



MICHAEL CURTIS  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION CHAIR

## STATE OF HAWAII ELECTIONS COMMISSION

### WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR VIDEO RECORDING

#### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

October 29, 2025 at 10:00 AM

The video of the meeting may be viewed on our website at:

<https://elections.hawaii.gov/about-us/boards-and-commissions/elections-commission/>.

#### PROCEEDINGS

I. Call to order [10:00 AM]

The regular meeting of the Elections Commission was called to order by Chair Curtis. (Video 1)

II. Roll call and determination of a quorum [10:00 AM]

All members of the Elections Commission were present at the meeting with the exception of Commissioner Papalimu and Commissioner Sabas.

Commissioner Sabas entered the meeting at 10:03 AM and Commissioner Papalimu entered the meeting at 10:18 AM.

III. Meeting minutes [10:01 AM]

a) Approval of written minutes from the October 1, 2025 meeting

b) Discussion on Office of Elections findings on the cost and timing of verbatim minutes

Commissioner Cushnie moved that the Elections Commission follow the law and comply with HRS 92-9 when recording meeting minutes including item five to include any other information that any member of the board requests be included or reflected in the minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana and Commissioner Papalimu. [10:01 AM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm

NO: McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Cushnie moved to amend the written minutes of October 1, 2025, to include at 3:50 Commissioner Cushnie made a motion to form a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to investigate HAVA complains and violations, the Chair ruled the motion out of order and said it would be put on the next agenda. The second amendment is that Commissioner Kahiolani Papalimu asked that her name be removed from the PIG report. The third amendment is to see all the opinions of the Attorney General be put into the minutes with reference to the law that he cited. The fourth amendment to include on page 24 of the minutes is Chair Mike Curtis denied hiding emails but would not authorize un-redacting them. The fifth amendment is to show responses that Scott Nago made to questions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Papalimu. [10:05 AM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner McAdam moved to approve the written minutes of October 1, 2025. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Apana and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Papalimu. [10:09 AM]

YES: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

NO: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm

IV. Updates relating to motions from Permitted Interaction Groups [10:24 AM]

a) Status of the audit of the Office of Elections

b) Status of the Commission's request for USPS business reply mail receipts for Hawaii County's 2024 General Election

Public testimony was provided by James Raymond, Lyla Bashan, Michael Collat, Susan Trombley, Jody Weidemann, Janet Mason, Brodie Lockard, Ruth Robison, Desi McKenzie, Representative Garner Shimizu, Keikilani Ho, James Gashel, Jaerick Medeiros, Judge David Wiseman, Dawn Ross, Cory Hardin, Vernelle Oku, Tara Malia Gregory, Ann, Paul Bernstein, Perle Besserman, Tina Marie Even, David, Ellen Caringer, Robert Justice, Sue Cowing, Susan Young, Tim Huycke, Bonnie Hendrickson, Doris Segal Matsunaga, Kyle Daniel, Michelle Stefanik, Vivian Toellner, Patti Cook, Mara Hanson, Adriel Lam, Lynn Ryan, Susan Strom, Alike Valdez, Tamara McKay, Banner Fanene, Sharlene Mata,

Victor Muh, Lynn Surayan, Brennon Cabral, AnnMarie Hamilton, Jamie Detwiler, Ann Pitcaithley, Klayton Kubo, Daniel Gabriel, Jennifer Hunt, Robin Nagasako, Brett Kulbis, Thorne Silverberg, Donald Sakamoto, Debbie, Ailanna L, April Lee, Arthur Hannemann, Dennis Leskovec II, Laura Nakanelua, Andrew Aker, Michael Golojuch Jr., Patty, Jennifer Cabjuan, Jakki Nelson, Robyn McCreary, Craig Spencer, Kevin Hill, Margie Merryman, Lorraine Hinaga, Tara Rojas, Pam Elders, Junya Nakoa, Megeso William Denis, Wendy N, Tuli Tafai, The Royal House of Hawaii, Allie Arcangel.

Commissioner Kamm moved that the Elections Commission issue a letter, signed by Chair Curtis, to the Legislature regarding the request for an audit, that was previously approved at the Commission's October 1, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie and **carried**. [2:06 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

NO: McAdam, Osterkamp

Commissioner Cushnie moved that the Elections Commission issue a letter to the Legislature regarding the request to return to in-person same-day voting, that was previously approved at the Commission's October 1, 2025 meeting. This motion was amended to instruct Chair Curtis to include in the letter the Commission's vote on the action taken at the October 1, 2025 meeting. This motion was further amended to have Chair Curtis and Commissioner Kamm write the letter together. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried**. [2:33 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu, Sabas

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

Commissioner Osterkamp moved to amend the motion, that the Elections Commission issue a letter to the Legislature regarding the request to return to in-person same-day voting, to instruct Chair Curtis to include in the letter the Commission's vote on the action taken at the October 1, 2025 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Apana and **carried**. [2:36 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Kamm, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

NO: Papalimu

Commissioner Papalimu moved to amend the amended motion, that the Elections Commission issue the letter to the Legislature regarding the request to return to in person same day voting and to include the

Commission's vote on the action taken at the October 1, 2025 meeting, to have Chair Curtis and Commissioner Kamm write the letter to the Legislature together. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried**. [2:41 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Kamm, McAdam, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

NO: Osterkamp

Commissioner Cushnie moved to have a group of volunteers from different parties count the number of envelopes from the County of Hawaii and determine how many envelopes came through the postal service and determine the total number of envelopes collected by the County of Hawaii and this be completed before the end of this year. The envelopes should be arranged in stacks of ten and then stacks of hundreds and then stacks of thousands. The stacks should be separated by whether they came through the postal service or via drop box. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **failed**. [2:51 PM]

YES: Papalimu

NO: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Kamm, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Cushnie moved to have Scott Nago contact the U.S. Postal Service to request information and records related to the County of Hawaii's receipts in order to help clarify discrepancies, prior to the next Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kamm and **failed**. [2:57 PM]

YES: Cushnie

NO: Andrion, Apana, Kamm, McAdam, Osterkamp, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

V. Communications and correspondence, received for the record [3:20 PM]

Public testimony was provided by Victoria Thompson, AnnMarie Hamilton, Tara Rojas, Jennifer Hunt, Daniel Gabriel, Janet Mason, Michelle Stefanik, Alan Haungs, Michael Golojuch Jr., Jamie Detwiler, Junya Nakoa, Pam Elders, Susan Strom, Patty, Robin Nagasako, Terri Bulacan, Tamara McKay, Representative Garner Shimizu, Tara Malia Gregory.

Commissioner Andrion moved to permit Commissioner Cushnie back into the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Cushnie. [4:25 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Kamm, Papalimu

NO: McAdam, Osterkamp

ABSTAIN: Sabas, Curtis

The meeting was recessed at 4:31 PM and reconvened on Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 10:00 AM. (Video 2)

All members of the Elections Commission were present at the meeting with the exception of Commissioner Papalimu and Commissioner Sabas. Commissioner Papalimu entered the meeting at 10:05 AM and Commissioner Sabas entered the meeting at 10:09 AM.

Commissioner Cushnie moved to have the Deputy Attorney General provide in writing within two weeks his opinion that emails sent to and from the Elections Commission email address can be withheld from the Commission and from the public and how the Chair can receive legal advice from the Deputy Attorney General that the Commission is not entitled to. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [12:56 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

VI. Discussion and decision making relating to Commissioner Osterkamp's Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) report on election results discrepancies on the Big Island [10:05 AM]

Public testimony was provided by Jaerick Medeiros, Austin Martin, Judith Mills-Wong, Jennifer Hunt, Shelby Billionaire, Jamie Detwiler, Tara Rojas, Adriel Lam, Vernelle Oku, Keoni Payton, Susan Strom, Keikilani Ho, Michael Golojuch Jr., Tara Malia Gregory, Keenan Place-Puaa, Daniel Gabriel, Andrew Aker, Dale VanderBrink, Jeni Lehua, Junya Nakoa, Sheryl Bieler, Tamara McKay, Peter Bernegger, Joan Schwandt, Michelle Stefanik, Doug Pasnik, Cal, Nancy Moser, Brennon Cabral, Representative Garner Shimizu.

Commissioner Kamm moved that the Elections Commission request that the Chief Election Officer require the County Clerks to produce reports based on verifiable paper trails of ballot envelopes collected and delivered to the counting centers. The motion was amended to have the Elections Commission advise the Chief Election Officer to require the County Clerks to produce daily reports based

on hand counts of ballot envelopes collected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie and **failed**. [12:26 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Cushnie moved to amend the motion, that the Elections Commission request that the Chief Election Officer require the County Clerks to produce reports based on verifiable paper trails of ballot envelopes collected and delivered to the counting centers, to include advise the Chief Election Officer to follow the law in accordance with HAR 3-177-453(b) that the chain of custody or record keeping begins when the counties pick up ballots at the drop boxes and when they receive the ballots from the USPS. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed**. [12:28 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie

NO: Apana, Kamm, McAdam, Osterkamp, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Kamm moved to amend the motion, that the Elections Commission request that the Chief Election Officer require the County Clerks to produce reports based on verifiable paper trails of ballot envelopes collected and delivered to the counting centers, to instead have the Elections Commission advise the Chief Election Officer to require the County Clerks to produce daily reports based on hand counts of ballot envelopes collected. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried**. [12:40 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu, Curtis

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas

Commissioner Cushnie moved to send a letter from the Elections Commission to the USPS Inspector General asking them how many ballots were delivered to the County of Hawaii during the 2024 General Election broken out by how many ballots were returned by voters versus how many were undeliverable and returned to sender. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [12:54 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

VII. Formal complaints [1:16 PM]

- a) ECC-25-005
- b) ECC-25-006
- c) ECC-25-007
- d) ECC-25-008
- e) ECC-25-009
- f) ECC-25-010

Public testimony was provided by Jennifer Hunt, Austin Martin, Peter Bernegger, Tara Rojas, Shelby Billionaire, Jamie Detwiler, Judith Mills-Wong, Jaerick Medeiros, Doug Pasnik, Keoni Payton, Tara Malia Gregory, Jennifer Cabjuan, Michelle Stefanik, Representative Garner Shimizu, Joan Schwandt.

Commissioner Cushnie moved to form a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to meet with the County Clerks to develop a solution to the chain of custody and to determine how to obtain accurate daily reports of ballots received. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sabas and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [2:38 PM]

YES: Apana, Cushnie

NO: Andrion, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

ABSTAIN: Papalimu

Commissioner Papalimu moved to include on the next meeting's agenda the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to work with the County Clerks regarding chain of custody and daily reports. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sabas and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [2:48 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, McAdam, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

NO: Osterkamp

Commissioner Andrion moved to agendize the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to investigate HAVA violations, in relation to agenda item VII(d) Formal Complaints ECC-25-008. The motion was seconded by

Commissioner Cushnie and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [2:54 PM]

YES: Papalimu

NO: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, McAdam, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Cushnie moved to request a written opinion from the Attorney General within 14 days regarding whether Peter Bernegger's HAVA complaint, referenced in agenda item VII(d) Formal Complaints ECC-25-008, has merit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [3:00 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

NO: McAdam, Osterkamp

Commissioner Cushnie moved to refer Doug Pasnik's complaint, referenced in agenda item VII(b) Formal Complaints ECC-25-006, to the Attorney General for investigation to determine whether the complaint has merit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [3:03 PM]

YES: Andrion, Apana, Cushnie, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

NO: McAdam, Osterkamp

Commissioner Cushnie moved to request from the County of Hawaii the wet envelope images when the envelopes were signature verified. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Kamm. [3:06 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Papalimu

NO: Apana, McAdam, Osterkamp, Curtis

ABSTAIN: Sabas

VIII. Adjournment [3:12 PM]

Chair Curtis adjourned the meeting at 3:12 PM.