

# MINUTES

of the

## COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

November 18, 2011

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII, WAS HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, KALANA O MAUI BUILDING, WAILUKU, HAWAII, ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2011, BEGINNING AT 9:01 A.M., WITH VICE-CHAIR JOSEPH PONTANILLA PRESIDING.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: The regular meeting of November 18, 2011 is now in session. The time is 9:00 A.M. Good morning, Members. This time I would like to have the, the Clerk read the roll.

### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS ROBERT CARROLL, ELEANORA COCHRAN, DONALD G. COUCH JR., G. RIKI HOKAMA, MICHAEL B. WHITE, VICE-CHAIR JOSEPH PONTANILLA.

EXCUSED: GLADYS C. BAISA, MICHAEL P. VICTORINO, AND CHAIR DENNIS A. MATEO.

COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chairman, six Members of the Council are present, three Members are excused. A quorum is present to conduct the business of the Council.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. At this time, our Councilmember from South Maui will provide us with opening remarks.

Member Couch.

### OPENING REMARKS

The opening remarks were offered by Councilmember Donald G. Couch.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Members of the Council, and others in attendance, rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Couch for that opening remarks.

Mr. Clerk.

COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chairman, we have received no requests for, from individuals wishing to offer testimony on ceremonial resolutions. Shall we close testimony on ceremonial resolutions?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yes. Members, if there is no objections the Chair would like to close testimonial ceremo, ceremonial resolutions.

MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

Mr. Clerk.

COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chairman, proceeding with ceremonial resolutions.

### CEREMONIAL RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION  
NO. 11-122

CONGRATULATING KAHULUI HONGWANJI  
MISSION ON ITS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair.

AND ON YOUR BEHALF, MR. CHAIR, I MOVE TO ADOPT  
THE RESOLUTION ENTITLED "CONGRATULATING KAHULUI  
HONGWANJI MISSION ON ITS 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY".

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA:

SECOND.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: It's been moved by Member Cochran, seconded by Member Hokama.

Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. May I ask the County Clerk to read the resolution in its entirety please?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Clerk.

*(The resolution was read in its entirety.)*

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, further discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair Pontanilla. And I would like to ask for support of the Members in adopting this resolution congratulating and recognizing the efforts and contributions of the Kahului Hongwanji Mission in our community for over 100 years.

The Kahului Hongwanji Mission has provided, not only meeting the spiritual needs of its members, but in serving our island community at large over the years through the many organizations, ties to the mission that promote education, goodwill, serving all age groups and ethnicities.

Over the years, many of the Mission members have made significant contributions to Maui County in many areas including the business, government, labor, and education.

Through this resolution, we are recognizing the Mission's rich history and the Temple's membership today representing multiple generations and their enduring contribution.

I congratulate Kahului Hongwanji Mission and its members for this very important occasion of its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and express our best wishes for continued achievement and celebration of many anniversaries to come. Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Ms. Thank, thank you, Ms. Cochran.

Member Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chairman, thank you so much. I'd like to personally extend my congratulations to the Mission as well as to the members of the Mission who have provided opportunities, not only for their members and families but also to the general community at large.

And I want to thank the church, the Mission, especially Reverend Soga who provides additional support to the Lanai Hongwanji Mission on our island, Mr. Chairman and Members. And so on behalf of our community, our members of our Lanai Hongwanji Mission and its supporters, we also extend our heartfelt congratulations in the celebration of its 100<sup>th</sup> centennial anniversary. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Members, any more discussion?

I would like to, again, extend my congratulations to the Kahului Hongwanji Mission on this significant milestone in their history. It is no easy feat for an organization to achieve an anniversary of 100 years. But when you learn of the Mission's rich history and the dedication, determination and commitment of its Members that has passed through the generations and continues in the present congregation, there is great assurance that this institution will be flourishing and serving our community for many years to come.

The Mission rose to the challenges of accommodating rapid growth during the time of migration from the Puunene camps to the opportunities of Dream City. And when residential activity in Puunene diminished, the Mission merged with Puunene Hongwanji allowing the two spiritual communities to flourish together. The Mission continues to progress forward, meeting the challenges of today's world.

Being the representative for the Kahului district in which the Mission resides, I personally know many of the Mission's members. In fact, I think I know everyone on the front row here. I even had the good fortune of having former resident Minister, the Reverend Ronald Kubota [*sic*], perform my daughter and son-in-law's marriage ceremony years ago. And Members, that was the first, I think in, in Maui County where you had a Buddhist Reverend and a Catholic Priest perform the ceremony at St. Anthony's so that was very, very significant for me.

I convey my gratitude to the Mission for its service and congratulate the members of the Mission's centennial anniversary and send forward my best wishes for the Mission's continued success. Thank you.

Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair. And so I'm, we move to, I, I, I thank you for an, you know expressing the gratitude for the Mission and the members and Reverend on, on your behalf. And we do have some wonderful Hongwanji Missions in Lahaina. I know they all worked together as one family.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: So at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: And at this time, Mr. Chair, I would like your permission to call down Reverend Jeffrey Soga and Mr., Minister of the Mission along with the fellow members to receive a copy of the resolution.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

Reverend, Members.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Do we call for the vote now?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sorry, sorry. Members, before you lift off from your chairs, it's been moved and second that we adopt this resolution.

Members, all in favor of the resolution, please say "aye".

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS CARROLL, COCHRAN,  
COUCH, HOKAMA, WHITE, AND VICE-CHAIR  
PONTANILLA.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Any opposed.

NOES: NONE.

EXCUSED: COUNCILMEMBERS BAISA, VICTORINO, AND  
CHAIR MATEO.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Seeing none, motion is carried, six "ayes"; three Members are "excused", Baisa, Victorino, and Mateo.

Okay, Members, let's congratulate the people from the Kahului Hongwanji Mission.

Ms. Cochran.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you, Chair, and thank you. So here from, on behalf of the Maui County Council, this is the resolution to honor your Mission's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Thank you so much for all your work in our community. And if you would like to introduce your members or say a few words or sing karaoke, whatever you want.

REVEREND JEFFREY DAIEN SOGA: Thank you, Councilmember Cochran. First of all I'd like to thank, Mr. Kuwada, to read this resolution. So many traditional Japanese words nowadays young people don't know some of these words, very perfectly, I, I want to thank you.

And on behalf of the Kahului Hongwanji, it is, I would like to thank all the County Councilmembers, the concern and study hard to make this resolution covered so much detail of the Hongwanji history, I really appreciate. And on behalf of the, all the ministers from, for this 100 years from Wailuku, Puunene and after the Reverend Ono, Akutagawa, Reverend Akutagawa, Reverend Kobata; they work so hard. And all the Temple Board, Board of Directors supported Ministers work so that I'm the very lucky guy and feel bad but I am the one this spotlight, receiving this spotlight. So on behalf of all the past Ministers, I want to thank all of the County Councilmembers concerned about this auspicious occasion 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Sensei, can you introduce?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sensei, can you introduce your members?

REVEREND SOGA: Yes. I like to introduce my member first, Mrs. Joan Yokoyama, she supported me as a Co-Chair. And Mrs. Ione Tokishi, she's one of the board, Board of Directors and supported our Centennial Committee. Mr. Douglas Toyama, he is our handy man. He'll always be at the church whenever we get trouble for the facilities and whenever we do the big project; roof changing, painting, he always come and look, supervise, and help. And Mrs. Diane Lee, she's the leader of the youth group, Sunday School and education, Jr. YBA. So, I'm so lucky they work so hard for church.

COUNCILMEMBER COCHRAN: Thank you so much, Chair, for this opportunity, for this, this honor. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mr. Clerk.

COUNTY CLERK: Mr. Chairman, for the record RESOLUTION 11-122.

Mr. Chairman, proceeding with the presentation of testimony on agenda items. We have received one request from an individual wishing to offer testimony.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Before the Clerk calls up the testifier, the Chair would like to set the parameters for anyone providing testimony to the Council. We welcome anyone wishing to share your comments with the Council this morning. You will be allowed to speak for three minutes on any of the items posted on the agenda for today.

When your name is called please advance to the podium, clearly state your name for the record. And if you are, if you represent a group or organization, please state the name of that group or organization as well.

A lighting system on the podium will assist you with your testimony. At the start of your comments, the green light will be lit. The two-minutes thirty second mark the yellow light will be lit, letting you know you have thirty seconds to conclude. At the three minute mark, the red light will be lit at which time you will need to stop. An additional minute will be provided to allow you to conclude your remarks.

For those of us with cell phones, if you could put it on the silent mode or turn it off, the Chair would appreciate that. Decorum of this chambers will all, always be maintained.

Mr. Clerk, please call up the first, the only testifier.

COUNTY CLERK: Calling Leslie Garcia. Mr. Chairman, Ms. Garcia will offer testimony on County Communication 11-305.

### PRESENTATION OF WRITTEN OR ORAL TESTIMONY

MS. LESLIE GARCIA (testifying on County Communication No. 11-305):

Good morning and aloha. My name is Leslie Garcia. I'm the Administrative Assistant Youth Specialist at the Kihei Youth Center and I'm here on behalf of the Kihei Youth

Center this morning. We have license to occupy one of the main buildings at the Kenolio Recreation Complex in Kihei.

Our, our Board of Directors; KYC's Executive Director, Lehuanani Huddleston-Hafoka; our staff; youth members; and the community in which we service are in support of Councilmember White's proposed bill prohibiting alcohol at County parks where youth centers are located.

At the Kihei Youth Center we are committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment where youth can thrive, builds character, and develop a strong sense of civic pride. We take great honor in keeping this, the park safe for not only our members, but for the community at large.

This ordinance will help to ensure that we are able to accomplish our goals in partnership with the County by prohibiting alcohol at the complex in which we're located.

Mahalo for your consideration and support of the aforementioned bill and in helping to keep our Kihei community safe for all of Maui's constituents to enjoy. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier. Seeing none, thank you again.

MS. GARCIA: Thank you. Have a great day.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, Ms. Garcia was the only person signed up for public testimony prior to the meeting. Okay.

Mr. Clerk.

MR. MERCER "CHUBBY" VICENS (testifying on County Communication No. 11-306):

Good morning, Mr. Chair. My name is Mercer Chubby Vicens and I'm testifying on my own behalf on 11-3, 306, basically the bill that, for an ordinance amending Article I of Title 14, Maui County Code, Title 18, Maui County Code, relating to water availability or better known, I guess, as the "show me the water bill".

This bill was enacted several years back at a time that was, it was felt that it was needed and I think that its, it served its purpose and, and now is exhausted its reason for being there. There are a couple things that, that I'd like to point out is that the, the amendment that we're, that we're proposing would expire the, the ordinance after two years after the effective date of change or amendment passing.