STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

In the Matter of

HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, AFSCME, LOCAL 152, AFL-CIO,

Exclusive Representative,

and

DAVID IGE, Governor, State of Hawaii; BOARD OF REGENTS, University of Hawaii, State of Hawaii; and DAVID LASSNER, President, University of Hawaii, State of Hawaii,

Employers.

CASE NO.: 18-I-08-173
ORDER NO. 3447

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING WHETHER THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE AND THE EMPLOYERS SHOULD BE DETERMINED TO HAVE COMMITTED A PROHIBITED PRACTICE FOR FAILURE TO SELECT THE NEUTRAL ARBITRATOR UNDER HRS § 89-11(e)(2)(A)

Hawai‘i Revised Statutes § 89-11(e)(2)(A) provides:

(2) Arbitration. If the impasse continues twenty days after the date of impasse, the board shall immediately notify the employer and the exclusive representative that the impasse shall be submitted to a three-member arbitration panel who shall follow the arbitration procedure provided herein.
(A) Arbitration panel. Two members of the arbitration panel shall be selected by the parties; one shall be selected by the employer and one shall be selected by the exclusive representative. The neutral third member of the arbitration panel, who shall chair the arbitration panel, shall be selected by mutual agreement of the parties. In the event that the parties fail to select the neutral third member of the arbitration panel within thirty days from the date of impasse, the board shall request the American Arbitration Association, or its successor in function, to furnish a list of five qualified arbitrators from which the neutral arbitrator shall be selected. Within five days after receipt of the list, the parties shall alternately strike names from the list until a single name is left, who shall be immediately appointed by the board as the neutral arbitrator and chairperson of the arbitration panel.

(Emphasis added)

By letter, dated January 4, 2019, the American Arbitration Association (AAA) provided a list of the arbitrators to the parties in this case.

On January 18, 2019, the Hawai‘i Labor Relations Board (Board) received a letter from the Exclusive Representative Hawai‘i Government Employees Association requesting that the Board contact AAA regarding “serious concerns” regarding the whether the provided list comported with the requirements for the list of arbitrators set forth in Board’s letter of December 20, 2018 to AAA.

Based on these facts, the Board finds that the parties in this case appear to have not complied with the requirements of HRS § 89-11(e)(2)(A) to select the neutral arbitrator/chairperson of the arbitration panel within five days after receipt of the list.

The Board hereby orders that the parties appear at a hearing on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Board’s hearing room, 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 434 to show cause regarding whether they should be found to have committed a violation of HRS § 89-13 prohibited practices.

Copy to:
Randy Perreira, HGEA Executive Director
Kapono Apao, HGEA Union Agent
The Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai‘i
Ryker Wada, Chief Negotiator, Office of Collective Bargaining, State of Hawai‘i
Lee Putnam, Chair, Board of Regents
David Lassner, President, University of Hawaii
Sarah Hirakami, University of Hawai‘i Dir. of Coll. Barg. & Emp. Rel. 