

HAWAI‘I COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION’S NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Pursuant to §92-41, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (hereinafter “HRS”), notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Hawai‘i County Charter Commission for the purpose of taking public testimony on the 2009-10 Charter Review and Proposed Amendments CA-1 through CA-9 relating to the Hawai‘i County Charter:

CA-1: Amends Article VIII, Department of Water Supply, Sections 8-1 through 8-3 to replace all references to “manager” with “manager-chief engineer.” Additionally, Article VIII, Section 8-2 is to be amended to replace “chief engineer” with “director of public works.”

CA-2: Moves Chapter 2, Data Systems, from Article V to Article VI, and appropriately renumbers any affected sections.

CA-3: Article VI, Chapter 4, relating to the Fire Department, is moved to Article VII.

CA-4: Amends various sections relating to Civil Service laws that are under the jurisdiction of the State of Hawai‘i.

CA-5: Amends Article VII, Chapter 1, Section 7-1.2 regarding the term of appointments for Merit Appeals Board Members.

CA-6: Amends Article VII, Chapter 1, Sec. 7-1.3 and Sec. 7-3.4; Article VI, Chapter 4, Sec. 6-4.3; and Article VIII, Section 8-3 regarding the removal of directors serving under commissions.

CA-7: Amends Article XII, Sections 12-1.1, 12-1.3, 12-1.5 and 12-1.6. Changes would be made to the County’s recall procedure by amending the information required from signers of a recall petition, amending the requirement that the number of signers be a percent of votes cast instead of the number of registered voters, allows the clerk more time to review supplemental petitions, and amends the number of votes required for an official to be successfully recalled.

CA-8: Amends Article XIII, Sections 13-18 and 13-19 removing the requirement that claims against the county be filed with the county clerk and instead be filed with the corporation counsel, and also removes the requirement that annual reports be filed with the county clerk and instead be filed with the office of the mayor.

CA-9: Amends Article XIII, Section 13-20(c), to include language that requires an electronic notice of special meetings be linked on the appropriate council, board or commission webpage.

Pursuant to Section 15-3 of the Hawai‘i County Charter, public hearings will be held in each of the geographical areas of Puna, Ka‘ū, Kona, Kohala, Hāmākua, and Hilo.

September 11, 2009 (Friday) 6:00 p.m. @ Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort and Spa, 78-128 Ehukai St., Kailua-Kona, HI 96740.

September 19, 2009 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m. @ Waimea Elementary School Cafeteria, 67-1225 Māmalahoa Hwy., Kamuela HI 96743; **and** 1:00 p.m. @ North Hawai'i Education & Research Center, 45-539 Plumeria St., Honoka'a, HI 96727.

September 26, 2009 (Saturday) 9:00 a.m. @ Pahala Community Center, 96-1149 Kamani St., Pahala HI 96777; **and** 2:00 p.m. @ Kea'au Middle School Cafeteria, 16-565 Kea'au-Pahoa Rd., Keaau, HI 96749.

October 9, 2009 (Friday) 6:00 p.m. @ Hilo Council Room, Ben Franklin Bldg. 2nd Floor, 333 Kīlauea Ave., Hilo, HI 96720.

The full text of the Hawai'i County Charter and the proposed amendments are available on the County website at <http://co.hawaii.hi.us/council/CharterCommission.htm>. For copies of the notice or questions, please contact the Charter Commission Secretary, Karen Eoff, at 327-0099.

Submitting Testimony: All persons desiring to express their views on the above matter may do so orally at the hearings and must register with the Charter Commission Secretary. Those submitting written testimony at the hearings should bring thirteen copies for distribution. Testimony may also be submitted: (1) by mail to the Charter Commission, 75-5706 Hanama Place, Suite 109, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740; (2) by facsimile to (808) 329-4786; or (3) by e-mail to keoff@co.hawaii.hi.us. For testimony received via e-mail or fax, copies will be distributed at the hearing when transmitted in a timely manner. All oral and written testimony will be made a part of the public record.

The meeting place is accessible for persons with disabilities. Persons who need special accommodations for these hearings should call at least two business days prior to the hearing(s). Relay users please call (711) (327-0099) to contact our office.

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to HRS §92-3, the Hawai'i County Charter Commission will conduct the **October 9, 2009** public hearing via videoconference. Commissioners will be present at the following locations:

- Kona County Council Office, 75-5706 Hanama Place, Suite 109, Kailua-Kona.
- County Council Chambers, Ben Franklin Bldg., 2nd Floor, 333 Kīlauea Ave. Hilo.

Public Attendance Via Videoconferencing will be available for the **October 9, 2009** public hearing at the above locations. If audio stream between Hilo and Kona is lost for more than a short period of time, the meeting will be terminated.

If you have any questions regarding these public hearings, please call 327-0099.

EDMUND HAITSUKA
CHAIRMAN

(Hawai'i Tribune-Herald – September 9, 2009)
(West Hawai'i Today – September 8, 2009)