

**SALARY COMMISSION
MINUTES
March 12, 2021
Meeting Site: Online via BlueJeans**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chair Swanson at 8:31 a.m.

Present:

Kelly Swanson, Chair
Clark Abbott, Vice Chair
Vernon Oato
Peter Martin
Sanford Lantias
Edwin Misaki
Dawnalyn Fujiwara
Scott Parker
Tambara Garrick

Present Staff:

Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Darlene Endrina, Community Liaison
David Underwood
Stacy Takahashi
Rochelle Ines, Secretary
LeeAnn Nomura Matsui, Secretary

2. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony presented.

3. Approval of the September 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Vice-Chair Abbott moved to approve the minutes of December 18, 2020,
Commissioner Oato seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Welcoming of New Commissioners and Presentation of Certificates to Exiting Members

- New Commissioner – Tambara Garrick
- Exiting Members – Chair Swanson and Commissioner Oato

5. Election of Commission Chair and Vice-Chair

- Nomination for Chair
 - Commissioner Martin nominated Vice-Chair Abbott for Chair.
Motion to vote for Vice-Chair Abbott for Chair effective 4/1/2021.
The motion carried unanimously.
- Nominations for Vice-Chair
 - Vice-Chair Abbott nominate Commissioner Fujiwara

- Commissioner Fujiwara nominate Commissioner Parker. Commissioner Parker asked to withdraw his nomination.
- Motion to vote for Commissioner Fujiwara for Vice-Chair effective 4/1/2021. The motion carried unanimously.
- Congratulations to Vice-Chair Abbott, new Chair and Commissioner Fujiwara, new Vice-Chair

6. Discuss and Create a plan of action for Department Director, Deputy Director, County Auditor, Mayor and Council Member Salary Reviews for 2021

- Chair Swanson suggested to start conducting Department reviews to get a better idea of each Department's situations. In the past, the different Departments were grouped into subcategories and had four Departments present at each meeting.
- Vice-Chair Abbott thinks it's necessary to get information from Budget Director Yoshimura on what can be expected of the budget and how much money is going to be available before considering raising or changing salary levels. The income isn't going to be there due to the COVID pandemic and the shutdown of all the businesses we have to be extremely careful with what we're doing with the tax payers money.
- Commissioner Misaki agrees with Vice-Chair Abbott's suggestion and said under the circumstances, at minimum, we should be looking at a flat budget because we don't know what the income is going to be over the next couple of years because of the pandemic.
- Commissioner Lanas also agrees with Vice-Chair Abbott's suggestion
- Chair Swanson said April would be a better time for Director Yoshimura to join the meeting for budget discussion.
- Deputy Corporation Counsel Murai said that April is budget month for council. All Directors is usually tied up in the month of March and April for budget. He suggests to ask Director Yoshimura for the budget information in May. The Commissioners can decide on what course to take for the rest of the year. Budget is due from the Mayor's office to council on March 25, 2021 and final reading for the Council will happen in June 2021.
- Commissioner Parker asked if there's anything that we need to be aware of regarding collective bargaining and decisions with bargaining units that might impact salaries.
- David Underwood said all of the County bargaining units are currently negotiating new contracts. Their current contracts expires on June 30, 2021.

7. Financial Disclosure Statements for Boards & Commissions

Chair Swanson reminded everyone that they should have received their financial disclosures and to complete it and turn it in.

8. Agenda Setting for Next Meeting

- Budget Review with the Budget Director Yoshimura
- Discuss and create a plan of action for Department Directors, Deputy Directors, County Auditor, Mayor and Council Member Salary Reviews for 2021
- Welcoming new commissioners: Andrew Ho and Grant Nakama

9. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 14, 2021 at 8:30am, online, via BlueJeans.

10. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 a.m.