



PRESENTED BY CAI HAWAII

A Free Education Program for Condominium Owners

Topics Include:

ABCs of Reserves, Do's And Don'ts of Construction

Contracts, Insurance for Contractors, and Annual Meeting Blunders to Avoid



Thursday, January 28, 2021 Program: 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Webinar

CONDORAMA VII

January 28, 2021

AGENDA

12:00 – 12:05 p.m.	Welcome & Introductions
12:05 - 12:25 p.m.	ABCs of Reserves Jonathan Billings, Touchstone Properties
12:25 – 12:45 p.m.	Do's & Don'ts of Construction Contracts Lance S. Fujisaki, Esq., Anderson Lahne & Fujisaki
12:45 – 1:05 p.m.	What Insurance Contractors Should Have Before You Hire Them Joshua German, Insurance Associates
1:05 – 1:25 p.m.	Annual Meeting Blunders to Avoid Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian
1:25 – 1:30 p.m.	Evaluation and Adjournment

The materials and information provided in this educational effort is intended to provide general education and information and is not a substitute for obtaining legal advice or other competent professional assistance to address specific circumstances. The information contained in this presentation is not an official or binding interpretation, opinion or decision of the Hawaii Real Estate Commission (Commission) or the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

This educational presentation is funded by the Condominium Education Trust Fund (CETF), Real Estate Commission, Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, State of Hawaii for condominium unit owners whose associations are registered with the Real Estate Commission.

SPEAKERS

JONATHAN BILLINGS is Vice President of Operations of Touchstone Properties and has been involved with association management in Hawaii since 2010. Jonathan manages several associations that vary in size and difficulty and has been successful in developing strong relationships with all of his Boards and On-Site Management. He was awarded "Property Manager of the Year" in 2011 by the Resident Manager Association and received the prestigious Hoku award in 2014 from the CAI Chapter of Hawaii, which is given in recognition of participating in support of CAI education programs, and demonstrated leadership skills, and an interest in being a future leader with CAI Hawaii. Jonathan is currently serving as the President of the Hawaii Chapter of CAI. He has received his Professional Community Association Manager (PCAM) and Reserve Specialist (RS) designations from CAI.

LANCE S. FUJISAKI, born and raised in Honolulu, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California, Berkeley, and his Juris Doctor degree from Hastings College of the Law. He served as a Technical Editor on the Hastings Law Journal. A partner at Anderson Lahne & Fujisaki LLP A Limited Liability Law Partnership, he has been a member of the Hawai'i State Bar Association and the American Bar Association since 1986 and is licensed to practice in all courts of the State of Hawai'i, as well as the U.S. District Court, District of Hawai'i. He has taught numerous programs on legal matters for CAI and other local organizations, has written articles for the community association community, and has spoken at Condorama presentations in Honolulu. His exclusive field of practice is in the representation of community associations, including counseling, contract negotiations and documentation for renovation projects.

JOSH GERMAN is an agent with Insurance Associates, Inc. Insurance Associates handles approximately 1,000 community associations throughout Hawaii. This is more than any other agency in Hawaii. Josh has handled insurance for community associations since 2007. Since joining Insurance Associates in 2014, Josh's primary responsibility has been neighbor island associations. He personally handles approximately 300 associations on the islands of Kauai, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and the Big Island.

Josh was born and raised in Lihue, Kauai and was an accounting major in college. He served as the Treasurer for the Honolulu Association of Insurance Professionals from 2016 to 2019. He is also active in the Community Associations Institute, Institute for Real Estate Managers and Community Council of Maui.

He survived Hurricanes Ewa and Iniki on Kauai, which has helped him to handle stressful situations for the associations. In his free time he enjoys traveling, watching sports, and spending time with his family. **STEVE GLANSTEIN,** Professional Registered Parliamentarian®, has lived in Hawai'i continuously since 1963. After purchasing a condominium in Honolulu, he recognized the need to become skilled in proper parliamentary procedure. While serving on the board of directors at his condominium, Steve attained certification as a Registered Parliamentarian® in 1983 and a Professional Registered Parliamentarian® in 1984. The latter designation is the highest credential issued by the National Association of Parliamentarians® (NAP) - the largest association of parliamentarians in the United States and abroad, founded in June 1930.

Involvement with the NAP led Steve to serve as founder and first president of Hawai'i's largest local parliamentary unit (Aloha-Ohana Unit of Parliamentarians), then as president of the Hawai'i State Association of Parliamentarians. For the National Association of Parliamentarians, Steve advanced to serve as a District Director, and ultimately, on the Board of Directors, as Treasurer and Director at Large. He is a frequent sought-after speaker/trainer at national conferences and conventions.

Since 1983, Steve has professionally served more than 1,800 meetings. They include condominium associations, cooperatives, community associations, timesharing organizations, numerous professional organizations, as well as unincorporated associations, for-profit and not-for-profit corporations, unions, and churches. He has served both as a Parliamentarian and Professional Presiding Officer. Occasionally, he has assisted clients in an advocacy role in the audience at various meetings.

Steve is clear to inform clients that he is *not* a lawyer; he does provide testimony on much of the proposed condominium and community legislation in Hawai'i. He is the longest practicing professional parliamentarian in Hawai'i and is frequently contacted to provide both verbal and written opinions regarding the effect of proposed legislation on parliamentary procedure. Generally, Steve issues about 5-7 written opinions and 20-30 verbal opinions per year. He has assisted 44 attorneys in various aspects of parliamentary procedure during his career, also earning the designation of 'expert witness' when providing testimony for various Hawai'i courts.

For advanced training, Steve facilitated the 'Master's Group' of Hawai'i - an intense training program for professional parliamentarians to improve their skills beyond those of most credentialed parliamentarians in the national organization. He organized a Professional Presiding Workshop for credentialed parliamentarians on a national basis to further improve their presiding skills.

During 2019, Steve served about 115 meetings as a parliamentarian or professional presiding officer. During that same period, he supervised parliamentarians for several other organizations, totaling about 70 meetings. He also instructed in about 12 seminars.

Though in high demand for his parliamentary skills, Steve believes knowledge should be shared. In order that more individuals become skilled with parliamentary procedure, he has been actively involved in training entry-level parliamentarians in the State of Hawai'i. He frequently instructs for the Hawai'i Chapter of the Community Associations Institute (part of a national group of community associations) of which he is a past president and winner of their highest award, the Richard Gourley Distinguished Service Award.

MILTON M. MOTOOKA, ESQ. is the Senior Partner of the firm of Motooka Rosenberg Lau & Oyama and has been practicing law in Hawaii for over 40 years. In 1994, he was inducted into the Charter Class of the College of Community Association Lawyers. The College of Community Association Lawyers is comprised of attorneys who have distinguished themselves through published writings, teaching and speaking in the field of community association law, and community service. The Charter Class of the College is comprised of twenty-eight (28) community association attorneys selected nationwide. Seventy-three (73) community association attorneys, who have practiced for at least ten (10) years, applied for admission to the college. He was the only attorney selected from Hawaii for the Charter Class.

In 1997, he was selected as the recipient of the Richard Murray Gourley Distinguished Service Award for outstanding contribution to Hawaii's community association industry as an industry leader in community association law in the State of Hawaii.

Mr. Motooka was one of the founding members of the Hawaii Chapter of the Community Associations Institute ("CAI"). He served as President of Hawaii Chapter of CAI for two years and Chairman or Co-Chairman of the Programs Committee for over thirty (30) years. The Programs Committee is responsible for producing all of the educational programs presented to homeowner association Boards of Directors, owners, management companies and other professionals and companies who provide services to homeowner associations. The goal of the Programs Committee is to provide timely and informative programs to keep homeowner association members abreast of the rapidly changing and complex problems confronting them. He has been a frequent speaker on issues involving community associations. Page left blank intentionally



Reserve Studies - ABCs

And Party of Lot

Condorama VII January 28, 2021

Jonathan Billings, CAI Hawaii RS, PCAM, CPI

RESERVE STUDY

A Reserve Study Is A Living Document That Needs To Be Updated ANNUALLY!

- ADD NOTES!
- Closely Review The Next Three To Five Years.
- Level I, II, III Reserve Studies
- Useful Life Can Vary Will replacement be required as often and which option is more cost effective?
- Building Codes



RESERVE STUDY BASICS

A reserve study provides:

- A list of all the association's capital components
- Estimated useful/remaining life of the components
- Estimated Financial Forecast or Financial Projection
- A useful planning tool

A reserve study is not:

- A crystal ball
- Forensic/Destructive Inspection
- Code Compliance Inspection



Reserve studies identify three main items; 1) association property, 2) estimated useful life & 3) replacement cost.

WHY IS A REALISTIC RESERVE STUDY IMPORTANT?

REQUIRED BY LAW

IMPORTANT TO OBTAIN A MORTGAGE & REFINANCE

- ✓ HRS 514B
- ✓ HAR 16-107
- ✓ CONVENTIONAL LOANS

FHA LENDING

✓ INTEREST RATES

- POTENTIAL BUYERS ARE PAYING ATTENTION
- ✓ RESERVE BALANCES
- ✓ ASKING ABOUT SPECIFIC PROJECTS



Unrealistic Reserve Studies

Adverse affects of poorly planned or unrealistic reserve studies resulting in:

- Poor Curb Appeal & Incomplete Capital Expenditures
- Deterioration of visible building components and critical components
- Deferred Maintenance: Deferring maintenance results in higher expenses to Homeowners
- Unforeseen or Unplanned Expenses: Oftentimes resulting in Special Assessments/Loans
- Weak or Low Reserve Fund Balances
- Drastic Reserve Contributions Increases
- Special Assessments & Loans to Fund Capital Expenditures

FUNDING METHODS

Hawaii Statute allows for two funding methods:

- Percent Funding
 Coch Flow Funding
- 2) Cash Flow Funding



Percent funding calculates each component separately.

2021	2024	2031
Paint	\$30,000	
Roof		\$70,000

- Collect 1/3 of \$30,000 or \$10,000 annually
- Collect 1/10 of \$70,000 or \$7,000 annually
- 100% funding contribution is \$17,000 in 2021
- 50% funding, state law minimum, would be \$8,500
- Funding plan is expressed as percentage

PERCENT FUNDED

PERCENT FUNDED

- In three years you need \$30,000 for the paint.
- You have collected \$25,500 (3 x \$8,500)
- Hawaii law says the Board must ASSESS the balance of \$4,500 for the painting PLUS another \$10,500 to restore the 50% of the roof obligation (that was used for the painting). A \$15,000 assessment.



PERCENT FUNDED

Math View - Threshold Funding Model - Projection

Beginning Balance: \$1,500,000

				Projected	Fully	
	Annual	Annual	Annual	Ending	Funded	Percent
Year	Contribution	Interest	Expenditur	es Reserves	Reserves	Funded
2020	1,355,047	48,619	108,200	2,795,467	5,590,933	50%
2021	809,542	58,875	278,731	3,385,152	6,583,044	51%
2022	809,542	69,827	249,665	4,014,857	7,646,943	53%
2023	809,542	78,531	387,630	4,515,299	8,617,112	52%
2024	1,055,488	84,408	801,972	4,853,223	9,205,847	53%
2025	1,055,488	82,852	1,227,810	4,763,753	9,386,650	51%
2026	1,055,488	87,265	889,022	5,017,484	9,943,215	50%
2027	1,111,389	101,095	417,298	5,812,670	11,021,369	53%
2028	1,111,389	104,389	1,026,362	6,002,086	11,509,977	52%
2029	1,111,389	107,470	1,041,707	6,179,239	12,011,057	51%
2030	1,248,314	110,115	1,206,378	6,331,290	12,383,883	51%
2031	1,248,314	121,128	736,197	6,964,536	13,189,154	53%
2032	1,248,314	128,964	926,758	7,415,055	13,879,404	53%
2033	1,248,314	147,544	327,548	8,483,366	15,228,348	56%
2034	1,248,314	164,414	442,780	9,453,313	16,514,465	57%
2035	1,248,314	153,868	2,008,514	8,846,981	16,258,644	54%
2036	1,421,800	138,719	2,431,550	7,975,950	15,598,788	51%
2037	1,421,800	138,212	1,589,168	7,946,793	15,817,438	50%
2038	1,547,807	155,313	719,853	8,930,060	16,962,061	53%
2039	1,547,807	168,120	979,564	9,666,423	17,904,426	54%



Percent funding calculates each component separately.

2021	2024	2031
Paint	\$30,000	
Roof		\$70,000

- During the next 10 years the AOAO needs to collect \$100,000.
- Cash flow funding pools the components as a total or \$100,000.
- \$10,000 per year for 10 years achieves the \$100,000 to meet its obligations.
- The plan is expressed using cash balances.
- Hawaii law requires a 20-year forecast.
- A common mistake is the failure to consider recycling of components.

CASH FLOW

Math View - Current Assessment Funding Model - Projection

Beginning Balance: \$750,000

					Projected	Fully	
	Current	Annual	Annual	Annual	Ending	Funded	Percent
Year	Cost	Contribution	Interest	Expenditures	Reserves	Reserves	Funded
2020	8,396,572	512,000	19,483	161,250	1,120,233	4,001,445	28%
2021	8,493,007	527,360	27,997	65,854	1,609,736	4,966,763	32%
2022	8,671,360	543,181	17,950	1,138,776	1,032,091	4,920,550	21%
2023	8,261,956	559,476	26,710	82,539	1,535,738	4,825,214	32%
2024	8,408,290	576,261	24,399	733,511	1,402,887	5,204,243	27%
2025	8,194,318	593,548	10,418	1,407,827	599,026	4,908,476	12%
2026	7,799,998	611,355	17,468	223,474	1,004,376	4,697,238	21%
2027	7,963,798	629,695	26,200	153,827	1,506,445	5,141,303	29%
2028	8,131,037	648,586	30,424	436,152	1,749,303	5,321,077	33%
2029	8,287,466	668,044	28,873	786,103	1,660,117	5,152,540	32%
2030	8,338,403	688,085	37,412	234,505	2,151,110	5,547,022	39%
2031	8,513,509	708,728	40,179	589,839	2,310,177	5,601,347	41%
2032	8,692,293	729,990	34,366	1,098,598	1,975,934	5,149,780	38%
2033	8,874,831	751,889	43,123	291,472	2,479,475	5,524,409	45%
2034	9,061,202	774,446	50,645	392,616	2,911,950	5,815,481	50%
2035	9,251,487	797,679	42,974	1,281,740	2,470,863	5,219,204	47%
2036	9,445,769	821,610	47,182	626,818	2,712,836	5,293,451	51%
2037	9,644,130	846,258	55,385	429,976	3,184,503	5,588,996	57%
2038	9,846,657	871,646	59,153	714,148	3,401,154	5,613,699	61%
2039	10,053,436	897,795	46,618	1,665,148	2,680,419	4,681,316	57%

COMPARE THE RESULTS



Percent Funded: \$17,000 - 100% funded;
 \$8,500 - 50% Funded

In 3 years you have collected \$25,500, so you must assess \$4,500 plus 50% of roof or another \$10,500 to catch up by law. A total of \$15,000 assessment.

• Cash Flow: \$10,000

COMPARE THE RESULTS

Percent Funding

Cash Flow

Century West

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				y Honolulu		
		Math View	- Threshold F	unding Model	- Projection	
D	D. 1 61.50	0.000				
Beginn	ing Balance: \$1,50	0,000		D . (1	F 11	
		. 1		Projected	Fully	D (
	Annual	Annual	Annual	Ending	Funded	Percent
Year	Contribution	Interest	Expenditur	es Reserves	Reserves	Funded
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2038	1,547,807	155,313	719,853	8,930,060	16,962,061	53%
2039	1,547,807	168,120	979,564	9,666,423	17,904,426	54%

	Math View - Current Assessment Funding Model - Projection												
Beginn	ing Balance: \$75	50,000											
0	0	-,			Projected	Fully							
	Current	Annual	Annual	Annual	Ending	Funded	Percent						
Year	Cost	Contribution	Interest	Expenditures	Reserves	Reserves	Funded						
				1									
2020	8,396,572	512,000	19,483	161,250	1,120,233	4,001,445	28%						
2021	8,493,007	527,360	27,997	65,854	1,609,736	4,966,763	32%						
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2037	9,644,130	846,258	55,385	429,976	3,184,503	5,588,996	57%						
2038	9,846,657	871,646	59,153	714,148	3,401,154	5,613,699	61%						
2039	10,053,436	897,795	46,618	1,665,148	2,680,419	4,681,316	57%						

ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL STABILITY

Annual increases or a stable plan moving forward?

Seven-Year Annual Increase Compared to One-Time Increase																				
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038
Reserve Contribution	300,000	330,000	360,000	390,000	420,000	450,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000	480,000
Capital Expenditures	366,000	74,133	31,098	445,565	218,801	645,007	38,270	32,213	1,286,404	83,799	366,104	15,909	337,181	2,842,540	472,752	404,437	146,224	24,498	1,536,047	99,276
Ending Reserve Balance	710,045	978,237	1,323,818	1,284,436	1,504,592	1,326,296	1,790,586	2,266,934	1,479,166	1,899,297	2,038,881	2,534,910	2,711,897	353,815	365,670	446,863	790,600	1,262,002	208,583	596,826
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038
Reserve Contribution	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000	445,000
Capital Expenditure	366,000	74,133	31,098	445,565	218,801	645,007	38,270	32,213	1,286,404	83,799	366,104	15,909	337,181	2,842,540	472,752	404,437	146,224	24,498	1,536,047	99,276
Ending Reserve Balance	856,895	1,243,428	1,678,477	1,699,323	1,950,092	1,772,416	2,206,952	2,653,167	1,834,881	2,224,104	2,332,386	2,796,714	2,941,594	550,996	529,921	577,763	887,724	1,324,919	236,856	590,014

Is it better to increase on an annual basis or to tear off the band-aid at one-time or over a shorter period? Depending on the funding plan the Board selects, Owners could potentially pay less over the long run.





POTENTIAL BUYERS #1 QUESTION

 One of the most common questions asked when potential buyers consider making an offer: <u>Are there any upcoming special</u> <u>assessments for the</u> <u>building!</u>



UNDERSTANDING OWNERSHIP What is my What are the financial limits of the unit? responsibility? What is What is the considered associations financial common element? responsibility?

UNDERSTANDING OWNERSHIP?

Common Elements

Defines what is shared between all owners and therefore the responsibility of the association to maintain.

Limited Common Elements

Defines what is exclusive to one unit and sometimes multiple unit owners and therefore the responsibility of the unit owner(s).

Limits of Apartments

Defines where the unit property stops and the common elements begins and therefore identifying what belongs to the owner vs the association.

UNDERSTANDING OWNERSHIP

- Having a clear understanding of the association's governing documents is important while performing a reserve study.
- Who is financially responsible?:
 - Unit Windows
 - Lanai Railings
 - Entry Door
 - Pipes, Electrical Lines
 - Lanai Surface
- The unit boundary line varies from association to association and oftentimes are silent or unclear regarding windows, doors & lanai railings. This can drastically impact the association reserve study.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Spend Time on the Reserve Study
- Add Detailed Notes to the Reserve Study
- Clearly Understand Ownership and Financial Responsibility
- Review Multiple Funding Plans
- Clarify Governing Documents through Resolutions
- Create Standard Guidelines
- Consider Contingencies & Insurance Deductible
- Identify Exempt Property
- Disclose, Disclose, Disclose



Do's and Don'ts of Construction Contracts

The following discussion is general in nature and offered for informational purposes only. Nothing in these materials is intended to nor shall these materials constitute, legal advice. Please consult with your association attorney for legal advice. Depending upon the facts, circumstances and situation, provisions or exceptions found in the law and the governing instruments, different from those discussed in this presentation, may apply.

Lance S. Fujisaki | Anderson & Fujisaki LLP A Limited Liability Law Partnership | 733 Bishop Street Suite 2301, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813, Ph. (808)697-6005 Condorama VII - January 28, 2021

I. Introduction

This presentation assumes several things:

- "Association's legal counsel" refers to counsel practicing and experienced in the field of community association law.
- "Contracts" include service contracts such as maintenance agreements, professional services agreements, and renovation contracts with licensed contractors. Although Boards should consult with legal counsel before entering into management agreements with their managing agent, as well as employment agreements, this presentation does not address those kinds of contracts. Also, this presentation does not address retainer agreements with the association's law firm.
- I am assuming that after the attorney reviews the contract and gives the board advice, the board will follow the advice of the attorney. Under 414D-149(d), a director of a nonprofit corporation, in discharging the director's duties, is entitled to rely on opinions and statements if prepared or presented by an attorney. On the other hand, directors who ignore the association's attorney's advice may be breaching their fiduciary duty. (Section 514B-106 provides in part: "In the performance of their duties, officers and members of the board shall owe the association a fiduciary duty and exercise the degree of care and loyalty required of an officer or director of a corporation organized under chapter 414D.")

- I am assuming that the association has properly vetted the contractor or vendor before consulting with the attorney.
 Selecting the right contractor or vendor is probably more important than the contract terms. But associations still need adequate terms in their contracts. Past performance is never a guarantee of future performance.
- This is not a "how to" presentation.
 Rather, the point is that contract review is something best left to your association attorney.
- II. Boards should be concerned about association contracts because each director owes a fiduciary duty to the association.

The fiduciary duty is a bundling of a number of obligations, including the duty of:

- obedience
- diligence (due care)
- loyalty
- good faith

Directors have duties similar to the duties of a trustee to the beneficiaries of a trust This means that a director must not act with self-interest, must act with such care as an ordinary reasonable and prudent person in a like position would under similar circumstances, and act in a manner believed to be in the best interest of the association.

Examples of the duty of diligence:

 Gathering (researching, investigating) all necessary information for decision making;

- Consulting the opinions of appropriate professionals where necessary (i.e. legal counsel, engineers, architects, managing agents, parliamentarians, certified public accountants, etc.);
- Checking the license status of a contractor or consultant the board intends to hire;
- Complying with the requirements of the governing documents; and
- Complying with the requirements of the Condominium Property Act, Chapter 514B, Hawai`i Revised Statutes

Examples of good faith:

Approving a higher bid for repaying the driveway because the proposed materials were of a higher quality rather than approve the next lower bid.

For more information, see the resources on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' website on fiduciary duty:

https://cca.hawaii.gov/reb/files/2016/05/Board -of-Directors-Fiduciary-Duty.JC-yellow.pdf http://cca.hawaii.gov/reb/resources-for-condo minium-owners/

III. Review "all" contracts? Really!

- Generally, all contracts should be reviewed by legal counsel. Even small contracts can significantly affect the Association adversely.
- Your association may have contracts that (1) will not expose the Association to risk of bodily injury, property damage or financial risk, (2) are short in duration, (3) are limited in scope, and (4) that involve amounts that are insignificant relative to the Association's budget. Probably very few contracts meet these criteria. These contracts may not need legal review.

- Although all contracts should be reviewed by your attorney, on small contracts, it is perfectly fine for the Board to ask the attorney to spend not more than a specified amount of time to review and report in writing or orally on obvious or any major problems. The attorney should be able to spot major issues without investing a lot of time. In this way, the Board can economically protect the Association from major issues.
- Occasionally, associations will forego a legal review because it is believed that the services/goods to be provided are nominal and therefore do not justify the expense of attorney assistance. However, that decision could expose your association to significant liability if it is discovered that the vendor is not contractually obligated to maintain liability insurance and/or defend and indemnify (reimburse) the association and its managing agent, among other essential protections.
- For example, assume your association enters into a vendor contract for services that total \$5,000.00. That vendor, during the scope of its work for the association, inadvertently causes catastrophic injury to a third party. Upon receipt of a claim from an injured party, it is discovered that the vendor contract did not require the vendor to maintain adequate levels of insurance, if any. Under that circumstance, your association could be exposed to significant financial liability-and the board could be targeted for failing to exercise its prudent business judgment by requiring sufficient levels of insurance before signing of the vendor's contract.
- Everyday English and contract English may have significant differences.
 Contracts may include "terms of art," which are legal terms that have special

meanings and that pack decades of legal precedent into simple terms.

IV. Some common issues that your association attorney may help spot

- A. Your attorney can help you set the project on the right trajectory to increase the chances of a positive outcome:
- 1. Owner approval issues
- 2. Does the work involve portions of the project that are the responsibility of the owners, versus the association?
- 3. <u>Harrison v. Casa de Emdeko, Inc.</u>, 142 Hawai`i 218, 418 P.3d 559 (2018).
- The Hawai`i Supreme Court applied Chapter 514A, not 514B.
- Limited common elements are common elements designated in the declaration as reserved for use of a certain apartment or at certain apartments to the exclusion of other apartments.
- All limited common element costs must be charged to the owner of the apartment to which the limited common element is appurtenant.
- Surprise: Lanai railings and elevators were deemed limited common elements.
- The court remanded the issue of whether expenses for drain lines, cable television wire, cable television services, and pest control services, were limited common expenses, for which the commercial unit owner was not responsible.
- Comment: the outcome would probably have been different if the court applied Chapter 514B, rather than 514A.
- B. Your attorney may propose a more comprehensive contract that provides better protection for your association at no additional expense.

- A better contract usually does not cost more.
- Most contractors want your business and are reasonable.
- Nearly all contractors will accept the American Institute of Architects ("AIA") contract forms that provide better protections than contractor forms.
- There are no standard forms of service contracts, but your association attorney may have alternate forms.

C. Your attorney may negotiate better warranty protection for the association.

- Warranties are among the most overlooked parts of contracts.
- Absent a warranty, the contractor or vendor may not respond to fix deficiencies.
- D. Your attorney may negotiate better indemnification provisions for the association.
- Avoid agreements to indemnify contractors, vendors or consultants.

E. Your attorney should alert you to potential problems with contracts.

- Nearly every contract must include provisions such as: a definite term, the amount to be paid, how the amount may be increased, indemnity provisions, insurance requirements, termination provisions.
- If the association exercises its right to terminate, will the association incur liability?
- If the association experiences a delay in the project, for example, while it obtains owner approval, will the contractor seek delay damages? On the HART project, a settlement was reached for \$160 million for delay damages.

- Some contractors, design professionals and vendors insert limitations on liability. For example, liability may be limited to the amount paid or a fixed sum, whichever is higher (or lower).
- Some contracts require associations to waive claims for "special damages".
- F. Your attorney may remind you about things you may forget to check, such as bonding requirements.
- *See* attached primer on performance and payment bonds.

G. Your attorney may alert you to provisions to help avoid delays.

Liquidated damages for delays may help provide incentives to avoid delays, as well as compensation in light of delays. Delay damages are otherwise difficult to establish.

H. Your attorney may alert you to provisions that call for automatic renewals.

These provisions require the board to give advance notice of termination. Your association may end up stuck in a contract for a year or more because you missed the deadline for sending the notice of termination. Avoid automatic renewals.

I. Your attorney may help spot obvious problems with contractors

- Unlicensed contractors
- Contractors operating under licenses of other persons
- Contractors are subject to complaints/discipline by RICO.

J. Your attorney will help decide what to include and not include in contracts.

- There is a balance between KISS ("Keep it simple stupid") and comprehensive.
- Including extraneous, conflicting provisions may lead to disputes and result in the contract being deemed ambiguous and unenforceable.
- There is a tendency to include more information than appropriate. Exclude bid documents.
- The contract should "tell a story" of the purpose of the contract and the association's expectations. If the purpose of the contract is not clear, there are greater risks of disputes. If litigated or arbitrated, the fact finder may have difficulty discerning the intent of the parties.

K. Your attorney may actually enjoy reading boilerplate provisions.

- Boilerplate provisions are sometimes attached to contracts as general conditions, printed in the smallest size of font possible, visible only with an electron microscope.
- Boilerplate provisions can have major effects.
- Some contracts also say: "Paragraph and section headings shall have no meaning in the interpretation of this agreement." Anyone skimming the contract could be in for a shock when he or she later discovers, for example, that the phrase "late payments will incur a 25% penalty" was buried in a paragraph with a completey irrelevant heading.
- Contracts typically include "Integration" or "Entire Agreement" clauses that nothing counts unless it's in the written agreement. If you have not included significant promises or representations in the contract, you should not count on receiving them. Oral promises before or

during signing may have no legal significance. Nor may brochures, web pages and emails unless "incorporated" into the contract.

V. Using Consultants

- Achieving a good outcome requires a team effort.
- Honestly assess whether the Association has the ability to prepare adequate specifications for the work.
- Honestly assess whether the Association has the ability to manage the project, accurately process payment applications, monitor the work, and assess whether the work meets the requirements of the contract documents.

VI. Closing Thoughts

- Boards should have their association's legal counsel review all contracts before signing them. At minimum, following the recommendations of legal counsel should protect your board from any argument that directors have failed to discharge their fiduciary duty.
- Although your association will have to pay legal fees for your attorneys' work, consider the legal review a form of insurance against common pitfalls. The association will be protected by a clear agreement that everyone hopefully understands; various safeguards may be built into the agreement; and you may have a binding and enforceable agreement that a court or arbitrator will uphold in the event of a dispute.
- However, legal review will not guarantee a successful outcome. Success will depend upon team effort -- the collective effort of your managing agent, contractor or vendor, board representatives, legal

counsel, design professionals, project managers, etc.

If everyone does their job, you will have a successful outcome without having to take legal action to enforce your association's contractual rights.

Performance and Payment Bonds

By way of background, performance bonds are issued by sureties. A surety is like a guarantor and is typically an insurance company. The surety agrees to pay for the performance of a contract if the Contractor defaults in the performance of the contract. A payment bond is an agreement in which the surety assures the obligee (the Association) that the persons providing labor, materials and equipment to the project will be paid by the principal/Contractor. In many cases, Association governing documents require Boards to procure bonds for improvements to the project.

If the Contractor fails to provide bonds and fails to perform the work or pay subcontractors or suppliers, the Association may have very little recourse against the Contractor if it is judgment proof. While a bond will not provide the Association a complete guarantee of performance, it will provide the Association with substantial protection in the event of a problem. If the Contractor fails to perform, the Association may have no effective recourse. It is a business decision for the Board whether to require bonds, unless they are required by the governing documents.

Although we recommend that Associations procure performance and payment bonds as they provide some assurance that the Contractor will perform in accordance with its terms and conditions of the contract, the following are additional factors that the Board may consider when deciding whether to require a bond:

1. If the Contractor fails to provide bonds and fails to perform the work or pay subcontractors or suppliers, the Association may have very little recourse against the Contractor if, for example, it is judgment proof or files for bankruptcy. While a bond will not provide the Association a complete guarantee of performance, it will provide the Association with substantial protection in the event of a problem. Thus, the Association should obtain bonds if the amount of the contract is significant and the Association will experience financial hardship if the Contractor fails to perform. Conversely, if the contract sum is small and the Association has the resources to "self-insure" the project, then bonds may not be necessary.

2. Although we do not have any statistical data, we believe it is within the standard of care of community associations in Hawai`i to obtain bonds for repair projects. In our experience in assisting Associations with repair projects, a substantial majority of Associations procure bonds. At a 2007 seminar presented by the Hawai`i Chapter of the Community Associations Institute, the President of Alakai Mechanical Corporation, one of the largest companies in its field in Hawai`i, informed community association leaders: "Always require performance and payment bonds no matter how big the company may be." The Board should keep in

General Discussion of Performance and Payment Bonds Page 2

mind that while an owner could not argue that the Board breached its fiduciary duty by requiring the Contractor to provide performance and payment bonds, if the Contractor failed to perform and the Association were damaged by the Contractor's failure to perform, an owner could certainly argue that the Board breached its fiduciary duty by failing to require bonds.

3. The need for bonds is greater where the Association is required to pay substantial amounts up front. Conversely, a bond may be of lesser importance if payments are due upon final completion of the work. In that event, the Association may withhold payment if the Contractor fails to adequately perform the work. Unfortunately, most Contractors require substantial payments up front. If, after receiving the initial payment, the Contractor fails to perform and refuses to return the initial payment, the Association may have no effective recourse.

4. The Association should obtain bonds when working with a Contractor with whom the Association does not have a substantial business relationship. Where the parties do not have established a course of dealing, there is a greater likelihood of disputes arising over performance of the contract. While we recommend bonds for all contracts, the Board may feel that bonds are not necessary where it has had a long relationship with a particular Contractor.

5. Given that the Contractor has a vested interest to maintain a good relationship with its surety, and the Contractor's claims history may affect its ability to obtain bonds in the future, the procurement of a bond and possibility of involving the surety in a dispute may provide the Contractor with an incentive to resolve disputes with the Association before they lead to claims with the surety.

6. A bonded Contractor has obtained the stamp of approval of the surety. Not all Contractors are bonded. A Contractor with a poor history may not be bondable. A bond charge (e.g., 4%) may be an indication of a poor loss history. By requiring a performance bond, the Association will be somewhat protected by the surety overseeing the affairs of the Contractor. Given that sureties must guaranty performance of contracts, they must carefully monitor the operations of the Contractors.

7. Note that an AIA A312 bond should provide protection for 2 years. Although the Association will make progress payments and have the work inspected before making payments, it may not discover defects until after it has paid the Contractor for the work.

In summary, the Board can easily justify the expense of a bond to owners, however, the Board would have difficulty explaining to owners why it did not require a bond.












e. transmitted by any other means.











































Special Presentation Outline: 2021 Meetings Blunders to Avoid For: Hawaii Chapter of the Community Associations Institute By: Steve Glanstein, Professional Registered Parliamentarian

1. Pre-meeting planning

- a. Governing documents: DCC&Rs, Declaration, Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Permanently adopted meeting rules
- b. Posting requirements, deadlines
- c. Candidate or individual statements requesting proxies; black text on white paper
- d. Notice, Mailing, Agenda (Bylaws)
- e. Proxies
- f. Quantity of administrative personnel

2. Meeting check-in

- a. Up to date owners' list
- b. Proxies
- c. Room logistics
- d. Entry control
- e. Handout control and unauthorized handouts
- f. Ballot control

3. Quorum Issues

- a. What are options with no quorum?
- b. Do you have a backup plan?
- c. Can a meeting be cancelled?
- d. What if a quorum is lost during the meeting?
- e. Owner outside door and quorum issues

4. Conduct of Meeting

- a. Who chairs the meeting? Professional presiding officer vs. parliamentarian
- b. Who chairs the meeting if President and Vice-president not there?
- c. Hazards of property manager chairing the meeting
- d. Are there any meeting rules?
- e. Meeting rules permanently adopted? Explicit record in minutes?
- f. Who takes the minutes?
- g. Contents of minutes (https://cca.hawaii.gov/reb/files/2020/12/CB2012.pdf)

5. <u>Reports of Officers</u>

- a. Written vs. verbal reports
- b. Report length
- c. President's Report [especially HRS §414D-101(d)(1)]
- d. Treasurer's Report
- e. Other Reports, such as site manager, committees, etc.
- f. Nominating Committee Report if in bylaws (Note any requirement in the bylaws for placement in the agenda)

6. Appointment of Tellers, sometimes called Inspectors of Election

- a. Ideal selection
- b. What to avoid
- c. Responsibility for counting
- d. Guidelines for counting

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7. Nomination of Candidates to the Board of Directors

- a. Eligibility
- b. Names preprinted on ballots
- c. Multiple nominations by one person
- d. Absentee nominations
- e. Nominating Speeches
- f. Questions and Answers

8. Election of Directors

- a. What are the terms?
- b. Interim vacancies?
- c. Is a ballot vote required in the bylaws? If so, where is it?
- d. Can a ballot vote be waived if ballot is required in the bylaws? Consequences?
- e. Exception to ballot vote
- f. Requirements for election including cumulative voting, majority present, and incomplete elections
- g. Quick check on ballot calculations
- h. Removal and Replacement issues
- i. Effective time of election

9. New Business Items

- a. IRS Tax Resolution (get from CPA!)
- b. Rent Collection Resolution (get from attorney!)
- c. Common Area Resolution (get from attorney!)
- d. Motions ordering action in violation of the bylaws
- e. Approval of Property Management Contract
- f. Surprise Declaration or Bylaw Amendments

10. Board Organization Meeting, sometimes called Board Annual Meeting

- a. Who chairs the meeting?
- b. Legitimate business
- c. Deadlocked officer elections
- d. Postponement

11. Post-Meeting issues

- a. Check-in lists, ballots, proxy requests
- b. Election Challenges, counting errors
- c. Recount petition or call of Special Meeting
- d. Minutes to parliamentarian for review

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