

MICHAEL CURTIS ELECTIONS COMMISSION CHAIR

STATE OF HAWAII ELECTIONS COMMISSION

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

March 19, 2025 @ 10:00 AM

Pursuant to Section 92-3.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Elections Commission (EC) will be meeting remotely using interactive conference technology.

Commissioners in Attendance:

Michael Curtis, Chair Dylan Andrion Anita Aquino Ralph Cushnie Jeffrey Kuwada Clare McAdam Jeffrey Osterkamp Kahiolani Papalimu

Support Staff in Attendance:

Jordan Ching, Department of the Attorney General (AG) Jazelle Aolahiko, Office of Elections Scott Nago, Office of Elections Aaron Schulaner, Office of Elections Aulii Tenn, Office of Elections

PROCEEDINGS

I. Call to Order [10:00 a.m.]

The regular meeting of the Elections Commission was called to order by Chair Curtis.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum [10:00 a.m.]

All members of the Elections Commission were present at the meeting with the exception of Commissioner Young.

Commissioner Osterkamp entered the meeting at 10:01 a.m. and Commissioner Kuwada entered the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

III. Approval of the Written Minutes from the January 15, 2025 meeting [10:00 a.m.]

Commissioner McAdam moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie. [10:00 a.m.]

Commissioner Cushnie moved to amend the minutes to add Scott Nago, Aaron Schulaner, and Aulii Tenn to the list of attendees. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried** unanimously noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kuwada and Commissioner Young. [10:01 a.m.]

Commissioner Aquino moved to amend the minutes to include "composed of members of the legislature and elections commission" to Commissioner Young's motion made at 1:29 pm regarding the creation of the bipartisan task force. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie and **carried** unanimously noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kuwada and Commissioner Young. [10:03 a.m.]

IV. Communications & Correspondence, Received for the Record [10:05 a.m.]

Commissioner McAdam moved to receive Communications & Correspondence for the record. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kuwada and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [10:09 a.m.]

YES: Kuwada, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

NO: Andrion, Aguino, Cushnie, Papalimu

Commissioner Cushnie moved to amend the motion to receive and discuss the written Communications. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [10:11 a.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Kuwada, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

V. Matters of Public Record [10:15 a.m.]

- VI. Records Request; Refer to OIP [10:15 a.m.]
- VII. Results of the Audit of HD 37 from the 2022 General Election [10:17 a.m.]

Andy Crossland provided testimony urging the Commission to vote on investigating official complaints regarding election issues like chain of custody and discrepancies in ballot counts between the counties and the state.

Jamie Detwiler provided testimony expressing concerns about delays in the audit process for District 37 and the lack of communication from the Office of Elections, as well as inconsistencies in the chain of custody procedures during the transportation and handling of ballots, urging the Commission to improve communication and oversight in future elections.

Tara Rojas provided testimony criticizing the Commission for silencing public input and failing to address formal complaints, calling for immediate intervention, an independent review, and the restoration of public trust and transparency.

Karl Dicks provided testimony presenting footage and evidence, criticizing the use of plastic bins for ballot storage, claiming it compromised election security, and stated that his formal complaints have been ignored, asserting that the elections are fraudulent.

Shelby Billionaire provided testimony expressing frustration over the lack of progress on election bills, criticized the influence of party control on the legislative process, and announced the creation of a new political party, the Ohana Unity Party, to challenge the current system.

AnnMarie Hamilton provided testimony criticizing the weaknesses in Hawaii's election chain of custody, highlighted a case of ballot discrepancies in Kauai, and called on the Commission to investigate and address potential fraud and vulnerabilities in the system.

Doug Pasnik testified about the failure to reconcile election records and procedural errors in the 2024 general election, urging the Commission to investigate and enforce compliance with election laws.

Nolan Chang testified about issues with the chain of custody, signature verification, and the lack of transparency and accountability in Hawaii's election process, offering several recommendations for improvement.

Jenn Hunt provided testimony expressing frustration over the lack of action on her formal complaint regarding chain of custody violations, missing official observers, and the disregard for election laws, particularly in Maui County. Keone Payton provided testimony reiterating concerns about the broken chain of custody in elections, calling for an investigation and criticizing those who support the current system.

Lindsay Kamm provided testimony sharing concerns about the lack of chain of custody documentation for election envelopes, urging an investigation and improvements to the system for better transparency.

Kellyna Campbell provided testimony expressing frustration that the people's concerns are not being addressed, highlighting a breach of trust by public officials and urging accountability.

Jaerick Medeiros provided testimony expressing frustration that complaints about chain of custody and election procedures are being ignored, warned that officials will be held personally accountable, and criticized the current political system in Hawaii.

Marcin Wyszogrodzki provided testimony questioning how the elections were certified without proper chain of custody and criticized public officials for not listening to the public's concerns.

Wallyn Christian provided testimony raising concerns about a violation of the Hawaii Constitution regarding party identification on ballots and the broken chain of custody, calling for accountability and investigation.

Haunani Kahea provided testimony expressing concerns about election integrity, called for a recount with honest people, criticized the board for ignoring public testimony, and demanded accountability for Scott Nago.

Jenn Hunt provided additional testimony requesting that her official complaint be moved to the correct category, as it is not a records request but concerns her efforts to obtain chain of custody information from the Maui County Clerk's office.

Victoria provided testimony raising concerns about the failure to follow proper election processes, questioned the Elections Commission's competence, and stated she would file charges for fraud and theft.

Mary Healy provided testimony calling for election system reforms, including firing Scott Nago, implementing watermarked ballots, removing drop boxes, and securing elections in Hawaii ahead of the 2026 elections.

Jennifer Cabjuan testified about a chain of custody issue involving her father's vote in 2020, requesting an investigation into the ballot envelope and supporting reforms like one-day voting, paper ballots, and voter ID.

Robyn McCreary provided testimony supporting the idea of watermarking ballots, suggested one-day voting with no internet access, and offered to help run a voting location.

Commissioner Cushnie moved to subpoena all ballot batch reports for the 2022 General Election. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [11:37 a.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Kuwada, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

VIII. HAR 3-170-7 Official Complaints, Assign Task Force to Determine Validity & Recommend Formal Investigation [11:42 a.m.]

Commissioner Cushnie moved to form a permitted interaction group (PIG) to investigate chain of custody complaints on Kauai and elections results discrepancies on the Big Island. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [11:44 a.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, McAdam, Osterkamp, Papalimu, Curtis

NO: Kuwada

Deputy AG Jordan Ching explained the process of forming a PIG under the Sunshine Law. The PIG allows board members to investigate and present findings, but it must be defined, voted on, and have a clear scope and authority. When a PIG concludes its investigation, it presents findings and recommendations at a subsequent meeting, and the Commission would not be able to vote or comment until a subsequent meeting follows that.

Ching clarified that the PIG does not have separate subpoena powers. Any subpoena requests made by the PIG would need to be presented to the Commission for approval, in compliance with the Commission's existing subpoena powers. This means the PIG cannot unilaterally subpoena documents or responses. Subpoena decisions must be made at an agenda-approved meeting.

Additionally, Ching noted that while non-Commission members can participate in a PIG, they would not have special authority. The Commission must define the scope of each member's authority, including non-Commission participants, for the PIG.

Commissioner Papalimu made a motion to limit the membership of the PIG to only Election Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Aquino and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [12:08 p.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, Kuwada, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

NO: Papalimu

Commissioner Cushnie moved to appoint Commissioners Osterkamp, McAdam, and Papalimu to the PIG, investigating election results discrepancies on the Big Island. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried** unanimously noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [12:14 p.m.]

Commissioner Cushnie moved to appoint Commissioner Young, Commissioner Aquino, and Lindsay Kamm to the PIG, investigating the chain of custody complaints and any other irregularities on Kauai. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [12:18 p.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, Kuwada, McAdam, Papalimu, Curtis

NO: Osterkamp

IX. Formal Complaint Regarding Signed Certificate before Certification [12:25 p.m.]

Tara Rojas provided testimony criticizing the commission for not listening to the public, calling the meetings unproductive and accusing members of bullying and shutting down opposing voices.

Wallyn Christian provided testimony criticizing Chair Curtis for appointing individuals that sway the commission in favor of one side and for not allowing people's voices to be heard, urging that board members should be elected, not appointed.

Keone Payton provided testimony criticizing Chair Mike Curtis for his handling of complaints, claiming he is not following proper procedures and is acting in a biased manner, urging his removal from the commission.

Jaerick Medeiros provided testimony expressing frustration with the commission's decisions, criticizing certain members for blocking progress, acting against the people, and making biased, unilateral choices.

Shelby Billionaire provided testimony expressing frustration with the commission's actions, criticizing political bias, corruption, and a lack of

adherence to laws and the state constitution, while urging for change to better serve the public.

Victoria provided testimony emphasizing the importance of consulting and ensuring qualifications for appointees, suggested offering the public an opportunity to apply, and recommended that voters should have a say in the appointments.

Wendy Balidoy provided testimony expressing frustration with the meeting's lack of participation, criticized Chair Curtis's leadership, and called for more attention to the people's concerns over party influence.

Nicole Berinobis provided testimony calling for the removal of Mr. Curtis, accusing him of corruption, bias, and obstructing transparency in the election process, and supported Ralph for his efforts in addressing these issues.

Lindsay Kamm provided testimony expressing uncertainty about her involvement in the committee, leaving the decision to the group, and noted that she was unsure of the proceedings.

Jenn Hunt provided testimony requesting that her formal complaint about chain of custody be moved to the proper category for review, as it was mistakenly filed under the wrong category.

Jessica Priya provided testimony expressing frustration with the meeting's conduct, criticizing the lack of accountability and responsiveness to the people's concerns, and called out the Chair for disregarding their voices.

Karl Dicks provided testimony emphasizing that while the Chair can appoint members to the committee, objections should lead to opening the floor for nominations, following Robert's rules of order.

Commissioner Cushnie moved to have the Deputy Attorney General answer Doug Pasnik's question if it was lawful for Scott Nago to certify an election before it was certified. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Young. [1:00 p.m.]

YES: Andrion, Aquino, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Kuwada, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

X. Adjournment [1:04 p.m.]

Chair Curtis adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jazelle Aolahiko

Elections Commission Secretary