

MINUTES OF THE
MAUI COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION

DATE: October 31, 1963

PLACE: Board Chambers, Wailuku, Maui

CALL TO ORDER: 7:40 P.M.

PRESIDING: Masaru Yokouchi, Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT: Masaru Yokouchi, Chairman
Emil Balthazar
C. H. Burnett, Jr.
Richard Caldito
William F. Crockett, Vice-Chairman
Cornwell Friel (Molokai)
Shiro Hokama (Lanai)
Nadao Honda
Harry Kobayashi
Keith Tester
Thomas Yagi
Charles C. Young, Research Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Supervisors:

Wendell F. Crockett
Goro Hokama
Soon Oak Lee
Marco M. Meyer
Manuel S. Molina
Lanny H. Morisaki
Tom Tagawa

Senators:

Toshi Ansai
Harry N. Field
S. George Fukuoka

Representative:

Mamoru Yamasaki

Others:

Kase Higa, Deputy County Attorney
Richard Kibe, Administrative Assistant
James M. Izumi, Personnel Director
Shigeru Sano, Deputy County Engineer
John M. Fernandez, Highway Construction and
Maintenance Superintendent
Mrs. Marjorie Wilhelm, Board Secretary
Mrs. Leinaala Cockett, Board Clerk-Steno
John Arisumi, Chairman, School Advisory Council
Robert Johnson, Advertiser Reporter
Jack Stephens, Maui News Reporter
Mr. & Mrs. Mathurin Dondo
Mr. Eric Lindberg
Mrs. J. Van Zwahlenburg
Linda Ansai, Baldwin High School Student

ROLL CALL:

There were 11 members present at the regular meeting of the Maui County Charter Commission on October 31, 1963.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on October 24, 1963 were distributed to the members and approval of said minutes was deferred until the next meeting. Minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 1963 were approved as circulated.

LITERATURE:

The following were distributed to the members of the Charter Commission:

1. Information gathered by Charles C. Young, Research Assistant:
 - a. Information on Maui County Board of Supervisors.
 - b. Information regarding purchases for the year 1962 from the Office of the County Attorney, Auditor's Office, Board of Water Supply and Maui Fire Department.
 - c. Reprint from the Honolulu Star-Bulletin on the activities of the Hawaii County Charter Commission.
2. Information from the Board of Supervisors:
 - a. Information for Charter Commission.
 - b. General Powers and Limitations.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Minutes of the Hawaii and Kauai County Charter Commissions were received and are on file for interested members to read.

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- Mr. Yagi: What is the intent of the legislators concerning our commission? Could the legislators give us the purpose of the Enabling Act which they have passed?
- Sen. Fukuoka: That question is broad. The purpose of the Charter Commission is to form a charter.
- Mr. Burnett: Do you think it is necessary for the present form of government in Maui to be changed?
- Sen. Fukuoka: My personal feeling about the form of government as it exists today is that it can probably stand some change. But as the charter is set up, it is dependent mostly on how you feel - whether there should be a change or not.
- Mr. Burnett: Do you think we should have a change or not?
- Sen. Fukuoka: I think we should have a change.
- Mr. Balthazar: Granted that we need a change in our form of government, how broad are our powers? For instance, in the matter of equal pay for equal work, let us assume that the Board of Supervisors did want the power to establish the rate of pay. What is the feeling now of the legislators in this particular problem?

- Mr. Caldito: I am quite familiar of that background also. However, after 1961 the legislature did not provide sufficient funds to pay the raise which was granted to the employees. Naturally, the counties cannot meet the payroll, and that is what we are facing now. That is the problem we would like to solve with the Board members and legislators.
- Mr. Crockett: In your presentation you stated that the chances of Act 188 was due largely to the PAS report.
- Rep. Yamasaki: Yes, as a result of that.
- Mr. Crockett: As I read the latest report, they were critical of the former report. They say it was illogical for the counties to maintain a pay scale that may be completely out of line.
- Rep. Yamasaki: That was a reversal of the first report. The people who wrote the first report and the people who wrote the second report were two different groups so that they had different views.
- Mr. Tester: During the last 3 or 4 months there has been a great deal of discussion on school maintenance, etc. Do you feel the maintenance of the schools should be a function of the County or the State?
- Sen. Ansai: Having been a member of the Board of Supervisors and having gone through some of the problems the school department is confronted with on the county level, I sometimes wonder if this were not a State function whether you could get a uniform support from the County. If it were on the County basis, it would be dependent on County finances. In the old days there was a specific amount of money for the maintenance of school buildings. Now it is entirely up to the discretion of the Board.
- Mr. Tester: I believe that is entirely different from how the school people feel. They definitely feel that, provided the State supplies the necessary money, they would much rather prefer to have it handled by the County because they feel they are closer to the County than they are to the State. I wonder if we could give this some consideration before writing a charter. It is going to affect people in the next generation. It is something that should be given a particularly good thought.
- Sen. Ansai: They have a very efficient department on the State level. Naturally, the school buildings will have to come under this body. So far as maintenance is concerned, it could be maintained just as well by any other county.
- Mr. Burnett: This question ties in with the amount of money. Maui County has done well over the last couple of years. If we have politicians of the same caliber as we have now, I don't think we would care to have the State take over.
- Sup. Tagawa: On the question of school maintenance, I think this question of whether the schools should be under the control of the State or the County has two facets. I think basically the question always arises because some counties are not so much endowed with money like the other counties. If the county is low in finances, the natural reaction would be

to say "let us turn to the State". But if we have sufficient revenue, I think the logical body to control and be responsible for school construction, maintenance and custodial services would be the County. I feel we are closer to the people. I am proud of our record as far as school construction. I think we are leading the parade in floating bonds. Dollar-wise, as far as this year's operating budget, I believe some \$900,000 has been budgeted for school purposes.

Mr. Crockett: You said that the schools should be a function of the local government if that unit or government has sufficient funds. I don't think any unit or government feels that it has sufficient funds. Do you think the County of Maui has sufficient funds at the present time in that category?

Sup. Tagawa: I feel we do not have, but we have sufficient funds the way we have been carrying on. That is why the result shows that our county is way ahead of the other counties.

Mr. Burnett: Do you feel the system should stay the way it is?

Sup. Tagawa: Definitely.

Mr. Balthazar: Right now we are in an enviable position because of the people we send to the legislature. In the future, if we do not have a strong group representing us in the legislature and if the county were in charge of schools, might it not be a danger and therefore our financial situation might be aggravated if we specifically state in the charter that the County shall be responsible?

Sup. Tagawa: There is always a danger in shifting.

Mr. Burnett: Would you like to keep the county government as it is or would you like to change it? If so, tell us how to change it. At this point I don't know whether we need a new government or whether we don't.

Sup. Tagawa: I am for a charter. In other words, I am for a change of government. It is fortunate that the legislature has seen fit to grant this charter go-ahead. Generally I would like to say that I am in favor of the charter that is practiced in the City and County of Honolulu. I feel that the charter should be concise; it should not be in too much detail. The details should be left up to the various councilmen through ordinances and resolutions.

In the City and County of Honolulu Charter I do not see mentioned anywhere about the assessment of real property. I feel that the assessment feature of real property, as well as the rates, should be left to the County to decide. Right now the State assesses our properties and the counties set the rates in April of each year. We should assess our own property and we should set our own rates. I feel that we can do just as well a good job as the State by using the assessing machinery and I think the Board of Supervisors are just as qualified as the legislators. I think we are just as much responsible to do a good job, the right job and a fair job as far as real property assessment is concerned.

Sup. Tagawa: The other area I would like to see changed may be controversial. This concerns the Civil Service Commission. The Civil Service Commission has certain authority to write in rules and regulations, policies, procedures and other matters pertaining to personnel of the County. Under the present form of government, I think it should remain as it is. Assuming that we have a strong mayor type of government, I think that the authority should be shifted to the Chief Executive or the Mayor. The Chairman should appoint the Civil Service Director and he should also appoint the members of the Civil Service Commission with the confirmation of the supervisors. The primary duty of the Civil Service Commission, I feel, should be to serve as a board of review on appeals. I would like to see that come about under the strong mayor type of government. I support a strong mayor type of government with councilmen elected at large.

Mr. Tester: Do you feel that there should be a short ballot--- just the councilmen and mayor elected and the department heads appointed by the Mayor?

Sup. Tagawa: Yes.

Mr. Tester: Do you think that the department heads should be confirmed by the councilmen or solely by the Mayor?

Sup. Tagawa: Only by the Mayor.

Mr. Yagi: As you know, by law the State will assess real property taxes, and the County sets the price tag. Do you feel that the County is qualified to assess real property taxes?

Sup. Tagawa: Yes, it could be done by utilizing existing State machinery.

Mr. Yagi: Do you think we could write in the charter that the tax should be assessed by the County which is contrary to the State law at this time? I don't think so. The legislature has to pass a law giving that power to the County. I don't think the Charter Commission can write in the charter that the County can assess real property taxes.

At the present time the Civil Service Commission is getting paid \$10.00 per meeting. In Honolulu they don't get paid. What is your feeling about it?

Sup. Tagawa: I feel that the commission should not be paid.

Mr. Crockett: Could you elaborate on your statement on the powers to make rules and regulations? You stated that that power should be with the Mayor rather than the Civil Service Commission. It is contrary to the position they took when they appeared before us.

Sup. Tagawa: Right now the Director works together with the Commission members. They come out with the rules and regulations. If it is reversed where the Mayor will be responsible, then the Director will be working with the Chairman in establishing the rules and regulations. In other words, the Civil Service Commission won't be so strong. As I mentioned, the powers of the Civil Service Commission should be to review appeals.

Under strong mayor type of government you will have better direction, better public relations and better control of fiscal matters.

- Mr. Caldito: You want the Board members to run at large. Why do you make that statement?
- Sup. Tagawa: Basically, I want them to run at large. However, I am against district representation.
- Mr. Caldito: Do you want to increase or decrease the membership?
- Sup. Tagawa: I have no idea on that.
- Mr. Caldito: At the present time you have two meetings a month and people think you are getting paid \$400 for two meetings. How do you feel if we say that you meet once a week?
- Sup. Tagawa: I think we should meet more frequently because we are meeting once a week anyway on committee assignments. By having weekly meetings a lot of these things can be hastened instead of delayed. By meeting every week we can tackle the matter faster.
- Mr. Burnett: I have gathered in talking with some of the people on Kauai that Kauai is not in a position financially to pay the same rate of pay which civil service calls for on the Island of Oahu. Do you feel that might apply to Maui? Should we have County rates of pay or Oahu rates of pay?
- Sup. Tagawa: I don't think so.
- Mr. Burnett: In other words, you feel you do not agree with the people on Kauai that there should be a difference. You feel that the people on Maui should be paid the same rate of pay as in Honolulu?
- Sup. Tagawa: Yes.
- Mr. Balthazar: Do you feel that the people of Maui County get more justice than the State?
- Sup. Tagawa: I feel the people of Maui have a better chance although, with the new law, we have the right to challenge.
- Mr. Yagi: You mentioned that the Director of Civil Service should be appointed by the Mayor. The recommendation of the Civil Service Commission is that they would like to see the Director of Civil Service appointed by the Commission. In the event that the Civil Service Director be under the Civil Service Commission, he will be less subject to political pressure. Would it be better if the Director be under the Civil Service Commission than the Mayor? There goes the uniformity as far as the Civil Service Director is concerned. At the present time the County Director of Civil Service is appointed by the Civil Service Commissioners but, if he is under the Mayor, there will be some political pressure on the Director. On the other hand, if the Civil Service Director is under the Civil Service Commission, no matter what the pressure is, he will stand by the rules. Do you still think the Mayor should appoint the Civil Service Director?
- Sup. Tagawa: Any Mayor, because he is human, is in politics. He may think that it is the right man. In the area of purchasing agent for the County of Maui, I feel that that person should be under civil service rather than being appointed by the Chairman because I feel that under the civil service system there is no doubt as to whether or not he or she is qualified.

- Mr. Young: Do you believe that the supervisors or councilmen should be elected for two or four year terms and should they be elected for staggered terms?
- Sup. Tagawa: I feel they should serve four-year terms and the terms should not be staggered.
- Sup. Molina: I believe the Board should be on staggered four-year terms. Furthermore, they should serve once a week so that they can abolish the committees. After the committees meet, matters are referred to the Board and then referred to another committee and it takes so long before you can finalize any matter.
- Sup. Meyer: I think rather than four years, two years is sufficient. If you elect someone for four years and if he is not productive, then you won't get anywhere. Whereas, in a two-year term you have an area for correction. In respect to additional meetings, I feel that matters of engineering, finances, and the matter of various work area, such as parks and playgrounds, considering the amount of work must be put out, should be left to the committees. No matter how long we sit down every week we cannot come out with any answer because the matter is solely in that department's hands and they must come out with that first. We get into a wide area and at the same time try to understand the department before we can pursue this further.
- Sup. Hokama: Personally, I strongly feel the terms should be for four years. As far as staggered terms or not would not mean very much. I feel that for a term of four years you would give the people who get into office a chance to get away from politics and set a program the county can follow. With a two-year term, by the time you get the budget worked out and know where you are going financially, it is about 6 or 7 months. By the time you get the program going, it is campaign year. In the campaign year I don't think the elected officials are concerned with the long range programs. As far as elected officials are concerned, basically they are looking to come back and get votes - sometimes for selfish reason to push a long range program they have in mind. As far as the public not having a chance if they have a "sour crop", I don't think it is really true that any elected official who does not carry out his duty cannot be removed from office. I think if the citizens feel strong enough that an elected official is not carrying out his duties, the citizens should sign a petition and get the elected official out of office.
- As far as whether we should have weekly meetings, if you come out with a strong mayor type of government, which I am for because I think the legislative body and the administrative body should be separated, it might not be necessary for the Board to meet every week. I think at the present time the way the statutes are written it is not very clear where the jurisdiction of the Board and where legislative responsibilities start so that with so many committee meetings you cannot get an answer.
- Mr. Balthazar: Do you feel the Board should confirm the appointments of the department heads?

Sup. Hokama: As far as in my opinion, the Clerk, the Auditor, the Fire Chief, the Engineer, the Administrative Assistant and the Parks Superintendent should be directly the responsibility of a strong mayor without confirmation.

Mr. Burnett: How about the County Attorney?

Sup. Hokama: Confirmed by the Board.

Mr. Balthazar: What about the Civil Service Director?

Sup. Hokama: I would say confirmation by the Board.

Sup. Morisaki: I do believe the members of the Board should run for terms of four years and I think it would certainly take more than two years to carry out a program effectively.

I do have some feelings, some misgivings, about some of our autonomous bodies we have - Water Board, Civil Service Commission, the hospitals. At one time I was very strong for autonomous bodies in some areas, but after the experiences in the past two years, it proves in many cases that autonomous bodies, because they are not responsible to the people, at times tend to go out of control. I think that is not to the very best interest of the people. I feel that, if you are going to do a job, the job should be responsive to the people. I believe we should have some changes in the county government by the charter. Primarily more than economy, it should concern how much improvements you can make - streamline the government so that we can have more efficiency.

Mr. Balthazar: Should the council have power to confirm appointments?

Sup. Morisaki: I personally am of the opinion that we are going towards the strong mayor type and, if we believe we need a clear line of demarcation, I would say the Mayor should be given the power to appoint without confirmation.

Mr. Yagi: Would you say we should eliminate the Board of Water Supply and divert it back to the Board of Supervisors?

Sup. Morisaki: I am not speaking particularly about the Board of Water Supply.

Sup. Crockett: All of us realize that the citizens of our country too easily lose interest in their government. I am very much in favor of maintaining the two-year term. The Congressmen are all elected for two years and they have to go to the people. I see no reason why we here should not be required to go back to the people and say "this is what we have done." Our problems are only few major problems, but do not require 4 years to develop a solution. We should maintain public interest in our government and that interest can be maintained best by having elected officials go back from time to time and present themselves to the people and prove what they have done.

- Sup. Crockett: I have been a supervisor in two different sessions. I don't see where substantial changes are needed. There are few differences or we could bring some departments together. The question is "will you increase the efficiency?" If you don't have a strong man there, it is just like a piece of paper. What is lacking in the County of Maui is the interest among the people of what is being done. Nobody expresses opinions. That is why we have so many problems to decide ourselves. The fact that the legislators make our appropriations - they do things on a half-basis. I don't know why. The difference is in the cooperation between the State legislators and the County. The legislators should carry through with the projects they started for the County and not say "you take care of the project and do it yourself."
- Mr. Caldito: I fully agree with you that no matter what we have in the charter, if we do not follow it, it is a waste of paper. However, if we have it in writing, don't you think it is a key to progressiveness?
- Sup. Crockett: What you put out on paper does not count. It is what type of man you have behind the government.
- Sup. Lee: I believe in a strong mayor type of government and also four-year terms for the members of the Board of Supervisors. I feel as far as confirmation, the Board members should reserve that right. In the State government, the Mayor appoints and the Board confirms. I feel there is no difference on the County Board. The reason why I am for four-year terms is that from my previous experience I found out that a two-year term makes it very difficult to operate. It takes us so long to adopt a budget. In the meantime other emergencies come up where we have to transfer to other projects and by the next year we have to prepare a new budget. I would like to see programs here that were originally initiated carried out to its end. With four-year terms, we have continuation. If a person does not do the job right, I feel you can throw him out.
- Mr. Yagi: As former chairman of the Waterworks Committee, do you think that the Waterworks Board should be diverted to the County?
- Sup. Lee: It should remain as it is. From my experience at that time I can truthfully say there has been a lot of interference from outside sources in our work on the Water Board. I feel that there was too much interference with the administration and of the department without our knowledge. These are the things we want to see corrected.
- Mr. Yagi: Should the Maui County Board of Trustees be eliminated and brought back to the Council?
- Sup. Hokama: If anybody feels that the Board of Trustees of a hospital is not responsive to the people and feels that it should come under the Board of Supervisors, I think you are going to lose sight of the moral of what a hospital should be. By statute the members of the Board of Trustees are from different segments of the County and they are mainly concerned with medical service and experience. They know how much the people in their community can afford to pay for these hospital services.

- Sup. Hokama: As to the Water Board, for a number of years the members who sat on this Board agreed that the rates charged for water was less. We did not have any meter service charge and they felt that it should be instituted. The rates charged for water should at least bring in revenue, but it never happened because it was strictly political. Rates should be made to make the General Fund revenue free for projects, but it never came about.
- The hospital trustees in the last three years were forced to raise rates to make ends meet and we still cannot make ends meet. The cost of operating the Central Maui Memorial Hospital daily per patient is about \$30.00 and, if we were to charge that rate, how many people are going to be able to pay that rate? The trustees have attempted to see how much the public can pay and ask them to pay that amount. If this Board comes back to the Board of Supervisors, your hospitals are going to be in a sad shape. You are going to have more politics involved than what it is now. In any organization there are some politics involved.
- Mr. Kobayashi: I believe the trustees should be made up of all the hospitals and the Board of Supervisors should make appropriation of funds to the trustees; and it is up to the trustees to spend the money the way they want to. Now any time any hospital wants any money, they meet with the hospital association and they must decide whatever amount they need and then come to the Board. Under this particular group you would have more uniformity, and the decision to set the rates and the types of services they can render would be closer to what it is supposed to be than having it as piecemeal.
- Sen. Field: I think this area is a technical one. You pick people that know hospitals. A hospital is something that you have to measure to the need of the community. A hospital is something that you have to staff. Instead of having so many separate organizations, we can add these various other hospital directors plus the trustee members.
- Mr. Kobayashi: For example, appropriation from the State for these hospitals - what they normally do is make an appropriation, give it to the Board of Supervisors and the Board asks as to how this amount should be split, and arbitrarily they set the amount. They do not understand the problem as the people directly associated with the problem.
- Sup. Hokama: I think as far as the centralization of the Board of Trustees, Maui County has gone quite ahead in organizing the county hospitals and I think the Board should be commended. The Board has adopted what the hospital conferences have recommended. The hospital conference is represented by one representative from each hospital in the County of Maui.
- Sen. Ansai: I strongly feel that the makeup of the Council or Board should be on a district representation. The people of Hana or Makawao should have representation on the Board as much as the people of Lanai and Molokai. I think it is the true sense of the word "community" to the full extent. I fully agree that Central Maui comprises the largest number of people. One or two can be running at large to represent all Maui. I think the only way you can give them assurance is by full representation.

The Chair called for a recess at 9:30 P.M. Meeting was reconvened at 9:45 P.M.

- Mr. Caldito: Mr. Tagawa, I would like to ask you what do you mean by saying that you are for equal pay for equal work?
- Sup. Tagawa: I believe that any man or woman who performs a job should be paid equally on the basis of fairness, on the basis of righteousness.
- Mr. Caldito: I go along with you on that; however, we must realize that the City and County of Honolulu is better financed, but do the outside counties, including Maui, have the ability to pay like the City and County of Honolulu?
- Sup. Tagawa: I think any county is different. If the local government has the ability to pay, well and good. Whether we can afford it is the question.
- Mr. Yagi: That is a matter of proper administration. In government you can go into an area of surplus or deficiency; that is a matter of management. Legislature has given us leeway in the area of real property taxes.
- Mr. Caldito: I gather then that when the legislature continued to give you finances, you took it upon yourselves to raise taxes to meet the salary increases of our county workers that came under Act 188.
- Sup. Tagawa: Sometimes you have to raise taxes; sometimes you don't have to. In the past we were fortunate in the area of finance; we have gone into an area of substantial amount. We found out that we had hired too many people. We have tried to cut down on our general expenses.
- Mr. Crockett: Under the strong mayor type of government the Board has power to approve budget. If the budget provides for a particular appropriation for a particular project or program, should the Mayor have power under the charter to transfer the money that is allocated for a particular program to another program within the same department? For example, the Board allocates \$50,000,000 to the Waterworks and the same amount to the School Department. Should the Mayor have the power to take some of the money from the Waterworks Department to the School Department, or should the Board earmark certain funds to specific projects and, if so, how specific?
- Sup. Hokama: My personal opinion on that is that any changes between projects should come back to the Board. The Board can operate under the conditions which the legislators do. Any overcharge from one project can be applied to other projects. However, if the Board specifies \$25,000 for the Kula Road and the administration wants to change to the Lahaina Road, which was not on the program, it should come back to the administration.
- Sup. Molina: If money is allocated for projects within departments, I don't think it should be the prerogative of the Chairman to change it. I think it should come to the Board. I believe this should be a check and balance system.

- Mr. Burnett: Would you be very upset if we have no change in our present form of government?
- Sup. Molina: I don't think I would be very upset.
- Mr. Crockett: In regard to the appointment of officers, if you are going to have the strong mayor type of government, do you think that the auditor of the County should be separate from the control of the Mayor so that he can act as a check and be appointed by the Board, independent from the Mayor?
- Sen. Ansai: Regarding fiscal matters, the State operates fiscal affairs on a fiscal basis. The County runs on a calendar basis. Very often you do not know what the State is going to contribute and you spend it ahead before you get the appropriation. There should be uniformity there.
- Mr. Yagi: Why are they running separately? Is it a tradition?
- Sen. Ansai: I think the State has been running their affairs on a fiscal-year basis.
- Sup. Hokama: The only way we can have a change is to make an amendment in the statute.
- Sen. Fukuoka: In answer to Mr. Yagi's first question as to the purpose of the Enabling Act, to the best of my knowledge, I think what the legislators intended to do was to look into the area of organization and procedure as far as the county government goes. There was no intention of the legislators to have the county go into fiscal matters. It was a distinct feeling of the legislators that that was an area that was going to be left alone for the time being, that the legislators were going to look into the recommendation of the Public Administration Service. That was an area that the legislators intended to look into later. I think there is a provision in the bill itself that specifically states that the State is reserving its powers on all matters covered by general law. Our intention, as I recall, was that the Charter Commission should be working primarily in the area of organization and procedure and in the area of specific allocation or reallocation of functions.
- Mr. Burnett: Would it be unpolitic for us to stay within the framework you have and go on the basis whether in our judgment that the schools should be under the State, and that the judicial departments should be under the Mayor or should be with the State and leave it to the good judgment of the State legislators?
- Sen. Fukuoka: As I feel about it personally, I don't see anything wrong about the Commission making recommendations or making indicated preferences. How you are going to convey any recommendations to the legislators you are going to have to ask counsel. It is a matter of how you are going to make the recommendations.
- Mr. Higa: It is a general practice of the Charter Commission to submit a report of the Charter Commission at the time they submit the final draft of the charter to the Board of Supervisors and, as a general rule, the report is given a wide circulation. I am sure that, when the City and County of Honolulu drafted their charter, that report was circulated among the

legislators. That is one way of communicating recommendations which we might not be able to incorporate in the charter.

Sup. Hokama: I think we differ from the charter of the City and County of Honolulu. The legislature had a right to amend the charter in session. In our case the legislators only accept or reject; they cannot amend.

Mr. Higa: That is correct. In our case, the Charter Commission has no power to change any of the fiscal areas which are pointed out in the law book. We cannot insert in the charter provisions that the County shall have sole jurisdiction in assessing land for taxation purposes. This commission can recommend that legislation be passed for this purpose, however. They could later on give additional powers to the County.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chairman has asked the Budget Committee, comprised of Messrs. Caldito, Honda and Tester to study the proposed budget for 1964, which was circulated to them, and to submit a report at our next meeting in order that we can submit said proposed budget to the Budget Officer.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, November 6, 1963, in the Board Chambers with the House Finance Committee and a sub-committee of the House County and Municipal Affairs Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

After thanking the members of the Board of Supervisors and the legislators for their presentations, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriette E. Miyamoto
HARRIETTE E. MIYAMOTO/
Secretary