

**COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
MINUTES
Via BlueJeans Videoconference
Thursday, April 9, 2020**

PRESENT: Michael Williams, Chair
Sarah Simmons, Vice Chair
Noemi Barbadillo, Member (dep. at 12:05 p.m.)
Michelle Del Rosario, Member
Lu Ann Lankford-Faborito, Member
Paula Heiskell, Member
Barbara Mattson, Member
Patrick O'Neil, Member

EXCUSED: Hannah Werth, Member

STAFF: Stephanie Chen, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Shelley Pellegrino, Technical Writer for the Commission

ADMIN. Lance Taguchi, County Auditor, Office of the County Auditor
Gladys Baisa, Ex Officio Member, Office of the Mayor
Darlene Endrina, Community Liaison, Office of the Mayor
Terryl Vencyl, Community Liaison (tourism), Office of the Mayor
Kay Fukumoto, Director, Office of Economic Development

OTHERS: Sherry Duong, Executive Director, Maui Visitors Bureau
Janet Clark, President, TEAM Unlimited (XTERRA)
Tom Valdiserri, Executive Vice President, KemperLesnik
Alex Urban, Executive Director, Sentry Tournament of Champions
Tom Croly
Jen Russo

DOCUMENTS RECEIVED:

Written Testimony

1. March 1, 2020 Email from Sylvia Whelchel regarding Maui Visitors Bureau funding
2. March 6, 2020 Email from Sara Clark regarding Maui Visitors Bureau Funding
3. March 8, 2020 Letter from James Boote, West Maui Cycles LLC, to Michael Williams, Chair, Cost of Government Commission, regarding Maui Visitors Bureau Funding
4. March 9, 2020 Letter from Scott McGill, T S Restaurants, to Michael Williams, Chair, Cost of Government Commisison, regarding Maui Visitors Bureau Funding
5. April 8, 2020 Email from Tom Valdiserri, Executive Vice President & Managing Director, KemperLesnik with attached presentation entitled, "The Maui Jim Maui Invitational: Tournament Summary (April 9, 2020)"
6. April 8, 2020 Email from Bruce Moore, Business & Facilities Specialist, State of Hawai'i Department of Education to the Maui Visitors Bureau regarding the MVB grant and Xterra World Championships

Correspondence

1. March 3, 2020 Email from Christopher Salem, County of Maui, transmitting a copy of correspondence to the State Office of Information Practices regarding a UIPA request for County records related to the Upcountry Water Bill.

Maui Visitors Bureau Documents

1. Documents Provided via February 27, 2020 email by Office of Economic Development:
 - Maui Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2019 Grant Agreement and Attached Grant Application
 - Maui Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2020 Grant Agreement and Attached Grant Application
 - Maui Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2020 1st Quarter Grant Report
 - Maui Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2020 2nd Quarter Grant Report
2. Documents Provided by Maui Visitors Bureau
 - April 7, 2020 Email from Sherry Duong, Executive Director of the Maui Visitors Bureau, with attached Response to COG Draft Recommendations
 - Documents Received from Sherry Duong (MVB) at March 6, 2020 Meeting between representatives of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB), MVB, Office of Economic Development (OED), Office of the Mayor, and COGC Chair Michael Williams
 - ❖ Economic Impact from MVB Purchase Media Packages
 - ❖ 2019 MVB Final Grant Report
 - ❖ Maui Jim Invitational MVB Overall Value Summary
 - ❖ FY20 MVB Invoices (Dec 2019, Jan 2020)
3. Other MVB Grant Related Documents
 - Summary of March 6, 2020 Meeting between representatives of the Hawai'i Visitors & Convention Bureau HVCB, MVB, OED, Office of the Mayor, and COGC (prepared by COGC Technical Writer Shelley Pellegrino)
 - February 29, 2020 The Maui News article entitled, "Maui Visitors Bureau Funded the Most Generously: Commission Reviewing County's Annual Grant"

Informational Documents Related to COVID-19 and Open Meetings

1. Governor's COVID-19 Supplemental Proclamation (March 16, 2020)
2. County of Maui, Public Health Emergency Rules, Amended March 22, 2020 (Rule 2 -- relating to boards and commissions meetings)
3. Copy of April 6, 2020 Letter from Attorney Lance D. Collins to Council Chair Alice Lee and Mayor Michael Victorino regarding Open Government Requirements During Emergency

Other Documents

1. Link to Audit Report No. 20-1, entitled, "Implementation Status of the Audit Recommendations made in Report No. 14-01, Examination of the Treasury Function of the Department of Finance: <https://www.mauicounty.gov/2032/Audit-Reports-Projects> (provided via February 25, 2020 email by Office of the County Auditor)

II. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Chair Williams took roll. Commissioners Barbadillo, Del Rosario, Heiskell, Lankford-Faborito, Mattson, O'Neil, Vice-Chair Simmons, and Chair Williams were present. Commissioners Werth was excused.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Janet Clark

The Commission received public testimony from Janet Clark, who testified in favor of grant funding for the Maui Visitors Bureau (MVB). Ms. Clark is President of TEAM Unlimited, which produces the XTERRA World Championships, an event that was born on Maui in 1996 and has been held on Maui annually since then. Ms. Clark stated that MVB has been a partner in the event since its inception. Community-focused benefits from the partnership include taking elite athletes to local area schools (three in the Lahaina area last year), who speak to students of the benefit of an outdoor active lifestyle. They also host a separate event the day before the triathlon, called the XTERRA Kapalua trail run, which is designed for the local community to experience the race course; about 70% of the 1200 of the runners are Maui residents. Ms. Clark stated that TS Restaurants is part of the event, and noted that Scott McGill from TS Restaurants submitted written testimony as well. Ms. Clark stated that Maui's small businesses (bike shops, restaurants) also contribute to the festival experience. XTERRA also receives volunteer assistance from the Maui community, and XTERRA donates to nonprofit organizations in return.

Ms. Clark said that the Maui community receives a benefit of approximately \$5.6 – \$6 million every year from XTERRA-related spending over a 7-10 day period. Ms. Clark added that billions of marketing impressions are also delivered to the island as a side effect of the event taking place on Maui. Ms. Clark stated that without the support of MVB, XTERRA would be forced to relocate the event to another destination. Ms. Clark concluded by stating that supporting MVB is crucial to Maui residents. She maintained that the effect that tourism has on the island with the COVID-19 restrictions currently in place is clear, and MVB will be needed to assist Maui to rebuild and sustain a healthy tourism structure for residents and visitors.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked how much XTERRA receives on an annual basis from MVB for the event. Ms. Clark responded that XTERRA receives about \$200,000. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether the funding has been consistent. Ms. Clark responded that XTERRA has received funding for about 24 years, with the funding figure being consistent for about the last 10 years. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether there would be a time when the event would be self-sustaining and no longer need County-funded dollars. Ms. Clark responded yes, but not in the near future. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether XTERRA has external corporate sponsorships, and Ms. Clark responded yes. Commissioner Del Rosario asked what the total budget is for the XTERRA event, to which Ms. Clark

responded approximately \$975,000. Commissioner Del Rosario asked how much of the budget is from corporate sponsorship and entry fees. Ms. Clark responded that a majority, or about \$700,000.

Commissioner O'Neil stated that he read from the MVB budget that \$200,000 for the event is for marketing and asked whether the total figure was correct. Ms. Clark responded that a significant portion is spent on marketing the island. Commissioner O'Neil asked whether the MVB funds were the only source of marketing for the event. Ms. Clark responded that about \$90,000 is also received from the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA).

Commissioner Mattson asked for the names of the nonprofit organizations to which XTERRA donates and for ballpark figures of donation amounts. Ms. Clark responded that XTERRA donated about \$7,000 in total last year, and recipients include Youth with a Mission, the Maui Voyaging Society, the Napili Canoe Club, and Maui Preparatory Academy. Commissioner Mattson asked about Ms. Clark's statement that XTERRA would be forced to move to another location without MVB's support, and asked whether XTERRA would be able to find another sponsor to fill the 25% funding gap. Ms. Clark responded that finding another sponsor would be unlikely at this point.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Ms. Clark was aware that XTERRA could receive County of Maui line-item funding directly from the County Council, and that the money need not only come from MVB. Ms. Clark responded that she was unaware of this. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Ms. Clark would be willing to keep the event on Maui if XTERRA received direct County funding, rather than through MVB funding. Ms. Clark stated that she would, but that the issue of support for the MVB goes beyond XTERRA and any of the events they support, and supports quality of life for island residents and the tourism community. Ms. Clark asked the Commission to support the MVB for the work that it does.

Commissioner Del Rosario pointed out that the Maui Film Festival was currently appearing before the County Council to request \$100,000, and asked whether a similar \$200,000 line-item grant would allow XTERRA to remain on Maui. Ms. Clark responded yes.

Chair Williams stated that MVB receives approximately \$7 million from the HTA, and asked whether anyone from MVB or HVCB told her that they would cut off funding to XTERRA if Maui County reduces its grant to MVB. Ms. Clark responded no, but the priorities for MVB and how the money is rolled out have not been discussed.

Commissioner Simmons stated that the Commission has not had a chance to talk to MVB grantees, so she asked how involved MVB is in marketing the XTERRA event or whether MVB just provides funds. Ms. Clark responded that MVB is involved in messaging and providing materials.

Tom Valdiserri

Tom Valdiserri, Executive Vice President of KemperLesnik, testified in support of the grant to MVB. Mr. Valdeserri explained that KemperLesnik is a sports and event marketing agency based in Chicago. KemperLesnik has operated the Maui Invitational Basketball Tournament for 36 years.

Ms. Valdiserri testified that the Maui Invitational is considered the premiere basketball tournament nationally and annually brings the top college teams to Maui, where all 12 games are televised nationally, including 6 in primetime. The Maui Invitational receives \$420,000 annually from the MVB, which allows the event to give back to the local community. The Maui Invitational conducts a silent auction and has donated the equivalent of 596,000 meals to the Maui Food Bank. The Maui Invitational spends approximately \$900,000 and works with about 60 local businesses to stage and produce the event. They conduct free youth basketball clinics, where youth receive basketballs, t-shirts, and water

bottles. The youth clinics are held on a court outside the Lahaina Civic Center that the Maui Invitational helped fund. Over \$35,000 has been donated to Maui elementary schools through a free throw contest. Mr. Valdisseri stated since 1984, that the actual direct impact to the County of Maui from the Maui Invitational has been \$258 million. Mr. Valdisseri stated that the \$420,000 in MVB funding generates approximately \$127 million in media value. Mr. Valdisseri concluded by stating that Maui Invitational has partnered with local businesses on the island for years and that without MVB funding, business would dictate that many of the programs he previously discussed would be eliminated or negatively impacted.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked Mr. Valdisseri what the annual budget is for the Maui Invitational. Mr. Valdisseri responded that he could not share the information because Kemper Lesnick is a privately held company in a competitive marketplace.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether the Maui Invitational receives funds from corporate sponsorship or entry fees. Mr. Valdisseri stated that they receive no entry fees, but do receive corporate support from Maui Jim sunglasses and Continental Tire, but the information is confidential.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether the event is for profit and Mr. Valdisseri responded yes, but the margins are thin. Mr. Valdisseri stated that with the COVID-19 situation and college athletics on hold, some schools will go out of business. In addition, athletic departments are asking their teams to stay home and play home games to earn revenue rather than expending the money to travel.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether a magnitude of profit numbers could be provided. Mr. Valdisseri responded that he could not.

Commissioner O'Neil asked how the \$420,000 in MVB funds are used for the event. Mr. Valdisseri responded that the funds are used for sponsorship and in return for the money, MVB receives television commercials (2 commercials for each of the 12 games), a certain number of minutes on courtside LED signage, additional signage, and that MVB is recognized as a partner at a Sunday night event at the Hyatt. The Maui Invitational also uses the "smart and safe" tourism campaign that MVB has produced and uses three of the MVB-produced videos on culture, ocean health, and ocean safety via social media channels, directly through the participating colleges, and through online ticket purchases.

Commissioner O'Neil asked whether any of the funding is used in direct marketing. Mr. Valdisseri responded that MVB is marketed in return for its funding the event. From a marketing perspective, the event is a year-round endeavor, which includes marketing to colleges. He added that it is difficult to distinguish corporate funding from MVB funding for these efforts.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether the Maui Invitational has a lot of corporate sponsors. Mr. Valdisseri responded that the three major sponsors currently are Maui Jim, Continental Tire, and the Maui Visitors Bureau. Local food businesses participate outside the venue and only pay for their tent space, water, and electricity, and keep 100% of their income. Hotels are partners, but not cash sponsors. The Hawai'i Tourism Authority is also a partner and contributes \$50,000.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether the tournament would continue to operate on Maui if MVB funding was eliminated. Mr. Valdisseri responded that if it could not make up the funding from another source, then it would need to consider a move or eliminate some of its programs. He also speculated that Maui would not be part of the event name. He added that the event originated on Oahu and moved to Maui after about four years, and that they have previously looked at other locations and venues.

Mr. Valdiserri stated that it costs approximately five to six times as much to hold the event on Maui than it does for similar events it hosts in Mainland cities such as Chicago and Atlanta. Commissioner Mattson asked why the event is held on Maui if it costs so much more. Mr. Valdiserri responded that the event was founded in Hawai'i and the company chair is committed to working with local residents and leaving a legacy.

Commissioner Mattson asked Mr. Valdiserri whether he had ever approached the HTA or HVCB for more funding than the \$50,000 it already provides. Mr. Valdiserri responded that he has approached HTA and that the number has not changed for at least as long as the 12 years he has been with the company.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether there will be a time when the event is self-sustaining and does not need to seek funding from the County of Maui. Mr. Valdiserri responded no. Commissioner Del Rosario asked why. Mr. Valdiserri responded that event margins are razor thin and expenses increase every year. Included in those costs is reimbursement to the schools for their players, coaches, trainers, and managers (25 individuals each for the 8 schools). Other expenses include Maui police, fire, and EMTs.

Commissioner Del Rosario stated that the County of Maui can continue to support events on an event-by-event basis. Mr. Valdiserri stated that he has never approached the County directly and he did not understand that the option was available.

Alex Urban

Alex Urban, Executive Director of the Sentry Tournament of Champions, testified in support of the Maui Visitors Bureau grant. Mr. Urban stated that the Sentry Tournament has been held at Kapalua annually in January since its inception in 1999, and is the only tour event that features PGA tour winners. The tour is broadcast to over 100 countries around the world. Mr. Urban stated that the MVB has been a partner with the tournament since its inception.

Mr. Urban stated that the event has given more than \$7 million to local charities, including Hale Makua, J. Walter Cameron Center, Ka Lima O Maui, and the Maui United Way. He added that MVB funding allows it to grow that figure every year, but that a decrease in funding would also reduce the amount it is able to give. Mr. Urban stated that MVB also purchases marketing assets from Sentry. He pointed out that Mayor Victorino has volunteered for the event and its predecessor for about 30 years. He asked that MVB funding continue.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked Mr. Urban how much money Sentry receives from MVB. Mr. Urban responded that Sentry has received \$150,000 for the last three years since he has been with the tournament. Commissioner Del Rosario asked for a total tournament budget figure, and Mr. Urban responded that he could not provide the information because it is proprietary. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether the event is for profit. Mr. Urban responded that the event is managed by the PGA Tour, which is a 501(c)(6) membership organization. He stated that the more revenue that is earned, the more the PGA tour is able to give back to the local communities.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Mr. Urban was aware that the tournament could apply for line-item funding from the County Council. Mr. Urban responded no. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Mr. Urban foresaw a time when the event would be self-sustaining and no longer require County funding. Mr. Urban responded negatively because the funding assists with increasing revenue, which then supports the local communities through its charitable giving.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether there are corporate sponsors or entry fees and, if so, what percentage they contribute to the total budget. Mr. Urban responded that the largest sponsor is Sentry Insurance, based in Wisconsin. Hyundai and Mercedes previously sponsored the tournament. He added that Sentry is relatively new as a sponsor, but has taken a particular interest in increasing the charitable giving to the island community.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked what percentage of the total budget is represented by the \$50,000 it receives from MVB. Mr. Urban responded that he could not answer the question, but that the funding is particularly important with respect to marketing. He added that the event does not have a large marketing budget locally, so some of the funds are used to let local people as well as visitors know that the event is happening.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Mr. Urban would be willing to submit the information to the Commission if it were to remain private. Mr. Urban responded that he would need to speak to his employers first.

Commissioner Mattson asked Mr. Urban whether he foresaw moving the tournament elsewhere if it did not receive funding from MVB. Mr. Urban replied that he cannot say at the moment given the number of tournaments that have been cancelled due to COVID-19. He stated that it is the goal to play the tournament on Maui and that every avenue for funding would be exhausted before moving elsewhere. He noted that the Tournament of Champions was previously held in California.

Commissioner Mattson asked why Maui is a desirable place for the tournament. Mr. Urban responded that the tournament is a reward for the PGA tour winners and the tour wants to send them to the most desirable place to play.

Commissioner O'Neil asked how the \$150,000 is used and whether it is strictly for marketing. Mr. Urban responded that most of the funds are used for marketing the tournament in conjunction with the MVB, so some marketing assets will appear on the PGAtour.com website. In addition, the MVB logo is featured on signage at the airport and at the tournament itself.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether the Hawai'i Tourism Authority has been approached for funding. Mr. Urban responded that the HTA has had an agreement with the PGA tour to fund three tournaments in the islands, namely the Sentry Tournament under discussion, the Sony Open (Oahu), and Champions Tour (Big Island).

Tom Croly

Tom Croly stated that he was testifying in support of MVB funding, especially in light of the need to restart the economy after COVID-19. Mr. Croly also noted the role that MVB plays to protect and market Maui as a brand. Mr. Croly stated that he was concerned about the Commission previously stating that the grant benefits hotels because hotels are only a small portion of the visitor industry and they are not the primary engine of Maui's visitor industry and tax base. He explained that hotels house about 30% of Maui's visitors, but that short-term rentals (STRs) house about 35% of them, with another 10% in timeshares and the remaining 25% in second homes. Mr. Croly explained that STRs provide the bulk of the tax base from the visitor industry and are paying three times the taxes that are generated by hotels and more than three times the taxes paid by all of Maui's resident homeowners. Mr. Croly would like to see MVB's efforts include STRs, from educating guests who stay at STRs, to marketing the varied accommodations (e.g., from small bed and breakfasts to large oceanfront homes). He stated that all accommodations are an important part of the Maui brand. Mr. Croly also stated that he is interested to learn more about the Commission's work on enforcement of illegal STRs. He added

that the 200-400 illegal STRs should not be confused with the 11,000 legal STRs that are part of Maui's visitor industry.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Mr. Croly was representing himself, or whether he was a paid lobbyist or representing an entity or homeowners association. Mr. Croly responded that he is only representing himself and has never been a paid lobbyist. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Mr. Croly had previously represented a STR organization. Mr. Croly responded that he previously volunteered with the Maui Vacation Rental Association, but that he is no longer an MVRA board member and is not speaking on their behalf.

Commissioner Lankford-Faborito asked how MVB grant funds are used to address cultural aspects of islands. Mr. Croly explained that the Planning Commission sometimes places permit conditions on STR owners that include making an effort to educate guests about the cultural aspects of Maui and some of the impacts that they as visitors might have on local culture. Mr. Croly thought that MVB could help prepare information to provide to people staying in vacation rentals or condominiums.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether Mr. Croly received any support from MVB, such as advertising. Mr. Croly responded that he is a member of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB), and he gets some exposure through MVB. He stated that in the past, the exposure was valuable because when people searched for accommodations on the islands, they were often led to MVB or HVCB. He does not get the same exposure today as he once did, but he still appreciates being part of both organizations.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether Mr. Croly had received any information that MVB produces regarding hiking safety or ocean safety. Mr. Croly stated that he would receive them from email updates and might have access to the information online. He noted that MVB does not provide him with a link to put on his website or a piece of promotional material that he could put in his rooms, but he would love to have those types of materials.

Commissioner Mattson asked Mr. Croly what he gets in return for his MVB membership. Mr. Croly responded that he does see value in being part of an organization that is looking after Maui as a brand.

Chair Williams asked Mr. Croly whether there is any organization that markets Maui on behalf of the 11,700 STRs. Mr. Croly explained that in the past, some of the STRs were marketed as part of a central desk, but now everyone is on their own. Mr. Croly has encouraged owners to join HVCB or MVB when they receive their permit.

Sherry Duong

Sherry Duong, Executive Director of the Maui Visitors Bureau, testified in support of the grant to MVB. She stated that the daily developments surrounding the coronavirus pandemic have made it very apparent how much a healthy economy depends on visitor dollars. The economic impact to the island is not restricted to the visitor industry, but is far reaching, with initial unemployment claims jumping more than 3000% statewide during the week ending March 28th. She also referenced language in the Commission's draft report that stated, "Maui County's resources are limited and any TAT funds it receives in the near term will be needed to assist our residents and local businesses to get back on their feet." Ms. Duong questioned where Maui would get its TAT funds because they come from visitors, and added that the TAT funds the County's parks, schools, and roads. She explained that it will take a long time to return to pre-pandemic times and that the travel industry anticipates a 31% decline, which is about a 75% decrease in revenue over the next two months or about \$355 billion.

Ms. Duong also pointed to language in the draft report that stated that the MVB will not cease to operate even with a reduction in grant funds and that MVB will still receive its share of HTA funds. Ms. Duong stated that without the County grant, MVB will no longer be able to support longstanding community events such as XTERRA, the Sentry Tournament of Champions, and the Maui Invitational. She acknowledged that the suggestion to put it in the County budget as a line-item is an option, but it takes away from the framework of the relationship that MVB has built over the years with the event organizers and the local community. In addition, Ms. Duong stated that there is no guarantee that each of the events will receive funding at the level they need.

With respect to comparing the visitor bureau funding by island, Ms. Duong stated that staffing levels must be considered, and other islands that do not receive funding from their counties and only have six to seven staff members, but MVB has ten. She noted that when MVB's funding was reduced by \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2020, MVB reduced its staffing levels by 1.5 positions, and that any further reduction in grant funding will reduce its staff down to levels akin to the other counties.

Ms. Duong stated that there is a perception that visitors can be a source of frustration for residents, but that there is a community benefit from visitor spending in TAT dollars. She added that MVB will continue to implement sustainable tourism efforts to educate visitors and emphasize tourism management and responsibility, noting that this new effort was started one year after the Commission started its investigation into the MVB grant. Ms. Duong emphasized that the MVB wants to help people get back to work as soon as it is safe to do so, and asked the Commission to assist with rebounding the economy.

Commissioner Mattson asked about Ms. Duong's statement that MVB would need to reduce its staff. Ms. Duong responded that MVB salaries are funded by the State HVCB, which dictates the number of employees. She stated that other county visitor bureaus have fewer people on staff because they do not receive County funds. The funding provided to MVB allows for extra staff, including one person on Moloka'i.

Commissioner Mattson responded that the three additional staff must be worth a lot of money because MVB charges a 10% administrative fee on its total grant figure. Ms. Duong responded that HVCB's overhead cost is 20%, but it only charges the County a 10% administrative fee, which subsidizes salaries, insurance, rent, and operations.

Commissioner Mattson stated that MVB receives approximately \$7 million annually from HTA in addition to the \$3–\$4 million it receives from Maui County, while the Oahu Visitors Bureau receives less, yet Oahu receives more than twice the number of visitors than Maui. Commissioner Mattson stated that she does not see the benefit. Ms. Duong responded that MVB does not receive \$7 million, but rather HTA gives the money to HVCB, which in turn directs some of the money to MVB. This year, MVB received \$1.159 million to assist with operations costs, \$200,000 from HTA for international marketing, and \$3 million from Maui County, for a total of \$4.359 million. Commissioner Mattson asked what is done with the remainder of the \$7 million figure, to which Ms. Duong replied the Commission should ask HVCB. Commissioner Mattson asked whether Ms. Duong is employed by HVCB. Ms. Duong stated that she is employed by HVCB, but that there may be underlying costs that she is unaware of, and that she preferred the Commission contact HVCB directly. Commissioner Mattson asked whether Ms. Duong had ever asked HVCB for more money. Ms. Duong responded that she had not.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether MVB has staff that works on or promotes the island of Lana'i. Ms. Duong stated that there currently is no person on Lana'i. The office was closed when the island was shut down for the renovation of the Four Seasons and the former employee found another position. MVB has not found someone on island since, but MVB continues to support and promote

Lana'i as it does Moloka'i. Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether MVB intends to reestablish the Lana'i Visitors Bureau. Ms. Duong responded that she did not know based on the uncertainty of the MVB's budget.

Commissioner Mattson referred to Ms. Duong's earlier testimony regarding the loss of TAT funds and where the State would get its money with the ongoing pandemic. Commissioner Mattson wondered why MVB, HVCB, and HTA would not approach the State of Hawai'i to give more of their TAT dollars to HTA, which would then flow to HVCB and MVB, particularly when Maui collects more than \$180 million in TAT dollars, but only receives \$23 million back in return. Ms. Duong responded that she understands the issue, and that former Maui County Council Chair Mike White advocated for receiving more TAT dollars from the State, but was unsuccessful. She added that by receiving County funds, MVB has been able to keep Maui "top of mind" because it could do more marketing and visitor education. Ms. Duong stated that visitors will need to feel safe before they decide to return to Maui, which will then put money back into the hands of residents.

Commissioner Mattson reiterated her question and asked why MVB, HVCB, and HTA do not approach the State, just as the island Mayors do, to request more TAT funds, rather than to approach Maui County, which only receives a limited amount in TAT funds. Ms. Duong stated that MVB does request funding at the legislature through HTA's president and CEO, Chris Tatum. Commissioner Mattson responded that if Maui County and the HTA cannot get more funding, then everyone should work within their respective budgets, even more so because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Commissioner Mattson then referred to Maui's revenue return per grant dollar, which is small compared to the neighbor islands. She noted that Maui was expending more and getting more visitors, but receiving less of a return overall. Ms. Duong explained that not all of the \$79 million that HTA receives goes into marketing, but also goes to community safety and community enrichment programs.

Commissioner Mattson also pointed out that the County reduced MVB's grant award by \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2020, yet the number of visitors to Maui and the dollars spent increased, so there does not seem to be a direct correlation. Ms. Duong stated that the number of visitor arrivals and departures is not like turning a water faucet on and off, so the effect of the grant reduction might not be seen for a few more years. Similarly, Maui will not see the effects of any post-COVID-19 marketing campaign immediately.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether Ms. Duong thinks the money MVB receives is what drives the Maui economy. Ms. Duong disagreed, and said that MVB keeps the branding of Maui consistent.

Commissioner Simmons asked Ms. Duong to speak to MVB's efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Duong explained that MVB had paused all marketing efforts and is channeling all efforts to make visitors aware of the 14-day quarantine and stay-at-home order. To that end, MVB employees are at the airport to receive the agricultural forms from travelers, and then they are personally calling each visitor and following up. In addition, all HVCB, HTA, and MVB staff are calling visitors and residents to make sure they are complying with the 14-day quarantine. Each of the forms that are collected are the sent to Oahu and put into a database. MVB has also been instrumental in securing supplies for quarantine sights for visitor industry partners, including rollaway beds, linen, toiletries, and latex gloves. It also assisted with getting food donated from the hotels to the Maui Food Bank.

Commissioner Simmons asked whether the MVB had received any additional sources of funding during the COVID-19 emergency. Ms. Duong responded no.

Commissioner Lankford-Faborito asked what Moloka'i events MVB helps to sponsor and, if MVB does not receive County funding, what it would do to fund those events. Ms. Duong stated that MVB

allocates \$200,000 for Moloka'i and \$200,000 for Lana'i for specific programs where the islands do not want to be included as part of Maui County. Ms. Duong stated that the money is used for familiarization tours (FAMs), press trips, and travel agent visits. For Fiscal Year 2020, there was a proviso for an additional \$200,000, and Councilmember Keani Rawlins asked MVB to produce a video to educate visitors about Moloka'i and its culture. Ms. Duong stated that MVB is also doing a weeklong segment on Hawai'i Now featuring Moloka'i, as well as a social influencer campaign. She added that if MVB were not to receive funding, these types of programs would not be able to be done.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked what cuts MVB had made to its programming in response to receiving \$1 million less in County grant funds. Ms. Duong stated that MVB cut back on travel agent training, trade shows, the number of media representatives to the islands, some digital marketing, and international marketing.

Commissioner Del Rosario referenced Ms. Duong's "water tap" statement and asked her why she thinks visitors will not return to Maui based on all the great work MVB has done over the years. Ms. Duong responded that she does think people will not return, but while they are taking care of their families and rebuilding their discretionary funds, MVB wants to ensure that Maui remains top of mind.

Commissioner Mattson asked Ms. Duong to explain what MVB's VASH program is. Ms. Duong explained that VASH (Visitor Aloha Society of Hawai'i) is a program that is used to assist visitors who run into some sort of adversity, such as getting into an accident, getting robbed, getting sick, or having a family member pass away while on island. MVB has helped with finding people hotels so they can bring family members over, or help transport a deceased individual to his or her home. If a visitor's car is broken into and the visitor has lost money, passports, or other personal items, MVB assists with food and helping them get what they need so they can return home. MVB has partners that help with the VASH program as well.

Commissioner Mattson asked whether VASH money was used to assist with the COVID-19 response. Ms. Duong responded that the COVID-19 response is coordinated through the HTA.

Commissioner Mattson asked who contacts MVB to request VASH assistance. Ms. Duong explained that it is situational, but that MVB is approached by whatever agency is helping that particular individual, and includes the police department, hospital, and airlines. She said the VASH program has helped thousands of visitors. Ms. Duong added that part of the VASH program includes assisting at the Emergency Operations Center during natural disaster events, such as helping at shelters.

12:05 p.m. — Commissioner Barbadillo departed

Kay Fukumoto

Kay Fukumoto, Director of the County's Office of Economic Development, which administers the grant to the MVB, offered some talking points with respect to the MVB funding, which she supports. She explained that her primary focus is ensuring that Maui County's residents get back to work. She shared new unemployment claim filings for the previous weeks, specifically 2,203 for the week of March 21st, followed by 10,849 for the week of March 28th, and 10,274 for the week of April 4th. Many of the lost jobs are tied to tourism.

Ms. Fukumoto stated that attracting visitors back to Maui is all about marketing, and to reduce MVB's funding would limit the reach to markets that in the past had proven to recover quickly. She explained that after 9/11, Maui County was able to bounce back economically faster than any other county, due in part to MVB's marketing efforts. She added that these are unprecedented, scary times, with a community that was already struggling with the high cost of living and lack of housing, any many living

paycheck to paycheck. Ms. Fukumoto stated that residents need to be assured that the County is committed to getting them back to work.

Ms. Fukumoto expressed that reviving the visitor industry will not be easy, and there will not be an automatic reset to pre-pandemic times. Almost all of the airlines servicing Maui have been lost and there is no guarantee they will return. In addition, demand will need to be generated first before the airlines start servicing the islands again, and they will only fly to locations that are profitable, which requires marketing to get the visitors back. Ms. Fukumoto stated that every single visitor destination nationally and internationally will be going after the same visitors, and competition will be extreme. Reviving the industry will be difficult during such harsh economic times.

Ms. Fukumoto explained that the visitor industry is the number one industry in the islands and will need to be revived and return strong until there is diversification. Such diversification will take time, and time is against the County's unemployed residents. She added that those who cannot return to their jobs will leave Maui or will require more social services to keep them here.

Ms. Fukumoto stated that the Maui brand is not just for the tourism industry, and that many companies use "Maui" as a way to increase the value of their products and services sold in Hawai'i and internationally. "Made in Maui" has greater value because of this leveraged branding, and keeping the brand top of mind is key to getting the highest value for Maui's products and services.

Ms. Fukumoto stated that MVB has the experience and expertise to bring visitors back and get Maui's residents back to work. Ms. Fukumoto stated that the discussion about return on investment dollars is irrelevant at the present time — a drastic economic downturn caused by a pandemic. She explained that spending decisions should be made on where money can be infused to get the quickest outcome of jobs for those who are unemployed.

Ms. Fukumoto also stated that she understands public sentiment on the issue of overtourism and its effects on the island. She pointed out that the tourism industry will not return to pre-pandemic numbers anytime soon, noting that it took nine years after 9/11 to recover to pre-9/11 times. She stated that this downturn is much more extreme, with worldwide uncertainty, and she does not anticipate overtourism in the near future. She stated that MVB could help pave a way forward with managed tourism and visitor growth.

Ms. Fukumoto concluded saying that the Commission's recommendation for zero funding, or a drop down to \$500,000, is drastic and extreme, and that it will worsen the County's chances of reviving and/or supporting the only industry in the State's history that, thus far, has proven to give local people jobs so they can thrive on the island. She requested support for ongoing funding of MVB in an amount that will move the needle on getting the tourism industry back.

There were no questions from the Commission.

Jen Russo

Jen Russo testified in support of funding for the MVB. Ms. Russo referred to the Mayor's proposed budget, which estimated \$956.5 million in revenues in Fiscal Year 2021. She stated that in Fiscal Year 2020, \$170 million in revenues was from the visitor accommodation-related real property tax category, which was 48% of all real property tax collected. Using that figure, 18% of the proposed revenues came from visitor industry-related tax collection at the County level. The proposed MVB funding is .03% of the total proposed estimated revenue of the budget. She added that nearly 30% are coming from short-term rentals.

Ms. Russo stated that she has taken the Ho'okipa Me Ke Aloha classes offered by the MVB; the classes have helped her and she hoped to attend them again in the future. She believes in MVB's goal to create cultural standards and protocols for the visitor industry experience on Maui. She also believes in MVB's messaging for a more authentic cultural experiences for visitors, and thinks it will be relevant as Maui emerges from its current crisis situation.

Ms. Russo stated that she thinks MVB's work with short-term rentals will be essential in building a sustainable, culturally relevant industry on Maui moving forward. Ms. Russo stated that she understood the need for diversifying Maui's economy, but at this moment with the pandemic and with all that Maui has invested in its visitor industry, defunding MVB will not bring Maui closer to diversification. She concluded by stating that she thinks sustainable tourism should be the foundation for economic recovery.

Commissioner Simmons asked Ms. Russo about the classes she took from MVB. Ms. Russo explained that the classes were geared toward cultural connections to the tourism industry. She took the classes with other individuals who work in the tourism industry, such as restaurant managers and tour guide operators.

There were no other individuals who wished to testify.

Chair Williams, accepted the written testimony into the record and closed public testimony.

Following the close of public testimony, Deputy Corporation Counsel Stephanie Chen inquired as to whether the Commission would accept the letters from Sylvia Welchel, Sara Clark, James Boote, and Scott McGill, that were listed in the "Correspondence" section of the agenda, as public testimony, and Chair Williams said he would.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVE FEBRUARY 20, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Mattson moved to approve the February 20, 2020 meeting minutes, and Commissioner Simmons seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. REVIEW AND DISCUSS CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

There was no discussion on the correspondence received.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Stephanie Chen stated that Chair Willilams should ask for a vote on the agenda, which had been amended one day earlier on April 8, 2020. She cited HRS 92-7D, which provides that no board shall amend the agenda no more than six (6) days prior to the meeting without a two-thirds vote of the members, Chair Williams asked whether there was any objection from the eight commissioners to the amended agenda and, hearing none, stated that the amended agenda was approved by a two-thirds vote.

VI. COUNTY AUDITOR'S UPDATE

County Auditor Lance Taguchi stated for the record that he previously recommended to Chair Williams that the Commission meeting be cancelled because he was not sure whether the meeting complied with the current Sunshine Law. He added that he thought cancelling the meeting was the best course of action to protect the Commission and its members.

Chair Williams asked Mr. Taguchi whether he could provide anything more specific or whether he just had a vague concern. Mr. Taguchi responded that he had reviewed Chair Williams' communications with the Office of the Corporation Counsel, and that he had also reviewed testimony submitted to the County Council from Lance Collins regarding boards and commissions. He stated that with the added uncertainty, the most prudent course of action would be to postpone the meeting.

Commissioner Del Rosario noted that the posted agenda stated that "the requirements of HRS 92, HRS, have been suspended under Governor Ige's Supplementary Proclamation issued on March 16, 2020," and "[w]hile the Governor's proclamation is in effect, no failure to comply with Chapter 92, HRS, will invalidate a public agency's deliberations or actions taken." Commissioner Del Rosario stated that the Commission is under the County of Maui, and she asked Deputy Corporation Counsel Chen whether this language addresses the concerns raised by Mr. Taguchi.

Ms. Chen responded that the Sunshine Law had been suspended to the extent necessary, so it is not a full suspension. She added that with the unprecedented situation, not every single detail has been worked out, and recommended that the Commission comply as much as possible with the Sunshine Law. She noted that the meeting is being conducted via BlueJeans videoconference, the public has access to the meeting, and public testimony has been accepted, which is in accordance with the Sunshine Law and the Emergency Proclamation. She added that the Commission also seemed to address the issue of making the board packet available, by posting the material on Dropbox. She recommended that if the Commission is going to continue to hold meetings (during the COVID-19 emergency), that every effort be made to comply with the Sunshine Law and other applicable laws.

Commissioner Del Rosario explained that she felt comfortable because the Commission is using the same BlueJeans videoconferencing software that the County Council is using to conduct its budget hearings, and the public has the opportunity to testify and has greater access to documents via Dropbox. Commissioner Del Rosario also noted that the primary reason for the Commission's meeting was to discuss the grant to the Maui Visitors Bureau, and the Council was discussing the MVB grant that same day in its budget hearings.

Ms. Chen interjected that she raised concerns about the meeting taking place because she learned of the meeting on the day the agenda was to be posted, so she did not have sufficient time to review the agenda given her other responsibilities in assisting with the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, she did not review the agenda and was unable to provide legal and procedural guidance to protect the Commission and the County.

Commissioner Del Rosario asked whether Ms. Chen was able to review the agenda after it had been posted, but prior to the meeting. Ms. Chen responded that she had reviewed it, but that providing comments after it had been posted would have been futile. Commissioner Del Rosario asked Chair Williams whether the agenda could have been amended had Ms. Chen reviewed it after it had been posted. Chair Williams responded that he thought so, and expressed his frustration that the Commission had done everything it could to comply with the Sunshine Law, and that unless he heard something from Mr. Taguchi or Ms. Chen, that the Commission could continue to hold meetings by videoconference as long as the emergency continues. He added that the commissioners should not have to stop doing the work of the Commission just because they have to meet via internet.

Mr. Taguchi responded by asking the Commission not to misinterpret what he said. In an abundance of caution, every commissioner should know what the situation is and that he is not an attorney. He added that he does believe that every commissioner should understand what happened with the meeting. He does not know whether someone will file a complaint, but each commissioner should understand what is going on so commissioners can make their own decision. If he was confident that the meeting did not comply with the Sunshine Law, then he would have instructed the Technical Writer

not to assist, but he did not. He continued by stating that it is the Commission's decision whether to move forward, and that he simply wanted to ensure that commissioners are informed.

Ms. Chen stated that it was her understanding that all meetings were postponed until further notice, but she then received a Commission agenda to review. She reiterated her position that there is nothing preventing the Commission from holding meetings and she is not discouraging the Commission from holding meetings, but she is discouraging a lack of transparency and following applicable laws to the extent possible given the circumstances. She requested more time to review draft agendas in the future. Chair Williams apologized for not giving Ms. Chen more time to review the agenda.

VII. DISCUSS, POSSIBLY AMEND, AND VOTE UPON THE DRAFT FINAL REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI'S GRANT TO THE MAUI VISITORS BUREAU (COMMISSIONERS MATTSON AND DEL ROSARIO)

Commissioner Mattson moved to approve the final Cost of Government Commission on the County of Maui's Grant to the Maui Visitors Bureau, and Commissioner Heiskell seconded the motion.

Commissioner Mattson stated that the marketing dollars expended by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), hotels, airlines, and other entities promoting Maui are more than sufficient. She also stated that it is unclear how long the COVID-19 pandemic will continue, but that the County has a unique opportunity to ask MVB to use the money allotted to it by the HTA and to request additional funding from the State legislature. Commissioner Mattson also explained that with COVID-19, discussions will need to center less on managing tourism, and more on finding a balance, i.e., investing County funds on island residents and infrastructure so that the County is prepared for future catastrophic events. Commissioner Mattson explained that the State takes in over \$200 million in TAT funds from Maui, but only receives \$23 million in return, and asserted that these funds are too precious to award \$3-\$4 million of it to the MVB. She concluded by saying that the County needs to work within its budget and MVB should do likewise.

Commissioner Heiskell thanked Commissioner Mattson for her efforts. She stated that she appreciated the questions Commissioners Mattson and Del Rosario asked of the testifiers, many of whom were representing for-profit entities. Commissioner Heiskell speculated that these corporations will not abandon Maui and take their business to Chicago.

Commissioner Simmons stated that she thought it would be irresponsible to not support the tourist industry, and that the coronavirus pandemic threw a wrench into things such that the County is no longer managing tourism because tourism is gone. She said that it will take money to attract visitors again and that Ms. Fukumoto was correct in her observation that destinations everywhere will be competing for visitors and their tourism dollars, and that the competition for those dollars will be worldwide. Commissioner Simmons also stated that the testimony made clear to her that MVB is a more centralized industry that is important for the Maui brand and it will be imperative to restart the tourism industry on Maui. She agreed that diversifying the economy is important, but also that restarting the tourism industry is important because of the high unemployment numbers. Commissioner Simmons stated that she did not agree with the rate of return table in the report, and that there are a number of community benefits that are intangible and hard to attach dollar figures to. Commissioner Simmons stated that she would not support the report, but if the report was passed, she requested that the final vote be included in the report.

Before speaking on the report, Commissioner Del Rosario asked to bring two points to the Commission's attention. First, she thought it was important for the community to be aware of the situation and that two of the votes might be colored. Commissioner Del Rosario explained that when

Commissioner Simmons joined the Commission, she was employed by the County of Maui, but that she was now employed by Pūlama Lana'i, which owns the island of Lana'i, and the Four Seasons Resort and is tourism dependent. Commissioner Barbadillo is also employed by Pūlama Lana'i. Commissioner Del Rosario also stated that she believes the owner of Pūlama Lana'i is a member of the Maui Visitors Bureau.

Second, with respect to the report itself, Commissioner Del Rosario stated that she asked each of the event directors who testified whether he or she saw a time where they could be self-sustaining and not dependent on the County. She explained that the County Council is currently asking the same question of nonprofit organizations, namely whether they can be self-sustaining within a three to five year period and not indefinitely return to the County requesting funds. Commissioner Del Rosario explained that she does support the events and that they contribute to the community in many ways, but as for-profit entities, she does have a issue with the County expending upwards of \$800,000 per year to support them. Commissioner Del Rosario supported reducing funding to MVB equal to the highest amount provided by neighboring island counties, which is \$325,000, and if they do continue to receive funding in excess of \$325,000, she hoped that they would be pursuing other sources of funding outside the County, and that the money they do receive is used for managing tourism and sustainability as the County recovers from COVID-19.

Commissioner O'Neil moved to amend the second sentence of the last paragraph on page four under the "Questions to Consider" section to read as follows: "There is no correlation between what Maui County grants to MVB and the number of visitors or spending by them." Commissioner Del Rosario seconded the motion. The motion to amend was approved unanimously (7-0).

Commissioner O'Neil stated that after listening to the testimony and thinking about the future, he does not know what the future holds. He stated that he agrees that there will be a limited number of tourists and a lot of competition for their dollars, so he is reticent to reduce funding for tourism marketing for Maui, even though it is probably redundant. He added that there are a lot of assertions in the report that cannot be supported, so he will not vote to support the report.

Commissioner Lankford-Faborito stated that she had no comment and agreed with the report as amended.

Chair Williams started by explaining that the tax dollars that come out of Maui County should not be spent on marketing for-profit businesses, including hotels, and that the tourism industry should raise the money itself to do whatever marketing needs to be done. As such, he does not like seeing hard-earned County tax dollars go towards tourism. Chair Williams went on to say that more importantly to him, there is no way to show a correlation between how much Maui County gives to the marketing effort and what the number of visitors is or how much spending there is. He concluded that he thinks Maui should take the same position as Oahu and let State money fund marketing efforts and not waste County dollars on it. He also noted that he is not saying that what MVB is doing is not good, but that it does not need County support.

Chair Williams called roll on the motion to approve the "Cost of Government Commission's Report on the County of Maui's Grant to the Maui Visitors Bureau," as amended. Commissioners Del Rosario, Heiskell, Lankford-Faborito, Mattson, and Chair Williams voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners O'Neil and Simmons voted no. Commissioners Barbadillo and Werth were excused. The motion, as amended, was approved 5-2.

VIII. DISCUSS COST OF GOVERNMENT COMMISSION COMMUNICATION PROCEDURES

- Review and Possibly Approve Draft Investigation Guidelines (prepared by Vice-Chair Simmons and Commissioner Werth)

Chair Williams deferred the item to the next meeting.

IX. DISCUSS 2019 – 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Chair Williams explained that he and Ms. Pellegrino had not had a chance to work on the report given the priority placed on finalizing the MVB report. He proposed that he and Ms. Pellegrino work on a draft or outline of the report to present at the next meeting.

X. UPDATE BY ENFORCEMENT OF SHORT-TERM RENTAL LAWS TIG (CHAIR WILLIAMS AND COMMISSISONER BARBADILLO)

Chair Williams stated that he and Commissioner Barbadillo continue to be in touch with Planning Director Michele McLean, but have not pressed further discussions due to the budget deliberations and COVID-19 pandemic. He noted that he is interested in seeing what happens with the short-term rental market depending on how long the lack of visitors continues, and that some short-term rentals might be converted to long-term rentals.

XI. UPDATE BY TIG INVESTIGATING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BUDGETS OF DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY AND DEPARTMENT OF WASTE MANAGEMENT (CHAIR WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER DEL ROSARIO, COMMISSIONER O'NEIL)

Chair Williams stated that he, Commissioner Del Rosario, and Commissioner O'Neil had a meeting scheduled, but cancelled it with the beginning of COVID-19, so there is nothing to report.

XII. DISCUSS SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION INTO WILDFIRE COSTS AND RESPONSIBILITY OF PRIVATE LANDOWNERS (COMMISSIONER HEISKELL, COMMISSIONER O'NEIL)

Commissioner O'Neil stated that he has a rough draft of the scope and parameters and that he will work with Commissioner Heiskell prior to the next meeting.

XIII. UPDATE ON INVESTIGATION INTO PRIVATE FINANCING OF THE WAILUKU PARKING GARAGE VIA OPPORTUNITY ZONES (CHAIR WILLIAMS)

Chair Williams stated that he sent an email to the Managing Director and Budget Director, but that he told them he would wait to receive an answer until budget deliberations were finished. The COVID-19 emergency also arose. Chair Williams said he would not start to follow up until May.

XIV. DISCUSS TOPICS TO REVIEW AND ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY INVESTIGATIVE GROUPS (TIGS)

Discussion and possible action regarding the establishment of Temporary Investigative Groups (TIGs) to review and investigate the below listed subjects, appointment of members, and setting of the parameters and scope of the investigation and review.

1. Information Technology (Vice-Chair Simmons)
Commissioner Simmons had nothing new to report.
2. Other Potential Topics

XV. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR FOR 2020 – 2021 COMMISSION TERM

Commissioner Del Rosario moved to nominate Chair Williams to serve as Chair for the 2020–2021 Commission term. Commissioner Mattson seconded the motion. There were no additional nominations and no objections. The motion was approved 7-0, with two excused.

Commissioner Lankford-Faborito nominated Commissioner Del Rosario to serve as Vice Chair for the 2020–2021 Commission term, and Commissioner Mattson seconded the motion. There were no additional nominations and no objections. The motion was approved 7-0, with two excused.

XVI. DETERMINE NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. via BlueJeans teleconference.

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.