

MINUTES OF THE  
MAUI COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION

DATE: August 1, 1963

PLACE: Board Chambers, Wailuku, Maui

CALL TO ORDER: 7:30 p.m.

PRESIDING: Masaru Yokouchi, Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT: Masaru Yokouchi, Chairman  
Emil Balthazar  
C. H. Burnett, Jr.  
Richard Caldito  
Cornwell Friel (Molokai)  
Shiro Hokama (Lanai)  
Nadao Honda  
Harry Kobayashi  
Keith Tester

MEMBERS EXCUSED: William F. Crockett, Vice-Chairman  
Thomas Yagi

OTHERS PRESENT: Kase Higa, First Deputy County Attorney

Maui Community Hospitals:  
Tomic T. Remson, Hospital Administrator  
Wallace Yanagi, Business Administrator  
A. F. Anderson, Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Tom Hiranaga, Member  
Goro Hokama, Member  
Dr. F. H. Tong, Member

Kula Sanatorium and General Hospital:  
Dr. Edmund Tompkins, General Superintendent  
Rikio Tanji, Business Manager

Molokai General Hospital:  
George H. Tamura, Administrator

Lanai Community Hospital:  
Takashi Miyazaki, Vice-President, Board of Trustees  
James Smith, Treasurer  
Goro Hokama, Member  
Richard Kibe, Administrative Assistant

ROLL CALL:

There were 9 members present and 2 excused at the regular meeting of the Maui County Charter Commission on August 1, 1963.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on July 25, 1963, were distributed to the members and approval of said minutes was deferred until the next meeting. Minutes of the meeting of July 10, 1963, were approved as circulated.

LITERATURE:

Copies of "Model County Charter", "Model City Charter", "A Guide for Charter Commissions", Organizational Chart and Status of the Budget of the Maui Community Hospitals, and a memorandum from Kase Higa, First Deputy County Attorney, re Maui County Hospitals were circulated to the members.

The following literature were received and are on file in our temporary quarters at the County Attorney's Office:

1. Copies of the Onondaga County Charter, Abstract, and Administrative Code.
2. "Home Rule Charter for Baltimore County, Maryland".
3. "Principles and Problems of Charter Making" from the Municipal Reference Bureau and League of Minnesota Municipalities.

COMMUNICATIONS:

The following communications were received since our previous meeting:

1. Minutes of the Hawaii and Kauai County Charter Commissions.
2. Letter from Kauai County Charter Commission re conference in Honolulu.
3. Letter from Hawaii County Clerk, Mrs. Margaret M. Kaaua, re conference in Honolulu, together with a copy of the letter from Mr. Val Marciel, giving schedule of the State-County Conference in Honolulu.
4. Letter from Mrs. Anna Dondo, President of Women Voters of Maui, suggesting that members speaking sit on the side of the room facing the audience.
5. Letter from Mr. Val Marciel, together with program of events of conference to be held in Honolulu. The Chairman stated that he will later appoint two members to represent our Commission.

COMMITTEE REPORT:

The Budget Committee comprised of Mr. Caldito, Chairman, and Messrs. Honda and Tester, Members, submitted the following report:



Honorable Chairman and Members,  
Maui County Charter Commission  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Gentlemen:

The Budget Committee, appointed at the meeting of July 25, 1963, has discussed the permanent budget for the Commission up to December 31, 1963.

The Board of Supervisors had hitherto appropriated \$6,600.00 for the "A" account (compensation of members) and \$1,000.00 for the "B" account (all other expenses, including contractual services).

In discussing the permanent budget, the Budget Committee conferred with the Chairman of the Commission. It was learned that the services of a full-time clerk-stenographer will become absolutely necessary from September 1 since the amount of work involved cannot be accomplished by a part-time worker. Such a clerk-stenographer must be selected from the Civil Service eligible list and will be recruited at S.R. 11 (\$384.00) for a period of four months beginning September 1.

The Budget Committee also feels that there should be a part-time Research Assistant who will prepare, assemble, and coordinate the presentation of information and literature for the commission. For this, it is estimated that the Commission should spend approximately \$200.00 per month for 5 months, that is, from August through December. The Research Assistant could also do such research as may be directed by the Commission.

In addition, it is estimated that the clerk-stenographer will need a filing cabinet costing approximately \$100.00. As to other equipment, for the time being, an electric typewriter can be borrowed from other County offices.

Travel expenses of consultants from the University of Hawaii and other consultants is expected to cost \$500.00. Travel expenses for the Molokai and Lanai members will cost about \$1,000.00 and other travel expenses will cost about \$1,000.00.

The total additional appropriation needed for 1963 is thus \$4,636.00. This is shown as follows:

1 Secretary - S.R. 11 (\$384 for 4 months).....	\$1,536.00
Travel Expense for 10 persons (Consultants)(\$50)..<	500.00
Supplies (Paper, etc.).....	500.00
Other Travel Expense.....	1,000.00
Travel Expense for Molokai & Lanai.....	1,000.00
Filing Cabinet.....	100.00
Part-time Research Assistant.....	1,000.00
	<u>\$5,636.00</u>
Minus Board of Supervisors Appropriation.....	<u>1,000.00</u>
TOTAL REQUEST.....	\$4,636.00



It is recommended that the Chairman confer with the Board of Supervisors in order that an additional appropriation of \$4,636.00 be obtained for the Commission.

Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Richard Caldito  
Richard Caldito

/s/ Nadao Honda  
Nadao Honda

/s/ Keith Tester  
Keith Tester

Motion: Mr. Caldito moved for adoption of the committee report.

Seconded: By Mr. Honda.

Vote: Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

The subject of the County Auditor and the Deputy County Auditor was brought up by Mr. Burnett. He felt that we were paying a double salary - the salary of the Auditor and the salary of the person who is actually doing the work. The Chairman mentioned that we expect to have the Auditor's Department before us again and after we meet with all the departments we can discuss this matter.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending this meeting and for helping us orient our way in learning the functions and duties of the various Maui County Hospitals. He also apologized to the members of the Board of Trustees of the Maui Community Hospitals for having the schedule made without consulting with them first.

Maui Community Hospitals:

Messrs. Tomic T. Romsen, Hospital Administrator; Wallace Yanagi, Business Administrator; A. F. Anderson, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Maui Community Hospitals; Tom Hiranaga, Member; Goro Hakama, Member; and Dr. F. H. Tong, Member; were formally introduced to the members of the Commission.

First of all, the Chairman read out the general information regarding the Maui Community Hospitals. Then Mr. Anderson read from a written statement the historical background of the hospitals.



The Chairman raised a question as to whether the Board of Trustees have the power to run the hospital without any confirmation of any group above them. Mr. Higa referred the members of the Commission to page 3 of the memorandum which he had prepared for them whereby it states that "The board of trustees shall have the full charge and control and the management of the property and business of the Maui Community Hospitals."

Mr. Burnett asked: "How much pressure do you get from the Board of Supervisors and the County Chairman?" Mr. Anderson, speaking for himself, replied: "We have no pressure from the Board of Supervisors to employ anyone, not even doctors. The people who serve the hospital are not ordinary people. They have less sick leave time than any other group. They are dedicated people." Mr. Burnett asked if the Board of Trustees preferred to remain as they are or would they prefer being under the direction of the County Chairman. He felt that since there were so many different representative groups, these people are not being subservient. Mr. Anderson replied that the Board of Trustees keeps out of politics. The members know their problems and therefore have a greater understanding.

Mr. Romson stated that he represents the Board of Trustees at the hospital and that he exercises the power entrusted to him. He is responsible for almost every aspect of the hospital functions. The Board of Trustees divided the hospital into two categories - the professional and the non-professional categories. Mr. Romson handles the professional group and Mr. Yanagi, Business Administrator, handles the non-professional group.

The Maui Community Hospital has day and night ambulance service. The hospital has one doctor who is on call; however, when patients call in for an ambulance, it is suggested that they contact their family physician who in turn informs the hospital that an ambulance is needed. The only exception is accident cases on the highway to which ambulances respond immediately.

The Director of Nursing is responsible for the day-by-day operations and in-service training. The actual cost of patient per day is \$41.00. Because this is a small hospital and it cannot offer as many specialized services as Queen's Hospital, the income per day is about \$20 to \$30 below Queen's.

Asked by Mr. Burnett "We want to know whether you prefer to be as you are or go back to the point where you are directly appointed by the administrative body", Mr. Anderson replied: "I think that no matter how it is done, there should be a longer period of appointees. Now it is a continuous sort of thing and we can have no complete change of the Board of Trustees."

#### Kula Sanatorium and General Hospital:

Dr. Edmund Tompkins, General Superintendent, and Mr. Rikio Tanji, Business Manager, were formally introduced to the members of the Commission.

The Chairman read out the general information regarding Kula Sanatorium and General Hospital. The Kula Sanatorium Managing Committee consists of 5 members. There are two vacancies at present. Their terms run indefinitely, although actually they are appointed for 4 years and then reappointed. They do not represent specific segments of the community.



The Chairman asked for an explanation as to why members of the Managing Committee are appointed by the County and funds are appropriated by the State. Dr. Tompkins stated that Kula Sanatorium originally started as a County Hospital and funds were appropriated by the County. However, when it became too costly for the County to handle, it was turned over to the State who has been appropriating the money since 6 or 7 years ago. The General Hospital is a County function. The State funds are turned over to the County, who in turn divides the subsidy in terms of their needs. Tuberculosis is a State responsibility; therefore, Kula Sanatorium is a State-subsidized function by law.

Kula Sanatorium also handles mental patients and chronic cases. The bulk of the employees - maintenance, administration, housekeeping, and dietary - are under their tuberculosis program. Chronic disease is an added thing and the Legislature allowed them to use 10 nurses from their TB department to help out on the chronic program. In 1959 a complete study of the hospital had been made and the Legislature enacted Act 53 to admit other than tuberculosis patients to the hospital. The Health Director was authorized the transfer of the convalescent patients.

The average cost of patient per day is \$30.00 for the General Hospital, \$26.00 for tubercular patients, and \$9.00 for chronic patients, based on operating expenses. The difference between the \$30.00 and \$9.00 is that the chronic program does not finance the services borne by the TB program.

#### Molokai General Hospital:

Mr. George H. Tamura, Administrator, was formally introduced to the members of the Commission.

The Chairman read out the general information regarding the Molokai General Hospital. Mr. Tamura apologized to the members of the Commission for not being too explicit in the report since they were in the midst of moving from Hoolehua to Kaunakakai.

This hospital was started in 1932 and run by the Episcopal Church until 1949. In 1950 it became a community hospital with Territorial subsidy at that time. The Board of Trustees is elected by the Molokai General Hospital Association (anyone may join with a membership due of \$2.00 per year) and the Administrator is appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Molokai General Hospital is a non-profit community hospital. The average cost of patient per day is \$40 plus. They operate on State subsidies which is turned over to the County. The employees of the hospital are not under Civil Service in any way.

#### Lanai Community Hospital:

Messrs. Takashi Miyazaki, Vice-President; James Smith, Treasurer; and Goro Hokama, Member; were introduced to the members of the Commission.

Mr. Yokouchi read out the general information regarding the Lanai Community Hospital.

Mr. Miyazaki informed the members of the Commission that prior to 1957 the Lanai Community Hospital was operated by Dole Corporation. Now it operates on State subsidies which is turned over to the County.



The Chairman asked as to how the members of the Board of Trustees are appointed, to which Mr. Miyazaki replied that when the hospital was turned over to the community by Dole Corporation, the company got a cross section of the community and asked different people to serve on the initial board, and ever since, it has been a self-perpetuating board. The members represent various groups in the community such as school, plantation, labor, etc.

The hospital has 12 employees and an average of 3 patients per day. The average cost of patient per day is \$64 plus. The Chairman also asked whether there was any attempt made in the past to have the County take over Lanai Community Hospital and to this Mr. Hokama replied "No". Many of the patients are lost to Honolulu or even to Maui. However, the hospital is needed for their minor cases. Planes have transported serious cases to Honolulu.

Medical care for pensioners and burial of indigents:

Mr. Richard Kibe, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman and Executive Officer, was introduced to the members of the Commission.

Mr. Kibe mentioned that the County handles two functions that were formerly handled by the Medical Social Service Department until 1961, when the bulk of the indigent program was turned over to the State. The first pertains to medical care for pensioners - anyone receiving pensions from the State or County. As to payment for the care of the pensioners, the Central Maui Memorial Hospital writes off its own expenditures and the Chairman's Office directly pays the other hospitals for the care of the pensioners.

The County physicians who take care of our pensioners as well as our workmen's compensation cases are hired on contractual basis. The two physicians on Maui are receiving \$350 and \$400, respectively. The physician in Hana receives \$500 plus \$75 car allowance and he is also provided with a home plus utilities. There is one physician contracted on the island of Molokai.

Regarding burial of indigents, Mr. Kibe stated that it is his belief that this should be the responsibility of the State. The State Department of Social Services, however, does not have any appropriation for this purpose. The County has agreed with the different morticians that they rotate these indigent burial cases among them.

ADJOURNMENT:

After thanking everyone for sparing us their time and after apologizing to them because our questions were not specific enough, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

August 8, 1963, commencing at 1:30 p.m., in the Board Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

*Harriette E. Miyamoto*  
HARRIETTE E. MIYAMOTO  
Secretary



July 30, 1963

Mr. Masaru Yokouchi,  
Chairman of the Charter Commission,  
Wailuku, Maui.

Dear Mr. Yokouchi,

May I suggest in reference to the meetings of the Charter Commission that the person addressing the group face the audience by taking a position on the side of the room that you occupy. It was difficult for me to hear the deputy auditor whose back was toward me, and whose voice went in the other direction. It would also be advisable to have all those who make comments do so in a tone of voice that can be heard. Reports handed to the members of the commission should also be given to those who attend the meetings.

The WOMEN VOTERS OF MAUI agree with the recommendation of the Public Service Administration in reference to the appointment of County Auditor, County Clerk, County Treasurer, and County Attorney according to strict educational requirements.

We also favor Council-Manager form of county government.

The following functions should be transferred to the State: School construction and maintenance, custodial care, and transportation. There is divided responsibility in reference to school matters. Maintenance of school buildings has been poor under county supervision. There are classrooms that have not been painted since the building was constructed - often more than twenty years. It is a wonder that we have not had a general epidemic as a result of unsanitary condition of school buildings. Custodial care does not even extend to the cleaning of classrooms. To one coming from the mainland, the situation is simply appalling.

Counties should make greater use of service charges, as for instance, garbage collection fees. Garbage fees should be incorporated in the tax bill, thus making it mandatory to serve every residence. Places of business should be charged actual cost of service.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Anna Dondo  
Mrs. Mathurin Dondo  
president of Women Voters of Maui

R R 1, Box 199,  
Haiku, Maui  
(summer address)