

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS, AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

Online Only via BlueJeans Link

May 4, 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 Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member (arrived at 9:15 a.m.)
Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member (arrived at 9:15 a.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Kelly T. King, Member

STAFF: Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney
Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst
Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary
Jean Pokipala, Committee Secretary

Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember King
Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Lois Whitney, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama
Jordan Helle, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sugimura
Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson
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
LeeAnn Nomura Matsui, Secretary, Office of the Mayor
Rochelle Ines, Secretary, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS: Keisa Liu
Maya Marquez
Juanita Reyher-Colon
Marnie Masuda
Gene Ross Davis

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Clark Hashimoto
Shane Dudoit
Snehal Patel
Karen Kamalu Poepoe
Kimberly Thayer
Stacey Moniz
Gregory Peros
Dylan Andrion
Plus (4) other people

PRESS: *Akāku Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . *(gavel)* . . . The GREAT Committee meeting for May 4th, 2021 will now come to order. I'm your Committee Chair Mike Molina. Good morning, everyone. Let's take attendance and start first with our Council Chair Alice Lee, who is the maven of cultural greetings. Let's start off our day with our cultural greeting today, Chair.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Chairman, okay...if you're traveling to Guam, U.S. Territory of Guam, you would say hafa adai. Hafa adai, to all my colleagues and everyone out there.

CHAIR MOLINA: Hafa adai. All right. Mahalo, Chair Lee. And now let's go to Committee Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, who has an extra big smile on her face because...I'm just guessing because for once she doesn't have to facilitate a meeting...she gets to have a little bit of a break today. Good morning, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Mai Moloka'i nui Ahina and yes, it's so amazing to just be a Committee Member today. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And hafa adai kākou.

CHAIR MOLINA: Hafa adai to you too and mahalo for facilitating us through the journey known as the Budget process. Thank you. All right. Let's go out to the Island of Lana'i, Mr. Gabe Johnson. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Good morning, Chair. Good morning, Members. I feel like I want to say long time no see, but just here we are again. Hafa adai to all. Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Hafa adai to you, Mr. Johnson. And let's go check out our friend out there in East Maui, Councilmember Sinenci. Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha kakahiaka, Chair. Mai Maui Hikina and hafa adai kākou.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah, I like that...hafa adai kākou. Back at you, Councilmember Sinenci. Joining us shortly will be Councilmember Paltin, and as well as Councilmember Sugimura. Members, we have two Councilmembers excused today...that is of course, Member Kama and Member King...so we will be operating with seven Members today. And thank you for making yourselves available during this off-week. I know many of you probably had a lot of plans to meet with your constituents and do some site visits, so as your Committee Chair, I'm very appreciative of you making time...setting aside time to address these very important issues on our agenda. Joining us also from Corporation Counsel, we have Mr. Gary Murai, and from the Mayor's Office, we normally have Mr. Mossman, but we have Ms. Ines and Ms. Nakamura, I believe, from the Mayor's Office that will be joining us to provide us some information on all of our nominees. And of course, we have our very hardworking Committee Staff, Pauline Martins, Committee Secretary; Jean Pokipala, also Committee Secretary; and veteran Legislative Analyst Shelly Espeleta; and also Mr. Wilton Leauanae, Legislative Analyst; and of course, Mr. James Forrest, our Legislative Attorney. So Members, with regards to this meeting today, it's being conducted in accordance with the Governor's most recent Emergency Proclamation on COVID-19, and if you want more information on that, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. And again, Members, as far as this meeting goes, the Chair intends to go no later than 1:00, your Chair has some afternoon commitments, and I'm sure some of you have, so we'll try and do this as expeditiously as we can so we can meet our goal of adjourning by 1:00 today. We have three items on the agenda. Ten nominees were requested to attend today's meeting to provide brief opening statements and answer questions from the Members. And just for your information, Members, no decision making will be made today. Today is just purely Q&A with the nominees. That is because if we take action today, by the time we get to the Council meeting, we would exceed the deadline so all of these nominees would be deemed approved irregardless [sic] of what the Council does. So we will take action on these nominees at this Friday's Council meeting, May 7th. And also I would like to inform you the Administration has informed us we did have two withdrawals, Mr. Coop DeRenne from the Lāna'i Planning Commission, and also Ms. U'u for the Maui Redevelopment Agency. So these individuals have withdrawn their nomination, and we'll take the appropriate action at this Friday's Council meeting. So with that said, let's now go into public testimony. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Testifiers wanting to provide video testimony should have joined the online meeting via the BlueJeans meeting link at 175115369 as noted on today's agenda. And please don't mind the birds in the background. Of course they're very chirpy, they love to get involved in Council meetings...so thank you for your tolerance. Nothing like doing virtual meetings from home, yeah. And any of you testifiers want to testify via phone, you can dial 1-408-915-6290 and entering the meeting code that I just mentioned. 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. And written testimony is also highly encouraged, and using the eComment link listed for today's agenda on mauicounty.us/agendas. With that said, Members, we will begin oral testimony. And for those testifying, you will be given three minutes to testify. If you are still testifying beyond that time, I will kindly ask you to complete your testimony. And

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please, when testifying, state your first and last name. And if you are testifying on behalf of an organization or if you are a paid lobbyist, please inform the Committee of that. And please be mindful of the use of chat during the meeting. Chat should not be used to provide testimony or chat with other testifiers. 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 of you who would just like to watch this meeting, just turn on to good 'ol *Akāku* on Channel 53. And I would like to say please be patient as well if we do run into any technical issues during the meeting, from time to time this stuff happens, so please be aware of that. So Members, if there are no questions, I would like to proceed with public testimony. Any questions? Okay. I presume no objections with the way your Chair wants to proceed as well, right? Okay, no objections. Thank you. All right, Mr. Leauanae, please announce our first two testifiers.

MR. LEAUANAE: Thank you, Chair. The first testifier is Keisa Liu, followed by Maya Marquez.

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

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

MS. LIU: There I am. Good morning, Council, and mahalo for letting me speak today. My name is Keisa Liu, and I am the EA for Councilmember Johnson until May 14th. I realize I got a lot to say, and I don't want y'all getting confused thinking that my words are his. So today I'm here to testify on item number 2, the nomination of Stacey Moniz to the Police Commission. I see you all getting a little quiet over there looking a little down and stuff like that, don't worry, I ain't here to yell at you today. All right? I'm here to talk about what some of y'all did good for us. The reason we even have a nominee like Stacey Moniz is because y'all pushed back...you listened to us. Our Police Commission has majority male, majority white, entirely fixed gender, and with connections to law enforcement, hotels, and money. In fact, I was hard pressed to find anyone on the Commission who had dedicated a significant portion of their career advocating for vulnerable populations in America like Stacey Moniz. Now, you recognize the imbalance in the Commission. You recognize what was needed to build community trust, and you listened to us. The nomination of Stacey Moniz is a reflection of that. So I'm here today to say thank you...thank you...and I'm proud of y'all for pushing back. I'm proud of my Council. And I'd even be here today to encourage you to keep going because the reality is the work is not done. The approval of Stacey will not be enough to build the community confidence needed in the Police Commission. In fact, we're going to need more people like her to really create any sort of balance. So I want you to remember this for when the next Police Commission nominees are presented, remember the sense of pride that we have in you and our gratitude. Now, one last thing before I go, I want y'all to know that I am not one of those kinds of people who say things just to cut you down or to butter you up. I've never been that way, and people who know me know that. If I'm up here speaking my truth, it's because I think y'all are worth it and I believe you're worth it. I believe you are good people, with good hearts, and good

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intentions. But you do have a job that is mentally and morally exhausting. I know it, I've seen it. And it's easy to get swayed from doing the right thing for us, the people, when you are tired. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . So I come here to remind you, and encourage you, and push you not to sway. And to mahalo you when you don't. Mahalo for pushing back, and making room for Stacey Moniz. And I am in full support of approving her to the Police Commission.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Liu. Members, any questions for Ms. Liu. Seeing none. Thank you very much for your mana'o, Ms. Liu. Moving on to our next testifier, Mr. Leauanae.

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Maya Marquez, followed by Juanita Reyher-Colon.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning, Ms. Marquez.

MS. MARQUEZ: Aloha, how are you? Mahalo for listening. I am...as well as Keisa Liu, am in support of Stacey Moniz for being on the Police Commission. I believe it's very important to have a diverse group of people on our Police Commission. I applied, and I was not chosen, so I would like another female to represent our voice based upon our vulnerable population. So I support the nomination of Stacey Moniz. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much for your testimony, Ms. Marquez. Committee Members, any questions for our testifier? Seeing none. Thank you very much for your testimony. Mr. Leauanae, please proceed with our next testifiers.

MR. LEAUANAE: Next testifier is Juanita Reyher-Colon, followed by Marnie Masuda.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning, Ms. Reyher-Colon.

MS. REYHER-COLON: Hi, aloha. Can you all hear me? Okay, perfect. I am Juanita Reyher-Colon. I live on the Island of Moloka'i. I was an applicant for the Board of Water Supply, and unfortunately was passed on that, so I'm here to speak about the process and receiving the letter from you folks, saying that my application was submitted and you folks reviewed it. And part of that letter stated that you folks strive to maintain District gender and political party representation, and are obligated by law to follow certain requirements on all Boards and Commission. I feel that you folks have missed the mark on this Board. All of your Board Members for the past several years have been non-Moloka'i residents, and it is unfortunate that again you folks have bypassed someone that could represent the island of Moloka'i on the Board of Water Supply. This year having the Department be involved in the Water Use Development Plan for the island of Moloka'i would have been crucial to have someone on the Board to represent our island. I'm not speaking just on myself as an applicant to the Board, but I'm speaking for all of Moloka'i that representation has continually to be overlooked regardless of whether or not there were applicants that could sit on that position with the background and experiences that folks have. So I'm just here to say that you folks have missed the mark

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and...however, I do support the Board of Water Supply and the County Water Department in their endeavors. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo, Ms. Reyher-Colon, for your testimony. Members, any questions for our testifier. Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Reyher-Colon. Mahalo for testifying this morning. Sorry...if we could just have everyone mute. Mahalo. Okay. So I guess I wanted to make a quick correction based on your testimony. So we don't nominate...the Council doesn't nominate, the Administration nominates, and then the Council either approves or disapproves. And we did receive your application, and what...I guess what I wanted to clarify is for your experience, how many years of water system experience do you have all together?

MS. REYHER-COLON: I have been in the water and wastewater industry for the past 17, 18 years now. I have managed the Kawela Water System on Moloka'i for 12 years.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Members, any other need to ask questions of our testifier, Ms. Reyher-Colon. Seeing none. Mahalo for your testimony, Ms. Reyher-Colon. Okay. Mr. Leauanae, please continue with announcing our next testifier.

MR. LEAUANAE: The last testifier currently signed up is Marnie Masuda.

CHAIR MOLINA: Good morning, Ms. Masuda.

MS. MASUDA: Aloha, everyone. Hi, how are you. Thanks for meeting today for so long and constantly meeting. I appreciate all of your hard work. I too am here to testify with respect to item number 2, and in support of the approval of Stacey Moniz and her...I think she'll be an amazing addition to our Police Commission. She has a proud track record here in Maui County of supporting our underserved populations, and especially our women and children here on Maui, and has a background in law. And I was so delighted to see her name moved forward, and I think that she will bring a real level of empathy and structural organization to law enforcement here on Maui, and help us move toward a model for the rest of the State and the country. So I heartedly ask your approval of Stacey.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much for your testimony, Ms. Masuda. Members, any questions for our testifier. Seeing none. Thank you for your testimony. Mr. Leauanae, please continue.

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

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, thank you, Mr. Leauanae. If there is anyone out there that would...happens to be on the call and would like to testify, please let it be known.

. . . END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Seeing none then. Members, if there are no objections, the Chair will close public testimony on today's agenda. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. And any objections to accepting written testimony for our agenda items.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. So ordered. All right and Chair would like to recognize the appearance of Councilmember Paltin from West Maui. Good morning and hafa adai, which is our greeting this morning courtesy of Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha kakahiaka kākou and hafa adai, I hope that's how much we work.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. We'll do our best, Member Paltin. Thank you. Chair would also like to recognize Member Sugimura, hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Hafa adai...half a day. Good morning, everybody. Nice to see you all. Good morning.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Sugimura. All right, Members, let's get right down to business. Today we have various nominees for the following Boards and Commissions: Board of Variances and Appeals; we have two nominees for the Board of Water Supply; a nominee for the Liquor Control Adjudication Board, Liquor Control Commission; Maui County Cultural Resource Commission; Maui Planning Commission; Police Commission; and Fire and Public Safety Commission, two nominees. So we have a smorgasbord of nominees to consider. For Member Sugimura, Member Paltin's consideration, the Chair did announce earlier we did have two withdrawals, the nominee for the Lāna'i Planning Commission and the nominee for the Maui Redevelopment Association. So those two nominees will not be considered today. And we will be deferring all action today because...well, let me just run this down to you. First all these individuals that are here are being nominated for five-year terms expiring on March 31st, 2026. The 60-day deadline for the Council to approve or disapprove nominations to these various Boards of Variance and Appeals, Board of Water Supply, Liquor Control Adjudication Board, Liquor Control Commission, Maui County Cultural Resource Commission, and the Maui Planning Commission is May 17,

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2021. The 60-day deadline for the Police Commission nomination is May 18, 2021, and May 24, 2021 is the 60-day deadline for nominees to the Fire and Public Safety Commission. And as I had mentioned earlier, action will be taken on today's nominees at this Friday's May 7th Council meeting in order for us to meet the deadline prior to the next Council meeting after May 7th.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: So at this point, Chair will start first with our nominee for the Board of Variances and Appeals. We have one nominee, that is Gene Ross Davis from Moloka'i. Good morning to our nominee from Moloka'i, Gene Ross Davis, if you're on the call, please let it be known.

MR. DAVIS: Hi. Aloha, everyone. This is Gene Ross, can you hear me?

CHAIR MOLINA: We can hear you fine, Gene. Gene, what I'd like to do right now is ask you to take about one or two minutes to tell the Committee about yourself and why you'd like to be considered for the Board of Variances and Appeals. Please go ahead.

MR. DAVIS: Okay. All right. Mahalo for the opportunity to give words about myself. I was born and raised on Moloka'i. I have been able to provide service to my community through numerous ways. I've always been a public servant. My most recent opportunities was serving on the MIS Board Hawaiian Commission, Hawaiian Homelands Commission, and also...just being able to provide service for this community. A little bit about my background. I live on Hawaiian Home Lands, been an employee of the State for most of my life in various different positions, basically a public servant in our community. I hope to provide to this Board at least part of Moloka'i. I know I looked on this Board and I didn't see any Members being a part of Moloka'i, so I'm sure every once in a while you guys have Members on your Commission on your Board from Moloka'i, so I bring that to the table. A little bit about myself, I'm somewhat of a thinker...I do a lot of thinking. I'm pretty calm in nature...I believe so. I've been in the community for more than ten years trying to provide service upfront in different boards and such...and that's a little bit about myself. Recently I attended . . . *(inaudible)*. . . yeah. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . That kind of provided me an insight of a little bit about what this Commission is about. I believe...I'm not sure what that bell is, but...

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah. Sorry, Mr. Ross Davis. Yeah, basically your time is up as far as giving an explanation of why you'd like to serve.

MR. DAVIS: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: So what I'd like to do now, if it's okay, I'm going to ask the Members for any questions they may have of you, so we'll go ahead and proceed with that. We'll start

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first with our Molokaʻi representative, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for our nominee.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Davis. Mahalo for your willingness to serve.

MR. DAVIS: Hi, aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So when you submitted the application, was it specifically for the Board of Variance and Appeals?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, it was. Yes, it was.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay. What was your interest in the Board of Variance and Appeals that made you apply for that Board?

MR. DAVIS: Well, like I...like I was trying to explain...sorry, I was quite...little bit nervous. I recently took a course, and this course had to do a lot with zoning and resolving disputes, land disputes and so forth. And so when this opportunity came up, I thought okay, I don't mind learning more about this, because this is what I was just studying and having that learning experience in that recent course I took. And so I told myself that's a good opportunity to learn more and try to contribute to my community in this position.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo.

MR. DAVIS: Does that answer your question?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, it does. Thank you. And I have no concerns about your attendance, I know you, you know, attend all the meetings.

MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So for the...so you said that you reviewed some of the meeting minutes, or you just...you reviewed like the rules of the BVA, or did you attend any of their meetings?

MR. DAVIS: As far as the Board of Variance and Appeals, I've never attended any of their meetings. I did review some of the minutes, just to kind of get caught up in it. I think I did review a lot of the policies and your code of...I don't know, policies, I guess you might say. I was furnished with those informations previous to this particular interview meeting, and so I just read up on all of those to become more familiar with the position and responsibilities of this Committee.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Awesome. And then after reviewing the minutes, do you

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have an idea of how you envision yourself contributing to the BVA?

MR. DAVIS: Yeah, it was kind of new to me previous...I mean, new in a sense it's unsimilar to my previous Board experiences, because this one has a lot to do with resolving disputes, whether it's between property owners, or whether it's being in conflict with government or zoning and such...and so it's just a little bit different, but I'm game for the challenge in learning more and how I can . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . assist in, you know, this area.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I have one last question. I don't know if you want me to ask it now, or wait until second round.

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah, yeah, go ahead. I'll let you go on that one and I apologize I forgot to lay down the ground rules for Q&A, Members. It's a three-minute round, Members. So...but go ahead Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, you can ask your last question.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mr. Davis, my last question is if we had a born and raised Moloka'i Keiki O Ka 'Aina with 13 years of civil engineer experience and well qualified for this position, would you support that person sitting on the BVA?

MR. DAVIS: I don't see why not...I mean although, you know, you really have to get to know the people in order to really know how you're going to support them...knowing their agenda instead of just what's on paper. For the most part, I guess, you know, most...more than likely people will say, yeah, I'd support that kind of people...you know.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Davis. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to Chair Lee, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have no questions.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Let's go to our West Maui Councilmember, Member Paltin, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sorry. I pressed the wrong button. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Davis, for your willingness to serve. My first question is, you know, have you followed the community plan process for Moloka'i or any of our communities?

MR. DAVIS: You know, I attend some County meetings. I was more involved in all State kind of meetings and such and Boards, but I do watch local Maui County, you know, meetings and such...maybe I may not be as dedicated or diligent, because I wasn't really involved in County activities.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, you know, like yourself, volunteers within the community

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put in months and hours of time into the community plans and general plan and things like that, and so I just was wondering, like what types of criteria would you look at in granting a variance for say, you know, community plans or zoning, subdivision. Because you know, the community plan is supposed to reflect community wishes...zoning is, you know, there's a reason for it. So I just was wondering what would be your criteria for approving a variance in all of these things.

MR. DAVIS: You know, I think that's a difficult question to ask...I mean to answer, only because you know, you always have to look at the economic situation on your island, having that in mind in making decisions, but you also have to support and retain culture, and so you really have to weigh the pros and cons, yeah. That's a...those are difficult decisions, I believe...it's not, you know what I'm saying...it takes a lot of thought. And so, yeah...that's just how I feel.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So...have you ever taken part in a public hearing?

MR. DAVIS: Yes, I have, at the State though. Yeah, because I served on Commissions before where they had contested rules.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Can you tell me a little bit about the process that you agreed with or didn't agree with in a public hearing?

MR. DAVIS: I gave testimony a lot in public hearings for my own self, not as a Board Member. As a community member, I take part in State public hearings...just expressing my position, opinions, and its reasoningss. As a Board person serving, our type of activity or decisions really wasn't based...it's a little bit different from this. I'd have to say, yeah, it's different.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay...and then, you know, in variances from like building ordinances, I think, you know, many of our ordinances are the way they are for safety and, you know, like from an engineering standpoint. How would you weigh what . . . *(timer sounds)* . . what kind of variance...what kind of building ordinances you would be giving variance to?

MR. DAVIS: Yeah, and so...you know, these are questions pertaining to relevant policies or rules within this Committee. And you know, at this point I don't know all the rules, and so these are difficult questions for me to answer right off the bat, not really having studied thoroughly all the rules. But like I said, I took that course earlier where it kind of opened my mind to the dealings of this Commission and Board, yeah...and that's what sparked an interest...and so, I...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Mr. Davis. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Let's check in on Councilmember Johnson, any questions for Mr. Davis?

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for joining us today, Mr. Davis. All of my questions have been answered, so I have no further questions. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Councilmember Johnson. Councilmember Sinenci, questions for Mr. Davis.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. No questions at this time. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Councilmember Sinenci, and Chair has no questions for Mr. Davis. I want to thank you for making yourself available to serve on this very important Commission. And so with no other questions...I'm sorry, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Just checking if you called on Member Sugimura. I wasn't sure.

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah, I did, yeah? Member Sugimura, did I call on you? Oh, I apologize. I'm sorry. For some reason...go ahead, Member Sugimura, questions for Mr. Davis.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: That's okay...I was going ask you. Thank you, Keani. Yeah, so Mr. Davis, thank you very much for your very thoughtful responses. And I like...what I'm hearing you say is that you will do your homework...it certainly sounds like that to me. I like your...that you're on the Hawaiian Home Lands Commission or gave towards that and Moloka'i Homestead Farmers Alliance...I mean, it sounds like you have a broad interest in the community at large, and I think that your ability to thoughtfully, you know, take problems, do the research, I think that's what you'll be doing with this Board of Appeals, and then finding the best solution for the community. I appreciate it. So it certainly sounds like that. I have really no questions for you. And thank you very much, Keani. Thank you very much, Mike. Thank you.

MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Member Sugimura. My apologies for the oversight. Okay. And with that being said, then we'll go ahead and excuse Mr. Ross from the phone call. So thank you, and the decision for your nomination will be made this Friday, May 7th. So mahalo.

MR. DAVIS: Okay. Thank you so much. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: And thank you. And Members, by the way this would be for a term expiring on March 31st, 2026, just for your information. Moving on to our next nominees, the first nominee for the Board of Water Supply. And again, this term would be for up until March 31st, 2026. Chair would like to call upon Mr. Clark Hashimoto. Mr. Hashimoto, if you're on the line, please make it known.

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MR. HASHIMOTO: Yes, I'm here.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, okay...there he is, Mr. Hashimoto. Good morning.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Okay. Morning.

CHAIR MOLINA: Before I recognize you, we have Mr. Mossman on the line, and I believe Ms. Nomura Matsui, so...from the Mayor's Office...so I'm going to bypass having them give opening comments, but if either of you feel you want to interject anything as it relates to the nominees, please make the Chair aware of that as well. So with that said, Mr. Hashimoto, if you could go ahead and take about a minute or two or until you hear the bell ring, please tell us a little bit about yourself and why you would like to be considered for the Board of Water Supply.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Okay. Of course, I'm a lifelong resident of Kula, you know, and I've...I was an extension agent for the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources in agriculture for about 30 years. After my retirement, I served as an Ag Specialist at the County Economic Development under Mayor Tavares. Also I'm on the Olinda, Kula Soil Water...Soil and Water Conservation District, and I'm the Chair there. And also, I served on the Board of Agriculture, Hawai'i Board of Agriculture for five years. And also, I was...actually on the Board of Water Supply when they were semi-autonomous...maybe that was like over 20 years ago. But now I'm retired, and I'm a farmer up in Kula, and I've...I'm raising persimmons. So I gained a lot of experience over the years and, you know, working for the County, working for the State, and working close with the Farm Bureau. And I want to serve the community, especially here up in my community, and especially in the Kula, Upcountry area where water has always been a problem, and always been a big issue, and it still is. So I'm excited to serve and to...not only the community, but the whole County, and we'll see what we can do to improve the water system.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your opening statements, Mr. Hashimoto. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, we'll start with you, questions for our nominee.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha, Mr. Hashimoto.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Hi.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your willingness to serve on the Board of Water Supply again. It sounds like you're retired, and you have served on various Boards, so I think your attendance would probably be great.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Yes.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I usually ask about attendance. And then you've served on the Board of Water Supply before, so you have that experience. What do you envision yourself contributing this time?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, my contribution would be basically...with my experience in agriculture and water, you know, I think it's important that...especially in the Upcountry area where agriculture is still...you know, it hasn't been like it was before, but we want not only agriculture, but the Upcountry area to have an improved water system, or to get more storage so that we don't get into ration, you know, restrictions like we do almost every other year or very often. And hopefully with my contributions, we can improve or hopefully get more storage in our water system.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Hashimoto. Do you have any experience on Moloka'i water systems, or have any knowledge of how the Moloka'i water systems, the County water systems work?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, I've...I haven't toured the water system, but I'm not really that familiar, but I've...you know, I've worked with extension agents on Moloka'i...I guess you know, Alton and Glen Teves and, you know, so we always talk about the water system because the Hawaiian Homes, you know, they have a lot of ag...ag parks there...the ag park there is basically the, you know, where people do a lot of farming, and they need a lot of water.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, okay...you're talking about the irrigation system.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Irrigation system and...you know, basically the irrigation system, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah. Okay, okay. So as far as like water issues on Moloka'i, your familiarity is primarily regarding irrigation.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Primarily, yeah...primarily irrigation. But I guess that's important too. I mean, you know...but I guess water is important, you know, for every community.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, yeah. The Moloka'i irrigation system is managed by the State Department. . . . *(timer sounds)* . . .

MR. HASHIMOTO: Yeah, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Hashimoto. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to subject matter Chair, Councilmember Sinenci, any questions for our nominee, Mr. Hashimoto.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, for my opportunity. Aloha, Mr. Hashimoto for your willingness to serve on this very important Board. So albeit my questions are vague

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and open ended, I just wanted to get some general thoughts from you. Any ideas or comments about the Upcountry water meter list?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Oh, the water meter list...yeah. That's always controversial, but I guess some of the water list is so long and, you know, there's not enough water for everyone, but I guess when it's your turn to...on the water list and you can't make the improvements, I guess...from what my understanding is, if you don't do the improvements, then you won't get your meters, and you're completely off the list. And sometimes that's a very, you know, big hardship, especially for the locals who want to subdivide their lands and cannot do so because they can't afford to put in the infrastructure. But the list, yeah, it's always been controversial.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo for your comments. And then real general, what do you think about the County acquiring the Wailuku water system?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, the Wailuku water system, I guess, you know, it will improve, you know, the water...well, have more water for the County's use. But again, I don't know much...that much about the Wailuku water system, but I think that'll be a good purchase.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Sinenci. Let's go to Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Nice seeing you, Clark. I read your resume or your application, and of course, your experience with CTAHR and being the Ag Specialist in...under the Tavares Administration tells me that you have a lot of experience, as well as...and passion, right, for farming, as well as for understanding what is needed, which is essence of life is water.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I wanted to just say that I support you. I'm glad to see your name here as a nominee, and I also just wanted to say the quality of the person you are, you also have your mom in Hale Makua, I see occasional posts from your family, but you certainly know how to take care of people, and the community, and your mom who's hundred and...is she one now...102?

MR. HASHIMOTO: She just made 102.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Wow. Anyway...

MR. HASHIMOTO: She's been farming all her life, so...

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, yeah. But thank you for wanting to serve. Thank you.

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MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Sugimura. Questions for Mr. Hashimoto, let's go to Councilmember Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mr. Hashimoto.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Good morning.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: I also looked over your resume, very impressive, lots of years of experience. One thing you've mentioned in your testimony as well is that you've "Water has been a problem and still is." I've heard that many times. Could you clarify what specifically is the most pressing issue for Kula?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, the pressing issue is, you know, whenever there's a drought...I guess the Upcountry area is the only...one of the only places that imposes the restrictions on residents. Not so much on agriculture but, you know, the residents are asked to cut back. And I don't think anybody else really has to cut back except Upcountry. And, you know, I guess I don't know how we're going to fix that, but it's been...ever since my Dad's been, you know...they had storage tanks and stuff because of the shortage of water, but it's always been a problem. And I don't know how we're going to fix that, but hopefully we can do something in the years to come.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Yeah, I've always been a big fan of learning more about the fog drip and how it replenishes our aquifer so...thank you, Mr. Hashimoto. Thank you, Chair. I have no further questions.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much, Councilmember Johnson. Chair Lee, any questions for Mr. Hashimoto.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hello, Clark. Good to see you. I'm glad that you're volunteering for this very important position, and I know that you will bring a great deal of knowledge and experience to the table, and I thank you for your service in advance. Thank you.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. And Councilmember Paltin, questions for our nominee, Mr. Hashimoto.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Hashimoto. My first question is...is it fuyu or hachiya that you guys grow?

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MR. HASHIMOTO: Both.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, right on.

MR. HASHIMOTO: But the fuyu is more prevalent, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then I was wondering if you have been following the Water Use Development Plan process at all?

MR. HASHIMOTO: I haven't really closely been following it, but I've...you know, I'm always interested in the water problems that we're having here on Maui and about, you know, how everyone needs...especially in the East Maui area where, you know, we have all that controversy.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And, you know, Member Rawlins-Fernandez stated that you have served before, and so you must be real familiar with the powers, duties, and functions. During this last Budget Session, we had several testifiers commenting on the water rates and fees for their...it's like a multi-family, and they were objecting to the rates and fees because they're all residents in their...like apartment or multi-family housing. Have you thought at all as to the rates and fees that the County approves each year? How to make it more fair, or how to encourage water conservation, or just...I guess what are your thoughts about the way that our County rates and fees are presently, like what would you change, or what would you keep the same?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, it's hard to say because every situation is different, but I know the...to get a water meter it's...you know, the prices are pretty high. And, you know, like I said before, a lot of the...you know, residents or the locals who have land or want to subdivide, you know, really can't afford a lot of the improvements or, you know, the water meter, I know it's...but then you know, I would have to pretty much study more on what's going on since I've been on the Board, which was a long time ago, but you know...I'll make sure I study it and see what can improve.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then the follow-up to that when you're talking about the price, are you...do you want the County to subsidize then? I mean, I think the price is high, but that's because the cost of . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . it to these places are high . . . *(inaudible)*. . . so is it your intention for the County to subsidize?

MR. HASHIMOTO: Well, I'm not...no, I'm not saying the County should subsidize, but I guess we might have to find a...you know, a different solution on how we can have these families, local families, subdivide their land without...you know, they probably have to sell a lot...one of the lots to afford. But again...again, you know, as things come up, I guess we have to study it and come to a better solution.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much, Mr. Hashimoto, for answering my questions. And mahalo, Chair.

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MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Member Paltin. And I have no questions for you, Mr. Hashimoto, other than thanking you for your willingness to again serve. You certainly have a very established name in the areas of agriculture, and certainly agriculture and water go together. So my opinion is with your extensive knowledge, I think you will certainly be an asset to this Board. So with that said --

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: -- I would like to thank you again. And Members any final thoughts before I excuse Mr. Hashimoto? Okay. Seeing none. Thank you again, Mr. Hashimoto.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: And on behalf of all of us, please give your mom our aloha as we approach our Mother's Day. Congratulations to her.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you. All right.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you.

MR. HASHIMOTO: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Members, moving on to our next nominee for the Board of Water Supply, Leinaala Perry. Ms. Perry, if you're on the call, please let us know. Leinaala Perry, nominee for Board of Water Supply. My understanding is she's on the mainland doing the interview from the mainland. Is she having some connectivity issues?

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Yes, Mr. Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Right. You're right. We got a text from her that she was trying to get in some Wi-Fi service where she is on the mainland. I don't know if she...

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. You know what we'll do...okay. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. What we'll do, Members, we'll move onto the next nominee. And once we can get Ms. Perry onboard, we'll go back to her for an interview. Any objections to proceeding in that fashion?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. So noted. All right, Members let's move on now to our Liquor Control Adjudication Board nominee, Shane Dudoit. Shane, if you're on the line, please let us

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know. Shane Dudoit, nominee for Liquor Adjudication Board. I see...I see him on...there he is. Okay. Hello, Shane. Oh, Shane, I think you're muted, if you can unmute.

MR. DUDOIT: Okay. Is that good, Chair?

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, very good, you're coming in loud and clear. So Shane, if you can take a couple of minutes...tell the Committee Members about yourself and why you would like to be considered for the Liquor Control Adjudication Board. Please go ahead.

MR. DUDOIT: Sure. Aloha, Chair Molina and Councilmembers. My name is Shane Dudoit. I've been a firefighter...well, I was a firefighter for 25 years. I was born and raised on the island of Moloka'i. I originally had put in for the Fire Commission, but after talking with friends and maybe it wasn't the best thing for me to do being a retired firefighter. So I was approached, and we talked about being a part of this Board. And willingly, I am very interested in serving on the Liquor Adjudication Board. I'm at a point in my life where I have some free time. I need something to stimulate my brains. I feel serving on this Board will do that, and in doing so will help keep our community safe by insuring that the liquor establishments here are in compliance of the rules and the laws that govern them. I think I can be fair and impartial should these establishments have any disputes, and I feel like I could make a fair judgment alongside of the other Board Members.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your opening statements, Mr. Dudoit. I just have basically one question. So your...your availability to serve, and I know you've been very active in the community, especially with the youth sports and the like, so...and one of your responsibilities will be, of course, to impose penalties on those who violate any liquor laws. So no problems with attending the once the month meetings then on your part?

MR. DUDOIT: Not at all, Chair. I can make myself available at any time. I feel that we can come to a conclusion in any decision that needs to be made at any time.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. Thank you very much. And I appreciate you saying that you would be very fair and impartial, because as I stated earlier, you're going to have to be serving like a judge and jury, yeah, when you have any...any applicants that violate their liquor license and so forth. So it'll be definitely a very interesting experience. So with that said, I'll go to a fellow Moloka'ian, our Committee Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, for any questions for you. Please proceed, Committee Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Dudoit. Nice to see you.

MR. DUDOIT: Hi, Keani.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. So you kind of answered a lot of my questions in

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your opening remarks. Have you ever attended any of the Liquor Control Adjudication Board meetings, or reviewed any...

MR. DUDOIT: I haven't, Sweetie...I haven't. I've looked through the minutes...I think the last meeting they had was in November of last year. I tried to keep up with it, and I haven't seen anything come forward. I think there was a May 6th meeting that was cancelled and the next meeting is going to be in June...so I haven't been attending the meetings. I have gone on and read through the minutes and the problems . . .*(inaudible)*. . . faced with these establishments, and with our County. I kind of understand that there are rules and laws that keep these establishments in place. And we're there to hear, you know, their side of the story, but also understand that there are laws and rules that need to be followed.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for your response. And then what do you envision contributing to the Board?

MR. DUDOIT: I just envision a common sense approach and somebody is willing to listen to both sides and...you know, and doing it with aloha. I mean, not having an agenda going into the meeting, listen to the Liquor Control Division, listening to the establishment owners, and trying to find that medium ground where we all can come to an agreement.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, and then my last question is, how familiar are you with the Liquor Control Rules and laws and --

MR. DUDOIT: I am not familiar with it...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and your opinion on, well I guess not your . . .*(inaudible)*. . . opinion, but okay. How familiar are you with them?

MR. DUDOIT: No, I'm...I mean other than the DUIs and all this stuff, I...I don't think my opinion really matters because there are rules and laws that govern...that you guys decide for our County establishments. And from what I've seen, we do have either somebody from Corp. Counsel or, I think, somebody from the law portion of our County that sits in on these meetings, and will advise us if we are making a mistake, if we are not following the laws, and they're explaining the liquor laws to us for us to understand it.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then I trust you to see through some of the absurdity of some decisions that were made in the past --

MR. DUDOIT: True.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- as far as, you know, cabernet kind of permitting...that's not the right word. Cabaret...cabaret, where you know, dancing in establishments if you don't have . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . appropriate kind of...what is

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considered dancing, and what is not considered dancing.

MR. DUDOIT: Yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Those kinds of establishments getting penalized for something that, you know, may not be accurate.

MR. DUDOIT: Yes. Okay. Willing to listen.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Dudoit.

MR. DUDOIT: Yeah, thank you, Keani. Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. When you mentioned that word cabernet, brought back memories of Saturday night as I was having dinner with my wife, so...anyway...food for thought, or liquor for thought, I should say. But trying to keep things light here, Members. All right, let's go onto our next Councilmember for questions for Mr. Dudoit. Let's...we'll check in on Chair Lee, questions for Mr. Dudoit.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Aloha, Mr. Dudoit. I really appreciate your common sense approach, and I have really no questions for you at all. Thank you.

MR. DUDOIT: Thank you, Chair Lee.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. Let's go to Councilmember Paltin, questions for Mr. Dudoit.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Dudoit, for your willingness to serve. You know, I really would have...I think that a retired firefighter would be a huge benefit to the Fire and Public Safety Commission. If it was up to me, I would have put you right on there. They need someone with that kind of frontline experience because it's kind of lacking right now. So thank you for your willingness to serve and also to pivot, you know, for the needs of our County. I just was wondering, I thought I seen on your application that you also play music?

MR. DUDOIT: I do.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I just was...

MR. DUDOIT: I play for...yeah, go ahead, Sweetie...go ahead, sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh no, no. I just was wondering, do you play in bars or anything?

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Do you think it's a conflict of interest or anything like that?

MR. DUDOIT: I don't think it's a conflict of interest because I'm not hired by the bar. I'm hired by a contractor. It's usually...some of it is at the hotel, but a lot of it is at private weddings in that setting. If you need me for play music for you, just let me know. Nah...but, no it's...I really don't feel it being a conflict of interest. I keep myself...I go there, I put in my two hours of work, and I leave.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And you're not related to any Liquor Control Officers or anything like that.

MR. DUDOIT: Not that I know of.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I guess...

MR. DUDOIT: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . I don't think so. I don't know any of them.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Have you had a chance to review the audit of the Liquor Commission at all? It was from a couple years ago, but as far as I understand, they haven't really acted on that audit yet.

MR. DUDOIT: Okay, Sweetie, I haven't reviewed it, but if getting to...when getting to or if I am appointed to this Board, I will definitely make it a point to go and follow through with that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much for answering my questions and your willingness to serve. And anytime you like come over to the West side, play some music, you're more than welcome come my house.

MR. DUDOIT: Thank you, Councilmember Paltin. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Councilmember Paltin. Councilmember Johnson, questions for Mr. Dudoit.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. The Members have striked up a very good conversation, and all my questions have been asked. So aloha, Mr. Dudoit. Thank you.

MR. DUDOIT: Aloha, Councilmember.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. So we'll go to Councilmember Sinenci, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, and aloha, Mr. Dudoit, and mahalo for your

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willingness to serve. And for...and I appreciate you, you know, looking up the Board and the notes, and so I'm very appreciative that you went and did study up on the Board. I just had one question, you know, on O'ahu last year, they had a problem about these flotillas that would, you know, I guess a lot of the young people like to go out and suck 'um up out on there. And it kind of posed kind of safety concerns for the County...City and County of O'ahu. What do you think about those flotillas?

MR. DUDOIT: Councilmember, I cannot really comment on those flotillas, but I want to say that the safety of our community should be number one. I think there are...if there are laws in place that we can...you know, we can judge upon, or we can put into effect, then...I mean, I don't want to see guys getting out of the water and beefing with everybody. I don't want to see...if there is a way to control the safety of our community, then that's something I want to do.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much, Councilmember Sinenci and Councilmember Sugimura, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you, Chair. Mr. Dudoit, thank you very much for putting yourself out there, and the ability to serve the community. And in looking at your resume and am very impressive...I want to comment...everybody has talked about your firefighter or, you know, being a musician, I just wanted to commend you for being able to move your baseball players to be the 2018 State Champs, and to do that and to make all the whole community excited as we all were. I want to just say that it'll take that kind of commitment and focus for...to be a Board Member for this kind of Commission, and I think you'll do it. So I just want to extend my appreciation for all the work you have done, and the work that we can foresee you doing in the future. Thank you.

MR. DUDOIT: Thank you, Member Sugimura. I'm looking for a new challenge.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Councilmember Sugimura. So with that said, I believe there are no other questions for you, Mr. Dudoit. I want to thank you for making yourself available to serve on this Liquor Adjudication Board. I think when a...assuming a decision is made on May 7th, this Friday, I believe you'd make a very, very good member of that Adjudication Board. Thank you so much. So we'll go ahead and excuse you from the call today. Mahalo.

MR. DUDOIT: Thanks, Chair. Aloha, everybody.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha. Okay, let's check with Mr. Leauanae, do we have any update on Ms. Perry, the nominee for the Board of Water Supply?

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MR. LEAUANAE: Not at this time. We did leave a message. We did reach out to her and left a message.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. Hopefully we can make contact with her prior to the end of our meeting today. So staying on the subject of liquor, let's go now to our Liquor Control nominee, Mr. Snehal Patel. Mr. Patel, if you're on the call...I see you there. Good morning.

MR. PATEL: Good morning. Good morning, Chair...can everybody...can you hear me? Good morning, Councilmembers.

CHAIR MOLINA: Loud and clear. If you could go ahead and take the next couple of minutes and tell us a little bit about yourself and why you would like to be considered for the Liquor Control Commission. Please proceed.

MR. PATEL: Yeah. So Snehal Patel. I've been a West Maui resident for going on almost 20 years now. One of my first jobs actually was, as lot of transplants coming to this island, was in the restaurant business. I started serving tables, moving on to management, and also had my liquor card. I was a bartender as well, and then also, I was a manager at a Mr Wine, which was an old staple out here in Lāhainā for a longtime boutique wine store. We were a top ten boutique wine stores in the country when I was there, so that was an awesome write up. So, you know, I've had some experience on the food and beverage side. Later on in my career, I moved on to business and management and running some galleries out here on Front Street in Lāhainā, still having kind of some engagement in the F&B world. And then I'm also a President of the Lāhainā Town Action Committee, as many of you may know, and we do put on some fairly large scale events, but we do have to coordinate with the Liquor Commission, making sure that public safety, that the restaurants and those that are going to be serving alcohol on those events, you know, are complying. And so, you know, I do have some touchpoints on the liquor side. I think that, you know, I'd like to just serve the community to my highest capacity and would, you know, humbly ask that you consider me for the Liquor Board, and...yeah. If you have any further questions, I'd love to answer those.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your opening statements, Mr. Patel. Just one question from me. You're very involved in the community and you certainly sound like a connoisseur of wine and other fine things in the world. Do you foresee yourself, if you're selected to this Commission, any potential conflicts if any...any thoughts?

MR. PATEL: Yeah...so, you know, a lot of people always ask how I do it. I do have...you know, I serve on a couple of Boards already, and I have a family myself, and I also work full-time. But for me it's about managing the time, and that's what I've done well in my career...and I've always showed up. I've been there for the community, I've been there for my family, and you just got to plan it, right, you've got to put it on the calendar. And I show up, you know, and I make things happen to the best of my abilities. Of course,

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there's going to be days where you just gotta pivot or scramble and, you know...but I will say my track record on attendance, I've always shown up, and just as I'm showing up for this meeting.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Patel. Let's go to Committee Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, any questions for our nominee, Mr. Patel.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Patel.

MR. PATEL: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your willingness to serve --

MR. PATEL: You're welcome.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- on the Liquor Control Commission. Okay. So you've answered about attendance. Have you ever attended any of the Liquor Control Commission meetings, or reviewed their meeting minutes, or watched them on *Akāku*?

MR. PATEL: I wish I had time to watch it on *Akāku*, but I have not. I have read through some of the meetings as I was going through submitting my name for being nominated and selected. So I would say I have read the meetings. In terms of attending actual sort of meetings and giving testimony or anything, I haven't done that. But I have, you know, organized meetings for the Liquor Commission to come over and talk to a lot of our restaurants, as well as businesses when we are putting on our events, and facilitated those with some of the rules and regulations that go with the Halloween event, and the Fourth of July event that we have in town every year.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your response. What do you envision after, you know, reviewing the meeting minutes and just your...I guess your own experience and background...what do you envision contributing to the Liquor Control Commission?

MR. PATEL: Well, I think I have a balanced approach. I am kind of stickler for making sure rules are being followed, and making sure that safety comes first, you know, in a lot of things that we try to do in terms of events for the town, that's always top of mind is safety. And in terms of what I could bring is also thinking outside the box. I think that with COVID, you'll see the people that really succeed in this are the ones that are able to take the rules and try to work within that to create some freedom for some of these businesses right now that are facing, you know, some restrictions and things like that. So I think you saw that to where Liquor, Planning...people can work together to create sort of...I would say an evolution in the rules or to create space to where...look this is the rule, but sometimes you do need to adjust it to meet today's sort of needs as well, right. So I think I'm good at that, where I can work within the system, and still be able to work well with others and have my own opinions, and be able to kind of move things forward and to, you know, kind of bring balance is kind of what I like to say I bring.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Mahalo for your response. Have you ever reviewed or are you familiar at all with the Liquor Control audit that was done recently . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and I'm sure one of my colleagues will follow up on that question, but you can respond to that question.

MR. PATEL: I have not, Keani, I can't say that I have dove into that. One thing about me is I am a quick learner, and I love to learn, and...that's my process is to take all the information that I can get and work within those parameters and then make a comment based on that. So I wouldn't say that I have had eyes on that, but now I surely will.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Patel. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to our West Maui Member, Councilmember Paltin, questions for Mr. Patel.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Patel for your willingness to serve.

MR. PATEL: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess you know...aloha. I was wondering about, you know, as the Liquor Control prepares and submit requests for annual appropriation of the operations of the Department of Liquor Control, have you reviewed their Budget at all?

MR. PATEL: I have not reviewed that Budget, no.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Any...so I guess off the top of your head without reviewing it, any thoughts about what types of things you'd like to see or...

MR. PATEL: Yeah. So I mean...when I look at a budget--and I've looked at budgets over the years, you know, I've served on multiple Boards--I look at what the needs are going forward for the organization, and I look at what our budget is, and try to meet those needs as best as possible. If the group comes together and says, well, this year we need to do X, Y, and Z, and that's not allocated in the budget, I think that's our responsibility to try to see where we can move things around, maybe postpone certain things, to be able to take care of immediate needs versus things that we can perhaps move forward the following year or not move forward at all. So, you know, balancing budgets is definitely something that I've had to do over the years both in business, as well as on Boards, and so I would assume that, you know, will translate well into what you're discussing about the Liquor Commission Budget.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And given that it's a self-funding Department and that 10 percent...or there's a percentage of fines that goes to education, and this past year they hadn't set up any organization to receive that money, how would you address that going

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forward?

MR. PATEL: So in terms of making sure that there's enough money for the education component, is that what you're asking?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: No, making sure that the education component actually happens, because this year, it did not.

MR. PATEL: Yeah, so I think, you know, one of the things about that, if the fees are coming from businesses and there is businesses that now or no longer exist that were once paying fees, yeah...there is always going to be perhaps a shortfall in terms of certain things that were allocated to be done that aren't. If it's a matter of not the funding, but more a matter of manpower or a matter of personnel, then I would look at it and say, well, what do we need to do to get this accomplished. Because education first and foremost, you know, for me is an important and vital thing in anything, right. The more information you are able to give out to the community and be able to . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . give them the best sort of foundation to make the decision, the better, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you...that's my time, but I just wanted to clarify. It wasn't a funding issue, and it's not...it comes from the fines, yeah, the fines administered. So it wasn't a funding issue. I guess they hadn't found a way to disburse the money, was the issue. Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Patel, for your willingness to serve.

MR. PATEL: Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Let's move on down to Councilmember Johnson, questions for our nominee, Mr. Patel.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good morning, Mr. Patel. I like the beard, new look for you.

MR. PATEL: Yeah, you know.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: So basically I have one question for you. I was looking over your resume, you have a lot of experience in F&B and restaurant industry. So do you have...at that...during your time in F&B, do you have any personal experiences with the Liquor Commission during your time?

MR. PATEL: Well, yeah, I think in terms of some of the Liquor employees, the Commission employees, they would come over to the establishments and make sure that we were following the rules and, you know, making sure that the occupancy limits or, you know, overserving wasn't happening. So I had that experience with the Liquor, I would say, Commission employees. I haven't gone to testify or have been part of any meetings, but that would have been my interaction.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And at that time, did you mention that you were a server or a bartender?

MR. PATEL: So I started out as a server at Bubba Gump Shrimp Company...just to date myself, that's no...when it first opened up, pretty much...it's not there any longer unfortunately. But then moved on to being a bartender at another establishment at the old...where Mala is right now, it's called the Smokehouse Bar and Grill, and at that time I was kind of the only bartender, and so it was kind of de facto manager as well. And then I was just, you know, talk about the wine store as well where I had experience, and held my liquor card for that job as well.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Patel. Thank you, Chair...I have no further questions.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Councilmember Sugimura, questions for Mr. Patel.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Nice seeing you here, Snehal. Thank you for your willingness to serve, and I look forward to supporting you to be on the Liquor Control. Thank you.

MR. PATEL: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much, Councilmember Sugimura. Councilmember Sinenci, questions for Mr. Patel.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Thank you, Chair, and aloha, Mr. Patel, for being here this morning to answer our questions.

MR. PATEL: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Yeah...aloha. Just a question. You mentioned earlier that Lāhainā side is kind of...you've got these two big events, on July 4th and Halloween and, you now, with Halloween with Lāhainā sometimes being referred to as like the Mardi Gras of the Pacific. So I just...and for me it's, you know, Lāhainā first. I graduated from Lahainaluna, but Lāhainā is kind of that historical capital, the old capital of the Hawaiian Kingdom. So, you know, that comes to mind first prior to...given the culture of the place is priority for me versus all of these outside types of celebrations and partying going on. So what are some of your ideas about protecting the residents during the celebrations that have been within Lāhainā. I know it's a big economic driver, but what are your suggestions about, you know, addressing the cultural aspect and the safety of our residents in West Maui.

MR. PATEL: Yeah...no. Thank you, Councilmember Shane, for kind of talking and touching on that subject. You know, as part of the Lāhainā Town Action Committee, that's

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actually one of our goals. And what we did with Halloween is we rebranded it, so I don't know if you've been down there for the last I would say, seven to eight years since we've been working with the County to kind of make sure that we move more towards a family-oriented event, as well as a more of an arts driven event. And so the years that we have been managing it or that I've been involved with it, really, we're trying to take it more towards that route, whether...you know, and getting away from the Mardi Gras of the Pacific. And because that was a concern, especially within the Hawaiian community, that those sites...that area was being almost desecrated, right, with this sort of activity and, you know, right where we used to have our contest for the costume contest, I moved that over to Campbell Park because, you know, that area was also a historic area, you know, that whole area is the original taro patch of Pililani. So I understand the history of that. And what we did is we protected a lot of those relics with orange sort of barriers. We made sure to take events away from those sites and put them elsewhere, spread them out. And like I said, so we move...you know, that's for me is where I...you know, as an example of taking input from the community and changing things, still having it be economically vital, you know, or economically beneficial for those businesses and the community, but at the same time respecting that historical and cultural aspect.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Awesome.

MR. PATEL: So, you know, I'm going to bring that same thing to the...to I would say the Liquor Commission.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for that. I appreciate that. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Councilmember Sinenci. Now Members, I must say we have two very interesting and talented nominees for the Liquor Adjudication Board, Mr. Dudoit, who is musically talented, and of course, we have Mr. Patel with a lot of experience with F&B, and a connoisseur of fine refreshments, and as well as an expert in mixology I guess that's called, right.

MR. PATEL: I'll make you a drink.

CHAIR MOLINA: Yeah, I may look you up. Now in getting your permits or your license to be a bartender, as a Liquor Commissioner, any thoughts on how the Department can maybe improve or expedite doling out licenses as far as firing bartenders, or establishments that are seeking their liquor licenses. Because those are some concerns I've heard in the past about, you know, the Department may be expediting or moving things a little faster. Any thoughts on that as a prospective Liquor Commissioner?

MR. PATEL: Yeah, I would think that as technology has advanced and how we're finding ways to meet right now with BlueJeans and...you know, one of the things that actually I didn't talk about is, I'm still helping trying to develop this app called Pukka, which allows people to testify, or just even these Boards and Commissions that allow us to get input

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faster and be able to make decisions based on, you know, input from the community in a broader spectrum. So I think technology can be leveraged if we put some allocation and monies towards it to doing some more online testing, having more times where people can test, and then being able to also have an online knowledge base for those individuals being able to study up. And that's the thing is we're not trying to, you know, make it so hard for people to get these things, it's just, you know, how can we make it easier and facilitate the needs of the community, as well as the businesses.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Patel. Certainly a very excellent response. That is something myself and other Members of this Council have encouraged the Department to do is to explore more technology to improve their services to the community. So thank you very much. All right. With that being said, Members, if there are no other questions for Mr. Patel, I'm going to go ahead and excuse him. And Mr. Patel, of course, a decision for your nomination will be made this Friday, May 7th, and I just want to thank you on behalf of the Members for making yourself available to serve the community.

MR. PATEL: Thank you, Chair Molina. Thank you, everybody, for taking the time. Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Aloha. Thank you. Okay, Members let's move on to our next nominee. At this point I haven't heard anything about Ms. Perry, about her availability at this time. So we'll go ahead and move on to our next nominee. This will be for the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission, and our nominee is Karen Kamalu Poepoe. Ms. Poepoe, if you're on the call, please let us know. Ms. Poepoe.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Yes, I am. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: There you are...okay. Good morning. Thank you. Please go ahead and take a couple of minutes to share with the Committee anything about yourself and why you would like to be considered for the Maui County Cultural Resources Commission. Please proceed.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Okay. Aloha, everyone. I'm...my name is Karen Kamalu Poepoe. I am a Hawaiian language immersion teacher, have been for 28 years, and I'm going to be retiring finally. I've only taught immersion in a public school. And so my whole career has been . . . *(inaudible)*. . . on knowledge and value that I place in Hawaiian...things Hawaiian...the indigenous culture and...wait, I'm going to take these off because I sound weird with this...okay. If you don't mind...okay. So I was approached to, you know, consider this Commission, and I've...you know, to tell you the truth, I haven't really been aware of it, but it interested me. In fact, I'm going to be retiring at the end of this month, and it's the only thing that I'm interested right now in making any commitment toward. And that is because I listened to the audio tapes, and I looked at the minutes, and I was very intrigued, and I was very impressed with what I saw as the process, and of course, the issues, and what came to the table for this Commission, it was surprisingly interesting to me. My interest...I have a strong interest

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in preservation, in traditions, and community, and I also noticed that there's a push and pull in terms of this Commission, as in any of the other ones as well...oh, excuse me. . . .*(phone rings)*. . . Okay...excuse me. I don't know who is calling me. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . Push and pull because there are differences in what people feel, so I will tell you that for me it's...what was so interesting to me is how much people value or don't value the importance of historic sites, the importance of cultural sites, and the people that are involved . . .*(inaudible)*. . . have been...happened historically. I'm very, very interested in seeing that this one group may be outnumbered by many, many other factors and obstacles that...that cause damage. I think this is one group that can be an advocate for what I value, and that is tradition and so...yeah.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. Well thank you very much, Ms. Poepoe, my apologies for interrupting, your timer bell went off already. So what I'm going to do now is open up the floor for questions for you from the Members. We'll go first to our Committee Vice-Chair, Member Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for Ms. Poepoe.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Aloha, Keani.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha. Mahalo, Chair. Well, my question about attendance I guess has been answered, and congratulations on your retirement.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Yeah, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It's very bittersweet. I'm really happy for you.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I don't...yeah. Oh, wow, I didn't know.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Well, the kumus are not happy but, you know, that's...that's...yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I bet. It's going to be a tremendous loss for Kula. But...okay. So for CRC...okay. So you said that you reviewed some of the minutes. And in your review of the minutes, did you see any discussion on the status of the update of the Moloka'i Resource...Cultural Resource Plan. They're supposed to be updating the Maui County Cultural Resource Plan. I'm just curious.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: The plan...the Cultural Resource Plan. I haven't seen that. I haven't. And I could also go back and if there's any information that I've missed on that, talk to Opuulani Albino. She was the last Commissioner, and she's my very close friend and colleague who pushed me to check into this too. So...but no, I haven't seen that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Ms. Poepoe. And of our office was following that up until, you know, COVID happened, so we can work together on that. But yeah, I really don't have too many...I don't have any other questions. I'm in, you

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know, huge support of Ms. Poepoe. She will be a huge asset to the CRC, and I really appreciate her opening comments and position, and the opportunities that she sees for the Cultural Resource Commission and how it can help our entire County. So I'm excited about Ms. Poepoe's nomination, and wholeheartedly support her.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo, Keani.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to Chair Lee, questions for Ms. Poepoe.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Aloha, Ms. Poepoe. I really don't have any questions for you, I just am very grateful that you are willing to serve, and hope you have a wonderful experience in your capacity. Thank you.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. Let's go out to Councilmember Sinenci, you have any questions for our nominee, Ms. Poepoe.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair, and aloha, Ms. Poepoe, for your willingness to serve, and mahalo for your...for being on the Cultural Resources. It looks like you have all the qualifications. So my question was, you know, as a Member of the Aha Kiole, being part of the Aha Moku Council, with that experience, how is that going to help you on this Commission?

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Well, I think that a lot of our dealings have to do with Moku, you know, we have a great respect for Moku and the people. And there's the protocols that go with that, which is the people of the place. And I was...I was...I have to say I was impressed with the Planning Department Cultural Resource person, they consult with families of the areas. So I think there are a lot of ways that the Aha Moku can be of service and help in finding out . . . *(inaudible)*. . . issues, but mostly I would just look immediately at Moku and the people related to the areas.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo. Thank you for that response. Maika'i loa. And then, you know, our Committee is proposing for a cultural overlay where we're looking to show some areas where they have significant cultural sites, and iwi kūpuna burials too, to have that all in a database for the County. Are you supportive of cultural overlays within the different Mokus?

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Yes, I am, because I think that identification...the more we identify and make transparent, the safer these areas will come.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo nui and hau'oli wa pau hana iā 'oe.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Sinenci. Councilmember Sugimura, any questions for Ms. Poepoe.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. I read your resume, and it's very impressive. Thank you for...it sounds like you've given your life to this, and I support you and the Cultural Resources Commission and what you can bring to the County in our planning process. Thank you.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Oh, mahalo, Councilmember.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. Councilmember Johnson, questions for our nominee.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I do not have any questions for you, Ms. Poepoe. In looking over your resume, it's...you've been fighting hard for things you care about, and that's important to me. So mahalo for your application and your desire to serve. Aloha.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo, Councilmember.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Councilmember Johnson, thank you very much. Let's see, Member Paltin is...okay...occupied with something right now...so I guess we'll forego any questions from Member Paltin. So I'd just like to say, Ms. Poepoe, thank you for making yourself available to serve our community in this capacity, and congratulations on your years of service for the Department of Education as a teacher. And I currently do part-time teaching on the side, so I can certainly appreciate what you are doing as a full-time teacher. And I certainly hope you don't let go of teaching once you retire, because there's certainly a great need for substitutes and certainly for someone like yourself with a lot of experience that you can impart on mentoring younger teachers, new teachers, and of course, our keiki as well. So I hope you keep that in mind, as well as, if you have time of course while serving on the Cultural Resources Commission, which I certainly would support your nomination.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you. And of course we'll make a decision this Friday, May 7th, so just wanted to make you aware of that.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Members, if there are no other questions for Ms. Poepoe, we're going to excuse her from the call today. So I want to thank you very much on behalf of the Committee for making yourself available.

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MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh, Member Paltin has questions.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, hang on, Ms. Poepoe. Let me ask...Member Paltin, do you have any questions for our nominee, Ms. Poepoe?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure thing. Thank you, Chair. Sorry. I just was wondering, Ms. Poepoe, if you had any knowledge of Mokuʻula, Mokuhinia, Kamehameha Iki Park and like Pakala area, because I think Cultural Resources Commission has jurisdiction of Lāhainā Historic Districts I and II and probably Wailuku as well. And just wondering as to your knowledge of those areas, or if you have a resource to consult with regarding the significance of...especially Lāhainā Historic Districts I and II, as sometimes we're overrun with tourism and, you know, the intended usage for what is commonly referred to as the Banyan Tree Park...isn't or wasn't in alignment with what it was supposed to be.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Yes. I am familiar with Mokuʻula. I've read the book. So I am familiar with the people of the area, the families. And again, my approach would be to the extent that, you know, it would be appropriate to find out information from the Moku people, and from the families that come from that area, number one. And I would also be looking at rules and regulations as well. So I do like that aspect of getting in touch with the people. I also noticed...and it makes sense more that there would be a lot more activity in certain areas, and it would be Maui and I seem to notice Lāhainā, or the areas that have a lot of fast development. So another thing I just noticed in my looking of various...listening to audio tapes is, how much damage was done by the past people who were responsible for this kind of thing, and the recognition by the Commission that there was damage done in being irresponsible, and that they are seeking a pono path now. So I really commend the people, the Administration, and the current folks who are being a lot more responsible about this and caring.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. And, you know, one of the big challenges is how does the past and the present coexist in this world today. You know, on the outskirts of Mokuʻula, Mokuhinia area there is tennis courts, basketball, you know, the surf schools pass through Pakala area, and there's like carrying capacity issues with the ORMA permits and what not. So how do you see trying to balance the needs of today and into the future, while respecting the historic sites that came before that they're already, to some extent...well, to a great extent, covered up. Are you in favor of full restoration, or how would you navigate that forwards?

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Well, first of all, I'm new to this so I'm going to be paying attention, I'm going to be reading up, researching, and checking out everything, also take a part of interior historic register rules and regulations, but...so I'm going to pay attention. I'm new, and so I'll take, you know, the more experienced colleagues' lead. But, you know, I guess it would be a matter of seeing how we can work around and yet respect

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those...those sites are priceless. There's so much that's covered up already. I will advocate for the historic preservation, I will say. But, you know, I saw that some of the issues can be . . . *(inaudible)*. . . through some good clever thinking, you know too. But I am the advocate for the Historic and Traditional, I will tell you that...yeah. And as it should be. That's what this Commission is meant to do, yeah...and within, of course, the appropriate rules.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much for answering my questions and your willingness to serve. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you very much, Councilmember Paltin. And mahalo again to you, Ms. Poepoe. Thank you for making yourself available to answer questions from the Committee, so we'll go ahead and excuse you now. Aloha.

MS. KAMALU POEPOE: Aloha. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Aloha. Okay, Members it looks like you guys have been working really hard. I'm going give you guys an extra five minutes for a break...so let's come back at 10:55. Any objections to any extra five minutes? Okay...hearing none. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No.

CHAIR MOLINA: I know Chair Lee right there, no...no objections, right. Okay, Members. And when we come back, I'd like to ask Kimberly Thayer, our nominee for the Maui Planning Commission, to be on standby when we come back from break. So with that said, the GREAT Committee meeting for Tuesday, May 4th is now in recess until 10:55 a.m. . . . *(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 10:40 a.m.

RECONVENE: 10:56 a.m.

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . *(gavel)*. . . The GREAT Committee meeting for Tuesday, March 4th, 2021 *[sic]* is now back in session. Thank you for that break, Members. I think we're all reenergized and ready to go up until 1:00 if necessary, but we're making some really good time, Members. So with that said, let's get right back down into business here. We have our nominee for the Maui Planning Commission, Kimberly Thayer, if you are online, please make us aware, and then we'll make sure to recognize you.

MS. THAYER: Hello.

CHAIR MOLINA: There you are. Okay, we can hear you loud and clear, Ms. Thayer. So please go ahead and take a couple of minutes right now to share with the Committee anything

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about yourself, and why you would like to be considered for the Planning Commission nomination. Please go ahead.

MS. THAYER: Okay. Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers. Aloha mai kākou. . . .*(Hawaiian spoken)*. . . no Ha'ikū mai ao...Puakukalo...mau keiki. So I am Kimberly Thayer. I am from Ha'ikū, but I now live in Paukukalo with my husband and our kids. A little bit about myself. So I grew up on the remnants or the last vestiges of my grandpa's pineapple farm in what used to be the boonies of Ulumalu, and that is where my love of trees and forests really ignited as a small child. But over my life out there, I watched his farm turn into subdivision, and dirt roads turn into paved roads, and that whole transition. I went away to college overseas, and coming home every six months or a year, I just got a snapshot of change on the island. And I started wondering at that time, like how does this stuff happen so fast, and how do these projects get passed, and how do these developments happen. And as fate would have it, when I moved back, I got a job with Munekiyo and Hiraga, and that was an unreal learning experience, and I learned all about how projects are formulated, how development works, what the processes are, who the players are, and in what positions, how important community input is. I've presented projects to the Planning Commission and to the County Council, which was an incredible learning experience. And meanwhile I also was fortunate enough to be in the third class of Ka Ipu Kukui Fellows. And so having been here all my life, I thought I loved Maui so much and I knew everything there was to know about this island, but during my time in the program, which was incredibly transformative, I learned that there is so much more that's going on on this island . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and there are so many people in different places, doing amazing things. And after that year, I felt empowered to do more and engage as a citizen of this place, and a child of this land. I started volunteering with the Nature Conservancy, leading hikes into Waikamoi Preserve. I joined the Maui County Arborist Committee, where I served for a long, long time with many awesome people from the community, and it led me to my...

CHAIR MOLINA: Ms. Thayer.

MS. THAYER: Oh, yes.

CHAIR MOLINA: I'm sorry...I apologize for interrupting, our timer bell went off, and I apologize about that.

MS. THAYER: No worries.

CHAIR MOLINA: We appreciate your...you certainly did a great job with your opening remarks, and nice to see you again. What I'm going to do now I'm going to turn matters over to the Members for any questions that they may have of you. So I'll start first with my Committee Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for our nominee, Ms. Thayer.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Thayer. Mahalo for your willingness to continue serving our County. So my first question is regarding attendance. Do you see any concerns with attending, I believe this is twice a month...twice a month meetings, and it can get long.

MS. THAYER: Yeah...so I am fortunate enough to be able to work from home now, so I'm able to sign on. I work remotely, so I'm very used to online platforms. And my boss is fortunately supportive of me serving, so I'm being given the time away to be able to join in meetings twice a month...so yes.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Wonderful. And then for...you talked about your experience in being before the Planning Commission. What do you envision contributing now to the Planning Commission?

MS. THAYER: Oh, gosh. Sorry, my husband is going past me. So I am...so I was asked to join the Commission. I was approached. And as I understand it there's a seat kind of from the environmental perspective that I'm being asked to fill. And anybody that knows me know that I am very passionate about trees and forest, and especially our native landscape. And I have been working at the Watershed Partnership for almost nine years now, and part of my job is to tell everybody how important the forest is and do public outreach and education, and to make sure everybody is aware of how valuable these resources are and how necessary they are for all of us...so to represent that perspective is, I believe, a lot of my kuleana.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. So you obviously you have a lot of mauna experience, do you have makai experience?

MS. THAYER: I've done volunteer work here and there...clean up and things. I have...I guess not specifically like workwise, but through my job and through my learning, I've learned a lot about coastal ecosystems and how necessary they are in that, you know, the ahupua'a runs from mountain to sea, and so it doesn't do good just to protect the mountains, you gotta protect the whole entire system all the way down, and even into the ocean...so, yeah.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And would you be able to speak at all to your understanding of like SMA and, you know, with climate change and sea level rise.

MS. THAYER: Oh, yes. So, yes. Climate change is a huge thing, it's affecting mauka lands and it's definitely affecting makai lands, and we have so much . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . development that's happened over time all around the shoreline, and we are facing kind of the convergence of that with climate change, and that there's a lot to do. And I know the SMA, the Special Management Area is set up to focus on parameters, and considerations, and factors that affect that whole entire shoreline environment. So I know...like drainage is a concern, and more paved area is a concern, retreat from the

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shoreline is a concern, and you know, moving highways even, and yeah...it's a big issue. So I realize that it's a very big issue that we are facing nowadays.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Thayer. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Right now I'd like to go to Chair Lee, any questions for our nominee, Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: No, not really. It seems like she has a lot of enthusiasm for the job. You grew up in Ulumalu, part of the Unemori family?

MS. THAYER: Yes, yes, my grandpa was...my grandpa actually served on the Planning Commission to bring a voice for farmers, because he was an independent grower and felt that there needed to be that voice. But yeah, I remember when Ulumalu Road was a bumpy, bumpy road, and definitely...yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: But it's not anymore, thanks to the good Council we had back then. Thank you.

MS. THAYER: Yes, thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Chair Lee. Okay, let's go to subject matter Chair, Councilmember Paltin, Chair of the Planning and Land Use Sustainable Committee, any questions for Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mrs. Thayer, for your willingness to serve. I have a concern that, you know, not a lot of anyone on the Commission currently has good shoreline knowledge, and being that I think you would be the one to fill the Environmental Conservationist person, it's kind of like we're putting all of that on your shoulders. And maybe it's our own fault cause we weren't clear enough that, you know, shoreline is the majority of where the Planning Commission's full and total authority is. And so I just was wondering about how you would go about making decisions about development within the SLR-XA, or shoreline setback appeals, or shoreline certifications, if you could fill us in a little bit as to your thought process when applicants want to do those things.

MS. THAYER: Sure. Yeah, so when back in my past life of working at Munekiyo and Hiraga, I worked on some SMA projects, and so I am very familiar with the extensive review process that goes into it, even if meaning no EA is required, the review is pretty much as stringent as an EA, and that there needs to be a lot of compromise that happens with different projects, and there's a lot of molding and shaping. But also, like my time in Ka Ipu Kukui told me that you need to make informed decisions, and do your homework, and really get the feel of the community and represent what the community wants and needs and balance that with other factors. So I would definitely do my homework as necessary because I do feel this kuleana. And it is important to make sure that this

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area of our island, which is where most of all actions take place, is given its due review and assessment and examination to make sure that it comes out the best it can be.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And given that mauka is more your specialty, do you have resources that are knowledgeable in the shoreline area...like whether it be DAR, DOBAR, or any kind of professional within shoreline management areas.

MS. THAYER: I know a lot of...a lot of the organizations that take care of like the shoreline areas, like the West Maui Kumuwai folks, the Coral Reef Alliance, the Seabird folks . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . that do a lot of work along the shoreline with taking care of the seabird boroughs and everything. But yes, I would also contact if needed to, the DLNR folks that work along the shoreline, and I am definitely open to tapping resources, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you for answering my questions and your willingness to serve. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Let's go to Councilmember Johnson, questions for our nominee, Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for coming today, Ms. Thayer. And I looked over your resume, so I don't have any questions at this time. Mahalo.

MS. THAYER: Thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Let's go to Councilmember Sugimura, any questions for Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Mr. Molina. Nice seeing you Kim, and..

MS. THAYER: Yes, you too.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: ...I appreciate that you are putting your name, or yourself into this...the Planning Commission and...exactly, you know, your resume speaks volumes and your years of experience. And of course your growing up and, you know, your explanation about your grandpa...I didn't realize he was on the Planning Commission. But I believe, you know, knowing him. So I wonder if you could just kind of summarize, based upon your experience, what you think would be your greatest focus, because it's so broad.

MS. THAYER: Yeah. So I do understand that a lot of my kuleana and a lot of my passion is for our native ecosystems, and like the natural landscape of our island. And this is what sustains us, it's what enables us to live here, it's why people come here, it's how people are able to farm, and to live good lives. And so I am bringing that perspective. But also, as I think a relatively young person who has grown up, and just in my time seen a lot of change, and knowing that there is a lot of change coming, and to be able

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to provide a voice from my generation to honor the generations before and lay a good groundwork for the generations after us.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Awesome.

MS. THAYER: Is where I see my place.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much, Kim. I really support you to be on this Commission. Thank you very much.

MS. THAYER: Mahalo. Mahalo, thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Councilmember Sugimura. Councilmember Sinenci, questions for our nominee, Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Thayer, this morning for joining us. I see that you are a Board Member for the Mauna Kahalawai Watershed Protection, and so it looks like the Department of Water Supply gives out nine grants for water protection throughout the pae'aina. And so just my concern, what do you think about the dryland forest reserves on the island?

MS. THAYER: Oh, they are very important...oh, and I just want to clarify, I'm not a Board Member, I am an employee.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Oh, employee...sorry.

MS. THAYER: I'm an employee. But...sorry, getting back to it. Dryland ecosystems, I think, are extremely important...like that is probably one of the...that's the greatest loss we have suffered, is in our dryland ecosystems. We have a lot of wet forest left, but we have just like a...like this much dryland forest left, and that is some of the most diverse forest that we have, and we...it's critical, I think, for us to revive that as part of our island...

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for that...mahalo for your mana'o. And then...so you will be...if confirmed through the Planning Commission, you'll be looking at, you know, some infrastructure on water. And so how do you feel about designing for water movement from mauka to makai and, you know, about aquifer recharge, water fowl, and wetland areas.

MS. THAYER: So aquifer recharge is something that gets talked about a lot because our forest cover is the sponge that soaks up all the water and helps it drain into our aquifers. So the less forest we have, the less aquifer recharge we have, which means the less water supply we'll have, you know, 20, 25 years from now, so that's critical. Wetlands are critical. We used to have a lot more wetlands than we used to have now, and probably a lot of our flooding issues are because our wetlands are not there to do the function that they used to do, which is capture flooding and help that water soak down into the

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ground.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo nui. And then my last question is, in East Maui, Hāna, we have the Hāna Advisory Commission, which is an Advisory to the Planning Commission. As you know, just recently this Council supported two more Advisory Commissions in South Maui and North Maui. So how much will you consider the advice from these small communities like rural East Maui?

MS. THAYER: So I've heard of that happening, or it talks about that happening, the other Advisory Committees, and I haven't fully developed my thoughts about that. But I do see the value of Hāna having its own Commission because it is a . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . very unique community that is almost like its own other island. The others are a lot more blended, I would say, with people living and working across communities, so there's a lot more back and forth. However, if that does get created, then it...you know, it's the will of the people in that case, and that I would listen to that, should that be the case. Yeah, definitely.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you, Ms. Thayer, for your responses. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Sinenci. Ms. Thayer, just the one question in general as a prospective Planning Commissioner, if you have a large housing subdivision project or a hotel to consider as far as rezoning, what things will you be putting the greatest emphasis on as it relates to your decisionmaking, and I will assume you will be as fair and impartial as possible. Can you share your thoughts on that?

MS. THAYER: Yeah. So I do know that every big project has a lot, a lot, a lot, of things going on and...like having examined these in Ka Ipu Kukui and continuing involvement in there and seeing that, you know, there...even though an issue may seem very black and white, there are always, always, always going to be very many perspectives on it and different values that come out of it. There's always going to be benefits and drawbacks to consider, and I think every project that would be unique. And so I would take great care in trying to research all sides and hear all perspectives to make sure that the decision comes...that comes out of it is very well informed, and well balanced, and in consideration of everything.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for that response. All right, I believe that we went through a round of questions from our Members, and I don't believe we have any need for follow up at this point so...oh, I see. Okay, subject matter Chair Paltin, one question, follow-up question for Ms. Thayer.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair, for your indulgence. Thank you, Mrs. Thayer. Just a follow up on Member Sinenci's question. When you were talking about the ecosystems and the wetlands, I noticed that you didn't mention runoff. And I just was wondering how...where on your importance is the water quality of the nearshore waters?

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You know, every time when we have these flooding events, it creates a brown water situation, and I just was wondering your thoughts on that specifically because I didn't hear the word runoff.

MS. THAYER: Oh, sure. Yes, runoff is a huge issue. I live right in front of the ocean in Paukukalo, and right by the river mouth. And so when the river runs brown, the ocean right in front of my house turns brown, and we're not going to swim there for a few days until it clears. And I totally understand that runoff is contributing to the death of a lot of our reefs. And just in our lifetime, we've seen how much the reefs . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . have changed, and that's all mostly human impacts that have done that. And so if we're going to have reefs for our kids to enjoy when they are older and have their own kids, that we really need to address issues like runoff, and curb that, and make sure that our nearshore waters are healthy for generations to come.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Thank you for confirming that. And thank you, Chair, for your indulgence.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, no problem. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. With that said, I want to thank you, Ms. Thayer, for offering yourself to serve our community in this capacity. We're going to let you off the call now, but just to inform you that this Friday, a decision will be made on your nomination...May 7th. Thank you.

MS. THAYER: Okay. Mahalo. Thank you for your time. I appreciate it.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you. Mahalo.

MS. THAYER: Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Members, moving on to our next nominee. For the Police Commission, we have Stacey Moniz. And Ms. Moniz, if you're on the call, please let us know. Stacey Moniz, nominee for the Police Commission.

MS. MONIZ: Hi, good morning.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, okay. I can hear you, but can't see you, but that's okay. If you can turn your video on; if not, no worries. What I'd like you to do is take a couple of minutes...

MS. MONIZ: Yeah, you know --

CHAIR MOLINA: Go ahead.

MS. MONIZ: -- my computer was fine all this time, and now that it's my turn, it's acting weird. So I might just leave the camera off, if that's okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: No worries, Stacey. Many of us know what you look like. So please go ahead

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and tell us a little bit about yourself, and why you'd like to be considered for the Police Commission. Go ahead.

MS. MONIZ: Okay. Thank you so much. You know I...as you said, most of you folks know that I spent about 35 years working in domestic violence, and it's been a few years since I left that field, and I...I've always wanted to serve on a Commission. I serve on the State Commission on the Status of Women, and so by default, I sit on the Maui County Committee on the Status of Women. But you know, I've worked a lot as a nonprofit Director. And in the last year, I had breast cancer and quit my job, so now I'm unemployed, which has been an interesting adventure too. But I do feel like I've listened to the last confirmation hearing for . . . *(inaudible)*. . . I would fit that need very well. They're asking for women, people with a background in human services. And you know, I also recognize that during COVID, women are really overtasked now with educating our kids at home and, you know, home schooling and, you know, a blend of home and in-person school. And so it's gotten really hard for women to become active community involved. And so I'm not in that position, so I felt very called to apply. So yeah, that's why I applied. I think I can make a very beneficial contribution to the Police Commission.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. Moniz, for your opening comments. I'm going to turn matters over to the Committee now for questions. We'll start with Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for Ms. Moniz, our nominee for the Maui Police Commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Moniz. Mahalo for your willingness to serve on the Maui Police Commission. Nice to hear from you.

MS. MONIZ: Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, so my first question is regarding attendance. Do you foresee any concerns with attending the meetings?

MS. MONIZ: No, I don't think so, especially right now. Like I said, mostly I'm a full-time grandma right now, which is kind of a nice job. It's pretty flexible.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Awesome. Next is...have you ever attended any of the Police Commission meetings or have any...reviewed...watched, you know, online or reviewed any of the meeting minutes?

MS. MONIZ: I did see the minutes. I just missed the last Commission meeting by a day, I really had that messed up on my calendar. But I have read minutes and I do know that there's a search for a new Police Chief going on, which is probably the most critical piece of work to be done right now.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yes, absolutely. So what do you...or how do you

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envision contributing to the Police Commission?

MS. MONIZ: You know, I worked in domestic violence for 35 years, and so I've worked with a lot of different Police Chiefs, and saw a lot of different styles of leadership and a lot of different...where their values were different and where investments of money and manpower were placed. And so I feel like I have a really broad experience level on what . . . *(inaudible)*. . .

CHAIR MOLINA: We're having a little technical difficulties with Ms. Moniz.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Moniz.

MS. MONIZ: Oh, I'm so sorry. I can see that happening here too, and I don't know...I swear my computer was working just fine up until the last person, and it started getting glitchy. I don't...should I try and call in on the phone?

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So far it's been okay.

CHAIR MOLINA: We're good.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Just the last part I wasn't...because I can't see you, I wasn't sure if you were pausing responding to the last questions, so I didn't want to cut you off. So I'll ask my last question before the timer goes. What kind of qualities and qualifications are you looking for in the next Police Chief, or would you be on the Commission?

MS. MONIZ: I think that I would be really searching myself for someone that's . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . more...the times have changed in a lot like...police do a lot more than just law enforcement, it's a lot more complicated, the work. And so I don't know that our training has kept up with that kind...our police training. I know they've done a lot of innovative great work with this Crisis Intervention Program, really designed to working with people with mental illness. I'd like to see more like those kinds of initiatives, community posting where police are more active in their own communities. So I think a lot of more empathetic, passion...culture of compassion, given the changing demographics in our community and how many people have become homeless. And that's...you know, it's...I know people think it's a lot of people coming from the mainland that's homeless, it's not just people from...it's local people are homeless right now, and it's getting worse. So I kind of would like to see more compassion versus just strict law enforcement. I think my history would...you could expect that from someone like me...in the work that I've done.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Absolutely. Mahalo, Ms. Moniz. Mahalo, Chair.

MS. MONIZ: Mahalo, to you.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Let's go to Chair Lee, questions for Ms. Moniz.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hi, Stacey.

MS. MONIZ: Hi...sorry I no more my camera.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I know, I know, but I know what you look like.

MS. MONIZ: Yeah, yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I'm so happy that you're a candidate for this position, because as you know, in the field of domestic violence, it's critical to have a good working relationship with the police. So over the years, has the Domestic Violence Unit within the Police Department been sufficient, or do you think it needs to be expanded?

MS. MONIZ: You know, that's a really great question. We...I know that when I was at Women Helping Women, we did a lot of work together on writing grants to get more training and more domestic violence at specific training for the community and for the Police Department too. So I think that that's a great place to invest some resources, because I think when you look at law enforcement, if we have a better response to things like domestic violence, which is a really very common call for the police in general...if we have a better response to that, it will overflow onto other issues. And you know, domestic violence also happens in the homeless communities too, and we forget about that sometimes too so...

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, Stacey, the other thing is, we also started a Domestic Violence Unit in the Prosecutor's Office. Is that working okay?

MS. MONIZ: I . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

CHAIR MOLINA: Technical glitch here again. Maybe Ms. Moniz...well, I think...Members, maybe we can have Ms. Moniz call in, that might be helpful. Ms. Moniz, if you can hear us, if you could call us...dial in instead and we can do this by phone to prevent any potential glitches. So why don't we do that, Members. So what we'll do...maybe what we'll do, we'll take a...Members, you like a short recess, or if you would like we could move onto our next nominee and come back to Ms. Moniz. Maybe we'll do a technical recess, I guess, if you would like to call it that and give Ms. Moniz some time to call in. Yeah, why don't we do that. Good suggestion. All right, Members the GREAT Committee meeting is in recess. Let's do until 11:35, roughly five to seven minutes. Meeting in recess until 11:35 a.m. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

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RECESS: 11:28 a.m.

RECONVENE: 11:39 a.m.

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . (*gavel*). . . The GREAT Committee meeting for Tuesday, March 4th, 2021 [*sic*] is now back in session. Members, we last left off with a question from Chair Lee and our nominee for the Police Commission, Ms. Moniz, was responding to it, until we had a little technical glitch that I believe we've got rectified now and we can see Ms. Moniz as well too. So Ms. Moniz, please go ahead and continue and pick up where you left off.

MS. MONIZ: Could you repeat your question, because I was listening to your question, and my computer shut down.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, the second half of the question had to do with your opinion of the Domestic Violence Unit within the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

MS. MONIZ: That's a great question. So you know there's been often I think...the whole goal is that everybody gets better training. And I know there was a time...and you, I think, was on the Council at the time when our whole Domestic Violence Response was a model program, not just for the State, but in the country. And so I think things have gotten better and worse, and I really don't know how they are right now, to be honest, because I've been...not been working in the field for . . .(*inaudible*). . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay...well, Stacey...Stacey, my time, my time is almost up.

MS. MONIZ: Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So I just want to say that, you know, hopefully you'll be selected, and when you're on the Commission, I like your idea of advancing training of all kinds for the police officers. Thank you.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you too...sorry.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Chair Lee. All right, let's go to Member Paltin, questions for Ms. Moniz.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Moniz, for your willingness to serve, and all I wanted to say was hau'oli la hanau 'ia oe.

MS. MONIZ: Mahalo. I could put on my tiara, but I won't.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: We had a chance to chat yesterday, so I'm all good. Thank you.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you.

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CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Okay. Member Sinenci, questions for Ms. Moniz.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Aloha, Stacey, nice to see you, and right...I've got everybody in the office wishing you a happy birthday as well. Hau'oli la hanau 'ia oe.

MS. MONIZ: Oh, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: And then just following up on Member Lee's question about training. Do you see where our police officers, when dealing with our unsheltered population...I know it's a very sensitive subject. So how would additional training and addressing some of our . . . *(inaudible)*. . . help our police force.

MS. MONIZ: You know, I think that previously, we had this training with Dr. Dara Rampersad. He used to come...he used to live here, and he used to come back and train folks on how to work effectively with mentally ill people. Now not all homeless and houseless people have mental issues, not all are domestic violence, not all are substance abuse...some people are just homeless. But being able to work with mentally ill is going to be very . . . *(inaudible)*. . . because some. . . *(inaudible)*. . . houseless people, so how do we interact with them will be critical. So I think that kind of training builds capacity for compassion, and that's the...I think the critical piece that helps on all levels with everything. And there's money for training, there's...so one of the things I've been saying, I'm going to say it again, not just for the Police Department, I feel like the County of Maui could benefit greatly from having a grant writer who chases after money that just specifically municipalities can apply for. I think we miss out on a lot of dollars...so I'll get off my soapbox with that. Thank you for the chance to say that again. I appreciate it.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Okay. Thank you for that. And if you do, I won't try to cut your funding. Thank you.

MS. MONIZ: There you go. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Let's go to Mr. Johnson, do you have any questions for Ms. Moniz.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I did have a lot of questions, but the Councilmembers kept asking them. So I just wanted to once again wish you a happy birthday, Stacey. I rise in full support of your nomination, and I look forward to hearing more of your ideas. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you so much. Mahalo.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Member Sugimura, did I recognize you earlier?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: No. But thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, okay. Good. I just wanted to make sure. Okay, go ahead, Member Sugimura, you have the floor, questions for Ms. Moniz.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Nice seeing you, Stacey. I also saw on Facebook that today's your birthday, so happy birthday. I guess we're all wishing you a very special day, and thank you for making the time to be with us.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Your years of service speaks volumes. And again, I was going to ask you questions regarding domestic violence as it would relate to this Department. So is there anything else that you would like to share with us that you could add to this Police Commission?

MS. MONIZ: Yeah, you know, I ran a nonprofit which is a very small kind of organization compared to a Police Department, compared to a County, or the State, but I do think as a leader of a nonprofit with the personnel matters, with the public image, and matters, I think with budgeting...like I have experience on multiple levels on a smaller scale, to be sure. But I do think that running the nonprofits has given me a broader perspective, that it's not all...the police don't only do domestic violence, they don't only work with homeless and houseless people, they don't...they do so much more, and so I think having that perspective will be helpful as well.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Nice to see you. I support you.

MS. MONIZ: Yeah, nice to see you. Thank you. Thank you, thank you. I appreciate it.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Sugimura. I don't have any questions. I've known you, Ms. Moniz, for many years and you've just done outstanding work for Women Helping Women and other endeavors you've had with the community, so you certainly have my support as well. And thank you for offering your time to serve on this very important Commission. So anyway, with that said, our final decision will be made on May 7th, and I wanted again thank you on behalf of the Committee.

MS. MONIZ: Thank you so much. I'm glad my computer came back.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you.

MS. MONIZ: Aloha, everyone.

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CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Aloha. All right. Thank you very much. Moving on next, now we have our nominees for the Fire and Public Safety Commission. Our first nominee up is Mr. Gregory Peros. Mr. Peros, I see you. I believe you can turn on your video, I see you online. All right, there you are. Good to see you again, Mr. Peros. If you could take the next couple of minutes and tell the Committee a little something about yourself, and why you would like to be selected to serve on the Fire and Public Safety Commission. Please go ahead.

MR. PEROS: Mahalo, Chair Molina. Mahalo, Councilmembers. Hafa adai, everyone and aloha kākou. My name is Greg Peros. I was born here on Maui, raised on Maui and Lānaʻi. I've always wanted to be on the Board of Commission to give back to our community and I am willing to learn and work hard in making the Fire Commission a success. I've volunteered in several numerous boards. I am the Chair for Catholic Charities of Hawai'i, Maui . . .*(inaudible)*. . . Council, and also I do volunteer work at the Maui Kiwanis Club, for our community just to name a few. I think the safety of the community is very important, and if given the opportunity, I'll be very excited to serve on the Fire Commission Board. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much for your opening statements, Mr. Peros. We'll go to Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for Mr. Peros.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Peros.

MR. PEROS: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your willingness to serve on the Fire and Public Safety Commission. So my first question is regarding attendance. Do you see any foreseeable concerns with you being able to attend the meetings?

MR. PEROS: I don't see any concerns, my boss is in support of me volunteering. So, you know, that's always good.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. My next question...okay. So you said that you've always wanted to serve on the...this Commission specifically?

MR. PEROS: I guess in the...for Maui County in general, you know, to serve and volunteer my time and try to give back to the community. I've been thinking about this for the past 10, 15 years, and now, you know, the opportunity came up to serve on the Fire Commission, so I just took a chance.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo for that clarification. So have you ever...so like will you share with us what your familiarity is with the Fire and Public Safety Commission, if you ever watched a meeting, attended, or reviewed the meeting minutes.

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MR. PEROS: I've reviewed the minutes, so I see and I've read what they do. I think that the safety of our community is...you know, is first and foremost of course...and, you know, that's one of the things I wanted to be involved with. I think the Police Commission and the Fire Commission is important, you know, like all Commissions are, you know, but the safety of the community has always fall deeply within my heart.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And will you share with us what you...how you envision contributing on this Commission.

MR. PEROS: I guess the objectivity, open mindedness, committee...as a Committee Member, you know, my point of view, and then just the willing to work with the Fire Department...Fire Commission.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Mr. Peros. My last question for this round is...so we...you know, we recently received the announcement that our current Fire Chief will be retiring and so it's this Commission's kuleana to select the new Chief. Are you ready for that kuleana, and what kind of qualities will you be looking for in replacing...

MR. PEROS: Yeah, it's going to always be a big shoes to fill. The...I think communication is key with the rank and file, you know, so finding a Chief with the communication skills. I think the past Chiefs, you know, have done a great job...you know, looking for a Chief that...like any job, you know, when you're looking for someone, you always want someone to come in and always take it to the next level . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . for that Department. So, you know, looking for someone who can do all of that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: My timer is up. Mahalo, Mr. Peros. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Chair Lee, any questions for Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Actually, I don't have any questions for Mr. Peros. I'm impressed with his application and resume. I'm sure he will do a great job for us. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Chair Lee. We'll go to Councilmember Sinenci, any questions for our nominee, Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. Yeah, mahalo to the Members for asking some pertinent questions, and aloha, Mr. Peros. I guess a general question is about, you know, we just got word at the Federal level, the CDC, you know, they're saying that majority of the country can't reach herd immunity. We still have a small percentage of people that don't feel like they should be taking the vaccination. So, you know, with you working in the hotel industry and the safety of our communities, what do you feel about continued protections of our communities.

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MR. PEROS: You know, we...we really can't force anyone to take the...to take the vaccine shots here at the hotel, but we do give them incentive, you know, for those that want to take them. We do encourage, you know, to take it, you know, to follow the CDC Guidelines. You know, just not the, you know, safety for everybody, you know, if we can get that the herd immunity, of course. But, you know, I think, you know, if we get the word out and more communication out there, and let everybody know that, you know, it's safe and it's only going to help the better of everyone, you know, hopefully that's going to change their minds.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for your response, Mr. Peros. Mahalo, Chair.

MR. PEROS: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Okay, let's go to Councilmember Sugimura, questions for Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, thank you. Hi, Greg, nice to see you.

MR. PEROS: Hi, Yuki.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for your willingness to serve, and I do know that I've worked with you through the...you know, through the years, various projects that we brought to your Maui Beach Hotel. I appreciate your help really, because that's what it takes. I support you being a candidate for this Fire Commission, and I think you will use the management skills that you have to select the really important...like the next Police Chief...so you want to just make a brief statement about that in terms of how you can merge your professional expertise towards this important decision.

MR. PEROS: You know, again, I'd be looking for someone that can communicate with the rank and files. I'm looking for someone that...and again, the past Chiefs all have done a great job. When you're looking for someone, you always want to find someone that can take it to the next level...so be it technology, be it...you know, more prevention of forest fires and prevention...and maybe getting the word out there on how we can make our homes more, you know, safe. So I'm also, you know, getting the word out to everyone that goes to the beach, you know, visitors or if our fellow community members, you know, as well as working with MEMA, you know, working with them to communicate on how to make everything better for our community.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much, Greg.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Sugimura. Before I go and recognize Member Johnson and Member Paltin, just a quick question just with regards to your experience, Mr. Peros. Now you're in the hospitality industry, and of course you come across many visitors, and our Fire Department plays an important role whenever there

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is any issues with the ocean or tourists getting lost. Can you see yourself serving as somewhat of a conduit between the visitor industry and the Department to provide from the visitor industry, some support for the Department and helping educate our visitors so as not to do things to further impact our Fire Department having to go out and send our personnel to do rescues when, you know, visitors could use maybe a little bit more common sense as it relates to the ocean or hiking in our mountains. Any thoughts on that Mr. Peros?

MR. PEROS: Yeah, you know, anyway that we can make, you know, everyone safe, I'd be willing to help, you know, when I'm working with you or working with the Maui Hotel Lodging Association, and working with the fellow GMs here on the islands, you know, and in our County, you know, whatever it takes to make everyone safe, because that's the whole goal is to make sure that, you know, everyone, you know, stays safe.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you for that response. Member Johnson, questions for Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Once again, the Councilmembers keep asking all the good questions, so I checked that off the list. Thank you, Mr. Peros, for applying, and it looks like you have a nice balance here. I appreciate the idea of your goal in having a Fire Chief that is good in communication skills and working together with other...with other agencies. And then the way Councilmember Molina talked about how you can be a bridge between our hotel industry, that really speaks to me, so I look forward to seeing you and learning more about you. So thank you so much for your time. Aloha.

MR. PEROS: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Councilmember Paltin, questions for Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Peros for your willingness to serve. Before I start, I just...I've got a lot of questions so if you could keep your answers concise and I might cut you off when I get the answer and I don't mean to be rude. And I'm sorry I got some caretaking tasks going on, I might have missed it...was this your first choice Commission?

MR. PEROS: This one, yes. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. And I was wondering, how would you measure the Fire Chief's performance once one is selected.

MR. PEROS: Well everything has to be measured right, and, you know, how we can bring it to the next level of work. And of course, you know, safety is key to measuring, I think, how effective they are.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And when should persons who require rescue get charged for service?

MR. PEROS: I think that's something we need to look at, you know, I know it's a burden on the taxpayers to...and . . .*(inaudible)*. . . as a Committee to take a look at and see, you know, what our options are.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And how should the Fire Department and the County handle extended search operations utilizing County resources?

MR. PEROS: Yeah, that's a tough question. You know, I think life matters, you know. I think, you know, you do what you got to do to save a life, you know, so I don't know how to answer that question, if it's, you know, I think...

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. What role should you have in the Department Budget process?

MR. PEROS: You know, again, safety...safety is an issue, you know, so you look at what's going to be the ones that's going to, you know, good safety for our community. So, you know, budget is always, you know, you can only spend so much, so we've gotta kind of take a look, you know, I think, what's going to benefit, you know, down the road, and also right now for our community and spend accordingly.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Are you familiar with the types of equipment they might need or things that they might be able to hold off on; apparatus, AED, and those types of equipment and what they're used for?

MR. PEROS: Not too familiar with that, but I know that, you know, you go by age with a lot of them, you know, and miles, like with the trucks, you know, but, you know, we would have to rely a lot on the Fire Departments and Chiefs to explain about those.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And just, you know, . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . that there's...okay. Thank you. My time is up. Thank you so much for answering my questions, I'll wait until the next round.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. All right. That concludes the first round. So Chair will allow one follow-up question from any Members who wish to ask. I believe Member Rawlins-Fernandez, you had a follow up and I believe Member Paltin. Go ahead...go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Just so you know, Mr. Peros, your video isn't showing anymore, so I don't know if you want to maybe turn the video off and then maybe the audio would be better. Okay. Oh...

MR. PEROS: Okay, can you see me now?

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: No.

MR. PEROS: It's supposed to be on.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Yeah, I think...it says like the network is not very good...so I think that's why.

MR. PEROS: Okay, let me mute that.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I think just so that...I mean as long as the audio is good, that that's what matters the most I think right now.

MR. PEROS: Yeah, I've never had that problem before usually the video and the audio does work.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: It was working earlier, but I just wanted to let you know...yeah, yeah...we could see you, we could see you earlier. Just a little bit ago it stopped working. Okay. So...okay. If I have to choose one question, I guess my one follow-up question would be...so you said, you know, taking the Department to the next level twice in responding to our questions, and I was hoping you would be able to expound on what you see, envision, and define next level as.

MR. PEROS: Okay. Thank you. The next level meaning, you know, is the Chiefs in the past done a great job, and it's always looking for someone that can, you know, take it one step further. I think communication is key, and if communicating with the safety for all the community members to keep them safe, you know, their homes safe, safe at the beach, as well as, you know, the Chief's knowledge of, you know, technology and how to make the Department better moving this...in moving forward in this age and time.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your response. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Paltin, a follow-up question for Mr. Peros.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. For my one follow-up question, I would like to know how you see the future of Ocean Safety within the Department of Fire and Public Safety. Up until the present day fire has chosen members of the Fire side to oversee Ocean Safety. Would you support ocean safety promoting from within to, you know, have a sense of self-determination of leading their own self within the Fire structure?

MR. PEROS: I'm going to have to look into that further, Councilmember Paltin. I am not too sure. I would think, you know, it would be better to fall under the Fire Department in my opinion, but...

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, can I clarify? I meant within the Fire Department, but currently the Battalion Chief comes from the Fire side. Would you support the Battalion Chief or from the Ocean Safety side, under the Fire Department, if I didn't make that clear the first time. Still within the Fire Department, but Ocean Safety leading themselves under, you know, the Fire Chief, Deputy Fire Chief, and Assistant Fire Chiefs.

MR. PEROS: Then yes. Yes.

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

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Okay, seeing no other requests for a follow-up question for our Fire Commission nominee, Mr. Peros, we'll go ahead and excuse Mr. Peros. And I want to thank you, Mr. Peros for making yourself available to the Committee for questioning, and we appreciate you wanting to, you know, you have an already busy schedule, but willing to donate your time to serve our community in this capacity. And final decision-making will be this Friday, May 7th. So mahalo again to you, Mr. Peros, on behalf of the Committee.

MR. PEROS: All right. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Thank you. Okay, Members, we'll call up our next nominee for the Fire and Public Safety Commission. I'd like to call upon Mr. Dylan Andrion. Mr. Andrion, if you're online. There you are. Okay, good.

MR. ANDRION: Aloha.

CHAIR MOLINA: Aloha.

MR. ANDRION: Good afternoon.

CHAIR MOLINA: Please go ahead and take a couple of minutes to share with the Committee who you are and why you would like to serve on the Fire Commission. Please go ahead.

MR. ANDRION: Aloha and hafa adai again. So good to see everyone once again, and always a pleasure to get to speak with our Council and of course, Chair Molina. I think, a hau'oli lā hānau is in order for you too, so happy birthday, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, thank you very much. Thank you. I appreciate the thought.

MR. ANDRION: Thank you for the consideration on this nomination. I've been...I'm born and raised in Maui. I hopped over to O'ahu for a couple of years, but came back because Maui nō ka 'oi. And I love my community, I love people of this island, and am actively looking for opportunities to serve and give back. I'm currently serving as the Vice-

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President of the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce and the Maui Filipino Chamber of Commerce Foundation, and my wife and I are active members of our Church and actively volunteering with different ministry and outreach opportunities. I have a history of my career, both in vocational ministry; and like my fellow nominee, in the hospitality industry as well, and so I will receive the front office department here at the Westin Kaanapali Ocean Resort Villas. To that end, I am in complete control of my schedule and able to flex my time so I can give back to the community and find different areas to serve. I'm really looking forward to the opportunity here, so thank you so much for considering me today.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo for your opening remarks, Mr. Andrion. And my goodness, you have...you're full of enthusiasm and energy, that's great to see, so...awesome. All right, I'm going to turn matters over to the Committee now for questions. I'll recognize my Committee Vice-Chair, Ms. Rawlins-Fernandez, questions for Mr. Andrion.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Andrion.

MR. ANDRION: Aloha.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your willingness to serve our County on this Commission. So my first question is regarding attendance. Do you foresee any concerns with your ability to attend as many meetings as possible?

MR. ANDRION: No, yeah...I have been so fortunate to have a real flexible schedule and control over my schedule, and my mentors and the manager I report to also supports all of my volunteer efforts as well.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, great. Did you...so you said that you were interested in serving on like a Board or Commission. Was this your first choice?

MR. ANDRION: Yes. This was my first choice.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. And in preparing for your nomination coming before Council, did you familiarize yourself with the work that the Fire and Public Safety Commission does, have you attended any of the meetings, or watched any of the meetings online, or reviewed any of the meeting minutes.

MR. ANDRION: Sure. I've been taking time to study through the minutes, and I actually missed this in my opening statement. I meant to also mahalo our former Commissioners, Commissioner Freitas and Commissioner Tancayo. And of course, to congratulate Chief on his upcoming retirement, and so...and I know there's a big kuleana that comes along with the Chief retiring, so again, thankful for the opportunity.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, that's great. And how do you see yourself contributing to the Commission with your background.

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MR. ANDRION: Sure. Well, I know for sure that with vocational ministry and within the hospitality industry, people and safety are at the top of priorities, and certainly at the top of my priorities. What comes to mind is back in 2018 with Hurricane Lane, if you will recall, West Maui went through responding to that huge brush fire. What an honor and privilege to have been able to open up our doors here at the Westin to house and support all of our families that were displaced. And I've learned a lot through being given the opportunity to serve on our emergency response team and lead that team here at the resort. And then in addition, again, just people and safety being a priority throughout my life. I'm also a new dad, I share that in multiple meetings, but right. When you have kids, I mean everything just becomes more emphasized, so I want them to grow up in a community where safety is at the front.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for that response. I might have to ask you about your attendance again...just kidding, just kidding. You know babies.

MR. ANDRION: I've got an amazing wife, she can do it all.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Sounds like you're a lucky man then.

MR. ANDRION: Thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: My last question is regarding the selection of . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . a new Chief...

MR. ANDRION: Sure.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: ...as to your priorities on what qualities you will be looking for.

MR. ANDRION: Chair, do I have time to respond...I can respond, right?

CHAIR MOLINA: . . . *(inaudible)*. . . Mr. Andrion...go ahead.

MR. ANDRION: You know, I'm also a certified organizational leadership coach with the John Maxwell team, he's a world renowned author, and I've had the privilege of getting to train with him personally and with his staff. And when it comes to choosing leaders, there's three things...three qualities that are always at the top of my mind. One is faithfulness, their ability to do what's asked of them in full. The next is fruitfulness, to the ability to produce results and show real evidence, a track history of evidence of producing things. And then the last would be their loyalty, their loyalty to Maui County. And of course, along with loyalty comes integrity, their character has to be above reproach, and one that sets an example for the entire Department and creates a wholeness and wellness within the Department.

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VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Great response. Mahalo, Mr. Andrion.

MR. ANDRION: Mahalo.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I appreciate you joining us today. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. And now I would like to go now to our colleague from Lānaʻi. I know he said a lot of his questions were being asked, so I'm going to give him a chance right now to ask a question early on of our nominee, Mr. Andrion. Go ahead, Mr. Councilmember Johnson. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. I too appreciate your enthusiasm, Mr. Andrion. I'm on my third cup of coffee, I'm wondering how much you are on right now. I joke, I joke. Now, here's my serious question. So, you know, when I come to Maui I stay in Lāhainā, the Wahikuli, and I hear those sirens all night long. And I know that the big economic engine is our tourism trade. So how can you balance...this is the question for you, is how can you balance the pressures that tourism trade puts on our first responders and our firefighters when we also have this, you know, influx of people who maybe aren't aware of how dangerous the ocean is, and maybe isn't aware of these things, so how do you balance that. Mahalo.

MR. ANDRION: Sure, I think...and there may be other answers to this, but I think one of the most important aspects and answers would have to be education. And I love being a part of the hotel industry. I think there is a certain amount of responsibility that comes with educating our visitors, and educating our guests, so they know that there are dangers out there, and what things to be aware of. So getting to be a part of the Commission would allow me the opportunity to hear exactly what the latest trends are, what's the most things we see our tourists aren't being aware of, and of course, I have my relationships and network within the hotel industry to rely on getting that word out and communicating to our leaders and our teams to see that education take place.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. So as a person who works in the industry, how do...have you had a hard time with the education? Some tourists might be resistant to that. Do you ever find any kind of resistance to...hey, I don't need to do that, I'm a grown person. And do you find that common, or is that not so common.

MR. ANDRION: You know, for the most part, I will say that there are those lack of better phrases I could think of...bad eggs, right. But I think when people come to Hawai'i, they're coming for that aloha spirit, and so there's this innate willingness to participate in whatever it takes to better the community. But for the more difficult ones, that's why our hotel teams are diligently staffing with managers and guest relation people who can speak to that, and maybe perhaps there's a place for the Commission to partner with those people in showcasing different training, showcasing different methods of communicating and educating our tourists and guests.

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COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Andrion. Thank you, Chair. I have no further questions.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. And now let's go to someone who can match Mr. Andrion's enthusiasm, Chair Lee, questions for Mr. Andrion.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Mr. Andrion, I just love your can do attitude. That's something that's very common with this County Council.

MR. ANDRION: All right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I think you answered a lot of good questions. I like your outlook, your perspective is very positive. I like the idea that you're from here, and want to protect our community, and I like the idea of education of our visitors because it's important that they understand that it's really a privilege to come to Maui.

MR. ANDRION: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON: And they need to understand that and they don't...we don't need people coming here to visit and they're throwing their weight around and imposing upon our infrastructure that they sometimes do. So how are you handling this new type of approach with managing visitors and sort of guiding them in a sense so that their...that their actions aren't so aggressive.

MR. ANDRION: Sure. I think I can answer that question two-fold, right.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. ANDRION: There's a very powerful tool that we now have, and it's the Internet and social media. And of course, all of our guests and tourists are always scouring Google and Trip Advisor for the reviews of their hotels. What I'm an advocate for is seeing a lot of that education...those educational pieces on social media and on the Internet where people are always looking and gathering their information. The landscape has changed because that is the absolute number one source that people look to is online for their information. Maybe there's a place for...actually, you know, I did read in the meeting...in the meeting minutes that our Department has created some kind of social media presence, and I believe there is someone, one of the firefighters that are actually heading up that cause. I myself help organizations with that, so maybe I can lend my efforts in that area. And then the second part to your question would be, there has to be a onsite presence as well, right. So our resort is committed to that. We have someone who will meet with the different guests who are having questions or need understanding. We have a cultural resource center here, which is unique to our resort. And part of that is so that we can get our guests educated and motivated to give back to this community that they are being blessed with when they come on their vacation.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you very much. I know you will do well on the Commission. Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Chair Lee. Okay. Let's go to Member Sinenci, questions for Mr. Andrion.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair and aloha, Mr. Andrion, for your willingness to serve. I'll just ask you the same question I asked Mr. Peros about, you know, we're seeing a lot of people, a lot of young people want to come out and attend concerts again, however we've got a small percentage of our population still haven't been vaccinated. And with the latest CDC reports on not being a herd immunity, should we not get herd immunity and seeing the virus kind of progress slowly without getting everybody vaccinated. What do you think about, you know, those keeping less people come in and visit our County, and opening up as we're slowly opening up, and people wanting to get out there and not wear masks. Where are your thoughts about continued public safety...continuing with this.

MR. ANDRION: Okay. I think I understand the question. Public safety is why we have this Commission, right, and we want to keep everyone safe. I'm no stranger to enforcing CDC Guidelines in Maui County, and State Guidelines as well. Of course we have people who are just adamant about doing everything opposite of that, and maybe it comes from an internal need for feeling like their liberty is being taken away and such. And so I think there's a way to respect that, right, to respect people's liberties while still asking, and in many cases, enforcing that there's public safety taking place. So when it comes to face masks, as long as that's a mandate of the State and the County, that's something we ask all of our guests to do, and something that all of our community members should abide by as well. When it comes to the vaccine, I think that was part of your question as well, I know there's different perspectives on that, and maybe people have personal reasons. And like I said, I think there's a way to respect that, right, to give people liberties. But for someone who is not taking the vaccine, for example, then they should be absolutely aware and educated of different things that they can do to mitigate the virus, right. They should be more emphasized on social distancing, more emphasized on wearing their mask, more emphasized on staying home if they don't need to be out and things like that. So you will not catch me at the beach with a hundred people pounding the drum, and la, la, la, la, la. I will certainly example alongside all of you. So thank you, Member Sinenci.

COUNCILMEMBER SINENCI: Mahalo for your responses. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Sinenci. Councilmember Sugimura, questions for Mr. Andrion.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Mr. Andrion, it's so nice to see you here and I did meet you in the community...

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MR. ANDRION: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: ...and had a brief talk with you and your family. And I'm glad to see you're doing this, you know, stepping out...I know that you have a huge commitment to your...to really your ohana. So as I listen to you and I know this is the Fire Commission, but I also...I also am hearing a lot of wisdom as how we can weave that thread of the visitor through our community. And what you're talking about, you know, with the Fire Commission, have you ever thought that you can educate really all of us because we're feeling the visitors come back, and yet you sound like you have a handle on how to make it a safe place, so...

MR. ANDRION: So a thought...is that what the question is?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah. Yeah.

MR. ANDRION: I wasn't sure. You know, the way that I've been able to find my most wins-- I'll just speak from at the resort level--the way I've been able to find my most wins in seeing people come, you know, they come as a visitor that's, that's just taking, right and not being able to give back. Every time I've been able to win someone into our community and see them give back. I have an owner that comes every year and she now volunteers with the Pacific Whale Foundation, and with beach clean-up. That's happened because of my relationship with them. And I know it seems like a slow process, but I think that's where we win is when we can, as a community, build relationships with our visitors...build relationships...establish that real spirit of aloha with our tourists. And then...you know, if I had time, I think I could see how we could even apply that somehow in some kind of physical, tangible way. But it starts with at least that desire, right, to let's build relationships with these people who love Hawai'i. Let's show them how to love Hawai'i the way we do.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you so much. I support you in this nomination. So thank you very much for giving of yourself.

MR. ANDRION: Thank you so much.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Councilmember Sugimura. And before I go to Member Paltin, you know, I appreciate your perspective on educating the visitors. And I see the same as a potential bridge of conduit, like Mr. Peros before you, to support our Department, and educate our visitors, and to prevent or minimize the amount of mishaps that typically involve...the majority of them are...involve visitors. So teach them where not to go, and when not to swim, so we don't have wonderful lifeguards like our Councilmember Paltin who served as a lifeguard to go out there and risk their lives to save our visitors. So with that said, I thought I would do that as a nice segue to recognize Member Paltin to ask her questions of you now. So go ahead, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Andrion, for your willingness

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to serve. And like the former person, I have a lot of questions. And so if I cut you off or if I have my answer, I don't mean to be rude. And also, I remember meeting you at Church as well. I don't know if you remember me with a mask.

MR. ANDRION: Of course I do, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So my first question is, what is your service expectation of a Fire Chief, and how would you measure their performance.

MR. ANDRION: Well, I think the Fire Chief is held to a higher standard than the rest of the Department because leaders lead. And so if there is a responsibility there. And him being able to cultivate wellness on the team, and growth on the team, I think that's a major point of...I don't know if the word concern is, but a major thing I'd like to see is for the people in the Department are healthy, and are growing, and are in support of the Chief. And there's a way to work together, there's a synergy to work together.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And how would you measure that?

MR. ANDRION: Well, I think I'm a numbers guy, and so to start things off would be recording the numbers of...well, like we talked earlier on tangible things, like the amount of tourists that are, you know, a part of these different accidents and mishaps and to see those numbers decrease would definitely be a measurable tangible, you know, thing to measure. But also, I think the amount of turnover within the Department, similar to like any business, you know, and seeing different growth opportunities afforded to them, and see where there's promotion taking place. Just a couple things that come to mind with measuring that success.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And when should persons who require rescue get charged for service.

MR. ANDRION: I heard you ask that question to the former nominee, and it really got me thinking, you know. My wife just had an emergency this past December, and the ambulance bill came back to like \$1,500. And I wasn't frightened by it, but it occurred to me, you know, something I've always been taught is that everything does come with a price. But with that, I mean there's opportunities. So I think in every situation that there's a cost associated to it. But maybe there's an opportunity that we don't see where we can get creative and think outside of the box and subsidize some of those costs somehow and have, I don't know, different agencies, you know, really gather the community to help families in needs who can't support or can't afford those kinds of costs.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, and just to clarify, the Fire Department currently doesn't charge, the ambulance does, but the Fire Department doesn't.

MR. ANDRION: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And how should the Fire Department and the County handle extended search operations utilizing County resources.

MR. ANDRION: I think to the extent feasible. We, of course, honor life, and want to make life important. . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . I think there would be a process of communicating back and forth to make sure that we're within means and then if we're outside of those means, additional conversation would have to take place.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. My time is up for this round. But if we have an additional question, I got one for you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Well, with that said, Member Paltin, I'll give you that one additional question in this follow-up round. Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. My one additional question would be, what role should you have in the Department Budget process, and if you see Ocean Safety on par with firefighters.

MR. ANDRION: Okay, so those two, right. I think that's a part of the Commission's role, right, is to look at that budget and then forward it on. I think with my expertise, I'm looking...you know, I manage a multi-million dollar hotel, and so to fiscally spend with that budget, I think the Commission absolutely plays a role there, and I would be able to lend my fiscal expertise in that way. And then with the Ocean Safety being self-determined, but within the Fire Department, I think it's always great to look at where we can multiply, and then if there's a leader over the...you know, that leader has opportunity to grow that team specifically, and takes away the burden from Fire having to manage both, right. But I think they could work together, and then now we really have someone looking at the growth of that ocean team and the development of that ocean team.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much for answering my questions. I have to say you've really won me over. I was hesitant with two visitor industry nominees, but you've won me over. Thank you so much.

MR. ANDRION: Thank you, thank you, thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Member Paltin. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, did you have a follow-up question for Mr. Andrion.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I didn't, but since you're calling on me, I have one.

CHAIR MOLINA: Oh, okay, go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Mr. Andrion, so in your response to

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Member Paltin's question regarding the Chief, you called the Chief a him. And while it is a him that is retiring...usually, you know, you go him or her, and I don't think we've had a her Police/Fire Chief, but I wouldn't eliminate it from, you know, possibility. So in your response, it just made me wonder if that's something you've eliminated from realm of possibilities.

MR. ANDRION: No, absolutely not. But I appreciate the check on the subconscious and the way that it communicates. I love having...and you know, on my team itself, I do have an equal amount of men and women serving on our leadership team, and I'm all alongside that. I have an amazing wife, and I know how talented she is, and you know, part of my job as a husband is to see her flourish into whatever it is God's called her to be, and to achieve all of her dreams. So please, I didn't mean any...not offense, but I didn't mean anything by that, but I appreciate the check because I will be more in line with my thinking on that. So thank you.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. I appreciate your appreciation. Mahalo again. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Thank you, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Any other last one final follow-up question for Mr. Andrion from any of the other Members? Okay, we have Chair Lee. Chair Lee, go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just a history lesson. It's a good point that the Vice-Chair Keani Rawlins-Fernandez brought up about the possibility of having a female Chief. But in the early '90s, there were no female firefighters period. But look at our Department today. So, you know, things have opened up, and I'm really happy to see people like you who have a sense of fairness and you're not blinded by gender. Thank you.

MR. ANDRION: Mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Chair Lee. Okay, seeing no other follow-up questions for Mr. Andrion, I want to thank you for taking time out of your very busy schedule to offer your services to serve on the Fire Commission, which will certainly be a very busy time coming up with the process for selecting a new Chief and other matters. So...and I tell you, your enthusiasm is like wow...just incredible. Whatever you're drinking...

MR. ANDRION: Well, I want to get other people in my generation to do this with me, right. So I drink lots of coffee and enjoy the process with all of you. So mahalo.

CHAIR MOLINA: All right. Mahalo. Thank you, Mr. Andrion. Okay. Members, I think we've reached the...are near the end, but I'd like to call upon Mayor's representative, Mr. Ipo Mossman, to give us an update on our nominee for the Board of Water Supply, Ms. Leinaala Perry. Mr. Mossman, I see you're on the call, if you can join us and let us know the status of Ms. Perry. Aloha, Mr. Mossman.

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MR. MOSSMAN: Aloha, Chair. Aloha, Chair Mike and Council. I really apologize for this tardiness. I've had quite a morning, this morning trying to get out of Hilo. But anyway, we're here and I appreciate having this opportunity to really showcase some of our GREAT selection to the Boards. You heard a lot of very, very promising selectees that we're really...we're really pulling a lot on. Mister...we've been trying to Leinaala, and unfortunately we just can't get through to her. So I'm not sure what...we did talk about it, she had committed to being on the call, so there must be something that has happened. We have taken Ms. Leinaala...I'm not sure if you wanted us to kind of give you any background on her, but we really wanted a Hāna representative from the East Maui to be a part of the Board, and she comes with some great qualifications. So I hope that we can get in touch with her. I'm not sure where do we move from here, Chair. So I'll leave that up to you. I'm not sure where we go from here.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Mr. Mossman. Okay, Members we have questions. Okay, we'll start with Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Member Paltin. Go ahead, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Mossman.

MR. MOSSMAN: Aloha, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: My first question is, Member Sinenci was being helpful in submitting five different names of Hāna residents to sit on this Board, and none of his submissions I guess were considered. And so I was hoping you would be able to speak to that.

MR. MOSSMAN: As a...we had basically...Leinaala was when we had...oh, gosh, the first withdrawal that we had. We went right away to look for someone from the Hāna area, and we were looking for a female gender, and Leinaala had come up and through some of our recommendations, and we went with her. And I really...I must apologize, but when we looked at everything, I believe that the Selection Committee that was made from upstairs here in the Mayor's Office, we went with Ms. Perry as our number one choice. And it wasn't a matter that the other ones didn't fit in, we just went with Ms. Perry.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, mahalo. I appreciate you prioritizing, you know, a resident of Hāna, but we also asked if you would prioritize a resident of Moloka'i, and there were two spots, so one could have been Hāna, and one could have been Moloka'i. Is there a reason that you didn't choose one of the Moloka'i applicants, specifically Juanita Colon, who is highly qualified and is a resident of Moloka'i.

MR. MOSSMAN: Now you're talking about Mr. Clark Hashimoto's nomination. At the...as one of the nominations, one of the things that we went around when we did the Selection Committee was...we do have, and we very much liked having, your recommendation...all

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the recommendations...the Moloka'i person. The Mayor really wanted to have somebody from the Kula area due to the Kula needs and what we've been, we've been experiencing a lot of complaints, a lot of discussion on water, had nobody from the Kula area that we...so that was a decision for that, based on the selection from the Mayor. And we went through Mr. Hashimoto with his background, and again retired, having something in lieu of being a very big contributor for water up in the Kula area, and that was the choice. And we are looking at...you do have my commitment and getting someone from Moloka'i, okay. That was the difference that we had, Vice-Chair.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Mossman. Because Ms. Colon is far more qualified than both of the applicants that you sent down for our approval.

MR. MOSSMAN: Yes. I know we had...I know we were looking for the Hāna...excuse me. But I know we were looking for the Hāna person, so we really...we put that emphasis on the Hāna person, vice-versa, and then again, the selection that was done with Mr. Hashimoto, was pretty much trying to fill that void. And yes, we want to get to the Moloka'i person as well. That is...that's firm, okay. Unfortunately...

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay, because there won't be an opening until next year unless someone resigns. So will you please let me know what I should tell my constituents when there hasn't been representation for over seven years on the Board.

MR. MOSSMAN: Okay. Again it's a selection process, and at this particular time I believe it's...it's no here, nor there, but Moloka'i has, you know, so much of the private water supply, et cetera. I'm not sure, and don't quote me, but I'd just say it goes through with the selection of what's on the agenda from the Mayor's Office. So we decided to go with the Clark, not Clark, with the Kula representative. But again, we did, and we have been speaking on behalf of Moloka'i for the water, and that has been a very big point that we brought up. So we picked up the Hāna young lady way back when we first started, because we wanted to have a representative per some conversations with Councilmember Shane, and then we decided the Kula. And your Moloka'i person was not overlooked, it was just a selection.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So I should let my constituents on Moloka'i know that the Mayor just didn't prioritize Moloka'i. Because it's mostly County water on the island.

MR. MOSSMAN: Well, I stand corrected, I don't...I mean, that was basically brought through the selection process. So all I do is really...because we did...we did come across and your young lady is very much in the running for the next availability, and that's all I can really share with you, Vice, at this point.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Mossman. Mahalo, Chair. That's all the questions I have for now.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Paltin, questions for

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Mr. Mossman.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Mossman. My first question was, it was left blank on the party affiliation, I was wondering if you had knowledge of what that should be.

MR. MOSSMAN: I'm sorry is that...Council Tamara, is that for which person?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Oh, I'm sorry Leinaala Perry. I thought we were asking you, her questions because she's not here. And you said you did a thorough vetting and, you know, because the thing was blank, I was wondering what that meant. Because some people that had none, they specifically wrote none, and I don't know...

MR. MOSSMAN: Very good point. Very good point. I don't have an answer for that, but we just based...I mean, I would...when we do get that, I look at that as an odd none is what we see. But I can clarify that right up front as soon as I get in touch with Ms. Leinaala.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And my second question was, I think it said 21st CCLC, and I'm not aware of what that acronym stands for. I was wondering if you could share that with me since you vetted the applicant.

MR. MOSSMAN: Very good point, because that was something that I had on there too. I can't answer that, and I will get that clarification for you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I'm not sure what that means, but it didn't...it also didn't have who the employer was. Does that mean that they are unemployed, or I'm not...I mean, there's a space there for employer and it didn't say who their employer was, so I just was wondering.

MR. MOSSMAN: It's...well, again...let me get back with you with that information of those questions for you, because I don't have the answers for that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay, and then one last question if you can get back with me or I don't know if you found out through the vetting process is like what specifically is her knowledge, experience, and background in relations to water, water systems, Department of Water Supply's rates and fees, and the like. Because it wasn't...

MR. MOSSMAN: You know, you're bringing...I'm sorry, Councilmember Paltin, you know, you bring up a real good point. At times, you know, we try to find the best qualified people in the areas from...from what they bring to the table. And so the Hāna area--and I think Vice-Chair Rawlins hit it on the nose--where we have a lot of different applications that come in, and very difficult to find some people that are...you know, sometimes we're looking a gender thing where we would like to see more people coming in with fresher ideas, maybe out of the box learning how to say, and tie in. And so Ms. Leinaala is a part of the community, . . . *(timer sounds)*. . . and maybe Councilmember Shane can do,

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but from what I've been told, she has been a very...she has been involved in the community vice within non-profits, the Hāna Advisory Board. So we look at it from the standpoint of what they bring to the table from the entire community aspect. And so we may understanding what is her specifics, if she has anything on the specifics with water. That was one of the areas that I believe sometimes we like to bring somebody in with a new slate, and it was just being that female that we wanted from Hāna that's involved with the community. And I believe that at times that kind of is like pointing the direction of getting new blood and maybe having people that kind of can understand or get out of the box...somewhat like Dylan was saying. He's coming from a total different background, but with that enthusiasm and all that, I think it gives...it makes...it gives a Commission time to kind of maybe rebuild or expand on that, and that's what we pretty much look for.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, Mr. Mossman.

MR. MOSSMAN: So from the standpoint on what does she bring to the table, I don't...all I know is she's very involved in the community --

CHAIR MOLINA: Mr. Mossman.

MR. MOSSMAN: -- and they will learn when they get in the Commission regarding all that.

CHAIR MOLINA: Mr. Mossman.

MR. MOSSMAN: Sorry, am I talking too much?

CHAIR MOLINA: Mr. Mossman. Yeah, you gave a quite a response. So just to follow up, if you can possibly get back to those responses from Member Paltin by Friday, for the Council meeting.

MR. MOSSMAN: Most definitely. Yes, yes I will.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Okay, thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And Chair, the only reason I ask is, you know, I remember in the not too distant past, we approved Ms. Nalani Kaninau similarly. She didn't have much water experience, but she had this willingness to learn. And I think that's great as Mr. Mossman says, but when you're talking about a balance, if we just approve someone that had this willingness to learn and this creativity, the balance is having somebody that knows about water systems, and I'm not feeling it right now. Thank you.

MR. MOSSMAN: Thank you.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin. Okay. Seeing no other questions for Mr. Mossman...prior to the Chair's recommendation to deferring GREAT

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Item 2(1), basically dealing with all the nominees we've had before us today, I'll give any Member an option to share their thoughts prior to making a decision on our nominees for this Friday if you would like. Again, if you could keep it concise, because I know I want to get you guys out by 1:00 today. So the floor is open for any Members who would like to share their thoughts. Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez.

VICE-CHAIR RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. As you could hear from the exchange that I just had with Mr. Mossman, and I appreciate his candidness, Moloka'i is going through our updated WUDP. We just contracted someone to start that process, and we have zero representation on this Board, and we haven't had representation for over seven years. I submitted the name of Ms. Colon, who is a female from Moloka'i if you just want to check those boxes, but she comes with a lot of qualifications, highly experienced, she would contribute tremendously to this Board. And it was such an incredible disappointment when she was not nominated. We have two people here, you know, so Mr. Hashimoto and Ms. Perry. I don't want to take up one of the seats that could potentially be for Hāna because I believe that there should be a Hāna voice here as well. And so I think these two should be filled by a Moloka'i and a Hāna person that have experience. I'm not, unfortunately, convinced that Ms. Perry has the appropriate and adequate background and experience for this, and I'm not sure if this is something that she prioritized because she didn't, you know, attend in order to answer these questions. Mr. Mossman said that she was very qualified, but was unable to speak to what about her qualifications would...is relevant to sitting on this Board. So while Mr. Hashimoto, you know, has served on the Board before and, you know, Mr. Mossman spoke to, you know, having a fresh voice. And so when do you want to have a fresh voice and when do you want to have a revolving door. Mr. Hashimoto has served a five-year term on the Board. I'm super appreciative of his willingness to serve again and to be a voice for the Kula community, but I think it's also really important to do what Mr. Mossman was speaking to, is to add more fresh voices. Ms. Colon has not served on this Board, and would come with over 18 years of water experience, specifically on Moloka'i, since most of our island is served by County water systems. And so, when we're talking about updating the WUDP, the Water Use Development...Water Use and Development Plan, we're talking about water policies that affect our rural communities, I think, you know, she would be able to identify with our rural communities, East Maui, Lāna'i, Kula, and so would be able to help be a voice for those communities as well, and not just for Moloka'i. And then speaking to water rates, because she worked in the water system, so understands the cost associated with running water systems, and so would have a better understanding than most of the Board, how water rates should be decided on. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Mahalo, Committee Vice-Chair Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I just want to quickly say that, you know, diversity is really important to me, and I am slightly disappointed to have two males from the resort industry for the Fire and Police Commission. So I will only be voting in favor of one of them, because we need...I really think we need at least one Member on that

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Commission that's familiar with emergency medical response, or some sort of first responder, public safety. Because everybody wants a safe community, but without that kind of insight and knowledge, all folks can really do is listen to what they've been told without the critical background information needed. So I can only support one of the Fire and Public Safety Commissioners. But other than that, thank you so much for your nominees, and have a great day.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Member Paltin, for sharing your thoughts. Any of the other Members, if you would you like to share your thoughts prior to Friday's Council meeting on these nominees, I'll give you the option right now. Otherwise, you can reserve your comments for Friday's meeting. Seeing no one else wanting to share their thoughts at this time, then if there are no objections, the Chair would like to defer GREAT Item 2(1). Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (Excused TK, KK)

ACTION: DEFER.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay, so ordered.

GREAT-2(8) NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS (LANAI PLANNING COMMISSION) (CC 19-24)

GREAT-2(7) NOMINATIONS TO BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND COMMISSIONS (MAUI REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY) (CC 19-24)

CHAIR MOLINA: And Members, as I mentioned to you earlier this morning we had two withdrawals. One from the Lanai Planning Commission, Mr. Coop DeRenne, and then the other withdrawal was from Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, this was for the Maui Redevelopment Agency. Chair would like to defer action on these two items as well. Any objections?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (Excused TK, KK)

ACTION: DEFER.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Seeing no objections, okay, so ordered. All right, Members, I believe this concludes our business for today, and then even before 1:00. Amazing. Amazing. Chair would like to consult with Staff. Is there anything that Chair needs to be made aware of before we close?

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MS. ESPELETA: There's nothing further, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MOLINA: Okay. Thank you very much, Ms. Espeleta. With that said, Members, the time is 12:51 p.m. on Tuesday...excuse me...yeah, Tuesday, March 4th, 2021 *[sic]*. This GREAT Committee meeting is now adjourned. . . . *(gavel)* . . .

ADJOURN: 12:51 p.m.

APPROVED BY:



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

great:min:210504

Transcribed by: Terianne Arreola

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CERTIFICATION

I, Terianne Arreola, hereby certify that pages 1 through 72 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 22nd day of June 2021, in Wailuku, Hawai'i.



Terianne Arreola