

GAME MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: January 16, 2019

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Room 322C, Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

PURPOSE: Game Management Advisory Commission Meeting (#10)

DRAFT MINUTES

ITEM 1. Call to order, introductions of members, staff, and visitors; request for move-ups on the agenda.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Lori Buchanan—Molokai (Chair)

Robert Cremer—Kauai

Josiah Jury—Oahu

Stanley Ruidas—Lanai

Nancy Timko—Oahu

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Glennon Gingo —West Hawaii

Ryan Kohatsu—East Hawaii

Robert Masuda—Representative of the Chair of DLNR

STAFF (DOFAW):

Andrew Choy, Hunter Education

Jim Cogswell

Dietra Myers-Tremblay

Darren Ogura, Hunter Education

Sarah Way

VISITORS:

James K Manaku Sr.

Comm. Buchanan: Aloha and good morning everyone, welcome to the January 16, 2019 meeting of the Game Management Advisory Commission. We're calling this meeting to order, and a note for the record: one member is stuck in traffic and we're moving on without quorum, because we don't have any action items right now, and even if we do—it says on Item 3—our member might be here. So in the meantime we're going to start with an introduction of who's here... For the record, there are no members of the public here. So if there's nothing to move up by request of the commissioners here, then we're going to move to Item 2.

ITEM 2. A discussion on proposed legislation.

Comm. Buchanan: For the record, in front of us are submissions from the Hawaii Game Management Advisory Council. They were given to us at the last meeting. There have been some minor changes and submission again. What the game commission was hoping for is some support from this GMAC, and yesterday, three GMAC members were with one member of the game commission from Hawaii Island,

and we discussed the proposed legislation that they're looking to find members of the legislature to submit.

Okay, so we jumped in on a scheduled meeting that Hawaii Island GMAC had with Chair Yamane. Chair Yamane is the chair of Water and Land and Hawaiian Affairs in the House. They were asking him to do submissions of this that you have in front of you. Yamane didn't think that he could support the requests on the constitutional amendments because it was a heavy lift for him, and that would require wide-spread support, but he was amenable to editing and submitting the other three requests—and I think we came up with a total of four requests—and then suggested that, because he was almost at the limit of the number of bills he could submit and the close of submission is this Friday for regular bills, so we're kind of behind. I wouldn't say 'we' because this is not coming from us, this is coming from the Hawaii Island GMAC, but with support from us. He suggested that we meet with other legislators, which we did. After that... Commissioner Cremer was lucky enough to get Senate President to see us at three o'clock yesterday, and he explained that he would also be happy to also support a bill, but his position as senate president doesn't allow him to do that, and he suggested that we get someone else from the senate, preferably from Hawaii Island to support a concurrent type of bill out of the Senate, so we said 'okay, we'll try to do that.' But in the meantime we just had a really good discussion. Mr. Gerwig joined us with Nani from the GMAC, and I think Gerwig is NRA? So we felt like we had a really good discussion, and Senate President is clearly open and supportive of the GMAC. He also said that if we're having issues with our collaboration with the Department, he can also be a person that we can go to probably have a discussion with Chair Case and the Deputy if needed, so that was nice. It was really good to go yesterday because it wasn't a madhouse like today is going to be, and it gave us time to actually have a discussion.

We also met with Creagan, head of AG. With the thought that we don't know how the bill is going to get routed, and we definitely need to meet with the chair of Judiciary, because some of that is more than likely going to the judiciary. But we did meet with Creagan who is the chair of Ag., and he was nice and open too, and supportive, so nobody chased us out and said we were crazy, so that was good. And we did try to stop by, we left messages at several offices, and then who we missed yesterday we'll try to see today in all of the whoop-de-doo. And then try emailing some people. Anything else you'd like to know, Josiah? Everyone said 'where's Josiah? Where's the Oahu rep?' Just joking. But it was good. We kind of got a feel of how the dynamics are working out this year and it's kind of interesting, so... Yeah, but I think it would be really helpful, I think it will be a good year. We hope we narrowed our scope and goals for 2019, baby steps. And then we hope to rally our communities to strongly support at least two of the four bills going through, because we think that they'll get a lot of support for it. I think the Hawaii Island GMAC feels that this Board has been not very successful in the two years that we've been here, and it's new, so everybody is learning to live with each other, and so far it's okay. That's it. I would like to say one thing, I did not finish the legislative report, so we are officially late. I think it would help in 2019 not to have a meeting in December right before a federal shutdown. That's no excuse, it's just that by the end of next week we should have it submitted. Senate President is aware of that so we're all good, because we're not doing any major briefings and DLNR is too, so they never had to have all that in front of them. I take the blame for that, I apologize. Lesson learned: no meetings in December. Maybe after Thanksgiving, in November, I don't know. But having one in December is kind of rough when by the 15th you have to already have your legislative report done and you cannot listen to your minutes.

Comm. Jury: we apologize for not being there. When this was given to us through email, I looked at some of the changes that they're asking about and I think it's only going to benefit us as a commission as well as the people we represent on our islands. I think it's going to help bring more transparency to both

sides, including ourselves, to know and explain to our island what's going on, so I think it's good. I'm looking at it and hoping we can approach some people today and get more people on board.

Comm. Buchanan: Okay, if there's no more discussion on Item 2, we'd like to move Item 4 up before Item 3 and then move Item 3 to after Item 4. Any objections? For the record, seeing none, we're moving on to Item 4.

ITEM 4. A short report by each commissioner summarizing their meetings with DOFAW staff on the island that they represent.

COMMISSIONER RUIDAS ARRIVED.

Comm. Buchanan: Okay, we move to Item 4. Nancy, you want to start? We know you were in Reno.

Comm. Timko: Yes, I didn't meet with Jason, I was in Reno for the SCI convention. Nationally they're working on establishing a youth membership which we've asked for for the year, so at the convention we rolled out a new SCI youth membership to bring in the youth and hopefully keep them in the hunting community and get our hunting numbers up. It was a good convention, there were about 30,000 attendees over four days and exhibitors from all over the world, and I did come back rich.

Comm. Buchanan: Nancy, I have a question on the SCI national front. I'm assuming they work closely and they have a lobbyist in Washington DC?

Comm. Timko: SCI moved their official office to DC so that they are there 24/7 and lobbying for our interests.

Comm. Buchanan: Are they having movement? I mean, good reception in DC? What are they working on?

Comm. Timko: I have to admit I don't know what they're working on right now, but when the main meeting comes up and they have their legislative date I'll let you know.

Comm. Jury: What's been going on is the same thing, been talking to the Oahu wildlife manager. The only continued concerns I'm getting from the island is the update on the birds this year at Kuaokala, if there's going to be any movement. Last year there wasn't any releases, we know that, because of some housing issues for the birds coming in, and people wanted to know updates on that, what's going to happen this year, how can the community be a part of it if they need help, how can the hunting community support DOFAW in allowing the bird hunting... to be released this year. In addition to that, a lot of bird hunters are concerned about that missile defense stuff. I think currently at this time they might be doing the EIS or something, and I know that they're going to be talking to the stakeholders. So we understand that they're probably going to consult with DOFAW of course because the land, so just to have the representation that that is a prime bird hunting area on the island, not necessarily that anyone is objecting to the missile itself, it's just like what's going to happen to that parcel, and if there's going to be something happening this year and is something being proactively done so that way when construction does begin, between 60 and 160 acres, give or take, will the bird hunting community have an area to do that kind of stuff? And then I guess today we're going to follow up with some of the representatives on... it's been in limbo a long time with switching gears in Makaha and support for hunters to help with ungulate management in that area. It's still my understanding that DOFAW has a

land lease agreement with Board of Water Supply to do wildlife work or any species work in the area, and I think the end goal was to create a program where the hunting community can help support and work in partnership with Board of Water Supply and DOFAW as an additional tool to help regain management of feral goats and feral pigs. It's been in discussion for about a year, and I understand that the land lease, there's some wording that needs to be worked out, not many updates that I'm getting on that, what I hear not from the Department side but from the Board Water Supply side is that a lot of people retired, so it's moving slow. And that's kind of where I'm at with it. So it's been a year, and we just want to move forward. We understand all the issues and we did go in and try to revisit them, but the public hunters, for the record, are still concerned about not only game management but watershed management as well, so they want to be able to do their part in the valley and help protect the resources. So that's some stuff I'm going to follow up. That's the two biggest issues currently on Oahu- bird hunters and pig and goat guys.

Comm. Buchanan: Josiah, where are you guys on the Waianae hunting club, the aerial shooting and all that stuff?

Comm. Jury: So the Department, they had a meeting about it, Ryan Peralta reached out to me. He's going to set up a meeting in February with myself and one of the other Waianae Hunting Association members to kind of discuss what are the strategies going forward and then where we can go from there. I did inform Ryan the same thing I talked about in Makaha, I think, being so long they're going to bring back up the issue to discuss and work out between Ryan, Jason, and the aerial shooting and all that, it would be good if Board of Water Supply does show their involvement and say 'this is our part' because I believe that DOFAW has done all that they can do in terms of on their land, access areas and providing other avenues to go in working with the Waianae Hunting Association, but we do know Makaha plays a vital part in the aerial shooting because it's adjacent to two areas proposed, and if they could get a hand in there I think it would help with the community. It would help build some bridge in the partnership. So right now we're looking at February with Ryan, and I'll have an update from there. We'll see what's going to happen, and he was not really telling me what he was going to say because they're still working on it, but I kind of get all the reports from them. I did ask them, because it was brought up the last time that according to the Pittman-Robertson they have to be doing transect elevation surveys three times a year for population estimates or what have you for Waianae Kai and Makua Keaau for goat population, and Jason did provide me that information all the way up to 2015, but from 2015 to 2018, Forestry and WMWP kind of took over those surveys. Now the surveys that they did were a different type of surveys, so my question is: is that in place of the Pittman-Robertson, is it in addition to the Pittman-Robertson, or the Pittman-Robertson still should be being done? So that's where we're at with that. And that's just to get the trend of what's going on in the area, and just to assure that whatever we present on how Ryan is going to address the public, and Pittman-Robertson is a public thing everybody can look at. We want to show that the transect lines are reflected in the population estimates and all that kind of stuff is open.

Comm. Buchanan: I don't understand that part. So Pittman-Robertson money... monitoring and doing transects to get data on populations is another thing. So when you said that they're doing something different, they're changing the monitoring?

Comm. Jury: Well, what I'm saying is that Pittman-Robertson is one thing, you're right, elevation three times a year, that's what he said about Pittman-Robertson, and they have that data up until 2015, 2016. 2017 or from that year forward, because the aerial shooting was coming up they did aerials, but basically it's not the same protocol that they're doing. So the question is: are they continuing to do the

Pittman-Robertson or are they not doing it? Obviously the one that they're doing now, Ryan and WMWP, their end goal is for aerial shooting, you know what I mean? Does that answer your question?

Comm. Buchanan: It answers my question, but from the perspective of the managers it doesn't.

Jim Cogswell: It sounds like they change their survey strategies from a ground survey to an aerial survey, is that right?

Comm. Jury: They were always doing an aerial survey, the Pittman-Robertson those three different elevations...

Jim Cogswell: And then they just changed that.

Comm. Jury: Yes, basically the wildlife director gave me the information up to a point and then he directed me to the Forestry and WMWP for the rest of them, so that transition made me kind of... you know, is it supplementing, is it changing, is it not Pittman-Robertson? Just so when we talk to the public and they're presenting that, it's clear and transparent across.

Jim Cogswell: So I think surveys are still going on, they just changed their methodology.

Comm. Buchanan: You and I both know from a science perspective that if you're going to stick to something you're either historically going to do it right or historically do it wrong. Otherwise your measurements are always off. So I'm just wondering about that whole monitoring... what is that monitoring, how is it occurring, is it over the same lines, is it over time, is it photo monitoring, what is it?

Comm. Jury: I saw the data up until 2016 and that's why I've got to get back to them and present more of a clear understanding at the next GMAC, but I just wanted to give everyone the update, and the transition, they provided me with that.

Comm. Buchanan: It doesn't matter where your money comes from, your methodology should still be the same. Otherwise how are you going to measure your historical data to current data, unless it's justified that their old strategies are not working and they have to move to something new. So if you could let Ryan know I'm interested, if you guys get together, on seeing how that is working, even if it's in the February meeting or whatever, then I would probably want to hear that. Because if DOFAW is going to justify certain management actions based on data, then I want to know how that data is being captured.

Comm. Cremer: For me, I never had a chance to meet with my people. One thing that's going to happen in the near future, within the next week or two I think, is they're going to do re-sign ups for a year instead of six months for the goat hunt on Nounou Mountain. So they're going to have sign-ups before the end of January, and instead of six months it's going to be a one year trial, and if it works for the one year they're talking about maybe opening it up on a permanent basis. This one they're going to open up to more hunters, because sometimes when there are more people, more hunters, you get problems, so they're going to try opening it up to more hunters for one year, and if it works they're going to go ahead and try to open it up permanently. They're talking about opening up the GMA for doing that same archery stuff in the bird area during the non-bird hunting season. No report on Unit A so far. We talked about certain lands to trade, but from what I've been hearing and seeing I don't think that will work,

because they already have the pipes for the hydro standing by two miles away to be put in. Whether it's going to happen or not, it sure looks like it.

I'm not sure what the motive of that hydro is, who's going to benefit from it, but it's not my worry. My worry is about us being able to sustain that area, and my other worry, like I was discussing it with Chair, is it going to stop right there in that section that they want or are they going to continue going up to Puu O Pai, Trail 1, Trail 2, Trail 3, to the middle of the road, the boundary of which is Trail 5, and say 'okay, we're going to keep taking, taking.' This is the most prime land for birds and I'm just worried. Other than that, there are no other updates. Hopefully we can work out what we talked about as far as having the hunters go to the parks at Kalalau before the opening of the park, to go in and do some special hunts. I talked to Emma a bit about it yesterday and hopefully that will work out. That's all I've got.

Comm. Jury: When you say special hunts, you mean they're going to be able to go in prior to the...

Comm. Cremer: Before the park opens back up, yeah. And it looks like the park is not going to open until early May, so we've got some areas that times like from March until April that the ocean swell starts to die down so they would be able to go in there by boat instead of only hiking. Because the pig population is just starting to boom in Kalalau right now.

Comm. Buchanan: You think it would be helpful to talk to the commissioner from DHHL on Kauai?

Comm. Cremer: And who is that? It would be, at least we would know what's going on. Right now, it's like my eyes and ears are covered as far as the Department on both sides. Everything I've got is hearsay and what I see, so I see the pipes there.

Comm. Buchanan: I think it's already public knowledge. I've seen the plan, they're doing hydroelectric for solar, and the hydroelectric is just for the energy, like a battery. Bob is working on this, yeah?

Comm. Cremer: Yeah. From what I understand, the hydro will go in for a while and DHHL will be part of it, and as soon as it's successful KIUC is going to take over.

Comm. Buchanan: That's going to be a problem.

Comm. Ruidas: Last week Friday, the lottery for the deer hunting has been done on Maui. I think it was 2,400 hunters applied, which is down 400 from last year, which is pretty good because a lot of guys were criticizing the DOWFAW for making it does only instead of bucks, and a lot of guys want to shoot trophies. But not bad turnout. Still, housing is going to be tight, and I think it's going to be worse this year. No one had their cards out yet. The management plan for the GMA: there is a plan to write the plan, but I think Jim can elaborate more on whether there's funding for it or not.

Jim Cogswell: We're applying for funding through the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Comm. Buchanan: Okay, well we're not getting anything from Fish and Wildlife service right now. I tried to call enforcement ... The head of enforcement answered the phone, but they're not working right now except for emergencies. Okay, report from Molokai: No more big hunting news. We're just excited about the Navy coming over to train. We have a group of community members that is trying to work with our legislature and our congress people to stop the Navy from training on Molokai in our near shore fisheries and on our terrestrial lands in west Molokai. And we sent comments to Chair Case and all our

Congress people, we met with them. But that's the big deal now for Molokai, hunters and fishers are going to be impacted if the Navy proposal has a finding of no significant impact, and the authority to do that is the DLNR. So it will be up to the DLNR whether they're going to let the Navy off or put them through the wringer. So we hope they put them through the wringer, because we don't want them in our waters and on our land. So we're organizing on Molokai for that. And Shane sent out his stuff to everybody, you guys got Shane's hunting maps? No? I think it was the map about the priority, the areas, the designation. We did bring up at the legislature yesterday, Josiah, the discussion about Ka'ena Point. We did bring it up with whoever we met with. Surprisingly, Senate President wasn't aware. He wasn't aware of that, he wasn't aware of the Navy training, and he was wondering why nobody told him. So we told him. He's concerned about it, he says he's going to follow up, and it's also in the legislative report. And then one more thing... on your report, Josiah, who's proposing the Ka'ena Point, which branch of the DOD?

Andrew Choy: It's the Missile Defense Agency, they're independent. I read the EIS.

Comm. Buchanan: So would this commission... I would suggest that this commission write to whoever is proposing the action or development on top to have the GMAC listed as a stakeholder. So if the Missile Defense is going to have consultation, that we be a stakeholder to that consultation, and then the Department should support that, because DLNR has to give comments back, right? Because that's your land. I mean, it's our land... So we should be an additional stakeholder, and then I will move... do you guys have a Hawaiian organization that can also be a stakeholder to that discussion in Waianae?

Comm. Jury: Yes.

Comm. Buchanan: Okay. Them too. Because they can actually, under 106, be mandated to be consulted.

Comm. Jury: It was also brought up at our Na Ala Hele Trail and Access Committee, and a lot of them are concerned too because there are a lot of stakeholders in that GMA that are going to be affected whether it's the trail runners, hikers and that kind of stuff too. They're on the radar about it too because they weren't aware of it, and because it's happening it's going to pretty much cross a lot of that. But for Hawaiian stakeholders in Waianae, I can get that.

Comm. Buchanan: Yeah, because if it's an EA, now you're going to have to ask DLNR to move it. If it's an EIS then yeah, they have to go through [indiscernible] yeah? So if you guys don't know about it then they're not doing their job the way they should be. Also as the culture person on this Board, I'll also put in for that. Does anybody have an objection to that? No, okay. Then you're supposed to be on party, they're supposed to update you on what they're doing. At least we can get a copy of it, how big was it?

Andrew Choy: It wasn't that big, just the preparation notice, like 20-30 pages.

Comm. Buchanan: Oh yeah? So it's going to be like 600 pages, maybe more. Missile range maybe to appendix. So if there are no more reports we'll go back to Item 3.

ITEM 3. For discussion and possible action: report from Permitted Interaction Group on internal policies, practices and procedures for state GMAC.

Comm. Buchanan: The Permitted Interaction Group is myself, Ryan, and Stan, So we never met, the three of us, I think because Ryan is having a hard time, but is it you too Josiah? Yeah it is. We might have

to move forward without... You guys have to review the template we gave from the Molokai Planning Commission rules. I would suggest if you could go through there and highlight what you think is good or what you think is bad, we can basically cut and paste, don't reinvent the wheel, and then make up a draft that the commission can look at and that we can send to the AG to look over. And then hopefully by the end of this year we can be looking at some type of rule making just for us, operating procedure type of rules. I think that's it. Other than that, if you guys want a separate meeting, we can have a separate meeting. We might have to do a separate meeting.

Jim Cogswell: Some of the things that should be in those rules that we make... I know you're probably going to be interested in supporting some of these bills that go through, so that should outline how you would organize your support. The steps like putting it on the agenda, deciding and figuring out how you're going to develop the testimony you're going to present and put together, whether you decide that as a group word for word during these meetings or whether you delegate a couple of people to be a little subcommittee and authorize them to prepare the testimonies on your behalf. That's one thing that should be included on this draft that may not be on there.

ITEM 5. Set future meeting schedule and potential Agenda items.

Comm. Buchanan: We need to meet because session is going on next month.

Comm. Cremer: Right now is the most crucial time between now and March.

Comm. Buchanan: Remember, session is only 60 days, and you're going to know really fast if you're dead or alive.

NEXT MEETING SET FOR WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18

Jim Cogswell: One thing I notice is there are no minutes on this time because we didn't have time to do the last one, so these monthly meetings are really putting a strain on Shaya and DOFAW staff, so we have a kind request from her to slow down a little bit.

Comm. Buchanan: We know that. Okay, we will slow down when we die. Not to be sarcastic, we're going to slow down once we know our bills are dead. So once our bills are dead, we're going to slow down, but in the meantime we have to know whether we're going to need to meet as a group because we need to rally our troops in order to get some ground. Because we all have constituents, and right now our communities are losing confidence in the GMAC and our authority to actually get their voices heard at that level, so we're going to try to correct that. Because it's not a great thing, it's like 'why would I waste tax payer's money if none of what we're supposed to be doing gets done?' So if it's not getting done, then forget it, save their money and put it someplace else. But if we can, and for myself I'm giving myself 2019 to get some traction, and if it's at all helpful, then fine, and if it's not helpful, then we're going to say it's not helpful and that's it. People can just grumble behind closed doors all they like. They can come with their signs and wave them outside Suzanne's office, whatever makes them happy. But if we can, and we feel just from the temperature in the water yesterday that there is support, there's ongoing support, but for us to go back to our communities... Molokai is not so contentious right now, I really feel bad for Honolulu, Oahu, you know. If we can get support for the Department to have more recreational hunting whether it be in Poamoho or wherever, then we can support you guys, but in the meantime we need something too for our communities. Whether it be his thing on Lanai, and mostly it's going to be Big Island too. So if Glennon and Ryan are not successful, that's the most

contentious part for us, the historical discontent on Hawaii Island, whether it's the Habitat Conservation Plan, Pu'u Wa'awa'a, Pu'u Anahulu, wherever it is, even if it's in the Department. So we asked our legislators to watch how the line items are going to go down for budget, and if it goes into Natural Area Reserve out of DOFAW, then Emma's going to have to come and help us out. Whatever that line is going to be, we have to get past that line, and we have to have some deliverables ourselves, and make everybody happy. Right Robert, Stan, Josiah?

Comm. Cremer: Exactly. Ditto.

Comm. Buchanan: Josiah, we're depending heavily on you to give us the temperature on Oahu of what's transpiring, so this 'I'm going to take your 160 acres and you're not talking to me' is not going to fly. And if it's not going to fly, then we heard yesterday that the door is wide open, so if we cannot get an answer, then that is where we're going for an answer. So we're not going to let the minutes or a lack of minutes or a recording of the minutes stop us from makaukau, moving on. There's a legislative calendar that tells you when you're dead. I'm just trying to think if that's going to be too late. Can Shaya look at the week of February 18th or the week after that as another meeting date?

Comm. Ruidas: I think as long as you can put out the agenda on time, if the minutes overlap as far as being deferred to the next meeting.

Comm. Buchanan: Okay. Because I think by the end of February will know whether we got a hearing on the different committees or not. So that's what we'll shoot for, and in the meantime what we can do is have a PIG meeting if we have to. Any announcements?

Comm. Timko: Lori, the commissioners that have terms expiring in June of this year, is there a deadline for when they need to reapply? Because Josiah was in the commission...

Comm. Jury: I reapplied, but I never heard anything.

Comm. Cremer: I have my letter drafted but I never turned it in yet.

Comm. Buchanan: Me too, I have my letter, it's on my desktop.

Comm. Jury: Probably would be good to find out that date, so I know what I need... if not, I can try to start putting it out there...

Comm. Buchanan: Actually Shaya put that in an email, there is a deadline. So as soon as possible is the deadline. Thank you for bringing that up Nancy, I appreciate that. And thank you Jim for bringing up about the agenda items. Okay, Agenda items: if you know you have a question or issue that's going to cause staff to have to do research, then you have to give them that leeway time to get their act together. So the more heavy the question, the more time you have to give them to respond, and don't get mad or upset if you call her in two days and say you want a whole assessment of the land conservation fund or something like that, it's not going to happen. She usually calls me up pretty distraught sometimes like 'I cannot do this!' so it's understandable. So the sooner you get your questions or whatever, and then Robert, like what you did asking about how the audit came out on the conservation fund, should we talk about that and stuff, that's good to have the question brought up before we put it on the Agenda. That's a good one, Jim, we don't want to tax Shaya and the staff and that poor intern over there.

Comm. Ruidas: So from the last meeting I was talking about the survey on the Agenda, and Shaya gave me... so what I wanted to look at was making it tailored to each island's strategies and concerns so that it's not as vague as what you see in here. So this is like the avenue, it's already implemented, we just have to get people to go online and fill out the survey, or if they can do it manually, because plenty of guys don't have computers. So if we can step this up and have a better survey, it's like a post check of what we're doing as far as the hunters is correct and what DOFAW is doing. So I say we try to make...

Comm. Buchanan: So who is doing that?

Jim Cogswell: Shaya.

Comm. Buchanan: This never came out yet?

Comm. Ruidas: No, it's on one of her emails. That was for 2017. So that I wanted to put on our future agenda, and also to look at hunting licenses. I think our first meeting I mentioned that hunting license where you can apply for it five years at a time instead of just yearly, because it's kind of a hassle for a lot of people. I understand every fiscal year you get money, but maybe you can spread that out? So maybe at least when they apply for five years you've got that money guaranteed for the next few years, which is not much anyway but... And then the other one I wanted to do was have DOCARE show up and talk to us about their operations, what they would require as far as monies and whatever, equipment, staff. Because I know they're understaffed, but how bad is it?

Comm. Buchanan: Can you put that in an email? I wrote it down, but... Yeah, put that in an email to Shaya and copy me.

Comm. Buchanan: Yeah Jason, is awesome, I'm really happy that Jason is there. It should have happened a long time ago. Okay, something from DOCARE in relation to hunting and game management. I'd just like to know if they're going to be trained, and I saw they graduated their first class, staff? How many, five?

Comm. Jury: No, I think there were seven, and then two went off-island, one to Molokai and the other to Hawaii Island, five over here. I say that because this Friday our hunting association is going to meet with them, we're going to skin a pig for them, meet all the new crew and stuff like that.

Andrew Choy: I can add a little bit to that. That was the lateral class, so those were transfers in in a way from other enforcement agencies in the state: sheriffs was a big one. But there is a new recruits class scheduled for some time this spring. The lateral recruits class was for Enforcement Officer III and then the new recruit would be recruiting at an Enforcement Officer I level, which is no enforcement experience necessary, and you would gain the experience in the recruit class. And Hunter Ed is under DOCARE, we're just participating in the recruit class, but I have some information on that through that association. So from what I understand, as with anything there are a lot of issues at play, but one of the timing concerns is getting the new recruits to clear all the DHRD hurdles as a new hire and then scheduling that with all the training that has to go through and the venue being available. So I guess what I'm saying is the recruitment process is burdensome and that can have a potential to delay when the class is actually scheduled. But I think that's a great thing, to have new recruits. So anyone could apply for that.

Dietra Myers-Tremblay: And do you want to talk a little bit about the training that was put on for the new class?

Andrew Choy: Yeah, sure! It's actually a great thing. Lieutenant Carlton Helm, Molokai boy was taking the charge on coordinating the class with Edward Kekoa, we call him Luna, [indiscernible] watch coordinator, and it was really great because DLNR as a whole was represented in the class. So all the different agencies between LCCL, Parks, Engineering, DLNR, you name it, they were all there doing a presentation on what... So it's great because the recruits kind of get a big breadth of what DLNR does and what each specific division does and what each specific program does, but then the other advantage is that it almost kind of standardizes the training material. So it would be great if the presentations are standardized and then that becomes the DLNR's training library in a way, where it's kind of standardized and in a singular repository. But anyway, it was really good. They were like week-long presentations. I don't know how long the recruit class was, but they graduated in December or November I believe, but it was a long course. Hunter Ed had a couple of days, DOFAW had maybe a week, Boating had a number of days, so it was a great training. Aside from all the enforcement stuff too, they got range time, PT, and all that.

Comm. Buchanan: About time, that's all I can say. That's it, I like it. And I like the introduction one because a lot of guys don't apply because of the historical 'you've got to come from an enforcement agency already, you already have to be trained and then you get picked up by DOCARE.' And then you asked DOCARE about Hawaiian rights stuff and they don't have a clue because they've never had training, and then they don't know their place as DLNR's police, like their authority over land and the reserves and all of that, so that's great, I can't say enough about it, I love it. I think you're going to have much improved officers because of it. Staff, we have any more announcements?

ITEM 6. Announcements.

Andrew Choy: Yeah, I can add something for Commissioner Cremer. We do have a site visit scheduled on Kauai on the 4th. Has Sheri looped you in on that? Okay, so I'm trying to think back to our last meeting, but we've hired a consultant to do planning work, a site selection study on Kauai for shooting range development. We've narrowed it down to four sites: one is the former Kekaha shooting range, and the other three sites are in Wailua, which is Hanahanapuni, which was on the table for many years, and then two ADC parcels that are adjacent to each other. So we met internally to kind of strategize what the plan is. At that time Chair and First Deputy had requested more information on each of the sites, which fortunately was part of the consultant's scope of work anyway, to develop a list of approvals, permitting, and what not. Part of that process is getting the range architect on the ground to look at each site physically and come up with a conceptual plan on what a potential range would look like, and then we would present that to a larger stakeholder group at another meeting. So the February 4th meeting is getting the range architect on the ground to visit each site and take some notes and come up with conceptual plans, and then at a time that's a lot more amenable, because we understand that it's the legislative session, we'd get all the stakeholders together and present those actual plans to the group. And then the powers that be can make a decision on what the preferred options are. So the February 4th meeting was the date selected because Fish and Wildlife Service was going to be in town and they have site visits and compliance work the week after, and the Fish and Wildlife, our federal coordinator had expressed a strong interest in seeing the progress and seeing the sites, and February 4th was the day that worked for him. It's an open invitation, Sheri should be coordinating that through her office and her branch, specifically the permissions to ADC land and to Kekaha through DOD is something that we need, and Thomas and Lindsey are both on that as well. We'll go from there. No date

has been set yet for the actual presentation of the range plans. Aside from that, Darren and I have been tag teaming the shooting range efforts. Darren has been on the ground a lot on the Big Island range, overseeing upgrades to the MM16. Specifically, I know the First Deputy had mentioned doing some upgrades maybe two meetings ago, so we've gotten quotes, we've worked with Steve Bergfeld, we basically are looking at reinforcing the berms for safety issue and mitigation. It's moving along, we have to procure the material and the transport and we have to coordinate that with DOFAW's heavy equipment to actually get it in place, so that's moving along as well. But I mention that because of the timing of your next commission meeting, I can coordinate with you, Robert, on perhaps getting a report on the Agenda if the timing coincides about Kauai at least, because we should have a lot more to present at that time.

Comm. Ruidas: So the shooting range on Big Island... last meeting, Bob said 'make it nice,' you guys are going to do that? Because he's going to give you money, right? Oh, he's not, he was just talking? Wait until I see him.

Andrew Choy: So yeah, make it nice is one, because there's a lot of trash, but the other issue is...

JAMES MANAKU SR ENTERS.

James Manaku Sr.: Can I come up to speed please?

Comm. Buchanan: Yeah. We only had a small agenda today because of the opening of the legislature today across, that's where we're going to go. And then I can fill you in after we adjourn about what we did over there yesterday, but right now we're talking about the shooting range. We pretty much already pau the meeting, but we're getting a report on the shooting range on the Big Island, and then after he's pau telling us where they stand, then if you have anything to say we'll listen to you and then adjourn. Okay, so the shooting range, make it nice?

Darren Ogura: We're going to make it safer. We're going to put up back berms and I'm going to block off the side trail.

James Manaku Sr.: What district are we looking at?

Comm. Cremer: Big Island, Hilo side. MM16 on Saddle Road.

Darren Ogura: Morita trail is right there, historically they've been shooting this way, so I moved it completely north and I'm putting a berm completely across Morita trail to protect it. Because we just had one recently, a lady was out there picking flowers and somebody was shooting. So we're going to make it safer.

Andrew Choy: Just for some perspective, what we're looking at is 2000 tons of material, because the berm is going to be ten feet high, so the base has got to be, you know, there's a ratio. So that's about 2,000 tons of material that we have to either procure or relocate from another site if there's material available, plus the transport services, plus the heavy machinery, so it is a big project, it's not like 'oh, go put material on the ground,' it's a lot of material to move.

Comm. Buchanan: Did the hunters know that before they go over there like 'oh my gosh, where did this mountain come from?'

Andrew Choy: So that's another thing we have to coordinate to coincide with everything is a press release to close the area and then have DOCARE patrol. So the other aspect is the cleanup, because we did get reports that it was bad up there, and DOCARE has been really great on the ground in mobilizing the community to self-police, and they've done clean up days at the range, which has been good.

Comm. Ruidas: It's in the trees, yeah?

Darren Ogura: Yeah. So I've had meetings with the gun clubs, the gun stores. I go up there every month and just talk to them.

Comm. Buchanan: But they know this berm is coming, and they know Morita trail is going to be blocked? Okay.

Darren Ogura: I put in toilets for them, I put trash cans—well, somebody stole my trash cans and somebody shot the other one, they're gone.

Andrew Choy: We prefer that this is grassroots, that the community takes this over. There's nothing in writing about it but it would be great if a club took it over, that was always the intention.

Comm. Ruidas: Is there a pig hunters club over there?

Darren Ogura: There's a shooting clubs. They've been going over there with their own pick-up trucks cleaning up trash, raking grass...

James Manaku Sr.: Two questions, if I may? We're talking about a level area?

Darren Ogura: Pretty much, yeah.

James Manaku Sr.: Because I'm concerned about elevation. As you know, I'm a goat hunter, so I know if I go a little bit above, I know where my bullet is going to travel. I'm kind of concerned about people taking it over, and the only reason I'm concerned about it is when can I go? Because I like to go when I can go. Now we're talking about the Big Island, 60 miles out of town on Saddle Road, and so for me it's a convenience for me, because I'm not going to be interfering with anybody's quiet peace, because it's way out and hopefully I'd be out of sound range too. So how can we work that so... I live on Oahu, we don't have one anymore. But if you remember, 50 calibers go over Kokohead Crater, you know that right? A couple times it went over.

Comm. Buchanan: But it's going to be an open range.

Andrew Choy: I am aware that especially on Oahu and Maui, where the County operates it, but they may choose to operate it through a partnership with a shooting club, that there are concerns with the shooting club taking it over and access.

James Manaku Sr.: All I'm worried about is attitude.

Andrew Choy: So that should not happen at MM16. The partnership would be specifically to clean the range, to police the range, not to manage it.

James Manaku Sr.: Because I'm spending money to go to the range, but when I get there after I've spent my money, I hate to run into attitude.

Andrew Choy: There should never be any kind of ownership of the range. No one should close the range for their own personal use.

James Manaku Sr.: I understand my own personal responsibility, I'm not shirking any of my responsibility. Anybody is going to tell you, any island that I go to I'm a very responsible person because I like to keep coming back. So I'd just like to make sure, and the people that I help teach, the very first thing I teach them is respect, number one rule. I don't care how they talk to you, you respect them until you find out who they are and what they represent. Then after you find out what they do, you can work with that. But until then you have to show respect. I don't care how stupid they talk to you, because I've had people talk stupid to me, I can listen to stupidity. But only to a certain point.

Comm. Ruidas: At the target area from the benches, is it pointing down a little bit?

Darren Ogura: It actually is, that way the drainage goes out that way.

Comm. Ruidas: You know on Lanai it's been open for many years, we put new targets and everything, but because people don't take care of the place the landowner closed the range and we have only certain times we can go.

Andrew Choy: Can I add something for the record? I know we're talking about the MM16 improvements, but because it's a lot of material, a lot of machinery, we're in no way committing that we can do it all at one time. We understand the need, but it might have to be phased out, so I want that on record that we're not saying 'hey, we're going to get this all done in the next two weeks' or something, it might be a phased project, we are moving on it though.

Comm. Buchanan: And if Steve is in the midst of it, I'm sure he already knows about decontamination and not taking contaminated soils and ROD and LFA and frogs and whatever else inside the tons of soil you're going to have to move, on equipment, to Saddle Road, that's all. Okay, staff, any more? Okay, we already have a tentative date that we're going to be looking for. Plenty is going to happen between now and the end of February. As a member of the public, did you want to say something on the record?

James Manaku Sr.: James K Manaku Sr., concerned parent, grandparent, great grandparent. My only concern is that I'm worried about our future generations, and it's not just my future generation, because I can tell you my generation has married almost every single kind of people in the world today, and so I'm worried about everybody, not just the Hawaiians. I'm worried about how we're going to get our food in the future. As you guys know, they're trying to kill all our food. And I understand what they're trying to do, but I think we need to manage it a little more carefully than what they're doing now. What they're doing now is trying to eradicate it. To me, they're basing it on the American theory, they're eradicating everything. When they eradicate everything, it takes away from our future generations, my personal opinion. So for me, you folks want to make a decision for our future generations, I'm asking your help. Because without your help, our future generations are not going to have a chance. I'm not sure if anybody went to the Americans and talked to them how I'm asking you folks, but I think we need to be moving in that direction. I understand deer is not indigenous to Hawaii, but they were a gift to us, and it wasn't just to our chief, and king, and queen, it was to the people of Hawaii, not just the royalty.

The goats? It was a protein that was necessary. If we look at the history of the Polynesians you're going to see, Christmas Island is a perfect example of what can happen if we don't have something put on the side for us. Because if we don't put something on the side for our future generations, we're going to have to buy them. And if we don't have jobs, if we don't have money to purchase it, we're going to end up like the Easter Islands. Our future generations are going to have to start doing things that I don't want to see happen, because that's the only way they're going to do it. We're going to end up like the Bahamas. You guys ever see pictures of the Bahamas? Beautiful islands, beautiful beaches, but where are the locals? They're all in these little corners. They're not allowed to go anywhere, they're not allowed to go into the oceans and get fish. They're not allowed to go into the mountains because there's no more food walking around in the mountains like we have right now. You're a hunter, you know! What's going to happen to our future generations if we don't protect it, because it's our responsibility! I never thought I'd be sitting talking like this. What I did on Lanai broke the number one rule: somebody stole from me and I went and licked the guy and I was wrong, I admit that. And they kicked me off the island only because I fought. That was the only thing I did wrong. What's the excuse our children are going to have in the future? 'Our fathers never fought for us, so we've got to fight for ourselves'? I hope not. So if we're game management, if that's what we are, then let's go out.

James Manaku Sr.: We've got to talk to our boss, and I'm willing to help. Believe me. [indiscernible] science, I'm willing to go to any meetings too, I'm not ashamed to talk. I'm Portuguese, I'm Irish, I'm Hawaiian... But believe me, I think it's something that is ultimately very necessary for our future generations, because if not, there are going to be jobs for our future generations to buy food-- right now it's free. Well, it's not free, but... I have a commissioner telling me that if I want to go onto [indiscernible] property, I got to do something for him for something that belongs to us. And I don't mind doing it, but he's telling me I have to do it. I'm helping him! Because he's paying guys to do it, and I tell him I'm willing to do it for free. I don't know what their problem is. And he's a commissioner, so I'm not sure what direction they're going in. So that's why I'm here.

Comm. Cremer: I have a statement for Uncle. The reason I sit here is my concerns that you brought forward here. And I was just discussing it with Lori while we were across talking to state senators and our representatives. If for the next six months that I sit on this Board, I will rant and rave to make everything best, even if I don't get reappointed because I'm a voice that they don't like here, it does not matter, because at the end of the day, at the end of this commission and my seat, I know that I tried my best for the future generation and for the public, the people I represent. And I thank you for coming and testifying, because I have the same ambitions as you.

James Manaku Sr.: Thanks all of you who are making that decision, because it's not an easy decision, I know that. Because you're talking to somebody who attends a lot of meetings, and when I walk into meetings I get people whose jaws drop to the ground, and I look at them and I think to myself 'shame on you guys. You guys with your jaws on the ground. Duh!' I know decisions aren't easy to make. I have five children, 26 grandchildren, five great grandchildren. At Christmastime, birthdays? I have to make them all even! And sometimes it can be hard because sometimes I have a little bit more, but I try to be straight across the board because I love them all, they're all special to me, and whoever they stay with is special to me too. And I hanai six of my grandchildren, because I'm not going to let them feel left out, they're part of my family. I'm so proud, as they're growing up, they make me feel like I'm their real family, and I'm so proud.

Comm. Buchanan: You are their real family.

James Manaku Sr.: I'm grateful for that.

Comm. Buchanan: We're grateful too that you're there for them. Thank you Uncle. Thank you commissioners, anyone have anything else? Seeing no objections, we are adjourned.

ITEM 7. Adjournment.