

Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission

December Meeting Minutes Date: December 16, 2024

Time: 2:30 p.m.

In-person meeting location: 1390 Miller Street

2nd Floor Conference Rooms 1 & 2

Honolulu, HI 96813

RECORDED MEETING LINK: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T0e2tj7s5OU

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 2:35 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present

- 1. Chair Kathleen O'Dell, PhD (she/her) via Zoom
- 2. Vice Chair Michael Golojuch Jr. (he/him) in person
- 3. Secretary Philip Steinbacher (he/him) via Zoom
- 4. Finance Director Shanda Brack (she/her) via Zoom
- 5. Sandy Harjo-Livingston, PhD (he/him/they/them) via Zoom
- 6. Joseph "Rocco" Vick (he/him) via Zoom
- 7. Richard Velasquez (he/him/his) via Zoom

Commissioners Not Present

1. Joe Tolbe (he/him)

Ex-Officio(s) or designees Present

- 1. Superintendent of Education designee Beth Schimmelfennig, Director of the Department of Education, Civil Rights Compliance Office
- 2. Director of Human Resources Development designee Signe Nakamura-Dureza
- 3. Director of Human Services designee Kristen Takushi, Cross-Enrollment Coordinator
- 4. Director of Health designee Thaddeus Pham (he/him), MPH, Viral Hepatitis Prevention Coordinator, Harm Reduction Services Branch

Ex-Officio(s) or designees Absent

- 1. President of the University of Hawai'i System designee Dr. Camaron Miyamoto, Director, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Queer+ (LGBTQ+) Center, UH Mānoa (he/him/his)
- 2. Director of Labor and Industrial Relations designee David Rodriguez

II. ONGOING BUSINESS AND UPDATES

- 1. Commissioner shares or concerns (0:08:30)
- Commissioner Brack shared concerns over the recent Maui Preparatory Academy's anti-trans policy and federal National Defense Authorization Act, which would bar health-related health care.
- Commissioner Golojuch shared concerns regarding Maui Preparatory Academy's anti-trans
 policy and made a motion to amend the agenda to include discussion about this and issue a
 statement. A vote was taken regarding amending the agenda but the motion did not pass.
 Commissioner Golojuch also stated the need for the development of policies for addressing
 issues in real time.
- Commissioner Steinbacher posed questions about travel reimbursement.
- 2. Discussion: Hawai'i State Harm Reducation Conference (0:27:40)
- Discussion regarding who would attend in an official capacity and what materials would be available at the Commission table. Commissioner Harjo-Livingston moved to vote to approve funding for a banner, Commissioner Velasquez seconded. All commissioners present voted in favor.
- 3. The agenda has no item 3.
- 4. Update on hiring the Administrative Assistant II position (0:49:16)
- Commissioner O'Dell updated the commission and stated that Kristen Takushi would be interviewing 3-4 applicants in January.
- 5. Update on National Governors Association Policy Academy to Drive Thriving Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey (0:49:50)
- Commissioner Velasquez presented an update.
- 6. Update on the Commission Legislative Policies for 2025 Legislative Session (0:51:05)
- Commissioners Brack, Golojuch, Harjo-Livingston, O'Dell, and Velasquez presented brief updates of the current status of their respective legislative issues as listed in the board packet.
- 7. Update on Required Report to the Governor and Legislature for 2024 (0:59:12)
- Commissioner Golojuch shared a draft of a letter in the board packet. Commissioner Harjo-Livingston made a motion to approve the report with minor amendments; Commissioner Velasquez seconded the motion. All commissioners in attendance voted in favor.
- 8. Debrief of National LGBTQIA+ Conference (1:08:35)
- Commissioner Golojuch shared insights from the Conference in the board packet and elaborated on these.
- 9. Review and Vote: Logo Use Policy (1:18:17)
- Commissioner Steinbacher drafted a logo use policy, shared in the board packet. Commissioner Brack moved to vote on approving the policy with one small amendment; Commissioner Velasquez seconded. All Commissioners present voted in favor.
- 10. Vote: Commission Logo Tagline (1:22:55)
- Commissioner Golojuch made a motion to vote on the approval of "Advocating for the Hawai'i

LGBTQIA+ community" as the commission's tagline. Commissioner Velasquez seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

- 11. Discussion and Vote: Including a list of resources on Commission website (1:28:08)
- Commissioner Golojuch made a motion to vote including a resource list on the webiste. Commissioner Harjo-Livingston seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor.

III. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Discussion and Vote: Commission Legislative Policy to deal with testimony to the legislature (1:33:35)
- Commissioner Golojuch prepared a testimony submission policy (in board packet), which commissioners discussed. Commissioner Brack made a movement to vote to approve the policy; Commissioner Golojuch seconded the movement. Six yes votes, one abstention.
- 2. Dates and topics for 2025 meetings (1:41:40)
- Commissioners discussed and agreed upon meeting dates, locations, and topics for 2025 meetings.
- 3. Discussion: Creating Change Conference in Las Vegas, January 22-26, 2025 (1:46:35)
- Commissioners discussed and agreed that Commissioners Golojuch and Velasquez would attend, funding to be provided by the commission.
- 4. Discussion and Vote: Letter regarding an Executive Order from Governor Green identifying Hawai'i as a sanctuary state for gender affirming care (1:56:04)
- Commissioner Golojuch prepared a draft letter (in board packet) to Governor Green, which commissioners discussed. Commissioner Harjo-Livingston made a movement to vote to approve the letter; Commissioner Velasquez seconded the movement. All commissioners present voted in favor.

IV. ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Commissioner Harjo-Livingston to adjourn; the motion was seconded by Commissioner Golojuch. The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 p.m.