Page 1		Page 3
1	1	(Wednesday, January 11, 2012, 6:30 p.m.)
2 COUNTY OF MAUI, STATE OF HAWAII	2	***
3	3	CHAIR STONE: Good evening, everybody. Thank
4 ADDDOMED 2/27/2012	4	you for being here. Aloha. And thank you again for
5 APPROVED 2/27/2012	5	attending this public meeting of the Charter Commission.
6	6	My name is Josh Stone, and I'm the Chairman of the
7 CHARTER COMMISSION	7	Commission.
8 PUBLIC HEARING	8	If you need, there are copies of the Maui
9	9	County Charter and amendments available here with Lisa
10	10	Kahuhu. Lisa? As well as copies of this evening's
1	11	agenda. As per our rules, discussions tonight should be
12	12	pertaining to the Maui County Charter.
13	13	Before beginning public testimony, we have a
Held at the Lanai Community Center, Eight Street	14	few items of business to address.
15 and Lanai Avenue, Lanai City, Lanai, Hawaii, commencing	15	The first thing, I would like to call this
16 at 6:30 p.m., on January 11, 2012.		meeting to order as of 6:30 p.m., and introduce our
17	17	Commissioners that are present. So let's quickly go
8	18	down the table, starting with Commissioner De Rego,
19	19	please state your name and where you're from.
20	20	COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Frank De Rego. Frank
Reported by: Tonya McDade, CSR, CRR 21 Certified Shorthand Reporters Maui	21	De Rego, Kahului.
Wells Street Professional Center 22 2145 Wells Street, Suite 302	22	COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: Yuki Lei Sugimura,
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793	23	from Kula.
23 (808)244-3376 reporters@csrmaui.com	24	COMMISSIONER HASHIMOTO: Clifford Hashimoto,
24	25	Hana.
25		
Page 2		Page 4
1 ATTENDANCE 2 BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:	1	COMMISSIONER CRIVELLO: Stacy Crivello,
Joshua A. Stone, Chair	2	Molokai.
3 Wayne N. Hedani, Vice-Chair	3	CHAIR STONE: Josh Stone from Paia.
Artemio C. Baxa, Member 4 Stephanie S. Crivello, Member	4	VICE-CHAIR HEDANI: Wayne Hedani from Wailuku.
David P. DeLeon, Member	5	COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: Kay Okamoto, from here.
5 Frank R. DeRego, Jr., Member Clifford P. Hashimoto, Member	6	COMMISSIONER BAXA: Artemio Baxa, from
6 Wayne N. Hedani, Member	7	Makawao.
Susan A. Moikeha, Member 7 Linda Kay Okamoto, Member	8	CHAIR STONE: Thank you very much,
Yuki Lei Sugimura, Member	9	Commissioners.
8 STAFF PRESENT:	10	Also, I would like to introduce our staff who
9 Edward S. Kushi, Jr., First Deputy Corporation Counsel	11	is with us tonight. We have Ed Kushi Jr., Deputy
Lisa Kahuhu, Supervising Law Technician	12	Corporation Counsel. Again, Lisa Kahuhu, Supervising
10 OTHERS PRESENT:	13	Law Technician. As well as our court reporter, Tonya
11 Ron McOmber	14	McDade. Thank you very much for being here.
Winifred Basques 12 Councilmember Riki Hokama	15	I'd also like to recognize Councilman Hokama.
Fairfax Reilly	16	Thanks so much for joining us tonight, Councilman.
13 14	17	This meeting is primarily to get the public's
15	18	input on the proposed Charter amendments that the
	19	Charter Commission are actively are working on, some of
16	I	which will most likely be put forward to the voters in
16 17	20	* *
16 17 18 19	20 21	the November elections. We're also here to receive new
16 17 18 19 20		the November elections. We're also here to receive new Charter amendment proposals, if any.
16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21	
16 17 18 19 20	21 22	Charter amendment proposals, if any.

1 agendas. Thank you.

Also, anybody who would like to give oral testimony, we ask that you go to Lisa Kahuhu and sign in.

5 I would like to begin with oral testimony,

6 but, before we begin, I would like to go over our oral

7 testimony rules. We'll call up each public testifier in

3 the order that they registered to testify. And each

9 person will have five minutes to testify concerning any

0 of the matters in the Maui County Charter. Following

1 testimony, I'll ask the Commissioners if they need

12 clarification or have questions for the testifier.

13 Lisa, first testifier, please.

14 MS. KAHUHU: Ron McOmber.

15 CHAIR STONE: Ron, thank you very much for

16 coming this evening.

17 MR. McOMBER: Thank you. Aloha. Welcome to

18 Lanai.

19 CHAIR STONE: Aloha.

20 MR. McOMBER: Thanks for all your hard work,

21 guys. I know you've -- I've watched some of this on TV.

22 You take a heck of a battering from everybody.

23 I was pleased as I read through the Charter

24 stuff. It's all the things that we were really

25 concerned -- I was concerned about, anyway.

Page 7

1 the Police Commission. And right now, Lanai has none of

2 those. And if it's within your power to put that in the

3 Charter, that they should do that, I think it's

4 important.

5

And the reason it's important is that people

of Lanai and Molokai can talk to the people of Maui and

7 tell them what's going on, on their island. It's the

8 best way to communicate with the people that live here

9 instead of listening to other people or the politicians.

10 It's really important. And we'd like, if it's some way

11 in your power to do that, put that in there. That would

12 be really important for us.

13 I went through the whole thing. It looks

4 really good. I have really -- I was -- first thing I

15 was going to say is you can't do this in three minutes.

16 And you just screwed that whole thing up by telling me

17 five minutes. Ah, shucks.

18 Again, thank you for all your hard work and --

19 and all your diligent -- it's -- it's not easy to do

this. And we can't go over there and badger you, but

11 this is -- this is a good piece of work, and we

22 appreciate what you guys have done. Thank you very

23 much. That's all I got to say.

CHAIR STONE: Thank you very much for that

25 testimony.

24

Page 6

. . T !.....

The Liquor Adjudication Board and the Liquor

2 Commission stay as they are. I think they're very

3 valuable, especially with the newspaper article the4 other day where they busted four stores. And all the

5 proprietors have to do is say, "Are you 21," and they

6 have to answer that. And they don't do it. I was with

7 them for 11 years. And it's shameful to me that people

8 just throw their licenses out the window and keep doing

it. So I'm glad you kept that commission intact. You

10 didn't mess with it.

11

Just a couple side notes.

12 The one thing I really appreciate in here is

3 you've changed it from 90 days to a one-year residency

in the area when you apply for a County Council seat.

5 That would eliminate that problem we have on Lanai with

somebody coming in and saying they've been here, they've

17 lived here, and they've lived here for -- and they

18 wasn't here. So that will help. And we'll know in a

9 year's time if that person's lived here for a year or if

20 they're skating. That will help some of that.

21 I don't know if it's in your purview to do

22 this, but I am a firm believer that the outside islands

23 need representation on a lot of boards and commissions,

24 like the Liquor -- like the Liquor Commission,

25 Adjudication Board, and the Fire -- Fire Commission and

Page 8

Commissioners, clarification or questions for

2 our testifier? Commissioner De Rego.

3 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Yeah. Excuse me.

4 Thank you, Ron, for your testimony this evening.

5 One of the Charter proposals that made it to

6 the draft stage was the requirement for interactive

7 communications access for the public to all County

8 Council -- the Council -- County Council meetings. A

9 lot of the problems -- or challenges, not problems, of

10 being, you know, present at meetings, especially on

11 boards and commissions, is oftentimes just a hassle of

12 getting to Maui where most of the meetings are held. Do

13 you think this kind of proposal would actually help that

14 where if it's in the public base, where there's

15 interactive communication involved, where a

6 councilmember could be offsite where the meeting occurs,

7 but it would still fulfill the requirements of the

18 Sunshine Law, which requires that the person be --

MR. McOMBER: Well, we have a couple problems on Lanai. There's several places that we hold meetings.

21 And this is one of them. It doesn't have the best sound

22 effects. I mean, we got a couple places on Lanai, Hale

23 Kupuna and now we have just finished the new senior

24 center. The school cafeteria and sometimes in this

25 place here, they can't pick up the sound. I've listened

1 to some of the testimonies in some of our public

- 2 testimonies -- in some of our public hearings. And you
- 3 can't make out what they're saying.
- 4 It's really stupid to go through this whole
- 5 process, pay this young man to do this, from Akaku, and
- 6 then you can't hear what they're saying. I mean, if
- 7 you're going to do that, and you're going to put it out
- 8 there and show what Castle & Cooke is doing on this
- 9 island, or the rest of us, people need to understand
- 0 what the heck is being said. And it's very poor. It's
- at the first state of the state
- 11 not because of the audio system; it's the feedback from
- 12 these buildings. This is like in a tent in here. A
- 13 tent would probably be better.
- But Hale Kupuna -- and we can work that out
- 15 logistically, now that we have the senior center, but I
- 16 firmly believe that we need all, you know, public -- or
- 7 even all the Planning Commission meetings -- and that's
- 18 something else that really bothers -- Planning
- 19 Commission has completely forgot about us over here. I
- 20 mean, for some reason, we haven't had a Planning
- 21 Commission meeting in two or three months. This is
- 22 insane. Especially with all the stuff that's going on
- 23 in Lanai right now; the windmills and everything else,
- 24 and the old man selling the place. How in the hell are
- 25 we supposed to let everybody else know what's going on?

- Page 11
- COMMISSIONER BAXA: And if I understand you
- 2 correctly, there should be more representation from
- 3 Lanai and maybe even Molokai, and not most of them
- should be --

5

- MR. McOMBER: Right.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BAXA: -- from Maui? Do I get it
- 7 right, sir?
- MR. McOMBER: Right.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BAXA: So you are saying that
- 10 even if the subject matter does not particularly affect
- 11 Lanai or Molokai, you should have a say in the operation
- 12 of the County government as a whole?
- MR. McOMBER: Oh, yes. That's true. And when
- 14 there are items on the Planning Commission agenda, we do
- 5 address them. But there's other things that are going
- 16 along as we go through the process that we would like
- 17 answers. Like from the water department has decided not
- 18 to talk to us. And the only way that we can get them to
- 19 come would be to have them come to the Planning
- 20 Commission meeting and tell us what's going on with
- 21 their wells.

25

- 22 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Okay.
- 23 MR. McOMBER: And so these are -- these are
- 24 tools that we need to do this. And --
 - COMMISSIONER BAXA: Okay.

Page 10

Page 12

- 1 We just can't because they're not holding the meetings.
- And it's really not in your purview to make
- 3 the Planning Commission hold their meetings over here,
- 4 but they seem to delay it because they don't have
- 5 anything to talk about. We got lots to talk about,
- folks. And now we got people that are quitting the
 Planning Commission because they don't hold any
- 8 meetings. This is not right.
- 9 And we're going to lose that Planning
- 10 Commission. And we fought so hard for that in the early
- 11 stages. Molokai was first. And if Molokai could have
- 12 it, then Lanai is saying we want ours, too. And that's
- 13 the only reason we got it, because Molokai was first.
- 14 And now that we've got it, we sure as hell don't want to
- 15 lose it.
- 16 So you're right, communications, and on the
- 17 air and anyway you can enhance that, it would be great
- 18 for us.
- 19 CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Ron.
- 20 Commissioners, further clarification?
- 21 Commissioner Baxa.
- 22 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Mr. Chair. Sir, if I
- 23 understand correctly, one of the points you have made is
- 24 that most of the members of commissions come from Maui?
- 25 MR. McOMBER: Right.

- MR. McOMBER: -- they have ignored it. And so
- when the company does that and when people in power do
- 3 that, the citizens -- I mean, Castle & Cooke loves it
- 4 when they -- when they cancel the meeting because they
- 5 don't have to answer any questions.
- 6 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Okay. So if I get it
- 7 correct from you, what affects Maui affects Lanai as
- 8 well?
- 9 MR. McOMBER: Oh, yes, absolutely, it does.
- 10 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Thank you very much, sir.
- MR. McOMBER: See, when we went through the --
- 12 when we went through the General Plan, there was many
- 13 items on the General Plan that we sat on that we
- 14 deferred for the Community Plan on Lanai.
- 15 That's something else maybe the Charter should
- 16 look at. If you're going to do a planning -- I mean,
- 17 the Community Plan, I understand that we're not going to
- 18 see it until the middle of this year sometime. What is
- 19 going on here, folks? There should be specific language
- 20 in this that if you're going to start the Charter stuff,
- 21 that you start it at a date and you go through with it.
- 22 Don't keep delaying it because this or that or this or 23 that. I understand they got, what, 24 people on the
- 24 Planning -- on the whatever it was. Lanai only has nine
- 25 -- nine people, I believe, on it.

Page 13

3

We would like to start our Community Plan
because we have so many things that are affecting us
right now; the windmills and -- and the old man selling

4 the place. We need to have some voice of Lanai people

5 in that decision. And it should not be just Castle &

6 Cooke's decision; it should be the Lanai residents' 7 decision.

So if you can put that in -- you know, maybe you can fit that in there somewhere. But it's -- it's important to us. It's important to Molokai. It's important to Hana. Any of the outlying areas.

Okay. I've rambled on long enough.

13 CHAIR STONE: Thank you.

14 MR. McOMBER: I'm in trouble already.

15 CHAIR STONE: Commissioners, any further

16 clarification questions?

17 (No Response.)

18 CHAIR STONE: Ron, thanks so much for your

19 testimony this evening. Much appreciated.

20 Lisa, next testifier, please.

21 MS. KAHUHU: Winifred Basques. Winnie.

22 CHAIR STONE: Winnie, good to see you back

23 here.

12

24 MS. BASQUES: Coming. Coming.

25 CHAIR STONE: Thank you for testifying.

1 hard for them to make the hard decisions in that

2 two-year span. So that's where this -- this came from.

MS. BASQUES: I can see you folks' point.

4 See, because I've been on different kine panels, I go to

5 convention. And the thing is that when you look at this

6 kine situation here, like you say, two years is not

7 enough to go on, because when the other new members come

8 in, they got to start from the bottom because they don't

9 know what is going on. They just come in, they learn

10 and they leave. The next one come in, they're there two

11 years and they leave. So how can they complete their

12 project? Or the members on the panel, how can you

13 complete your project for the councilmembers?

I can see the point because it's very crucial

15 that they should know. Because when the new one coming

16 in, the former councilmembers should, you know, relay

7 the message to them what it's all about, but they sit

18 inside the chair and they say, what am I doing here,

19 what is all about, you know, big question marks. Okay.

Number 4, will you explain to me what is

21 nonpartisan and partisan?

CHAIR STONE: Chair will take that again.

23 MS. BASQUES: Good.

CHAIR STONE: Okay. Very simple. We had a

25 very -- we had some input from the public concerning

Page 14

22

24

1 MS. BASQUES: Good evening. Good evening.

2 CHAIR STONE: Aloha.

3 MS. BASQUES: How are you?

4 CHAIR STONE: Very good. Thank you.

5 MS. BASQUES: Oh, you're welcome.

6 I got three items over here.

7 Can you explain to me about Number 1, Section

8 3-2, about the councilmembers from two years to four

years and the second one is the limit of councilmembers

0 consecutive two-year term to three to four-year term?

Any one of you?

12 CHAIR STONE: I guess, as the Chair, I'll take

13 that question.

In our outreach meetings, in our public outreach meetings, previously, and, also, in our normal

16 meetings where we had input, there was -- there was

7 overwhelming amount of testimony that wanted to see

8 maximum term limits for elected councilmembers. So,

19 also, there was a lot of testimony about duration of

also, there was a for or testimony about duration of

20 term limits, because a lot of people felt that, in a

21 two-year term, there was lack of efficiency because,

22 once people were elected, basically, they were already

23 rerunning for election. Plus, there were a lot of items

24 that the Council would see that -- that they didn't have

25 enough time to work on in a two-year span, so it was

Page 16

changing Maui elections back to partisan elections. It
 was -- it's a very controversial down-the-middle topic.

3 And we had a very, very close vote to bring it back to

4 the voters, to the public, to see what their input would

5 be on this topic. So, presently, we have a nonpartisan

6 voting system. And the proposal, if it moves forward --

MS. BASQUES: Right.

8 CHAIR STONE: -- would be to change it back to

9 a partisan election system. So far, in the other public

10 outreach meetings, we've seen some negativity on this.

11 So --

7

12

MS. BASQUES: It's kind of confusing, yeah.

Okay. Number 16, Section 3-3, increasing the

4 requirements of a residency to run for the -- each

5 island, has to be a resident from that island,

6 stipulated here, it says, one year. Okay. When I went

17 for the Maui County Council for the island of Lanai,

18 there were five of us. It did not say anything about

19 how long you stayed on the island. But if and when I do

20 go apply for the job again, just to let you folks know,

21 I came here February 28, 1963. And it's going to be 49 22 years next month. So I just saying that if you -- and I

23 have had two good jobs. I worked for State of Hawaii

24 with Department of Education for four years. Then I

25 went on furlough, because it was a furlough. When I got

1 through with that, I worked for the Department of

2 Health, Lanai Community Hospital, for 22 years. I retired from that.

Now, instead of staying home -- you know, you 4

don't want to stay home and do nothing. I have to say,

because, you know, you going downhill move fast, right.

Excuse. But the thing is that when you still up there,

your mind as well as your body can work. Do your part.

I been on this commission meetings, I can tell you I been on 12 already. And not on Lanai; it's off

island. I have to fly to Honolulu. And I stay there

maybe a couple days, maybe a week or so. But the thing

is that when you think of all this kine stuff, you still

14 represent the island of Lanai.

15 Thank you very much.

16 Any question?

CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Winnie. 17

18 Commissioners, clarification questions for

Winnie? 19

20 (No Response.)

21 CHAIR STONE: No. Very much appreciated.

22 Thank you for your testimony.

MS. BASQUES: Mahalo. 23

24 CHAIR STONE: Aloha.

25 Lisa, next testifier, please.

1 community. And they get to make the choice whether or

2 not they would like to retain the service I would like

to continue to volunteer and give or to replace me with

someone else of their choosing. I think that is fair.

And I'm going to tell you that, for smaller 5

6 communities, what I would say that you need to consider

at this point is that the importance of maintaining

institutional and historical information and decisions

is critical to the County fulfilling and making sure

that those that have make those compliant conditions

fulfill and perform what is required. 11

12 There's many times the Planning Department,

who is in charge of compliance of conditions of zoning,

does not catch it. Because it's up to the applicant or

the landlord or the person who received the entitlement

16 is required to do the report. The Department does not

go and do a complete compliance report for Council and says, okay, this guy's did it good, this guy's up to

performance, this guy's performed zero. Okay. And that

is why today the County is still owed, in my estimation,

thousands of affordable housing units that were given by

entitlement, conditioned by zoning and we have yet to

collect. Because you need people to remember and follow

Page 20

24 through and go and get what is deserving to the

25 communities.

Page 18

You know, other than that, again -- you know,

it's a hard question. I don't mind facing my community

every two years and ask them to send me back or not to

send me back. I think that's fair. For some, of

course, it's the cost of campaigning. But that's where

I would say you need to look at some of your proposals

in the greater picture.

If you want to go back partisanship as part of

this consideration, then have someone come up with some

fiscal or financial analysis. Maybe if we go back to

closed primaries, because you're only going to campaign

for those that are within your partisanship party of

choice, that's what you're going to campaign for, that

specific group of registered people in that closed primary. And you could possibly save some campaign

expense, campaign fund-raising, other things, in

preparation for the general. Right now, you campaign

the whole electorate for the primary. So, yes, it costs

us more money. Yes, we got to raise more fund-raising

20 events. It is part of how the process is currently set

21 up.

22 So I would say if you guys are serious in

looking at some tinkering, then make sure you look at

the other components and see that you really make sense

what you're going to propose to the public.

MS. KAHUHU: Councilman Riki Hokama.

2 CHAIR STONE: Councilman Hokama, thank you so much for coming here to testify.

4 MR. HOKAMA: It's always interesting to be on 5 the other side of the table.

6 (Laughter.)

7 CHAIR STONE: We remember our hearings.

8 MR. HOKAMA: And I hope it was a good 9 experience.

10 (Laughter.)

11 MR. HOKAMA: Chairman Stone, Commissioners,

your hard work. Volunteering is difficult enough. And

thank you for being here this evening.

13 And, first, let me just tell you thank you for

listening to, you know, various opinions of possible

contentious proposals is not an easy job. So I thank

17 you for your patience and perseverance through this

18 process.

19 I'd like to give some comment on some of your 20 considerations that you are asking, possibly, the

21 electorate to make decisions on.

22 With Number 1, two to four years, possibly

three-term maximum, I view that, every election, I have

24 a term limit. And my current term limit is two years. And then I face the electorate, the public, I face my

Page 21 Page 23 So that's 1 and 2. do their job. Whether or not we're going to continue to Number 3, from annual to two-year budgets.

3 The State cannot even do a biennial budget well. Okay. 4 It's hard for us for now because, every month or so,

5 Council continues to change forecasts. So even for the

6 Council to do a one-year budget is difficult. And I can

7 tell you, soon as we pass it, Administration already

1

sends us budget amendments. How are we supposed to

forecast for two years when we get a hard enough time

10 forecasting estimates for one year, people, you know.

It's not going to work. Yeah, we can come up with fake

numbers, but we're going to end up, all the time,

revising the original document to fit the situation,

whether we have more revenue, less revenue, whatever,

you know, you folks decide, what budget cycle.

16 Me, I prefer the one year. It's easier for us to forecast. It's easier for us to adjust and make the 18 revisions.

19 Independent Office of the County Auditor. In 20 1978, when we were at the Con Con considering this type 21 of legislation and constitutional proposal, the study came back that if you want the Administration to

consider some form of review, that would be in the

24 pre-audit process. Once the money is spent, it is your

25 Legislative Branch's responsibility for oversight and

2 have trust funds or special type of funding to make

these agencies be able to do their job. Uncle Sam does

not have the money for us to replace the system to have

the County build. And that is fact. So you might want

to consider more of a financial side than adding more

work or changing names of departments is to do --

8 CHAIR STONE: Excuse me, Councilman Hokama.

9 MR. HOKAMA: Yes.

CHAIR STONE: Just because we get to say it,

"Time." 11

10

13

15

22

MR. HOKAMA: No. I appreciate that. 12

CHAIR STONE: No. And I would like to --

14 MR. HOKAMA: Let me close.

COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: Suspend the rules.

CHAIR STONE: -- suspend the rules, yes. But, 16

17 of course, it's always fun to tell Councilman Hokama 18 "time."

19 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: You enjoyed that too

20 much. No. I move -- I move to suspend the rules.

21 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: I second.

CHAIR STONE: Okay. Without objection we're

Page 24

suspending the rules. Thank you. Okay. Continue, 23

24 Councilman.

25 MR. HOKAMA: And thank you, Commissioners.

Page 22

1 accountability. It does not go back to administrative

2 agency. It is part of your Legislative Branch's

3 responsibility of checks and balances to the

4 Administration who spends the money. You cannot have

5 the auditor report back to an administrative component

6 of the Administration. It does not work.

Your ocean lifeguards from Parks to Fire. You

8 know, for -- for us, it is still a matter of -- I would

consider it more of a collective bargaining, right now,

10 issue. I would like to have Administration and the

11 unions to have the opportunity to see what they would

12 like to propose to the Council and the community. So I

13 would say this is premature for us to make the

structural changes unless you have some additional

collective bargaining information that the Council does

not have, that you can make these type of informed

17 decisions of how to change structure of departments. 18

Sustainability to Department of Environmental

Management. I can tell you, people, Department of

20 Environmental Management is swamped. They have a lot of

work to do. They're trying to keep us out of trouble

with Federal EPA, State Department of Health. It is a

23 department that is working very hard.

24 If anything, in the Charter, you might want to 25 consider is how to assist them in getting the capital to 1 You know, I'm one to be happy to follow what all my

other neighbors is going to be required to follow. But

quickly --

COMMISSIONER DE REGO: They get a chance, too.

5 MR. HOKAMA: You know, I think Corp Counsel --

6 I think Corp Counsel can help. Okay, in the past, the

Charter, I believe, had two-year residency. And I think

even for State offices, you need a two-year residency to

run for State Senate or State House.

10 There is some judicial things that happened

11 that took it out of the State and the County documents.

12 And so maybe Corp Counsel can give you why those

13 previous minimum residency requirements were removed

14 from the Charter as well as from State election

15 requirements. Okay.

And, of course, the Feds and State and County

17 have different. The Feds, you don't even have to live

18 in the district to represent a district. The State, you

19 just have to be in the district on the day that you're

20 elected. Only the Council, you must be in the district

21 before you run. But Federal and State, you don't even

22 have to be in the district to file and run for the

23 office.

24 So, of course, there's inconsistency, yeah. I

25 don't have a problem what you guys proposing. I just

1 say you need to ask the question why the minimum

- 2 requirement in the past, that we all thought was a good
- 3 thing, was removed. There must be some kind of
- 4 reasoning why it was kicked out. And maybe Corp Counsel
- 5 can assist you with that.

6 Quickly. Members, what you want to do for the

- 7 Council, you want to do for the Mayor, you know, that's
- 8 fine, consistency.
- 9 Requiring Fire Commission to review Fire
- 10 Chief's personnel actions. We have one Department of
- 11 Personnel Services. And we don't need more mini
- 12 departments within departments, people. That's one of
- 13 the problems we had through the transitioning of the
- 14 Department of Water from semiautonomous to fall under
- 15 administrative, under the Mayor and the Council, or vice
- 16 versa. It creates problems when you have duplication of
- 17 services, with payroll, with vacation, with whatever.
- 18 It is one of the problems we have that, for me, is
- 19 wasting money. So I would hope you folks would allow --
- 20 the departments tasked with those responsibilities, hold
- 21 them accountable, make them report, give the Charter
- 22 reports every so many years or whatever, but make them
- 23 perform. Don't create more, as I would say,
- 24 bureaucratic jobs for non-bureaucratic people.
- 25 Commission vacancy. I can go with this, but

Page 27

Page 28

- 1 the Council responsible to make sure the commissions can
- 2 perform with adequate staffing and adequate funding to
- 3 do your responsibilities best as you possibly can.
- 4 Political party -- I don't have a problem with
- 5 political parties, yeah. Nonpartisan doesn't mean 6 there's no political party. It just doesn't mean you
- 7 (inaudible), but we still political. We're not an
- 8 apolitical entity. We're not -- this country is not
- apolitical.

10

- So I don't have a problem with people stating
- 1 a preference, if they choose. And if they choose not
- 12 to, that's fine, too, you know. I leave it up to the
- 13 individual to make those decisions.
- 14 With 14, I don't really have strong feelings,
- 15 Commissioners, regarding consistency in the oversight of
- 6 the Fire Commission, Civil Service, Liquor, Police. I
- 17 have yet to see major issues from those commissions. I
- 18 think all those commissioners, like you, take their jobs
- 19 very serious and responsibly. And they perform for the
- 20 community well.
- 21 Let's see. The qualified leadership standards
- 22 of recruitment and fairness, I agree fairness is the key
- 23 component in this consideration. And, again, the County
- 4 should be as transparent as possible in the actions we
- 25 do. So I don't have a problem with that, either.

Page 26

- rds 1 Remove the County Council authority to propose
 - 2 Charter amendments when the Charter Commission is in
 - 3 session. You know, my thing is I think we should
 - 4 maximize the ability of the community to address either
 - 5 the commission or the Council, whichever venue they
 - 6 feel. And the more venues you have, I think, serves the
 - 7 community better.
 - 8 And I'll give you like at-large. While, Lanai
 - 9 people contact me a lot, I can tell you, you wouldn't
 - 10 believe how many contacts I get from the other districts
 - 11 regarding their district things. And for some, it's
 - 12 just because it's old family relationships. Whatever it
 - 13 be, I think the more opportunity community individuals
 - 14 and businesses have to address their government, whether
 - 15 it be the Charter Commission or Council, it's to
 - 15 It be the Charter Commission of Council, it's to
 - 6 everybody's benefit. So I would hope you guys would
 - 17 consider keeping it as open as possible.
 - 18 Republish Charter. I would say if we do
 - 19 something major, we should. If it's minor editing on
 - 20 that, you know, I don't see it.
 - 21 Charter Commissioners for five-year terms --
 - 22 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: That's a mistake.
 - 23 That was a mistake.
 - 24 MR. HOKAMA: Okay. Okay.
 - 25 CHAIR STONE: Excuse me. Some of these --

rage z

1 just to know that the longer key commissions and boards

- $2 \hspace{0.1in}$ do not have quorum that it impacts the ability of the
- 3 County to perform, in certain areas like Board of
- 4 Variance and Appeals, yeah. There's business -- there's
- 5 people waiting for an important decision.

6 Police Commission, Civil Service, that have 7 authority to fire and hire, fire the commission. You

- 8 know, again, the longer you let -- allow vacancies to
- 8 know, again, the longer you let -- allow vacancies to
- 9 exist, it does impact them.

10 I would agree with Mr. McOmber, Commissioners,

- 11 wherever possible, I think it's in the current Charter,
- 12 wherever possible, we try and give nine-member
- 13 commissions geographical balance. We would -- you know,
- 4 we should have somebody from Molokai --
- 15 CHAIR STONE: Sorry. Excuse me, Councilman. 16 You just have to keep the mic up, for consistency.
- 17 MR. HOKAMA: Yeah. I'm sorry.
- 18 So whenever possible, yeah, I would say that
- 19 it's good to have geographical balance in all
- 20 nine-member boards and commissions.
- 21 Financing the ability of the Commissioners to
- 22 travel, that's the Council's problem, yeah. And the
- 23 Council should provide enough resources to allow the
- 24 commissions to function. Okay. So I will make that25 very clear, that the Council is responsible. And hold

Page 29

1 yes. That was a mistake. Thank you very much, Yuki.

2 MR. HOKAMA: Requiring the County to indemnify 3 commissioners for acts within the course, I believe that

4 already exists, and I believe Mr. Kushi can verify that,

5 by State law. The County as an entity is the one held

6 responsible, and not -- and that the volunteer is not

7 necessarily the one. You know, we indemnify -- when you

8 do in your performance of your duties, Council has

9 always indemnified and defended those that give service.

The one that I can tell you I cannot agree

11 with is allowing the prosecuting attorney to appoint

12 investigators with police powers. For me, I feel

13 strongly. We have a process. We have a Police

14 Department that goes through a vetment (sic) program,

15 whether it be physical, written tests, as well as

16 psychological exams, to ensure the qualifications and

17 quality of our personnel that provides safety and

18 protections. So I would not like to expose the County

19 to any more liability than necessary. And I, for one,

20 am not able to support this proposal at this time.

21 And other than that, thank you very much,

22 Commissioners, for allowing me to speak longer than the

23 five minutes. I thank you for the privilege. And I

24 thank you for being here this evening.

25 CHAIR STONE: Thank you very much, Councilman

1 there is a great difference in the world with what

2 actually happens in the real world and what we think is

3 right. Like, for example, you said that, in the

4 biennial budget, there was a proposal, which looks like

5 it's going to be submitted unless there is some strong

6 voice from the public, that you would rather favor the

7 annual --

8

11

22

MR. HOKAMA: The current.

9 COMMISSIONER BAXA: -- budgeting process

10 rather than the biennial?

MR. HOKAMA: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER BAXA: And at first, I was

13 inclined to go to the other side, but, although I'm not

14 yet convinced, if your point, in my mind, is very

5 convincing that it is easier to go through the process

16 rather than the other one. And more effective, in a

17 way.

The second thing is, I don't know if you

19 touched on this, about the auditor. There is a current

20 (inaudible) right now --

21 MR. HOKAMA: Yes.

COMMISSIONER BAXA: -- the establishment of

3 the Office of County Auditor. Which, under the -- as of

now, it would be appointed by the Cost of Government

25 Commission and subject to the -- answerable to the Cost

Page 30

_

Page 32

1 Hokama. It's very much appreciated. And, of course,

2 your wisdom and knowledge on a lot of these topics is

3 much appreciated. We've been very lucky at the majority

4 of our second round of public hearings to have, I

5 believe, a councilmember at every single one.

6 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Yeah.

7 CHAIR STONE: So it seems --

8 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: It's interesting.

9 CHAIR STONE: -- we've hit a nerve.

10 MR. HOKAMA: Thank you.

11 CHAIR STONE: And I'm sure there will, most

12 likely, be questions --

13 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Questions.

14 MR. HOKAMA: Sure.

15 CHAIR STONE: -- from the Commissioners for 16 clarification.

17 Commissioners, I would like to put that out to

18 you. Commissioner Baxa, please, you can begin.

19 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Sir, thank you for coming

20 today. As you know, it is always good for us Members of

21 the Commission to hear people who have experience from

22 the Executive Branch, or even any branch of the

23 government. And from what I hear from you, and I know

24 you are talking from experience, in my case, probably, I

25 am mostly talking from the academic point of view, and

1 of Government Commission. I know that in other counties

2 of the State there are other offices like that. In

3 Honolulu, there is an office of the County Auditor, but

4 it is under the supervision, or, rather, say,

5 directorship of the City Council.

6 As a member of the Council, what is your take

7 on that? I would like to know.

MR. HOKAMA: Judge Baxa, you know, thank you

9 for that question. I did give some earlier comments.

10 And for me, Judge, again, as I stated, a lot of large

1 entities, private corporations, have their own internal

12 auditors that check on their procedures internally prior

13 to the actual expenditures. And like for the State, we

14 go to procurement law process before we spend the funds.

15 So for the County of Maui, it is the Finance Director

16 for the Administration and it is the Council Chairman

17 for the Legislative Branch that are our chief

18 procurement officers for the County.

19 It is in my experience and view, Judge, that

0 when it comes to auditing and ability of holding public

21 funds accountable, it has always been, from our founding

22 fathers, the Legislative Branch's responsibility to be

23 holding the Executive Branch that spends the money

24 accountable for their actions. For me, to place it

25 within another Cost of Government which is attached to

1 the Mayor's Office, it's hard for me, as a legislator,

- 2 to let the audit be run by the office that is
- 3 authorizing the expenditures. You need someone else.
- 4 And, normally, what like the State Auditor
- 5 does, is they do their own audits once the Senate and
- 6 the House makes their specific requirements of the
- 7 legislative auditor. Whether it be Mrs. Higa,
- 8 currently, Marion Higa, the process works well,
- 9 especially in post expenditures, you know. That's where
- 10 your Legislative Branch will hire the appropriate
- 11 accountants.
- 12 A lot of time, we go outside for third party.
- 3 The Charter requires the Council to go outside for a
- 14 third-party professional to conduct our annual financial
- 5 audit that the Council chairs, our chief procurement
- 16 officer has a responsibility to fulfill on behalf of the
- 7 people. And that is to view all public expenditures of
- 18 County funds.
- 19 It works, to me. And I can tell you that, you
- 20 know, we have yet to have departments that were hesitant
- 21 in complying or sharing information.
- So, you know, for me, Commissioners, the
- 23 Council is still going to fulfill its responsibility of
- 24 holding Administration accountable. Okay. We currently
- 25 do it. We do financial audits and we also do

Page 35

MR. HOKAMA: Plus, it would also -- it also

- 2 helps us -- as well as for those of you that do audits,
- 3 you know that there's a management letter normally
- 4 attached to an audit. It helps the Council make -- you
- 5 know, helps the Council make important decisions on the
- 6 next or the upcoming budget requests because we're going
- 7 to look at whether they performed, whether they hit
- 8 their marks, whether -- you know, what was presented to
- 9 Council is what the department actually performed and
- 10 did or -- or -- you know, for us, what the Council's
- 11 currently interested in is the amount of, say, projects
- 12 that got lapsed as of December 31st, and how much,
- 13 particularly in the water department. Since we all know
- 14 that water's been coming up for Council quite a bit, we
- 15 are interested to see how many millions of dollars that
- 16 lapsed of projects that will not be done.
 - CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Commissioner De Rego.
- 18 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: I just have a couple of
- 19 questions.

17

24

- 20 MR. HOKAMA: Sure, Commissioner.
- 21 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: I want to explore
- 22 something very interesting that you said earlier, but I
- 23 just have one short question.
 - MR. HOKAMA: Sure.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Who conducts the audits

Page 36

Page 34

- 1 for the Council at the present moment, since you're
- 2 saying that you guys are doing spot performance audits?
- 3 MR. HOKAMA: Well, the Council -- once the
- 4 Council makes a determination, Commissioner, to audit a
- 5 department, the Council will pass an authorization to
- 6 the Council Chair. The Council Chair will then go
- 7 through a procurement process. Especially if, let's
- 8 say, for example, Planning Department, we're going to go
- 9 for a auditor that understands planning processes, the
- 10 role and jobs of planners, so that what comes from the
- 11 audit makes sense, and the Planning Department can use
- 12 it as a constructive document to implement certain
- 13 things.
- 14 The County, you know, really has to screw up
- 15 big time to fail a financial audit.
- 16 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Uh-huh. But you're
- 17 looking mostly at performance?
- 18 MR. HOKAMA: We're looking more at performance
- 19 audits on whether or not the procedures, the operations
- 20 and whatnot is still meeting the task that is assigned
- 21 to the department by the Charter regarding the
- 22 responsibility of the Charter and as well as by the
 - 3 ordinances.
- 24 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Thank you. One more
- 25 question.

1 performance audits of departments. And it is not a

- 2 requirement, but the Council has chosen to spot-check
- 3 and do audits of various departments to ensure that the
- 4 processing, one, works, two, we're looking for5 efficiencies, reducing the cost of business for the
- 6 taxpayer. But the key thing is to also be able to tell
- 7 the community the things that the County is doing very
- 8 well, and that they are getting their value in taxation
- 9 paid for services being presented to the community.
- 10 Because the audit for us is both a report card of what
- $11\ \ \mbox{we do well as well as what we should do better. But I}$
- 12 think, lot of times, you know, we don't get to tell the
- 13 community what we're doing very well.
- I can tell you, nationwide, Maui County has got to be one of the top counties of overall service
- 16 providers in our country. I can tell you that.
- 17 COMMISSIONER BAXA: Can I add something to
- 18 that?
- 19 MR. HOKAMA: Yes, Judge.
- 20 CHAIR STONE: Please.
- 21 COMMISSIONER BAXA: In other words, my

24 should be the best body to see to it that the money was

- 22 understanding is that the Council itself, being the
- 23 holder of the purse, and once the monies are spent, it
- 25 properly spent?

Page 37

CHAIR STONE: Please, go ahead.

2 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: I want to explore with

3 you a little bit about this fiscal financial audit

- 4 related to the closed primaries. I found that
- 5 fascinating. Are you saying that, in a sense, it would
- 6 be easier for candidates to come forward and in the
- 7 sense, since it's a closed -- more of a focused group,
- 8 easier for people to campaign and -- as versus the
- 9 present system where you're, basically, almost forced,
- 10 if you're living on Lanai, to, you know, at-large

11 districts?

17

1

12 MR. HOKAMA: I bring it up, Commissioner,

13 because I think it's something that -- you know, you

14 folks, obviously, have these components of it. And

that's why you have some of your proposals up.

16 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Uh-huh.

MR. HOKAMA: But I think that these are some

18 of the things that, you know, you can ask the democratic

19 party officials or republican party officials or tea

- 20 party officials what they think about going back to a
- 21 closed primary and how it may or may not help candidates
- 22 coming from -- from political parties, and how we --
- 23 and, again, because, you know, what comes to us a lot is
- 24 the cost of campaigning. And anytime you have to go
- 25 county-wide, full community, it's always going to cost

1 pretty much a hot issue?

MR. HOKAMA: You know, that's -- you know,

3 that issue, I must say, Commissioners, you know, has --

4 evokes strong sentiment, yeah, from proponents of either

5 side of the issue. You know, I can tell you that for

6 me, I knew fully well what I was getting into before I

7 got into it, obviously, through my family's previous

8 involvement.

9 But the reason why I can tell you this 10 evening -- if you want to look at helping cost of

campaign, I would say look at closed primary versus

12 district voting. The advantage of at-large voting,

13 especially for a sitting member like myself from Lanai,

14 is that I get to understand the dynamics of Maui, what

15 it means to Lanai, especially the subsidy that Maui

16 provides Lanai for our services. It helps to understand

17 where it's coming from, from what area of Maui Island.

18 And while in -- you hear currently is South Maui and

19 West Maui says they're not getting their fair share of

20 revenues. In the sixties, don't forget who subsidized

21 those districts, it was Central. When Baldwin Packers

22 left Lahaina, when there was no Wailea, no Makena, who

23 took care of those services and costs? Central Maui.

24 Okay.

25 So, again, if you understand the history, you

Page 38

1 you the most, compared to closed primaries where you're

2 just working off -- I have no idea. I'm going to --

3 let's say you have 5,000 democratic closed primary

4 versus a 30,000 general at-large voter registration

5 list. Okay. So if I got to campaign for 30,000 votes,

6 obviously, I'm going to spend a hell of a lot more than

7 if I'm just going after that 5,000 democratic voters in

8 the primary.

So it's things you can consider. It's things

0 that people in the past have considered about why to 1 retain or not, you know -- or change it from -- to the

2 current system. But it has increased the cost of

13 fund-raising and the cost of campaigns.

14 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: Thank you very much.

15 CHAIR STONE: Thank you.

16 Commissioner.

17 COMMISSIONER CRIVELLO: Aloha, Councilman

18 Hokama. Mahalo for being here.

19 To your last comments on partisan and

20 nonpartisan, some of the arguments that were presented

21 to us regarding district voting, their concerns were

22 what you just said, about the cost of going for the

23 30,000 votes as opposed to a closed primary and going

24 for maybe just the 5,000. How do you see that coming

25 forth with that particular issue that we had that was

Page 40

1 understand how the money's being generated, you2 understand how the money's being divvied up and why

3 certain land use applications are going and what it

4 means only for that particular community region, but to

5 the whole island, and then how it then comes to be a

6 benefit for Lanai, it helps people like me make better

7 informed decisions. You know, right now, I hope the

8 Commission, you, the Commissioners, would look at how to

9 help the community broaden its view and look at the 10 bigger picture.

11 You know, lot of things that we gotta deal

12 with in Council is because we've become so into that I

13 generation and it's only about me, we tend to forget

14 what is better for the total community, the total

15 County. And I hope some of the things you folks do will

6 focus back on bringing back the bigger perspective of

17 what is good for the County and not just the particular

18 region of the County.

19 And I think while keeping the members

20 at-large, you assist the Legislative Branch by keeping

21 the openmindedness and understanding. Because our

22 County is so unique. We got -- I mean, Oahu, you can do

23 single district members, I would say, on one contiguous

24 piece of land. But when you have our County with our

25 multiple islands, and we are so unique communities, we

Page 41 Page 43 going to pay more, but doesn't matter because we'll get 1 view the same thing differently, you know, it's to our 2 benefit to maintain this big picture and get away from a off fossil fuel. Be honest. Be honest, yeah. 3 very narrow (inaudible), because it doesn't serve the And I think that's part of the issue right now 4 County and it doesn't eventually help the smaller with the utility, HEI, the State government, the County, 5 communities. Because the big communities can just the communities that have been impacted with proposals 6 control. And, you know, I mean, for us, then Lanai is for energy, is what is sustainability. You know, going to have to agree we're going to have to develop because if it's going to cost me more, I'm going to like hell to get one population so that we can get think twice. But if the mentality is whatever it costs, things back to what we call -- I would say, have the just get off fossil fuel, then be honest and tell the Lanai voice brought back to the Council. 10 people this is what we consider sustainable. You may 11 CHAIR STONE: Thank you. Yuki, go ahead. 11 not afford it, but it's sustainable. Okay. Be honest. 12 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Riki. It's 12. And that's why I said, I don't think we ready 13 really interesting just to hear your perspective. And I 13 for it yet. I think we need to keep working so that know you have a lot of years of service and probably was 14 it's something we can all put our hands around and raised with a lot of this, on your kitchen table, you 15 16 heard from your dad. So very valuable. 16 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: Thank you. 17 I wanted to just ask you about the 17 CHAIR STONE: Thank you. Commissioners, further clarification for the councilman? sustainability thing, because your perspective tonight 18 19 (No Response.) was very interesting. We also heard when we went to Molokai, one of the employees from the department said 20 CHAIR STONE: No. Thanks very much. 21 MR. HOKAMA: Commissioners, thank you for your 21 that they are just inundated and they do not need, you 22 time. know, a whole 'nother set of work. But what your 23 CHAIR STONE: Have a great evening. Thank 23 comment tonight -- what it left me thinking was that --24 well, the reason why we thought that the sustainability 24 you. 25 Lisa, next testifier, please. 25 would be important is so that we could plan our future Page 42 Page 44 1 and so that we can ensure that we're not so fossil fuel MS. KAHUHU: Fairfax Reilly. 1 2 dependent. So that was our thinking. We weren't CHAIR STONE: Fairfax, was it? 2 3 looking at it from your perspective. I think you're 3 MR. REILLY: Pat. 4 actually looking at it from what they're doing today and CHAIR STONE: Pat, thank you. 4 you're looking, you know, what is the truth, I think. 5 MR. REILLY: Unfortunately, my legal name --MR. HOKAMA: I think we count the beans a CHAIR STONE: Pat. Thank you very much, Pat. little bit more, more regularly, Commissioner. MR. REILLY: Aloha. I want to thank all of 8 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: Can you comment on you for all your work. And I have read some minutes of 9 that? your meetings. And I am so confused, after reading your 10 MR. HOKAMA: You know, Commissioner, right minutes, I don't know how the heck you guys do it. I 11 now, I think, in general, the general direction that you thought I had opinions; after reading the minutes, I 12 folks bring up with this subject proposal is good. But think, man, I don't have any opinions. So thank you 13 for our County, I think, right now, you know, I would very much for your work. 13 ask you to allow the Administration, allow the Mayor's 14 I'm a retiree. I have sat on the Planning 15 Office to work on something that you can eventually then 15 Commission. I have sat on the GPAC. And the point I'm consider, if it's appropriate for the Charter, for the trying to make is that much of the -- many of the 17 Charter, if it's by ordinance, by ordinance. 17 proposals have budgetary impacts. And I don't see much Because this thing about sustainability is discussion about that aspect. 18 still yet pretty broad. And I can tell you that lot of 19 And the second thing I'll say is the advantage 20 times if I talk to 10 people individually, I'm going to 20 of coming to this meeting is listening to Riki, with his 21 get 10 different sustainability definitions. Okay. experience and depth of angles and reflections. So I 22 So, again, some of our residents gonna have look at some of my testimony, I'm rethinking them as I 23 (inaudible) with alternative energy and big wind. If listen to him. But it's very educational.

24

25 have --

And you can cut me off in five. I kind of

24 sustainability means get off diesel fuel at whatever the

cost, then that's what we should tell the people. You

COMMISSIONER DE REGO: We suspended the rules. 2 Go ahead.

3 MR. REILLY: Well, no. I also respect the 4 other residents.

5 CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Chair De Rego.

6 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: We suspended the rules.

7 MR. REILLY: No. The other residents, you

know, also have -- I'm sure they want to go home and go

to bed at some point. I'm willing to come back, if that

makes any sense.

11 I just went by the numbers.

12 Number 1: And I come here to offend nobody;

13 just to think out loud. I know there's some issues

14 related to retirement and benefits of retirement that

may have not come up in thinking about terms and length

16 of service for the County or for the State. Now,

17 whether that should be considered or not, I just bring

it to your attention. My support would be for two

four-year terms with a break in service of one four-year

term. I think the voters should decide. Leave it to

the voters, the registered voters, to decide who they

place in office.

23 Number 2: Little confused about the lack of

24 congruence between State and -- County ordinance and

25 State law. Somebody has to struggle. And I think they

Page 48

1 function. Is there a design by which the County could

cooperate with other agencies? Certainly, when it comes

to Ocean Safety, and that -- I mean, we need it. Who

does it now? Are we not getting the services? And is

5 it maybe a combined service of the Coast Guard, the

State and the County? Again, it would be a big

budgetary, because you would have to buy equipment and

personnel.

The biennial calendar: After listening to

10 Riki, I'm in favor of a biennial calendar. As I

understand the State, you have a supplemental calendar

in the second year. And, yes, you have to -- as the

State has to wait for the Council revenues to see what

your revenues are, and then you make your best guess as

to designing the first year of your biennial budget and

come back in the second year and make adjustments. But

at least you know the programs that you want to put in

18 place for two years.

19 To me, there is a planning function there.

And meeting every year, I -- I come to the budget

hearings. And then there doesn't seem to be a

continuity, a long-range planning process.

The auditor: Having sat on State boards and gone through an audit -- an audit is not an evaluation.

25 I make is distinction between audit and evaluation.

Page 46

23

1 Evaluation is very targeted and is designed to evaluate

understand why they wouldn't be congruent.

3 Number 3: It seemed in this section -- and

4 this would be a budgetary issue -- to me, that you're

1 should be congruent. That's all I'm saying, is I don't

5 creating another law enforcement facility, like a

6 sheriff, associated with prosecutor's office or

7 something like that. Which is reasonable, I would

guess, if the law enforcement or the police cannot

handle the function. But it would be a huge budgetary

10 effect, to me.

11

Number 4: Transparency, I think, in terms of 12 party affiliation, particularly when you're running for

13 office, is really important. I know the nonpartisan,

14 but kind of everybody knew what party they were part of.

15 And it has to do with funding and where -- the campaign

16 money. If somebody wants to run as an independent,

17 that's -- just say I'm running as an independent and let

the voters decide. I know there are campaigns costs and

19 the whole process of running for office.

20 I'm not sure about 5, about changing the name.

21 I'm not sure if it changes function. Probably have to

repaint a lot of signs. If there's a reason to change

the name, which has to do with the function, then that

24 should be taken into consideration.

I would say the same with 6, it has to do with

personnel and programs.

Audits: There are many different kind of 3

audits, financial audits, programmatic audits. I agree that it's a legislative function, but independent, the

auditors should be independent and professional in the

area wherever the audit is being targeted. If they have

no experience in that area, you shouldn't hire them to

do that. But it should be an independent auditor.

And I'm not sure the State Auditor is a good 10 11 example. You could be overwhelmed by the number of audits requested by the County. So, again, that's a --I think, a financial issue.

Let's see. I'll go to Number 10 here, 15 Interactive Communications: I guess some of these I'm not sure really belong in the Charter. There are some -- my own view of a charter, like the Constitution, is stick to the basic structure and only put those things 19 in a Charter that really belong in a Charter. I'm not

20 -- I think it's an excellent goal. It will take lots of 21 money.

And, hopefully, the broadband, the State 23 broadband initiative -- I've been harping on this for years -- the school's supposed to get it, the libraries

25 are supposed to get it, but it has to be a combined

22

1 process of getting broadband services to all islands to 2 all communities. That's the only -- and that will save us economically and politically.

For Number 11, I think 30 days is short. I 4 5 understand about the lack of a quorum. Certainly, 6 somebody could be appointed quicker than that, you don't have to wait for 45 days. But to me, I can understand why, if you don't have anybody on the role and nobody wants to apply. And we've seen it here, again for the Planning Commission.

Let me just also say, some of us sat on the

11

23

25

12 General Plan Advisory Council. And related to the 13 sustainability issue, you have them in the General Plan, and you have all these good ideas, you have these ideals. Does that belong in a Charter? I'm not sure. 16 To me, it's part of your General Plan, your community plans, your island plans. 18 The question is, do you have the money and the willpower at the Legislative and Administrative Branches to make it happen. And I think that's where the struggle really comes. I'm not sure that those belong in the Charter. 22

13, publish. Yeah, publish it, put it online.

This conflict about -- I'll talk about you

Page 51

The area about residency: I can live with 90 -- a 90-day residency if the candidate or nominee is a registered voter in the area and casts a ballot. Now, whether by absentee ballot or by in-person ballot at a poly, that may affect the 90 days. But if the person never, in the course of an electoral area, never cast a ballot in the area for which they're registered and they're running for office, something is not right there. 10

So if you have to extend it to a year to ensure that they cast the ballot, then I would favor extended it to a year. But casting that ballot in the area of your residency that you intend to represent -and it -- and it -- I can see it would be very difficult to have one rule for all of Maui County, because of our unique situation of islands. As you can tell from Riki's experience, I mean, Lanai is quite unique. But I also agree that understanding how the County functions, where the revenues come, and how that all works, helps us and helps our elected officials provide us with our

21 needs that are unique to Lanai. I'll quit at that point and thank you for your 22 23 indulgence.

CHAIR STONE: Thank you so much for your 24 25 testimony. It was very much appreciated.

Page 50

Page 52

1 guys, and I hope I don't offend you, on the -- seems like five years --

24 I think always put the Charter online.

3 COMMISSIONER SUGIMURA: It's a mistake. 4 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: That's a mistake.

MR. REILLY: Oh, I wasn't sure. I heard somebody say there was a mistake, but I couldn't tell 6 7 which one it was.

CHAIR STONE: Just so all the testifiers can mark this off their list, sorry about that, we're talking about topic Number 14. That was erroneously put

10 11 on the --12 MR. REILLY: All right. I misheard you. 13 15: I'm shocked that volunteers on boards are

not indemnified. I just happened to be going through a study of this for another board. And state law and federal law, in certain circumstances, allow 17 organizations to indemnify their volunteers. I don't

know about paid employees, but volunteers. And the 19 issue is how do you get -- how do you get volunteers to

20 volunteer if their personal assets are subject to loss.

21 So there -- I mean, and the rules are quite there. If

22 you do something absolutely off the wall, you're not

23 indemnified. But if you follow due diligence and your

24 fiduciary responsibilities, you should be protected.

25 Otherwise, I don't think you'll get too many volunteers.

Commissioners, clarification on testimony from

2 Pat here?

3 (No Response.)

4 CHAIR STONE: No. Thanks so much for your -oh, we do have a question from Commissioner Hedani.

VICE-CHAIR HEDANI: Actually, it's not a 6 question for Pat; it's just an observation that if we suspend the rules, we should suspend the rules for all the testifiers. And --

COMMISSIONER DE REGO: That was my point. 10 11 VICE-CHAIR HEDANI: -- people that testified

12 earlier, if they didn't have a chance to finish up their

13 thoughts, you give them the opportunity to come back. 14 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: I would agree with

15 that. CHAIR STONE: I think that's a very fair idea. Thank you, our two chairs. Appreciate it. Thank you 17

18 19 COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: I do have one. 20 CHAIR STONE: -- Chair Hedani and Chair De

21 Rego.

22 Commissioner Okamoto.

COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: This really isn't is a 23

question for Pat, but it does tell how we, on Lanai,

25 don't understand what Ocean Safety is because we don't

- 1 have anybody that does ocean safety. But in Maui, they
- 2 come under the Parks Department. And that's where it's
- 3 all come from, is merging the Parks Department
- 4 lifeguards and so forth with the Fire Department. And I
- 5 think people were surprised when I said, "No, we don't
- 6 have those." So I just pointed that out. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIR STONE: Very good. Before our next 8 testifier, I think our court reporter -- you don't need
- 9 a break? Okay, very good.
- 10 Lisa, our next testifier, please.
- 11 MS. KAHUHU: Steve Bumbar.
- 12 CHAIR STONE: Steve, thank you very much for
- 13 coming this evening. Yeah, you don't look like the same
- 14 Steve I knew before. One second.
- 15 MR. McOMBER: He's not Bumbar.
- 16 CHAIR STONE: Nice try, buddy. Nice try.
- 17 MR. McOMBER: Nice try.
- 18 CHAIR STONE: If you can turn it on and state
- 19 your name for the record.
- MR. MASUDA: Mr. Bumbar had to leave, so he
- $21\,\,$ asked me to present his testimony. My name is Ralph
- 22 Masuda, I'm Vice President of Planning for Castle &
- 23 Cooke Resorts.
- 24 Mr. Bumbar's testimony starts off with
- 25 Mr. Chairperson and Members of the Maui County Charter

- 1 function of the County, and, B, any subject upon which
- 2 the Council may (inaudible). And Section 3-65, to
- 3 require periodic and special reports from all County
- 4 departments concerning the functions and operation.
- 5 Such reports shall be requested and submitted through
- 6 the Mayor. It appears that appointed County Auditor
- 7 position should be a function of the County Council who
- 8 are elected by the voters of Maui County and not
- appointed.
- There is another matter that is not on your
- 11 list of preliminary proposed amendment, that is the
- 2 matter of district voting for the County Council. There
- 3 should not be an amendment that -- any change to the way
- 14 the councilmembers are elected. The most important
- 5 thing is that the councilmembers are residents of the
- 16 district they represent. Nothing is broken on this
- 7 matter, so why fix it?
- 18 Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to
- 19 voice our opinion.
- 20 I'd like to also speak on behalf of my brother
 - 1 who is 85 years old. And he told me that, with 21
- 2 proposed amendments to the Charter, he's going to fall
- 23 asleep in the voting booth trying to read all of it. So
- 24 he is saying that -- he asked me to ask, if he doesn't
- 25 vote either yes or no on the Charter amendments, how

Page 54

Page 56

- 1 Commission: My name is Stephen Bumbar, President of
- 2 Castle & Cooke Resorts, Lanai Operations. My testimony
- 3 today is to present to you Castle & Cooke Resorts Lanai
- 4 Operations' comments on proposed Charter Amendment
- $5\quad Number\ 8\ on\ the\ matter\ of\ establishing\ an\ independent$
- 6 office of the County Auditor and that the County Auditor
- 7 be appointed by the Cost of Government Commission.
- 8 It appears that there are already provisions 9 in the County's Charter that allows the Cost of
- 10 Government Commission, under Section 8-16-2 to -- to
- 11 study and investigate the organizations and methods of
- 12 operation of all departments, commissions, boards,
- offices and other instrumentality of all branches of the
- 4 County government and determine what changes, if any,
- 15 may be desirable to accomplish the policies set forth
- 16 thomain
- 16 therein.
- 17 With this provision already in place, why is
- 18 there a need for a Charter amendment to create a County
- 19 Auditor position to be appointed and removed by the Cost
- 20 of Government Commission, when, in a report resulting
- 21 from this (inaudible) and the report that is reviewed by
- 22 the Mayor and the County Council, there is also a
- 23 provision in the County Charter, under Section 3-63,
- 24 powers of the -- of Council that states to conduct
- 25 investigations, the operation of any department or

- 1 would that affect the votes? Would that be a yes vote
- 2 or a no vote or no vote at all?
- 3 CHAIR STONE: I'm going to hand that off to
- 4 Corp Counsel so that I don't say something incorrect.
- 5 Ed.
- MR. KUSHI: I knew the answer once, but I have
- to get back. I think a blank vote is a no vote.
- 8 CHAIR STONE: That was our understanding, was
- 9 a blank vote is a no vote.
- 10 MR. MASUDA: A no vote?
- 11 CHAIR STONE: Uh-huh.
- 12 MR. MASUDA: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. KUSHI: I'll have to get back to you,
- 14 Mr. Chair.

16

21

23

- 15 CHAIR STONE: Okay. Thank you very much.
 - Also, just to be clear, these proposal items,
- 17 these draft proposals that we're bringing to the public,
- 18 not all of these items will get onto the ballot.
- 19 MR. MASUDA: That's what I told him.
- 20 CHAIR STONE: 21 would be --
 - MR. MASUDA: He says 21, forget it.
- 22 CHAIR STONE: I would fall asleep myself.
 - Any questions for Ralph for Steve?
- 24 (No Response.)
- 25 CHAIR STONE: No, no clarification or

- 1 questions. Thank you very much for coming here tonight.
- 2 Much appreciated.
- 3 MR. McOMBER: Nice going, Steve.
- 4 CHAIR STONE: Lisa, just for a matter of
- 5 understanding, how many more testifiers are registered?
- 6 MS. KAHUHU: Two more, Chair.
- 7 CHAIR STONE: Two more. Okay. Next
- 8 testifier, please.
- 9 MS. KAHUHU: Steven West.
- 10 CHAIR STONE: Steven, thank you for being
- 11 here.
- MR. WEST: Thank you, Charter Members. I just
- 13 want to make this short and sweet.
- 14 CHAIR STONE: Sorry, Steven. Can you please
- 15 turn it on?
- MR. WEST: Oh, I'm sorry. There we go.
- 17 Sorry. I forgot to turn that on.
- I want to make this fairly short and sweet.
- 19 Like the last testifier stated, there is quite a few
- 20 amendments here. I'm sure you're going to be whittling
- 21 them down. One that we, as an organization,
- 22 International Longshore and Warehouse Union, do
- 23 support -- I'm sorry. My name is Steven west, I'm here
- 24 on behalf of the International Longshore Warehouse Union
- 25 members.

Page 59

- COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: Thank you for coming.
- 2 I am a little confused. Okay. On the term limits,
- 3 you're okay with a limit as long as they are allowed to
- 4 come back?
- 5 MR. WEST: Yes.
- 6 COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: Would you prefer to
- 7 have no limit?

10

22

- 8 MR. WEST: No term limits?
- 9 COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: Your organization?
 - MR. WEST: Yeah. I mean, you know, again,
- 11 like I said in my testimony, it's hard to find good
- 12 people in government. But if this is what's going to be
- 13 there, we would -- we would prefer, you know, they would
- 14 be able to come back.
- 15 COMMISSIONER OKAMOTO: Okay. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIR STONE: Thank you. Commissioners,
- 17 further clarification?
- 18 (No Response.)
- 19 CHAIR STONE: No. Thanks so much for your
- 20 testimony. Have a good evening.
- 21 Lisa, next testifier, please.
 - MS. KAHUHU: Joseph Felipe.
- 23 CHAIR STONE: Joseph, thank you for being here
- 24 this evening.
- 25 MR. FELIPE: Thank you for all you coming

Page 58

Page 60

- We do support Number 1, but we do not support number -- Number 1A. Number 1B, we do not support,
- 3 which was the -- the consecutive or not, the item,
- 4 service of the councilmembers, five consecutive two-year
- 5 terms, would return to four, but then you wouldn't let
- 6 them come back. So that's my understanding.
- You can correct me if I'm wrong, but we do
- 8 believe we need to keep good people in government, such
- 9 as Riki that's here tonight, and has a wealth of
- 10 knowledge. And we really do believe that if you limit
- 11 people coming back into government, those people have
- 12 done a very good job in the past, be like losing an
- 13 asset. We -- it's hard enough to find people to -- such
- 14 as yourselves to come out late nights and serve and --
- 15 and listen to long hours of testimony, and then put that
- 16 all together and -- and so just to make it short
- 17 and sweet, we believe that we should be able to -- you
- and sweet, we believe that we should be able to -- you
- 18 know, we support the four-year terms, and change that to
- 19 three four-year terms, and then there would be a break
- 20 of four years and they can come back and run again.
- 21 Aside from that, I'm going to end my testimony
- 22 and thank you very much for your time.
- 23 CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Steven, very much.
- 24 Commissioners, clarification questions from the
- 25 testimony? Commissioner Okamoto.

- 1 again. I know there's a lot of work that you have been
- 2 doing. And, hopefully, you will take into consideration
- 3 all the inputs that the Lanai people makes. And, again,
- 4 I'm Joseph Felipe. I'm testifying as a resident,
- 5 old-time resident. And, also, I am the union chairman
- 6 for the ILWU.
- 7 Again, my first -- you know, most of the items
- that I have questions have been addressed. And I thank
- Riki and all the other testifiers that came before me
- 10 that covered almost everything. However, I would like
- 11 to emphasize and reiterate Item Number 1, because I
- 12 introduced that at your first meeting, to change the
- 13 years of service from two to four-year term. And,
- 4 however, the limitations I have here is not what I had
- 15 hoped for.
- Really, when we look at Lanai, we don't have
- 17 all the resources that you have elsewhere, but we have a
- 8 lot of good people. And for someone like Riki -- I
- 19 looked through the provisions of applying to run for
- 20 Council, there's no age limitation. And a young man
- 21 like Riki, if he started like at age of 30 to run for
- 22 office and got elected three consecutive years, he put 23 in 12 years, he would be 42. He hasn't reached his
- 24 prime yet. There's a lot of horsepower. And we gonna
- 25 tell him, "Sorry, Riki, it's time for you to go out to

- 1 pastures." We are losing, you know, so much potential
- 2 and talents that we have instilled in someone. And then
- 3 we give him no opportunity to -- to continue to serve
- 4 the people. And I believe that this will hurt the
- 5 County in general if you limit -- put limitations as
- 6 things for people who want to serve, okay, and who have
- gained the confidence of the residents themself.
- So I would like to, if I may, again, revise or
- advise the Council -- committee here to reconsider the
- limitation. You can maybe put a cut there of four or
- two terms, eight maximum, I would say, and then allow
- those who wish to pursue, you know, service in Council
- 13 to have that opportunity.

of things.

12 ourselves?

13

20

21

2 3

- 14 If we say there's a limit of two more terms,
- at 42, that would make Riki 50, then he can run again. 15
- A lot of horsepower behind that, yeah. Okay.
- 17 So, again, I ask the Committee to reconsider
- 18 this particular -- well, recommendation.
- 19 The other recommendation -- oh, the other question I have is, again, in filing for candidacy from
- 90 days to one-year residency, I have looked and tried
- 22 to find the definition of residency in the Charter, what
- constitute residency, and I have not been able to find
- that. I would like the Committee to extend it to, you
- 25 know, layman's language, what constitutes residency.

Give me a second. I scratched out a whole lot

On the filling a vacancies on commissions and

4 committees and boards, we have some limitations here

6 by the Mayor for any board or commission. I feel that,

believe, Lanai, we -- we don't have representation on

many commissions and boards. And I feel that Lanai

I honestly feel that with the nine districts

16 meetings that we have, because each district have unique

district have unique needs. And, again, by -- by the --

district can gain and use whatever their district needs.

problems, each district have unique strengths, each

by dialogue and interchanging of information, each

However, I want to emphasize that, in

22 decision-making, we must look at the particular district

that has a problem. And that the majority that -- oh,

recommendation be recognized. It's not who yells the

24 the majority vote for any particular business or

people are being neglected and, you know, not -- why are

you know, that's too much time. We need to -- I

11 we not being given that opportunity to -- to represent

we have, it's important that all nine districts are

represented, all nine districts participate in all the

that vacancies should be filled from 30 days to 45 days

- 1 loudest; it's not who gets numbers from another district
- 2 to join them in their yell, it's not the input that
- comes from other support that should be considered when
- decision-making affects like, for instance, Lanai or
- Molokai or Hana or Lahaina. Look at the majority votes
- of that particular district to influence your votes when
- it comes to making decisions for Lanai.
- 8 Thank you.
- 9 CHAIR STONE: Thank you, Joseph, very much for
- 10 your testimony. Commissioners, clarification question
- for Joseph?

15

22

- 12 (No Response.)
- 13 CHAIR STONE: Very good. Thank you. Thanks
- very much for your testimony. Much appreciated. 14
 - Lisa, any other testifiers?
- MS. KAHUHU: No, Chair, no one has signed up. 16
- 17 CHAIR STONE: Thank you. I would like to take
- this time to put one final notification to the public
- that you are welcome to come forward if you have not
- testified and would so like to testify.
- 21 (No Response.)
 - CHAIR STONE: Very good. If there are no

Page 64

- objections, I'll close oral testimony at this time. And 23
- without objection, we will accept and file the public
- 25 communications for the record.

Page 62

Commissioners, is there any discussion on

- 3 COMMISSIONER DE REGO: I don't have a
- 4 discussion; I have a comment. I'd like to commend the

- (Applause.)
- COMMISSIONER DE REGO: -- again. And I am
- enlightening, interesting from everyone. And I just
- want to say that I'm gratified for the -- the attendance
- tonight and for the participation here. And I'd like to
 - thank the people of Lanai for that.
- CHAIR STONE: Very good. Thank you, 15
- 16
- Commissioners, any further discussion? 17
- 18 (No Response.)
- CHAIR STONE: No. Thank you very much. 19
- 20 Without objection, I'll adjourn this meeting as of 7:55
- p.m. And people of Lanai, thank you so much for coming
- and thank you so much for your attendance. Aloha, thank
- you. Aloha thank you very much. Aloha. 23
- 24 (Meeting adjourned, 7:54 p.m.)
- 25

- people of Lanai for coming out tonight. You guys are
- the largest contingent, so far, because we still have a
- few more hearings --

- gratified the discussion and the contributions have been

- Commissioner De Rego.

_	
	Page 65
1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	
4	I, TONYA MCDADE, Certified Court Reporter of
5	the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that the
6	proceedings contained herein were taken by me in machine
7	shorthand and thereafter was reduced to print by means
8	of computer-aided transcription; and that the foregoing
9	represents, to the best of my ability, a true and
10	accurate transcript of the proceedings had in the
11	foregoing matter.
12	I further certify that I am not an attorney
13	nor an employee of any of the parties hereto, nor in any
14	way concerned with the cause.
15	DATED this 10th day of February, 2012.
16	
17	
18	Tonya NicDade
19	Certified Shorthand Reporter #447
	Registered Professional Reporter
20	Certified Realtime Reporter
	Certified Broadcast Reporter
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	