

# COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING

Council of the County of Maui

## MINUTES

May 26, 2020

### Online Only via BlueJeans

**CONVENE:** 3:28 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Council Chair  
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Council Vice-Chair, and Chair,  
Economic Development and Budget Committee  
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, and Chair,  
Affordable Housing Committee  
Councilmember Riki Hokama, Chair, Healthy Families and Communities  
Committee (Out 5:41 p.m.)  
Councilmember Kelly Takaya King, Chair, Climate Action and Resilience  
Committee  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair, Government, Ethics, and  
Transparency Committee (Out 4:38 p.m.)  
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Chair, Planning and Sustainable Land Use  
Committee  
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair, Environmental, Agricultural, and  
Cultural Preservation Committee (Out 4:37 p.m.)  
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair, Multimodal Transportation  
Committee

**STAFF:** Traci N. T. Fujita, Director, Office of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney  
Tammy M. Frias, Supervising Committee Secretary  
Kathy Kaohu, County Clerk, Office of the County Clerk

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CHAIR LEE: Okay, will the meeting please come to order. . . .(gavel). . .

3. **PROPOSED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR HSAC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** (Council Chair Lee and Councilmember King)

Now, the County Clerk says give them a second, so let's skip to No. 3. . . Proposed Job Description for HSAC Executive Director. So, I would like to call on Traci and Member King for that item, No. 3. Traci, are you on?

MS. FUJITA: I'm here.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. You want to take care of that, talk to that? . . .(inaudible). . .

MS. FUJITA: For OCS staff, we did create a draft job description. . .

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

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CHAIR LEE: Uh-huh.

MS. FUJITA: . . .and it's attached to the agenda.

CHAIR LEE: Uh-huh, okay.

MS. FUJITA: And then I'll, I'll--

CHAIR LEE: No, you were. . .just give us like a brief overview.

MS. FUJITA: For me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

MS. FUJITA: Okay. So basically what it is, is the HSAC Committee has. . .there's been some struggle with particularly, okay, with particularly like maintaining the books for HSAC, the conference, planning the conference, that sort of thing, and we thought one possible solution is to have somebody dedicated that can provide continuity for the HSAC Executive Committee from year to year. 'Cause what, what's been happening is that year to year the books get passed around from county to county and. . .frankly, the books were in a shambles when we got them and we're still trying to reconcile, and it's taken staff many, many hours of overtime trying to work this out. So we're trying to make things more efficient going forward. We would like to see, you know, some, some kind of con..., I guess continuous, a continuous staff person that can help with HSAC matters so it doesn't fall on the counties' staff, which is what's happening now.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So you came, all of you came up with the description. And so this is, is this going to be like a proposal to the HSAC Committee, Member King, since you're a member of that Committee?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. No, I was actually surprised to see this because I hadn't spoken to Traci about it. So, I guess they did this on their own, which is nice, but I would've like to have given them some input.

CHAIR LEE: It's not too late.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, no, I know. . .and I haven't. . .it's just interesting to see a document that says we're hiring when the HSAC is still working on how we're going to fund this position. But in the meantime. . .I mean this is a good description and it did come out of, as Traci said, the need for continuity because as soon as we took over as Treasurer, we started unearthing--our, our people are really thorough, you know, to. . .maybe to our own detriment--and so we started unearthing years of, years of problems with the books for HSAC that had gone on before our, this current term as Treasurer and, you know, we're late, we're delinquent on the GET filings, we're delinquent on the audits for the last few years. The auditor has been asking for information that we can't give him because it happened two years prior to us taking

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

over, to Maui taking over as Treasurer. So we've been trying to unravel this whole three or four year escapade of the inconsistencies and that figures that didn't balance, and figures that we couldn't check; the checkbook was done in different ways when different councils had it as far as accruing versus, you know, real time. And . . . or anyway, I think Shelly has done an amazing job and I think (*inaudible*) most of the information we've gotten to the auditor. But it just, it just unearthed this whole issue of, of, you know, when you pass the books around, just like when you pass the secretarial job around, that there's no institutional knowledge, and people from last year and the previous year have left who were supporting those Councilmembers who are doing the work of the Treasurer. And so we can't find. . . they're not even in the State anymore from last year, and so we've been trying to find information and records for 2018 and 2019 that the auditor's been asking for, for a while. And this also affects our, you know, filing of tax returns. So this idea of--

CHAIR LEE: So when, when. . . okay, so when do you folks get together again?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So we get together June 1<sup>st</sup>, and in the meantime what happened was we started talking about this executive position, the Executive Director position, and I think all the HSAC Board Members support it, but we still have to figure out how we're going to pay for it. And, you know, it might be that we have to just rely on dues. We have no conference this year because of the COVID-19, so that got canceled. So there's probably going to be some kind of, this type of Zoom or something meeting because we have to have a general meeting with all of the participants from across the State just to approve certain. . . the directorships. But we, we've been discussing how we're going to bring this person on. In the meantime, the last meeting we had Joey Manahan, who's the current President of HSAC, had offered to propose to his Council that they hire somebody out of their budget who would be, who would be a staff member for their Council Services but also serve HSAC part-time. So he's in the process of writing his job description for that which. . . you know, and Joey is--I don't know if you know--but Joey Manahan is the Budget Chair for his Council. So he was planning on proposing this to his Budget Committee, and the figure that I heard from, you know, Shelly talking to his support is. . . that they're looking at something around 80,000. And they're writing a job description right now, but part of that job description is going to be what they need on their end, and then part of it is going to be supporting HSAC. But they're willing to. . . you know, when we talked to him, when he brought it to us, he was willing to propose that, that they pay for it out of their budget and that it wouldn't come out of HSAC's budget. So this would be sort of a part-time staffer and hopefully get started on some of the, the unraveling, you know, this whole web of things that has to happen, and the first thing is being the audits and the tax returns for the years that have been skipped. So my, so where we're at right now is I'm. . . they. . . he's working on the budget for that, he's working on the job description. He hasn't proposed it to his Budget Committee yet, but he's planning to. So, I don't know how much of what we have on this paper is the same as what he's looking for. But he. . . because he was the previous Treasurer, he knows about a lot of the issues that are happening right now because his staff is involved in trying to find some of the records. So my proposal to him for this upcoming year was to trade, have Maui and Oahu trade the President's and Treasurer's position because they really

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

wanted this. . .the Board Members really wanted to keep everything the same this year, and in fact we, we've got the four same Members coming on and they wanted to keep all the positions the same. So, I objected to that because I, I think Maui has had the lion's share of the work as far as being Treasurer and Secretary more often than any other councilmembers, councils, and we couldn't come to an agreement. So that's kind of one of the things I, I needed from this group too was, you know, if it, if we do continue on as Treasurer, that's another full year. So we're going to be. . .and it's, and we haven't quite reconciled all this stuff from 2018 on. So it's going to be a continuation of this level of work for our staff Shelly Espeleta, and Nicole is part of this as well. So, so that's. . .so I'm, I'm. . .I'm not very happy with that because I also think that at the end of the year we have two Members who are transitioning out, who are termed out who won't be coming back. So now we're going to get two new HSAC Members from Oahu and Kauai, and what, what I was presented with was well, it'll be easier if we just continue on the same. And my position is no, it won't be easier because when we get to the end of the year everything's going to change. I'd rather have it change now when it's supposed to and go forward with at least those of us who are in these positions that we want to be in for the year can stay in those positions, and then we know we're going to get two new Members. So anyway that. . .we, we're in this transition period right now where there's a comfort level in keeping things the same for some of the Board Members, and I'm not really. . .I mean there's, there's already. . .was in a previous agreement that we were going to change positions and Maui was not going to be Treasurer or Secretary this next year.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So, I kind of want to hear everybody's thoughts on that.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just had a question, like what kind of accountability are we looking at. . .like say we, we can't get this information that they need for the audit or the taxes? Like what is the consequences for us as a County and. . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, for us. . .yeah, I think for us there's no, I mean we've done our job this year. So we're, we're not delinquent on anything. We're trying to catch up on some of the errors from the past. So, I don't believe that Maui County has any direct. . .we, we haven't let things slide, but I don't know what the accountability for HSAC is going to be if we can't get our taxes filed from those years or the audits filed, because we're required to do an audit every year, or the, you know, the license, the GET license filed and those fees paid. They're not huge fees, but they were just, the ball was dropped for 2018 and 2019. So, I can't answer to you what that accountability issue is. I don't know if this has happened. . .you know, it feels like kind of a building up of these, you know, these issues and I think the, the main problem here is the fact that every year the books go to a different council and a different councilmember and a different council staff that doesn't necessarily follow up on what the previous person did. So we just have this, this kind of a round-robin

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

where it just keep. . .it, it perpetuates and then, and then we get deeper and deeper as the years go on, and we find out we haven't, we haven't done something. So, I really commend Shelly for getting into it because she could've just gone along just doing what we do this year, but she really looked into and reconciled, and then she went into QuickBooks to reconcile that. And we, we were reluctant to take over the books until some of the, the checks were balanced because the checkbook did not balance when we got it.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So ultimately it was. . .the HSAC Chair Manahan was the Treasurer for those periods that were delinquent, and then he's terming out in December. So you're saying that you want to trade positions so that he can finish reconciling the term that was delinquent when he was the Treasurer? Is that, is that what you're saying?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. He was last year, but not the previous year. But the person that was supporting him in his office, his council office left the State several months or a couple of months before we took over as Treasurer, and that was the person that had all, I guess, the institutional knowledge from that year. So this is what keeps happening, is people come and go, you know, who are supporting that posi..., the different positions, and then they leave things unfinished. And so we came in and, you know, with our staff being the perfectionist they are, they wanted to reconcile everything, and now we just sort of got this can of worms.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. I understand now.

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Well, I want to thank Ms. King for that report. HSAC is over 60 years old. We used to have two conferences a year--I think Ms. Lee would remember that era--annual as well as the leg. conferences. So we did everything doubles and I can tell you, this is pretty bad because we rotated over six decades' worth of responsibilities and officership with double the conferences and double the meetings. So to hear our current state of affairs is worse than disappointing, for me. So, I appreciate your comments, Ms. King, but so a couple of things. I won't be supportive of City and County paying for the position 'cause at the end of the day I know who's going to listen to who who's paying 100 percent of the bill. Okay. So if I was paying the bill, you better damn believe that that guy, person is going to listen to Honolulu before the other counties because they're paying 100 percent of the paycheck. The other thing is I would say I would support you, Ms. King, I think we need one audit for the general membership of why we're in this predicament, and I would say there should be some adjustments. Part of the rotation was that every county should have the position of President and that responsibility as well as the Treasurer's position which is critical for a nonprofit like us. And I would agree with you that unless HSAC and all the counties agree to ante up more in dues, that means you're going to have to generate a lot of association revenues just like how we do for NACo and everything else and, again, we're going to need to anticipate if you want to do it to the next level, are we willing to commit that kind of funding because you want

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

professional staff, you're going to need professional salaries and benefits, fringes, office space, reporting. So this budget for this program I can see easily becoming half a million dollars in a blink of an eye if you want professionalism, and then where does the relationship between the councilmembers, senators, and the reps with the State department heads come into play? 'Cause I think right now one of our greatest advantages is the multiple access we have to various State leaders and, and it all happens in our own way in Hawaii, right? The Senate President and I go back to 1971. So we have a *long* relationship. And so, I bank on that to get information that assists Maui County. I don't know if the new people have that kind of relationships that is critical to our benefits, but I appreciate this opportunity to share my points. And thank you again, Ms. King, for your good work. Thank you, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Mr. Hokama. Can I just. . .

CHAIR LEE: Yes, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you for that. And, you know, I don't know if you were where I thought maybe it happened during your tenure, but maybe it was Ms. Crivello's. At some point they took that out of the bylaws, that rotation, and so we don't have an automatic rotation. I tried to propose that back into the bylaws this year, but I was opposed by the Big Island member. So that's why it's so critical with this vote because we don't have an automatic rotation, and so Maui keeps kind of getting stuck with all the heavy lifting because I think we have such good staff we've been willing to do it. But, you know, I'm pretty adamant about wanting to go back to that rotation because I think you're right, it's only fair and it's. . .you know, every, every council should be aware of how to do these different positions.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. I--

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Part of the history, Chair Lee, is that again like with Mr. Kane, when Mr. Kane was HSAC President, he held it for two full terms, four years.

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: So, yeah, that. . .the. . .I mean it's been interesting watching the last 60-plus years of HSAC. But I can tell you that part of our. . .what we need is to go back to twice a year meeting with each other because going down to one annual meeting only doesn't give us enough time to converse what all counties face together and how we can all work together to resolve issues. That is what we're lacking as an association. We don't really meet. Thank you, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anybody else? It appears we're going to defer this item anyway because of the uncertainty of what the. . .Ms. King is talking about. I don't think the group has decided to come up with a proposal yet. Mr. Molina then Mr., then Ms. Tasha Kama.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: No. Thanks, Chair. I can agree with your assessment now upon hearing, you know, where we're at. But just one quick question. Will the Executive Director, should one be hired, will they be required to live on Oahu or can they work from any island?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah--

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Was there discussion on it?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. There, there was a kind of brief discussion and that was not decided at that point, you know, at the point that we're at. So, you know, I mean I can go. . .if everyone feels the same, I can go back and, and let them know that Maui, you know, we don't support the position being hired by the Oahu Council because then they would obviously remain on Oahu. Then, you know, I'm happy to do that, but we would have to. . .probably. . .I don't, I personally don't think we have to go up to half a million, but I do think we need to raise more funds if we're going to hire a position because we also have benefits and all that.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay, thanks. And then one last quick one. The job description states that the Director shall coordinate committee member participation in NACo conferences. So HSAC would pay for the Executive Committee to. . .Committee's attendance to NACo or is it the individual counties pay? Because my, my thinking is if the counties' pay, then, you know, maybe the counties should be coordinating the participation in NACo. Did that discussion come up?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You know this job description that you're looking at was written by OCS, our OCS, so this has not been put in front of HSAC yet. This was done, this is the first time I'm looking at it as well, but I think a lot of these things came out of Traci's experience with HSAC and Shelly's experience with HSAC. Right now the, there's money in the HSAC budget for the HSAC Board Members and, and our other appointed people to go to various conferences, you know, like HSAC covered \$2,000 of Mr. Hokama's conference expenses for the, the legislative conference in February, and the WIR and the. . .and the NACo Board people get covered. So that comes out of. . .a portion of that, up to \$2,000, comes out of HSAC right now, and then individual Councilmembers who want to go can. . .you know, whether their council pays for it out of their central account or, you know, you pay for it out of your own office budget account. That's kind of up to each council. So that's how, that's how it works right now.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Okay. Thanks, Kelly. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama, you had a question.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, it wasn't really a question, but I, I feel like, you know, all the years that I've served on different boards and things like that, that knowing what your responsibility is as, whatever, the treasurer, the secretary, that you had a role and,

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

and it's a serious role. And to hear that legislators don't take their roles seriously enough to be able to keep our own books in, in order, it just, it just bothers me because these are the people that we entrust with our funds, right, from the counties. And if they can't even keep their own little budgets in order, how the heck they're going to run their own counties? You know, so that's, that's troubling to me. But the fact that--and I understand that needing somebody to take the helm for HSAC is really critical to the success of HSAC. And so while it's hard for all of us to, to look at this and plan all of this, I would hope that--you know, we will defer this, we will have probably a deeper dive into this because this is doable, this is doable, and how we get funding is also doable, too. . .and maybe raising the dues and maybe having more people pay. And I don't know what the dues are, but, you know, if, if I'm going to be benefitting from something, then I think I should be paying something as an individual to a membership, right. So if we are all members of HSAC and if every county employee is a member of HSAC just by virtue of being an employee of the County, then there's some benefit there and you want to participate like everything else. Like you belong to a credit union, right, we all participate, right by making a deposit and then we get to go to their annual reports and whatever. But I, I think this is, this is a really great organization and I think we should just do whatever we can to help it to, to be at that level where it should be because your strength in terms of your legislation as counties in your State and as counties, with State and counties at the Federal level it's. . .the strength it comes from this level right here. And if we're not organized enough then, then we're not going to be able to participate in a way that we can really make things happens. It's getting back to voting and, and all that organizing kind of stuff. But thank you, Chair, and thank you, Member King, for. . .and, Member Paltin, yes for, you know, sitting on this, the artist. . .this, this committee over here that makes it really difficult, but at the same time I think it's important for us to continue and to participate the best we can. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any objections to deferring this matter?

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, so--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But, Chair, can I just ask you if I could get, take a temperature from the body about whether we want to just stand our ground and keep the, the position that we would've rotated into or. . .I mean there's pressure for, for us to, you know, our, our Council to remain as Treasurer and I don't really want to do that and our staff doesn't really want to do that. So just looking for some moral support from this body, I guess.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, you know, whatever that. . .if, if we don't want to do it, then we shouldn't do it. But the other thing I, I was thinking of suggesting was instead of hiring somebody to do this, maybe supplementing the people that are already doing it, like, you know, how Shelly is taking on additional responsibility to do this Treasurer work. . .that, you know, upon certain deliverables, like the GET taxes are filed, the audits are done, the person then gets a supplemental pay to do it instead



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

of going out and finding a whole new Executive Director or, or like that. Like, you know, we understand that the Treasurer's job is much more complicated than say another job and there's financial consequences, and so paying for just that supplemental thing and the deliverables--you want to add something?--I don't know if you get what I'm, what I'm--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, I do. I think that's a, I think that's a great idea. I think I'll, I'll bring it up, for sure, because if we get pressured into taking that position again then, and we can get some supplemental support, it might be worth it.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: In line of what Tamara is talking about, why doesn't HSAC hire like a bookkeeper or somebody to just take care of that business the way that. . . I think I remember HSAC had a marketing company or communications company. Last term I went to one of the meetings and they had somebody who was taking care of. . . during legislative session. So on that basis, like a contract person, so that the company can stay and all the different councilmembers can change, but at least you'll have continuity that way 'cause I think it's important having financial strength and stability.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It is and that was one of the things we talked about and that's, I think that was one of the reasons why Joey came up with this idea of hiring somebody on Oahu with their funds to at least get them through all the bookkeeping issues. But, you know, this. . . just having the same person year after year is important.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Alright, everybody, no objections to deferring this matter? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No.

CHAIR LEE: Then the other thing. . . the temperature is like we're all over the place on this, but we do not want to take on the Treasurer's job by ourself.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, got it.

CHAIR LEE: That's one, one thing we agreed on.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, that's very helpful. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

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**1. RESCHEDULING THE JULY 27-31, 2020 COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO JULY 20-24, 2020** (County Clerk Kaohu)

CHAIR LEE: So then going back to agenda, No. 1, I'm going to call on County Clerk Kathy Kaohu, Rescheduling the July 27-31 Committee meetings. Kathy.

MS. KAOHU: Aloha. So it sort of became moot when NACo decided to cancel their annual conference and exposé. Due to the Act 136 that was adopted in 2019, our processing of ballots are going to occur over a week period rather than the one election day, and originally for the Council Calendar, the meeting week, the second meeting week in July was pushed back to accommodate the NACo Conference. And traditionally, the entire 8<sup>th</sup> floor is considered and used for a counting center for the ballots and the processing and the counting. So in light of having a whole, starting our whole election period 10 days out, we were hoping to be able to keep our tables and our chairs and our equipment set up on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor and not have to take it down every day to accommodate back and forth between Council committee meetings and counting ballots and processing ballots. The counting center will be only in operation from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the afternoon, but again it's just being able to leave the tables and chairs and equipment in place for that. So we're requesting that the Council go back to the third week of July, July 20 to 24<sup>th</sup>, if possible, and clear the calendar for the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup>.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any questions? If not, thank you, Kathy. Again, you have No. 2.

MS. KAOHU: Okay, Councilmember Hokama had a question.

CHAIR LEE: Oh, Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. Chair, thank you. The Clerk is correct, yeah, we as a board of NACo last week on Microsoft Teams, we had 150 board directors nationwide participate on a AB Conference, and we also voted using the, a software attachment to the Teams program. So while we will not meet in Orlando face to face, the conference will still go on in a sense through internet and (*inaudible*) and podcast. We will also have an official Annual Business meeting where as the Credentials Chair we've worked out the requirements and we will be *voting* for new officers at the Annual Business meeting. So during the week that the Clerk is giving us a recommendation, for those that want to participate regarding the NACo Conference, it is still going to be going on in a sense. I got to work Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for the elections of our national officers. So for me, I prefer not to change the calendar, but, you know, I'll, I'll adjust for what the majority would like. But I just would like to inform you that we are going to ask all the counties to participate. And one of the things that this County is going to need to decide is through the association whether we will block vote, because we only have a limited number of votes as a State, and which candidate should we support. We have two women running for office this year - one from Oklahoma and one from Illinois. So that's going to need to be decided and we're going to need to cast our votes electronically this year. So, I just share that for your information, Members, that the NACo Conference will not meet face to face, but we will

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

still continue to meet electronically and conduct the business of our Association.  
Thank you, Chair Lee.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, thank you. Somebody else had. . .Kathy and then Ms. King.

MS. KAOHU: Okay. And I just wanted to add, this request came prior to all the sheltering in place and everyone getting onboard with the remote meetings. So we could still function if meetings are held remotely in July.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh. Thank you, Chair. . I just was wondering if we're, if we're thinking we're going to back in Chambers in July?

CHAIR LEE: Don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: We just don't know? Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? Ms. Sugimura. Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Well, according to what Mr. Hokama said, then the NACo Conference is July 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup> on that week that you're referencing?

MS. KAOHU: It's the prior week.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The prior week?

MS. KAOHU: Yeah, the 20<sup>th</sup>. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The 20<sup>th</sup> to the. . .

MS. KAOHU: . . .to the 24<sup>th</sup>.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: . . .24<sup>th</sup>. Oh, I see. And so you want to make sure that we're out of your way because you have important work to do was the reason?

MS. KAOHU: Yeah. Technically, we're not supposed to have elected, not elected officials, but candidates in the counting center. So if you're on the ballot, it's not a good idea to have you cruising the hallways here, and usually we. . .it's locked down to the general public as well. But again, we're not actually going to be doing the work until 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., but it's just being able to leave the tables up and the chairs up so we don't have to breakdown and setup every day.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MS. KAOHU: And it. . .oh, sorry, I just wanted to clarify, too. It wouldn't mean that we're asking you not to come to the office. Your staff could still be working in the office prior to 4:00 p.m.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Anybody else? No? Okay. And then the next item.

2. **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK'S FRONT DOOR**  
(County Clerk Kaohu)

MS. KAOHU: The next item has to do with security of our front door. I was in a meeting with the Chair and OCS management and they were talking about having an intercom card reader system installed on the Council Services' side. So, I asked if I could just get a quote for that for the Office of the County Clerk's side, and it's very similar to what Finance Department has in place as well as the Corporation Counsel. The public would come to the door, hit the intercom button, and then our staff would, would answer the call and they could say what they're there for, and then we would buzz them in or greet them at the door. And then so the quote came in at \$4,881, 2,700 of that is for materials and the remainder is for labor, and the vendor already has an overarching contract with the County of Maui. So that's who we asked for. I think they have a sole source process already worked out.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Any questions about that? Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Just one quick one, Chair Lee. Madam Clerk, do you need a building permit, by chance?

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: I remember what happened to Council the last few times we made adjustments to the 7<sup>th</sup> or the 8<sup>th</sup> floor. Some of the departments got away with it when they did their projects internally, but when Council did our project in this building, all of a sudden we had backflow preventers we had to install for the front of the building and we had additional charges that none of the departments were charged when they did their similar work in the building. So, I just was wondering, you need a permit for this project?

MS. KAOHU: I don't have that answer right now, but I'll definitely follow up and that's a good consideration.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you, Madam Clerk.

CHAIR LEE: Any other questions?

MS. KAOHU: Oh, one more thing.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: Kathy.

MS. KAOHU: It is possible that the election CARES money could cover for this. I'll just have to write, I guess, a statement if this is in response to COVID, and it definitely came about in response to COVID.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. We have a couple--yes, Ms. King.

1. **RESCHEDULING THE JULY 27-31, 2020 COMMITTEE MEETINGS TO JULY 20-24, 2020** (County Clerk Kaohu)

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. I just, I wanted to. . .I, I didn't get a clear idea of where we are at on Item No. 1. Are we keeping the schedule the same or are we changing?

CHAIR LEE: Kathy.

MS. KAOHU: Good question. . . *(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Where were we? I don't know where we are. . . *(chuckle)*. . .

MS. KAOHU: I guess I'm just. . .I guess I was just trying to lay out what our needs are for the 8<sup>th</sup> floor during that time period, but. . .if I can have your support.

CHAIR LEE: As we get, as we get closer you'll let us know, right. . .

MS. KAOHU: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: . . .as we get closer. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Can I just ask, can I ask Mr. Hokama a question about the conference?

CHAIR LEE: Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So is the conference going to have like breakout sessions that we might want to attend if we, if we were there, or is it going to just be the business of NACo?

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: That's exactly what we're working on now, Ms. King. We plan to do some sessions. It'll be, you know, different from the actual conference, but we've had requests, and the key right now is how to find the most appropriate and reliable software that can handle the amount of potential people that want to join into the workshops and meetings. That's our problem right now, the numbers. Because we're waiving conference fees and a lot of other potential monetary restrictions, NACo staff believes that we might get an uptick in actual participation because there's no travel

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

costs, no conference fees and other things. . .and, you know, potentially one number we, we had was that we could have up to 4,000 participants electronically.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Wow.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: The key is how do we find a system that can handle this kind of participation? And that's what we're working on--

CHAIR LEE: Just ask Keani.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Huh?

CHAIR LEE: Just ask Keani.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Go ask Keani's staff.

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. Well, we know it works here for Council. The key is how to make it work for 4,000 participants. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: . . .unless you're a national broadcasting system. But we will have on July 13<sup>th</sup>, Monday, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time, we'll conduct a virtual membership townhall meeting that we're going to cast forward. So, I would ask you guys to consider participating July 13<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time is 10:00 a.m. Hawaii Time, whereby you'll have your Second and Vice-Presidential candidates giving their talks. We'll also provide you an overview of bylaw amendments. We'll give you a status from my Credentials Committee regarding how we're going to do voting and delegates. And then finally, we'll have the update on our Federal policy and newest round of congressional funding. So that's how we'll do the first initial test is on the 13<sup>th</sup>, and on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Monday the 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time--and I'm sorry, I tried to change it--that means it's 8:00 a.m. Hawaii Time is when we plan to do the Annual Business meeting where will do the election of the national officers. So that's what I can share with you right now as far as things that are set from the national perspective.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Hokama. And actually, 8 o'clock sounds pretty good since I've been joining the WIR meetings at 6:00 a.m. . . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .and they wanted to move it to Mountain Time. I said, please no. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: I get texts at 3:00 in the morning because it's 9 o'clock in the East Coast, right.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's right.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: So, I mean I'm with you. I get it. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: They forget. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Thank you.

4. **PROPOSED NEW COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE** (Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Alright, No. 4. Keani, you want to take this, Proposed New Committee Meeting Schedule?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So it, it's that one. Everyone has it? It came with the agenda. So this proposed schedule is. . . what resulted from a discussion that we had at. . . I don't know if it was the last Chair's meeting or the previous one where the initial proposal was for committees to have a full day of a committee meeting, and some committee chairs liked the idea, some didn't, some said that they were willing to try. And some Members offered to go on different days so that we wouldn't have really. . . items that take a, a, like a long time to discuss on the same day, like PSLU and Affordable Housing on the same day because the, the items can attract a lot of testimony and then a lot of discussion and oftentimes we end up meeting more than three hours that we have. For example, the last PSLU meeting when Affordable Housing canceled last week and we ended up going on Friday, I think our meeting ended up going until 2:00 and then were able to complete the agenda. So the proposal is to have the WIT Committee with the AH Committee on Monday; on Tuesday the GET and EACP would stay together; on Wednesday EDB and CAR, since Member King expressed interest in alternating with the EDB Committee to have an all-day committee day; and then on Thursday PSLU and HFC. So WIT would stay the same, EDB and CAR would move. . . WIT would stay the same, GET and EACP would stay the same and HFC. So Affordable Housing, EDB, and PSLU would change. . . and it would achieve having lighter committee or committees that have items with, that attract less testimony and shorter discussion with committees that have much longer discussions. And EDB with CAR because Member King expressed an interest in testing out the all-day committee meeting. Okay, Chair?

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anybody else? Everybody okay with that? Alright so, so--yes, Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, just wanted to find out if you wanted to start next month, Keani, or when did you want to start? Because I, I already have an agenda, but I'm happy to move it. I can move it to the second meeting--

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We can start in July. Since we're going to have this Chair's meeting, it was still something that we would need to discuss and see if, you know, this is something that we wanted to do.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because right now you and I aren't on the same day, so we would have to first approve some kind of amendment to get EDB and CAR on the same day so that we could, we could do that, and then we can start in July if the Councilmembers were open to that idea.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I, I'm willing to, to try that. And, Chair, do we need a . . .any kind of action on this or can we, or can you just decide. . .if everyone agrees, can you just change the schedule? I don't think it's an ordinance issue, is it?

CHAIR LEE: It may, it may be a Rule issue. So we might have to vote on it. But like you said, we have to, we have to vote on putting the two. . .committees on the same day. Right now they're not.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Right.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And moving the other two committees that have--

CHAIR LEE: Huh?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --that have a lot of--

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. And so we can, we can do it at the next Chair's meeting because I thought I heard you say we're not going to start this till July. Did I hear that? No?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Kelly, Kelly was asking if would start next month by having a full day, but my response--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I was just asking her when she wanted to start. So, you know, I'm open to it whenever you want to start. It's just we, we need to know now because we're already posting for next week. So. . .

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So you want to take a vote on it right now?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Wait. . . *(chuckle)* . . .

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay, wait, wait. Okay--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It looks like there's more discussion.



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: --Ms. Paltin and then Ms. . . .they, they're raising their hand. Can we let them talk, too? We'll let them talk. Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And, Chair, really quickly, it doesn't have to be permanent. We could try this for the month of July and that way we don't have. . . 'cause Member King was asking what would be the repercussions, is it an ordinance change? It's not. It's just that we printed calendars and we distributed that. So that would be something that we would need to amend if this is something that we're going to do. But we could do like do a temp, like a pilot for the month of July and see. But, okay, I'll, I'll stop talking.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just wanted to request that. . . 'cause the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is a postponement of the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting and I, I cleared it with the applicant for the affordable housing project that I postponed May 26<sup>th</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and I just don't want to look like, you know, flaky by saying, okay, now it's June 4<sup>th</sup> or something. So, I just. . . if can just keep June 3<sup>rd</sup> the same, then everything after that I don't care, do whatever you want. I just, I don't like to tell people something and then change it more than once if I can.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. We, we wouldn't want you to look flaky. Okay. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So thank you, Chair. So, I like the idea of starting in July. I like the idea of just testing it out for that one month because by that time I think EDB, you would've have two meetings all day and then CAR would've had--no, only one meeting? Only one meeting? Oh, my God. Okay. Well, let's try it out and see what happens and then we can reassess, I guess, come back in August at the next Chair's meeting and see how it goes. I officially chose Wednesday as the day to hold an Affordable Housing meeting because Mondays there's too many holidays that come and they're always on a Monday. So that means you never get to hold your committee meetings because then you're always going to be one week after the fact because it's a holiday. But I don't mind trying it out for one month to see where we go. I'm open to that. So thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Anybody else? Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So interesting 'cause I know it came up pre-COVID, right, just talking about having a meeting schedule all day. So, I wonder because of COVID and all the things going on and the urgency with it related and decisions, and I think that EDB is a super important for that discussion because we are talking about Federal fundings that comes through the State and not only the 60..., not only the CARES Act, but other related. So, I wonder what impact this change would have on being able to react quickly. . . 'cause I know that, you know, Budget Chair has pretty much taken it up and made it a priority, so just wondered about that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do you want me to respond?

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Whoever.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Okay. So if you're asking about being able to quickly respond to budget amendments from the Administration from Budget Director, I, I've called special meetings even with the current calendar that we have. So if ever we needed to move quickly, I have done so and you all have accommodated those requests. So it, it's just a matter of, you know, us being able to work together in figuring out a day that's good for everyone to have a special EDB meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Well, we can't actually vote at today's meeting because this is just an informal meeting but, you know, I, I see no reason why we can't agree by consensus on an experimental meeting schedule. And then if we like it, then we can make it more permanent. Ms. Kama. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I was going to say that I think--shoot, I lost my train of thought. I saw this calendar and I just lost my train of thought. I forgot what I was going to say. How can that happen to me? You didn't want me to say anything, Alice, that's what it was, you're hoping. . .

CHAIR LEE: No, no. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I'm only joking.

CHAIR LEE: . . .that's what happens with young people, young people, they forget.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Maybe while I'm talking, Pro Tem Kama's memory will get jogged and she'll remember what it was. So July, I, I just remembered, we were discussing it earlier, the first item on the agenda about amending our calendar because of the NACo Conference was moved and then the Clerk's Office is going to need the 8<sup>th</sup> floor. I don't know if July will be a good month to pilot this. I'm just thinking about that now. Or maybe it would be a good time to pilot it and we take the first two weeks and do it, and then that way the next two weeks we can give them off, I mean give the floor off.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah that's, that's a possibility. Everybody okay with taking the first two weeks?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Sure.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King, Ms. King.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So, I'm not sure what you mean by the first two weeks because the first two weeks kind of have to do with the whole month because if we're trading off, then that gives my Committee one full day and then EDB one full day.

CHAIR LEE: The first three weeks.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No, the first two weeks.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: But there's, there's. . .one of these weeks we have a meeting--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So July, July. . .right, so we wouldn't take a week off in between because--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --NACo is going to be the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup>, is what I understand, and that's the third week of July; and Clerk's Office needs the week of 27<sup>th</sup> through the 31<sup>st</sup>, and that's the fourth week of July. So we could do the first week, which is a committee week, and the second week for the alternating committees on the 13<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>, which is scheduled to be an off-week, a non-committee week, but we could make that a committee week by having the. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .you know, the first meetings on 6<sup>th</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup>, and the second committees from the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay, so I see. So you're talking about just taking the first two weeks as both committee weeks?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: That's correct.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, you took so long that Ms. Kama remembered and forgot again. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: Just kidding. Ms. Kama. . . .Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I like the idea because it's like. . .so you have two weeks on and two weeks off and we can experiment with that, and then we'll, maybe we can go the next month and do the same thing, first two weeks on, last two weeks off and just see

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

how that goes and just. . . 'cause I think it's. . . you know, these are not normal times, right, and so we have to flow with whatever it comes. And if this is what we have to do, then this is what we have to do. But I like that, two weeks on, two weeks off. See, we can go, we can take vacation and not worry.

CHAIR LEE: Well. . . well, yes but, you know, we, we do have posting deadlines, et cetera. Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: We can do the posting deadlines by remote.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Madam Chair. With this regard, regarding this two-week proposal, just something to consider. There may potentially be some logistical problems with committee reports and posting deadlines. So might be good to check with OCS to get, get clearance on it and just see if we may possibly encounter something like that. So just wanted to throw my two cents in on that. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay, we will check. Traci, I know you're listening, right?

MS. FUJITA: Yes.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: I was just going to type in the chat that very concern. There may be a delay in getting the CRs done for that second Council meeting if we do back-to-back committee meetings. There, there may be a delay in getting the CRs ready, you know, for that second Council meeting.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So for July, the Council meeting is on the 10<sup>th</sup>, which will be that first committee week, and then the second Council meeting is not until the 31<sup>st</sup>. Oh, that's the schedule anyway, current schedule. So, so my, my point being that there would be time to get the CRs done.

CHAIR LEE: So when would we have to decide on that?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On this schedule?

CHAIR LEE: Like today? I mean when, when would we have to agree on that?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, I guess my question with the first item when we were discussing taking the third week off for NACo and then the fourth week off for Clerk's, what was going to be our plan for July? Were we not, were we, we were planning to just have one committee week for that month and two Council meetings?

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: I didn't have any plans at all. No, look, I just want to know if we change to your recommendation after everybody thinks about it, do we have to like support it today? Like when do we have to make a decision? Today?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I think the sooner the better and, you know, we can--

CHAIR LEE: 'Cause we're not going to meet again for a long time, you know, these Chair's meetings can have a way of being put off, postponed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right. So, I think. . .well, if there is no plan for July and we just heard that we, we're going to only have half the month to meet because of NACo and, and then the Clerk's Office with the third and fourth week, that I think July would be a good month to experiment. So if Members don't have any alternative plan, that we could consider this plan for July, July only--

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --and then move from there.

CHAIR LEE: Traci and David, is this doable?

MS. FUJITA: I'm thinking that if the Council meeting stays on the 31<sup>st</sup>, then, then that would be okay as far as getting the CRs done for that meeting. And then as far as posting for the committee meetings, if we could get the agendas done ahead of time, you know, since the meetings, the meetings are going to be two weeks in a row back to back, if we could get the agendas for both of those weeks kind of done beforehand so that we can just post, then I think we could probably do it. But if we're, if we're kind of trying to figure out what the agenda is going to be while the other committee. . .that, I think that's going to be rough. But if they can both be done ahead of time, you know, then, then we should be okay, I think.

CHAIR LEE: . . .Okay. And then, too, we don't have to be in the Chamber, right, because. . .yeah. . .especially with the election coming up we have to, you know, be flexible, not plan on using this place necessarily, the Chamber.

MS. FUJITA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

MS. FUJITA: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's a good point. This makes me think about the Governor's proclamation which kind of loosened HRS 92, which is the Sunshine. So, I know we don't know, but if the Governor then puts back in the HRS, Sunshine, then what's going to happen to this plan. . .if, if you're saying we don't have to meet in the Chambers because of elections or whatever?

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: We will figure it out. We will figure it out. . .because it's only a matter of if, if he goes full-on Sunshine Law, then it's just a matter of figuring out the logistics of where people can testify.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: We don't have to publish our personal residences for people to come and testify at our house, which is part of the problem?

CHAIR LEE: Well, we'll figure it out, we'll just figure it out. We, we may not be at our residences, you know, might be someplace else, might be in our office--I don't know--could be in our office. So don't worry about that part. Like I said we, we have, we have figured out every single problem thrown our way so far and we're not about to stop. Okay. So as far. . .so can I have a general consensus that we're going to experiment beginning the first two weeks in July with the new schedule?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Consensus.

CHAIR LEE: And we play everything by ear after that. . .*(chuckle)*. . .and we'll give everybody as much notice as possible.

COUNCILMEMBERS: Consensus.

CHAIR LEE: Consensus, alright. Okay. So that takes care that. Now--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And I wanted, Chair, I just wanted to allay one of. . .Councilmember Kama's concern that the first, first holiday in July is on a Friday not a Monday. That's the day before 4<sup>th</sup> of July, Friday.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah. But that, that's why I chose Wednesdays in the very beginning because we did have a whole lot of Mondays on holidays, right. Yeah. . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That was me that had. . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, everybody--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I was wondering--

CHAIR LEE: --did you, did you get this? Did you get this? We're moving on to No. 5. Oh, yes, Ms. Paltin.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, if the first Friday in July is a holiday, does that mess up the first two weeks situation? Oh, okay, thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Yep, the boss said no.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: First Friday is the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the second Friday is the 10<sup>th</sup>, and the 10<sup>th</sup> is when we have Council meeting.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

**5. PROPOSED COUNTYWIDE CONTEST** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: Okay, moving on. See this flyer, yeah? Okay, I'm asking you if you're interested in co-sponsoring this or participating in some way, or you have better things to do? Okay. Either way, either way I will not feel hurt because no matter what, this is going to happen even if I have to do it myself. What this is is a few months ago, I did a little survey with. . .having to do with COVID-19 and what people envision as the new normal, et cetera, and a lot of them envision. . .you know, unfortunately, envision not having as many tourists as we do now, maybe half or less. But of course, everybody has the idea of when they, when they have. . .when there's a problem, they, what they always say is they should do this and they should do that. Well, we're "they" and actually them too, we're all "they." So my thinking is all of us adults knew in our hearts that, yeah, there's an overreliance, tourism--we all knew that, okay--but over time I guess you get complacent and, and then there's no urgency to find something else. But now there's an urgency, you know, we're faced with a pandemic who's thrown us for a loop and I was thinking it's wonderful. . .I know the Mayor has a select group, the Governor has a select group, and everybody has a select group of, you know, a task force of some kind. But my thinking is that the groups are made up of people who haven't up until now thought of a solution, every last one of 'em, and my thinking is because. . .well, that's because adults have too many opinions, you know. . .they. . .and they have a history, and some don't have enough experience, and some, some have too many, some are old school, some are new school. So, I thought, gee, there must be a group out there who don't have those kind of barriers, right. So that's why I was thinking of having a contest for high school kids and middle school, and what I was thinking was these, these kids, the first place they'll look for answers is on their phones or their laptops, right. You give 'em, you give 'em a problem and that's where they'll go. They will search the world for the answers. And then so I thought if we put together a contest, and, and the reason why I called it Ho`opololei is only because I asked Keani what do you, how do you say un-huli in Hawaiian, yeah, un-huli because I had, I had put down. . .I wrote the COVID-19 pandemic managed to cause great havoc in our lives and turned our world upside-down. So, so I was thinking to myself oh, what is the Hawaiian word to turn it back up? So, I asked Keani. She said, there's no word for un-huli. The closest thing she could think of was Ho`opololei. So that is the reason why. . .and, and I never did connect back with her to find out if this is appropriate or not. . .(chuckle). . .I mean if

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

this is only used for certain things, like cats or something, I don't know. And then. . .so for now the name of the contest is The Hunt. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: She froze. Alice?

CHAIR LEE: Computer went down, so I'm using Kathy's laptop. Okay. So the idea is we get the kids, we get the kids to sign up for this contest. And like I said, they would search the world on their devices to figure out what new industries or businesses we could use to diversify our economy. And my thinking is like, for instance, we have access to some, some pretty influential people in, in Maui County. For example, there's this guy named Bob Morgado. Bob Morgado. . .you know, he. . .if you've ever gone to the MACC, on the second floor there's a place called the Morgado Hall, and he paid for that, Bob Morgado. He's a multi-millionaire and he's an older gentleman and he. . .he made his money in computer games. I don't know if you ever heard of Candy Crush or Crush Candy or something like that. Well, he makes, he makes these games and he's very wealthy, and then he has offices in New York, in San Francisco and blah, blah, blah, but also someplace in Wailea, I think. He's a graduate of St. Louis. His wife is a graduate of St. Anthony School on Maui. So I, I'm thinking people like him. . .I mean like the kids who win, we can connect them to somebody like that, you know. So it's not only something that we're asking for, it's something that we're going to go give. Larry Ellison is another one, multi. . .well, billionaire, yeah. And I'm sure there are others that we connect, we can connect the kids to. But this contest is they come up, they come up with their ideas and we will have judges select the winners and we will have prizes, and then we, I believe. . .and they'll have like hints on different things that they could look into. And the prizes would be things like, you know, expensive state-of-the-art laptop computers, somebody wanted a dirt bike--I mean anything--or maybe it's a surfboard, state-of-the-art surfboard. But the idea is to get the kids involved because they don't have biases. . .you know, all they want is the prize, and they are so used to. . .their, their whole lives are depending on the information they can gain from Google or their computers. So anyway this is. . .what is in front of you is, is something that I think can be the beginning of something, something important, something that we, we can use and, and it can spread and it can. . .it. . .the reason why initially I was thinking of only high school kids, but then when I was watching the news a couple, a week ago, I saw this kid who started a brand-new business in Honolulu and he was selling like, him and his family, but he started it, a box of food for \$25. And, and their idea was just to sell maybe 50, 50 a day and now they're up to 100 and 150, and I, and I looked at this kid and this kid is in the eighth grade. And I thought to myself, gee, I wouldn't want to leave anybody out in middle school who might have that kind of imagination and, you know, ingenuity. So I'm, I'm hoping that you guys will be supportive of this to the point of co-sponsoring it. Mr., Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: I love your idea, Chair. In fact, after reading your--

CHAIR LEE: I can't hear.



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: --after I read your beautiful handout--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, you don't have--

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Pull out the earphones from Kathy--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, you know what. . .okay, wait. Wait, wait, wait. Go ahead, put 'em on.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. So my plan I was going to share with you--

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: --Chair Lee, that what I'm looking at is. . .what we're passing first reading is we've got, you know, from Lanai we got about 300,000 under the deer program and we have another 350 for Molokai and East Maui under the COVID money for economic development. I was looking at this two parts that would support your proposal for Lanai middle school and high school students--

CHAIR LEE: Wow, okay--

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: --and use some monies from two pots to incentivize the youth to come out with something that we can look just at within their home, home grounds. So that's my idea, Chair Lee, and I thank you for this seed that you've planted and I intend to run with it once the budget passes come July 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Thank you. Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So this, this idea of yours was spawned because the pandemic, is that what happened?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So that being said, could you use pandemic monies to do this contest?

CHAIR LEE: I don't know. I'll check.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yeah, let's--

CHAIR LEE: I doubt it, but I'll check. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, I don't know, I think it might. I mean this is a solution, right? Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Well, I, I honestly believe the answer is right close to us, a lot closer than we think. Mr. Molina.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. I think it's a nice, wonderful idea. I look forward to hearing more details down the road, and great creative thinking on your part. I want to apologize to you and my fellow colleagues, I do have to leave now for another virtual meeting so to speak. So anyway, but thank you. . .it's a nice, very and wonderful productive day.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you, Mr. Molina. You have a good day. Anybody else? Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez and Ms. Sugimura.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I love your idea, I fully support it, and I, I believe we'll. . .we can figure out a way to make this work.

CHAIR LEE: Can you tell me if the, the wording is appropriate?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So far I got good feedback from others. When you asked me, you didn't give me too much context. . .*(chuckle)*. . .so, but Ho`opololei I think doesn't refer to cat. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . It does, it does provide more broadly. It just, it just means to, you know, to correct and it's all one word, Ho`opololei is all one word. Ho`o means to, to do and then Pololei is correct, to make it correct, that's the, that's the action of correcting. So that's, that's how the word works. And then The Hunt for Ho`opololei, I will get back to you on merging the English and the Hawaiian together like that.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Good idea.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I love this idea. I mean and I, I believe also that the youth will have a lot to say and share and really take this to a level that is way beyond what any of us can come up with. So whatever you want us to do to participate, that was your first question. Let, let us know what you're expecting or what you need to build this and, and I will, you know, participate any way you can. Sounds like you're, you're maybe taking it to a County level if we're going to be using Housing and Human Concerns funds or COVID funds that was proposed in the Fiscal Year Budget--

CHAIR LEE: No.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: --but--

CHAIR LEE: Actually, okay, actually I wasn't planning to use any government funds.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, all private, all private?

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. I'm getting sponsors for all the prizes. I figured Members could be the judges, and I know the strengths of each and every one of you. So, I will be calling upon you to help in, in the way I know you can help. For instance, you, for example. . .yeah, yeah, I know that your natural talent is to do community relations, public relations. So, I'll be having you cover all like the Chamber of Commerce, the Filipino Chamber of Commerce, the Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce. . .all those people, the big organizations to let them know about this because of course most of the kids would find out through the Department of Education. But you want their parents and grandparents to encourage them, and they belong to all these organizations. So, I know the strengths of each and every one of you. So, I know what to ask for.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I love the name, Keani. I love this name, it sounds fun, you know. I don't even know what it meant, but as soon as I saw that I thought, oh, this is a winner. But what the intention is, is totally appropriate. So let's do it.

CHAIR LEE: Well, you know the name, the reason why we spelled it that because it's, it's hard to say at one time, you know. So if you go Ho`opololei, it's easy to say. And then I wanted to know what Ho`o meant because my nephew's name is Po`okela, but we call him Po`o and we have no idea what po`o means. You know what I mean?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Po`o means head. . .

CHAIR LEE: But--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .and Po`okela means excellence. Po`o is head.

CHAIR LEE: So. . .okay, so--

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: --and my thinking was, you know, so it runs off the mouth rhythmically, The Hunt for Ho`o--

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So this is not done yet or--

CHAIR LEE: --and then the whole name is The Hunt for Ho`opololei. That's what I was thinking. I, I have no clue what all that means, but I like the rhythm of it, I like the rhythm of it. 'Cause originally I was thinking more along the lines of searching the world, but then I thought maybe the hunt for Ho`o sounds, sounds different, you know, more, more personal. Okay. Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Well, I just wanted to say all-in, full support and I might have some hidden talents, but you don't know about 'em.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . I will find out, I will find out. Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So, yeah, this is . . .it's a great idea. It's kind of, we could link it up with the idea I was working on before the COVID, the Youth Council idea. We have a lot contacts in that high school age group and that we've already been reaching out to, and we had to, to kind of put the clamps on it because we were planning to do something in Council Chambers and obviously that's not happening, but happy to, to you know, give you some of those contacts if you're interested. And then also, I wanted to, to let you know that I've done the same kind of, of a . . .as a judge just recently at UH, there was a group that was proposing new ideas, and we did it in sort of in a shark tank format where we were, you know, some of us that were the judges were like the shark tank team and then they came and proposed ideas to us, and we, we proposed an amount that we would fund it at, you know, not for real but, you know, how many thought they could get up to \$10,000. So that kind of made it fun and interesting for them, but then some of them actually came up to me afterwards and had a longer discussion about, you know, what did you like about this and what did you not like about this and how could I make it better. So it became kind of more of a real type of proposal for them, but I think the young, the younger crowd is ready for that same kind of, you know, idea thinking if they work in groups, especially; and that's how this was formulated was that people would get together in groups of five to ten and come up with an idea and then propose it and talk about the funding that it would need. And then we as the shark tank team, you know, just asked them questions and got them to think more about the details of how it might happen. So, I just wanted to share that with you that, you know, that, that kind of thing is going on with our older students, but I haven't seen it yet in the high school area. So that's a great idea to bring the high school kids in, especially since they have a lot of time on their hands that they're not in class right now.

CHAIR LEE: Exactly. But, you know, it'll behoove them to get involved, not only for the dirt bike, but the fact that, that we will be introducing them to people of great influence and, and possibly be the field that they will pursue as adults or as, you know, as college, college students. And with people that we're introducing them to will need, will need that kind of thinking and, and creativity on the part of our youth. So each, each side is hunting for and searching for. . .the billionaires and the millionaires are looking for new ideas themselves and the young people are trying to figure out how are they going to. . .what careers they're going to decide on, and then of course the more they're, they're exposed to people with wealth and influence, you know, the more they're going to try to better themselves. But anyway, I'm glad you guys like the idea. I, I do have some. . .I'm about 90 percent done with this. I have a couple changes I have to make, like on the first page I, you know, I'm doing some wordsmithing, etcetera, but this is pretty much it, and I, and I really wanted to get your approval on something like this and, and not where we're going to spend money, County money because there's so much paperwork involved with County money anyway, you know. So, I want to use money. . .and it's only for the prizes, the money is only for the prizes, and the prizes should be paid by the co-sponsors, not us. So, I will proceed with this and if you guys have ideas, please feel free to text me or e-mail me.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

**6. DRI-FIT POLO SHIRTS FOR OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK AND OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: Now moving along. Traci, what about the t-shirts? Traci?

MS. FUJITA: So OCS staff is interested in getting some shirts made with our County seal on it. I have a sample, let me see if I can share my screen. Can you see that?

CHAIR LEE: Go ahead, I'm sorry.

MS. FUJITA: Can you see my screen?

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: So this is a sample of a shirt that was done in the past.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: We're looking at a flower.

MS. FUJITA: Oh, okay. Sorry. Hold on, how do I do that?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's pretty, but I don't think that's what you're talking about.

MS. FUJITA: Oh, here, here. Can you see this one, can you see this shirt?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Yeah.

MS. FUJITA: Okay. So this is a sample of a shirt that was done in the past. Unfortunately, the vendor is no longer in business. So, I'm in the process of getting some quotes for our new vendor. The, the shirts would be paid for by whoever wants to order them. So we wouldn't be using County funds, and I'm getting quotes on the dri-fit shirts because that seems to be the most popular kind of shirts. But once the vendor is chosen I believe you could have that embroidery done on any kind of shirt or, you know, hat or whatever, if there were other things you wanted to have that logo on. But I wanted to see if, if the Members were interested also in these kinds of shirts, and what you thought of the design? This is the design that we used in the past. So we were going to just use the same, same one unless you had any other thoughts.

CHAIR LEE: What? I'm sorry. . . .(chuckle). . . These people are talking to me in the background. I'm sorry. What. . .

MS. FUJITA: Okay. Yeah, so this is just a sample of a shirt that was done in the past. OCS staff would like to order shirts like this, and so I wanted to see if the Members were also interested in getting a shirt, shirts like this. So the vendor who created this shirt in the past is no longer in business. So, I'm in the process of getting quotes for a new vendor. The quotes will be based on this dri-fit shirt, but I'm sure once a vendor is selected you could pick, you could have the embroidery done on any, anything, you

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

know, any kind of shirt or hat or whatever you wanted. But just to select the vendor I'm going to, you know, use the same dri-fit shirt for the quote. So, I just wanted to get the Members' input, do, you know, if they're interested in the shirts and then the design, should, you know, should we keep the same design that we used in the past?

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I think it's nice. Personally, I wore the logo like on my shirt for the past 18 years. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . .I'm not a collared shirt kind of person. So, I wouldn't want to wear it. But I think it looks nice and if you guys want to wear it, it looks great. But now I don't have to wear a uniform kind of and even though I gotta wear nice clothes. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . .I'm just going to enjoy not wearing a uniform a little bit, personally. But I mean, I don't want to speak for my staff if they want to wear it or it's pretty and. . .I just am not wearing a uniform right now for the past year or so and it's been kind of cool. But I don't want to stop you guys, I think it looks beautiful and rock on.

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Any other thoughts? I'll tell you, give us--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: --give us a deadline and then we'll get you an order.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's Kelly. So, yeah, I just wanted to ask. . .I know in the past, Traci, you guys have done embroidery on shirts that Councilmembers will bring in. So like if Ms. Paltin wanted to bring in a shirt that didn't have a collar or, you know, one of her nice Hawaiian shirts you could do--is that an actual embroidery of the logo or is that a patch?

MS. FUJITA: I believe it's an embroidery, and I think that once the vendor is selected, then you can have the embroidery done on anything, really, that you wanted. I'm just going to use the dri-fit shirt to get the quotes, you know, so I can do an equal comparison. But of course these just, I wanted to mention that--

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. I just wanted to, I just wanted to mention that because if everybody, if everybody brought in a few shirts that they liked, that they wanted that logo on, at least you would know it would fit, you wouldn't have to size everybody and then you'd know that they would, it would be a shirt that they wanted to wear. So but, yeah, I like it, I think it's nice. I think that's a lot of work for you to try to get everybody's sizes if you were going to order shirts as well, but--

MS. FUJITA: No. What I was thinking of doing was once the vendor is selected, then people can just go straight to the vendor. So, I'm not going to take orders or anything. I'm just, I'm just getting it set up. I'm going to get the design set up, you know, and get the vendor selected and then I can give the information out, and then people can go in and order their own shirts on, on whatever they want. And, of course, these are optional, you know, and these are, these are just not mandatory. The staff will just wear them when they want to. It's not going to be like a mandatory thing.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Is that Ultra Hawaii you were talking about that went out of business?

MS. FUJITA: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, yeah, I'm sorry to hear that. It was a pretty big company. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? Mr. Hokama.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Chair. No. I, I. . .I'm kind of interested in this. So, one, I like the look. I just need our. . .Council attorneys double-check the, the appropriate use of the County seal itself. I'm not too sure if we need to give approval to actually use the County seal for non-County official business. And then second, for people like me, I have what I would call "giraffe" skin, my body reacts to salt badly. So with dri-fits after I sweat, I look like one giraffe. . .

COUNCILMEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: . . .I have giant spots--no, I'm serious--I got giant spots on my body till I shower out, remove the salt on my body and within 12 hours those blotches will disappear. But I notice that if I use 100 percent cotton, I don't get those giraffe skin. So that, that's just my personal issue with modern clothes and my, my skin conditions. So, I just ask that maybe we give choices of how, how those shirts are made.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Material.

COUNCILMEMBER HOKAMA: Yeah. Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? Yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I support this effort. Mahalo for doing this. I would get a top. Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Chair. . .

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .if you let us know, so would the shirts be available for Councilmembers and their staff or others too?

CHAIR LEE: Traci.

MS. FUJITA: It would only be available for officers and employees of the Council. So, yeah, for you and for your staff, that's fine, but it wouldn't be available for like our family members or anything.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. So what's the next step, Traci?

MS. FUJITA: So, I'll go ahead and get, keep getting the quotes--I was going to get three quotes--and then once we have a vendor that's selected and is set up to do the embroidery, then I'll share that information with everybody and then you can just contact the vendor directly and you can order whatever you want, whatever kind of shirt or if you want to bring in things, you know, you can make that arrangements with the vendor.

CHAIR LEE: Alright. Yes, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Traci, in your discussions with him could you ask him if the cost is. . .if as an individual if you order, is it more expensive or would it be cheaper if we just kind of like put together a whole group and ordered it as a group, would the cost be less?

MS. FUJITA: Yes, I can ask if there's a price break. Normally. . .yeah, I don't know if we would satisfy the quantities, but I can ask what they are. I'm already hearing that people might want to have different kinds of shirts. So I, I don't know if that would work.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Traci.

MS. FUJITA: Thank you.



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: Okay. That takes care of that one. Before we get to the next one if, anybody know of other famous people on the island, like Oprah Winfrey or some of the others, let me know. Okay, thanks.

7. **GRANICUS UPDATES** (Council Chair Lee)

- **Send Agenda**
- **e-Comments**
- **GovDelivery**

CHAIR LEE: Alright, Traci, I think you have No. 7 also.

MS. FUJITA: So for the Granicus updates, we're looking at a few additional features to Granicus. The first one, Send Agenda, that one is still in, it's actually in the process of being implemented right now. And what this one is, it is a way for us, for members of the public to subscribe to receive our agendas. Right now we're using Civic Plus which is on the Administration's side. And so it's really cumbersome for the staff because they have to maintain two posting sites, Granicus and Civic Plus. So by implementing this new Granicus Send Agenda feature, it will allow us to only use Granicus. So that is being worked on right now. Right now it's just being done for the committees and we're sort of in this transition period. We need to place a notice on the Civic Plus website, for example, to refer people just to the Granicus website because right now they're, they're used to signing up on the Civic Plus website. But it's really user friendly, it's easier for the public to request agendas and to access the information from the agendas because they're directly linked to Granicus. There was no cost involved, there's no additional cost. So this one is being, is being implemented right now. I'm just bringing it to your attention in case members of the public may, may ask you about it or say, oh, I notice now there's a different way of getting Council. . .meeting agendas. So I'm just letting you know that, that this is something that's being worked on.

The second one, e-Comments, and I have a product sheet I can share. So this one is a way for members of the public to submit testimony, basically. It's another way for them to submit testimony, and it's a way for the committees to manage that testimonies. So one of the things that the Granicus reps notice is the large volume of testimony that we have and. . .especially like during budget, for example, and they could see how difficult it is to manage that volume of testimony. So this is one, one additional feature that they have that allows the public to, to submit testimony, it allows the Council to collect that information, reports can be built for it, and it's just another, another tool, I guess, to. . .for civic engagement. So this one does have a cost, it's \$3,434.70 per year for the subscription. So, I just kind of wanted to get feedback. I mean the staff thinks that it would be helpful and efficient. So now I'm asking for the Members just to see if it's something that we want to try.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. And mahalo, Traci, for this idea. I, I have a question. I support all ideas to improve and promote efficiency. So would this kind of work like the capitol.hawaii.gov there, how you log in, and you have an account and you can just click, click on buttons and submit?

MS. FUJITA: Yes, it's similar to that. And they have, you know, where you can do support or oppose, they have like buttons that we can add in for that. So yes, it's similar to the State Legislator testimony.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Awesome. I, I really like their system. I think it's really easy to provide testimony. Okay. And then my second question is--so it costs about \$3,000 a year for this program--do you think it would save us about that much time in, in human capital in, in work? 'Cause I feel like it is--

MS. FUJITA: Yeah. We think so because the testimony, for example, doesn't have to be manipulated anymore, it'll go straight into Granicus, you know. So there's no more having to upload testimony or print it and then re..., resend it to, to Granicus or, you know, there's nothing, we don't have to touch it, it'll be just an electronic process.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. I. . .so I love that because I know that Tammy and Yvette, especially when doing budget, would have to be, would work late into the night and on weekends because we receive so much testimony. So, I think we would save over \$3,000 in work time by having something like this. So I, I love the idea. Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you. Anybody else? Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Yeah, I love the idea, too. And I've, you know, been kind of looking for something similar to the State system where you can logon and say you support, you don't support, or you just want to give comments. And I think it, it--is it \$3,000 annually or is there a, is there an initial fee, Traci?

MS. FUJITA: No, there's no initial fee. But, yeah, it's a \$3,400 annual cost, annual subscription.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I think, I mean would be willing to try it and see how much time and resource it saves us. And also if you, if there's a summary that it could give, you know, that could go to the chair of whatever committee or the Council that when you're reading testimony in, you could say this many testified in support, this many testified in opposition and instead of going through, trying--I mean right now it's difficult sometimes to even know when people are speaking if they're for or against something because they start getting on this commentary and then the end you really want to know are you supporting it or are you not supporting it. So that, to me, is one of the great things about the State's system is it just, you know, right when you log on you have to decide yes, no, or if you're just going to comment. So anyway I, I like the idea and I'm glad that you found something similar because I did try to check, I checked with the State and they didn't seem to want to share their software.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

They, they thought of it as something that they developed and it was, belonged to them. So looks other, there's other programs out that we can use. So thanks for finding it.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. I like it, too, if it streamlines things, and when were you thinking of beginning or starting this new process?

MS. FUJITA: I'm not sure. We would have to talk with the vendor to see what the, you know, the timeline is for that and then, of course, with staff on, you know, what would be a reasonable time to, to start something like this. So we don't have anything set yet.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Is there like a trial period that we could look at it or see how it works, or pretty much you're, you're feeling good about all the information that you, you secured?

MS. FUJITA: So far it seems like the feedback I've been getting from the staff and from. . .we did. . .there was a presentation that we, we heard from Granicus and it seemed like it would be a good tool for us. Oh, the other, another feature I wanted to mention is that there's also a way where we can manage people who request to speak during the meetings, you know, if we do. . .you know, either, either the phone, the phone testimony or video testimony, 'cause sometimes I know we have some glitches with that. So there is a feature in here that can, allows us to manage that part as well. But, yeah, once, once I can get the, you know, the Council's feedback that it looks positive, then we can just move forward with the vendor and, and get a reasonable timeline; and if doesn't work out, then we maybe we'll cancel it after a year. . .you know, it's not like we're going to be stuck with it.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody else? If not, thank you, thank you for your presentation, Traci.

MS. FUJITA: I do have one other one--

CHAIR LEE: You have one more?

MS. FUJITA: Yeah, one more.

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

MS. FUJITA: This other one is something that. . .oh, here it is. This other one is. . .we haven't gotten a quote on this one yet because I wanted to get the Members' input on. This is another feature of Granicus that there is an additional cost, although I don't know what it is yet because I haven't gotten the quote, but it's more to. . .it's more of a civic engagement module to Granicus. It's separate, you know, from like Legistar and

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

our agendas and that sort of thing. This one, it focuses more on like e-mails, social text messaging, so social media. . .that sort of thing. It can be used for we were thinking like during budget when we're trying to get information out quickly to the public, or really any committee, you know, if we're trying to get information out quickly to the public on something, this is another tool of Granicus. The communications team in OCS thought that it might be helpful. If this is something that the Members want to expand on, you know, it would allow things like newsletters, for example, and getting feedback from the public. You can do polls, like quick polls if you want to find out, get a pulse from the public on, on a particular topic. So this one I just kind of wanted to see, you know, are you interested in it. If you are, then maybe we can setup like a, a presentation, you know by Granicus and get a quote.

CHAIR LEE: Anybody? Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. So, Traci, would this be available for individual Councilmembers to access or you're talking about trying to create a message or a website for the Council?

MS. FUJITA: Well, I guess that would be up to the Members. Definitely it could be used for the committees but, you know, you could also have individual Members take advantage of it as well, if that's what you wanted.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So those of us who are doing like online newsletters we could, we could access this to reach more people or. . .?

MS. FUJITA: Right, yeah, it would be another tool available and it. . .and it allows you to, allows you to send messages out all at once like through different media so you're not having to go do multiple sources.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And do they charge you based on many how many users you have and what kind of. . .

MS. FUJITA: That I'm not sure. So if it, if this is something that the Members are interested in, then we'll, we'll go ahead and get more information. I just kind of wanted to see if it was worth it or not, you know, if you guys were interested in it.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'd be interested in learning more about it.

MS. FUJITA: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: Anything else? Oh, yes, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I'd be interested in learning more about this as well. So if we had a presentation on an off-week or something, I, I would be happy to sit in on that and hear what the presentation has to offer. Mahalo, Chair. Mahalo, Traci.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: Anyone else? If not, thank you, Traci.

MS. FUJITA: Thank you. So I'll set something up and let you know.

CHAIR LEE: Alright, thanks.

**8. THE "NEW NORMAL" SURVEY RESULTS** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: No. 8 is The New Normal. I, I did a little survey and I'll send all of you the results. And that takes care of that report.

**9. NEW NORMAL PLAN** (Council Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez)

CHAIR LEE: New Normal Plan. Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Okay. So, I think it's going to be e-mailed to you in a second. Okay, here we go. Okay. So there's a draft proposal being e-mailed to everyone. It was a joint effort of the Legislative Branch with input from members of OCS leadership team and Council Chair and myself. The objective, the objective of the proposal is to take what we've learned the last three months working remotely and improve upon operations growing from this experience. Leading by example, we have an opportunity to continue our reputation as leaders in foregoing, forging new paths creating the work model for other government bodies and perhaps others in the public and private sector. In your e-mail you'll find a copy of the draft proposal. And if you will indulge me, I would *love* to have this opportunity to walk you through what we're calling the Shift of 2020 and that has, it has a double meaning. So does anyone not have it? . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Maybe you should ask who has it. I have it. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR LEE: I got it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Tamara has it, too. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Are missing Councilmember Sugimura and Hokama?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Do we still have quorum?

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Yeah, there's five of us.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay, Hokama is still there. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .and, and I see that Tamara is still there too.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. . . .So this is the one that says 2020 Shift?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yep.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. Got it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So I'll just, I'll just. . .wait until Chair and Pro Tem Kama have it. Or, or I can just speak, I'll just keep talking.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah, keep talking.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So the idea of the Shift, the 2020 has double meaning: one, signaling the social shift and awareness that this, that the year has given us akin to 2020 vision; and two, the more literal on-the-job hours shift and how we are changing how that looks in the year 2020. This is a working document meant to spark and inspire the, this body to generate fresh ideas of your own to contribute to a plan for how the Legislative Branch will move forward together post COVID. . .and I guess during COVID. We can read through each section together and I can expound a bit on each section that might require more clarification and at the end open up for discussion, if that's okay with the Chair and the Members. And part, part of this actually came out of Pro Tem Kama's suggestion of having the different district offices and, you know, us being in the district, district offices. So as the State of Hawaii emerges from quarantine and children return to school, employees from businesses of all kinds are beginning to wonder what the "new normal" we keep hearing about will look like. Will we go back to work, business as usual? Or have we grown to appreciate technology and our new-found remote work experience? Some may be eager to return to abandoned desks, offices, and cubicles; others may have grown accustomed to the privacy of their own homes. As a society, we are now acquainted with the new realm of possibilities that were not immediately clear before the pandemic. And The 2020 Shift is about offering our employees choices. I've also heard talk about, you know, kids actually not returning to school, too. So that's also an issue.

So this is how we propose The 2020 Shift of the Legislative Branch to begin. One, the Goals. . .

1. Offer all Legislative Branch personnel the option to work remotely. Require staff members who choose to work in the office to protect themselves and others by: wearing masks, practicing social distancing of at least 6 feet, and staying home when sick.
2. Draft a "Do Your Part" office policy, establishing collaborative and cohesive teamwork conditions, regardless of office locale.
3. Setup a workflow for onsite and offsite personnel (processing documents, communications needing signatures).
4. Work with the Administration to establish and standardize electronic processing procedures that meet everyone's needs.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

5. Encourage the Administration to contract with Granicus to ensure seamless processing of legislative proposals, like how we just saw from Traci.
6. Encourage the Legislature to amend the Sunshine Law permanently to (a) allow for Councilmembers to meet via video conference without every location into a meeting site; (b) expressly allowing phone or video testimony from anywhere; and (c) allowing a video conference meeting to recess temporarily, rather than adjourning if a member loses connection. And I believe that goal of 6 is already in the process after the Legislature has become more aware of the antiquated sections in the Sunshine Law.

What's exciting is that much of this legwork has already been done, making the likelihood of a successful transition to The 2020 Shift feasible and achievable. And then I'll, I'll quickly go over the proposed immediate, short-term and long-term goals that will help us accomplish The 2020 Shift.

So the Immediate Goals.

1. Establish The 2020 Shift Transition Team to help facilitate The 2020 Shift. Address any concerns or challenges that may arise, seek solutions and offer desired training.
2. Survey all Legislative Branch personnel to determine the wishes of each individual staff, Members, and offices.
3. Assess office space requirements and redesign 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> floors accordingly.
4. Continue to hold all committee and Council meetings online. Eventually, if social distancing becomes less necessary in the future, Council meetings could remain in Council Chambers as well as on BlueJeans.
5. Team building maintenance:
  - i. Have virtual birthday gatherings;
  - ii. Have regular "happy hours" by video conference amongst OCS sections and other work teams, where work-related talk is discouraged; and
  - iii. Encourage walking meetings while telecommunicating [sic] with BlueJeans and MS Teams iPhone apps.

. . .Oh, Alice?

CHAIR LEE: Well, I was just going to, I was just thinking. . .I guess I can't go to those happy hours.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Why?

CHAIR LEE: I don't know how, I don't know how to go to these things without talking about business, about work, where work-related talk is discouraged. What are they going to talk about?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, no, no, no. Happy hour is where work-related talk is discouraged. I mean we can, we can talk about work--

CHAIR LEE: Oh, okay.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: --but I mean when the Sunshine Law, then we just can't about things that we would be voting on, like normal.

CHAIR LEE: No, no, no, no. It's, it's. . .I have difficulty talking about nothing, you know? You know like when you go to gatherings and you're talking about your grandmother's recipe for chocolate chip cookies, I, I don't know how to talk with people like that, I just don't.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Small talk.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. We, we'll figure it out together. I think we've accomplished--

CHAIR LEE: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. --*(chuckle)*. . .great fetes together already.

CHAIR LEE: Yes

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. So the transition team would help in the same ways that our transition team helped at the beginning of March when we all left the County building and transitioned to remote work for budget session. The teams work would involve outreach to personnel, assessment of individual needs, facilitating access to tools of success for everyone involved. There would be resource for Members, staff, and all Legislative Branch personnel to contact with questions, concerns, or to request assistance. The first task would be assessment of individuals to determine the wishes of personnel within the Legislative Branch, including Councilmembers, and how they wish to transition their own team, offices post-COVID. After the assessment is complete, the next step can be to initiate the redesign of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> floors accordingly. There are free design programs that we can utilize to conceptualize the use of the space on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> floor, and it's free.

The goal, the next step will depend entirely on the needs and availability of funds. So short term and then long term.

Short term.

1. Spread out.
2. Create meeting spaces, common areas, shared office space, for visiting members and staff as needed.
3. Replace cubicles with drywall or floor-to-ceiling partitions for office privacy.

And C. Long-term goals.

1. Establish district offices for each of the remaining districts that do not yet exist, like:



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

- a. South Maui;
- b. Makawao-Haiku-Paia; and
- c. Upcountry

And then District Offices.

1. Each district office would include a meeting room available for use by any Councilmember for meetings with constituents in that district. And we could use a calendar to sign up, same as the 8<sup>th</sup> floor Conference Room.
2. It could be used as full time or intermittent office by the district Councilmember and their staff.
3. Each district office could be staffed by one (new) OCS EP - following the current district staffing model - so the public can access the district offices as needed, and testify in person for meetings.

And ii. Move the Legislative Branch out of the County building entirely and relocate to a new building or location, along with MEMA.

1. The new Legislative Branch/MEMA building would help alleviate a lot of our space and parking issues;
2. The Wailuku-Waihee-Waikapu and Kahului District Offices could be housed there, along with the Councilmembers for Council meetings, as well shared office space and meeting spaces for all other Councilmembers; and
3. The Clerk's Office could take over the bulk of the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> floors, and we could create additional meeting space for the Council as needed.

I'm excited to hear your thoughts and ideas about this proposal, and I plan to introduce a committee item for further discussion after the Chair's meeting today so we can explore all possibilities and creative funding solutions for the proposed short- and long-term goals well. Mahalo, Members.

CHAIR LEE: Wow, a lot of work. Thank you. Thank you very much.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Yeah, we just worked--

CHAIR LEE: Do you have any idea, do you have any idea how much this is going to cost?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. All of it or like immediate and short term, and then like long term is. . .

CHAIR LEE: Well, immediate is not too bad--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Right.

CHAIR LEE: --right?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Yeah.

CHAIR LEE: And then the. . .and even if you put up those walls. . .

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING  
Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Uh-huh.

CHAIR LEE: . . .it can't be that expensive.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Right.

CHAIR LEE: It's the long-term ones that start to add up.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Yeah, yeah, and particularly the construction of a Legislative Branch building.

CHAIR LEE: Okay. Good.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. I think it would be good.

CHAIR LEE: What?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. It would be good.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. King. . . .Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. That's a lot. Did you write that whole thing, Keani?

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. We all worked on it together. So it started with figuring out, like identifying what the concerns and challenges are from, you know, OCS, from Clerk's, from Chair, and then addressing those concerns, and that, that's how we ended up with this plan. And that's why we have specific items such as maintaining teambuilding so that we can. . .that was one of the concerns is that we, you know, if we were, as we continue to work remotely, we don't get to have that kind of personal interaction and that, that team, you know, camaraderie is really important. . .learning about secret recipes from your grandma about chocolate chip cookies and stuff. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, I thought it was very thorough. You guys did a lot of work on it, so thank you for that. . .the attention to the details about what's needed in the communities that still don't have that, you know, community input, direct community input. So thank you for putting those district office ideas in there because that, that also could be a, a gathering place for the community advisory committees. And so, yeah, I mean I, I think just starting to go through this piece at a time and what, what pieces we can do right away with. . .'cause not everything in there is going to cost money, it's just going to be a little bit of effort, and then coming together and approving, you know, deciding that we all agree on things, I think, is the main thing.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

So anyway, I just, I'm really. . .I feel really positive. I think you guys did a lot of work on this and it's a halfway forward so that we don't lose some of what we've gotten from this experience we've gone through. I mean the amount of. . .if we just added up the amount of fuel and emissions that we've saved from not driving back and forth to the office, you know, on a daily basis and flying--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. And flying--

COUNCILMEMBER KING: --and flying, I mean it's an, it's an incredible savings. So, I would almost like to see. . .if, if more work is going to be done on this plan, I would like to see where we have the savings that could pay for those extra district offices and things like that because I think a lot of that savings is inherent in what we're doing and what we've been doing. And even the proposals that Traci came up with, you know, were about efficiencies and saving resources, and that could be put into these other things that will have initial cost. So very hopeful. Thank you so much.

CHAIR LEE: Very good. Oh, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, I like the idea of instead of sitting back and wait for stuff to happen, we'll just see what going happen, and we can actually create what going happen. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .and that we get to be able to, to be in control or be able to lead--that's what leaders do--leaders lead the people that they serve. So, I like this idea. I can see also, too, that there's a lot of work that goes into this. I mean just, just beginning with the goals itself, people having to work together looking at the immediate goals and just to establish the transition team already, you know, and doing team maintenance, team building maintenance. And, you know, I think this is going to take a lot of work, but we should do it, we should just go do it, you know, and then as we go figure out what going cost with each step as we go. And like everything else that we, we. . .you do, if you do this a lot, is you figure out the money afterwards because you know what, you know what's going to drive you, not the money, the passion, the passion to want to do it and that's what will drive you and then you're going to figure out the money and it'll come later. But I like this idea and I think that under New Ideas/Concepts/Concerns, you know, there's a whole bunch of people here that's probably missing, but, yeah, we can take care of that later. This isn't, this isn't done, you know, this is a work-in-progress and it gets better the longer you work at it and the more eyes and hands and feet that are, you know, put into this plan. So thank you, Keani, I think it's absolutely wonderful that and that's a. . .and to me that's what leaders do, leaders lead. And so thank you for taking the initiative to do this. I love it. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. You're muted.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thanks. I just am jumping between two screens here, so I hope I didn't miss anything but...and stuff, but I'm really excited for the potential also--can you hear me, hello? Am I still here?

CHAIR LEE: You're freezing. You're in and out, in and out.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Shucks. How about now?

CHAIR LEE: Now you're fine, you're fine.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. I just was going to say like I'm really excited about the potential also because of what we're doing and hopefully that the State will come around as well, that possibly the government can be a one-stop shop for the people within our districts. Like if the Representative and the Senators can, can be right next to us so that, you know, if, if they have a problem and they just come to this government hub in the district and then you're like oh, well that's really a State issue, but I agree and then we can all like work together and pool our funds and pool our resources to make what the, the constituents want to happen if it's a good idea, to kind of try to expedite that process by working together. And I kind of did start a PAF to like at least if we drop meetings, that they don't have to be adjourned, but I think we should look at it from a way more wholistic manner, like I mean even if we gotta grab the State by the ear and drag 'em along.

CHAIR LEE: ...*(chuckle)*...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: But, yeah, hopefully and then too, you know, like our people wouldn't have to fly to Oahu to testify for a Senate and Representative kind of things over there, you know, if, if we have like this one-stop place where it's like, okay, you're in Room A for this hearing and you're doing whatever, you know, like different ways for people get more involved with all the layers of government and in that way also become more educated about how things work, you know, because how many times do we get requests that don't apply to the County, you know. So very excited about the potential. Going to jump back to the other side and still monitor.

CHAIR LEE: Very good. Very, very good. Okay, anybody else?

10. **GOVERNOR'S EIGHTH EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION RELATED TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY** (Council Chair Lee)

11. **COVID-19 IMPACTS** (Council Chair Lee)

CHAIR LEE: Okay, that has, that brings us to the end because I really don't have, I'm putting this COVID-19 Impacts on this agenda like you guys have, just in case we have something that comes up. I did include the Governor's Proclamation, 8<sup>th</sup> Supplementary Proclamation just, just in case you needed more things to read and

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

while you're not doing anything. Anybody have any last words, parting words of wisdom?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ. Mahalo, Chair. I just wanted to thank everyone for their feedback on the plan as proposed. I thought it was excellent feedback, excellent ideas, and I look forward to continuing to grow this idea to something that, you know, we'll all be super excited about. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Thank you so much. Thank you. Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks, Chair. I was kind of. . .I went, I perused your, your attachment on the Governor's Emergency Proclamation and was just wondering if there's anything specific to the Sunshine Law that is coming up imminently that we need to know about that's going to interfere with the way we're doing business right now. Is there any, is there any word on that?

CHAIR LEE: Well, it's ever-changing, but I know David's on the line. David? . . .David?

MR. RAATZ: Thank you, Chair and Councilmember King. So right now we have the 8<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Emergency Proclamation that is in effect until the end of the day on June 30<sup>th</sup> unless there's another one. And based on what we've seen so far, we fully expect there to be another one. So we can't really rely too much on what's in this, this current edition of the proclamation. With the 7<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Proclamation, we did see some changes that are still in effect. The suspension of the Sunshine Law has now been limited in, in some ways. For one, quorum is now required. In addition, we're back to having to do notice six days in advance of meetings. There's also guidance that's been added to suggest that roll call votes become a common practice to make it easier for the public to understand how each Member is voting. So by and large, the Sunshine Law is still suspended but, again, we, it's not fully suspended. So we're keeping cognizant of the notice and quorum requirements, and we're aware that this all could change with the next proclamation, whenever that might come out. Thank you, Chair. I'd be happy to answer any questions.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Can I just ask one question?

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks, David, for that explanation. So if we get any kind of, of a change in the Sunshine Law that's going to prevent us from being able to have meetings like this and vote remotely, would there be notice that we would--'cause we're all setting up our meetings for the next week. And I, every week when I post my agenda I'm wondering are we still going to be able to have a meeting this way. So do

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

you think we'll, we'll. . .the way that their notices are coming out, that we would have at least a week's notice to, to readjust?

MR. RAATZ: Thanks for the question and, and for the opportunity to clarify. So like I mentioned, a new proclamation could be issued at any time, but we do expect we would be given the opportunity to transition to, to any changes. And we saw that with the 7<sup>th</sup> Emergency Proclamation when those new requirements for the. . .requirements of the Sunshine Law were, were put back into effect. For instance for the six-day notice, the proclamation said that any meeting agendas that have already been posted based on the prior suspension can still proceed without worrying about the requirements that are being put back in effect. So, I would, I would fully expect we would be given notice of, of further changes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Alright, thank you. Thanks so much for that update.

MR. RAATZ: You're welcome.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama. . . .Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So, David, it would seem to me that, you know, that what we've been doing these past few months while we've been here and at home working, that we've learned a lot, I think, about what our future might potentially look like. And I think this would probably be a really good time to be able to institute a policy that allows legislators to work from home. And although. . .I know we needed to have an emergency proclamation for us to do this now, but I think maybe it would make, it would make good sense for us to put it in some policy or some piece of legislature [sic] for it to continue because we don't want to be doing--I mean that might turning things off and on, and off and on, and off and on every time. But if we just did it outright and you had the, the potential to do it, to me it just makes sense. So is that possible to maybe take a look at some of the legislation that the State has and maybe to make it more permanent? That's my question.

MR. RAATZ: Yes. Yeah, thank you. Good question. In fact, Councilmember Paltin has recently issued a PAF to ask us to submit legislation along those lines to the Legislature. So we're hopeful based on some of the positive publicity the Council's received that the Legislature may be interested in amending the Sunshine Law to allow for greater flexibility moving forward, but we, we can't guarantee that, but the idea at least may be in the works.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez--are you done, Ms. Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes, for now. Go ahead, let Keani speak.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I, I wanted to speak to Member Kama's question. So, I've been working with Senator Keohokalole, he's the

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

Chair of the Technology Committee, and. . .you know, because they're not held by Sunshine Law, the legislators, oftentimes it's not really on their radar. And then when all of this happened, they realized how unreasonable some of the, the sections are, particularly where you would have to list your home address and open it up to the public and if you are dropped, if any Member of the body is dropped from a call, that you would have to adjourn the meeting. So those are the two main ones that would be problematic if Sunshine Law went back into effect completely without the waiver of those two sections. And in working with Senator Keohokalole, it, it's a high priority right now for the Legislature to provide that assistance not only to the county councils, you know, their counterparts in the counties, but also, you know, pretty much all the boards and commissions are held to the same Sunshine Law. And so it, it's also. . .it's. . .everyone's trying to move into the 21<sup>st</sup> century right now and the, the Legislature recognizes how that, that. . .those sections need to be changed right away. So I, I'm hoping that it's something that they'll be able to take action on when they reconvene in June.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for that, Keani. So would it be helpful if maybe the Chair sent a letter just thanking them and, you know, just ho'omalimali little bit and, you know, hopefully that they would see, you know, that, that what we have. . .it really works and it's, it's good for the public, it's good for them that they can see us. And so if we could. . .if, if that's possible, I'd like to see that happen.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. I, I think one of the biggest problems is that thing, things that seem like no-brainers to us don't always seem that way. Every legislative session we start out asking the Legislature to amend the Sunshine Law so that we can meet in these groups, right, and we, and every, every year we hear at the beginning of the session, oh, yeah, that's a no-brainer, that should be easy and somehow it never passes. So. . .and the, the reason why we're having a hard time getting simple things like that pass, I think, has more to do with the opposing groups. So, I think, you know, it would behoove us to work more directly with the opposing groups like Common Cause and, you know, when there's, when there's a group that has a concern about. . .like they did at the beginning of this, of this system that we have, they had a concern about us even having meetings. Those are the groups that we have to collaborate with and make them understand that what we're trying to do is bring more transparency and greater participation, not less. But those, that's what happens every year is that, that. . .those, those kinds of groups come before the Legislature and, and kind of block us from even getting that ability to participate in these gatherings or educational workshops or whatever we're trying to do in four or more numbers. And so that's, that's kind of my, my plan is going to this next session is to, you know, work with the legislators who are--and, and thank you for doing that, Keani--who are, who understand because they came out of councils, but then also

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

work more directly with the opposing groups to find out what their concerns are and if we could allay those concerns.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. So after the Hawaii Supreme Court held their first hearing, which was the EMI proceedings on, online, I was interviewed by the *Civil Beat* reporter--mahalo, Member King--and I shared with him. . .you know, so he was asking me all these questions about how we were able to overcome the obstacles and get our Council meetings online as quickly as we did. . .and, you know, in, in talking about. . .and I shared with him that the, you know, the Supreme Court, Hawaii Supreme Court proceedings after seeing what is possible to have them be online--because in order to see the oral arguments you have to fly to Oahu. That, that kind of stuff is just not possible and now that we know it is possible, we should continue to allow our public to be able to have that. And. . .so he, I shared with him some of the obstacles initially where it would've been impossible for us to have our meetings online with the Sunshine Law sections that, you know, require us to open up our homes to the public and adjourn the meeting if any Member of our body loses connection and, you know, they just learned about it. And, and so they're looking. . .that reporter shared with me that the State Commission on People with Disabilities or something like that actually asked for these amendments to Sunshine Law before COVID happened because sometimes they wanted to be, you know, be able to. . .if, if something happened, they needed to meet from home, and so members from that Commission had to list their public residence on the agenda, you know, in accordance with Sunshine Law. And so, I think more. . .with the pandemic more people have learned about these, you know, sections in the Sunshine Law that should have been amended long ago and, and now are more eager to advocate for the amendment of those, and *Civil Beat* is actually planning to do an article on it. So we'll the media provide even more light to this problem, and I think we can all get onboard, ensure that it, it's amended before, you know, the stay-at-home order and the proclamations end. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura, you have anything to add?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Just listening. I, I got. . .the, the call that I took was Mazie Hirono is going to be on KPOA and another radio station. So that was Alan Yamamoto, Chief of Staff, just trying to catchup with what we're doing on Maui and how is everybody doing, and I filled him in on the CARES Act what I, you know, what little I know. And, of course, with lot of gratitude for their help. So, I'll listen tomorrow morning, she's going to be on there. But I, I don't know the beginning part of this conversation, but I like hearing that, you know, we're talking to the. . .I guess sounds like the Senate to lift the, some of the requirements from the Sunshine, and that's one of the things that comes up every year with the Legislature. And, and I think Kelly's right, we need to educate, go to the other side who don't want it because I think just seeing what everybody has done here has been. . .living proof that it, it can be happen and it can be beneficial to, to the public, you know. So let's hope that more, more organizations who are restricted like us can utilize this. Between the



**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

Legislature, the House was having, having. . .I think there's was Zoom meetings with Speaker Saiki, but the Senate, they were still having one-on-one meetings. So, I thought that was interesting, they were actually calling people in and, you know, being on Olelo, but not quite the same breath of openness I think that the, you know, the House side had but. . .so that's all.

CHAIR LEE: You ladies realize it's 13 minutes to 6:00, huh? . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Go to 6:00, what the heck. Nah.

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I'm going to read to my grandchildren pretty soon. . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .before they go to bed.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair, so, so. . .

CHAIR LEE: Yes, Ms. Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .so I'm going to assume then that we're going to have a deeper discussion 'cause there's only us wahines here--have you noticed?--I can't see any of our guys, so I guess they're somewhere out there. But--

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .*(inaudible)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .*(chuckle)* . . . But, but, yeah, so. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: . . .I think that, that I'd like to see us have a greater discussion about this and to really look at those things. But you're correct. When I sat on the Disabilities Commission, I had to post my address, you know, for people just in case. But I mean those are the things you have to do 'cause you have to do them. But I think that this is a great plan, it's a greater beginning, and it's going to be even greater when it's fully completed and implemented. So thank you, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So I, I just want to say one more thing. Keani, thanks for setting this up because I think from just listening to the testifiers and being able to reach as many testifiers on this process, that people are going to have or would like to see that continue somehow, whatever we do. I mean, I think that if we can open this up and have it so that there's online, you know, testimony as well as. . .I mean if we can do both, I'm too sure if the Sunshine Law prohibits us from doing that. But even if we're in the Chamber I, I think this is a great door that was opened and, yeah, we should try to see if we can do more.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: You know, it's actually more personal to be in this setting for the people to see all, all of us at once and us to see each other all. And, you know, I think, I think we tend to be a little nicer to each other. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . . I hope I don't regret saying that, but it is true. I mean it, it's more. . .kind of more intimate to me, you know, more personal, more. . .I don't know. We can still disagree, but the disagreements aren't as, as harsh. . .*(chuckle)*. . .because when you're sitting far away from each other.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: We're looking at in each other's houses. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's what makes it really personal.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And as somebody who's been trying to get us turned around so that we can face our audience, this is exactly what everybody needs, they need to be looking at all of us at the same time, not with us sitting with our backs to them.

CHAIR LEE: Ms. Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I had a question for, for Keani. Could, could she have her meeting and still be on Molokai and all of us in the Chambers? I just curious. And I only say that because. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It, it is possible, but I prefer that to not happen because there's a lot of side conversations that I would not be privy to and there's a lot of personal interaction that would create a lot of exclusion for me. So, I think my. . .personally if I was going to be on Molokai separated from everyone, I'd prefer everyone to also be separated.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Front and center.

CHAIR LEE: I know. And the, the good news is that all of us are very open and willing and, and not, not only open and willing, but we are like determined, you know, to get through whatever we're going through and not only, not only to get to the other side but to make a difference, and this is what I like about this group. Although you guys drive me crazy at times, you're still lovable in the end. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Same here, same here.

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

---

CHAIR LEE: Ms., Ms. Paltin. Did I see your hand up? No?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you hear me?

CHAIR LEE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I was just going to say that even to me a little bit like we're more following the Sunshine Law in this setting because like if I'm right next to Ms. Sugimura and I just say something under my breath, she's going to hear it, you know. But now if I say something under my breath, it's just everybody hears it, you know. . .

CHAIR LEE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: . . .so I mean not intentionally breaking the Sunshine Law before. But this way like if we are, everybody knows, you know, 'cause it's like blah, blah or whatever.

CHAIR LEE: Uh-huh. I don't know. Well, I guess we're just the type of people who know how to make the *best* out of whether it's adversity or uncertainty, whatever, you know. We're in this together and we're going to stick together, right?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right, lemonade.

CHAIR LEE: Lemonade. Okay. Anything else? We're going to miss the 6 o'clock news already--at least I am. You guys are home in front of your TVs. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, that's right, you're in the Chambers.

CHAIR LEE: Yeah. Sure. Nothing else? Okay. Well, you folks have a safe one and we'll see you soon. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you. Bye, everyone.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo.

CHAIR LEE: Bye-bye. Okay, meeting adjourned. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

**COUNCIL CHAIR'S MEETING**  
**Council of the County of Maui**

**May 26, 2020**

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**ADJOURN:** 5:53 p.m.

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee" with a stylized flourish at the end.

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ALICE L. LEE  
Council Chair

chr:min:200526

Transcribed by: Tammy M. Frias