



MICHAEL CURTIS  
ELECTIONS COMMISSION CHAIR

## STATE OF HAWAII ELECTIONS COMMISSION

### WRITTEN SUMMARY FOR VIDEO RECORDING

#### REGULAR MEETING OF THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

May 6, 2026 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.

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 Apana.

III. Approval of written minutes from the April 1, 2026 meeting [10:00 AM]

Public testimony was provided by Doug Pasnik, Alohalani Hope Cermelj, Michelle Stefanik, Shelby Billionaire, Austin Martin.

Commissioner Sabas moved to approve the written minutes from the April 1, 2026 meeting. The motion was further amended to include Deputy Attorney General Ching's opinion on the 22-month rule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [10:16 AM]

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

ABSTAIN: Dalton

Commissioner Cushnie moved to amend the motion, to approve the written minutes from the April 1, 2026 meeting, to include Deputy Attorney General Ching's opinion on the 22-month rule. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [10:16 AM]

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

NO: Dalton, Osterkamp

- IV. Discussion with Jon Henricks, County Clerk of Hawaii County, regarding alleged Hawaii County ballot discrepancies and chain of custody procedures [10:21 AM]

Public testimony was provided by Alohalani Hope Cermelj, Austin Martin, Jennifer Hunt, Brennon Cabral via Enoka-Shayne Bingo, AnnMarie Hamilton, Victoria Thompson, Michelle Stefanik, Doug Pasnik, Tara Malia Gregory.

- V. Discussion on electing a new Elections Commission Chair [12:21 PM]

a) Applicants for Elections Commission Chair

Public testimony was provided by Love Cavour, Blanca Larson, Susan Strom, Judith Mills-Wong, Austin Martin, Michelle Stefanik, Shelby Billionaire, Nancy Moser, Kitty Olsen, Andrew Aker, Victoria Thompson, Brennon Cabral via Wallyn Christian, Wallyn Christian, AnnMarie Hamilton, Jennifer Hunt, Julie Yamato, Tara Malia Gregory, Susan Strom, Laura Nakanelua, Patti Cook.

Commissioner Andrion moved to appeal the ruling of Chair Curtis and to return to Agenda Item IV. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cushnie and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [12:22 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu

NO: Dalton, Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Dalton moved to adopt the recommendations Chair Curtis spelled out and to conduct the election of the next Elections Commission Chair on June 3, 2026. The recommendations from Chair Curtis are: the Elections Commission elect the next Chair at the June 3, 2026 meeting; each of the applicants be given 15 minutes of question and answer whether in public or in executive session; the Commission's decision, including the six votes needed to elect the next Chair, occur after the interviews at the June 3, 2026 meeting; questions from the Commissioners be solicited and obtained so there are no duplicate questions and that each Commissioner suggest one or two questions before the next

meeting for the candidate to answer and discuss. The motion was further amended to increase the interview time from 15 minutes to 30 minutes maximum for each applicant. The motion was further amended to change the date of the next Elections Commission meeting to elect the next Chair to June 10, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sabas and **carried** unanimously noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [1:15 PM]

Commissioner Papalimu moved to amend the motion, to adopt the recommendations Chair Curtis spelled out and to conduct the election of the next Elections Commission Chair on June 3, 2026, to increase the interview time from 15 minutes to 30 minutes maximum for each applicant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kamm and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [1:18 PM]

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

NO: Osterkamp

Commissioner Kamm moved to amend the amended motion, to adopt the recommendations Chair Curtis spelled out and to conduct the election of the next Elections Commission Chair on June 3, 2026 and to increase the interview time from 15 minutes to 30 minutes maximum for each applicant, to change the date of the next Elections Commission meeting to elect the next Chair to June 10, 2026. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried** unanimously noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [1:31 PM]

Commissioner Sabas moved to appoint Commissioner Dalton and Commissioner Kamm to serve as the arbiters of the written interview questions. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dalton and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [1:35 PM]

ABSTAIN: Curtis

Commissioner Dalton moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Osterkamp and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioner Apana. [1:46 PM]

YES: Dalton, Osterkamp

NO: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Kamm moved that the Election Commission elect a Chair using the sequential runoff method, which is Commissioners cast a yes or no vote for

each candidate and the lowest vote getters are eliminated, the Commissioners again cast a yes or no vote for each remaining candidate, and again, the lowest vote getters are eliminated; as the field narrows one candidate can potentially get two thirds majority or six votes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Papalimu and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioners Apana and Dalton. [1:58 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Osterkamp, Papalimu

ABSTAIN: Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Osterkamp moved that any candidate for Chair is not permitted to vote for or engage in the discussion for Chair. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sabas and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioners Apana and Dalton. [2:03 PM]

YES: Osterkamp, Sabas

NO: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu

ABSTAIN: Curtis

VI. Unfinished business [2:06 PM]

- a) Letter from Chief Election Officer Scott Nago regarding the state's Help American Vote Act (HAVA) plan
- b) Letter from Representative Garner Shimizu on his legislative efforts to assist the Commission

Public testimony was provided by Victoria Thompson, Michelle Stefanik, Doug Pasnik.

Commissioner Cushnie moved that the Elections Commission send a formal letter to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission requesting a determination as to whether Hawaii's HAVA compliant process is compliant with Section 402. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Andrion and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioners Apana and Dalton. [2:17 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu

NO: Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Cushnie moved to hand count the 2020 ballot envelopes from the County of Kauai with the aid of volunteers, the count shall be done before July, and the method shall be the same as proposed for the 2024 ballot envelope audit. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kamm and **failed** noting the excused absence of Commissioners Apana and Dalton. [2:21 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Papalimu

NO: Osterkamp, Sabas, Curtis

Commissioner Osterkamp moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sabas and **carried** noting the excused absence of Commissioners Apana, Dalton, and Papalimu. [2:38 PM]

YES: Andrion, Cushnie, Kamm, Osterkamp, Curtis

ABSTAIN: Sabas

VII. Adjournment [2:38 PM]

Chair Curtis adjourned the meeting at 2:38 PM.