STATE OF HAWAII
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

WILLIAM B. MARSTON
ELECTION COMMISSION CHAIR

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ELECTIONS COMMISSION

March 3, 2011 @ 10:00 AM
STATE OFFICE TOWER
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, ROOM 204
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Commissioners in Attendance:

Mr. William Marston, Chair
Ms. Patricia Berg
Ms. Margaret Masunaga
Ms. Donna Soares
Mr. Brian Nakashima

Technical Support Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Robyn Chun, Department of the Attorney General
Mr. Scott Nago, Chief Election Officer
Ms. Carolyn Roldan, Office of Elections
Mr. Rhowell Ruiz, Office of Elections
Mr. Aaron Schulaner, Office of Elections
Mr. Glenn Takahashi, City and County Election Administrator

PROCEEDINGS

I. Call to Order

Chair William Marston called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. on March 3, 2011, at the State Office Tower, Room 204.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Elections Commission Secretary conducted roll call. Ms. Zale Okazaki, Mr. Charles King, Mr. Warren Orikasa, Mr. Danny Young were not in attendance.

III. Approval of Minutes for the November 18, 2010 Elections Commission Meeting

Ms. Donna Soares moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2010 meeting. Ms. Margaret Masunaga seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

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

No public testimony was given.

V. Discussion and Review of Office of Elections Staffing and Budget

Chief Election Officer Scott Nago reported that the Office of Elections budget for the next fiscal year has not yet been finalized by the Legislature. To date, there have been no cuts to our budget so we anticipate having enough monies to cover the 2012 election.

The Reapportionment budget is a separate funding. A bill requesting these funds is now traveling through the legislature. The Chief Election Officer will serve as the Secretary for the Reapportionment Commission and the Office of Elections staff will provide support services for the Commission.

VI. Discussion and review of Election Legislation

The commission reviewed the 2011 legislative bill recap for the Office of Elections. Bills covered issues such as online voter registration, permanent absentee voting, Reapportionment Commission appropriations, nomination papers, and overseas voting. The office provided technical comments for these bills because most of the legislation covered policy issues.

HB 716 was introduced on behalf of the Office of Elections. This bill requested revisions to various election deadline dates due to the recent change in the primary election date. To date, the bill has been heard in the House and will cross over to the Senate.

VII. Discussion on Request for Election Commission Funding

At the current time, the Election Commission does not have a budget for their expenses. All travel and related expenses are covered by the Office of Elections. It was suggested that the Commission could meet with their appointing authorities to discuss how they can get the funding. The Commission will be provided the dollar amount of their expenses for this fiscal year and will then be able to decide what actions they will take.

VIII. Future Election Commission Meeting Schedule

The Commission has scheduled the rest of their 2011meetings as follows: June 8, 2011, September 14, 2011 and December 14, 2011.

Donna Soares moved to have these dates accepted, Brian Nakashima seconded the motion and the motion was carried unanimously.

IX. Executive Session: Pursuant to Haw. Rev. Stat. §92-5(4), consult with counsel regarding the commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities re:

1. Procurement appeals (ES&S v. Cronin, Civil No. 08-101657-08, Hart InterCivic v. ES&S, Civil No. 08-1-1665-08, Cronin v. ES&S, Civil No 08-1-1680-08)

Ms. Donna Soares moved for the Commission to go into executive session. Motion was seconded by Brian Nakashima and carried unanimously.

The Commission resolved to executive session at 10:51 am and reconvened in open meeting at 11:02 am.

X. Adjournment

Chair Marston adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn L. Roldan
Elections Commission Secretary