



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION
E HUIKALA A MA'EMA'E NŌ
235 S. Beretania Street, 16th Floor
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
(808) 587-4160

Meeting Minutes

The monthly Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission meeting is offered as a hybrid meeting where Commissioners and members of the public can participate in person, or via teleconference. Details for both options are noted below.

Time: Thursday, December 19, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Leiopapa A. Kamehameha Building
235 S Beretania Street, Room 204
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Teleconference: Zoom Meeting ID: 964 1109 6050

Click to join online:

<https://zoom.us/j/96411096050>

One tap mobile:

+12532158782,,96411096050# US

Or Livestream on Facebook or YouTube.

Items to be Discussed:

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
 - Present: Chair Patterson, Commissioner Browning, Commissioner Ibarra, Commissioner Torney, Commissioner Town, Oversight Coordinator Christin Johnson, Cara Compani, and George Choe
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2024
 - Moved by Commissioner Mike Town
 - Seconded by Commissioner Ronald Ibarra
 - Motion passed
- IV. Public Testimony on Agenda Items

- V. Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation – Director Tommy Johnson Monthly Updates – **(not available due to HCCC dedication ceremony)**
- Transition to Corrections & Rehabilitation
- VI. Announcement Reappointment of Oversight Coordinator, Christin M. Johnson **(0:02:00)**
- VII. Overview of and Discussion on Commission Reports: **(0:08:00)**
- [Monthly Oversight Coordinator Report](#)
 - [Waiawa Correctional Facility Tour & Report](#)
 - [Halawa Correctional Facility Tour & Report](#)
- VIII. Water Conditions at Saguaro **(0:42:20)**
- Discussion of concerns from ACLU regarding water quality at Saguaro
 - i. Letter sent to DCR regarding contaminated and unsafe drinking water and outlines where findings are coming from.
 - ii. DCR responded to ACLU and claims that the water at Saguaro is undrinkable or causing medical issues is demonstrably false.
 - iii. There are many different reports that Saguaro is required to send to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.
 - iv. Water is tested daily for chlorine residue, monthly for chloroform bacteria annually, and every three years for lead and copper.
- IX. Commission’s Position on New Jail **(1:10:50)**
- Vote on calling for a pause in jail planning
 - i. Commission has been concerned with planning and development of the new OCCC.
 - ii. A replacement facility is much needed but disagree with the size and scope of the new facility as promoted by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) and Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS).
 - iii. In December 2020, The Commission recommended the State pause its planning and establish a community advisory group to help explore policies, practices, and programs that can provide alternatives to detention in a secure facility.
 - iv. In January 2022, the Commission reaffirmed that position urging an advisory committee to convene to review and if necessary to revise the planning that has been done and actively participate in the planning going forward.
 - v. Request for an advisory committee was not considered by DCR, yet an alternative process for engaging community and considering alternatives was implemented under Max Otani, who got in touch with the University of Hawai‘i School of Architecture Community Design Center to help.
 - Motions by the Commission
 - i. Motion to move the Commission supports the decision of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Accounting and General Services to replace the current OCCC which is dilapidated and beyond rehabilitation.

- ii. Motion to move the Commission supports the selection of the former Halawa animal site as appropriate for the new facility.
 - iii. Motion to move the Commission recommend and support diversion programs and alternatives to incarceration to reduce the number of beds currently proposed by DCR for the new OCCC.
 - iv. Motion to move the Commission supports a design that provides appropriate programming space and opportunities for the detention population
 - v. Motion to move the Commission to not support a pause in the planning and design of the new facility.
- X. Looking Forward – Planning of 2024 Commission Priorities and Schedule **(2:17:50)**
- Facility tour schedule and discussion of visiting community-based programming
 - Putting more focus on programs and not as much time reviewing facilities
- XI. Public Comment **(2:30:35)**
- Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Commission's agenda at the next meeting
- XII. Announcements and Scheduling of the Next Meeting
- Next meeting Thursday, January 16, 2024
 - i. Facility Tour: None scheduled
- XIII. Adjournment

Members of the public may submit written testimony on any item on this agenda before the meeting via e-mail or mail to the Oversight Coordinator, Christin Johnson. Testimony received after December 16, 2024, will be accepted but the Commissioners may not have time to read them before the meeting. Members of the public may also submit testimony at the meeting without submitting it to the Commission beforehand.

Email: hcsoc@hawaii.gov

Mail: Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission
State Office Tower
235 S Beretania St., 16th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Special Assistant George Choe (george.choe@hawaii.gov) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.