest to be part of this Advisory Council.

- Darryl Oliveira - Thank you. Think I speak for the group and they're all honored and proud to be a part of this and support you and your team. General opened with his comments, you know, looking for ways that we can be of a support, advisory function, and capacity as conduits from our communities back to you. Thank you for making time to be here with us today and sharing your thoughts with us.
- Gerald Silva - Governor, thank you very much for all you did during the COVID problem.
- Luke Meyers – This group is important, and I believe is instrumental on the work with the current governor and the future State leadership on emergency management and public safety issues. We will regroup for the next legislative session; we know that disasters don't wait for political change or any other change. We rely on you and other members of the whole community.

IV. Minutes [8 February 2022]

- Minutes were circulated electronically for review, HACEM Members have approved and signed off on. 12 July HACEM Meeting announcement included the Minutes electronically approved minutes.

V. Council Member Reports / Updates

- Luke Meyers – One agenda change put more emphasis on HACEM and county representatives.

a.) Hawaii – Darryl Oliveira

- House Bill 1587 - Intrastate Mutual Aid. Association in process of document review to see if it did involve all fire service across the State, including federal partners, through activation and participation. Intrastate Mutual Aid might be different or subject to different rules as a federal entity. Hope in future to be able to share that document in the current form. This would be at least one response component of the community, is fire service and what the organization has done to try to make a support with mutual aid across the county boundaries easier and more effective with cost recovery. Strong effort in Hawaii County from the community to be more resilient, led by Vibrant Hawaii. Resiliency Hubs, communities identify their gaps in critical vulnerabilities as well as what assets and capabilities they have. Particular resilience hub initiative has demonstrated with pandemic, is ability to quickly mobilize, deploy resources in support of their own specific communities (instrumental in deploying/distributing meals and assisting the DOH with mask distribution, COVID kits, and testing in remote areas. Building stronger backbone and structure as it pertains to food resiliency in communities by partnering with stakeholders. Very strong grassroots efforts taking place on Big Island trying to have more community self-reliance and resilience as it pertains not only to disaster response/recovery, but events that may not be significant but termed as difficulties for community members.
- Glenda Nogami-Streufert – Resilience hubs described, where are these located on island? On Kauai we have interest in placing in certain locations, was wondering if that is applicable to the Big Island?

- Darryl Oliveira - Gaining participation from all communities across the island. To date, there are 38 hubs around the island, and more are signing on. Lot of strength and active engagement in the very rural areas because those are the ones that are struggling daily, we are seeing the value of coming together as a community to shoulder the burden.

b.) Maui – Vacant

c.) Oahu – Gerry Silva | Ron Cox | Mona Curry

- Gerry Silva: Four webinars on preparing for a hurricane that were organized by AARP Hawaii in June went well. One of the objectives of the series was to address the lack of shelter space and the possibilities of sheltering in place. Second objective was to address the challenges faced by those who live in the over 360 high rises on Oahu.
- The following are summaries of the sessions. June 4 - Hurricanes and Why you Should Care. Presented by Leigh Anne Eaton - National Weather Service-Pacific Region. David Lopez was another presenter, he did a superb job of describing the consequences if the ports were heavily damaged. June 11, Build a Disaster Plan to Survive a Hurricane. Presented by James Burke and retired HFD Capt. Earle Kealoha. June 18, Hardening Your Home Against a Hurricane. Presented by Dennis Hwang of Hawaii Sea Grant. June 25, Hurricane Preparedness for High Rise and Apartment Owners. Presented by John Cummings – Honolulu Department of Emergency Management.
- Ron Cox: Nothing to add to the prior discussion. In listening closely to the resilience hub discussions, curious to know whether energy solutions are part of those resilience hubs in all cases.
- Darryl Oliveira-With local power utility companies, have different independent power generation to have some discussion about what their ability might be to support. It could be referenced as micro grids or independent power infrastructure in support of community recovery.
- Mona Curry: Community meeting held in Hau‘ula with resilient design architect. Shared possible building designs for the resiliency hub in Hau‘ula. Highlights include three safe rooms (accommodate up to 1750 people), sheltering, food, medical care, helipad, art, and Department of Energy (DOE) to provide technical assistance to ensure the best screen energy solutions. Shelter setting used for disaster purposes, during blue skies the safe rooms can be used for trainings, meetings, sport activities, and other community purposes. Hau‘ula building site itself is outside of the extreme tsunami zone. Other inclusions energy security; supplying energy to the community; swimming pool that can be used as emergency water; rainwater recapture; helipad can be used as a hula mound. Currently site is just land that is maintained with beginning stages of walking path. Award from the DOE to provide technical assistance to ensure best energy solutions will be employed at the hub. Project drawing interest with community enthusiasm for the completion. *[slides presented]*
- Glenda Nogami-Streufert – Appreciate the designs and the concern is due to the glass in a hurricane. Concern is Kauai is extremely forested and concern is debris damaging the solar panels.
- Mona Curry – Resilient design is referenced to be the most resilient design for a hurricane.
- Luke Meyers – From response perspective, when incorporating various emergency management functions into these types of locations, it does become a competing priority with governmental priorities that would have to be aligned. Message supporting as much as we can from the state side, but a wide spectrum of a resiliency hub. Backup power we have had conversation with Scott Glenn, Office of Energy, and looked at mitigation opportunities where there is an existing building that could be hardwired possibly use mitigation grant funding.

d.) Kauai – Glenda Nogami-Streufert

- Resilience and being able to adapt is something very important, especially on the north shore for Kauai. Efforts that are in motion are the Waimea Hanapepe Levee Project; Waimea Community Center Resiliency Center; Siren installation in Waimea. Siren installation became an issue because of potential impact upon the environment or at least how people see and how they enjoy the environment.
- Appreciate comment from the General about having a county or a local response, support from the State, and federal agencies because Kauai’s north shore is very different from other parts of the island. Concern is isolation by either landslide or by flooding, also need to look at drought cause of the leeward side of the island which is currently mild. Need to help inform the residents on getting prepared. Looking at potentially putting sirens in locations currently without, but land is private and will need to negotiate with the Robinson family. Looking at how we will be participating in the climate adaptation, due to climate change. Tide levels are changing becoming closer to our communities, and plan on how to prepare towards tsunami and hurricane.

VI. County EM Partner Reports

- **Hawaii** - Talmage Magno: Thank General Hara and DOD for their hospitality and allowing us to relocate to the KMR site until Emergency Operating Center construction is complete in December. COVID scaled down, working on plans that need to be revised, holding workshops, and meeting with agencies/nongovernment agencies and finalized before end of year. Coordinating with multitude of operations programs that we are trying to run as well to minimize any conflict and parallel or redundancy with, we coordinate with them as we move forward. Monitoring hurricane season.
Maui - Herman Andaya: Maui County continuing emergency preparations especially for the remote areas of Molokai, Lanai, and Hana. In these areas we’ve established what’s called Incident Remote Command post and we have been working with the commanders in those areas in addressing their needs and gaps. One that we've been working in those locations is communications through the assistance of the OHS. Want to thank the General for his support on this project. Able to upgrade their SAT phones and the Maui EOC as well. Through OHS and county funding, purchased nearly \$20,000 worth of amateur radios. established base stations in each of these as well as an upgrade to our ham radio here in Maui EOC. Through OHS funding, were able to replace our broadband global area network to ensure we have redundancy with respect to communications. As a result of, we have started an exercise with our ham radio partners throughout the state. Working with HI-EMA, regarding readiness with a recent exercise and another exercise is being planned. Continue to source new location for EOC and as reported before, purchased the Hawaiian Tel building and now are in design process of the space. Will be much larger than our current EOC. Want to thank General for supporting this project as well. Mass notification system will be transitioning from Everbridge to Civic Ready. Working on transferring current users to Civic Ready and will be doing public messaging to encourage the public to use this new system. Name of our messenger will be changed from maka‘ala to MEMA Alerts. Reason for this change is due to numerous comments received from the public that didn't know what the maka‘ala name, but felt that it was important to change to a name people will identify with. Our staff is working on an update of our recovery plan, and we hope to have completed in a couple of months. Sirens - A big topic on Maui. Explaining to the public, and in commission meetings, that a lot of people do not hear the sirens if one is indoors, people are concerned because they are not able to hear signs. Primary way of being notified is through your cell phone or through other means, it will not be through sirens. Agree with General and look forward to working with him and getting word out to see if there is some other way. Resilience hubs throughout the state would be helpful for Maui too.
- **Kauai** – Elton Ushio: Kauai County COVID operations continues to offer PCR testing five days/week, Monday - Friday at a fixed location at the Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall and

mobile locations around the island where we have our van to travel around the island. IMT, meet weekly to get status updates and ensure operations are running smoothly. Receiving questions from partners who purchased too much hand sanitizer and PPE and other items early on, now want to consult about.

- February completed Waimea Valley rockslide project. Luke viewed site, we thank HI-EMA, National Guard, and partners for support. Army Corps of Engineers performed power assessments in March.
- Awarded contract for new mass notification system to Inspiron for alert system and live a month ago.
- Meeting held with Robinson family and Carlos Rowe, Logistics Branch Chief/HI-EMA, regarding a proposed outdoor warning siren on Niihau and are scheduling a site visit and determine the way forward. This week we are having our annual WMD exercise with the 93rd Civil Support Team.
- Had a multi-agency initial coordination meeting in being notified by partners with DOT State Highways for project to restore the historic Hanalei Bridge. Challenge there is it will likely include up to six months with nightly closures of highway, and complete closures where there will be no vehicular traffic allowed. Exact timing has not been finalized as the bidding process is still open. Early next year, we will have a timeline in place and will work to ensure police, fire, and EMS have response capability there. Take care of other stakeholders and other contingencies such as if there's a tsunami warning during nightly closures, have some prior experience working with situations like we had the 2018 landslides and subsequent highway restoration and the restoration of 3 historic bridges.
- Waimea Valley landslide that completely covered the highway, had never dealt with something that lengthy as six months of five days per week nightly closures. Will be an interesting challenge for us, but we'll be convening our team here and trying to come up with an IAP for the incident.
- Northshore Community Resiliency Center project proceeding. Kauai got set aside by governor of a partial State land for 99 years, and on that we're building resiliency center. Structure will be elevated, will include common meeting area, commercial kitchen, and office space(s) for State Parks, police, fire, bays for vehicles, and redeployment of emergency vehicles. Fire plans to have small apparatus on location permanently in case there is a flash flood or incident, in case we can't get assets across in time. Vision not finalized yet, working through competitive RFP to obtain a community-based partner.
- Luke Meyers- Diversity of a resiliency hub from an integration perspective, KEMA and Kauai County using a type of facility aligns with traditional governmental response with a lot of partners. Some other examples we've seen are much more to a local grassroots level. It shows various levels of preparedness that we're trying. Our legislative representatives are also hearing this term. We need to leverage the momentum, also need to be supportive of our county partners so that it become too overwhelming.
- Adam Weintraub - Expressing my appreciation to Elton for all the assistance provided, External Affairs with contacts for Outreach product contact information to ready us for later this season.

VIII. HI-EMA Update (see attached)

- Luke Meyers – From large priority perspective, as we had shared earlier this year with you, including high level strategic items that HI-EMA working with several partners in State.
- EMAP site assessment completed. Over 100 standard elements across 16 emergency management functional areas, five areas of non-compliance. Many State department continuity plans were not promulgated. Operations Branch working with them and working with Governor's office and Attorney General's Office on State Continuity of Government Plan. Expect a report in the July timeframe from EMAP and there will be opportunity in 1st quarter of 2023 to go to the Program Review Committee and they will make a recommendation. Appreciation to David Lopez, Matthew Wall, and Jackie Russell.
- Other Program Highlights

HI-EMA Administrative Reorganization. Participation Mililani Tech Park Phase II First Responder Tech Campus (FRTC). State Emergency Management Strategic Plan – progress report completed. Visualization of HI-EMA's business management information and data. Hurricane Darby – Discussed State operations, impacts, no emergency proclamation at this time. HI-EMA activation will be Level 3 (lowest activation), start coordination calls Thursday, Friday, and over weekend. State Legislative Summary – Adam Weintraub, External Affairs -briefed on highlights and status. Session Items- Ops and CIP Priorities: Match for Resilience Grants, Shelter Retrofit Program, Major Disaster Fund (restore), HI-EMA Emergency Management Facility. December 2021 Kona Low Incident - Lorinda Wong-Lau - Project formulation, four projects have already been obligated. SBA has notified us of all the applications for the Kona Low. State Departments Continuity Plans. COVID-19 AAR – COVID-19 Incident, working with Tidal Basin as contracted.

- MG Hara – regarding AAR, items captured in documentation will not be directly tied to policy decisions due to current litigation.
- National Level Exercise 2024 – Participating in national level exercise, more information to come. Series of exercises in next two years. Operation element here for Governor’s transition as we look forward into the 3rd and 4th quarter with Governor’s Cabinet turnover. From a disaster perspective, want to ensure we are being responsible as disasters occur regardless.
- **Matthew Wall, Operations Branch:** Explanation of priorities - Hurricane season, planning, training, and exercise. Focus will be on the NLE 2024, which requires some revision of the existing training and exercise schedule as moving forward.
- **Luke sharing on behalf of Lorinda Wong-Lau, Resilience Branch:** Explanation of Public Assistance (PA), Hazard Mitigation (HM), Shelter Retrofit Program, and CIP funds. SBA recently notified us of the applications for the Kona Low under the SBA loan program have been processed, the affected counties will be notified of the results of all applications submitted from their county. Worked closely with SBA on this disaster and were able to get about \$1.1 million to some homeowners and businesses with some loans. 23 loans approved through public assistance, continue to work closely with City and County in Maui. Continue to work closely with the City and County (of Honolulu) in Maui. The Kona Low Resiliency Team are working on several open disasters (16). High-level Resiliency branch managing approximately \$237 million in available funds to be dispersed for federal total obligated share of about \$397 million. Most funding is on the PA and HM side.
- **Carlos Rowe, Logistics Branch:** Regional Catastrophic Grant, fortunate enough to realign our resource/logistics section leader to lead planner for grant. Announcing development and release the Preparedness Readiness Survey. Over 100 responses and going well on how prepared populace of any catastrophic event that may affect the islands as well as level of confidence and ability of State and. Local level governments to respond is on the list. First Responder Technology Campus - Have initial design and engineering, excited about what future holds and to have opportunity to plan site visits to other emergency operation centers around country. Siren Readiness – Report created monthly after monthly siren tests the 1st business day of every month. Reports are reviewed in conjunction with County input, look at where we are with overall readiness. Internal Readiness Assessment Report complete.
- Luke Meyers – HI-EMA managing small infrastructure communication system with over 408 sirens. Value investments in how we maintain these and is an important tool to be used by the counties and others for alert and warning. Understand other warning methods to the public, but from perspective as Administrator we are looking to make more investments to these numbers. If there are sirens in inundation zones, those could be further refined by their counties.

- **Luke Meyers on behalf of Adam Weintraub, External Affairs** – Established language hub on HI-EMA website. Opportunity with emphases on equity and accessibility to access information. Engagement came through FEMA to convert materials. Outreach materials are now in 12 languages.

IX. HACEM Status – Pending one HACEM Member seat to fill (County of Maui jurisdiction).

X. Closing Remarks

- Darryl Oliveira – Thank you for all the input and discussion today. Takeaway for me is importance and significance at all our communities are working on resilient hubs and there is a lot of diversity there. Key is to work with our local Emergency Management offices and ensure it is well coordinated. Also, taking in the General's opening remarks and what the HACEM can do to support the General, Luke, and the Governor in their operations. Will be reaching out to the HACEM Board Members regarding that inquiry on specifically the siren placement and priorities.
- Luke Meyers – Advising on siren location priorities, want to be transparent and leverage the business data that Carlos and his team have put forward.
- Luke Meyers – Post COVID-19 incident, working with Tidal Basin who is contractor we have for large emergency management services and have worked a number of areas all over the country. Process started in May, Tidal Basin will be interviewing several partners to primarily look at specific actions that were taken during the incident, that we can improve. Department of Education were interviewed this week and DOD is also doing an After-Action Review (AAR). Have a requirement to FEMA to do an AAR. Conversation has been held with Tidal Basin leadership, so they were clear to shape the questions in more of general themes and the recommendations.
- Kenneth Hara – COVID AAR, Attorney General put out a formal opinion sent to cabinet members.
- Luke Meyers - Tremendous opportunity to participate in National Level Exercise, which is done every two years. NLE usually alternates exercise theme between human-caused hazards versus natural hazards. Current one Cascadia Earthquake Series and exercise in Northwest. Participating with FEMA Region 9 in California in NLE 2024. Category is a catastrophic hurricane impacting islands with a cyber-attack. Exercise will meet 2 objectives of Biden administration: Climate related impacts and cyber. Numerous kickoff meetings with FEMA Region 9 in California. Will have implications on Makani Pahili 2023 and 2024, these are our heavily grant funded deliverables. Working closely with FEMA to balance load of capabilities and meet couple of additional exercise requirements. Modifying our training exercise plan to incorporate; this will be primarily driven out of the HI-EMA Operations Branch where Lalo Medina and Hyniea Gardner will support Matthew Wall with the training exercise.

XI. Announcements/Adjournment

- Next HACEM Meeting, November 9, 2022. (Meeting date later moved to November 1st, 2022 [11:00-2:30 pm].)
- Darryl Oliveira - Motion to adjourn, Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Darryl Oliveira

DARRYL OLIVEIRA

Chair

L

LUKE P. MEYERS

Administrator of Emergency Management