

# Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i and City & County of Honolulu

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## MINUTES

### HSAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, December 20, 2018, at 10:00 a.m.

Honolulu Hale, Committee Meeting Room

530 South King Street

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

The HSAC Executive Committee was called to order by HSAC President Valerie Poindexter at 10:15 a.m. The following members comprising a quorum were present:

County of Hawaii:

President Valerie Poindexter  
Councilmember, Hawaii County Council

County of Kauai:

Vice President Ross Kagawa  
Councilmember, Kauai County Council

County of Maui:

Secretary Stacy Crivello  
Presiding Officer Pro Tempore, Maui County Council

City and County of Honolulu:

Treasurer Ikaika Anderson  
Councilmember, Honolulu City Council

Others Present:

Ashley Kierkiewicz, Councilmember, Hawaii County Council

Sunshine Carter, Legislative Assistant to Councilmember Valerie Poindexter, Hawaii County Council

Aida Kawamura, Legislative Assistant, Office of Council Services, Kauai County Council

Francisco Figueiredo, Office of Councilmember Ikaika Anderson, Honolulu City Council

Saumalu Mataafa, Legislative Analyst, Office of Council Services, Maui County Council

Alan Texeira, Office of Councilmember Ikaika Anderson, Honolulu City Council

Radiant Cordeiro, Office of Councilmember Joey Manahan, Honolulu City Council

Kamakana Watanabe, Office of Council Services, Honolulu City Council

Scott Ishikawa, Senior Account Executive, Becker Communications, Inc.



## II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Secretary Crivello moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Kagawa and was unanimously carried.

## III. MINUTES

Secretary Crivello moved to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2018 HSAC Executive Committee meeting. The motion was seconded by Treasurer Anderson and was unanimously carried.

## IV. REPORTS

### A. Treasurer's Report

#### 1. Treasurer's Report for November 2018

Treasurer Anderson reported that HSAC started the month of September with a balance of \$216,280.59 and expenses of \$2,159.84 and a deposit of \$3.53 leaving an ending balance of \$214,124.28. Secretary Crivello made a motion to approve and file the report. Councilmember Kagawa seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

### B. County Reports

1. County of Maui Report. Secretary Crivello reported the Council recently passed a bill on first reading to increase the appropriation for the Wailuku civic complex project by \$40 million. During the Council's budget session, \$44 million was appropriated for the first phase of the Wailuku's civic complex project, which includes major upgrades to infrastructure in Wailuku town. She said the project will replace a municipal parking lot with a multistory parking structure and a three-story building for retail stores, county offices and room for special events. The purpose for the increase in funding is to help the project go vertical and to take advantage of the available construction labor.

Secretary Crivello said the Council approved a bill on first reading to authorize the mayor to enter into an agreement with Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation and the state Department of Accounting and General Services for a lease exchange. The county will exchange land with the state, so the county may construct its central Maui bus hub. The state plans on utilizing the county-owned land in Wailuku to build office space. She said the exchange represents a collaborative partnership to spur the economy, improve public transit ridership, and create more housing opportunities for Maui.



2. County of Kauai Report. Vice President Kagawa reported Kauai's Council had its first meeting, and approved Vice President Kagawa as the HSAC Executive Committee representative and Councilmember Arthur Brun as the alternative. He said the Council suggested focusing on measures in the HSAC legislative package that are likely to gain support from state legislators. However, Vice President Kagawa said the issues relating to county lifeguards, visitor impacts and the transient accommodation tax should still be strategically considered and addressed.

Vice President Kagawa said an old facility that was once used as a dog pound in Hanapepe, Kauai has been the subject of controversy recently. Former Mayor Carvalho charged a native Hawaiian organization the responsibility of cleaning and maintaining the grounds and to teach Native Hawaiian culture to residents and visitors. He said a group of homeless individuals got into a heated confrontation with a leader within the organization over native Hawaiian land rights over the property. Vice President Kagawa suggested State organizations like the Office of Hawaiian Affairs or the Department of Hawaiian Homelands should and may step in to mediate the situation.

3. City and County of Honolulu Report. Treasurer Anderson reported Honolulu City Council heard several bills at its December 5, 2018 meeting, which include: a bill relating to fire safety, a bill establishing provisions and a set fine for a person who abandons a vehicle on a public street or highway, a bill addressing the problem of the illegal use of large residential structures in residential districts, a bill to maintain and secure the recreational uses of Ala Moana Regional Park, a bill to address damage to and alteration of public property, a bill to improve pedestrian safety, a bill to address structures built without the a required building permit, and a bill to further regulate vacation rentals.
4. County of Hawaii Report. President Poindexter reported the Council recently considered a proposal to create more pathways and bikeways through the local nonprofit organization, People's Advocacy for Trails in Hawaii. She said the organization has worked hard to install and maintain pathways and bikeways within Hawaii County.

President Poindexter said the Council also considered replacements for fire trucks and replacement apparatus for Hawaii County.

Secretary Crivello made a motion to accept and file the County reports. Councilmember Kagawa seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

#### C. National Association of Counties (NACo) Report



1. Treasurer Anderson noted he attended a recent NACo meeting in San Diego, California, and the topic of discussion related to large urban county economies. NACo President Greg Cox, of San Diego, facilitated discussion on San Diego's blue economy, which is an economy that uses the ocean or large bodies of water to facilitate economic activities, like tourism. Treasurer Anderson said he would prepare a report and submit it to the HSAC Executive Committee.

Ross Kagawa moved to accept and file the report. Secretary Crivello seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

#### D. Western Interstate Region (WIR) Report

1. President Poindexter deferred discussion on the WIR report until the next scheduled HSAC Executive Committee meeting. She requested an update from Hawaii's WIR representatives Riki Hokama and Mason Chock at the next HSAC Executive Committee meeting.

### V. NEW BUSINESS

- #### A. Hawaii County Resolution 12-18, appointing Valerie T. Poindexter as HSAC representative and Ashley Kierkiewicz as alternate.

President Poindexter noted Hawaii County recently approved a resolution appointing her as Hawaii's HSAC representative and Councilmember Ashley Kierkiewicz as the alternate. She said she would remain as Hawaii County's HSAC representative until July 1, 2019 and would be replaced by Councilmember Ashley Kierkiewicz as the representative and Councilmember Rebecca Villegas as the alternate.

Vice President Kagawa moved to receive Hawaii County Resolution 12-18. Treasurer Anderson seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

President Poindexter said she needed to be added to the corporate account as HSAC President and for the purposes of HSAC's signature cards.

President Poindexter said Vice President Ross Kagawa also needed to be added to the corporate account and signature cards as HSAC Vice President.

- #### B. 2016-17 HSAC Audit Draft

Treasurer Anderson noted the main finding from the 2016-17 HSAC Audit draft report noted the need for more direct involvement from the HSAC Executive Committee. Treasurer Anderson said his staff does HSAC's accounting and concurred with the draft audit report that the HSAC Executive Committee should be more directly involved.



Councilmember Ashley Kierkiewicz said the Committee should adopt a recommendation from the audit draft report which includes procedures and templates to maximize efficiency and to streamline the transition for new executive committee members.

Treasurer Anderson moved to postpone the review of the draft audit until the January HSAC Executive Committee meeting. Vice President Kagawa seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

#### C. 2019 HSAC Legislative Package Briefing

Alan Texeira, proposed to hold a press briefing instead of the annual luncheon to present HSAC's legislative package to State legislators. He said the press release would help familiarize both legislative chambers with HSAC's platform and also publicize HSAC's position to Hawaii's residents.

President Poindexter noted holding a press briefing would help HSAC garner support and stimulate meaningful discussion with state legislators. Treasurer Anderson concurred with President Poindexter.

President Poindexter said support from the State legislature's leadership will be key in passing HSAC's initiatives.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz said promoting HSAC's position through social media needs to improve.

Secretary Crivello noted meeting with legislators in November before the state legislative session starts will help HSAC have more intimate conversations and be able to promote its package.

Secretary Crivello moved to accept the discussion and file the discussion into the record. Vice President Kagawa seconded and it was unanimously carried.

#### D. Publicity and Priorities for the Upcoming Legislative Session

Scott Ishikawa presented a press release to the HSAC Executive Committee. The press release includes highlights priorities from the HSAC Legislative Package which include limited liability protection for county lifeguards, revenue from unadjudicated or uncontested traffic fines, tax credits, and a lifeguard facility at Kua Bay in north Kona, Hawaii. Mr. Ishikawa suggested adding fairer transient accommodations tax (TAT) distribution to the counties, disaster relief for Hawaii Island and Kauai, and ambulance services for Kauai and Hawaii counties to the press release.



President Poindexter suggested removing the TAT distribution from the press release because it may work against HSAC's goals of passing more measures at the state legislature this session.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz agreed with President Poindexter and suggested removing all of Mr. Ishikawa's suggested sections and focusing just on the priorities listed in the legislative package.

Vice President Kagawa noted HSAC should still pursue options to recuperate more of the TAT that is collected by the State. He said offline conversations with legislators is the more strategic method of receiving more TAT revenue for the counties.

Councilmember Kierkiewicz noted her background in communications and said she would review HSAC's website and suggest changes that would also help improve HSAC's branding and messaging to the public and State Legislature.

Secretary Crivello moved to accept and file the discussion. Treasurer Anderson seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.

## **VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. President Poindexter said the next HSAC Executive Committee meeting on January 14, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. President Poindexter also set a conference call to plan the logistics for the press briefing on January 7, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

- A. Treasurer Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:53 a.m. Vice President Kagawa seconded the motion and it was unanimously carried.