

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

February 4, 2025

Online Only via Teams

CONVENE: 1:36 p.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins, Chair
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member (Out 2:09 p.m.;
In 2:32 p.m.)
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member (In 2:16 p.m.)

STAFF:

Kasie Apo Takayama, Senior Legislative Analyst
Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst
Peter Hanano, Legislative Attorney
Maria Leon, Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk
Richelle Kawasaki, Deputy Director of Council Services
Ryan Martins, Council Ambassador

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokai Residency Area Office
Keomailani Hirata, Council Aide, Molokai Residency Area Office
Mavis Oliveira-Medeiros, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Bill Snipes, Council Aide, South Maui Residency Area Office
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Ha‘ikū-Pā‘ia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.:

Cynthia Lallo, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel
Cody Minatodani, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation
Counsel

OTHERS:

Bo Alapaki Montalvo (Resolution 25-23)
Sherrilee K. Dodson (Resolution 25-25)
Alison Emily Grimes (Resolution 25-26)
Vernon Kalanikau (Resolution 25-29)
Margaret “Peggy” Hansen (Resolution 25-30)

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Evalina “Nani” Watanabe (Resolution 25-30)
John Tau Tau Pele (Resolution 25-31)
William Curtis (Resolution 25-32)
Dennis Chiniaeff (Resolution 25-32)
Leilani Pulmano (Resolution 25-32)
William Spence (Resolution 25-32)
Joseph Ioane Arias (Resolution 25-39)

Testifiers

Janice Hill (Resolution 25-29)
Paele Kiakona (Resolution 25-37)
De Andre Makakoa (Resolution 25-37)
Lauryn Rego (Resolution 25-37)
Cody Nemet Tuivaiti (Resolution 25-29)
Zhantell Lindo (Resolution 25-31, 25-34, and 25-35)
Christina Lynch (Resolution 25-29)
Lucienne de Naie (Resolution 25-37)

(27+) additional attendees

PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Good afternoon. And will the Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee meeting of February 4th of 2025 please come to order. It is 1:36 p.m. I’m your Chair, Nohelani U‘u-Hodgins. Members, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room, vehicle, workspace with you today. Minors do not need to be identified. Let’s begin with Committee Vice-Chair Tamara Paltin. Good afternoon.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Good afternoon. Aloha ‘auinalā. I’m here in the Chambers, ready to work. Thanks.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Perfect. Councilmember Tom Cook, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Aloha. Good afternoon.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Councilmember Gabe Johnson, good afternoon. Is he with us? He’ll be joining us shortly? Okay. He will be joining us shortly. Councilmember Tasha Kama, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Council Chair Alice Lee, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha kākou, Chair.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Aloha. Councilmember Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, good afternoon.
(*silence*) Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez, can you hear us?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: You’re muted.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Now I can.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Perfect. Do you have anybody with you at your workspace?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, I didn’t realize you called the meeting to order, sorry.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I couldn’t hear you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Can you hear us now?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(*inaudible*). . .

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: You...I mean, obviously you hear me now, but did everybody else not hear us then?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Did *Akakū* hear okay? I mean, the audio is okay?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah. That’s what we were waiting on, and they hear us now.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Got it. Aloha ‘auinalā, Chair, mai Molokai Nui a Hina. I am at my private residence, alone here. Probably in about a half hour, I will be joined by two minors returning from school. We currently have no testifiers at the Molokai District Office. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Mahalo. Councilmember Shane Sinenci, good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha ‘auinalā. No testifiers in Hāna.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura will be joining us shortly. And we will return to Councilmember Gabe Johnson. Good afternoon.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I’m sorry, Chair. I didn’t...I didn’t hear the sound.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, no.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So, sorry I missed your call.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: That’s okay.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I am alone in my workspace. There's no testifiers at Lānaʻi District Office, and I took my snoring dog back to the house so she wouldn't interrupt your meeting, Chair. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I appreciate that, although it doesn't bother me at all, but thank you. And for those of you joining online, please let me know if you can't hear me. We were having some audio issues earlier, so I would appreciate just a hello, we can't hear you. Thank you. From Corporation Counsel, we have Yukari Murakami, Deputy Corporation Counsel, and Cody Minatodani, Deputy Corporation Counsel. We have Chief of Staff Cynthia Lallo with us as well. And we have our Committee Staff; Maria Leon, Committee Secretary; Kasie Apo Takayama, Senior Legislative Analyst; Clarissa MacDonald, Legislative Analyst; Peter Hanano, welcome--this is our first day with you, thank you so much; Legislative Attorney Richelle Kawasaki, Deputy Director of Council Services; and Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk. Please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. Testimony. Testifiers wanting to provide testimony should sign up in the lobby, join the online meeting via Teams link, or call in to the phone number noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is encouraged, and can be submitted via the eComment link at mauicounty.us/agendas as well. Under the Sunshine Law, the Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting, and...and as the item is called up. For individuals wishing to testify via Teams, please raise your hand by clicking on the raise-your-hand button. If calling in, please follow the prompts via phone; star-5 to raise and lower your hand, and star-6 to mute and unmute. Staff will add names to the testifiers list in the order the testifiers sign up or raise their hands. For those on Teams, Staff will lower your hand once your name is added. Staff will then call the name you are logged in under, or the last four digits of your phone number when it is your turn to testify. At that time, Staff will also enable your microphone and video. If you wish to testify anonymously, please notify Staff; otherwise, please state your name for the record at the beginning of the...of your testimony. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes per item, and if you are still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. Once you're done testifying, or you do not wish to testify, you can also view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or mauicounty.us/agendas. We will do our best to take up each person in an orderly fashion. Just as an FYI for the nominees, you're welcome to testify in your behalf or anybody else's behalf during this testimony period. However, when your resolution is called up, we will please ask you to introduce yourself, and at that time, the Members will have an opportunity to ask you questions. We will now call on testifiers wishing to testify at the beginning of the meeting. So, Staff, if you could please call the first testifier? Thank you.

MS. MACDONALD: Yes, Chair. The first individual signed up to testify is Janice Hill.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT BEGINNING OF MEETING . . .

MS. HILL: Aloha 'auinalā. My name is Janice Hill. I'm testifying in favor of appointing Vernon Kalanikau to the Conservation Planning Committee as nominated in Resolution 25 to

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29 [sic]. I first met Vernon's parents in 1983. Paula Kalanikau, his mother, was our health aide at Kihei Elementary School. Moki Kalanikau, Vernon's father, was a cofounder of Kihei Youth Center and Kihei Canoe Club. He learned from the best to care about others, and be a steward of the 'āina and Kula Kai Kaiāulu. When I taught at Lokelani Intermediate, Vernon was our head custodian. We could always rely on him to kōkua and manage everything. Since 2008, Vernon has been actively involved in all cetacean strandings on Maui's shorelines and other islands when called upon. In September of 2019, I watched a distressed pod of Melon-headed whales swimming offshore near Kihei Canoe Club and Keālia. There was Vernon, monitoring them daily and communicating with NOAA about protocol when some beached themselves and died. Every time there's flooding in Kihei, Vernon is moder...monitoring and reporting. Last Friday was the worst muddy mess ever, and Vernon has documented it all. He is knowledgeable about every gulch mauka and what natural streamflow should be. He's been working for years trying to mitigate the flooding. He is cultural advisor to extract, locate, and manage the sediment in Kūlanihāko'i. Vernon is also extremely knowledgeable about the wetlands. Thanks to Vernon, we have the moku and ahupua'a signs in Kula Kai, Waikapū, and Wailuku. He hopes to have them all over Maui someday. Please read Vernon's resume. You will see the extensive amount of volunteer hours he commits to Maui Island. He's more than qualified to be on the Conservation Planning Committee. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much, Mrs. Hill. Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you so much for your testimony. Next testifier, please?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: The next testifier is Paele Kiakona. *(pause)*

MR. KIAKONA: Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers. Good to see you all. My name is Paele Kiakona. I'm a member of Lahaina community, Lahaina Strong, president of Honolua Coalition, and I'm here today to testify on behalf of appointing Kamalani Pahukoa into this position. Reason being is because of, you know, a lot of the...the...the progress she has made, especially in the districts on the East Side and, you know, including stream restoration...the stream restoration hui, which she was a part of, the Wa'a Connection Project, a lot of her community leadership has shown that she is more than qualified for this type of position. And moreover, I...the reason I believe this to be true is, everything has changed in our lifetime here in Hawai'i, in Maui, especially...especially in Maui. Everything has changed, but what are we doing different? And I think we do need a fresh set of eyes. Somebody who's willing to go above and beyond. Somebody who has...is willing to push forward, and question the status quo. The status quo led us here, how can we get further away from that to make this place better? Because if you continue to operate within a silo, and we do the same thing over and over, expecting a different outcome, it never will come. So, that's all I have for today. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much for your testimony. Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier, please?

MS APO TAKAYAMA: The next testifier is De Andre Makakoa.

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MR. MAKAKOA: Aloha, everyone. Thank you so much for allowing us to testify. I'm testifying also on Resolution 25-37 to appoint Mary Ann Kamalani Pahukoa to the Planning Commission. Just in the state of the world right now, with climate change and the wildfire disasters happening, we need diversity and representation in these entities. And I believe that more native Hawaiians with cultural and lived experience and expertise in conservation, and ecological matters, stream restoration, is important moving forward for the future of Hawai'i. So, yeah, I support the approval. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you so much for your testimony. Next testifier, please?

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Lauryn Rego.

MS. REGO: Aloha. I'm Lauryn Rego. Thanks for allowing me to testify today. I'm also in support of Kamalani Pahukoa for the Planning Commission. I know it's really important that we fill these empty seats on the Planning Commission. I've been on the other end of that as a community member, wanting to advocate, and not being able to have quorum, or bare quorum. So, I think she's obviously a super-qualified candidate with a lot of support from Hāna. Also, like let's get the next generation in these seats. She grew up watching the changes that are happening in Hāna, and she's raising the next generation in Hāna, and a perfect person to guide any of the planning decisions for that district moving forward. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you for your testimony. Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier, please?

MS. MACDONALD: Yes, Chair. The next testifier is Cody Nemet Tuivaiti. Apologies if I mispronounced your name.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you.

MS. MACDONALD: Yes, they are online. So, Cody will have to unmute their camera and microphone.

MR. TUIVAITI: Aloha mai kākou.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Aloha.

MR. TUIVAITI: Kala mai. [*Spoke in Hawaiian*]. I am Cody Nemet Tuivaiti, and pretty much raised Maui my whole life, and I live in...currently live in Kula Kai, Kihei. I am the project manager of Hui O 'Āinakūko'a. In Kula Kai, we restore...we're restoring about 46 acres of 'āina just south of Kalepolepo, and we...I'm also a member of the 'Aha Moku Council. Today, I am...I'm here to support Vernon's nomination for the Conservation Planning Committee. Just a little history about my relationship with Vernon. Started off in the 'Aha Moku Council, and he's always kind of been like a mentor for me, teaching me a lot about the history of Kula Kai, learning a lot of the politics together with him, and being culturally ingrained in everything that is Kula Kai, and in 'ike Hawai'i. I feel

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like Vernon is probably one of the most dedicated persons that I know when it comes to conservation, the health of the 'āina, the community, and moving forward. We no agree on everything, but the one thing I can say is, I highly respect him for everything he do, and I'm always...we always talk almost every week about how we can better attack different situations, and...and promote the health of this moku. So, I think there's nobody better than...than Vernon to be on this seat for Kula Kai. Mahalo.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you so much for your testimony. Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Next testifier, please?

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, the next testifier is Zhantell Lindo. *(pause)*

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Ms. Lindo?

MS. MACDONALD: You are unmuted, but we, unfortunately, can't hear you. So, you may just have to adjust your mic settings on your end. We still can't hear you.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Zhan, if you want to click on the down arrow next to mic, and then select which mic you have, it might just be your input. *(pause)*

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: We still cannot hear you. I do have to take testimony before we technically begin because this is testimony at the beginning of the meeting. Would you mind trying to restart, and then I can read all the things I need to --

MS. LINDO: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay, I think we can hear you now.

MS. LINDO: Oh, cool.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay, good.

MS. LINDO: I going to be really short. Sorry about that.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Not a problem.

MS. LINDO: . . .*(laughing)*. . . Thank you to Chair, and Commission, and the Council for allowing me to testify. I just wanted to thank all of the nominees for agreeing to serve. It's so awesome to have so many good people wanting to serve. But I especially wanted to jump on and support the nomination of Lehua Lee to the Persons With Disabilities. She...she's a Molokai girl, but I have known her to be an advocate for persons with disabilities, and just kūpuna, and helping, and so proud of her, and want to support that nomination. Also would like to support the nomination of Edwin Misaki to the Liquor Commission. He's long been a commissioner on several commissions in Maui County and on the State level, and has always proven to be very beneficial and...and committed to his task. And then also wanted to support John Pele to the Commission for Fire and Public Safety. I've been working with John and the people of Maunaloa on

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different ideas for fire and emergency services in Maunaloa, and I think with him being from there, and just his passion for this subject, especially on Molokai at this time, is going to be one real benefit to us for him to learn more about fire public safety, and what we can do as a County to improve our services to Molokai. So, thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Mahalo, Ms. Lindo. Clarifying questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Ms. Lindo, for your testimony. I just wanted to clarify. On the Maui County Commission on Persons With Disabilities about...you were testifying about Lehua Lee Chang?

MS. LINDO: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And I know you have like some role too. I was wondering if you had spoken with her about one of the things I wanted to work on, the Commission on Persons With Disabilities and the Council on Aging, as well as the Fire and Public Safety Commission, was evacuation plans for the elderly and disabled. And I was wondering if that was one of the issues that you had spoken with her about furthering the goal?

MS. LINDO: Actually, I haven't spoken to Lehua. I had that conversation with John. So, in Lehua's case, I just saw her on the list, so that's how I knew. I'm not even sure if she's a Molokai representative, but I know she's a Molokai girl, and I know her well, so...yeah. But I have...I haven't had conversation with her personally about evacuation plans, but just knowing who she is, I know she would support that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Members, any other clarifying questions?

MS. LINDO: Sorry, Chair. Just for the record, I just also wanted to say that I'm testifying on my own time and on my own behalf.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, I appreciate that. No more clarifying questions? Thank you so much, Ms. Lindo. Do we have any other testifiers?

MS. MACDONALD: No, Chair. Would you like me to do a last call?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Please.

MS. MACDONALD: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let Staff know. Oh, I do see someone has raised their hand. Christina Lynch, I'm going to make you a presenter right now so you can unmute. Christina, you should be able to unmute your microphone and camera now. It has been enabled.

MS. LYNCH: Thank you for letting me --

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MS. MACDONALD: Oh, sorry, Christina. You're very quiet. Can you potentially get closer to your computer or change your mic settings?

MS. LYNCH: My...does that work?

MS. MACDONALD: That's better.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I can hear you. Thank you.

MS. LYNCH: Does that work a little bit better?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Yes.

MS. LYNCH: Does that work a little bit better? Okay, I'm...I'm testifying for Resolution 25 through 29 [sic], Conservation Planning Committee for Vernon Kalanikau. I just want to say mahalo, Chair and Councilmembers. Thank you for taking the time to hear what I have to say. I firmly believe that Maui would be fortunate to have Vernon Kalanikau as a member of the Conservation Planning Committee. Although I have not only known...I have only known Vernon for a short period of time, our connection has been profound and impactful. Through long conversations with various County members, I was eventually connected with Vernon, and from that moment, everything began to move forward quickly and efficiently. Vernon is a person of remarkable qualities. He is kind, knowledgeable, community-oriented, and deeply committed to protecting both the land and its people. In addition, he is resourceful, prompt, and consistently demonstrates a strong dedication to serving others. I cannot express enough how much Vernon has contributed not only to me personally, but also to my organization, AWE Wind, Water, Power. His guidance and assistance in ensuring that the right information reaches decisionmakers has been invaluable. His efforts have undoubtedly helped me, and us, make meaningful progress for the betterment of our island. For all these reasons, I wholeheartedly support Vernon Kalanikau appointment to the Conservation Planning Committee. I believe his unique perspective, skills, and dedication will make him an incredible asset to the Committee and our community. And I'd also like to add something in. My daughter was going to testify, but she had gotten called in to work. My daughter was down towards the Fairmont, and there was a stream of water going...dirty water going right into the ocean. She called me, and she said, mom, you know Vernon. Can you call Vernon and let him know that this is going on? And I said, I'll have Vernon call you. It took Vernon two minutes to call my daughter--which they have never met--call my daughter, direct her into taking a video of the stream, and describe it to him. He then was down there within a 20-minute period of time because he happened not to be in Kihei at that time. She waited for him, he drove down there, took samples, and brought it back to the County. That is dedication like no other. It wasn't a brush off. It wasn't a, "We'll send somebody down there tomorrow." He took control of the situation and helped. And I believe that Vernon would be a great asset to Maui. And he is already, but an extra added bonus for everyone. And that's all. Mahalo, everybody.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much for your testimony. Members, any clarifying questions? Seeing none. Thank you. Do we have anybody else signed up --

MS. LYNCH: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: -- to testify?

MS. MACDONALD: There is nobody else. I can do another last call?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Please.

MS. MACDONALD: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let Staff know, or on Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is final call. Three, two, one. Chair, it appears that nobody wishes to testify.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY AT BEGINNING OF MEETING . . .

NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEE, AND COMMISSIONS
(RESOLUTIONS 25-23 THROUGH 25-42, VARIOUS)
(GREAT-2(1))

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: So, we will begin by Resolutions 25-23 to...through 25-42, the Mayor is nominating 31 individuals for various County boards, committees and commissions, for terms beginning on April 1st, 2025, and expiring March 31st, 2030, for the five-year terms, and expiring on March 31st, 2028 for the three-year terms. The Council’s 30-day deadline to approve or disapprove the nominations is February 28th, 2025, Members. Copies of the board listing is being distributed now, and uploaded onto Granicus. My intention for today is to first hear from the Mayor’s Chief of Staff, Cynthia Lallo, to provide--thank you, Maria--to provide opening remarks on the Mayor’s nominations, and any opening comments she wishes to provide for each of the nominees. Following that, I’ll ask for testimony on the item...close public testimony, and get into discussion. At that time. I will take each resolution up one by one, as they are listed on the agenda, beginning with Resolution 25-23, relating to the Appointment of a Member to the Affirmative Action Advisory Council. Then Members, we will have our opportunity for questions and answers. As a courtesy, Committee Staff sent an email to all nominees, making them aware that Council received their names via the Mayor’s mass nominations resolution. We also asked for the Mayor’s Office to see that they emailed them as well, which we know they did a few days ago. And contact information was sent to the Members in case any of you want to meet with them directly prior to this conversation, and prior to us nominating them officially at Council. At this time, I’m going to please ask you, Ms. Lallo, to please provide us any opening statements you wish to do.

MS. LALLO: Thank you, Chair. And good afternoon, Government Relations, Ethics And Transparency Committee. . . .(inaudible). . . There, is that better? Okay. Thank you

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for the opportunity to make an opening statement regarding the boards and commissions and the Mayor's nominations. I want to thank all of the nominees that have taken the time to join us this afternoon on such short notice. Just acknowledging that. We have an amazing group of individuals, and the Mayor would like to thank you for your willingness to serve, and for your commitment to the community. It should be noted, regarding the recruitment and the applications, we...in spite of our best efforts, we still continue to struggle with gathering enough applicants for our Molokai seats, Lānaʻi, and Hāna. And I know we...we have this ongoing conversations, but anyway, I'm just putting a plug out there. Phone a friend and...and have them apply. Anyway, we're just going to make opening statements, and Chair, we will be monitoring...Staff will be monitoring in case there's any questions. I should also note this...that Ms. Cory Vicens is not with us today, she won't be back until the 6th. So, in relationship, we have all of her information, and are happy to share anything it is that we have, but we'll be listening. Thank you.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay, thank you. Before we get into discussion, Members, can we please again receive testimony for this item, GREAT 2(1)?

MS. MACDONALD: Chair, there is currently nobody who has signed up to testify. Would you like me to do a last call?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Please.

MS. MACDONALD: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let Staff know. Or on Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is final call. Three, two, one. Chair, it appears that nobody wishes to testify.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, seeing there are no individuals wishing to testify, without objection, I will now close oral testimony.

MS. MACDONALD: Oh, sorry, Chair. Somebody just raised their hand.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Please, let's hear them.

MS. MACDONALD: Lucienne de Naie, you have been promoted, so you should be able to unmute your camera and microphone to start your testimony.

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTIONS 25-23 THROUGH 25-42 . . .

MS. DE NAIE: Okay, there we go. I have camera, I have microphone. Thank you very much. I'd like to testify about the appointments to the...the commission, and I'd like to be in strong support of Kamalani being appointed. And she's a very, very hard worker, reads those papers. I've worked with her on a number of projects over the years. I've reached out to the classes that she's been involved with at the college, and she's had great follow up on, you know, volunteering to do things, and then taking them on, and then getting them done. It just seems like we need this kind of person serving on our commissions,

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and we need a voice from the East Maui community. So, please strongly consider. We have a young, hardworking person willing to serve. That's rare. And she's also very qualified in terms of having cultural background, and really willing to put in the work...you know, read the documents and put in the work. So, mahalo for your consideration.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you, Ms. de Naie. Members, any clarifying questions before I officially close public testimony? Seeing none. Thank you very much. Staff, do we, just in case, have anybody else signed up to testify?

MS. MACDONALD: We don't have anybody else signed up to testify. I could do another last call if you want.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Let's try it again.

MS. MACDONALD: If somebody would like to testify in the Chamber, please let Staff know, or on Microsoft Teams, please raise your hand. This is final call. Three, two, one. Chair, it appears that nobody wishes to testify.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, at this time, considering there are no other people wishing to testify, without objection, I will now close oral testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. As a reminder, written testimony will continue to be accepted.

. . . CLOSE PUBLIC TESTIMONY ON RESOLUTIONS 25-23 THROUGH 25-42. . .

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: All right, Members, let's get into it.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

Resolution 25-23

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Let's jump right in to the Mayor's nominee for Affirmative Action Advisory Council. Do you have any other comments you want to provide? Okay. At this time, can I please ask you to come join us, Mr. Montalvo? I will ask you to introduce yourself, and at that time, Members, you will have three minutes to ask any questions we so choose, with a one-minute follow-up round. Aloha, Mr. Montalvo.

MR. MONTALVO: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Council. My name is Bo Montalvo. I'm deeply honored to have an opportunity to serve on the Affirmative Action Advisory Council, as being appointed by Mayor Bissen. As a son of Maui County, I stand, you know, before you with the firm belief in the power of diversity, and fairness, and opportunity. So, yeah.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, do we have any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I don’t know if this...I mean, I guess I could make it a question. Was this your first choice? Because I’d be happy to approve you to a more substantial Committee. This one, I think, meets like once a year.

MR. MONTALVO: I mean, I’m open to helping my community in any way. The one...it was what was presented to me at the time, but I’m open to anything. Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. I just wanted to see, you know, if you’re interested in any...any more heavy-hitter committees, I’m down.

MR. MONTALVO: Same...same here. . . .*(laughing)*. . . I can echo that. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: I like it. I mean, considering he...this committee only meets once a year, maybe he can do both.

MR. MONTALVO: Again, I --

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: I’ve had the great opportunity to work with Bo, and he’s fantastic. So, I would support him on this committee and any other one you so choose to serve on.

MR. MONTALVO: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Member Sinenci?

MR. MONTALVO: All right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And thanks, Bo, for your willingness to serve. It says that you’re the CIP coordinator. You currently work for the County?

MR. MONTALVO: Yes. Currently in the Department of Management, in Office of Recovery.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, you’re Office...okay, thank you.

MR. MONTALVO: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Members, any other questions we have?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Would it be appropriate at this time to move him to letter B, approve?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Sure.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I’ll...I’ll make that motion.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Please.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, sorry. Can we begin with a motion to recommend adoption of the resolution first?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I move to recommend the adoption of Resolution 23...25-23.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Can you please include any nonsubstantive revisions?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: With any nonsubstantive revisions.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Sinenci. I have a second. Unless there’s any further discussion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I guess I’ll amend it to move the nominee to letter B, approve?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes, to Exhibit B for approval.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: To Exhibit B for approval.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you. Hold on, it’s been a while. Okay. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, I currently see seven “ayes,” unless other Members are online? Okay, seven “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, and Sinenci.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez and Sugimura.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Main motion as amended.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: My thoughts. Main motion as amended. All those in favor, please say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Seven “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, and Sinenci.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez and Sugimura.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-23, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much.

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MR. MONTALVO: All right. Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you.

MR. MONTALVO: Yes.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: That was a quick one.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Did you want to say the two excused?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, do you want to say the two excused?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Sure. Two excused are Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez and Councilmember Sugimura.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Hold on. I’m going to have to take a two-minute recess. I think the person who has my son is calling me, so let me answer this. And we will come back at 2:13. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 2:12 p.m.

RECONVENE: 2:16 p.m.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Thank you, Members, for that brief recess. It is 2:16, and will the GREAT Committee please reconvene?

ANIMAL CONTROL BOARD

Resolution 25-24

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Let’s pick up where we left off, which is the Mayor’s nominees for the Animal Control Board. If we have Mr. Gurat and Ms. Larsen in the audience? No? Do we have them online? Nope. Okay. Let’s not do that one, then. Let’s move on to Resolution 25-24 [sic], Board of Ethics. Huh? Thank you. We have with us Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sorry I was late.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: No.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Looking forward to an interesting meeting. Thank you for . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Me, too. Thank you.

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BOARD OF ETHICS

Resolution 25-25

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Do we have Mr. Chivo Ching-Johnson online? Is he still with us? Okay, great. Me, too. I know he does have to leave to go to a MPD presser, so let’s take him up really quickly if he’s around. Okay. I see Ms. Dodson, but if Chivo is here, we’ll take him up. Is he going to come online? Chivo, if you could please unmute yourself? *(silence)* Okay, let’s go to Ms. Dodson. Ms. Dodson, if you would like to introduce yourself, and then the Members will have their opportunity to ask you questions. Members, as a reminder, we have three minutes for the first round, and a minute to follow up. Ms. Dodson, if you could please introduce yourself, I’d appreciate it. Thank you.

MS. DODSON: Good afternoon. I’m Sherri Dodson. My full name is Sherrilee Dodson, but I go by Sherri Dodson. I know many of you. I have agreed to serve on a board because I am trying to become semi-retired, and have a lot more time on my hands. So, I do like giving back to the community. I have done so my entire life, and I am...what I tell everybody, I’m a recovering lawyer. I practiced for many years, but decided to do nonprofit work, and thought it would be easier. Just a side note, it is not. But I stand by the principles I learned in law school, which is not to even give a...give the appearance of impropriety, and I try to live my life that way. So, I think the Ethics Board will be a nice fit, and I’m welcome to answer any questions.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much, Ms. Dodson. Members, any questions for our nominee? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Dodson, for your willingness to serve. I just was wondering, have you attended or watched any of the meetings? And what kind of preview to this particular board and commission you were given by either the INB or the Mayor’s Staff? Because it’s kind of new for all of us, this...this procedure that we’re going through here.

MS. DODSON: I did listen to one committee hearing early on, when I first was approached about being on a board or...or committee, and it didn’t seem too out of the ordinary. I have, you know, worked with the County for many years on the nonprofit side, and know of, you know, ethic questions that have gone to the Ethics Board, both on the County and State level. And also, worked on campaigns in the past, not so much since I’ve been in the nonprofit world. So, I’m pretty familiar with, you know, what issues come before the Ethics Board.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: And...and did the INB or the Mayor like go over the attendance policy and things like that with you?

MS. DODSON: Yes, they did.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Paltin. Members, do we have any other questions? Any Members online? Double-, triple-check? No? Okay. I don’t have any questions. I think your reputation of good work precedes you today. So, thank you very much for being willing to serve the community, Ms. Dodson. Do we have Chivo online? Okay, he did have to step away. Members, as Chivo is a reappoint--as you know, we recently put him on this commission [sic]--I don’t have any problems, but let me know if you guys would like to continue to interview him. If not, we will have to move on from this resolution and come back.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, I...I would like to move to approve Reso 25-25, unless there is any objection?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second, yeah?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Including any nonsubstantive revisions?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Including any nonsubstantive revisions.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I will write down motion made by Member Paltin, second by Member Kama. And I would also like to entertain a motion to recommend the following names be placed on Exhibit B for approval. Noel Chivo McCary Ching-Johnson, and Sherrilee Dodson.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Paltin, and a second by Member Kama. Any further discussion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I’m so thankful that we have this caliber of people whose reputation precedes themselves applying to the Board of Ethics.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Agreed. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, that’s eight “ayes,” zero “noes,” one excused, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Motion carries.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Now, main motion as amended. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: That’s eight “ayes,” zero “noes,” one excused, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-25, CD1.

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BOARD OF VARIANCES AND APPEALS

Resolution 25-26

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, let’s continue to move on to the Board of Variances and Appeals. Do we have Ms. Grimes with us, or online? Please come to the front. Thank you so much. *(pause)* Aloha, Ms. Grimes. If you wouldn’t mind introducing yourself, please?

MS. GRIMES: Absolutely. Aloha. Good afternoon everyone. I’m very excited and honored to be able to serve the community, the island, and the best interests of the County. I am from Lahaina. My fiancé, Keahi, is a firefighter over there. His mom is Theo Morrison, who runs Lahaina Restoration. So, we’re a family...we did lose our home and our small business in the fire, so we’ve become very, very involved in the recovery process since that time. Our youngest of five children just entered University, so we became empty nesters, have a little bit more time on our hands, which is kind of funny to say because rebuilding a home and a business is a lot of work in the community, but I really felt impassioned to throw my hat in the ring to serve as well. I...I feel that we’ve been supported so much, and I want to be able to give back at this point. Most of my experience comes from school board work and planning for 12 years, so Government will be a pivot, but I’m excited and happy to be here.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, before I have you guys ask her any questions, do you need a chair, are you okay to stand?

MS. GRIMES: I’m fine to stand. Thank you. Yeah.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. We’ll try to keep it short. Members, any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Grimes, for your willingness to serve. My question centers around the Board of Variances and Appeals. These would be giving like exception to what the rules and laws are for rebuilding. Is that your understanding?

MS. GRIMES: Well, when you say rebuilding --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, sorry. Building, rebuilding, any of those like, you know, exception to the existing rules for development purposes. Is that a better way to say it? Is that...did you want to correct me? Go ahead.

MS. MURAKAMI: I think that’s right.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That’s good? Okay.

MS. GRIMES: Yes, that is my understanding. And like everything, laws aren’t perfect, so I understand that appeals need to be made. And I would definitely be a totally objective voice in those situations.

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So, then my next question is, what is your understanding of sea level rise, our new SMA rules, and shoreline rules?

MS. GRIMES: Yeah. So, I...I'm not going to say that I'm an expert in the new rules. We've reviewed them. They're certainly affecting us. We don't live on the shoreline, but we were recently able to get a building permit because Governor changed the rules regarding SMA. We are in SMA and Historic District. I do believe that all of those things need to be taken into consideration, and I would, you know, have it be part of my duty to learn as much as I can from, really, the science. So, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So, in your mind, what would qualify someone for a variance in like, say, a sea level rise area or any reason, really? I mean, not necessarily only the sea level rise. What...what kind of thing would sway you to grant a variance?

MS. GRIMES: What kind of thing would sway me to grant a variance in a potential sea level rise zone? Is that the question?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Any potential development? What...what would be the criteria that you look for in granting a variance for any potential development? I mean, it could be in the sea level, it could be in the shoreline, it could be in the historic district, it could be none of the above.

MS. GRIMES: Yeah, that's a difficult question for me to answer. You know, I haven't really thought about specifically. I will say, you know, being with a family that's very involved with the history of Lahaina, something that was related to a historical building. I mean obviously, eight of them were lost, and there's...there's not very many left. But if something...say, the courthouse, you know, can we save the courthouse? I would be in favor . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . of something like that.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay. That's my time.

MS. GRIMES: Okay.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: You can have a one-minute follow-up if the other Members don't have any questions. Okay. You can continue to go, and I might have a question after.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Shoot, I got distracted by the bell. I had so many other questions, but...and then I guess, how...how would you try to be fair in the granting of the variances? Because I believe it's...it's a unique situation only to that development or property. So, how would you try to be...apply it evenly, and how would you address any issues of conflict of interest?

MS. GRIMES: Are you speaking in...in relation to the courthouse that I just brought up, or just in general?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: In general.

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MS. GRIMES: How to be fair?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yes.

MS. GRIMES: Well, I think, you know, part of that is going to be hearing all of the testimony, looking at the facts, looking at the law, looking at the rules, and just making the best decision that can be made. I consider myself...I'm not a lawyer, I'm a daughter of a lawyer. My father served on his Zoning...he's still serving at 80 on the Zoning and Planning Commission, and so these have been conversations throughout my life. And so, I am someone who --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Awesome. I only have a minute . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . --

MS. GRIMES: Oh.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, shoot. I just wanted to know. It says you've lived in the County for ten years.

MS. GRIMES: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Where did you come from before that?

MS. GRIMES: I came from...well, a couple places. I've lived in Italy, I've lived in Connecticut, and Arizona.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, okay, cool. That concludes my questions.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, do we have any other questions? No? Seeing none. I would like to entertain a motion to recommend the adoption of Resolution 25-26, including any nonsubstantive revisions.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Sugimura, and a second by Member Kama. Any further discussion? Seeing none. At this time, I'd like to entertain a motion to recommend the following names, Alison Emily Grimes be placed on Exhibit B for approval.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Kama, and second by Member Sugimura. Any further discussion? Do we need roll call? Okay. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye."

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COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, that's eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused. Motion carries.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and
 Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee,
 Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Now, main motion as amended. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, eight "ayes," zero "noes," one excused, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Motion carries.

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VOTE: **AYES:** Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-26, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Thank you very much, Ms. Grimes.

MS. GRIMES: Thank you. Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Members, I know we’re a few resos deep, but I want to let you know that we will do all the resos, whoever is present with us today, unless anybody feels strongly about disapproving or approving any nominee if they’re not here. To my understanding, they had a limited time for them to show up. They were just notified not too long ago. So, we will do all of which we can do until about 4:30. And if we get done, great--looks like that’s not going to be the case--and then I will ask you for another time next week. But I just wanted to let you guys know midway through this conversation because we have about two hours left, and lots of resos, so... Also, please let me know if you need a break.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Resolution 25-27

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Let’s continue with Civil Service Commission. If we have Mr. Jenkins with us, either in person or online? Yes, no, maybe so? Do we see him online? Because I don’t see anybody standing up in the audience right now. No.

COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Resolution 25-28

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Let’s move on to Children and Youth, Members. Do we have Mr. Tonnessen online? Oh, how do we say his name?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: [Tahn-nuh-syn].

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: [Tahn-nuh-syn]. I apologize for mispronouncing your name. Do we have him online? We do not see him in person.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Chair?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes, please?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I would like to move to adopt this reso.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Mr. Tonnessen is...works with the Children’s Justice Center, and I met him right after the fires, advocating for kids and stuff. And I think he’s a perfect fit for this committee.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Sounds good. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I’d like to second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Great. Then I would like to entertain a motion to recommend the adoption of Resolution 25-28, including any nonsubstantive revisions.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So moved.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: I have a moment...I have a motion made by Member Paltin, and a second by Member Kama. Any further discussion? Seeing none. I would also like to entertain a motion to recommend Mr. Paul Tonnessen, his name to be placed on Exhibit B for approval. Do I have a motion?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Paltin, and a second by Member Cook. Any further discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Oh, aloha, Mr. Rawlins...Mrs. Rawlins-Fernandez...Member Rawlins-Fernandez, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yeah.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I just wanted to let you know that I’m...I’m back on. E kala mai for having to step away without letting you know.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: That’s fine.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: But I'm here for the vote.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. We are on the Commission on Children and Youth, and we have just moved to recommend Mr. Tonnessen to place on Exhibit B. And I was just about to ask all Members in favor to please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Nine "ayes," zero "noes." Motion carries.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and
 Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee,
 Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much, Members. Now, main motion as amended, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: That's nine "ayes," zero "noes." Motion carries.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-28, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much.

CONSERVATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

Resolution 25-29

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Moving on to Conservation Planning Committee. I see Mr. Kalanikau in the audience, so if you could please make your way down and introduce yourself. As a reminder, Members, we will have a three-minute questioning period, with a one-minute to follow up.

MR. KALANIKAU: Good afternoon, Chair and Council. Good to see all of you this afternoon. Aloha. My name is Vernon Kalanikau, nominated...oh, probably reappointed, I going try for that one...for the Conservation Planning Committee. That’s the one me and you was on, and others, that I think we only met twice, but it’s important that we get that rolling hopefully. Not sure what the dynamics is, all of that, so...so, that’s...that’s why I’m here, you know, to get on that Planning Commission [sic], continue, and hope we can get that going because it impacts a lot of what we doing in our environment, and for conservation, Open Space funding. I know we...we were challenged trying to work on like one GreenPrint, you know. We...we...we didn’t know where to start, how they would look like...all of us that tried to work on that. And then...then we entertained the idea of \$300-some-thousand funding to fund somebody with a contract to help us create this GreenPrint. And then COVID happened, and then everything else happened. So...so, yeah, just here to continue what I always do for some time since 2008. This is easy for me because...I forget for change clothes before I came here . . .(laughing). . . I never stop home, I came straight from the...straight from the gulch, you know. And watching the Public Works put the pōhaku, you know, on the road. We always patching that section. And we hope that the pōhaku stay there this time. So, always engaging what makes sense, you know...you know, with the impacts or no impacts, it’s...it’s always a challenge. And you all guys know, like South Maui, you know, we never have

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our fire. We don't want a fire. I mean, Lahaina is enough already, but we can have our fire, we can have tsunami, whether you had the flooding, and that...that will never go away because of mauka, and because South Maui all built in the wetlands. So, we...I get ideas. Councilmember Cook, hopefully Terez Amato and McKelvey, you know, we...we got to do something. So, that's...that's all I have for now. And any questions?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Mr. Kalanikau. Members, any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Kalanikau, for your willingness to serve. One of the concerns, I think, that this body has been having is with County-owned lands and our liabilities. You know, Kamehameha Schools, I think, was having to pay like 900 million because the fire started on their land, and they're, I guess, seen as deep pockets, which the County could be seen similarly. So, I was wondering about the ideas you have to decrease our liabilities on County-owned land, or how...you know, if we're coming to you with a piece of land to purchase, how that'll be addressed?

MR. KALANIKAU: Yeah. So...so, this came from, of course, Mayor down to... her name?...Cory. So, the first thing was, you know...so, I going...so, I...I don't participate in this and, you know, Cynthia guys can correct me if I'm...you know, I doing this as Vernon, right? Not...not as a County employee. So...so, the...like...like, the idea like...and it's just ideas only because of the flooding because I just being creative for just addressing flooding. So, you know, I just going to go back somewhere, like for wetlands, for example. In South Maui, you guys all know I co-founded Save the Wetland Hui. And, you know, that Hui and even other wetland guys, you know, they...they...they like rely on this...this Conservation Planning Committee for Open Space, for funding, and so on. And I just going talk about the wetland, if that helps. In South Maui, I no...I don't see that today, wetlands, that's...a lot of them is more retention basin. One wetland would be like Welakahao, much bigger. Something like Ka'ehu, Olowalu, Ukumehame. I changed my view...my view on that, just saying that some of those areas is more retention because all...all sides are covered with development. So, that's just a retention just for there, so it's not a wetland-wetland. So, I changing my views on that. So...so, how I would...so, how I would fund that? You know, how do we fund that? I don't know, you know. And...and for the County parcels, there's an idea, it's not my idea, but that idea going come probably my way for me to manage that. We might be contracting somebody outside to manage County parcels, but ...*(timer sounds)*... the easements, the easements. I don't know how that going to impact the Conservation Planning Committee. I'm pretty sure it's going to come our way. So, I think what you're asking too, is how that going impact me as a servant? And then the County parcel, as one County employee, you know, how are we going decide? And, you know, is there going be one conflict? That...that crosses my mind, you know. So, I...that...that helps? Does that helps what you're trying to --

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Did you get the answer you were looking for?

MR. KALANIKAU: No?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: ...*(inaudible)*...

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MR. KALANIKAU: Yeah? Yeah?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'll let other Members, if they had any questions.

MR. KALANIKAU: Because...yeah. So, I doing this as Vernon, and I...and I going continue to do that as Vernon, so --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: If...if it helps --

MR. KALANIKAU: -- I...I don't know --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- if I clarify? Like you mentioned Olowalu. I don't know if you've driven by mile marker 13.5 recently, it's a County-owned parcel that's...has so much rubbish, abandoned vehicles. For me...and it's a dry area most of the time. If there were a fire in there, I personally would be hesitant to send our firefighters in there because there's so much toxic stuff. And we, as the County, as one of the landowners there, that's our responsibility. And as the Conservation Planning Committee, I mean, I'm...I'm okay with an outside company managing it if they...I think anybody would do a better job. And so, I guess I'm just asking--I...I know that your focus area of specialty is Kihei wetlands. If...if you would consider, in this role, taking on these areas that the County owns, that have the potential to be a big problem because it feels as though they aren't being addressed, and it could be a significant impact to the County as a whole if, you know, bad things were to happen--fire, or people die, or toxic stuffs.

MR. KALANIKAU: Yeah. So, I've been there a couple of times, documented all that...all that. And just update you guys, Admin's sending me to the Hawai'i Wildfire workshop the ending of this month. So, something going happen with that. For me, I think that I never have kuleana for that, fire-wise. Currently, I co-manage with Maria Ornelas Ka'ehu. If this entity gets the contract as a pilot to manage County easement, that going be on my...my watch too. So, yeah. You know, a lot of times I spend in Kula Kai, but I'm really all out there. I'm in Pihana...Tasha Kama, Shane. I work in close with Naomi to make that happen. But...so, my role as the environmental officer for County is the resource, the cultural, the environmental impact. So, with Pihana, I don't like that...that project. That is kāpulu, you know, but...but we going...my role is we going try...we going try. But then...but then...I no like it. I no like because the 'āina first. The...the...everyday, it gets beat up, you know, by...by this homeless people, and we...it's not like we...we saying we no more compassion. I...I cannot...I cannot. So, I...I being creative, you know, I go...we going do something. And...and I got to go out there again sometime this week Friday or next week because I have ideas, you know. But I not alone when I go make...make...come up with something. But...yeah, I no like...I no like what they do to the 'āina. And then I going say it right here, right now, that that come first before the man. The land come first before the man, so...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I think I got my answer. But for mile marker 13.5, I think it's also our homed people as well because appliances and things like that, but...yeah, I think you understand.

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MR. KALANIKAU: Yeah. I mean, that compared to what happened to South Maui, what we have on the beach and the water is that kine level...you know, it's...it's beyond. Yeah.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, any other questions for Mr. Kalanikau? Nope? Seeing none. I'd like to entertain a motion to recommend the adoption of Resolution 25-29, including any nonsubstantive revisions.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion by Member Sugimura, second by Member Kama. Any further discussion? Seeing none. I would like to entertain a motion to place Mr. Vernon Kalanikau on Exhibit B for approval.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion by Member Cook, second by Member Kama. Any further discussion? All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, that's nine "ayes," zero "noes." Motion carries.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and
 Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee,
 Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, motion as amended, please raise your hand and say "aye."

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COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Nine “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and
 Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee,
 Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.**

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-29, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much.

COUNCIL ON AGING
Resolution 25-30

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Members, let’s move on to Council on Aging. Do we have Mrs. Hansen or Mrs. Watanabe available, either in-person or online? Ms. Hansen is online?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Right here.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Ms. Hansen, if you would like to introduce yourself?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, hey, it tastes like clam. It is? Really?

MS. HANSEN: Hi. Can everybody hear me?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: We can hear you.

MS. HANSEN: Oh, thank you. Thank you. So, I am a retired physician, and I’ve lived on Maui for about three years. Originally from California. I’m really excited at the opportunity to give back to the community, which has been such a welcoming place for me, and full of beautiful people with a lot of challenges, as all of you are well aware. And one of those relates to the aging population that affects all of Hawai‘i, but Maui in particular, and the needs of the kūpuna. And I hope I can help everybody with that.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Sorry, Members, one...one quick...one quick second. *(pause)* Sorry, Members. We’re trying to figure out what happens when we may only have one person available, and then what we do from there. Thank you, Ms. Hansen. Members, any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Hansen, for your willingness to serve. And this will be my...kind of like my question to both of the nominees. You know, in the August wildfires, it was a lot of our elderly folks that we lost. And to me, I don’t feel that we’ve made significant progress in evacuation efforts, specifically for elderly or disabled. And I’m trying to work with the Council on Aging, Commission on Persons With Disabilities, as well as the Fire and Public Safety Commission, to follow other counties’ leads. I...I recently was in DC and spoke to someone from Jefferson Parish, Louisiana, and they have a registry of folks, you know, that need additional assistance. And I was wondering if...if this could be made like a priority by you and your...your colleagues on the Council on Aging, if that was...if you were to be approved to this Council?

MS. HANSEN: Absolutely. I think that’s the critical priority. Kūpuna are a treasure and a resource for the entire community, and need to be prioritized. Absolutely.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. There was also a high number of folks that utilize MEO Paratransit were...were victims of the fire, and so on, and so forth. So, I’m...I’m kind of asking that you go beyond just the Council on Aging. I’ve spoken to the executive director of Hale Mahaolu. You know, they lost a great number of their residents, Hale Mahaolu ‘Eono, and so, I’m...I’m just looking for a big effort here.

MS. HANSEN: Yeah. I think it would be, as you say, important to work with the Council on Disability *[sic]* because those two issues are pretty closely related, as you say.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you so much.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Members, anybody else have any questions? Okay. Seeing none. Thank you very much, Ms. Hansen. Ms. Watanabe, aloha. Thank you for joining us.

MS. WATANABE: Hi. Aloha.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: If you would like to introduce yourself, please?

MS. WATANABE: Aloha. My name is Nani Watanabe, and I am formerly on the State Rehab Council, and I am very much involved in the Maui Deaf Friends. And I’m also with the State of Hawai‘i Council on Developmentally Disabled, and I’m their communications specialist, and I’m volunteering.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members --

MS. WATANABE: Would you like --

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Hi.

MS. WATANABE: Would you like me to give you more information about my background?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: We’re going to have the Members ask questions, and it will most likely come up. And we’re going to start with Member Johnson.

MS. WATANABE: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Ms. Watanabe. Members, I don’t know if you know Ms. Watanabe, but she has been a strong force, a strong advocate within Maui County. She’s from Lāna‘i originally. And correct me if I’m wrong, Nani. I think you had a member of your family who was deaf, and that’s how she learned American Sign Language. So, her lived experience is really valuable, and I just want to thank you once again for your willingness to serve, Nani. And I just...Members, I...I rise in...in full support of...of her nomination. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Johnson.

MS. WATANABE: Thank you. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. And you’re absolutely right. And that was the beginning of my life and understanding the role of a person having a disability, and it really started there. And you’re right, it was a family member. And through her, I was able to understand and become who I am today. Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Member Sugimura, did you have questions?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I actually want to just speak in strong support of Nani. And yes, she is formerly from Lāna‘i, but I will tell you that this morning, we approved the Maui Fair. And she has been a strong advocate of Festivals Of Aloha. I worked with her with Aloha Festivals...Festivals Of Aloha. So, Nani, you going to be very, very busy because now we’re going to have a fair. But I fully support her for this. And if you talk to her in person, she speaks with her hands...like very animated like, you know, doing sign language and describing whatever she’s, you know, trying to express. I just adore her. So, I strongly advocate and support her. Please let us vote.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I appreciate that.

MS. WATANABE: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I...I guess I’d like to disclose that I’m related by marriage, but it won’t affect my decision-making abilities. And I’d like to ask the same question about evacuation process and procedure as a priority for things to work on, on the Council of [sic] Aging, and your roles in disability. I think we have a lot of progress to make, as we see what happened in August of ’23.

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MS. WATANABE: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Yes. I think by...giving you the reason on why I wanted to...my term on the Commissions on Persons with Disability [sic] ended, and I just felt that my being on the Council of Aging ties in to Commissions on Persons With Disability [sic]. Because as seniors are aging in place, they also...they also experience disability. So, they could lose their vision, mobility impairment. It could be a whole...it...it could be a diverse. So, I felt the...the support and the knowledge that I have could...could support the...our senior and our kūpuna population. Definitely, I am a senior, so I kind of fit in this category. But one of the...one of the things that I saw during the devastation was the...the knowledge of...of people that had a mobility impairment, hearing loss, vision loss, it was...it was diverse. And there was not a go-to support...like what do we do? What do we do? I worked very hard with the Maui Deaf Friends because there was deaf individuals that was...was affected by the fire. When communication is lost, it is hard to contact anyone with a disability or a hearing loss that's...that's in that...in that area. And for years, we've been working on communication. How could we improve with the Fire Department, the Police Department? So, I just wanted to share that in my...my background, I...I feel being on the Council on Aging, I bring in navigation and the resources available to meet the needs of these individuals. Education and awareness, to include training . . . (timer sounds). . . with services for our seniors, our...and our...our kūpuna, and our community. We also...I feel that we also...I can bring in support services for our seniors and our kūpuna that live with a disability, and to include education again, and training...not only for the kūpuna, but it includes the family. And I'm also...I'm very concerned about our kūpuna that is taking care of an adult child with a disability because I have been aware of that. And they're like, where do I go? What happens if I pass away, who's going to take care of my child? And...and I also had experience in Home Health. I worked with Home Health for five years. And how I believe in maintaining independence. How do we maintain our kūpuna, and how do we maintain their independence? It's through advocacy, it's accessibility, it's ADA, it's...it's making sure that they understand. I understand the diverse cultures on disability, and I...I also understand our diverse culture that we live in. So, I feel that we need to strengthen this area by bringing in training. And I've heard from the...I've heard from the departments that they, too, look forward to training. Because when an officer approaches a person that is deaf, many of the comments from the deaf community is the officer don't know how to communicate. How do they communicate? And then they take a pen and paper and then they write. Mind you, many of the individuals with disability, especially in the deaf community, their education level is...is...differs. So, they could be an adult with a lower education level, so they don't understand exact English. So . . . (timer sounds). . . definitely, in this area, interpreting services is very much needed. And that has been a struggle on Maui because many of the interpreters left the island because of work, and so, interpreters need to be brought in from the other islands. And also...and I know in my experience, when I worked with independent living, when the firemen came, and I had a...I had a client that was a quadriplegic, one of the things if a fire starts, it's drop and roll. How does a quadriplegic really drop and roll? So, these were like...I mean, the Fire Department really was very...was like, oh, they didn't realize that. So...and...and basically, when I work with my clients, they are the educators. Because every person on the wheelchair, their needs are different. It's not because one is on a wheelchair and

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we...we service them all the same...it's all different. The way you...you know, the way you take care of them, et cetera, et cetera. So, education in the disability community has been lacking for many years. The way that we can, I feel, that it can be a clearer understanding is providing education and training. And this didn't come just from me, but it came from many of the clients with disabilities. And they said, Nani, we need...they need training. They need to know how to handle me when I'm blind, when I'm a quadriplegic. If...if there's a fire, my...my...my wheelchair is my legs, you know? So, if you look at that, there's...and...and it seems so...like so...so much to learn by. But honestly, once you...you know, that simple training on...on...on the disability individuals makes a big difference. And...and basically, many of my experience was from training, from being around them, and they taught me what I know today. And they actually are the...the ones that know. Thank you.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, any other questions we have? Okay. If not...oh, online. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Watanabe. Mahalo for your continued service on boards and commissions. I won't ask my usual questions because I know that your attendance is...is always stellar, and your contribution, and how you want to contribute. My question is in response to the information that you just provided us, and knowing that you helped to create the...the plan for Office on Aging, with the ADRC, that what I'm hearing with the training that you're envisioning for, you know, County employees, particularly the Police and others in specific ways. Do you envision yourself like talking with the...the Council and then proposing like a...like a...a budget so that we can fund these ideas?

MS. WATANABE: Yes. And I think if we're looking at...yes, approaching the Council. And if we're looking at outreach and education, funding is...is what we need. I mean...did I kind of get your...your question correct? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Perfect.

MS. WATANABE: So...so, funding is definitely what is needed. Funding, and then right now, we're trying to figure out how can we create a one-stop shop which actually takes care of everything? Because to fund the separate services is so expensive, but...and...and disability, and...and if you look at the kūpuna, we start from the keikis all the way to the aging. So, a one-stop shop would make it very feasible, I think, for Maui County. And I always feel that Maui is so different. We are one 'ohana, and we work differently in our community.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I look forward to discussing your proposals. I fully support your nomination. Mahalo, Chair.

MS. WATANABE: Thank you.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members. Any other questions before we move on?

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VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'm okay to vote, yeah?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Okay.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I don't think you guys have any financial interests together, yes?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: No financial interests.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Perfect. That's what we need to hear. At this time, I would like to entertain a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-30, including any nonsubstantive revisions.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I have a motion made by Member Sugimura, and a second by Member Kama. Any further discussion? Seeing none. At this time, I'd like to make a...entertain a motion to recommend the following names: Ms. Hansen and Ms. Watanabe to be placed on Exhibit B for approval.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I have a motion made by Member Sugimura, and a second made by Member Kama. Any further discussion? All those in favor, please raise your hand and say "aye."

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, that's nine "ayes," zero "noes." Motion carries.

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VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Members. Main motion as amended, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Nine “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-30, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Members. Before we move on with Fire--I do see Mr. Pele in the audience--I’m going to take a 15-minute recess, to come back at 3:20. Bio break, please. I will see you guys in a few. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

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RECESS: 3:05 p.m.

RECONVENE: 3:24 p.m.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Welcome back, GREAT Committee. The time is 3:24, and let’s pick up where we left off. But before we do, I would like to get a couple of things out of the way. As a reminder, majority of these nominations came from the INB. I believe there were five that the INB didn’t provide any selection to the Mayor, and therefore, the Mayor selected his own. You might notice that some people’s applications are dated January 27th...I think there’s five. If you want, we can provide you the list. Those people did not go through the INB process and, therefore, were selected by the Mayor, and the Mayor sent his nominations down to us.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Oh, Chair?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I just noticed. Point of information. I don’t know if it can be resolved before first reading, but Ms. Hansen --

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: -- Margaret Elizabeth Hansen did not sign her application.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, yes. Let’s get that resolved before we do that. I do have one that is signed and one that’s not signed. The smaller--I got two printed, one seems signed and one isn’t. But we can make sure that you get a signed copy, and we can double-check that the appropriate application was signed.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Also...of course, thank you. Also, considering we have several more resolutions to do before mass nominations are over, if you could please take the time to consider what day you guys might be available next week. Member Paltin and the DRIP Committee have Tuesday reserved, but if Wednesday or Monday work for you, then we’re probably going to have to reschedule this meeting. I will ask you later, but you can take the time to think about it. At about 4:15, at that time, I plan to stop where we are, and take whatever nominees we have, either in person and online, and take a moment to allow them to introduce themselves and ask them questions before we adjourn, so they don’t have to rejoin us next week and spend another afternoon with us, even though we are fantastic to clearly spend time with. But that is my plan, Members. So, from now until about 4:10-ish, if you could let me know at that time, at 4:10, whether or not you’re available either Monday or Wednesday, I would appreciate it.

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FIRE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Resolution 25-31

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: And right now, we’re going to continue on with Resolution 25-31 with Fire and Public Safety. If Mr. Pele --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Chair, question?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yes?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Regarding your Monday or Wednesday?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Are you looking at Monday morning or Wednesday morning, or...it doesn’t matter. You want a time and date?

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: It doesn’t matter.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Please let me know, either Monday morning, Monday afternoon, Wednesday morning, Wednesday afternoon. Either kind of work for me, but to avoid a very lengthy discussion at that time, if we can just all figure out what kind of works best for us now-ish. Now-ish. Aloha, Mr. Pele. If you could please introduce yourself, and then the Members will have an opportunity to ask you questions.

MR. PELE: Aloha, Chair and Committee members. My name is John Pele, and it is wonderful to be here today for your consideration of the Fire and Public Safety Commission. Oh, excuse me, I’m sorry. Officially, on the application, it’s Tau Tau Pele. Fire away.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, perfect.

MR. PELE: No...no pun intended.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: I was like waiting for more. Members, any questions? I know Member Paltin has questions, so I’ll let her begin. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Tau Tau Pele, for your willingness to serve, as well as for your assistance with the Lahaina HIHP residents after the storm. So, part of my question and...and my focus, especially this term, is evacuation plans for our elderly and disabled. And Fire and Public Safety Commission oversees not only the Fire Department, but also MEMA. And while it could be the Fire Chief that calls for an evacuation, I think MEMA actually executes, and they’ve received the Genesys software. And so, I was wondering with that knowledge, they--MEMA has the Genesys software, the Fire Chief calls for an evacuation. We don’t know the Genesys software, and our

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evacuation of elderly and disabled needs a lot of work, given our last catastrophe. What kind of plans, or how would you bring us up to par?

MR. PELE: Thanks for that question. Well, the Commission, I...I was able to tune in. You know, I did find out last minute that...that I was up for nomination. So, I got to look at the January 16th, and it was quite impressive to watch the MEMA presentation, and the...you know, he did...they did talk about the intricate...integrated preparedness plan and their five priorities. And actually, number two is public info and getting...and getting the awareness out there. That's...that's on their long-term planning...on their long-term planning report. So, the five is: operational coordination; public information and awareness, how to get the message out there; situational awareness within the community and the workers; mass care services was number four; and community resilience was number five. So, it was pretty...as I watched the meeting, I would...I'll share, in all honesty, I was really impressed how involved MEMA is in this Commission, and they led most of the conversations, and they have a lot going on. And like everybody else, they're...they're facing staff shortages too, right? I think they have 15 approved positions...22 approved positions, 15 budgeted...so, they're going to have to come before this body to seek some amendments and funding. But that's who I would lean on is to follow their integrated plan that they created. I --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So, do you think that evacuation is one-size-fits-all, and that we're --

MR. PELE: No, definitely not. I mean, I would...and again, I'm...when I inter...when I interviewed with INB, I let them know clearly that I am not an expert. I am not a fireman. I'm not a firefighter. What...and when I look at things, I'll try to look through clarity and not conviction. So, just...I'm there to receive information and think clarity with my...my . . . *(timer sounds)* . . . expertise and what I know. But definitely from reviewing some of AG reports and what...what you guys have seen, not...it's not one-size-fits-all. I don't...I don't think it is, especially with the elderly, right. You mentioned Hale Mahaolu and we all know what happened there, right, so...

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I...I just would say like in response to what you're saying, I have no problem supporting your nomination. It's just I would like to see...you know, we...the Mayor doesn't have oversight of the fire and public...Fire Department or MEMA. It's the Fire and Public Safety Commission. And the more that those agencies are held accountable, the more that the Fire and Public Safety Commission asks them to raise the bar to get us to where we need to go, the better our County is as a whole. And so, while it's great to be educated by them, I'm not looking for like a yes person per se, but someone that...you know, I'm sure that you have experience with...with your own kūpuna, or family and friends that may be disabled, family and friends that may take MEO Paratransit, guests that have special needs. And given our recent history, I think that's an area that needs to be prioritized. And so, I'm just asking that if put on this board, that that's something that...that is done, that it's kept front of mind.

MR. PELE: Oh, yes. Most definitely. I think, you know, when people ask me what the Committee is about, I just go to the three R's. That's what it's spelled. So, it's review operations of course, right. And then make recommendations. But the last one is

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important too, right, is to...is to report. We take public input, right, and we do reports, and we do findings, and we ask the deep questions that...and I don't want to offend anybody, but sometimes we're in our own lane per se, and people can think in their box. So, we...me as a commissioner, perhaps I have the opportunity to think a little bit more wide...wide range where some, some of the entities do try to fit within their crier...criteria. And so, I think that's where the advantage is, especially when it comes from listening to the community, right? We're all doing our civic duty, or wanting to do our civic duty for our communities, correct? So, I just look at this as part of that extension, to continue my desire and civic duty and responsibility.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Member Paltin, do you have any other questions?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That concludes my questions, thanks.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay. Thank you. Members. Any other questions for Mr. Tau Tau Pele? Let me double check online.

MR. PELE: You can call me Pele. I was Pele my whole life until the world changed.
...*(laughing)*...

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay. I do...I will say I do have the pleasure of knowing Mr. Pele quite well, and he is, as I've said before, somebody I would trust with my children, and that matters to me. And so, I, of course, will trust him on this commission. And I look forward to supporting you on this commission and any other commission you decide to serve on. Thank you, Mr. Pele.

MR. PELE: Thank you.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Anybody else have any questions? I will --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Oh. I'm sorry. Member Rawlins-Fernandez has a question for you.

MR. PELE: Sorry. Excuse me.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Pele. Mahalo for your willingness to serve on the Fire Commission. I won't ask about your attendance because your attendance was stellar on the Molokai Planning Commission. So, my other two questions that I usually ask candidates are one, if you've had any experience with the commission that you've been nominated for; if you've like watched the meetings, or reviewed the meeting minutes; and then three, if...if you would share with us a little more about your vision on how you plan to contribute. And then since you're specifically for the Molokai seat, any...any...any thoughts you'd like to share with us regarding that position?

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MR. PELE: Oh, thanks...thanks for the question. I don't have a lot of experience with...other than with my reviews of the...of the meetings for the commission. There's...I find the minutes really hard to...you know, they're kind of...the agendas are kind of like almost all the same, so you got to go like on YouTube and watch the meetings and things like that. So, that's what I've been doing. And like I...like I stated, I was really impressed moving forward at the vision that they have, especially involving MEMA, involving the Fire Department. You know, he mentioned Councilmember Paltin and Chair Lee working with Hopi (*phonetic*) Farms and the work that they're trying to do to get that place on the...you know, the fire...Fire Chief gave that...yeah. And then with Councilmember Kama on Housing and how, you know, he's not going to waive a lot of the permits, but he'll work with owners to try to get the...the rebirth, the burn zones rebuilt. And for me, what I bring...what I'm going to try to bring is, you know, I have a little bit of experience. I'm not...like I said, I'm not a professional firefighter. I was part of a community association that I managed for 14 years, and we were a Firewise property. That's not any level to what you're seeing our professionals do, but it did...we did have benchmarks that we had to meet in certain criteria as far as fire protection. And as Councilmember Paltin said, I would try to do the job as best I can to represent the community, and bring concerns, and...forth to...to our commission. And I know it's a...it's a...it's a hard line to draw, right? It's not a yes man. And I appreciate that being said because that's an important...that's an important thing to know, that you're not a yes man because you're not really representing the community when you have that kind of mindset. That's my belief. And I don't know if that answer your question, Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez. So, if I haven't, please...I can expound. And you can...you can yell at me, or...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: . . .(*laughing*). . . No, I think that answered the question...well, all your experience and how you envision contributing to the commission. I think one of the things that we'll be working on with the Fire Department is the updated Fire Code. There is some amendments that we discussed. But we had to adopt it by the end of last year, so we're kind of in a pinch. Not sure if the Fire Commission reviews that, but we'll...we'll be all working on that this year. I fully support...I support your nomination. Mahalo for serving. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. PELE: Thank you.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Of course. Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Members, any further questions? If not, thank you very much for your time, Mr. Pele. Members, unfortunately, Mrs. Green--or Ms. Green, however she would like to be addressed--is not with us right now. If you wouldn't mind remembering John's introduction and our questions, and we will put...place this reso on hold, and we will move on. And when we reconvene, we will bring this and the others back up. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, can we approve him?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Cannot, because it's on one reso.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, they didn't separate it. Okay.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Yeah, that's what we were talking about, how do we...what do we do if we don't have an opportunity to interview a nominee? And we don't really know her just yet? But thank you, John. Thank you for coming. We appreciate your time. And we will hold this one and get back to it next week. And again, as a reminder, please let us know what time works best for you.

HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD

Resolution 25-32

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: So, we are going to move on then to the Housing Advisory Board. Let's go...in the list we have here. So, if Mr. Curtis is available, is he with us? If he is online, if you could please introduce yourself, and the Members will have an opportunity to ask you some questions.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: I don't think we do have all five, so --

MR. CURTIS: There...there we go.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: -- we're going to have to do the same-same. Aloha, Mr. Curtis, if you would like to introduce yourself, and the Members will then have an opportunity to ask you questions.

MR. CURTIS: Okay. You've got quite a bit on your schedule. I'll try and keep this brief. Resident of Maui since '88. Worked for general contractors every year except for one, where I was Transportation Director at MEO during the housing slowdown. Have...I know that it's a brand new board, so I haven't...haven't been able to observe the...the process there. Experience: I've been on one State board previously, the Board of Tax Review, which was kind of a appeals board that the State had, and that's...that's no longer in existence. I did five years on the Board of Ethics, and I'm currently entering my second year on the Salary Commission.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Mr. Curtis. Members, do we have any questions? Member Sugi...oh, okay. I was going to say your mic is on. Okay. I don't think I...oh, Member Cook, please go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you, Mr. Curtis, for your willingness to serve. Do you have...just your thoughts of the Housing Advisory Board, any...what are your thoughts about being on the board, and some of the ways that we could move that forward?

MR. CURTIS: It seems the main emphasis in the Charter was people that were involved in financing development, and I do not bring that to the table. I'm more on the back end of the project execution, and I think that's the value I can bring to the board. I'm

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currently involved in a affordable housing project as a subcontractor, we're...we're the sitework people. So, I've got familiarity with infrastructure. I've done a lot of County...for the past 12 years, I've been doing County and private-public works for the most part; roadway improvements, culvert repairs. Was at the airport doing paving the night of the fire, and it was a surprise to everybody that...what was going on the other side of the mountain there.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Okay, thank you. So, that...that that answers my question. Basically, you have a hands on for basically the building industry and for housing?

MR. CURTIS: Yeah. I think where I can provide input would be potential bottlenecks on, you know, just getting regular people regular housing. I mean, I understand all the...what we have to go through for larger-scale developments, but if there's ways we could help streamline single-family either rebuilding or...or housing on land that's already zoned Residential, it's already got its infrastructure in. If there's ways to maybe simplify the permit process to get people to build their houses quicker on land that's already approved, I can provide input on that. I've done multi-family. I was on Lānaʻi 20-odd years ago. We did the teachers housing--or we called it the teachers housing, it's right below Kōʻele Lodge. That was one of the projects I worked on...on market housing. Did 300 homes over on Kauaʻi in Kapaʻa for a Maui-based company. So, I've got --

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you. You answered my question. You got experience. Thank you for your willingness to serve. That's all, Chair.

CHAIR UʻU-HODGINS: Thank you. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Curtis, for your willingness to serve. I see you not only serve, but you continue to serve, and that's awesome. I just was wondering how you would address any conflicts of interest?

MR. CURTIS: I would...you know, being on Ethics, I'm completely familiar with that. and don't have a problem recusing myself. If a lot of it's the development side, you know, as a subcontractor, but...but my employer potentially could be involved in that, and if there's...if that was for--TJ Gomes Trucking is...is my employer--if it was one of their projects, I would certainly recuse myself, even though I don't have any financial interest in the development or the company.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR UʻU-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Paltin. I'm going to go with Member Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I was actually wondering if anyone from the Administration is on. Because this is a brand new board, I was curious about what kind of things would be on their agenda. Like, what would they be approving, you know?

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: That’s a great question. Let’s double-, triple-check if anybody from Admin is involved. And I had the same question as you when we were tasked with doing this. I will let you know that I looked it up, but somebody else is probably better to answer this question because I do have more questions as well. But to answer yours, this board is tasked with advising, aiding, and supporting the director’s efforts to create affordable housing. What that means specifically, not too sure.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Right. I read...I read the Charter, and I saw that it exempts this Housing Advisory Board from Section 13-2 regarding geographic residency requirements, and that’s why four out of the five are from the same residency. So, that’s okay, according to this, although, you know, my preference would be some kind of diversity. Yeah. But Member Paltin’s question kind of spurred that...my question a little more because then what...what would he need to recuse himself if there’s any projects...would they be reviewing projects? What...what projects would go to the Housing Advisory Board over like the Maui Planning Commission? The Maui Planning Commission, or the other planning commissions, have very specific duties and functions. So...yeah.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Corp. Counsel is here, and she’s adjusting her mic like she has something to say, so...

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, perfect. Okay, great. I will mute myself.

MS. MURAKAMI: No, and I think that’s a great question. And we would...that’s something definitely we will look into as well. But I think the way I’m reading the Charter is not so much the development that’s already happening, but more kind of like future--if we were to do this, what should we do, or where should we...or how do we do things? So, it seems like it’s more of a general advice to the Housing Department itself. So, this might be something that if it’s going to be a more specific thing after the board is established, the board may need to do like an Admin Rule to kind of define what they are supposed to do and whatnot. So, I’m not sure if the Mayor’s Office necessarily would know. I don’t know if the Department of Housing would have any ideas on what they would be asking this board. So, that might be something to consider.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that. And then would Council be able to send items for their review? I mean, we...you know, we’ve talked about different policies that we’ve discussed, such as amending, you know, the 2.96 requirements of the 25 percent affordable rental for the duration that it would remain affordable, Member Paltin’s bill. You know, owner-occupied in perpetuity, creating programs. So, other than the...you know, the construction and, you know, like vertical construction, infrastructure, et cetera, et cetera, policies that reclaim our housing, or that once housing is built will remain residential housing, those...those kinds of things. Would we be able to send like...like how we do to the Maui Planning Commission? Oh, that was for Corp. Counsel.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Yeah, she’s --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: If she has answer.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: She’s looking at the --

MS. MURAKAMI: I’m just looking at the Charter section. It doesn’t directly say that the Council could send anything. I will do more research and get back to you. But that’s my short answer. Sorry. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. But if the Charter doesn’t say we can’t...okay. Very good. All right. Then we can. . . .*(laughing)*. . . All right. So, mahalo, Mr. Curtis, for your patience as we suss out what this new board can and cannot do. And mahalo for your willingness to, you know, go on this adventure with us with this new board. My question...I just have one question. Because it seems like you’re...you’ve already explained your...you know, your contribution, and there’s no experience with this board because it’s new, and it looks like your attendance is good with the other boards and commissions that you’ve served on. The question is, if you’ve reviewed the Maui County Affordable Housing Plan...I can’t...it was something like that in 2021, ’22?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: The Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Thank you, Member Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Sorry to jump in.

MR. CURTIS: Not specifically yet, but I will look it up right now...or right after this meeting. And again --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Wonderful.

MR. CURTIS: -- this...it’s very vague in the Charter. I...I’ve seen the Charter language. I’m curious as to how this board will evolve. And my term is only for one year, that we’ve got these staggered terms on this first thing. So, we may just be gelling on...on what this commission or this board does before I even leave. But one thing I did do at Ethics is...I was kind of spearheading the implementation of the online financial disclosure statements so the Board of Ethics could spend more time looking at...we spent most of our time reviewing financial disclosures, and I thought that was something that we could streamline. So, that’s kind of an organizational thing I’ve done in the past, as another --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You’re hired. You created that? Oh, man. You got the job. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

MR. CURTIS: I...I was...we...we...as a board, we created it. But I had to fill that out on the State side, and I’d go, well, I think the County could do this too. And we just needed to get a little bit of funding to get the software written. And it allows more time for Ethics to focus on the more important things, I...I thought.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. The online system has just been wonderful, I love it. And mahalo for looking into the Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan. And generally, when boards and commissions' duties and functions are...are more vague, it kind of is whatever the, you know, board...the direction that the board wants to take it. Just like the Youth Commission, Council on Aging. It's like as advocates go and create great recommendations for Administration and Council. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Johnson?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, Mr. Curtis. I appreciate all the work and the...some of the things that you mentioned really sparked my interest. You...one of the things you said was that you were the subcontractor for the housing on Lānaʻi that you called the teacher housing below the Lodge at Kōʻele?

MR. CURTIS: I worked for the general contractor.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Oh, okay.

MR. CURTIS: It was JDH construction, so that was one of the projects I managed.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Was that Iwiolo, you mean?

MR. CURTIS: It's the multi-story there, with the fourplex and the eightplex --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah.

MR. CURTIS: -- right below Kōʻele Lodge. So, yeah. Pineapple was...we...we watched the last harvest while that was going on there, and all of our workers got well fed because the...the commissary was still open.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON The...

MR. CURTIS: But that's, what, 20...20, 30 years ago?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah. And that...that housing is now called Iwiolo. It's a LIHTC project. I assume it was a LIHTC project when you worked on it. I don't know that, but I will say thank you, because I used to live in that house...in those apartments. So, to have someone who actually builds affordable housing project, rentals, on Lānaʻi, that's probably one of the hardest places to build. Because we're at the end of the supply chain. The boats go back empty. There is...you're really the cost jump up. So, I'm really curious...curious to have your voice on that board because you can speak to some of the challenges on the outer, outer, outer islands, right? It can't only be Maui-focused, of course, just like Maui say it can't be O'ahu-focused. So, I'm...really appreciate your lived experience on...on that, and thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. CURTIS: Yeah. We also built the conference center down below, and then the beach bathroom at Mānele Bay.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: With all the lava rock? Great.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Mr. Curtis. Thank you, Member Johnson. Member Kama?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Curtis, for being here and answering our questions. I just...and I'm glad that you did say that you did read the Charter regarding the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, the Advisory Council. So, you know, I was reading it too, and...and under Section 8-10.3, it says the power, and duties, and functions, and it has, I think, one, two, three, four, five items. And the thing that struck me, it says, that's to strive to effectively address the health, safety, and basic social needs of all segments of the County community, and to enhance the quality of life for all residents. What does that mean to you, and how would you...what would you...how would you implement that? *(silence)*

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Mr. Curtis, your mic is muted.

MR. CURTIS: Having pulled building permits for single-family houses for almost 35 years, when we did Hawaiian Homes in Paukūkalo, I was able to pull 30 permits at a time, and it was...the way it flowed was differently. But I think, you know, part of the change there is how the banks financed these projects as well, where they...instead of granting a developer 30 homes, they want to get 30 qualified people, and each one is...is financed individually. So, that might be some of the changes. But there were...you know, we've got companies on the island--HPM, Miyake, Honsador--that have standard house packages. And if...if we could maybe get some pre-approved, streamlined house packages, it would cut down the processing time at the building permit part. And we're not talking big fancy homes, we're just talking basic kine houses. Like I live in a Arisumi, Hicks Home that was built in 1959. And that might be a way to help the average person maybe cut their costs in...in either building a new home, or renovating an existing house. And so, with the focus more on affordable housing--you know, the big apartment buildings, you've got to let the developers do that. And that's one of the projects I'm working on right now is Pi'ikea in between Azeka and Safeway. You know, there's a lot of moving parts to...to do an apartment building. But I think for the average person, that single-family home might be something that...that we could have some assistance in making that easier to get something approved and through the system.

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

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you Member Kama. Members, any other questions? Okay, seeing none. Thank you very much, Mr. Curtis. We are going to move on to our other nominees. I have to make sure not to call them applicants because we learned that there's a difference. So, I believe it's you, and I don't want to mispronounce your last name, even though you just told me it. But Dennis, if you could please join us at the podium and introduce yourself?

MR. CHINIAEFF: Thank you, Madam Chairman, Committee and Councilmembers. My name is Dennis Chin-I-F, [chin-AYE-eff] [chin-AYE-eff], okay? I want to serve. I'm retired. I've

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been retired for a long time. I've traveled around the country for seven years in an RV getting to see what people do in other places. My background is architecture, urban planning, history. I used to run building, planning, public works departments for cities. Went to the private side, probably built close to 10,000 houses, or were in charge of the construction of 10,000 houses in all price ranges, all over the place. As a matter of fact, I worked for one company, and we had a helicopter I had to go to to get all these places, and that was fun. Worked for an Indian tribe in California that became the largest Indian casino in California. But more than that, I took them from essentially living in very small units to housing that was affordable for them, economical to build, and installed the infrastructure for that. I've worked for Kaiser Aluminum along the way. We had a 100,000-acre project, which I was...ended up being the general manager for. Commercial industrial. That's my history. I taught...taught urban planning in colleges as a guest lecturer. But more importantly, what I see now is, you know, sitting doing nothing, essentially, I have the time and the desire to help Maui. I see it as an opportunity to bring some new ideas to a long-festering problem on Maui. As I understand it, this board was created really as a result of the fires, and it was...in reading the literature on it, the combination of all the agencies coming together and saying, how can we build affordable housing not only to replace what we had, but also to house new workers, keeping our existing gen...or existing people here on Maui, and the new generations that are coming up here on Maui. I don't view it as...I didn't view this position as something where we would get projects to review, like the Planning Commission. That's their job. I viewed it more conceptually, is that how do we bring affordable housing? How...what are some of the ideas that we can have? How do we cut through red tape? You've got the Governor saying we need affordable housing. You've got the Mayor. You've got everybody and their brother saying, we need affordable housing, but nobody's been able to produce it--except since the fire, we've seen FEMA just open their units in Lahaina. I've watched the church over by...by Walmart, and watched those units. They have units that have gotten built. They've just sat there because of bureaucratic red tape. And so, that's the number one area I want to look at is, how we can bring everybody who's involved in reviewing, approving, and seeing that the affordable housing can get built. I also want to look at how we can finance things that are out of the box. I've developed some, I was...actually did some of the largest assessment districts in the State of California for infrastructure installation. There can be housing corporations if they're already created. They can be brought in to help build and finance projects. We could look at Federal, State, and local...Federal, State, and local land, County land, for the land that is needed. We could look at working with the development community, who know what it takes to build a house. And I'm talking about what are the components that make up the cost of a house? You know, we know it's the land, we know it's the sticks, we know it's the governmental processing, it's the financing cost. Time is money to the development community. How can we cut the time that they have to sit and pay interest on money to build a project that might not currently be able to be built for a couple of years, if not longer? How can we bring everybody together, bring all the departments together, and say, I've got these rules, I've got these rules, and my rules are more important than your rules? How can we say these rules have got to benefit the whole island? All the people of the island. Not your fiefdom, not your fiefdom, but come together in a reasonable manner, with reasonable conditions, and in a reasonable time frame. I...one of the cities I worked at, everybody

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was doing that. And we said, okay, nothing's going to the Planning Commission, unless we get...the Planning Department would make the conditions, the departments would look at all the conditions, and if you didn't have your conditions in by a certain time, you're going to get approved without a condition. So, either show up, give us your conditions, or get out of the way. And we cut the processing time dramatically doing that. I'm talking too much about what I did, but that's the things I see that need to be happening with this Housing Advisory Committee. We work for the Housing Department. You know, we recommend things to the Housing Department. We're...we're not the Planning Commission. We...I...I view it as being innovators, thinkers, thinking out of the box if necessary, but coming up with ideas how we can bring affordable housing to Maui. I looked at the project, the "affordable housing project" in Hāli'imaile. All you have to do is drive down the street and see the number of street signs within less than a quarter of a mile, each one of those signs costing about \$1,300, and I...and I think...I remember correctly, there's 14 or 15 signs in a quarter-mile. Street sign, after street sign, after street sign, saying make a...you know, telling you what to do, that didn't need to be built. I talked to the guys who were building that project. They built a sidewalk eight feet wide along Hāli'imaile Road that goes from one end of the project to the other project and ends. And yet, there's a county park just a little ways farther, and they could have narrowed the size of that sidewalk and extended it over to the park so the people that live in that project could go to the park. I mean, people say it's affordable, but I don't think they really mean it. And somehow, this Council has got to take action to make affordable housing affordable. And I think that's...our job is to recommend ideas on how that could happen.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, do we have any questions? Before we do get into questions, I will say Kasie just came over, obviously, a minute ago or so, and we're trying to figure out the terms of the seats. She said they're all from now...yeah, they're staggered, but it's supposed to be two years, and not one. So, we're going to take all these interviews, and we're going to have to hold off on voting. So, if we could just all remember what we discussed. Yeah. But if anybody has any questions? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chiniaeff, for your willingness to serve. I just wanted to clarify, when you said about the housing across the street from the church held up with bureaucratic nonsense, my understanding was access to water and sewer was the issue. And...and so, then like how is that...is that what you define as...I mean, it's not our water and our sewer. I think they wanted to tap into A&B's water and sewer, and A&B said no. So, I was wondering if you can clarify how that's bureaucratic --

MR. CHINIAEFF: I'll tell you what I know. I don't claim to know everything about it because I just drove by and observed, based upon my experience. I understood that that project was allowed to go forward with the intention of using A&B water. And when the buildings were all built, then somebody got up and said, I don't know that A&B turned them down. I don't think it would've started, had A&B not said it was available. And they said, no, no, you can't build, you can't come in here, we can't occupy these units because you don't have County, or whoever the water purveyor is, for that particular

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parcel. They had a water source. I mean, the County allowed Hāli'imaile to go out and drill two wells just to serve that project. And if they had A&B water for that project, I don't...if they didn't have it, they shouldn't have started, and they probably wouldn't have. I've also noticed that different methods, or different styles of affordable housing that are sitting right behind the church. You see the domes. There's other modular units back there. They're just sitting. I mean, they were ideas that private people, in this case, a church, wanted to fill a gap that was out there. They needed to have affordable...needed to have housing for the people displaced by the fire. And I haven't seen a lot of red tape being set aside to allow that to happen.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. They're also not really willing to let those come to Lahaina and have people put them on their own lots where they want to live in Lahaina, so I don't know what that's about. But I did also want to ask, how many projects have you done in Maui County?

MR. CHINIAEFF: Absolutely zero. I just live here. I retired, I traveled the Country, came back and lived for five or six months. And I lived in Hāna, lived in Kula, lived in Pukalani. And I have a small place I rent up in Olinda right now, and I haven't built anything here. I built all over California, Arizona, Nevada. I'm a life member of the California Building Industry Association. I've spent 25 years in Sacramento working on things like this --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. I'd like to use some of my time to ask Corp. Counsel, is this board taking public testimony?

MS. MURAKAMI: Sorry. Hi. Okay. Yes. Because of Sunshine board, they will be taking...that's the main part of their meetings. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Yeah. I mean, I...I kind of feel more comfortable with somebody that's encountered and overcome our things. And, you know, while your breadth of experience and whatnot is...is commendable, I almost feel like that's a public testimony aspect because we have specific issues that we need to overcome, and...and that your experience is from other places. But I mean, I'm not...we don't have to decide today. So, that's just one of my concerns, is that like through public testimony, you could say what is done in other areas, the things that you've encountered. But what we need, really, is for people that have the experience with the specific obstacles, and how to get us over those. So, that's just my two cents for right now. I have no commitment to a decision one way or the other.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Could I address that? My 42 years of experience have allowed me to see different methods that could apply anywhere in this country, whether it be in California or in Maui. And my understanding of this position is to bring ideas to the table on how affordable housing can be developed, and present it through the Housing Department to the County, in whatever form you want. And whether or not I did it here in Maui or did it in Timbuktu shouldn't make any difference.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Members? Member Rawlins-Fernandez --

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: -- I will absolutely let you ask a question, but if you wouldn't mind letting me address the Committee really quick? It is about 4:10 when I had initially decided maybe we should take a break. However, we are in the middle of everybody now. So, if you don't mind, we're maybe going to have to change the last 20 minutes of our agenda by finishing this Housing Advisory Board, and then maybe getting to their one member for the Police Commission because he is here, and then discuss when we can meet again and to talk to everybody else online. But we will finish with the Housing Board, move on to Police, and then discuss when we can come back, if that works for everyone. So, the only...we won't vote on the Housing Board today, and we will hopefully vote on our Police Commissioner and finish. But please you can...you answered that, and Member Rawlins-Fernandez is going to ask you a question.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Okay, thank you. Look forward to it.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. Chiniaeff. Mahalo for your willingness to serve after you've retired. I think there's a couple things that you've mentioned that I kind of wanted clarification on, and I wanted to correct the record a couple of things. So, one, the Housing Advisory Board was created when we bifurcated the Department of Housing and Human Concerns, and not after the fires.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I just wanted to correct the record on that. And then the housing that's around near like the church and stuff is not affordable housing, they're temporary housing.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Um-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Because words matter, and I don't want anyone to think that we think that those are affordable housing. Because it's not, it's temporary. And then...so, then my two questions are one, have you heard of, or reviewed our Comprehensive Affordable Housing Plan for Maui; and then two, your experience is on the...a continent, and so, the...the continental way of thinking is very different than an island way of developing because our land and resources are...are much more limited. In California, you drive around, it's just like land everywhere, and people thought there was like an endless amount of water, which they're now learning is not. And so, I wanted to hear, you know, your...your thoughts on that. Because the ideas...yes. Yes, ideas, but also within the frameworks of our County Code and our State Statutes. So, there's...there's obstacles and restrictions, as Member Paltin described, that ideas are great, but within our...our framework.

MR. CHINIAEFF: To answer your first question, yes, I have looked at the Housing Plan and the...the joint agreement that was made by all the agencies for providing housing after the fire.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Wonderful.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Secondly...secondly, the folks in Maui are looking for affordable housing to be able to stay here, to be able to afford to stay here. Whether the ideas come from the mainland or they come from homegrown people who went to wherever on Maui, it's the ideas that I understand that we need to bring forward. If...and if lip service to affordable housing is in your Code--if it says in your Code, we're only going to have lip service, we're not going to change the Code if we need to change it, we're not going to come up with new ideas--you'll continue to do what somebody else said. We continue doing the same thing over, and over again, accepting a new...expecting a new result. So, there has to be consideration of change to things that are going on now. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . And I'll leave it at that.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Do we have any other...Member Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chiniaeff, for being here. Are you a full-time resident?

MR. CHINIAEFF: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

MR. CHINIAEFF: I live here. I traveled all over the Country, and decided I wanted to come back to Maui and live here.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, any other questions? If not, we will move on to the other nominees.

MR. CHINIAEFF: Thank you very much.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, Ms. Duvauchelle is next. Unfortunately, she's not with us today. Ms. Pulmano is. I think she's online, yeah? Not yet? I think she'll be joining us later. My understanding is she'll be joining us later? No? If not, Mr. Spence, if you want to join us at the podium? Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, just to let you know, Ms. Pulmano did raise her hand.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Okay, great.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, she is on Teams.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Sorry. We're going to go in order. Thanks, Will. Hi, Leilani. Please introduce yourself, and then Members will have the opportunity to ask you questions.

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MS. PULMANO: Good afternoon, Chair --

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Good afternoon.

MS. PULMANO: -- and Committee Members. My name is Leilani Pulmano. I work for Pacific Rim Land, and I am...I’d be honored to sit on the Board for the Housing Advisory Committee.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Perfect. Thank you. Members, any questions for our nominee? Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: First, would...how would you address any conflicts of interest?

MS. PULMANO: Well, anything that would come before me that is part of my company, I would obviously recuse myself.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And the next question. In...in terms of affordable housing and using the Affordable Housing Fund, would you consider it more important to build generational wealth, or prolong the housing and affordable stock?

MS. PULMANO: Those are those two...those are...it doesn’t necessarily need to be two different criterias [sic]. It...it can...it...the Affordable Housing Fund can address both of it. It...but there...there definitely needs to be policy from you folks on how you want the fund to be used.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Do you think five years’ affordability is enough?

MS. PULMANO: In terms of?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: If we’re utilizing Affordable Housing Funds for a project, and it’s only to be affordable for five years, is that a good return on investment in terms of natural resources, as well as funding source?

MS. PULMANO: Well, I think five years might be a little too little, frankly.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Do you have any other questions, Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: That concludes my questions.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Sounds good. Members, any other questions? Seeing none. I’m happy to support Ms. Pulmano when we do vote, which will not be today. So, if other Members do not have any other questions, I will move on because we have about 12 more minutes left in our meeting. Thank you, Leilani.

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MS. PULMANO: Thank you. Appreciate it.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Mr. Spence, if you’d like to please introduce yourself, and then the Members will have their opportunity to ask you a question.

MR. SPENCE: Okay. Thank you, Madam Chair, Members. My name is Will Spence. I am a former Planning Director and former, when you had a DHHC, I was director there for a short time. My passion has always been for affordable housing. I mean, since I started as a staff planner in 1992, I noticed, you know, just the...the hardship of people, local people, trying to stay here, how difficult it is. So, in my tenure as a planner, I’ve always been very cognizant of...of that struggle, and kind of led my career trying to help that. The...I think sitting on this board--and it’s an advisory board, it’s not a decision-making board, it’s there to help the new Department of Housing--I...I feel like it’s really an opportunity for me to give back and help with the processes, and help with creating more housing on this island. Thank you. And with that --

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Mr. Spence. Thank you. Members, any questions? Let me double-check Members online. Do we not have any questions? Oh, I’m sorry. Sorry, Member Johnson, I didn’t see your hand when I looked down. Member Johnson, please ask your question.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: That’s fine. Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mister--or good morning--good afternoon, Mr. Spence. Good to see you.

MR. SPENCE: Nice to see you.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: You know, we’ve been asking a lot of questions because this can be complicated when it comes to ethics and things. I know you worked on the Wailea 670 project, and many other projects, but if...if there’s some...comes some...some kind of ethics concern, are you...would you recuse yourself, or do you have any kind of plans, or any anything in regards to that?

MR. SPENCE: Right. And...and I anticipated, actually, Councilmember Paltin asking this question, but the answer is, yeah --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sorry to disappoint you.

MR. SPENCE: -- I would...I would recuse myself on any project that a current client or even a former client. I think those ethics are very important. Even at my time as Planning Director, I think I...I sought either three or four ethics opinions for ordinances that I had proposed to changes in some County Code because there could be a...some kind of conflict because I’m a homeowner, so I thought that was important. Those kinds of things are important to get on the record, and make sure that there’s some clarity.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you for your response, Mr. Spence. No...no further questions, Chair.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Johnson. Member Cook, please ask your question.

COUNCILMEMBER COOK: Thank you for your willingness to serve, Mr. Spence. You have a lot of experience...we don't have much time. Do you have ideas about how to get affordable housing built? Like process or what?

MR. SPENCE: Yes. And thank you for the question. And I did...I have read the Affordable Housing Plan, and there are some things in there that would go a long ways if...to...towards implementing more housing, and keeping affordable housing on this island. So, that's...that's not a new idea. But certainly, some of the...the candidates that you're...you're talking to today have a lot of experience in construction, and the financing, and those kinds of things. I have the experience in the process--actually the entitlement process--which Government processes add a huge amount of cost to...to housing. And I'd sure like to help...help those things along. I think Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez's question about can you send stuff to this board? I think that would be awesome. I think that would be amazing. As the Council comes up with policy, to get input from yet another body. And then again, it's advisory, but still getting that input from people who know this sector of providing housing would be very valuable.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Cook. Members, any other questions? Seeing none...let me double-check online. Seeing none. Thank you so much, Mr. Spence. I appreciate your time.

MR. SPENCE: Okay. Thank you, Members.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thanks for being with us today.

MR. SPENCE: I really appreciate --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Sorry for disappointing you there, Mr. Spence.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Somebody asked. At least somebody asked.

MR. SPENCE: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I'm not living up to your expectations.

MR. SPENCE: That's fine.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much. Members, if it's okay with you folks, I do have to pick up my sons at a...sooner than later. If we wouldn't mind taking up Mr. Arias with the Police Commission, and then discussing when we can reconvene next week?

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POLICE COMMISSION

Resolution 25-39

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: So, Mr. Arias, if you would like to join us up here at the podium? I would take this time while he’s walking down to apologize to those nominees joining us online that we’re not able to get to you today. We had quite a stacked agenda. Our timeline has greatly shortened with the language, with the INB, so we are trying to squeeze everything in as much as we can. Thank you so much, Mr. Arias, if you would like to introduce yourself, please?

MR. ARIAS: Aloha, Chairman. Aloha County Councilmembers. My name is Joseph Arias, longtime Maui resident, Waiehu Kou. Former law enforcement officer, but I also work in the entertainment industry in audiovisual. My first go-around at serving on a commission, and I picked the Police Commission. Other than that, I’d like to welcome any questions.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Wonderful. Members, any questions? Let me double-check online. Member Paltin.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: So, I mentioned before like one of my priorities for this term is evacuation of elderly and disabled folks. And while it’s not necessarily 100 percent under the Police Commission like the Police are often tasked with going door-to-door and...and things like that. And so, I just was wondering in what ways you could contribute to ensure that evacuation of elderly and disabled, and then from there, you know, all of our residents are able to evacuate safely. And what other boards and commissions or entities could you work with to keep that top of mind during your tenure?

MR. ARIAS: Definitely what Ms. Watanabe said earlier, you know, trying to implement some kind of policy, or a policy into the Police Commission and work with her commission or her committee. And having a Police Department, obviously, expand knowledge is also important to their everyday operation, whether it’s from the Chief or the patrolman. But I think it’s a good start to start someplace.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. And the other thing is that we’re not...the Mayor and the Council, we don’t have oversight of the Police Commission. And so, you know, as testifiers or folks bring concerns to you, you would be the entity that has oversight over the Police Commission. And so, I just was wondering how you would approach that role?

MR. ARIAS: Most definitely myself and the other commissioners will have to play a big part of that. I just think it has to start someplace. And...and the more input we get from you folks and...and the public as a whole, especially what’s been happening at some of the hearings--the Police Commission hearings these past several months--it going...going be a big factor. Plays a huge factor actually, with anything that’s going to be implemented going forward.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you. That concludes my questions.

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MR. ARIAS: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you for your willingness to serve.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you, Member Paltin. Members, any other questions? Let me double-check online. Okay. Well, then if not, I would like to entertain a motion to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-39, including any nonsubstantive revisions.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Sugimura, second by Member Kama. Any further discussions? Let me double-check online. Seeing none. I would like to entertain a motion to recommend moving his name, Mr. Joseph Arias, to Exhibit B for approval.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So moved.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Second.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I have a motion made by Member Kama, seconded by Member Sugimura. Any further discussion? Seeing none. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Chair, that’s nine “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: APPROVE amendment.

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. Members, hana hou. Motion as amended...main motion as amended. All those in favor, please raise your hand and say “aye.”

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Nine “ayes,” zero “noes.” Motion carries.

VOTE: AYES: Chair U‘u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and Councilmembers Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: Recommending ADOPTION of Resolution 25-39, CD1.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you very much, Mr. Arias.

MR. ARIAS: Thank you so much, folks. Have a good day.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Members, now to discuss when we can re-discuss. What is --

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Wednesday morning.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Wednesday morning. Okay. Member Kama, are you available...Monday only?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes. Because I have . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Wednesday’s not good for you. Good for you. How about Thursday? Next week, Thursday. Thursday. Members online, are you able to join us on Thursday? Let me double-check my schedule before I volunteer myself. Yes. The 13th. Can you guys do Thursday morning? Looking on this end now. Member Kama, can you guys do --

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

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CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, Kasie, don’t blow it. Nah, just joking. *(pause)* Okay, she didn’t totally blow it. No, she didn’t. She never does, she’s amazing.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: I think Thursday after 10:00.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thursday after 10:00. Thursday after 10:00?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: I think I can rearrange, probably, for Thursday.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thank you. I appreciate that. Member Johnson, can you do Thursday at 10:00?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I...I have an in-person meeting right in the middle of that.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. What time is your meeting?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It starts at 10:20.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay. Okay. Is it a long meeting? We can take a recess, that’s why. But we just got to get it done because we have a very short time.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It’s...it’s an hour...it...it’s long, so I...I’m --

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Okay, not Thursday at --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- that’s kind of jamming me up.

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: -- 10:00 for you?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: What, you no can multitask like them?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKERS: . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Thursday afternoon? Let me double-check my schedule. Can you do Thursday afternoon?

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, I...I don’t want to jam everybody up. I’ll...I’ll just miss maybe, you know, 45 minutes of it. Because it’s even worse Thursday afternoon for me, so...

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: Oh, shucks. I’m sorry.

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

CHAIR U‘U-HODGINS: I know. I know. My husband is working that day, so that means I’m in charge of pickup, unless my mom can do it. And Thursday morning would work best for me, but I would love to accommodate everybody’s schedule. How does Thursday

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morning work for everybody on this end? Can we do Thursday morning? You can do after 9:30, Member Kama? Can we do 9:30, and then we can take a break for a little bit to accommodate Member Johnson's meeting as well, if that works for everybody? Okay. So, we're going to do Thursday at 9:30. Consensus? Consensus. Thank you so much. Okay. At this time, the GREAT Committee is in recess until Thursday at 9:30 a.m. We will reconvene on the same Teams link, and our in-person viewing and testimony location will be here at the Council Chambers. And right now, Members...did I miss anything?

MS. APO TAKAYAMA: Just to clarify, Thursday, February 13th?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Thursday, February 13th--your last day to buy your loved one some Valentine's Day presents--is when we will be meeting. Other than that, Members, thank you so much. Member Rawlins-Fernandez?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Same link?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Same link. Yep, I said same link, but yes. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, yeah, just for the public.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Appreciate that. Appreciate that. Member Rawlins...I mean, Member Paltin?

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Just for the general public information, testimony has been closed, so there wouldn't be testimony at the recessed meeting; is that correct?

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: There will not be testimony. However, we are still looking for the nominees to come in, and at that time, they can advocate for themselves. I think written testimony is still accepted. If people would like to submit written testimony, we would love to see it.

VICE-CHAIR PALTIN: Thank you for the clarification.

CHAIR U'U-HODGINS: Of course. Thank you, Members. This concludes today's meeting. It is 4:32. See you on Thursday at 9:00 [*sic*] a.m., same place, same link. See you then. . . .(*gavel*). . .

RECESS: 4:32 p.m.

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Transcribed by: Kaliko Reed

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CERTIFICATION

I, Kaliko Reed, hereby certify that pages 1 through 61 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 4th day of March 2025, in Wailuku, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. Reed", is written over a horizontal line.

Kaliko Reed