



Regular Monthly Meeting  
10 a.m. Wednesday, October 1, 2025  
Mayors' Council Conference Room  
Hagåtña, Guam

**MINUTES**

I. **CALL TO ORDER:** *President Mayor Jesse L.G. Alig* called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. **ROLL CALL:**

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| ALIG, Jesse L.G.          | Mayor      | Piti                |
| ALVAREZ, Dale C. P.       | Mayor      | Santa Rita-Sumai    |
| ARROYO, Richard B.        | Mayor      | Agana Heights       |
| BAUTISTA, Jessie P.       | Vice Mayor | Barrigada           |
| BENAVENTE, Peter John S.  | Mayor      | Dededo              |
| V BLAS, June U.           | Mayor      | Barrigada           |
| BLAS, PEDRO               | Vice Mayor | Yigo                |
| CHAMPACO, Franklin J. Q.  | Mayor      | Malesso'            |
| CHARGUALAF, Anthony P.    | Mayor      | Inaláhan            |
| O FEJERAN, Christopher J. | Vice Mayor | Hagat               |
| GUMATAOTAO, Michael T.    | Mayor      | Hagåtña             |
| HOFMANN, Robert RDC       | Mayor      | Sinajana            |
| LEON GUERRERO, Ann S. SA  | Vice Mayor | Dededo              |
| LIZAMA, Frances S.        | Mayor      | Yigo                |
| PACO, Rudy A.             | Mayor      | Mongmong-Toto-Maite |
| QUINATA, Johnny A.        | Mayor      | Humatak             |
| V RIVERA, Louise C.       | Mayor      | Tamuning            |
| SALAS, Frankie            | Mayor      | Asan-Maina          |
| V SANTOS, Wayne SN        | Mayor      | Chalan Pago-Ordot   |
| SUSUICO, Kevin J.T.       | Mayor      | Hagat               |
| TAITAGUE, Vicente S.      | Mayor      | Talo'fo'fo'         |
| TERLAJE, Brian J.         | Mayor      | Yofia               |
| O TOSCO, Edward J. D.     | Vice Mayor | Mangilao            |
| TOVES, Albert M.          | Vice Mayor | Tamuning            |
| O UNGACTA, Allan R.G.     | Mayor      | Mangilao            |

**O = ABSENT \* = LATE \*\* = OFF ISLAND R = REPRESENTATIVE V = VIRTUAL**  
Eighteen (18) members present at time of roll call. A quorum was established.

### III. NATIONAL ANTHEM / GUAM HYMN

| IV. 001-25 | <b>GUEST SPEAKERS –</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| A.         | <p><b>Felix Reyes and Zach Yamada – Western Pacific Regional Fishery</b></p> <p>Felix Reyes introduces Zach Yamada and Alex Min, who will share information about community consultation meetings. Zach Yamada explains their presence, mentioning funding from the Inflation Reduction Act for community meetings. Alex Min presents feedback from 18 community meetings across the region, highlighting climate change, ecosystem changes, and community concerns. Alex Min discusses a capacity-building program and the importance of community voices in fisheries management. Alex Min shares key points from community feedback, including ecosystem changes, habitat shifts, and species cycles. Concerns about rising costs, shark depredation, and the need for youth stewardship and accessible data are discussed. Recommendations include youth stewardship, community-led monitoring, clear boundary markers, and managing cultural concerns. Alex Min outlines future meetings and workshops, emphasizing the importance of community voices in decision-making. Mayor Alig opens the floor for questions, with Mayor Hofmann asking about food security and access to sustainable local fish. Alex Min responds, mentioning the need for more fishermen to sustainably harvest fish.</p> |
| B.         | <p><b>Kylon Eckert – Teacher, Harvest Christian Academy</b></p> <p>Mayor Alig thanks the guest speakers and introduces the next guest speaker, Kylan Eckert from Harvest Christian Academy. Kylan Eckert presents his proposal for redesigning village flags to make them more effective and culturally relevant. He discusses design principles such as simplicity, meaningful symbolism, and avoiding duplication. Kylan shares examples of redesigned flags for various villages, emphasizing the importance of community involvement. Mayor Alig supports the idea and suggests forming a committee to work on flag redesigns with each mayor's office.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| C.         | <p><b>Mayor Alig introduces Miguel Bordallo from GWA to discuss the presence of dieldrin in Guam's aquifer. Miguel provides a detailed history of dieldrin use and its presence in Guam's groundwater. He explains the lack of federal regulation for dieldrin and GWA's efforts to monitor and report its presence. Miguel outlines GWA's actions to address dieldrin, including planning and engineering for treatment systems. Miguel details GWA's efforts to design and construct treatment systems for affected wells. He discusses the procurement process and the timeline for completing the interim and permanent solutions. Miguel addresses concerns about the impact of shutting down wells and the need for operational adjustments. He mentions the development of a water safety information site and the provision of bottled water to affected customers. Mayor Hofmann asks about the frequency of water quality reports and the coordination with the military's</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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|  | <p>testing. Miguel explains the timing of water quality reports and the independence of different water systems. Mayor Alig and other mayors ask about the timeline for interim solutions and the availability of bottled water. Miguel provides detailed answers, emphasizing GWA's proactive efforts and the importance of clear communication with the public. Vice Mayor Ann inquires about the frequency of updates for the FAQs provided by GWA and Guam EPA. Miguel explains that the FAQs will remain updated, and bi-weekly updates will be issued jointly with Guam EPA. Vice Mayor Ann expresses concerns about exposure to contaminated water, including drinking and bathing. Miguel defers to Guam EPA and their toxicologists for guidance on water quality and advisory updates. Vice Mayor Ann asks about the timeline for detecting exposure to contaminated water. Miguel advises consulting a physician for special conditions or concerns regarding drinking water. Mayor Arroyo thanks Miguel Bordallo for his availability and hard work. Miguel acknowledges the presence of various mayors and their questions, including a request for water testing. Miguel explains the process for sampling and testing for deodorant, including the cost and logistics. Mayor Arroyo inquires about the financial and administrative steps for requesting water testing. Miguel clarifies that local laboratory testing is available without additional cost, while off-island testing is more expensive. Mayor Arroyo thanks Miguel for the detailed explanation and acknowledges the challenges of island-wide testing.</p> |
|  | Mayor Alig introduces Attorney Killman as the legal counsel present.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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| <b>V. 002-25</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES</b> – Mayor Taitague motioned to approve the September Minutes, Seconded by Mayor Quinata. Motion carries. |
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| <b>VI. 003-25</b> | <b>APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT</b> – Mayor Lizama motioned to approve the Treasurers Report, Seconded by Mayor Benavente. Motion carries. |
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| <b>VII. 004-25</b> | <b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Joy Jean R. Arceo</b>                                                                                                                                                    |
|                    | Executive Director Joy Jean reports on the procurement matters and the awarding of the tire bid to Guahan Waste Control and Ms. Jo Ann will be the point of contact and ready to assist with their needs. |
|                    | Executive Director Joy Jean provides an update on the executive director's annual performance report and the progress in finance, human resources, procurement, and partnering programs.                  |
|                    | Mayor Alig inquires about the status of AV or IT personnel hiring and the challenges faced.                                                                                                               |
|                    | Executive Director Joy Jean confirms that the recruitment process is ongoing, and the council is considering a classified recruitment process.                                                            |
|                    | Mayor Alig asks for updates on the software and vehicle purchases, and Joy Jean provides details on the progress and challenges.                                                                          |

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| <b>VIII. 005-25</b> | <b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>A.</b>           | <b>Boards and Commissions –</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                     | <p>Mayor Alig moves on to the Commission on Decolonization. Vice Mayor Pedro notes that there is none to report. Mayor Alig asks Vice Mayor Pedro to reach out when she returns on island. Mayor Alig calls for the Guam Invasive Species Council and commends Mayor Gumataotao for his attendance. Mayor Gumataotao reports on the establishment of an emergency green waste site management plan and the formation of a subcommittee. Mayor Terlaje provides an update on GDOE's search for a new superintendent and the discussion on stopping double sessions. Mayor Alig and Mayor Terlaje discuss the need for facilities maintenance. Mayor Alig requests Mayor Benavente and Mayor Terlaje converse about Astumbo and the MOU that transpired, and if the both Mayors can speak about it before the meeting. Mayor Kevin announces the Maga Haga awards ceremony and that he will coordinate visiting each office to drop off tickets for purchase. Mayor Alig thanks the mayors for purchasing tickets for the Kaha event and mentions the importance of supporting the Mayor's Council of Guam. Mayor Hofmann reports on GVB's delay in uploading the fiscal year's money and the upcoming grant requests for October events. Mayor Alig and Mayor Hofmann discuss the financial support for various events and the importance of timely funding. Mayor Alig moves on to the UOG Board of Regents. Mayor Wayne reports there is a meeting tomorrow so nothing to report on. Mayor Alig calls on Mayor Salas for Veteran Affairs. Mayor Salas informs there was a meeting last week and the event on Veterans Day, November 11 at Ypao Beach. Mayor Salas reminds the Mayors to prepare their nominees for Veteran's Day. Mayor Alig introduces the Community Health Centers and asks Mayor Chargualaf to report. Mayor Chargualaf reports on the efforts to make the Guam Community Health Center autonomous and the need to change the public perception of public health services. Mayor Chargualaf discuss the importance of encouraging veterans to apply for compensation and the potential economic benefits.</p> |
|                     | <p>Mayor Alig asks if Mayor Hofmann has anything to report on the Christmas Committee. Mayor Hofmann notes that Mayor Alig asked Mayor Hofmann to chair the Christmas Committee. Mayor Hofmann informs that the Christmas will be on December 12<sup>th</sup> at Leo Palace and his team will be reaching out to get representatives.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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| <b>IX. 006-25</b> | <b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>A.</b>         | <p>FY2026 Budget - Mayor Alig reviews the FY 2026 budget and the need to reconsider certain line items due to budget reductions. The council discusses the need for internet services upgrade and the potential impact of a federal grant on the budget. The council debates the cost and necessity of training for district-wide training and the potential impact on the budget. Mayor Alig and the council discuss the allocation of funds for training and the importance of investing in staff development. The council discusses the</p> |

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|                  | <p>allocation of funds for heavy equipment and the potential impact on vehicle maintenance. Mayor Hofmann suggests dividing the funds among the districts for rental or purchase of heavy equipment. The council debates the need for centralized control of heavy equipment versus district-specific allocation. Mayor Alig and the council agree to remove the heavy equipment line item and consider future allocations based on need. The council reviews the final budget adjustments, including the removal of the heavy equipment line item and the allocation of funds for training and other needs. Mayor Alig emphasizes the importance of making informed decisions and ensuring the budget reflects the council's priorities. Mayor Alig calls for a motion to distribute \$440,000 to 19 villages equally by Mayor Gumataotao and seconded by Mayor Arroyo. Mayor Hofmann emphasizes the importance of decentralized budgeting, urging mayors to allocate funds responsibly for staff training and other necessary expenses. Mayor Alig confirms the motion passed with 15 votes in favor. Discussion on allocating an additional \$2 million for operations, with a motion by Vice Mayor Bautista and seconded by Mayor Chargualaf. Mayor Alig motions to support for the Chamorro language program and student exchange program, Motion carries.</p> |
|                  | <p>MCOG Standard Operating Procedures - Mayor Alig discusses pending amendments to the standing operating procedures (SOPs) and the need for timelines for deposits and invoicing. Executive Director Joy Jean informs the council that procurement requests over \$15,000 must go through the General Service Agency (GSA). Mayor Hofmann suggests advocating for the Mayor's Council to have procurement delegation up to a certain level, such as \$50,000. Joy Jean explains that DPW currently holds the authority for construction procurement, but Mayor Hofmann argues for more autonomy for the Mayor's Council.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|                  | <p>81st Guam Liberation - Mayor Terlaje expresses disappointment over the decision to allow the Queen's float to proceed without the full royal court present. Mayor Hofmann suggests adopting an order of march to ensure proper parade organization and avoid such incidents in the future. Mayor Susuico supports the idea, emphasizing the need for better planning and coordination to avoid rushing the parade. Mayor Alig thanks Mayor BJ for his leadership and asks for comments on the financial closeout of the 81st Guam liberation. Mayor Susuico reports that the financial section of the 81st liberation is closed out, but some checks have not cleared yet. Mayor Alig suggests waiting until the November meeting to make a final decision on the financial accounting. Mayor Terlaje expresses interest in continuing as chairman for the 82nd liberation, with the support of the 81st liberation committee. Mayor Alig asks the council if they want to continue organizing the liberation festivities, considering the challenges and legal requirements.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>X. 007-25</b> | <b>NEW BUSINESS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                  | Island Wide Environmental Cleanup Program -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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|  | <p>Senior Center Operations - Mayor Alig discusses the need to renew the contract for senior center operations, expressing concerns about the financial sustainability and the role of public health. Mayor Hofmann highlights the need for better maintenance and support for senior centers, suggesting a review of the contract terms and deliverables. Mayor Alig proposes a meeting on October 6 to discuss the renewal, emphasizing the importance of equitable funding and participation. Executive Director Joy Jean clarifies the legal requirements for renewing the contract and the need to ensure proper funding and operations.</p> |
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| <b>XI. 008-25</b> | <b>EXECUTIVE SESSION</b> |
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| <b>XII. 009-25</b> | <b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                    | <p>Mayor Alig announces the approval of a \$750,000 grant from the Federal Programs Office to address cybersecurity and defense family needs in the villages. Mayor Hofmann mentions the need to obtain a UID for the Mayor's Council to apply for grants. Mayor Alig thanks the Youth Congress for recognizing the Mayor's Council with a resolution designating October 20, 2025, as Mayor's Council of Guam Day. Mayor Alig invites mayors to a meeting on October 14 to discuss CCDF certification and other opportunities for their villages.</p> |

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| <b>XII. 0010-25</b> | <b>ADJOURNMENT</b> – The meeting adjourned at 3:01 p.m. |
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Attested by:



**MAYOR LOUISE C. RIVERA**  
Council Executive Secretary  
18<sup>th</sup> Mayors' Council of Guam

Transcribed by:



**Beatrice "Bing" Cruz**  
Private Secretary  
MCOG – Administration