

**MINUTES
OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

JUNE 17, 2008

10:00 A.M.

**STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 309
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813**

Commissioners in Attendance:

Mr. John Chan
Mr. William Marston, Chair
Mr. Harold Masumoto
Mr. Harold Nelson
Ms. Zale Okazaki
Ms. Susan Russell
Ms. Donna Soares
Ms. Yuki Lei Sugimura
Mr. Richard Swift

Technical Support Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Robyn Chun, Department of the Attorney General
Mr. Kevin Cronin, Chief Election Officer
Ms. Ciress Cuevo, Office of Elections
Mr. Russell Suzuki, Department of the Attorney General

Guests in Attendance:

Ms. Barbara Annis, Department of Accounting and General Services
Ms. Jean Aoki, League of Women Voters
Mr. Adam Deguire, Hawaii GOP
Ms. Jo Ann Maruoka, League of Women Voters

PROCEEDINGS

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair William Marston at 10:00 a.m. on June 17, 2008 at the State Capitol in room 309.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Ms. Ciress Cuevo, Elections Commission Secretary conducted roll call. All Commissioners were in attendance.

III. Approval of Minutes of Meeting of April 8, 2008

Ms. Donna Soares moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 8, 2008. Ms. Zale Okazaki seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

IV. Public Testimony – Any interested person may submit data, views or arguments on any agenda item

No public testimony was received.

V. Demonstration of Hart's Election Night Reporting Module

Mr. Kevin Cronin, Chief Election Officer (CEO) requested that the item be deferred until the protest stay is lifted.

In response to Mr. Harold Nelson' inquiry whether Hart's election night reporting module would enable the Office of Elections to release election results itself instead of the media, Mr. Cronin noted that Mr. Nelson is correct.

VI. Update on Election Planning Status – Chief Election Officer

The CEO reported on items that were covered at the Association of Clerks and Election Officers of Hawaii meeting on June 16, 2008. Ballot Operations is preparing demonstration ballots and voter instructions. Precinct Operations conducted its first precinct official training on June 10, 2008. However, all training sessions scheduled for the month of June were cancelled as a result of the protest stay. Election Support Services is working on logistical preparations and has identified the vendor to provide trucks to transport Election Day equipment. Voter Services received its order of voter registration forms for Oahu and expect shipment to the neighbor islands next week. Computer Services (CS) is working on AskEd, which is the call center software used on Election Day. Also, CS distributed cellular phones statewide and is being tested for Election Day usage at all polling places. Land lines are installed for polling places where cellular phones do not work.

VII. Discussion of Role of Commission on Election Day

Chair Marston inquired whether the Commission should develop a plan for its role on Election Day. In response, Commissioners shared their past experiences with observing Election Day processes.

Chair Marston noted that he does not think that the Commission should micromanage elections operations, but would like to see how the Commission can aid in improving elections for the future.

The CEO invited the Commission to observe elections to identify what needs improving. Mr. Cronin noted that that the public can have confidence and integrity in elections with a more transparent process.

Chair Marston stated that the Commission will make its observations on Election Days and report back to the CEO and County Clerks on its findings.

There was discussion regarding terms of Commissioners expiring in June. In response to Ms. Jean Aoki, League of Women Voters comment noting that terms for Commissioners end and start at an awkward time, Ms. Zale Okazaki stated that the Commission does not have control over term dates. Ms. Aoki responded that the Commission can make a recommendation to the Legislature.

Russell Suzuki, Department of the Attorney General, opined that a Commissioner can hold over in the position until the next person is appointed.

- VIII. Executive Session pursuant to Haw. Rev. Stat. §92-5(4). Consult with counsel re: protest and request for hearing regarding notice of award issued to Hart in RFP-06-047 –SW [confidential attorney/client communication]

Ms. Susan Russell moved for the Commission to go in to executive session. Ms. Yuki Lei Sugimura seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Commission resolved to executive session at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened in open meeting at 11:58 a.m.

- IX. Executive Session pursuant to Haw. Rev. Stat. §92-5(2),(4). Report and recommendation of the salary review committee re: Chief Election Officer's salary and consult with counsel re: same [confidential attorney/client communication]

Ms. Soares moved for the Commission to go in to executive session. Ms. Yuki Lei Sugimura seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Commission resolved to executive session at 11:59 a.m. and reconvened in open meeting at 12:17 p.m.

Chair Marston announced that the Commission voted to give the CEO a salary increase effective July 1, 2008.

X. Adjournment

Chair Marston adjourned the meeting at 12:22 p.m. The next meeting date of the Elections Commission is to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,
Ciress Cuevo
Elections Commission Secretary