

FINALISTS

HAWAI`I COUNTY SEAT

- Wayne S. Higaki
- Peter S. Hoffmann
- Eric S. Takamura

Wayne S. Higaki

Wayne S. Higaki is an Assistant Administrator at Queen's North Hawaii Community Hospital, an affiliate of The Queen's Health Systems located in Kamuela on Hawaii Island. Higaki has served in several capacities at North Hawaii Community Hospital since it opened in 1996 including Vice President of Public Affairs and Vice President of Clinical and Support Services.

Higaki began his professional career in California as a Radiation Therapy Technologist at Sutter Memorial Hospital in Sacramento followed by management roles in Radiation Oncology Departments at Fresno Community Hospital and Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach.

Higaki currently serves on the University of Hawaii Board of Regents and is a member of the Planning & Facilities, Intercollegiate Athletics, Academic & Student Affairs and Independent Audit Committees. He has served as Chairperson of Hawaii County's Workforce Investment Board and as a member of the Workforce Development Council for the State of Hawaii. He was appointed to three State Health Planning and Development Agency councils including the Statewide Health Coordinating Council, Hawaii County Subarea Council and Certificate of Need Review Panel. He also served as Board President of the Hamakua Health Center and as a member of the Waimea Community Association's Board of Directors. He is a member of the Mayor's Healthcare Sustainability Taskforce and the Hawaii Island Healthcare Alliance Steering Committee.

Higaki was born and raised in Honokaa on Hawaii Island, graduated from Honokaa High School and received an associate of science degree from Kapiolani Community College.

PETER S. HOFFMANN

EDUCATION:

- BS Degree Accounting – St. Peter’s University, Jersey City, NJ
- MA Degree History – New York University, New York, NY
- Army War College – Carlisle Barracks, PA
- Ulumau Leadership Series – Hawaii County

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- 1965-1993: Various assignments world-wide on active duty – US Army Intelligence. Retired in the rank of Colonel as US Defense Attache to the Republic of Austria.
- 1993-1996: Director, Mission Support for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), a 55 nation conflict prevention organization headquartered in Vienna, Austria.
- 1997-2004: Actively involved in a wide range of community organizations on Hawaii Island to include Editor of a monthly newspaper for the Waikoloa Village Association, President of the Waikoloa Senior Center, Director for a Community Learning Center, President and Founder of the non-profit Waikoloa Community Development Corporation, among other activities.
- 2004-2012: Elected four times as County Councilman for the Kohala District, served two years as Council Chair, and several months as Council Vice-Chair.
- 2013-Present: Continue to participate in a wide variety of community based activities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Developed and directed support operations, to include the personnel and budgetary structure, for ten deployed OSCE field offices in Eastern Europe to include those for the 1996 Bosnia elections.
- Applied innovative approaches for the management of a multi-faceted organization consisting of more than 600 people, in 63 job categories, located in six states.
- Compiled Army Intelligence budget documentation for DOD totaling over \$1 billion while successfully presenting and defending this data before four separate Congressional committees.
- Prepared numerous resolutions and bills for County Council consideration that addressed land use reform, environmental problems, housing, senior assistance, and low-income family support island-wide, among other issues.

OTHER INFORMATION:

- Currently serving on the Board of Directors of Hope Services, after a one-year hiatus, returning to the Board of Directors of the West Hawaii Community Health Center this month, on the Board of Directors of Community Forums, a public outreach organization in West Hawaii, and has previously served four years on the Board of Directors of the Kamuela Philharmonic Orchestra.
- Is a substitute teacher at Waikoloa Elementary/Middle School.
- Has served on a diocesan-wide commission for affordable housing for the Bishop of the Diocese of Honolulu, and served on a diocesan-wide commission for stewardship.
- Currently is the Executive Director and founder of HALE O HAWAII, a non-profit affordable housing land trust in Hawaii County.
- Married to Joan for 57 years - four children, ten grandchildren.

Eric S. Takamura

Eric Takamura is currently the Deputy Chief Engineer for the County of Hawaii's Wastewater Division where he oversees both the operations and maintenance and capital improvements projects. Previously, he served as the Director for Environmental Services for the City and County of Honolulu directing both the solid waste and wastewater divisions.

Eric has worked as an Assistant Professor at the University of Hawaii @ Manoa in the College of Engineering, as well as an Assistant Professor at Portland State University in Oregon.

Eric's broad environmental engineering experience includes employment at large research and development Institutions like Oak Ridge National Laboratories. His Master Thesis helped support work being performed at Los Alamos National Laboratory. His 40 years of experience has included public, quasi-government, and private sector entities.

Eric was born and raised in Kahuku (Oahu), is a graduate of Kahuku High School and the University of Hawaii @ Manoa. Post graduate studies were at the University of Texas @ Austin where he completed his Master's and Ph.D. degrees.