

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

Online Only via BlueJeans Link

February 2, 2021

CONVENE: 9:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Chair
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Kelly T. King, Member
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

STAFF: Shelly Espeleta, Legislative Analyst
David Raatz, Supervising Legislative Attorney
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney
Richard Mitchell, Legislative Attorney
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary
Rayna Yap, Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk

Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember King
Davideane Sickels, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Gina Young, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sinenci
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sugimura
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson
Keisa Liu, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Michelle Del Rosario, Executive Assistant to Councilmember King
Sarah Pajimola, Executive Assistant to Councilmember
Rawlins-Fernandez

ADMIN.: Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the
Corporation Counsel
Ipo Mossman, Executive Assistant, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS: Clare Apana
Shay Chan Hodges
Lucienne de Naie
Collete Machado

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Laakea Low
Kai Nishiki
Carol Lee Kamekona
Faith Chase
Steven Sturdevant
Christy Kajiware-Gusman
Elisabeth Ann "Lisa" Grove
Leonardo Sequeira
Sylvia Ho
Mary Ann Kahana
Sherrilee Dodson
Megan Moniz
Janice Kalanihuia
Ken Ota
Sarah Collins
Scott Parker
Grant Nakama
Travis Tancayo
Rick Nava
Leonora Espaniola
Jeffrey Ueoka
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins
Nirvana Dillingham
Laura Vo
Russell Johnson
Ashley Lindsay
Luigi Manera
Louella Albino
Alberta de Jetley
Joshua Berlien
Becky Lind
Teana Kaho'ohanohano
Dorothy Yoza
Dylan Payne
Susan Lussier
Andrew Ho
Plus (8) other people

PRESS: *Akaku Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR MOLINA: ... *(gavel)* ... Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee meeting for Tuesday, February 2nd, is now in session. I'm your Committee Chair, Mike Molina. Let's do roll call and who is here this morning on this beautiful Tuesday. Let's start first with Council Chair Alice Lee. Good morning.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Chairman, good morning to you. And as we say in Greenland, aluu. Aluu.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aluu back to you. All right. Let's go to my wonderful Committee Vice-Chair, Ms. Keani Rawlins-Fernandez. Good morning.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. My Moloka'i Nui a Hina and aluu kākou.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aluu kākou to you too. Let's take a drive down to South Maui and check in on Councilmember King. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Aloha kakahiaka, aluu, and good morning to all. It's beautiful here in South Maui.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Good to hear that. Good morning and aluu to you too.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Let's go up to Kula and check in on Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Good morning, everyone. Beautiful here in Kula.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning. All right. And let's take the ferry out to Lāna'i and check in on Councilmember Johnson. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good morning, Chair. Aloha, everyone, and aluu.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aluu, all right, back to you. I like that word. And let's go check in on East Maui on...see how Councilmember Sinenci's doing. Good morning, Mr. Sinenci. I think you're muted, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Mai keia la nui ke ki'eki'e, the windy road to Hāna and aluu kākou.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning to you too. And let's go check in on West Maui, where we have a beautiful rainbow backdrop up in the verdant valleys of West Maui and check in on Councilmember Paltin. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aluu and aloha mai kākou.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha and mai kākou to you and aluu and buenos dias and everything else to you and all of our friends in West Maui. And finally, let's check in on how the neighborhood's doing in Central Maui with Councilmember Kama. Good morning.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. And aluu to you and everyone else. It is a beautiful day in the neighborhood of Kahului.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Right on. Okay. Besides our Committee Members who are here today, we have a representative from the Mayor's Office, Mr. Ipo Mossman. From Corporation Counsel, we have Gary Murai. And our hardworking Committee Staff, Committee Secretary, Pauline Martins; Support Staff, Jean Pokipala; Legislative Analysts, Shelly Espeleta and Mr. Wilton Leauanae; and also, Legislative Attorney, James Forrest. And thank you, Members, for...and all for making yourselves available for another great meeting. We got a heavy agenda. There's...in all likelihood we'll be recessing into the next week because we have a lot of things to do today. But thank you all for being here and for being on time. But before we do that, Chair would like to go over testimony procedures today. All testifiers wanting to provide video testimony, make sure you join the online meeting via the BlueJeans meeting link, which is bluejeans.com/175115369, as noted on today's agenda. Testifiers wanting to provide audio testimony, you can participate via phone conference by dialing 1-408-915-6290 and entering the meeting code that I mentioned to you earlier. The Committee intends to keep the same meeting link and phone number for future GREAT meetings this term for the ease and convenience of Members and the public. Written testimony is highly encouraged using the eComment link listed for today's agenda on mauicounty.us/agendas. And again, with regards to the chat function, please don't use that for any inappropriate conversations, if at all possible. And oral testimony's going to be limited today to three minutes per item. And if you are still testifying beyond that time, I'll kindly ask you to complete your testimony. And when testifying, please state your first and last name. If you are testifying on behalf of an organization or if you are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee of that. And while others are testifying, please be courteous by turning off your video and muting your microphone while waiting for your turn to testify. And for those just simply wanting to view the meeting, just put on your television to good old channel 53, *Akakū*. So I'd like to remind Committee Members, Administration, and the public to please be patient if we do run into any technological issues during the meeting. So with that being said, let's proceed with oral testimony. I believe Mr. Leauanae, please call the name of the first testifier.

. . .BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

MR. LEAUANA: Thank you, Chair. First testifier today is Clare Apana, followed by person with phone number ending 4354.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Good morning, Ms. Apana.

MS. APANA: Good morning. Good morning. This is very early in the morning. Okay. I would like to testify on the boards and commissions. I...in October of 2020, a bill was

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passed and signed. It was Ordinance 97, Bill 97, and it...it stated that...that all boards and commissions should have a person who is able to say that they qualify to be...are you familiar with this bill, first of all? I have it in my testimony, but I was not able to pull it up on my...to share...to share it on the screen. And what I'd like to say is at that time, I told you how difficult it was for someone like myself to get on a board or commission. And I was given a lot of really great advice about how to do this. And so I took the really great advice, and I signed up, and I was not chosen. I believe that I am very qualified for the...as a person in Bill 97. I have trained with experts in Hawaiian traditional practice in papa kilo hoku...my kumu was a papa kilo hoku who was an expert of the stars and of the ocean. This is not a degreed program, but I believe it could be equivalent to a degree. Number two, I have advocated for many years as a volunteer because I've never been paid for the `āina in traditional ways and for natural resources for the sand that lies beneath you right now if you are in Maui...in the County building. And...and three, I am the president of Malama Kakanilua, that's a 501(c)(3), which I started. I founded that as an ad hoc committee group in 2007 to advocate for the iwi kūpuna, the cultural sites, the sacred sites, and the history, the true history of Maui and Hawaii. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . I have also been a member of Sierra Club for five years. I have sat on the Conservation Committee...

CHAIR MOLINA: Ms. Apana, sorry. Can you wrap up your testimony? Your time is nearly up.

MS. APANA: I am right now.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Go ahead.

MS. APANA: And the reason I am testifying today is to tell you that I did follow through, and I was again not chosen. But should you have any vacancies or find that the candidates that have been chosen do not meet this criteria, I want you to know that I meet this criteria, and I signed up for the Board of Variances, the Board of Ethics, and the Planning Commission. And I thank you very much for allowing me to testify today.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your testimony, Ms. Apana. Members, any need to clarify Ms. Apana's testimony? Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you have the floor.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Apana. Mahalo for your testimony this morning. I just wanted to clarify for the record that Bill 97, that's for the Maui Planning Commission's seat for a conservational environmentalist.

MS. APANA: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Apana. Mahalo, Chair.

MS. APANA: Thank you very much.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you Member Rawlins-Fernandez. We have a question from Member Kama, followed by Member King. Member Kama, you have the floor.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair, very much. Thank you, Clare, for being here. So did I hear you...

MS. APANA: Mahalo, Tasha.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Did I hear you correct when you said that you've applied for various boards and commissions and have never ever gotten an appointment? Is that correct? Did I hear that?

MS. APANA: Yes. Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And you were told why? Were you told why?

MS. APANA: No. I was given a letter that was dated December 31st, I believe, and it said, we'll keep your application on file for two years.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member Kama. We have Member King, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Member King, you have the floor.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yes. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Apana, for being here. Good to almost see, Clare. I don't see you.

MS. APANA: Can you...am I...am I...I can't see myself on...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's okay. Your...yeah --

MS. APANA: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- your video's not showing, but we recognize your voice.

MS. APANA: Oh, my video's not on.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You have a very distinctive voice.

MS. APANA: Okay. I'm very sorry, I...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So I was just going to ask you, did you...in your testimony, did you have an issue with any of their current nominees that are on this extensive list?

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MS. APANA: Well, I do. I find that probably both of these people are related to being a realtor, being development possibilities, especially Sherri Dodson, who does a very good service, but her...the position and the organization that she is part of depends upon developers. And I feel that many of the things that come before the Planning Commission would be...would put her in conflict. And, you know, in other parts of this...of the United States, they do not let realtors or people associated with the building industry, like labor unions for instance, sit on these...on a planning commission for this specific reason. But here in Maui, the...predominantly, the commissioners are related to the field of development, and so it's a very interesting thing. Not very often do people recuse themselves. And so I felt that I would be able to because I am retired, pretty much retired, but I have no connection to my income coming from development. But also, you know, besides the other qualifications that I...I have very unique qualifications, and I feel that I was really passed over when perhaps I could have been one of the more qualified people to sit on the Planning Commission. I don't know the other applicant and her full history, but there again is a relationship to development, and I think that that's something that we should be a little more careful of in choosing people to sit on the Commission.

CHAIR MOLINA: Member King, do you have another question for Ms. Apana?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: No, that's it. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you. Yeah. Thanks, Clare.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, do you have a question?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Chair, actually a request really quickly. I did a search in our inbox to see if we received a copy of the...your application, Ms. Apana, and I didn't find it. So would you please share it with the Council, your application, and then that way, you know, if anyone doesn't get approved today, you know, we know that you are on the radar, as well as sometimes Council puts forward names when the Mayor misses his deadline to nominate someone for a board or commission.

MS. APANA: Thank you. I can send you my letter. I actually went and turned my application in in person at the office to be sure that it went in, but I did not keep a copy of it. I can send you the letter that was sent to me from the Mayor.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Well, if we can get copy of your application...

MS. APANA: Okay. Well, I could ask them for it. I'll ask for them. I'll ask them to send me a copy.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Apana.

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MS. APANA: Okay. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Committee Vice-Chair, Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Molina. You know, I just wanted to say you're in good company because I had a similar experience every time I applied for boards and commissions, especially the Planning Commission, and look it, now I'm the Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee. But I guess my question was, I received your written testimony only to me, and I just was wondering if you were able to become familiar with the eComment. I forwarded it on to the GREAT Committee, but I got like an email about using the eComment, so I just was...I don't know if this is a question for you or a clarification for everyone that wants to send in testimony the old way, I guess if you can try and learn the eComment because I guess that's what we're switching to.

MS. APANA: Right. Where is eComment? I searched and searched on that agenda, which was really difficult to find, by the way. I don't know why it was so difficult to find this agenda. And I didn't see where the eComment is.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: On...it's online.

MS. APANA: Oh, it's not on the agenda then.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah. You got to go online. So, I mean, I guess maybe it's a question for you, Chair, or us about how we help folks that are used to submitting online testimony in one way and can't make the jump over, or like for us as Councilmembers who received this testimony for a committee, how we assist the people in getting it to the eComment. Like, do I need to set up a generic eComment profile and then upload it for them?

CHAIR MOLINA: Maybe, you know, what we'll do, Member Paltin, I'll ask Staff to circulate an email with instructions on how to do that. And Ms. Apana, if we can...we'll certainly do a outreach to you and help you with getting your testimony via the eComment. So I believe we should have, hopefully, your contact number or email, and we'll certainly do outreach.

MS. APANA: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: Member Paltin you have her contact information, and we'll definitely do outreach with Ms. Apana on that, so...

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MS. APANA: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Certainly a good request . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MS. APANA: Well, while you're at it, it would be nice to put the link in a different color and have its own line, so it stands out on the agenda.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good suggestion. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Apana.

CHAIR MOLINA: And thank you for making us aware of that as well. So, you know, I'm one of those old school people too. I need education on some of the newer technology as well, so...

MS. APANA: Yeah.

CHAIR MOLINA: Well, thank you very much, Ms. Apana.

MS. APANA: Thank you very much.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you. Nice to hear from you.

MS. APANA: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mr. Leauanae, please continue with testimony.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. Next testifier is...has the last four digits 4354, followed by Shay Chan Hodges. Please press star four to unmute yourself.

CHAIR MOLINA: Hey, good morning, testifier number 4354, please state your full name for the record and proceed with your testimony. Phone number 4354, are you there? Please give us some indication you're there. If not, Mr. Leauanae, please proceed with the next testifier, and we'll come back to testifier number 4354.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. Next testifier is Shay Chan Hodges, followed by Lucienne de Naie.

MS. HODGES: Aloha, Committee Members.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning.

MS. HODGES: My name is Shay Chan Hodges, and I am testifying today as an individual, and I wanted to testify about diversity and representation. And I don't know if any of you guys were on the board or on the Committee or the Council when I first got on the

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Board of Water Supply five years ago. But one of the reasons that I applied, actually, was because there was only one other woman on the Board. I'm happy to say that we now have four women on the Board, so we're doing great in terms of gender diversity. And of course, it shouldn't be that hard since we are 50 percent of the population, so trying to find qualified members should not be that difficult. But the other...there are other representation and diversity issues, particularly for the Board of Water Supply. Geography is a big one. We decide what the agenda items are, so what our experiences are in our communities affects what goes on the agenda. And of course, if...what I learned from being on the Board of Water Supply is that depending on where you live, your water issues are very different...whether you're on the West Side, you're the East Side, Moloka'i, Lāna'i. And just to give an indication, we've never had a member from Moloka'i or Lāna'i on the Water Board [sic], and we do not discuss issues on Moloka'i on Lāna'i because nobody brings them up. Currently, the two members who you folks are considering will be replacing me. My term ends on March 31st, and I live in Ha'ikū. And the other member you would be replacing is Zoltan Milaskey, who lives in Pā'iā. So when we are gone, there will be three members from Central, two members from Kihei, one from Upcountry, and one from Lāhainā. There will be nobody again from Moloka'i and Lāna'i, nobody from East Maui, nobody from Makawao, nobody from Ha'ikū, nobody from Huelo. So I believe this is a very big issue. If you look at the Board of Water Supply website, next to each of our names is the date that our term ends and where we are from. Clearly, how issues are discussed is super important. And another aspect to the Board of Water Supply that a lot of people are not very aware of is the fact that we decide contested cases. So our...when somebody has an issue, for example, a person on Moloka'i is supposed to put in a fire hydrant because they're subdividing and they have an issue with how the director made that decision, the people who are on that Board will make the decision about whether or not to overrule the director's decision on that. So again, our experiences really matter who is on the Board. And while I love our Central members a lot, it doesn't make sense to me that we currently have three members and if the two people who I believe are being considered are approved, we would have four members from Central Maui. . . .(timer sounds). . . There will not be another opportunity to approve new members for another year, so having such a lopsided...geographically lopsided Board is a very big concern of mine. I really, strongly believe we need better representation. And there are a lot of issues on the East Side, on the Ha'ikū, Makawao side coming up. So that's it.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for your testimony, Ms. Chan Hodges. Committee Members, any need to clarify Ms. Chan Hodges' testimony? Seeing none. And Ms. Chan Hodges, I just wanted to inform you that one of the nominees for the Water Board [sic] has withdrawn. So your request may be quite timely, and something for the Administration to consider in terms of replacing that nominee with someone who comes from the areas that you've expressed concern about. So I just wanted to share that with you and the Committee.

MS. HODGES: Thank you.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much. Okay. Mr. Leauanae, please continue with testimony.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. Next testifier is Lucienne de Naie, followed by Laakea Low.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning, Ms. de Naie.

MS. DE NAIE: I'm trying to get my video to unmute. Do you guys need to do something on your end? Okay. Very good. I've clicked it and we're unmuted. All right. Thank you. My name is Lucienne de Naie, I'm testifying as a private citizen. And I'm testifying on the boards and committees and commissions, the various. I have comments on a number of them. And of course, I know a number of the people who are applying. I'll start with the Variance and Appeals. I just want to support Charlene Shibuya. She's been a great person at the Department of Transportation over the years. I know she's in the private sector now, but she was always a very helpful, well-informed person and seem to know her stuff. So I'm sure that she will be providing good perspective on the Board of Variances and Appeals. The Board of Water Supply, Item-4. I agree with Shay Chan Hodges being from the Ha'ikū, Huelo area myself, we really should have a representative. And of course, unfortunately, you folks never know who applies, and I hope our Charter Commission addresses this. You don't have to have everyone's confidential information. You just need to have a list of how many people applied and what areas they represented, so when you give your review, it is an informed review where you can look and go, well, I see there were ten applicants and, Mayor, could you tell us why you chose this one, who is only from this area, when we need representation in this other area. So anyway, I don't know who it is who has withdrawn their name, but one of the folks, Karalyn, is from Hāna, and that is an area that always needs to be represented. And I agree with Ms. Chan Hodges that the last time I remember someone from Moloka'i was maybe back in like 2008, there was a representative from Moloka'i who used to, like, fly over. So given today's Zoom meetings, we could certainly have representation from the other islands, you know, there's no if, ands, and buts about it. So let's make sure we can do it that way. Moving on to the Fire and Public Safety Commission. You know, I have nothing against Mr. Dylan Payne, but I have to say, I have heard him testify in favor of developments that were being proposed by his employer, West Maui Land, where the fire safety was atrocious, where people I know had to evacuate in the middle of the night in Launiupoko and Olowalu. And I don't know what his expertise would be in advocating for better fire protection, but he didn't seem to think it was a problem when he was supporting developments when folks who lived in the area said that no more building until we get a better, you know, kind of fire safety protocol here. So anyway, moving on. Hate to testify against anybody, but it's just, you know, I've been at hearings where he's been very prominent in his defense of there was no problem, and that just wasn't the case. The Maui Planning Commission, well, this is really important. And, you know, in October, you folks did say that the Commission needs

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to have people who have an expertise in conservation, climate change, science, you know, an environmental background. And as we've heard, someone did apply, who is involved with conservation organizations, who's been a conservation advocate, who's introduced legislation, and they were looked over. And yet we have two people who are very nice people, but they have no expertise in this. And so this is going to remain an unfilled mandate that's an important one. And so I really think that you should look twice before approving yet another person that doesn't have the qualifications that we need. So thank you for your consideration. I know I went a little long.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. de Naie. Members, any need to clarify Ms. de Naie's testimony? I see Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Molina. Thank you, Ms. de Naie. I just...what I wanted to clarify is, you know, when you kind of intuit...imply Mr. Payne had a...kind of a conflict of interest, and you spoke in favor of Charlene Shibuya...and I agree, they're all great people. The application that we have from Ms. Shibuya was from 2019, so I'm not sure if there's an update needed. But I just was wondering, the one we have says she's current employee of Munekiyo & Hiraga. And --

MS. DE NAIE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- for Board of Variances, I just was wondering, like to clarify, how you see conflict of interest affecting how we vote. Like, is it that, you know, they would recuse themselves every time their employer or their client comes up, or if there's too many times that they need to recuse themselves, does it negate having them on the board, or is it kind of like a trust issue based on past actions and character of them being able to separate those different parts of their life. So I just was wondering if you could clarify, like, when it's an issue about recusing, or not being able to recuse, or the conflict of interest becoming a situation that we can't get past.

MS. DE NAIE: That is a great question. And of course, I don't think that there is, like, you know, kind of one rulebook that everybody uses. I have seen boards and commissions occasionally where a person did recuse themselves when their employer had a matter before the commission directly. And I've seen other times where they absolutely refused to recuse themselves and said, oh, no, I can just make a fair judgment, and then they had to have a discussion about it, and so forth and so on. I think the difference with Ms. Shibuya is that she, in the long dealings that I've had with her, I served on a advisory committee to the Department of Transportation, but she was a staff person too for several years on the West Maui Bypass. And she was very, very fair, and seemed a person of integrity who would self-recuse. Of course, people change over the years. You know, I haven't dealt with her since she has been at Munekiyo but, you know, a person, just because they work for a development firm, does not necessarily mean they're not an ethical person, in my light. I brought up Mr. Payne because he actually testified that there was no problem with fire safety in these

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developments that had, you know, tremendous fire issues. And to me, this is like, okay, guy, you know, either someone is telling you to say this, or you're, you know, you're kind of lying to yourself. So it's funny, you know, that I would testify in support of appointing one person who works for a development oriented firm. But of course, you know, I believe that it's good to have balance. Like, I served on the GPAC and we had people...we had several vice presidents retired at Maui Land & Pine and, you know, A&B, and then we had people who were community advocates like me. We all worked very well together. I think you need that balance on these larger boards, but you don't need a predominance of people in the development industry. That's just not setting ourselves up for good outcomes. So hopefully that helps you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yes, very much. Thank you for the clarification. And thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member Paltin. Members, any other need to clarify Ms. de Naie's testimony. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Thanks for being here, Lucienne. So I have a...you mentioned in your testimony that you...you know, something that's near and dear to my heart, to get a list of all applicants so that we just know how many applicants have applied for each position. But then you said something about hoping that the Charter Commission would take care of it. So do you see that as an issue for a Charter Amendment?

MS. DE NAIE: I believe so. I think that our Charter right now is pretty silent on what kind of information needs to be provided to the Council. I can't quote, but I think it merely says that the Mayor could send appointments to the Council, and the Council should review them and either, you know, accept or deny them. And it doesn't really give much more guidance to what information the Council should have. And I think it could easily be amended to just say the Mayor shall also provide and list a few things that don't violate people's privacy rights.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I just was not clear on whether you...because whether that would be a Charter Amendment or some kind of ordinance change. But of course, if it's a Charter Amendment, then it has to go on the ballot and voted on.

MS. DE NAIE: I am not an attorney, but I believed--when I brought it up before, I...this is a broken record with me, I've testified on so many of these hearings--I believed I was referred to the fact that the Charter sort of says what the Mayor does and the Council does, and if you need it differently, you need the Charter to say something different, so...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right, thank you. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member King. Members, any need to clarify Ms. de Naie's testimony? Seeing none. Thank you very much, Lucienne, for your testimony.

MS. DE NAIE: Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo. Okay, Mr. Leauanae, let's get back to the testifier I think...was it number 5345 or...so if that person is still online.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. 4354.

CHAIR MOLINA: 4354, sorry. Testifier 4354, are you still online? If you are, please identify yourself and proceed with testimony.

MS. MACHADO: Mr. Chairman, my name is Collete Machado. I checked in. I am calling you on my cell, 4354. I am not going to be testifying because I'm up for consideration for the Moloka'i Planning Commission.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. MACHADO: So I'm not sure what your procedures are when you come up to the Item 16, identified as your appointment for members to the Moloka'i Planning Commission for the County of Maui, whether or not there will Q&A's for myself and the other nominee, which is Louella Albino.

CHAIR MOLINA: Yes. Ms. Machado...

MS. MACHADO: . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MOLINA: Right. We did invite you for Q&A at a later point, so if you're okay with --

MS. MACHADO: Yes --

CHAIR MOLINA: -- hang on once we're done with testimony.

MS. MACHADO: -- I have no testimony at this time for or against anybody that's being recommended for your boards and commissions. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. And we'll call on you later once we're done with public testimony for Q&A. Thank you for making yourself available. Okay, Members, so once...I...the Chair did invite the nominees for the Moloka'i Planning Commission for a Q&A at a later point, so if you can hold off on your questions for Ms. Machado, as well as the other nominee, and we'll proceed in that fashion. Okay. All right, Mr. Leauanae, please continue with announcing who our next testifiers are.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. Next testifier is Laakea Low, followed by Kai Nishiki.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Good morning, Mr. Low.

MR. LOW: Aloha mai kākou. Aloha (*speaking Hawaiian*) I'd like to testify on GREAT-2(1) regarding the nominees for the commissions and boards, specifically, the Fire and Public Safety Commission. I know that one of the testifiers already came out against one of the nominees, but I'm concerned with both of the nominees, especially when you look at the Fire and Public Safety Commission page and you see that Kyle Ginoza of Hope Builders is the chair. And then both of the nominees are in the development industry, one with West Maui Land and then the other one is Frampton & Ward. You know, all these development and real estate, you know, professionals had a link to, like, half of the development projects on the West Side. And so it would just be...I don't know, it's troubling to think that an entire third of one of the Fire and Public Safety Commission would be comprised of, you know, people with these links to development and real estate on the West Side. I agree there should be more transparency in terms of who applies and who is selected. It's just troubling that, you know, an entire third of the Board would be composed of developers and real estate, and that's just the third that I know of. I didn't have a chance to vet the entire board and commission, you know. But I don't know, it's just disturbing that the Mayor would put forward nominees that are all linked in that way. I think probably the Council should have...you know, should be provided, like previous testimony said, with like all the applicants so that they can be better vetted, and you know, you can see some of the reasoning behind some of the selections and nominations. And so I just wanted to say that, yeah, it's really troubling to think that we have that kind of one-third developers and real estate people on one board. And it's disturbing too because, like, we know it's probably a springboard to serve on one commission to springboard into something more consequential, like the Planning Commission and stuff. So, you know, they're going to gain experience in one commission and then, you know, use that as . . . (*timer sounds*). . . experience for applying to...in other commissions. So I just hope we give those opportunities to, you know, people with various backgrounds. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo for your testimony, Mr. Low. Members, any need to clarify Mr. Low's testimony? Seeing none. Mahalo for your testimony, Mr. Low.

MR. LOW: Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha. Okay. Mr. Leauanae, please continue.

MR. LEAUANAE: The next testifier is Kai Nishiki, followed by Carol Lee Kamekona.

CHAIR MOLINA: Hi, Ms. Nishiki.

MS. NISHIKI: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Members. I just wanted to make a couple comments about some of the proposed boards and commission members in

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regards to fire and safety. I will echo the previous testifiers' testimony about the concerns, and it's not personal. It's just we have to look at who is the best representation on these boards and commissions, and some people just aren't a right fit. And I did serve with Dylan Payne on the West Maui Community Plan Advisory Committee, and he is employed by Peter Martin, and did advocate very strongly for development in a very hazardous and fire prone area. And so it is a bit concerning to see his name put forth on this. And also because the CPAC is technically still in existence, and there perhaps could be some sort of conflict with our commission, our board still being in existence and him serving on another. I know that another member had been told that, and had been declined for service for a board, so you know, there's that issue. And then with Ms. U'u Hodgins, I like her as a person. She's very nice and, you know, that's probably we could say that across the board for most of these people. But her employer is Frampton & Ward, and Dean Frampton was the hired gun advocating for Peter Martin development at Olowalu. And just knowing that there would now be, like, three people, with Kyle Ginoza being the chair of that commission, that it's just a little all too much. And you know, there's probably a lot of people who have applied, so perhaps it would be good, like other testifiers have said, like we need to know how many people are applying and are there. If there's 20 other options, then of course, let's just look at a little more diversity. So moving on to Planning Commission, the Planning Commission...I follow the Planning Commission, I attend most of their meetings, and they are the authority on coastal zone management, and they are right now are taking up amending the Shoreline and the SMA rules. And in looking at the requirement that there be someone who has a background in conservation, natural resources, or climate change . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . is a really, really important component of the Planning Commission's duties. So I see that there's two people up for Planning Commission. I believe that Ashley Lindsey is a good choice. She's young, she brings a fresh perspective, and knowledgeable at the same time with a background in...let's see, a background in Hawaiian studies and property management, and I believe that she would be a good fit. Miss...while Ms. Dodson is a very nice person, I think that she could maybe be a better fit in another area. So I would just advocate for Ms. Ashley Lindsey, and to please ask the Mayor to fulfill and comply with the requirements. And give us...I know that there's qualified individuals who've applied, so I would advocate for that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Ms. Nishiki, sorry.

MS. NISHIKI: I believe that's all.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you for your testimony.

MS. NISHIKI: Yes. Thank you so much.

CHAIR MOLINA: Let me ask the Members if they have any need to clarify your testimony. Members, any need to clarify Ms. Nishiki's testimony? Okay, we have Member King, followed by Committee-Vice Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Go ahead, Member King.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Kai. Nice to see you.

MS. NISHIKI: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: So I just wanted to clarify on your testimony on the Planning Commission that you support Ashley, but you...but she wouldn't be the one qualified to fulfill the conservation position, so I just want to clarify that.

MS. NISHIKI: Yes. Yes, I understand that. And that's why I think, you know, perhaps I would advocate for her and to defer the other candidate and ask for someone who has those background...that background. And I'm pretty sure there's already people who've applied.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Yeah, I think...we don't see them, but yeah. There's usually a lot of people apply for the Planning Commission, so...and then, did you have another one that you cut off from talking about? Another *(audio interference)*...

MS. NISHIKI: Oh, no, just those two boards and commissions. Thank you very much.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: All right, thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member King. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Nishiki, mahalo for your testimony. Member King actually asked my questions, so mahalo.

MS. NISHIKI: Okay, thank you. Good morning.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, thank you. Members, any other --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Good morning.

CHAIR MOLINA: -- need to clarify Ms. Nishiki's testimony? Seeing none. Thank you very much for your testimony, Kai.

MS. NISHIKI: Have a great day. Bye.

CHAIR MOLINA: Bye-bye. Mr. Leauanae, please continue.

MR. LEAUANAE: The last testifier currently signed up to testify is Carol Lee Kamekona.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Good morning, Ms. Kamekona.

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MS. KAMEKONA: Aloha kakahiaka, Committee Chair, Council Chair, Council Vice-Chair and Members. My name is Carol Lee Kamekona. I am going to provide comments on GREAT-2(3) and GREAT-2(1). I cannot say I'm going to provide testimony because I have applied for boards and commissions. What I would like to say is although currently the Mayor's prerogative is to provide for each of the boards and commissions, I echo what previous testifier Shay Chan Hodges says with regards to diversity. I believe that if Council entertains possibly doing what you did with the Charter Commission in allowing each Member, Councilmember, to put forth a recommendation from their area, therefore, all areas would then be represented. But I also say that the Mayor should put forth all applicants...not only his, but all. Because it then gives the Council a better understanding of who they may think has better qualifications in order to fill certain positions. Having a particular board with certain occupations and/or industries, in my opinion, would provide a conflict of interest, as Laakea mentioned. The conflict of interest, I know has been discussed with Member Paltin and Lucienne. What I would add to that is many of times when boards and commissions go for a long period of time, they tend to lose quorum. And if you have someone who's in conflict and they're part of the baseline quorum at the end of the meeting, then it's like that whole day is wasted. Nothing can be done because you don't have that quorum. So in my opinion, I know that there are many, many more applications that were submitted. I know Hāna has five that applied for the Water...Water Commission from Hāna. I know other people who have applied for the Planning Commission. So I think it only right that maybe a Charter Amendment be made so that all boards and commissions can be handled the way that the Charter Commission is being handled. So mahalo, and have a blessed day. Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Kamekona. Members, any need to clarify Ms. Kamekona's testimony. Councilmember Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Ms. Kamekona, for your testimony and your...I was just curious, you mentioned that you did apply for some of the boards, and was just wondering which one did you apply for.

MS. KAMEKONA: The Maui Planning Commission, the Fire and Public Safety, and the Board of Ethics. Those were according to the Mayor's proposals. And then also, with regards to the County Council proposals, the Charter Commission.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And mahalo for your willingness. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MS. KAMEKONA: Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member Sinenci. Member King, you have a question to...for Ms. Kamekona. Go ahead.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Carol Lee. I just wanted to ask you about, you know, because it keeps coming up that we should be having a list of all the applicants, which I totally agree with. But do you think it's a fair request to ask applicants who want to be known to also send a copy of their application to the Council?

MS. KAMEKONA: I believe that if you want to be on a board and commission, you will do whatever is necessary to get you into that position. So if it means going to your Councilmember for your district, if it means going to the entire County Council, yes, you should submit to everybody. And I don't believe that the way it's being handled now is being fair and just for the `āina and the lāhui, it's fulfilling certain corporate...sorry, I won't go on. You know what I mean.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. Yeah, I know what you're getting at. No, I just...because I had asked, and I had spoken to a couple of people a couple of years ago about this issue, and just asked them, you know, I think it's within their...within everybody's right if they fill an application, send it to the Administration, that they could also send a copy to the Council, and that way we would know some of the people that were applying without having to go through the Charter Amendment. That's something that can be done immediately if people want to.

MS. KAMEKONA: Yes. Thank you for the question.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member King. Members, any other need to clarify Ms. Kamekona's testimony. Seeing none. Mahalo, Ms. Kamekona, for your testimony.

MS. KAMEKONA: Mahalo. Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha. Mr. Leauanae, is there anyone else signed up for testimony?

MR. LEAUANAE: Yes. Faith Chase is the next testifier.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Good morning, Ms. Chase.

MS. CHASE: Good morning, Chair. Sorry. Good morning, Committee. I would definitely like to echo what Carol Lee Kamekona has said about a Charter Amendment, and I will reach out to her and work as a team. It's been too many years where we don't get to see the applicants, and I think that's a great idea. On specifically, I wanted to speak to the ethics and Mr. Scott Parker. I missed the beginning, but I do want to say that after reviewing the Coronavirus Relief Fund reporting pages, 19 pages, I think the Ethics Commission [sic] is going to be busy with some new business, and I also wanted to just...I wanted to let him know that that's around the corner. And thank you for putting his name forward, regardless if other peoples put his name forward. It

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appears that he'll be taking that station. And I wanted to say that, you know, if it...if you are not up to speed on the last year's committee meetings, that we are going to be speaking a lot about land tenure, to not be afraid of that, and to welcome your new commission members into some very exciting conversations. Just wanted to get that on the record. As far as the Board of Water Supply, I'd like to make a personal mention to Christy and Karalyn to perhaps go back and watch last year. I think it was...as much as you can, if you haven't already. No insult you have. The Water Supply covered a lot of massive subjects. I usually try to give new board members a packet of history because there is no space where you...there is no real protocol, internal protocol, or policy where you update your new board member, and boy, Maui's got a...we've got a big subject on water. So I would just encourage you to go back and watch last year's meetings. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for your testimony Ms. Chase. Members, any need to clarify Ms. Chase's testimony? Member Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Molina. Thank you, Ms. Chase, for your testimony. I just wanted to clarify your support for Mr. Parker. It looks like that he's on the Salary Commission until 2024, and I guess from the agenda, Board of Ethics for a short term, and then also for the next term after that one expires. I just was wondering if there's any concern with, I guess, a number of people applying for these boards and commissions and one person serving on two concurrently, if there's...if you think...I don't know if you were aware of that, but if you think that's okay.

MS. CHASE: That's a tough one. Thank you, Member King [sic]. But I envision myself being retired and being on three or four commissions, so I don't really know. I really can't say. I don't know enough about it. I would say that as a personal question, and if some of the good questions that were asked about being available, and do you have the tools to do remote testimony. I've heard you all ask some good questions. If he feels suited, so be it. Sorry. I haven't really wrapped my brain around that. Thank you for the question though.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Members, any other need to clarify Mr. Chase's testimony. Seeing none. Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Chase.

MS. CHASE: A hui hou. Have a good day.

CHAIR MOLINA: A hui hou. Okay. Mr. Leauanae, please continue.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. There are no other testifiers signed up right now.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Last call for anyone out there who would like to testify on any of our agenda items today. I guess there's no one else signed up. Please confirm that for me, Mr. Leauanae, no one else has signed up for testimony.

MR. LEAUANAE: No one else has signed up.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. So all right. Members, if there are no objections, the Chair will close oral testimony for our agenda today. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you. And the Chair has received written testimony. Any objections to receiving written testimony for our agenda items today?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Very good. So ordered.

GREAT-2(3) NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS (BOARD OF ETHICS) (CC 19-24)

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Members, let's start right off with GREAT Item-2(3), which has to do with the nomination of Scott Parker, the individual that was just talked about in testimony. Members, if you recall, the Council disapproved the Mayor's nomination to the Board of Ethics at the January 15th, 2021, Council meeting. And today, we are considering a new nomination, which is Mr. Parker, from the Mayor, to fill this vacancy. Now, the Mayor's nominating Mr. Parker for a term expiring on March 31st, 2021, to fill a vacancy due to the resignation of Travis Thompson. Now, Mr. Parker, on the next agenda item, is up for a five-year term, so just wanted to sort of explain that why he's...his name appears twice on today's agenda. For this particular nomination, this would be until the end of this month...or actually until March 31st, 2021. So basically, we're looking at about a month and a half, assuming he's approved. The Council's 60-day deadline to approve or disapprove this nomination for this term is March 26th of this year. And as I mentioned earlier, Mr. Parker, at a later point, is being considered for a five-year term. But so as not to cause any confusion, because Mr. Parker's term for this particular consideration expires on March 31st of this year, it needs to be approved or disapproved by the Council first before he can be considered for the full five-year term. So the Chair's plan for today, or intention, is to possibly take action on Mr. Parker's term expiring on March 31st, 2021, at the February 5th Council meeting, which is this Friday, much like what we did for the previous nominee. So we'll consider...basically what I'm going to do with this is defer it, and then take action at the Council meeting under the leadership of Chair Lee to

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approve him for this basically one and a half month term, okay. And then for the five-year consideration, I'm going to defer decision making on that until our recess date, which I've discussed with you, for February 10th, next week Wednesday. Is that clear, Members, somewhat, what, how we are going to proceed with these two matters related to Mr. Parker? Councilmember King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thanks, Chair. So yeah, no, I like your plan. My only question is at what point would though...is Mr. Parker going to be at the Council...the full Council meeting this Friday then?

CHAIR MOLINA: He could. If you're talking about like interviewing him, I believe he's on the call today. We have that option if you'd like to interview Mr. Parker.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Well, I just wanted to ask him, you know, how he's going to handle being on the both the, you know, Salary Commission and this other one, so...

CHAIR MOLINA: Certainly. That's a great question to ask. Let me check with Mr. Mossman. First of all, I'd like to ask Mr. Mossman from the Mayor's Office to give us some brief comments on Mr. Parker, and then I assume Mr. Parker's on the line to answer any questions. Mr. Mossman, go ahead.

MR. MOSSMAN: Yeah. Chair Molina, we talked about that earlier. I know Scott had said...we talked very lengthily on his ability to do both, and he feels that with the virtual set up that they have and the meeting schedule that happens that he could do the job without any problems, checking with his bosses and all that. So we're confident that he can basically do the two. Again, that's up for your folks' understanding. I also shared with you that Scott had called. He...depending on the length of the meeting this morning, he had a commitment for a 9:30, so I do believe that he is not on the call right now, and I don't know if he's there. But if, Scott, are you there or not, are you available?

MS. THOMAS: Aloha mai. This is Kimberly Thomas. I am Dr. Parker's manager here at the head of school office, so I am on standby. He is right next door in another room in his 9:30, so I can retrieve him.

MR. MOSSMAN: Thank you, Kimberly.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: And then while we're...Chair, if I can just follow up while we're waiting. So Ipo, is...there are no regulations against serving on two boards or commissions at one time that you know of?

MR. MOSSMAN: No. Not...I mean, the Charter doesn't say that, so the answer is no.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. I was just curious, because I think Member Paltin brought up that in the past, someone brought up that there was a nominee who already served

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on CPAC, and so that person shouldn't be appointed. So is CPAC treated a little differently than boards and commissions as far as, you know, serving?

MR. MOSSMAN: Well, you know, just to answer that, Council King, I...we follow the process pretty closely here. So to my knowledge and to what I have been shared with Corp. Counsel, there is no, there...it is not a conflict, and there is not a restriction to having somebody sit on two different boards.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Including CPAC?

MR. MOSSMAN: So I may *(audio interference)* corrected if someone from Corp. Counsel is there, but...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: I don't see anybody jumping in to --

CHAIR MOLINA: If I could interject, I *(audio interference)*...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: -- contradict you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mr. Mossman and Ms. King, I see Mr. Parker's online right now. So good morning, Mr. Parker, and thank you for making yourself available. We have a question for you from Member King, and some of the other members may have questions with regards to your request to sit on the Board of Ethics. Member King, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah. I just wondered if you were going to have a conflict of time or any conflict of interest in serving in the two different, but I guess there's still some...one or two years left on the Salary Commission for you.

MR. PARKER: Yeah, sure. No, I appreciate the question. And good morning, thank you for allowing me to spend some time with you. As I spoke with Mr. Mossman, definitely acknowledging that, you know, serving on two commissions, I do believe I have the capacity, and I know that actions speak louder than words. So, you know, definitely don't want to leave any doubt in your mind going forward. But I also do recognize that should, you know, endeavors become unmanageable, I mean, I'm willing to step away from one to make sure that I can commit fully in capacity to one or the other. But I'm open to having that conversation should the need arise. I definitely don't want to, you know, not serve to my full capacity, and take on more than I can, and then not serve fully by trying to juggle too much. So I believe I can now, but I'm definitely willing to see how that goes and step away, if need be, from one.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thank you so much, and thanks for being here. Is it too much to ask you which one you would step away from if you did have a conflict of time?

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MR. PARKER: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You don't have to answer that if you don't want to.

MR. PARKER: Yeah. Maybe I would just say I would like to think about it. I mean, I've served on the Salary Commission, so I know a little bit more how that works versus the Board of Ethics, that would be new. So maybe having an opportunity to learn a little bit more about the Board of Ethics, if afforded the opportunity, would give me some greater perspective before making a decision, if that's a fair response.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: That's very fair. Thank you. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember King. And thank you again, Mr. Parker. I have no questions for you. I know you've been before us for, I believe, was the Salary Commission, so I know you're a man of outstanding character and certainly, that's a component that's going to be certainly required to serve on the Board of Ethics. So I have no questions. Let me ask the rest of the Members if they have any questions for you. Councilmember Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Dr. Parker, for your willingness to step up two times. My question is, Mr. Mossman mentioned that with this set up of virtual meetings, the two shouldn't be a problem. And we have put in a bill to the State Legislature to be able to continue these types of virtual meetings outside of the emergency proclamation declaration, or whatever it is. And so I guess my question is if we're not successful or if, you know, miraculously COVID ends and we can just go back to normal, would it be a hardship then if it was back to in person, and we were no longer allowed to do these virtual meetings?

MR. PARKER: Thank you for your question. Before Committee, I did make sure to check. And from what I can tell, Board of Ethics meets, I believe, the second Wednesday at 12:30, and Salary Commission is...I believe is still on the third Friday at 8:30. So right now, presently no conflicts, and I would make sure that that remains so. Ideally, the virtual, you know, continues to be an ideal, given the situation, but should the time come that in person resumes, presently no conflicts exist.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And my final question is just, you know, I'd like to know a little bit, like, what fairness means to you.

MR. PARKER: Oh, that's a good question because I think a lot of times people connotate fairness with equity and, you know, equity with fairness. But I think it's...I think...I just...off the top of my head, it's really creating an opportunity to be impartial, and to allow opportunity for all sides to be heard, and to...really, I guess in essence, delaying judgment or forming opinion until, you know, all facts are on the table, and really relying on facts versus fiction, and ensuring that truth is there, and trying to make

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sense of truth. You know, there's been a lot of that, especially in this, you know, political cycle, and I won't go there. But, you know, so really, just taking an opportunity to allow those kinds of things to come to light, and really banking on those kinds of things, and allowing everybody to have an opportunity. And yeah, I would leave it at that, I guess, to start.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Dr. Parker. I believe I can support you on Friday. Thank you.

MR. PARKER: Mahalo. I appreciate it.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Members, any other questions for Dr. Parker. We have Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Dr. Parker, for putting your valuable time out available to the community. I just wanted to make a statement, and if you want to comment, your Royal Order of Kamehameha, and all these great credentials. I really appreciate you sharing your time with us, as well as you have your doctorate. So in the positions or the commissions that your name is up for...or commission your name is up for, that definitely reading, and studying, and knowing the facts are really important. So appreciate your educational background, and I think we also could tell from what you answered Ms. Paltin that you're going to do the homework, and we appreciate that because that's what it will take for fairness. If you want to make a statement about that, but I appreciate you.

MR. PARKER: No, I appreciate that. And I think, you know, as I read through, you know, the Board of Ethics, and I'll call it a mandate, you know, it really talks about the responsibility of the members to, and I'll quote here, that the public may have...may justifiably have trust and confidence in the integrity of government, and I really think that's important. And I really think it's important to have, you know, that collective engagement of citizens to be a part of that process and really relying on their fairness and personal integrity to contribute to that. So I just honored to be considered, and really appreciate you allowing me this time to come here, and have this conversation, and again, participate in government.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much.

MR. PARKER: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I totally support you, and thank you very much for being a part of us. Thank you.

MR. PARKER: Mahalo.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. I see Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. You have a question or questions for Mr. Parker, please proceed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Parker. Mahalo for making time to answer our questions, and your willingness to serve our County on these boards and commissions. So in response to your...Members Paltin's questions, you talked about getting all the facts on the table. And we know facts can be relative, depending on who it's coming from. And as the po'o of a school, I'm sure you hear the relative facts coming from different people, and sometimes they could be conflicting. So I think you have quite a bit of experience in determining which facts carry more weight, I guess, than other facts. So...and serving on the Board of Ethics, I think that's something that you'll likely need to weigh when you hear different perspectives on people's set of facts as they understand it. So would you be able to speak to that?

MR. PARKER: Yeah. Thank you for the question. I just think it's important to make sure that you hear all sides, you know, and you really look at things objectively, and go into situations. And I know it's hard because we're human beings. But really, you know, go into situations where everything needs to be put on the table and every piece of...I hate to use the word evidence because I'm not an attorney, you know, and I don't believe the court...the Board of Ethics is a court of law. But you know, looking at the facts and the evidence that comes forward, and really making sure that it's viewed in an objective manner and that all aspects of that, and everyone that has an opportunity is allowed to provide their side, you know. And at the end of the day, that everything and anything that should have been provided is provided, and that all the members are allowed that opportunity to weigh in and make their decision based on all of the relevant information that they can.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Parker. I'll be --

MR. PARKER: Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- happy to support your nomination. Mahalo, Chair. Chair, I do have a clarifying question, after we let Mr. Parker go, for you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Will do. All right. Let me ask the rest of the Committee Members if you have any questions for Mr. Parker before we excuse him. Okay, seeing none. Thank you, Dr. Parker, for making yourselves available for questions from the Committee Members in your quest to serve on the Board of Ethics.

MR. PARKER: Mahalo, Chair. And I appreciate your comments earlier. Thank you so much for your support.

CHAIR MOLINA: No problem. Thank you very much, Dr. Parker. So Members, with regards to this particular item, but...well, let me check in on Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you have a clarifying question.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Mahalo, Chair. I just wanted to make sure I understand everything that's going on with Mr. Parker's nomination. So Mr. Parker is currently serving on the Salary Commission, and he will be for another two more years.

CHAIR MOLINA: Correct. I believe that expires 2024, I think --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: -- March 31st.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And then Mr. Parker is...right now, we're taking up GREAT-2(3), and that's for Mr. Parker to fill the vacancy of Travis Thompson until the end of March of this year.

CHAIR MOLINA: Correct.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then Mr. Parker is also on GREAT Item-2(1) for Board of Ethics for a five-year term.

CHAIR MOLINA: Um-hum. And now that --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: -- that consideration, we'll deal with that one at our recess meeting of February 10th. So what the Chair's intent for the March 31st, 2021 expiration, Mr. Thompson's term, I'm going to defer that decision making on that today, and we'll make that decision at Council on February 5th.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: And thank you for asking to have that...this procedure refreshed to us today because this is one of those quirky ones that you don't seldom see. But because we rejected the previous nominee at that...the January 15th Council meeting, that's why we're here today taking up Mr. Parker, who is the replacement nominee for the rest of Mr. Thompson's term. So, okay. Everybody clear on that?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(audio interference)*

CHAIR MOLINA: No, go ahead.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. So Mr. Parker would be serving on two boards and commissions for the duration of his Salary Commission term of two years left.

CHAIR MOLINA: Right. That is the understanding.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. You were asking Staff a question?

CHAIR MOLINA: No. No questions for Staff at this point. So Members, we're going to go ahead and defer GREAT Item-2(3). Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

ACTION: DEFER.

CHAIR MOLINA: And of course, that matter will go to Council this Friday for decision making on that term. And when we take up Mr. Parker again for the next item, that will not...decision making on that will not occur until next week's recess meeting. Okay. All right. Well, I'm glad we got through that first item.

GREAT-2(1) NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS (VARIOUS)
(CC 19-24)

CHAIR MOLINA: And let's continue on now with the big item, GREAT Item-2(1), and we've got a lot of nominees to consider today. And Members, the Chair apologizes. For the rest of our nominees, the Chair's going to implement a clock, a time clock, so we can try and get through this as expeditiously as we can, and we'll see what's not addressed at the end by 12:00 today, and we'll look at a recess. Because we do have a 1:30 committee meeting under the leadership of Mr. Sinenci, so I want to see how much we can get done today, and then we'll recess. Okay. So I want to give you guys as much time for your break prior to the next meeting, so let's get going. All right. GET Item-2(1) [sic] which is nomination to Boards, Committees, and Commissions. The Mayor is nominating a total of 40 individuals for various County boards and commissions, each for five-year terms beginning on April 1st, 2021, and expiring on March 31st, 2026. The Council's 60-day deadline to approve or disapprove these nominations is March 23rd, 2021. Although your Chair did not receive the required four requests from Members to have any nominees present today, the Chair did invite nominees from the following boards to be interviewed today. And the first of that is the Board of Ethics. We already interviewed Mr. Parker, so now we have the next nominee, Mr. Steven Sturdevant. And I'd like to ask Mr. Mossman to give opening comments on Mr. Sturdevant before we call on him to give us his thoughts as to why he would like to be considered for Board of Ethics. Mr. Mossman?

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MR. MOSSMAN: Thank you, Chair. Mr. Sturdevant, you...in front of you has been organized, skills 40 years of management experience on Maui, wants to serve the community as best as he could. And as...after speaking with Mr. Sturdevant, it seemed to me...he seemed a very good fit for this, and we went through that conversation. So I'd like to introduce him from the standpoint of being one of the Mayor's nominees to the Board of Ethics.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Mossman. Good morning, Mr. Sturdevant. If you can take about a minute or two just to share your thoughts with the Committee as to why you'd like to be considered for the Board of Ethics. Please go ahead.

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, first of all, I'm very humbled and honored to be even considered for this. I've been around Maui for most of my adult life, and I, you know, just managed to keep myself out of jail, which is good. I imagine that's a good thing to be about on the Ethics Committee [sic]. But anyway, it's the first time ever that I've been involved with the County, any type of committee or anything like that. And from what I heard from Faith Chase, looks like I've got some homework to do, and I'm willing to that, to dive into that, and get some background on it by reading the meeting minutes, and also watching some of the videos, if that's there. I'm also available on the second Wednesdays of each month. And so I'm open to any questions you might have. I heard the questions you gave...you asked of Scott, and he did a very good...he answered them very well, as far as I'm concerned.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much for your opening comments, Mr. Sturdevant. Well, I'll start off first since I did...I invited you. Thank you for being here, and I...you have a very familiar name certainly, especially I see your advertising and your trucks. And on a personal note, I...as a young boy, I always thought about getting into fixing refrigerators and air conditioning. So anyway, just a personal thought. So I appreciate you as a business owner. You can make the time to serve on this board, and especially this board, character is everything. So it may be a dumb question, but any potential conflicts you see, or I assume you never had any brushes with the law, or any social media concerns? If you could just share with us for the record that I assume you have nothing we need to be worried about. Sorry about the dog there.

MR. STURDEVANT: No problem.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right, Mr. Sturdevant.

MR. STURDEVANT: No, I don't have any problems with that. The only time I've been in prison is to fix their air conditioning over there, so--and as far as social media, I do read the newspaper a lot. I'm very limited on social media as far what I input. I do keep apprised of things. I'm on all of the alerts that come through the website, and so yeah, I really hold integrity high for the people I associate myself with, and therefore, I try to be that way myself.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your response, Mr. Sturdevant. All right, Members, I'm going to go ahead and start the clock, Mr. Leauanae. And Members, if at all possible, please confine your questions to what's on Mr. Sturdevant's application, if at all possible. So...all righty. We'll start first with Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you have the floor.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Sturdevant. I don't know. I'm sorry. I'm butchering your last name.

MR. STURDEVANT: No problem.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I...so I usually ask our nominees three questions. One, what is your...or do you foresee any concerns with your attendance on the board and commission? Two, what do you feel you would contribute? And three, what is your experience with this particular board?

MR. STURDEVANT: Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(audio interference)*

MR. STURDEVANT: I don't see any problems with...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Go ahead.

MR. STURDEVANT: I don't see any problems with the attendance, especially if it stays with the virtual, that makes it easier for me. But on the other hand, we don't travel much, so I don't think it will be much of a problem with the meeting times or the meeting days. I haven't really been a part of a committee before. I've been on other boards with the Feed My Sheep and others, but...and if you talk to those...the people listed there, that they all give me a reference of being always there on time and on date. So...and what can I contribute? I will contribute everything that I have. You know, my experiences, my...I'll try to do as much research as I can on each individual situation that comes up and give a fair...but, you know, sometimes it's not exactly fair. Sometimes it's black and white, sometimes it's gray. But I'll give my best decision if there's a decision to be made on it. I try to make a win-win as much as possible because I know on a small island, we tend to run into each other at the grocery store or down the hill at Puk Sup or whatever, you know, so...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your responses. And then the last question is, what is your experience? Have you watched any of the meetings, testified, reviewed the minutes, such as what is your experience with the board?

MR. STURDEVANT: I did review a little bit of the minutes. I haven't watched any of the videos. As far as testifying, I've testified a few times for Feed My Sheep is one, and

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then also, I think, for a project Upcountry. It was...I don't know. I can't remember exactly, but it somehow was a project. That's about it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, you testified (*audio interference*)

MR. STURDEVANT: I'm sorry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You testified before the Board of Ethics for those two items?

MR. STURDEVANT: No. No, not the Board of Ethics.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. Okay. And so the reason I ask is I'm just asking to see what you're familiarizing...how familiar you are with the board that you've been nominated for, and if you are familiar with the process of meeting procedures.

MR. STURDEVANT: No, but I'm willing to learn and willing to dive right in, so hopefully that helps.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for this time and your willingness to serve. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Moving on to our next Councilmember for Q&A. And Members, by the way, if you feel the nominee has responded to your question, feel free to jump in and...because...since you are on the clock. And Mr. Sturdevant, if at all possible, if you can answer whatever questions are given to you in a concise matter...because the Members are on a time clock, in case they have more questions for you, so...okay. We'll go to Chair Lee for any questions for Mr. Sturdevant.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just have one question. You may have said it already, answered it already, but I didn't hear you. Did you apply specifically for the Board of Ethics?

MR. STURDEVANT: I applied for three different committees, that's as far as I knew...as far as which ones I wanted to be a part of.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Which three?

MR. STURDEVANT: Oh, boy.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You don't remember, that's okay.

MR. STURDEVANT: I don't remember.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. I'm done.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. Let's go to Councilmember Johnson. Questions for Mr. Sturdevant.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Sturdevant. I recall you...your company coming to Lānaʻi and doing a lot of jobs on Lānaʻi, and I appreciate your hard work and helping us out over there. We don't have a HVAC company on Lānaʻi, so mahalo for your service. This is a appointment on ethics, and I have a question about your Feed My Sheep involvement. Can you explain to the Council your involvement in the Feed My Sheep?

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, I've been on the board for at least about five to seven years, and I just help Joyce out as much as I can. I...we've installed a lot of refrigeration for her, taking care of the...making sure the food is cool and preserved. And...I don't know, I just really think that that organization is one that can...is the best charity that uses the money that she gets, you know, the best way. And I just really think the integrity is there, and I...that's why I associate myself with that.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Wonderful. Thank you for your answer. In your application form, you...and I quote you, you need to think about organic community growth. So can you clarify what you mean by organic community growth?

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, one time I...when I first started business here 40-some years ago, we brought in some people from the mainland and tried to see how that would work because, you know, there's not a lot of tradespeople here. And so that didn't work out very well, so I decided to start training people. And so we started going to the high schools, going to colleges. I taught a couple of classes at the college, and just trying to really invest in the local people here, and it's worked out the best. That's by far the best. We hardly even take anybody from the mainland anymore.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Mahalo, Mr. Sturdevant. That's all the questions I have from you. Mr. Chair, thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Johnson. Let's go to Councilmember King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. I think I got most of my questions answered, but the only question I have left was, Mr. Sturdevant...and thank you for being here and being willing to serve. On your application, under party affiliation, it says conservative. Is there a party deemed conservative, or is that...I mean, it's basically asking for what party you're officially registered to, so...

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, I'm a registered Republican, yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. So that's what you meant to put there?

MR. STURDEVANT: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay.

MR. STURDEVANT: But it...I voted for the person, not for the party, but I'm a registered one.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But you don't have any...I just want to make sure that you didn't have any problem with the party affiliations since you put down a different word.

MR. STURDEVANT: Yeah. Yeah, I don't...I didn't know how important it was in the County, so...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, mostly for us it's important because we have to balance that out. Because it says in the Charter you can't have more than so many people of one party, so that's...

MR. STURDEVANT: Oh, okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: It's...for us, it's a legality so...

MR. STURDEVANT: Okay. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. All right. Thank you, Chair. I don't have any more questions.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member King. Member Sugimura?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Sturdevant. You know, I don't have any questions for you, but just by looking at your application and hearing you, I really like you as a person, and thank you very much for putting yourself out there. I mean, just hearing you, you educated, you made sure that you grew your workers. I mean, you're just a very wonderful person, I think. So thank you very much for putting yourself on the, you know.

MR. STURDEVANT: Thank you. It's just hard to be real relaxed. But you guys are very organized, I really appreciate that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

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CHAIR MOLINA: -- thank you very much, Member Sugimura. Okay. Let's move on to Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair. Mahalo, Mr. Sturdevant, for your willingness to serve. And I apologize, I didn't get the last question from Member King. That was in line of my questions. Which party affiliation were you more geared towards?

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, I'm a registered Republican.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. And...

MR. STURDEVANT: And like I mentioned to her, I don't really vote Republican. I vote for the person, so...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Then my...I guess my depth of the question was that, you know, just...I've seen such division at a national level, and then trying to curb those types of things here on the islands. You know, we live in such a small proximity amongst each other with close family ties, not to...you know, not to perpetuate those types of practices here on the island. And I don't know how much you would have to experience at the Board of Ethics, so those were just some of my concerns. The other follow-up question was from Member Johnson about community growth. And you also dictate wisdom of diversification, if you could kindly speak to that.

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, I don't really, like say, I don't hire people according to their...any type of...this is...well, their ethnicity, I guess is that I'm trying to say that right.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Ethnicity.

MR. STURDEVANT: I try to hire for their abilities and the potential of what kind of growth they can have. If you join us, if you come by and look at us, as a company, you'll see that we're all just a family of diversity here. So I'm kind of proud of that because I think that, you know, it's a proving that we can all get together, and we can produce really good things for the community.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. I appreciate those comments. Thank you, Chair.

MR. STURDEVANT: Great question.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thanks, Member Sinenci. Councilmember Paltin, questions for Mr. Sturdevant.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Sturdevant, for your willingness to serve, and apply, and go through this process. I guess, I just have a comment or a question about a statement that you had made earlier. You know, I totally agree that there's black and white, and then, you know, in life, there's definitely

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many, many shades of grey. One thing that I did learn of this past term, despite the shades of grey, ultimately you need to vote yes or no. And for us we have kind of a little bit of an out in that we can make amendments to proposals or bills. But I think, you know, in terms of Board of Ethics, I just was wondering, I don't think you have necessary the capacity to make amendments; it's a yes or no maybe in terms of consequences you can make it. But how would you deal with that, knowing that within life there's many shades of grey, but ultimately, your vote will be yes or no?

MR. STURDEVANT: Well, I would try to make sure that I knew as much as about the situation as possible. And I would...I'm not afraid of saying yes or no or whatever the decision would be because I would do the best I can. I won't be influenced by other people because I'm my own man, you know, my own person.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I respect that for sure.

MR. STURDEVANT: So I'll just do that best I can.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I feel that I won't have a problem to support you. Thank you very much for your willingness to serve.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Councilmember Kama, questions for Mr. Sturdevant.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you very much for being here, Mr. Sturdevant. I just have one question. Who do you hold yourself accountable to?

MR. STURDEVANT: My wife and to God.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Certainly, a very good question, Member Kama. And great answers from you, Mr. Sturdevant. But I believe that's it for Q&A from the Members. I want to thank you, Mr. Sturdevant, for making yourself available. Oops. We got that one question from Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I really wanted to know the answer to Chair Lee's question, and I was wondering if Mr. Mossman could...perhaps could answer that question.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mr. Mossman, did you recall the question asked by Chair Lee, or would you like to...

MR. MOSSMAN: No, I'm sorry. Can you please repeat that, Vice-Chair?

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. What boards and commissions did our nominee apply for? It should be on the second page, right, the confidential page that we don't get.

MR. MOSSMAN: Yes. We have Sturdevant...I was going to say that when Chair Lee asked that, but his first choice was the Board of Ethics; second choice was the Board of Variance and Appeals; third choice was Real Property Tax Review Board; fourth choice was Maui Planning Commission; his fifth, Board of Water Supply; sixth, Salary Commission; seventh, Real Property Tax Review Board; and Public Works as his last. So I'd like to really commend him for being such a positive, community minded person, and we appreciate that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Mossman. So broad appeal. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. And last quick question for you, Mr. Sturdevant. It's on your application, but your company, you do primarily commercial work or residential, and has the pandemic had an impact on your business? And it's quite admirable that you'd been able to stay in business this long.

MR. STURDEVANT: Yeah. We do a lot of residential and commercial both. We do as much as, you know, being on the island we need to have a lot of diversity that way. And then, you know, we had a very big slow down during the summertime. Oddly enough, the refrigeration...or the residential and service work just totally took a dive. And construction work, however, did do...keep us going through, and we were able to come out pretty well this year.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for that information. All right, Mr. Sturdevant, we're going to go ahead and excuse you. And again, thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to respond to questions from the Committee. And again, thank you for applying, and we look forward to your participation on the Board of Ethics in the near future. Okay. Thank you.

MR. STURDEVANT: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Members, Chair's looking at the clock. I think you guys need a break. So why don't we do this, let's take a short break. Let's come back at, say, 10:45, Members? Is that good? Take care of any personal needs. Okay, great. All right, the GREAT Committee meeting for Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021, is in recess until ten...oh, go ahead, Member King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Before you recess, could you just...I just wanted to find out from you what the procedure is. Are we going to go through all of them without voting, and then go back to them and then take a vote on each one, or what's the...

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CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah. Good question. The Chair's going to proceed first by doing all the interviews first for the invited nominees, and after that then we'll consider...Chair will make a motion for all of the nominees. And then after that motion, then requests for separations can be made by the Members to do a separate vote if you'd like to do that. But I don't know how soon we'll get to that, if we get to that point today, but that's the plan for now.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So we'll...so if we don't get to all of them, we won't have any of them nominated, at this point?

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah, depending on...I think we've got about another ten people to interview, so...and the Chair's intent is to recess at 12:00, so I don't know if we'll be able to get to that motion, but we'll see how far we progress.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Members, let's go ahead and maybe give you a few more minutes. So let's recess...

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Member Paltin has her hand up.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm sorry, go ahead, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Chair Molina, I just was wondering if you were going to share with us who withdrew so I can --

CHAIR MOLINA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- get all my papers ready.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Yes, Members, for your information, for the one of the nominees for the Water Board [sic], Ms. Tukuafu submitted her withdrawal. And then also, we have from the Liquor Adjudication Board, although we won't be interviewing that person, Naomi Kusachi, she will be withdrawn. And as a matter of fact, Members, I'm glad you brought that up. Maybe what we can do...we can...Chair will entertain a motion because they've withdrawn, procedurally we have to take a vote to reject them. So if you'd like Members, I can make the...ask for a motion to reject the two nominees because of their withdrawal. And let me just ask Mr. Mossman for confirmation on that, just to make sure we're all on the same page. Mr. Mossman...and if you'd like to share any reasons as to why the two nominees withdrew, if that information is available. Mr. Mossman?

MR. MOSSMAN: Oh, thank you, Chair. Yes, we had one on Sunday that was from Ms. Nalani [sic] Tukuafu, and we...unfortunately, she has some family health

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problems, and so she felt that she wouldn't be able to do...or spend the time that she wanted to with her family at this point. So of course, we did nothing but support her. And the second with Ms. Naomi, she just felt that her law firm that she works for is overwhelmed right now, and at the time, she talked to us saying she should be able to handle the load. Last minute, last night, she came in with the plea to withdraw. And so with that being said again, we thanked her for her application.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for that update, Mr. Mossman. Councilmember Paltin?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, so moved, if you'd like, but I see Member Sinenci has a question.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Member Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair. Mahalo, Member Paltin. I just wanted to add, you know, we were supportive of Ms. Tukuafu's appointment being that we wanted to...and Mr. Mossman wanted to continue to have a Hāna representative on there. And...and like you said, Naulani (*phonetic*) has some family health crises . . . (*inaudible*). . . so...but we did...I did want to, Mr. Mossman, that there were four other applicants from East Maui that was also willing participants and I know he's been working with us personally to try and accommodate us. So I appreciate (*audio interference*) Mossman (*audio interference*). Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . (*inaudible*). . .

MR. MOSSMAN: Thank you, Council...Councilmember. I just wanted to let you know that, you know, when...when that came in we do have...and...and that's going to be something...we have two different applicants from Hāna, which we are fortunate to have, and I think they would fit right into that, Shane...Councilman Shane, and we can...we can discuss that, yeah.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Mossman. Member Paltin, any...any final thoughts? Oh, I guess you're going to make the...well, Chair's recommendation is to reject the two nominees, Ms. Tukuafu for the Board of Water Supply and Ms. Kusachi for the Liquor Adjudication Board. Chair will entertain a motion.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So moved.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. It's moved by Member Paltin, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Any discussion on the two nominees? And again, this is just a procedural thing. It has nothing to do with the character...I'm sorry, Member Paltin. You wanted to...as a maker of the motion.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, yeah. I just...I just wanted to emphasize what you're probably was about to say that, you know, nothing personal. We just want to honor their request to remove and it's just unfortunate that the wording comes out as reject, which has a negative connotation, but we...we really appreciate their offer to serve. And we also appreciate their cognizance in recognizing, before being sat, the need to withdraw, and we support them, and we thank them for their willingness to apply.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. So noted, Member Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. I...I think the resolution says disapprove, right? Not --

CHAIR MOLINA: Correct, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- not reject?

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah. Oh, okay. Sorry. Yeah. Disapprove sound...much more formal. I agree. Thank you for that clarification. . . .*(laughing)*. . .

CHAIR MOLINA: I know. Sound so harsh, yeah? The...the word reject, yeah, just...just more...and Mr. Mossman, because we do have the withdrawal of Ms. Tukuafu, I'll just put it out there for the Administration's consideration, if they could find someone from the East Maui...Maui area, if at all possible, or any of the other areas that was expressed in testimony with regards to geographic balance, if at all possible.

MR. MOSSMAN: Yes, definitely. And like I said, we have two very viable applicants from the Hāna area that we'll be looking at very much and having further discussion, yes.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. All right. Seeing all the comments on the motion on the floor to...to disapprove, okay. Sorry, so used to using that other word. So no other discussion. All those in favor, signify by saying "aye" and raising your hand.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED AYE.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All those opposed?

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VOTE: AYES: Chair Molina, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, Councilmembers Johnson, Kama, King, Lee, Paltin, Sinenci, and Sugimura.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.

EXC.: None.

MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION TO DISAPPROVE NAOMI KUSACHI TO THE LIQUOR CONTROL ADJUDICATION BOARD, AND KARALYN TUKUAFU TO THE BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. The Chair will mark it unanimous. The two individuals have been disapproved, as a procedural matter, for applying to both the Board of Water Supply and the Liquor Adjudication Board. Okay. Members, let's go ahead and take our morning recess. GREAT Committee Meeting is in recess until 10:55 a.m. Meeting in recess. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 10:44 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:57 a.m.

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . *(gavel)*. . . The GREAT Committee Meeting for Tuesday, February 2nd is now back in session. Thank you very much for that recess, Members. And we last left off with interviewing our nominees for the mass...I guess the mass listing of boards and commission vacancies and before we do that, Members, I've had a request. We have, I guess, a bunch of nominees that decided to tune in that were not invited...or shall I say, asked to be here to be interviewed. So I guess we'll go ahead and excuse them. However, I am going to ask two nominees who were not initially invited for Q&A to make themselves available for interview at our recess meeting of February 10th, and those two nominees are for the Fire Commission, Mr. Payne and Ms. U'u-Hodgins. So if you could make yourselves available for that meeting, and we'll start at 9:00. And I'll have my Committee Staff follow up with you, and it's only because of comments made in testimony I feel we should be given the opportunity to respond to questions from the Committee, as well as respond to any comments made. So that is the Chair's request. And as far as all of the other nominees who were not asked for interviewed *[sic]*, you're free to leave if you want or you can hang out with us until 12:00, so we'll leave it up to you. All right, Members? We have another nine individuals that the Chair asked to be here for interviews, so I'm quite sure we'll not complete the interview

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process for our nominees that we have left, but we'll go ahead and start next with the nominee for the Board of Water Supply, Christy Kajiwar-Gusman, if she's online. And I'd like to ask first, Mr. Mossman to give us some opening comments on the nomination of Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman. Mr. Mossman?

MR. MOSSMAN: Thank you, Chair Molina. Christy comes from us, and she's been very involved in the community throughout the years. Not only is she self-employed with her own businesses with her husband, but she's very, very involved and...and we thought she would be a...a great candidate for the water, based on her farming background and some of the things that she does from the standpoint of raising her cattle. And so we...the Mayor's nominee, you know, for the water is Christy, and I think you can get more from her while you do your discussions, but we are...we commend her for being a part of the nominees for the Mayor...Victorino.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Mossman. Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman, if you can turn on your video, if you're available, we'd like to ask you a few questions with regards to your nomination to the Board of Water Supply. See a video coming...oh, there she is. Good morning, Christy. If you could go ahead and take a minute or two to give us an overview as to why you'd like to be nominated for the Board of Water Supply, please go ahead.

MS. KAJIWAR-GUSMAN: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair Molina and Members of the Council. My name is Christy Kajiwar-Gusman, and I...I just want to give a little bit of background about myself. So I spent a total of about, I'm going to say six and a half years or so on the Maui County Culture Resource Commission. I resigned from that position upon Mayor Victorino's...yeah, I used to work...most of you know me already, I used to work for Mayor Victorino on the 9th floor. So I resigned when I...I got that appointed position to make room for someone else. I am currently the Environmental Services Director for Hale Makua Health Systems in Kahului. I also, as Mr. Mossman said, run my own environmental consulting company. I hold various VP and OSHA certifications in HAZCOM, HAZWOPER, therm water prevention, storm water protection, things like that. I have previously and currently serve on several different boards: the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce, Waihee Community Association, the Hawai'i Cattlemen's Council, Maui County 4-H. I am the Founder and Director of the Hawai'i Youth Livestock Association. And then I did hear some of the earlier testimony, and I do want to point out to you folks that I do have a property, I...we are homeowners in Kokomo as well. So Ha'ikū, I believe...we would consider Ha'ikū Upcountry. We...we say Upcountry, but Kokomo to be exact, and that is also a agriculture property where we do have cattle and sheep. And then for the last 20 years, my husband and I have also run a ranch in Hāna and, as Mr. Sinenci know [sic], we've reached out to his office several times for assistance in actually trying to open a 4-H Program for the keiki out in Hāna because, you know, they...they...we were in the process of doing that last year when COVID hit. So for the last 20 years we have managed a property of over 300 acres out in the Hāna District which unfortunately, this year with COVID and with a lot of the changes...this year the State

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DLNR has taken back many of our agriculture leases. So I did, unfortunately, lose that lease in 2019 officially. It was turned over to Forestry, which we don't agree with because now it's overgrown and going to get invasive species. So Mr. Sinenci, I'll reach out to you later about that, but trying to work with MISC and stuff but, like Ipo said, I'm...I'm kind of all over the place, but I do want to take what I have learned from being on the CRC and...and, you know, in Waihee we have a lot of issues with our...with our water as well just, you know, with...with getting access to water and stuff like that. So it has been...I also do volunteer...I'm a active volunteer with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui and with the Native Hawaiian Land Trust with Scott Fisher guys. So that's something that my entire family takes part in as well for the community. In a nutshell, I guess, that's me, and so I welcome any questions that you folks may have.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much Ms. Kajiwarra-Gusman. I'll go ahead and start first. And again, Members, just a reminder, you'll be on a clock, four minutes, and then with a minute for a follow-up question. And Ms. Gusman, if you can be as concise with the answers, as much as possible, because the Members are on a clock and...and the Members may...may stop you with your response if they have another question because of the...the clock factor. So my first question is basically, you know, so I know you're very active in the community doing a lot of things, so I assume it's no problem for you to do the, I guess, twice a month meetings with the Board of Water Supply and...I'm correct with that...and one clarification. On your application under political affiliation, you listed yourself as Democrat Party of Hawai'i Wailuku District Chairperson. I know in the last election, you...you ran as a Republican. So could I get a clarification on your political affiliation?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah, I believe that application was actually put in after I left the Mayor's Office because it was my intention to get back onto the CRC. So they are looking at probably a early 2019 or maybe late 2018 application. I'm not sure which one he's looking at or which one you guys have. But I have since changed and I do now affiliate with...well, again, similar to Mr. Sturdevant, I am a...I did register as a Republican, but I also vote for the person and not the party, so...

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. And last question. The Water Use Development Plan has been in the news a lot. Can you share your thoughts and any knowledge you have about the Water Use Development Plan?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Again, going back to being a homeowner in Kokomo, it is very difficult. It is a touchy situation, and I have sat in on some of the former water board meetings. So as far as, you know, my knowledge of...of the plan or...or as far as making any comments as to how I would vote on that, I would say that I would need to get a lot more information on it. I...I briefly started paying attention to this recently while actually trying to build a home on our property Upcountry, and learning that that has been an issue being that, you know, no more water meters like that. So I have recently started to get involved, and it is become one of my more viable interests

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in the last year or so that, you know, we've been trying to move forward with our own properties, so...

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Very good. Thank you for your responses. Going to turn...turn matters over now to the Committee. We'll go first with Subject Committee Chair Councilmember Sinenci, who inherited the Water Use Development Plan, ironically. Questions for Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Molina, for the opportunity. Aloha, Christy, for your willingness to serve. Thank you for being here. And just for clarification, the...those Hāna ag lots, were those up in the Wakiu District, yeah?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes, that is Wakiu right next to Hāna High School between --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, okay.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- in Wai'anapanapa State Park and Hāna High School. The DNL has officially turned that back over to the Department of Forestry, so...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Okay. Thank you for that.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And so...yeah. And so Member Molina mentioned that we're finishing up with the Water Use Development Plan, and there are some issues that we want to address before sending it to the State. And so some of the issues...and you mentioned that you were part of the Cattlemen's Association --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: -- Farm...and the Farm Bureau. So a lot of the water use is appropriating water for agriculture. What are your thoughts about, you know, making sure that we have ample water usage for...for agriculture production?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: You know, that has been a big issue for us, especially...so for those of you who don't know, our Hawai'i Youth Livestock Association actually operates 160 acres right here in Central Maui. We have the property that is right alongside Kuikahi Drive right below the huge reservoir that is managed by Wailuku Water Company. And even with that source of water being available for our farming, it has not been an easy task for us to...to get adequate water. As you folks have noticed, the fires last year really...really put a strain on all of us because we...although we have water for the animals to drink, the irrigation...the...you know, before...not everybody...before we can be cattle farmers, we have to be...or cattle ranchers, we have to be grass farmers. And if you cannot raise feed for your animals...we would literally go broke trying to feed these animals through purchasing grains or hay or...or

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whatever it may be. I even had a conversation with Councilmember King with...with your husband in...in accordance to getting some of the sunflower byproduct to feed the cattle, you know, things like that. We were talking about stuff like that. How...how farming...how in farming we can help each other. But for the water use, you know, not being able to completely irrigate our fields because the reservoirs were low last year. We couldn't do that, and therefore, we were in fear of fire even in that property. And being so close to the --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You mean *(audio interference)*

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- housing, it was hard. So we do need --

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Christy, you mentioned --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- to fight our way to appropriate water.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: You mentioned the Wailuku Water System. And last Board of Water Supply meeting, Baz presented a possible acquisition of the system for the County. What is your thoughts on that?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: You know, I...I think it would be a great idea, but...however, you know, coming from a plantation background as well, I think that there needs to be a lot of working together on the part of not just Wailuku Water Company, but some of our... our kūpuna in the area. I know a lot of...so where we live in Waihee, for example, what we thought was there or what we were told was there when we went up into the...the...the mountains to go check, you know, our...my neighbor is John Varel...to go check and look at a lot of this. A lot of what we thought was there, and what he said was there, and what was on the maps wasn't. So I actually got a lot of information back, you know, several years back, from Gramma Kamai *(phonetic)*, who was, you know, one of the tenants in that area, Kaneloa Kamau's *(phonetic)*, I think it was his grandmother or mother, and also Bill Kamai's mother, who provided us with a lot of the information on where . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . the actual streams, ditches, what connects to what. You know, I...I think what Wailuku Water Company is doing is...is admirable, but there's more information out there to be found, and we need to get information from those sources as well. When...when you talk --

CHAIR MOLINA: Sorry, Ms. Gusman, I...I think the Member's time is up. So we'll give Councilmember Sinenci, if he chooses, another one minute for a follow-up question after we've gone through the other members.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Let's move on to Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Questions for Ms. Kajiwarra *(audio interference)*

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Kajiwarra-Gusman. Mahalo for your willingness to always step forward and serve our County. So I...whenever we have board and commission nominees come before us, my office always...we always do our due diligence in learning as much about nominees as we can with a Google search, social...social media search, to get a good feel of a person's character and ethics, to see if there's any immediate red flags that perhaps, you know, come up. And in...in the search, there...there was an article that came up in the *Maui News* about an incident that occurred that involved assault, and perhaps you know...you know which article I'm referring to. And so I...that was...that was one of the...the things that came up in...in my search is this...this one article about your behavior. And so in...in confirming nominees, I think it's...you know, it's important for me to ensure the public that everyone will be welcomed and their, you know, testimony will be, you know, encouraged, and it'll be a safe space. And so this article, you know, alludes to...it...it...the safe...the...the space not being as safe. So I...I have concerns about creating a welcoming environment for the public when we are choosing board and commission nominees. So this was in November 2019 and...yeah. So I...I have concerns about creating a safe space for our public.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Okay. Let me...can I...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: *(audio interference)*

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Are you going to ask a question? Sorry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes. Go ahead.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: No. Are...are you going to ask me a question? Because if not, I want to speak to that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You *(audio interference)*

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Sorry. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So...so *(audio interference)* about nurturing a safe space. What are your...what are your comments on that?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: So my comments on that, if first of all you read the article, the assault was not me assaulting someone, it was someone assaulting me. That person was found not guilty by a jury trial, and...and although I don't know if I can or cannot talk about the case but it has not been closed yet, I think. And...and then on top of that, it wasn't my choice, so to speak. There was an incident where, you know, my cell phone was taken, and I had a tracking device so I followed that person to the location where they were. I did call the police prior to...to doing so. I then saw the person with the cell phone, and I...I approached them, and I...I took it back at...to the

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point where I was...I was attacked. I was grabbed by the throat, and so the...the assault...the charges were from that...from, you know, I was charging or I had reported that this person had attacked me. It was not where I attacked that person. Now . . .(timer sounds). . . when...when the article came out in the *Maui News*, I think it was because it was the first case that had been heard before a jury trial. It had nothing to do with me attacking someone. So I just want to clear that up. And...and I don't...I didn't sue him or do anything. It was the Prosecutor's Office who chose to pursue the case. I had...I was subpoenaed to appear in court. So if you look at the paperwork, it's the State of Hawai'i versus whatever the guy's name was. It wasn't me versus him. So it was the Prosecutor's Office that chose to pursue this case.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Sorry. If I may interject, Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman. I think you responded to Committee Vice-Chair's Rawlins-Fernandez's question. And we'll come back for a follow up for you, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, for Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Let's go now to Councilmember Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Molina. Thank you, Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman, for your willingness to serve. My first question is, can we get an updated application, as it seems some of the information may be out of date. My second question...it looks like you nodded yes, so I'm just going ahead.

MS. KAJIWAR-GUSMAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: My second question is, you know, the Water Board...water in Maui and...and most all of the islands are controversial issues. And my second question is, how do you handle...like, what is your strategy for handling contentious issues with differing opinions?

MS. KAJIWAR-GUSMAN: So for handling a difference in opinion, I think we need to give everybody a fair chance at, you know, sharing both sides of the story. And for me, this...this election cycle, as you all know, has been a very contentious race personally, not just because of...of issues on the side, but because I have...I have chosen to run. You guys all know me. I've always been a Democrat, born and raised, served the party over 20 years --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, so --

MS. KAJIWAR-GUSMAN: -- and --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- so your answer is to listen to both sides?

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MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Is to listen to both sides and to try to find common ground.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Sorry. Port-a-gee (*phonetic*).

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then my next question would be, how do you balance policy making versus public opinion?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: So for policy making, I mean, we do have a County Charter. We do have our rules and regulations . . . (*inaudible*). . . and, you know, I stand firmly on supporting not just our...our, you know, Constitution, but also the...the rules and policies and procedures that...that are set in place for that particular reason. So, you know --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- get evidence and...and finding out what is in alignment with your County Charters and...and so on.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And I just wanted to go back to the other question I had. I just wanted to make sure I got them all under the buzzer but, you know, in listening to all sides of the stories, and you were talking about the election, there was a situation, I think, a while back with some sort of election thing where the chair of the party wasn't allowed. And I just was wondering how that factors into hearing all sides of the story if the chair of the political party wasn't allowed onto the site where the election results were tabulated?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: And I...I...not sure what you're talking about. I'm not familiar with that particular incident.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay. It was under the Democratic Party.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: I...I am not sure what you were...I don't know what, or who the chair may have been, or...I am not sure what incident you're talking about. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, okay.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Unless you can be more specific, I don't know.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, it was just something I heard about the police not allowing the chair of the Democratic Party or something not to oversee the election of something because they were on private property, but it was a...public political function. I didn't have the details, so I was hoping you could fill me in. But if you don't (*audio interference*)

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MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: I...I know of several instances, and this was a while back. But at the time, the only person that I know of that something did happen like that was with Karen *(phonetic)* Chun, but I was not in a leadership position at that time when she was...she was banned from the ILWU Office where they had chosen to have meetings. I was not in a leadership position at that time, if that's what you're talking about. Other than that, I have no recollection of anybody else being banned from any sites or anything like that. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, that wasn't the one, but okay. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Councilmember Kama, questions for our nominee, Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Christy, for being here.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: *(audio interference)*

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So my question is very simple, to the point. Who do you hold yourself accountable to?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: To God, without a doubt.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Kama. Go to Councilmember King.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Kajiwar-Gusman.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: *(audio interference)* ...here. So just to clarify because I got a little confused with the back and forth between the two parties. Your updated application would say that you're now with the Republican Party?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. So I have a couple questions for you. One is, you know, you seem to have a lot of personal interests with...that have to do with water. And so do you foresee having a conflict of interest in any of the decisions you're making on the Board of Water Supply or in the recommendations, given that you have, you know, the personal properties you talked about and the personal ranching operations *(audio interference)*

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MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: No, I feel that I can be very open, you know, to everyone. And I do know that there has been an overwhelming support for sustainable agriculture, not just here in Maui County, but statewide. And, you know, having that experience, I feel that...that there's much more that I can bring to the table. One of the problems I did have while working with the 9th floor, and I love you guys equal but, you know, was that the Mayor had set forward a task force to...to try and help through the OAD Office, which had all of these people on it that was supposed to help with agriculture, and not one of them had any agriculture background. If...if you going do one job, you know, you got to know...you got to have experience, you got to know what you're doing. And that's part of why you folks had amended the...the charter and, you know, why we go through this process, is so that you guys can see that we do have experiences and hardships that we can put forth and...which will actually make it better for everybody in the long run.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But you don't see that that could lead to a conflict of interest if you have --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: I...I don't. I see my experience as a benefit to the committee.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And then can you just say a few words about how you believe that the Board of Water Supply should be working with the Department of Water Supply? Because they haven't had a real close relationship in the past. So what is your vision for bringing that...you by...you know, the board into the position that they're supposed to have, which is advisory to water...Board of Water...Department of --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: So, yeah. Again, you know, it's a matter of knowing everybody in your leadership positions and...and getting together and just, you know, bringing everybody to the table. Hawaiians, we say ho'oponopono, I am part Hawaiian myself, you know, get together, talk about it, you know, put your differences aside even...no matter...no matter what it is because you are there to complete a task, to get a job done. And...and, you know, we have to keep in mind as well that we are just...same like being on the CRC...we are an advisory committee. So...so we are the community's hand in whatever is going on. I know as Councilmembers, you folks are busy. I try to text and call Yuki and...and, you know, Tasha, and it's, you know, sometimes we can get a hold of you guys; sometimes we cannot. So we are your hand extended --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. But that...that means that...because I have limited time. Sorry, I don't...I don't mean to interrupt you, but I have limited time. But, you know, they...they've been trying to be that...that guidance for the Department of Water Supply and haven't been successful. So what would you do differently to make that happen so that . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: I...I think I would try to maybe suggest more meetings together. Instead of us meeting at separate units of, you know, just...just the committee and

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then just the board, we should meet together maybe. Yeah, that would be, you know, number one on my list is to bring everybody together because that's how you get things solved.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. And then the last question is do you have a relationship with Mahi Pono, and have you had any discussions with them about water? Because my understanding is that they've been invited to the Board of Water Supply and have yet to show up to giving . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Oh, that is interesting. I do not have a personal relationship with Mahi Pono. They have been sponsors of 4-H and sponsors of the Hawai'i Youth Livestock Association. They have donated, you know, feed, like byproduct...you know, feed and stuff like that for...for our kids, but personally, no. I have applied for . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . a land lease from them, but we didn't get it...not yet anyway. So yeah, we're still waiting.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Well, I think my time's up, but thank you very much for...

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember King. Council Chair Lee, questions for our nominee?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Hi, Christy.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Hi.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I really don't have any...I don't have any questions for Christy. I've known her for a long time, and she's been a...been very active in the community as a volunteer and as...especially focused on our youth, and I do appreciate the work that she's done. Thank you.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. Councilmember Sugimura, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Nice seeing you, Christy. I just wanted to...I'm...I'm like Chair Lee, I don't...I've known you for years and years, and I...I don't really have a question for you. I'm glad that you're, you know, you're putting yourself out to --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Thank you.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- continue your service to the community. And one of the things that you mentioned is you...you...I realize what a big reach you've had with the different projects you've worked on. So you may live in Washee, but you have your...can you just tell us all the different communities that...

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: So I...I have been doing some outreach in the last, maybe, five years in the Hāna Community, just basically with the 4-H...with the kids, trying to get kids involved in raising animals, learning about food production. You know, we...we were fortunate that the property that we did have was right next door to Hāna High School. So one of the things --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: *(audio interference)* --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- was --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- through the process because of Board of Water Supply so you have water experience with the --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Oh, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- communities you've dealt with.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah. And then, like I said, in Kokomo as well with our property. I have worked with the Native Hawaiian Land Trust or, you know, they call them Waihee Dairy. And then just personally, our property up in Ku'ikahi, that area between...between there. And then I've...I've also been a geotechnical consultant for a very long time. So the development areas up in the Kehalani area where they redirected the water, we've put in all those huge water lines of...Kea Street, you know, all of...I've been involved in a lot of these construction projects in the past. I was a former State of Hawai'i Highways inspector. So we've...I've done a lot of construction work. If I may add, you know, I did...upon getting the phone call to...to come into this commission, I did call Mr. Mossman's office and questioned them. I said, you guys sure? Because with my experience, I'd be probably better fit to be on something like the Planning Commission or something but, you know, and...and just, you know, out of open and transparency, Yuki and Councilmember Tasha, and I know even Chair Molina, you folks have met my Dylan that...that ran my campaign. I...I think I had three of my campaign committee members who put in for boards and...and commissions applications, and they were all not chosen. And I actually called him and I said, you know, I would really give up my seat to give one of these young people a chance because that's what we train them for. And...and, you know, going back to...I mean, I would really be honored to take this position, but if all of you could tell me that there was another applicant that was new to this, that...that really, you know, fit some of these qualifications, I would...I would step...step aside and let somebody from Moloka'i or from somewhere else take this position. Because I feel that it...you know, I do a lot already and I do want to help, I do want to serve, but you know,

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hearing that there was five applicants from Hāna, I almost want to say, you know, eh, give somebody else a chance. I've done this, I've been there. And I'll continue to serve, but if there is a chance to open that door for someone else, I would definitely, you know, consider that. So I...I appreciate all of you and...and I do want to do this but, like I said, I kind of feel bad because I had three very well-qualified applicants who were not chosen for any...anything. I do want to add, though, that Dylan did get appointed to the State Board of Elections. So that was a good thing, so...but thank you guys all so much.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. That fits in your basic philosophy about mentoring, I think, which is --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: But I did call Ipo and tell them how come they never get picked? I was like, you know, what...what's going on? But anyway, so...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Anyway, thank...thank you very much.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member Sugimura. Finally, for this first round, Councilmember Johnson, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Chair, thank you. Aloha, Ms. Kajiwarra-Gusman.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I recall you sign waving during the election, and I'd always see you out there. And this Council knows it's hard work. We've all been --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Oh, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- sign waving and...and I respect your hard work when you were doing all that sign waving. So my question is in regards to your political future. Do you plan to run again?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Right now I am not looking forward to doing any of that again. Like I said, I...I did two things, and I want to just be open and transparent. We...I did change from Democrat to Republican for the main purpose of, you know, if we win, hey, great, we win. But my entire campaign committee consisted of young adults under the age of 30, not by...not because I chose to do it that way, that's just the way it happened. And as Yuki was saying, you know, I...I believe that teaching...so everything that happened in my campaign, all those signs, everything you saw was the work of these young people who had never ever, ever been involved in politics.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So you don't --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: And --

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- plan to run again?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Right now, no. I don't want to.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Let me be clear with why I'm asking. Because this position is a long position.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: It goes until 2026.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And it would be unfortunate for us to approve you, and then you have to drop out of your committee to...and we have to find another person, and that's --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: -- kind of my concern.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So that's...that's where I'm coming from. The other question is I...I, you know, this is the first time I spoke with you, and I learned that you had some properties up in Ha'ikū, and then you said you had some in Hāna. Is there any other properties that you have that your...your...you own and you take care of?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: So we don't...oh, the one in Hāna was not owned. It was a lease through the State, the Hawai'i DLNR. And then our Ku'ikahi property, I...it's not mine. It's also a lease through the Hawai'i Livestock Association. And then as I was speaking with Councilmember King, the other lease that we applied for was also under the Youth Livestock Association. So I only own two properties, my Waihee home and then our Kokomo or Ha'ikū property, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Gusman. That's all the questions I have for...for her, Chair. Mahalo.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yeah.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. And now in the follow up, I believe we had one...a request for a follow-up question from Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, proceed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. During...during my conversation with Ms. Gusman, I...I received a lot of additional information that I would like to share with the rest of the Council. My question for Ms. Gusman, Ms. Kajiwarra-Gusman...I guess comment first. Mahalo for offering to lift up any applicants from Hāna and Molokaʻi. I think that...admirable and I...I actually do have someone in mind who was nominated on...for a different board or commission right now, but...Collete Machado, because of her technical skills and experience with working with all the water systems on Maui Island and, of course, Molokaʻi and so, I guess...I guess I don't really have a follow-up question right now, but is...is...as a Molokaʻi . . .(timer sounds). . . resident, is that someone that you would consider supporting, I guess?

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes, that...for...you asking me, yeah? Or, sorry. You asking me. Yeah, so Auntie Collete definitely, you know, if...if there's a way where we can either...I don't know what...what she's being nominated for. Is she --

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: (audio interference)

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: -- she nominated for other...another commission or something or...or switch, or even if there was somebody else, you know, but Auntie Collete, you know, most definitely. I have much respect for her. And...and I know, you know, we want to be fair with the positions and...and stuff like that, you know, as far as like...like what Shay had said earlier, I think there's going to be four of us from Central Maui on the commission, so, you know. Yeah, that's...that's up to you guys. That's up to the Council.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, balancing geography --

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and making sure (audio interference) representation.

MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Absolutely, yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: You know, pointing that out. So Mahalo for answering our questions today, Ms. Kajiwarra-Gusman. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Members, any other need for a follow-up question, one-minute follow up, for Nominee Kajiwarra-Gusman? Okay. Seeing no hands going up. Thank you very much, Christy, for making yourselves [sic] available to respond to questions from the Committee.

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MS. KAJIWARA-GUSMAN: Mahalo. I miss you guys. I wish we could meet in person pretty soon. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha, Christy. Okay. Let's call up our next invited nominee for questions and that is the Lānaʻi Planning Commission Nominee, Elisabeth Ann Grove. I'd like to first call upon Mr. Mossman to provide an overview with the nomination of Ms. Grove. Mr. Mossman?

MR. MOSSMAN: Okay. I'm getting there. Sorry. Ms. Grove, Elisabeth Ann Grove has been a resident in Lānaʻi for quite some time, and her...her desire to work with the...through the community is...is tremendous. And...and I really was impressed with...with our conversations that we had. President of the CEO of the Grove Insight. When we talked about representing the Lānaʻi City on the...on the Planning Commission, she was very excited to do so. And I just would like to introduce her as being the...Mayor Victorino's choice at this time. So we'll leave it to Ms. Elisabeth.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much, Mr. Mossman. Ms. Grove, you're online someplace...there we go, I see you. Please go ahead and share...take about a minute or two minutes, at the most, to just provide the Committee your thoughts as to why you would like to be nominated to the Lānaʻi Planning Commission. Please go ahead.

MS. GROVE: Thank you. Mahalo for the consideration. I go by Lisa, so no one on Lānaʻi knows who Elisabeth Grove is. I --

CHAIR MOLINA: Sorry, Lisa.

MS. GROVE: -- I feel like I have a range of background that...that could be a complement to the wonderful people who already serve on the Planning Commission. I am the Vice-Chair of the Hawaiian Island Land Trust. I am an...a sustainability expert. I'm a volunteer grant writer on the island, helped get a Hawaiʻi Community Foundation Grant for a water conservation project for our farmers, a \$200,000 water conservation grant; have gotten HDA grants for the Lānaʻi Culture & Heritage Center; founded the LHES School Foundation and parent-teacher group. I'm also...we farm here. We have a seven-acre farm, Ola Kamoku Farms, that's mostly papaya and citrus, and so...I have worked with Councilmember Johnson on various and sundry egg issues on island. I like to call him Gabe, but I am happy to see him in this position. And I'm also a...just finishing up a long career as a public opinion researcher, and have...have talked to literally thousands of Hawaiʻi voters on behalf of issues and causes and such. I'm not doing that any more. I'm...I'm the TAP volunteer. I just did a EC Survey for the Environmental Council. I am doing...I'm on the Board of the Maui United Way, and we're doing a grantee survey. I love working with our high school kids here, helped with the Community Food Assessment survey, and now we're doing a Hulopoe Bay survey with high school kids where we train them to be researchers. And also did a housing survey a couple of years ago for Maui County and Pūlama Lānaʻi, and I...I do quite a bit of climate change work. So I come with lots of hats. I

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live in Lānaʻi City, so I am...you know, feel very lucky to be in this community, and would be grateful to get to serve.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much for your opening, Ms. Grove. I'll start first. I really don't have any...many questions for you, but you have quite an impressive resume and a lot of...a wide range of experiences. Do you foresee yourself, should you be selected to serve on the Lānaʻi Planning Commission, any potential conflicts or times where you may have to consider recusing yourself?

MS. GROVE: I do not. I think the...that, you know, we're very open with our, you know, farming. We have community sales of our papayas and not just to the Four Seasons so...and the one thing about Lānaʻi, as you know, is that we're all open books. What happens on Lānaʻi, everyone knows. And so I think it...my background is very clear to people. And I also, as a person who has worked in politics for a very long time, I don't talk about it. It's what I do in my day job. I had a fortune cookie fortune on my landline that said, your discretion is what earns you your respect, and I...I feel very strongly about that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for that response. Okay. Members, a reminder, clock will be on. So again, Ms. Grove, if you could respond to any questions from the Committee Members and the...as...as brief and concise as possible because they are on a clock. So, okay. We'll recognize first, of course, the Lānaʻi Councilmember, Mr. Johnson, for any statements about the nominee or questions. Go ahead, Mr. Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Aloha, Lisa. Thank you for joining us. I'm going to try not to fan by...fanboy over you because I love all the stuff you do for my community, our community. But I do have a real...a real heavy question for you in regards to, you know, we live on an island that's owned 98 percent by Larry Ellison, and the Planning Commission is a big part of community input. So how do you balance the...the will of the company and the will of the community?

MS. GROVE: I think that's a great question. I...as I say, you know, I'm one of the...the two percenters. I own my home, right? And my...my two percent and the...the rest of the two percent of us Lānaʻi people matters as much as the 98 percent that is taken care of by our landowner, largest landowner on the island. I think you said the word, Gabe, and that was balance. You know, making sure we're striking the right balance. As a public opinion researcher, I'm constantly asking people questions and trying to understand their views of the issue. I do want to make sure that we're working towards something that gets us a place. Sometimes we end up having this sort of zero sum game. And we have conversations on Lānaʻi, and then we don't...aren't able to move forward. And I'm hoping that I can help provide, you know, additional dialog or feedback, public opinion understanding, to get us to decisions that work for everyone.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you. Great answer. I have a second question for you. You know, I moved to Lānaʻi and when I came, I had a kind of...I had to learn the culture, and then respect the culture. So you, yourself, who is relatively new to the island, so what have you done to help learn the culture of Lānaʻi during your time on Lānaʻi?

MS. GROVE: Fantastic question. I am a newcomer, I've been here 12 years. So...and I'm never going to know Lānaʻi like the people who have lived here and were born and raised here, but that doesn't mean I love it any less. I've taken...you know, I'm...all my grant writing work gets me, you know, up close and personal with the people who either have problems, non-profits who are struggling to make money and get the resources they need to help our kūpuna and our keiki. I...I...when I started the school foundation, I loaded it up with...I was the only, quote, unquote, outsider...and I'd only been here a couple of years with the local board. I see myself as a...an ally to the people who live here, and that I'm never going to know as much as anybody else. And I think the...and that's how you get to stay on Lānaʻi, right? You get chewed up and spit out if you walk in with this mainland arrogance and think that you know everything. I've also taken Hawaiian language classes, and I'm a voracious reader of Hawaiian history and culture and, you know, as...and I dance hula, but that doesn't mean that I am sort of of the place like the people who live here.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. That's all the questions I have for Lisa. I'm a big supporter of her nomination. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you have the floor.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Grove. Mahalo for your willingness to serve our county. In your application, was the Lānaʻi Planning Commission your first choice?

MS. GROVE: Yeah. It's the only thing I applied for, and the only thing I'm interested in. Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. And then I'll ask you the three questions I generally ask all of our nominees. Do you foresee any concerns with your attendance? I think they meet twice a month.

MS. GROVE: Third...I think is it twice a month, or the third Wednesday, I think.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Yeah, once a month.

MS. GROVE: No. Yeah.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Member Johnson. Okay. And do you have experience with the Lānaʻi Planning Commission? Have you attended meetings, reviewed any videos or their minute [sic]?

MS. GROVE: I've attended some of the bigger informational meetings. I've read the minutes from a number of different meetings, just to understand the lay of the land, and the kind of questions that get asked, and the things that get adjudicated.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And my last question is, what do you plan or want to contribute as a commissioner on the Lānaʻi Planning Commission?

MS. GROVE: I would like to make sure that the...the perspective of the agricultural community in Lānaʻi is...there...there is a voice at the table, and for the...those of us who live in town, and want to make sure that that perspective gets to come to the table and voices are heard. And then, as I mentioned earlier, just making sure that...that...sometimes the...the voices that are forgotten don't show up to meetings like this, and I...because I'm the opinion lady and the pollster lady, people come and will...will tell me what they think. And I just want to make sure that, to the extent that I can, I'm representing those voices as well.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Great responses. I'll...I'll be happy to support your nomination. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: . . .(inaudible). . . Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to Council Chair Alice Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chairman, I have no questions for this nominee. I...I'll be happy to support her. I appreciate her candor. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee.

MS. GROVE: . . .(inaudible). . . you to ask me where my...what guides me. I was waiting for that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Well, maybe we'll ask the next Member to ask you that question. Let's go to Councilmember Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, that question is Tasha Kama's question.

MS. GROVE: Hopefully so.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: But I...I'm so glad to meet you through this process, and impressed with your resume. And yesterday we had a item that we took up that...we had testifiers from Lānaʻi. Since you're the pollster lady and...and may have an opinion about this, I'm just curious, is that for our 201-H process, which Pūlama

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Lānaʻi has a housing project that's going to be coming before us and that they have, I think, close to 50 percent affordable housing. But this law, then, would change the requirement for them to have 75 percent, but there's some variations that the Councilmembers can judge, I guess, or proviso. But I'm just wondering your thoughts about housing, and how important it is as it does relate to planning also, this commission. So can you give us an idea of what's happening on your island?

MS. GROVE: As much as I can, sure. I mean, housing is a problem, of course, across the islands, and the affordability issue is...is moving too many...too many people from Hawaiʻi to the mainland. Here it's sort of the...the secret, right? It's families doubled up and tripled up into housing. And so we don't have the kind of homeless problem that people see on other islands, but we have a huge amount of housing pressure and housing anxiety. The...the survey that I did among potential homeowners also talked about things that we could do to help them get prepared to purchase homes, like credit recovery work and things like that. And, you know, the dream of homeownership, to the extent it is still a dream for people, should be one that gets to be realized in Hawaiʻi, especially for the people that came here first. I'm concerned about rising home prices and what that means, and especially for the...the generations to follow. I think the housing project itself is interesting. I appreciate some of the...the sort of additions that have been added to it, but there's also voices of dissent, and I've heard them loudly and clearly.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much.

MS. GROVE: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I appreciate your... you taking on this (*audio interference*)

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member Sugimura. Councilmember Paltin, questions for our nominee?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair Molina. Thank you, Ms. Grove, for your willingness to serve, and I'm also...it's a pleasure to meet you. I kind of am the subject matter, Chair, I guess and, you know, we recently took up Lānaʻi business, country, town, district, and the bed and breakfasts and...and so I don't think that you'll be reviewing those over again. My area of concern lies in that Lānaʻi was exempted from the Environmental Conservation requirement. And being that the Planning Commissions have jurisdiction over SMA and Coastal Zone Management, and we're not going to be finding someone that fits that requirement, I just was wondering as to your knowledge about SMA Rules, Coastal Zone Management, shoreline erosion, climate change, as well as sea level rise?

MS. GROVE: Thank you for asking such an important question. I have worked on...to get designated SMA status in other places. I did the Bloomberg City's work for Honolulu around climate and climate policy. I believe strongly that we're not prepared, these

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islands aren't, like the rest of the world, and I believe that it's an existential threat that needs our attention and focus immediately. I'm looking forward to helping our high school students because the project we're working on is about Hulopoe and trying to figure out how...how best to manage it. We do have people dumping off tourists in ways that are illegal right now, and making sure that that area is protected and revered. And obviously, my work through HILT is all about 'āina protection and looking at that. I've...I've also been working on some fishpond restoration work. I dream of being able to get carbon...blue carbon credits for a fishpond restoration across the islands that could create a pond in perpetuity to restore the fishponds, and then be sort of a shining example. So I've been working with some of the fishpond organizations to see if we can get something going. So sorry for talking so long. It's a huge issue of passion for me.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just wanted to say, you know, if you ever want to move to Maui and apply for the Maui Planning Commission, you have my preapproval. And since we've established with Dr. Parker that people can serve on more than one board or commission at a time, please don't be a stranger, and thank you so much for your willingness to serve. I'm very grateful to have met you and talked with you. Thank you.

MS. GROVE: I'm very honored and humbled. Thank you. There's nothing getting me off this island. My ashes will be here.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member Paltin. Let's go to Member Kama. Questions for Ms. Grove?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for your responses and for being here, Ms. Grove. I will always ask the proverbial question, especially because we're going through this process. Is one...who do you hold yourself accountable to?

MS. GROVE: My parents. My...my parents are people of faith. They taught us about the importance of community service, and that the Golden Rule was going to guide us through everything that we do. My son has upgraded the rule to Platinum Rule, which is not just to do unto others as you would have them do, but do unto others as they would have you do, which I thought was an interesting add on that I hadn't heard of. But it's...it's clear he...he listens to his grandparents.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member Kama. Member King?

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair. One of the advantages of going last is everyone's asked your questions, but I do...I do want to say it's great to meet you, Ms. Grove. And I was going to ask if you were the...you know, even though we exempted Lānaʻi, you seem like the perfect person for the environmental slot and, you know,

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maybe...if I...we were under the impression there wasn't anybody over there who could fill that, which is why we gave Lānaʻi an exemption. So I would offer to Mr. Johnson that maybe we want to rescind that exemption, make that requirement. It's great to find someone with your background, and...and I'm really impressed because this is a big issue for all the islands, you know, the conservation, climate change issue. And...so I don't have...I really don't have any questions. I'm really impressed with everything you do. The only thing I wrote down when you were talking was you said you did an EC survey, and I didn't...can you tell me what that is?

MS. GROVE: Sure. So the Environmental Council, the State of Hawaiʻi Environmental Council --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh.

MS. GROVE: -- by law is required to do a survey at the end of the year. Robin Kaye is our...our representative...one of the representatives, or the chair of the...the --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay. No, I understand that, but I didn't know that's what...that's what you were talking about.

MS. GROVE: And so Robin came and asked myself and then my college son to...to help do the survey and then --

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, okay.

MS. GROVE: -- my son just got hired to do a second one for Robin.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, great. Okay.

MS. GROVE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Yeah, no, my husband was the Chair of the Environmental Council for...back in the last decade . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

MS. GROVE: And then we sat across from each other at the HILT...the last HILT event.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Oh, you did?

MS. GROVE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: You did.

MS. GROVE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. That's where I...okay, that's why you look familiar.

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MS. GROVE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Great. No, but thank you for being willing to serve. And, you know, if there are other people with the same background...I'm not sure why we...we need to keep, you know, your Planning Commission exempted from that role because I think it's important to have people, environmentalists and people understand about the impending...the next pandemic we may have, which is called climate change, as you mentioned. So thank you for that. And if you have a willingness to serve on the Climate Action Advisory Committee, which is a volunteer group in the County, I would love to hook you up with that group, which is chaired by Rita Ryan from, you know, the Climate Reality Project.

MS. GROVE: Great. I'm happy to consider it. I'm just about to take a job as a chief information officer for the first of its kind solar manufacturing start-up, that'll be located on the mainland. I'm staying in Lānaʻi, but I don't know what that...that position would entail, but I'd be happy to serve if it...if it's suited. I also just want to say that I'm working really hard to mentor up and coming leaders, and I want to echo what Christy said about the need for, sort of, the next generation. And so most of the folks I'm mentoring, I'm getting on, like, the Lānaʻi Community Benefits Fund and some of the local non-profits here. But I really do think we need to be better as we look down to the...the ones coming up behind us, and make sure that we're doing everything we can to lift them up.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Okay. Great, great. That's excellent. Well, I think we found a diamond over there. So thank you for applying.

MS. GROVE: Nope. Just happily doing my work.

COUNCILMEMBER KING: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember King. And last but not least, Councilmember Sinenci, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for the opportunity, and mahalo, Ms. Grove, for being here today. Yeah, it seems like some of my questions have already been answered by the Members. I guess one question that I do have is the past Councilmember, Sol Kahoʻohalahala, he created this pathway for native tenants on Lānaʻi to...to acquire homes at the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. And so with...with the strict, I guess, caveat that Lānaʻi has priority of...in getting housing and...and I'm not sure exactly where that...the placement of...of DHHL is in Lānaʻi City, but how do you see and...and how do you prioritize getting these...the developing for housing on DHHL lands, considering...I don't know if there's...they're close to a water infrastructure and those types of things?

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MS. GROVE: Yeah. I...the...I think the stories that we've all read for years about people, you know, on the lists for years and years and years is heartbreaking. I don't know what our status is for folks seeking housing in DHHL lands. I am working with...very closely with some farmers, Hawaiian farmers, and helping them try to transition their farm away from their DHH...DHHL lands to a more suitable farming location. And I've written some grants...actually got to officiate their wedding a month ago...and in...to the extent that there's need here like there are on other islands, I think that should be priority.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then lastly, has HILT been active in partnering in...in the acquisition of conservation, if there is any left, on the Island of Lānaʻi?

MS. GROVE: Not yet. Long pause. We're working on it, and Kurt (*phonetic*) hears from me about every six months about the fact that HILT would love to have a little piece of Lānaʻi to get to...to foster and steward, for sure. The closest thing I can get to is Scott Fisher in Waihee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Before we excuse Ms. Grove any last follow-up questions for her? Okay, seeing none. I want to thank you, Ms. Grove, for making yourselves...making yourself available for questions from the Committee.

MS. GROVE: Thanks so much. Aloha. Thanks for having me.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha. Okay, Members, Chair is aware of the time, and the Chair did make a commitment to recess at 12 noon, on or before. So with that being said, prior to going into recess which will be on February 10th, 9 a.m., Chair just like to update you on the nominees we have left for interview. We have the nominees for Liquor Control Commission, Maui Planning Commission, Molokaʻi Planning Commission, Police Commission, and Fire Commission. So we have ten nominees left to interview, and hopefully we can get these interviews done, take a vote, as well as a vote for the MRA hopefully in the four hours we've been allotted for next week Wednesday, February 10th, so keep that in mind. And if you do have questions for our nominees in advance, please feel free to contact them. You do have access to the contact information to possibly reduce any time you may need to use for our recess meeting. So just food for thought for your consideration. So with that being said, Committee Staff, anything the Chair needs to be made aware of before I recognize Member Paltin? Mr. Leauanae, Ms. Espeleta?

MR. LEAUANAE: Nothing at this time.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Councilmember Paltin?

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just...I...can you repeat those? And I just was wondering, if they were working off of 2019 application, if there's information that's no longer relevant or needs to be updated, if we could get it possibly before the recess meeting date? And I...I didn't catch the ones...the...the boards or commissions that you mentioned, if you could say those again?

CHAIR MOLINA: Sure.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I had a thought that some of the Hāna Advisory Committee folks were on the call. Was that not one of the ones?

CHAIR MOLINA: No. Well, Administration did invite all of their nominees to just at least, if...if needed, to participate. But Chair's policy or...Chair's policy has always been, you know, we'll give priority first to the invited nominees for interview, and then if need be, we would consider others. For example, like the nominees for the Fire Commission. Based on testimony, concerns brought up about those nominees, Chair felt it was important to invite them to our recess meeting so they can respond to questions from us. But we'll ask for Mr. Mossman's assistance on any applications that need to be updated, and we'll check with Staff. And again, just to repeat, the Liquor Commission nominees are Sylvia Ho and Mr. Rick Nava. The Maui Planning Commission nominees are Sherrilee Dodson and Ashley Lindsay. Nominees for the Moloka'i Planning Commission are Louella Albino and Collete Machado. And for the Police Commission, Travis Tancayo and Jeffrey Ueoka. And for the Maui...for the Public Fire Commission, we have Dylan Payne and Ms. Nohelani U'u-Hodgins. So these are the ten nominees that are left to be interviewed by the Committee. Okay. Everybody all good, clear on that?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and you said Liquor Control Commission?

CHAIR MOLINA: Yes. Liquor Control Commission, that was Ms. Ho and Mr. Nava.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And so I guess I just have another request for the recess date. I...I noticed Mr. Nava's application was incomplete. If we could have a completed one as well.

CHAIR MOLINA: So noted. And I assume Mr. Nava is on the line, and if not, we'll make sure he submits an updated one or completed one.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you.

MR. MOSSMAN: Mr. Chair, if you don't mind?

CHAIR MOLINA: Go ahead, Mr. Mossman.

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MR. MOSSMAN: Yeah, I just wanted to clarify for Councilwoman Paltin. We would be more than happy to update all of the applications that may be...something as far as 2019, we'll get that updated. And we do have the new forms that was filled out. Rick Nava's...did submit another one, so we'll get that to you. So you should be up to date with all the applications. Okay?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Mr. Mossman. Thank you, Chair Molina, for clarifying.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member Paltin. Any other requests before we recess? Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Is...okay. So I...I asked Staff if we could get the, you know, the . . . *(inaudible)*. . . that have the...the current listed council...I'm sorry...commission members and board members, and we didn't get that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. We'll ask Staff to provide that with . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: On OCS side or if that was Administration's side. So if we could get that before the 10th?

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. The updated boards and commissions listings...I believe Ms. Farias *(phonetic)* works on that in OCS. So we'll...we'll make a request so you guys have the latest listings for your perusal.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mister...Mr. who in OCS?

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, I think Ms. Farias, she's the secretary that I believe we usually get those rosters from.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, okay. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. All right. Oops, sorry, Mr. Sinenci?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, real quick...and then Mr. Mossman, I don't know if we could possibly update Ms. Tukuafu's with some of the other East Maui applicants. I...I don't know if...not a...next week's one. Okay. All right. We'll...we'll check in with you. Thank you.

MR. MOSSMAN: Yes, yes. Definitely. Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay? Thank you, Member Sinenci. Any other comments or requests before we recess? Okay. Seeing none. All right, Members, the GREAT Committee Meeting for February 2nd, 2021 will now be in recess until Wednesday, February 10th, 9 a.m. Meeting in recess. . . . *(gavel)*. . .

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RECESS: 12:05 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



MICHAEL J. MOLINA, Chair
Government Relations, Ethics, and
Transparency Committee

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Transcribed by: Michelle Balala &
Susan Leong

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CERTIFICATIONS

I, Michelle Balala, hereby certify that pages 1 through 37 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 23rd day of February 2021, in Kihei, Hawai'i



Michelle Balala

I, Susan Leong, hereby certify that pages 38 through 66 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 23rd day of February 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i



Susan Leong