September 29, 2016

Department of Public Safety (PSD)
Reentry Commission
Meeting Minutes
AAFES Building, Room 400
Thursday, September 29, 2016
2:00 – 3:10 PM

Reentry Commission Members:
Present at AAFES Building:

Wendell Murakawa, Chair
Timothy Ho
Kimmy Takata

Video Conference from Hawaii Intake Service (Hilo)
Blayne Hanagami
Glen Hisashima
Tim Hansen

Attendees:
Nona Lawrence, Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) Coordinator

Absence
Maile Kanemaru
Toni Bissen
Gary Yabuta
Nolan Espinda, Ex officio (non-voting)
Meeting called to order by Chair Murakawa at 2:00pm

Chair called a Special Meeting to Order

Chair recognizes three members in Hilo
Glen Hisashima
Tim Hansen
Blayne Hanagami

In Honolulu
Timothy Ho
Chair Murakawa

Chair Murakawa: Robert Agres (Consultant) suggested, it will be easier to discuss the Reentry Plan if we have the meeting like a workshop.

If the meeting will be close door, Ms. Lawrence came up with the exclusion HRS 92-5. Agree section C to consider sensitive matters related to Public Safety or Security.

Number eight to deliberate or make a discussion upon the matter that is required the consideration of information. Must be kept confidential pursuant State or Federal Law or court order.

Concerns to discuss:

Mr. Hanagami: Don’t know the content or the extent that we will get into a sensitive subject matter.

Chair Murakawa: When we come up with a strategic plan, at the next Commission meeting, we will present the plan to the public. If they have any concerns or they want to make any addition or deletion we can discuss it at that time.

Mr. Hanagami: My concerns, I feel better that eventually the Public will have the opportunity to provide input. Not knowing the sensitive matters. More worried about public perception. Why was there a meeting to have this close meeting?

Mr. Hansen: I want the next meeting to be a productive meeting. If there are procedures, we can ask the public not to have a lot of input. We want to focus and get down the road with this strategic plan. I agree with Blayne that we need to be clear not having the public attend. I would not want us viewed or questioned why is it close. Matter of perception.
Question asked why do we need to vote today. Ms. Lawrence cited under HRS 92-4, Executive meetings you must have a vote in that’s open to the public where you discuss having the next meeting close. This meeting is open to the public and at Hawaii Intake Service (Video Conferencing) open to the public. Agenda meeting has been sent to the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

To clarify we are trying to close the October 6, 2016 strategic planning meeting as an Executive meeting. Because they may be things on the agenda that the Consultant may want to talk about that is not for public consumption.

Ms. Lawrence sent a draft agenda to everyone, we don’t know exactly what’s going to be talked about.

Question asked: Do we need to take a vote to allow the Chairperson Call and Executive session.

Ms. Lawrence: Yes we are voting to have the next meeting complete in the Executive Session. We also have Kimmy Takata here.

Mr. Hansen: On the next Agenda we will be looking at issues pertaining to the Board’s power duties and privileges. We will have to have a Board Attorney.

Mr. Ho: In our office, we have and Attorney General to give us advise on Sunshine Law issues. Has to be some one that is not on the committee but is assign to advise the committee.

Ms. Lawrence: Add to the Agenda for the close session to ask to have and AG assigned to the Commission.

Mr. Murakawa: Good Idea. I thought that we are administratively attached, and the Department has and AG assigned.
Ms. Lawrence: We do have serval AG’s assigned, but are for different sections.

Mr. Ho: They have AG’s assigned specifically on Sunshine Laws. I don’t think you will find on the agenda, any reasons to go into and Executive Session. Unless there is something in the agenda, which relates to sensitive matters relating to Public Safety and Security. I will have a hard time in closing the session.

Mr. Murakawa: The Consultant was saying, more like a workshop. Where we are going to develop a Reentry plan for the Commission.

Mr. Ho: Could the workshop be done, where it’s a separate training held and it’s not a meeting of a Reentry Commission.

Ms. Lawrence: Rules where Commission members meeting in a non-meeting setting. That’s where the AG will advise on the Sunshine Law.
Mr. Hisashima: Does Public Safety have an Attorney for Sunshine Law?

Ms. Lawrence: I don’t believe we have one specifically assigned, but we can asked for one to be assigned.

Mr. Hisashima: If that person can be present at our next meeting. Will be talking about our duties and responsibility as a Commission.

The Reentry Commission is there to review and give recommendations of the programs that Public Safety has. My view is that our task is monitoring not delivering of the Reentry Program.

Ms. Lawrence: I believe that is correct, if you want to have an AG here specifically to look into those types. I don’t want to say anything that is incorrect I am not on this Commission.

We can ask for an Attorney to be at the meeting Oct 6, 2016. We are having one on Nov 8, 2016 and in Dec. I don’t know how quickly we can get someone assigned at the AG’S.

Mr. Murakawa: I want to know our goals for the next two to three years. We monitor the programs and may make suggestions. When we develop this strategic plan we will develop and understand our role as a commission. We want to get this done prior to the Legislature Session. The Director want to mention that.

Ms. Lawrence I think the Director wants the Strategic Plan done first, so once we get to the Legislative session we are on the same page. You can make decisions on bills.

Mr. Murakawa, called to take a vote to close Commission Meeting on Oct 6, 2016.

Mr. Hansen: before we vote I would like to hear from Kimmy.

Ms. Takata: When it comes to the Legislative part I am not really understanding.

Mr. Hansen: your vote will be important possibly, curious on your thoughts and feelings are about if the meeting should be open or close.

Ms. Takata: I am not sure.

Mr. Hansen: Can we state in our meeting notice that we are going to be having more of a workshop setting.

Ms. Lawrence: We can put this on the Agenda, but it still will be open to the public or close.
Mr. Murakawa: If we feel that we are not going to have any sensitive matters discussed, then we should leave it open.

Mr. Hanagami: I don’t know I am going too deferred to Nona, who cited earlier that examples that they are to refrain from speaking about it. I don’t know what topics are going to surface.

Ms. Lawrence: To clarify, I am trying to give examples in other Commissions that things have come up, that were not for public consumption. Nolan is a non-voting ex officio member of this commission he will not be voting on this.

I am bringing up things that happen in the past. I don’t know what you actually going to be talking about.

If Legislature wants to know why is it close? The Chairman would have to answer.

Ms. Takata: Suggested that we have our meetings first. Then let the public in.

Mr. Ho: The law requires that all the meeting, committees that are subject to the sunshine law have meetings open to the public. Published by the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.

Ms. Lawrence: This meeting is open to the public. Published six days ago.

Mr. Hisashima: Nona can you check the Sunshine Law, certain amount of members could meet at a certain date to listen to information. They could not vote or make any recommendations. They had to report back to the main board.

Ms. Lawrence: HRS 92-2.5 permitted interactions of members. It says that two members of the board. May discuss between themselves, matters relating to official board business or enable them to perform their duties faithfully as long as no commitment to voting is made or sought and the two members do not constitute quorum of their board.

Are you asking if this is still in effect or has this section changed?

Mr. Hisashima: If the section changed. I think the numbers went up from two.

Ms. Lawrence: I will check on this.

Mr. Hansen: Why don’t we have our Reentry Commission meeting on Oct 6 from 8:30 – 9:00am?
Strategic Planning from 9:00 -12:30pm. Have the Strategic Planning part close.
Then next meeting Nov to share publically the aspects of the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Lawrence: The choices to vote on Oct 6, 2016 meeting, close or open. We still will get the opinion of the AG’S on the Sunshine Law. We need to vote on this for time constraints.
Mr. Hansen: If we had AG’S input we might decide at next meeting to close November’s meeting.

Ms. Lawrence: You could vote at the next meeting to close the November’s meeting upon the advice of the AG.

Mr. Ho: At this time I move to take a vote and close the meeting.

Mr. Murakawa: Those in favor of closing the meeting next week say yes in favor. How many in favor. How many oppose.

5 to open 1 to close.

Ms. Lawrence to clarify, the meeting will be open to the public on October 6, 2016. We are going to ask for an AG to be assign for Sunshine Law purposes. We will have something on the agenda regarding HRS 92-2.5.

Will amend and send this to you. Will send to the Lieutenant Governor’s Office.