

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

May 6, 2013

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 9:13 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Mike White, Chair
Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member (In 9:15 a.m.)
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

STAFF: Scott Kaneshina, Legislative Analyst
Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary
Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone
conference bridge)
Dawn Lono, Council Aide, Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)
Morris Haole, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Robert Carroll

PRESS: *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR WHITE: . . .(*gavel*). . . This meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee come to order. Members, I would like to start off by welcoming back Committee Vice-Chair Riki Hokama. . .and especially welcoming back Vice-Chair of the Council, Bob Carroll.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR WHITE: Nice to have the anchor on the left side of the room.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: . . .(*laughter*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good to be back.

CHAIR WHITE: I'm sure it is . . .(*laughter*). . . And of course our Council Chair, Gladys Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning, Chair.

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CHAIR WHITE: Morning. And Members Don Couch--

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR WHITE: --and Don Guzman.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Good morning.

CHAIR WHITE: Excuse this morning are Elle Cochran, Stacy Crivello, and Michael Victorino. With us this morning, we have Committee Secretary Camille Sakamoto, and Legislative Analyst Scott Kaneshina. And as you know, Members, the item that we're discussing this morning is the appointment of the County Auditor.

ITEM BF-18: APPOINTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR

CHAIR WHITE: And we have no testifiers here in the Chamber. But we will go to the Hana Office first to check and see if there's anyone there in Hana to testify. Hana. . .Hana Office, Dawn, do you have any testifiers?

MS. LONO: Good morning, Chair, there's no one waiting to testify in the Hana Office.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. And we have no one on Molokai this morning because Ella was unable to get back to the island from Oahu. So we apologize to the public for any inconvenience that that may have caused. But then, we do have somebody in Lanai. So is that you, Denise?

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good morning, Chair, this is Denise. And we have no one waiting to testify.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Members, since we have no one here in the Chambers to testify. . .the Chair would like to close public testimony without objections.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objection.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. And I'd like to notice. . .recognize the presence of Stacy Crivello.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER CRIVELLO: Morning.

CHAIR WHITE: . . . And with that. . .Members, we are in receipt of County Communication 13-8 from the Council Chair, transmitting a proposed resolution entitled "APPOINTING THE COUNTY

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AUDITOR". In addition, we have had additional correspondence, dated January 30th, 2013, and March 14th, 2013. Most recently, a correspondence dated April 29th from myself, transmitting a proposal to extend the deadline of the Temporary Investigative Group, as permitted under Section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, from May 13th, 2013, to May 31st, 2013. This is the document that we will be working off of today, so this memo. And . . . just a review. . . the TIG posted a recruitment notice on Friday, February 8th, 2013. And . . . Friday, March 8th, 2013 was the deadline. The posting was for 30 days. And then after being notified that the Salary Commission. . . that they had approved the increase of the salary for the Auditor to 117,000 in April, the Temporary Investigative Group reopened the application period from mid-April until April 30th, 2013. Now that Budget Session has concluded, we obviously have a lot more time to allot to this effort. And it should be noted that although the TIG deadline is May 31st, a final report could be issued before that deadline. The May 31 deadline also gives enough time to appoint the County Auditor before July 1st, as this item only requires one reading before Council. At this point, I think it's appropriate to ask the Chair of the TIG, Mr. Hokama, for an update. And this, Members, is not to be construed as "a report" because we are simply not at the . . . the point of being able to *make* the final report. So, Mr. Hokama, if you could give the other Members a brief update as to where we are?

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: Chairman, thank you. What I will say in, in this open session, Mr. Chairman, is that upon the extension of the . . . deadline for application after the Salary Commission adjustments to the . . . Auditor's position, we did receive additional considerations of applicants. And I can tell you that. . . after we meet with Ms. Higa--which we already had stated prior to the creation of this TIG committee, that that will be one of the resources we would ask for consideration of her experience as the State Auditor--we'll be starting the actual interviews of the actual applicants that the TIG committee feels to move to that level. Mr. Chairman, and I believe we'll be happy to conclude a very complete vetments [*sic*] process to recommend to Council a very qualified person that I believe will be able to start this position in the manner that the people of Maui expects and deserves. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. I would say "Members, any questions?", but we can't really get into too many questions.

. . . At least that's my understanding. So at this point, the Chair would entertain a motion to amend . . .

NOTE: Pause.

VICE-CHAIR HOKAMA: . . . I make that motion, Mr. Chairman. Move to amend 'til, the deadline, 'til May 31st, 2013.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Second.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. It's been moved by Mr. Hokama and seconded by Mr. Couch to amend . . . BF-18 by replacing. . . the deadline of Monday, May 13th, to Friday, May 31st. Any discussion, Members?

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. . . Seeing none, all those in favor, please signify by saying "aye".

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR WHITE: Those opposed, say "no".

. . . Measure carries--seven "ayes", zero "noes".

VOTE: AYES: Chair White, Vice-Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers Baisa, Carroll, Couch, Crivello, and Guzman.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmembers Cochran and Victorino.

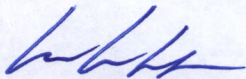
MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE extension of time for the Temporary Investigative Group to report to the Budget and Finance Committee, pursuant to Section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

CHAIR WHITE: I believe that concludes our work for today. Thank you all for being here so promptly. We are adjourned . . . (*gavel*). . .

ADJOURN: 9:21 a.m.

APPROVED:



MIKE WHITE, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

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Transcribed by: Camille Sakamoto