

COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
Kalana O Maui Building, 9th Floor, Mayor's Conference Room
Thursday, May 9, 2013
MINUTES

PRESENT: Frank De Rego Jr., Chair
Jeffrey Halpin, Member
Tina Gomes, Member

Ronald Kawahara, Vice-Chair
Garrett Evans, Member
Sunny Gutierrez, Member

EXCUSED: Victoria Johnson, Member

STAFF: John Buck, Executive Assistant
Michelle Makii, Administrative Assistant

Scott Hanano, Corporation Counsel

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair De Rego called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There was no public testimony.

III. REVIEW AND DISCUSS APRIL 11, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Halpin moved and Commissioner Gutierrez seconded the motion to pass April 11, 2013 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. REVIEW AND DISCUSS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

1. Resignation of Commissioner Adrienne Kawano

Chair De Rego explained that Adrienne Kawano sent a letter of resignation to the COGC. He asked Administrative Assistant, Michelle Makii to contact Executive Assistant, Michael Molina, regarding the status of new members since there are two vacancies in the COGC.

V. STATUS OF MEETINGS WITH COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

1. Discuss arrangement of meetings with Council Members to introduce the Annual Report

Chair De Rego explained that this is budget time for the Council Members, so it might be difficult scheduling appointments with them during this time. He said that he would like these meetings completed by the next meeting.

VI. HIRING OF COUNTY AUDITOR

1. Report by Deputy Corporation Counsel Scott Hanano on questions posed by the Commission concerning the hiring of the Auditor

Chair De Rego asked Deputy Corporation Counsel Scott Hanano for the status on the hiring of the County Auditor. Mr. Hanano explained that the opinion regarding this matter is currently being reviewed for approval. Mr. Hanano asked if anyone had objections to publishing the approved opinion on the website, as it usually is done. There were no objections.

Chair De Rego explained that he and Vice-Chair Kawahara might need to meet with Corporation Counsel Patrick Wong regarding this issue, as this matter is time sensitive. He also mentioned meeting with a former State Auditor, Ms. Marion Higa, who will be helping with setting up the Office of the County Auditor.

2. Recent Developments

Chair De Rego explained that there were recent developments regarding the salary of the County Auditor. He said that the Salary Commission increased the salary of the County Auditor from \$100,000 to \$117,000.

Commissioner Halpin asked if there was a deadline as to when the County Auditor is hired. Chair De Rego

responded that the Auditor should be in place by June 30, 2013, so he or she can assume office on July 1, 2013.

VII. INVESTIGATIVE GROUP REPORTS

Chair De Rego explained that he read the Sunshine Law and he believes that his interpretation of the law is exactly how the COGC has been operating and will continue to operate. He thinks that the COGC operates differently from the Council's Temporary Investigative Group (TIG). He explained that any information the COGC obtains is brought to the floor and reported on, whereas, the Council's TIG produced no reports of what their action has been so far from their TIG.

1. Assessment and Evaluation of Auditor

Commissioner Gutierrez reported that she contacted various places to gather examples of evaluations, including Kauai County appointee's evaluation and the City and County of Honolulu City Auditor evaluation. She asked if there is an evaluation for the appointees in the County of Maui. Executive Assistant John Buck replied that there is an evaluation and will send her a copy of it.

2. Strategic Plan

Commissioner Gomes explained that the Strategic Plan Investigative Group met to get Commissioner Evans up to speed, as he was not present at the last COGC meeting. She explained that the group would like to work in conjunction with the County Auditor's term while simultaneously building as they set goals. She showed an example of a strategic plan.

VIII. DETERMINE NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

Next meeting will be June 13, 2013, 9:00a.m. to 11:30a.m. in the Mayor's Conference Room.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Gomes moved and Commissioner Evans seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.