

**COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
Kalana O Maui Building, 9th Floor, Mayor's Conference Room
Thursday, April 9, 2015**

PRESENT: Tina Gomes, Chair
Garrett Evans, Vice-Chair
Bradley Bunn, Member
Gabriel Hoeffken (arrived at 10:06 a.m.)
Stanford Lantias, Member
Gayle Long, Member (arrived at 10:09 a.m.)
Dale Thompson, Member
John Watling, Member

EXCUSED: None

STAFF: Edward Kushi, Jr., First Deputy Corporation Counsel
Gina Gormley, Technical Writer for the Commission

OTHER: John Buck, Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor
Lance Taguchi, County Auditor
Camille Sakamoto, Administrative Officer, Office of the County Auditor

HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED:

1. **Copy of March Meeting Minutes**
2. **Copy of Kent Hiranaga's Letter of Resignation**
3. **Copy of Chair Gomes Email to Council Chair Mike White**
4. **Copy of the Office of County Auditor's Audit Report No. 14-01 entitled
"Examination of the Treasury Function of the Department of Finance"**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Gomes called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

There was no public testimony.

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR

Commissioner Evans moved to nominate Chair Gomes for Chair of the Cost of Government Commission for Fiscal Year 2016 and Commissioner Bunn seconded the motion. Commissioner Hoeffken and Commissioner Long were excused. The motion passed without objection.

Commissioner Bunn moved to nominate Commissioner Evans for Vice-Chair of the Cost of Government Commission for Fiscal Year 2016 and Commissioner Lantias seconded the motion. Commissioner Hoeffken and Commissioner Long were excused. The motion passed without objection.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVE MARCH 12, 2015 MEETING MINUTES

Chair Gomes corrected section IV of the Agenda to read “2015” instead of “2014”. Commissioner Evans moved that the February 12, 2015 minutes be approved, and Commissioner Watling seconded the motion. Commissioner Hoeffken and Long were excused. The motion passed without objection.

V. REVIEW AND DISCUSS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

A. Resignation Letter from Commissioner Kent Hiranaga dated March 16, 2015

The Commission acknowledged receipt of the resignation of Commissioner Hiranaga.

B. Email Correspondence to Council Chair Mike White from COGC Chair

Chair Gomes informed the Commission that she made attempts to meet with Council Chair White. To date, she has not been able to meet with him. Chair Gomes has emailed Council Chair White asking for his support of the Cost of Government Commission’s budget request of \$35,000.00. Chair Gomes explained that the increased budget request amount was due to travel, rental car, and per diem expenses incurred by the newly appointed Lanai Commissioner. Further, due to a recent vacancy, the increased budget request amount is taking into consideration that a new commissioner could be appointed from the island of Molokai.

VI. COUNTY AUDITOR’S UPDATE

County Auditor Taguchi submitted a copy of Audit Report No. 14-01, entitled “Examination of the Treasury Function of the Department of Finance” to the commission. This item will be placed on the May 21, 2015 Agenda.

VII. 2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

A. Discuss, Review and/or Modify Draft of Final Report – T.I.G. of County Planning Commission

Chair Gomes received a narrative from Commissioner Watling. Chair Gomes has also been in contact with the Lanai Planning Commission and Deputy Planning Director Michele Mclean. Chair Gomes informed the Commission that she will incorporate the narrative and additional research to the report.

The Commission deferred this item.

B. Discuss, Review and/or Modify Draft of Final Report – T.I.G. of Grants Review System and Process

Commissioner Gomes met with Commissioner Evans. Chair Evans provided additional information to Chair Gomes. Chair Gomes will incorporate the additional information to the report.

Chair Gomes informed the Commission that she would also like to get comments from Budget Director Sandy Baz.

The Commission deferred this item.

VIII. DISCUSS IDEAS FOR 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT

Chair Gomes asked the Commission for ideas for the 2015-2016 Annual Report. The Commission discussed whether to continue with T.I.G.s.

Rather than creating two T.I.G.s, the Commission discussed creating one T.I.G. that the Commission as a whole would be interested on. First Deputy Corporation Counsel Kushi explained that a T.I.G. would not be needed if the entire Commission worked on a matter as a whole. Further, if the Commission worked as a whole on a matter and not as two separate T.I.G.s, the commissioners would be confronted with Sunshine Law issues.

Commissioner Hoeffken inquired how the Commission differs from the Office of the County Auditor (“OCA”). County Auditor Taguchi explained that the Maui County Charter states that the Commission shall be advisory to the County Auditor. The OCA is held to a different and higher standard than the Commission. Further, the OCA shall not participate in management decisions. If the OCA were to perform a management function, they would be barred from performing an audit because of the standard they are held to.

The Commission has more of a public presence and is able to investigate issues that are brought to the Commission’s attention.

The Commission discussed doing away with the T.I.G.s and instead working as a whole on a matter while delegating specific duties to each member of the Commission.

Chair Gomes will meet with First Deputy Corporation Counsel Kushi to discuss the possibility of not continuing with T.I.G.s and instead working as a whole on a matter.

Commissioner Long suggested doing a study to update county expenditures and services based on public need, and doing an annual standard performance review. She also suggested reviewing the County’s mileage versus automobile purchase.

Commissioner Lantias suggested looking at renewable energy sources for the water pumping plants and the return on investment if renewable energy sources were utilized.

Chair Gomes will draft a letter to Council Chair White and Mayor Alan Arakawa inquiring about what issues they might be interested in.

The Commission ultimately decided on receiving more information regarding renewable energy sources for the water pumping stations and mileage versus county automobile purchases before selecting subject areas for the T.I.G.s. The Commission discussed inviting Managing Director Keith Regan, Director of Water Supply David Taylor, and Energy Coordinator Calvin Kobayashi to the next meeting to discuss the aforementioned ideas for the 2015-2016 Annual Report. Chair Gomes will contact Managing Director Keith Regan, Director of Water Supply David Taylor, and Energy Coordinator Calvin Kobayashi.

IX. UPDATE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Chair Gomes met with County Auditor Taguchi to discuss the Request for Proposal ("RFP") for the Technical Writer position. County Auditor Taguchi will draft a multi-year RFP. He will utilize the basic outline from the administrative services procurement used in the previous year to request written quotations to use as a basis to form a RFP for a multi-year contract. The initial draft will be based on similar qualifications outlined in the administrative services procurement. He will submit the draft to the Commission by the next meeting.

Posting will be for thirty days on both the County of Maui and State Procurement website

X. DETERMINE NEXT MEETING DATE, TIME, AND AGENDA

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2015, in the Mayor's Conference Room, at 10:00 a.m.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Long moved and Commissioner Evans seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.