

Governance Committee

From: Cmtmaui@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2016 3:08 AM
To: Governance Committee
Subject: Response to Member Starr's Question Regarding Appointed Directors
Attachments: Letter-CountyGovernanceCte4-28-16.docx

Aloha Chair and Members of the Special Committee on County Governance,

Attached is my response to Member Starr's question regarding directors that I appointed that also had worked on my election campaign.

If there are further questions or need for clarification, please contact me.

Mahalo,
Charmaine Tavares
Former Mayor '07-'10

RECEIVED AT CG MEETING ON 4/29/16

April 28, 2016

Honorable Tony Takitani, Chair
Committee on County Governance
c/o Maui County Council - Council Services
200 S. High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

Aloha Chair Takitani and Members of the Committee on County Governance,

At the March 31, 2016 meeting I attended, a question was raised by Committee Member Jonathan Starr. As I understand the question, it was "How many of the department directors I appointed, worked on my election campaign?"

Many talented persons volunteer to work on political campaigns and if an individual or individuals who do work on a campaign are **qualified** to serve, there should be no prohibition to their applying for and being selected as a director of a department or any other appointed position.

In my particular case, I can report that of the 11 (eleven) department directors I appointed, only one worked on my campaign and in a relatively minor role. Three directors worked for the previous administration. Three (3) of the eleven (11) that I appointed were confirmed by the Maui County Council as required by the Charter of the County of Maui.

During the course of my term, two directors resigned and were replaced. The new directors I appointed had not worked on my campaign.

If the committee wishes to discuss this further, I am available.

Sincerely,
Charmaine Tavares
Former Mayor, County of Maui
2007-2010

Testimony to Special Committee on County Governance

From: Linda Kay Okamoto

Date: April 29, 2016

I regret that I am unable to be on Maui today for the meeting. I had assumed that I could participate by phone, but find that doesn't seem to be an option.

As you know I voted in opposition to the change in our county government structure. I did submit my comments in an earlier written document to the committee, so I won't go in to those reasons here.

I looked over the TIG document very carefully. Only option 3 would be acceptable to me. If the group is truly committed to having a county manager form of government, then we must do away with the Mayor. It makes no economic sense to have a paid Mayor with his staff when they are simply ceremonial. The County Council Chairperson can serve as the ceremonial head of the County.

(I am available by phone today 559-0200 if that option is acceptable. Also I will be away from the state from May 3 to the 11)

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Charter Questions for Special Committee

1. If there is a vacancy on the council, and the unexpired term is less than fifteen months, and the council fails to fill the vacancy, should the Mayor or the Managing Director appoint someone, or should the Mayor or Managing Director fill the vacancy? (Section 3-4(1))
2. After an election, until a Council Chair is chosen at the organizational meeting, should the Mayor or the Managing Director preside? (Section 3-5)
3. Should the managing director weigh in on all bills prior to Council's passage to discuss implementation, enforcement, and possible budget amendments? (Section 4-2)
4. Who shall be the interim Mayor if there is a vacancy and if the unexpired term is less than one year? Currently it falls to the Managing Director, then to the Director of Finance. (Section 7-6)
5. Who should determine the Managing Director's salary? The Salary Commission? Council approval of contractual agreement? (Chapter 17)

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(Committee Chair)

Should the Charter be amended to establish a county manager form of government to provide for:

- a) a Managing Director, appointed by the County Council, responsible for the County's daily operations, the appointment and removal of department heads, and the implementation of County policy;
- b) an elected Mayor responsible for representing the County in intergovernmental affairs, with the authority to approve or veto bills and nominate board and commission members; and
- c) an elected County Council responsible for establishing County policy?

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(Committee Chair)