



MKSOA MEMBERS

JOHN KOMEIJI
Chairperson

*LAURA KAAKUA
*DOUG ADAMS
*GENE BAL

KAMANA BEAMER
PAUL HORNER
KALEHUA KRUG

LANAKILA
MANGAUIL
NOE NOE WONG-WILSON
RICH MATSUDA

POMAI BERTELMANN
*BONNIE IRWIN

*ex-officio

MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA)

19 E. Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720
Telephone (808) 933-0734 Fax (808) 933-3208
Website: / <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/maunakea-authority/>

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 16, 2023

10:00 am

Online via ZOOM and livestreamed via YouTube

AUTHORITY MEMBERS

PRESENT, Zoom: Chairperson John Komeiji; Doug Adams; Paul Horner; Bonnie Irwin; Gene Bal; Kalebua Krug; Noe Noe Wong-Wilson; Rich Matsuda

EXCUSED Members: Kamana Beamer; Lanakila Mangauil; Pomai Bertelmann

MKSOA SUPPORT: Lili Young, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Kapua Roback (UHH 'Imiloa); Lisa Spain (UHH 'Imiloa)

GUESTS: Greg Chun (UHH CMS)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 am.

Chair Komeiji reviewed three principle values provided by the Hawai'i State Legislature - Mauna Aloha, understanding the reciprocal value of the mauna and longterm commitment to maintaining the integrity of Maunakea; 'Opū Kupuna, understanding and embracing of the duty and accountability to Maunakea, it's natural environment, and to perpetuate the Native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices embedded in the landscape of the mauna; Holomua 'O'i Kelakela, driven by creativity and innovation, constantly challenging status quo with the stewardship of Maunakea and informed, based on existing knowledge and traditions as well as new, expanding knowledge. The Authority should be mindful of needs, trends and opportunities in ways that enhance the ability to serve as stewards without jeopardizing the foundation of 'āina aloha.

Attorney General Young noted a typographical error on the agenda that stated *Thursday*, May 16 instead of *Tuesday*, May 16. She also noted that the agenda was posted in a timely manner and that the meeting could proceed with the correction made via a motion.

MOTION: Motion by Member Matsuda to make the correction from Thursday to Tuesday. Second by Member Wong-Wilson.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

No online or written comments provided.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2023 MEETING

MOTION: Motion by Member Wong-Wilson to approve meeting minutes from April 13, 2023. Second by Member Horner.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Komeiji noted no report except for what will be discussed in the agenda.

V. GOVERNANCE

Chair Komeiji noted that everyone received an Oath of Office. These must be filed in order to accept member appointments.

VI. ADMINISTRATION – Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. **VOTE:** Appoint members Adams (chair), Beamer and Mr. Wesley Machida to Permitted Interaction Group regarding consultants for Community Outreach, Project Management and Outside Legal Counsel.

MOTION: Motion by Member Wong-Wilson to approve the three names to serve on the permitted interaction group regarding consultants. Second by member Matsuda.

DISCUSSION: Member Irwin asked if Chair Komeiji will be part of or meet with the FIG. Chair Komeiji replied no and will work with the chair of the committee.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

- B. **VOTE:** Appoint members Horner (chair), Mangaul and Kaakua to Permitted Interaction Group to monitor the Caltech Observatory Decommissioning.

MOTION: Motion by Member Wong-Wilson to approve the three names to serve on the permitted interaction group regarding decommissioning. Second by Member Matsuda.

DISCUSSION: Member Matsuda noted that decommissioning will be following an existing process (University of Hawai‘i decommissioning subplan process, an approved plan) and will help inform future process for the Authority. Hōkūkea is also an upcoming decommission, should that be added to the motion? Member Irwin noted that Hōkūkea is a small facility with no instrument located in the observatory.

Motion amended by Member Wong-Wilson to include that the Decommissioning Permitted Interaction Group would monitor the Caltech Observatory and Hōkūkea decommissionings. Second by Member Matsuda.

Member Horner noted that Greg Chun provided the [University of Hawai‘i Website](#) that has all of the decommissioning information listed. Member Irwin requested clarification on what monitoring by the committee means since the University of Hawai‘i is managing the process. Chair Komeiji noted that the committee needs to define what monitoring means, however the committee is not dictating the process and understands the Authority’s role.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

- C. STATUS: Report from the Executive Assistant Hiring Committee. Member Matsuda reported good progress. There were eight applicants in the first round of interviews. The application period has closed, now moving into the reference check phase. The committee hopes to make a recommendation at the June meeting.
- D. DISCUSSION: Co-management with University of Hawai‘i during the transition period. As Principal Authority for the management of the mauna, how does the Authority define its role and responsibilities vis a vis the University of Hawai‘i and Department of Land and Natural Resources?

Chair Komeiji posed the question as to who from the Authority will participate in the transition phase and how to create a framework for the Authority individual to work through with Center for Maunakea Stewardship (CMS). What kind of decisions does the Authority weigh in on with CMS and on a timely basis so as not to impede necessary action. Transition phase starts July 1, 2023.

Member Irwin brought up not just CMS but also the Maunakea Management Board (MKMB) and Kahu Kū Mauna (KKM) as groups that work with the University of Hawai‘i. It might be helpful if Authority members attended their meetings. Chair Komeiji commented on how different advisory groups could work together during the co-management transition phase.

Member Wong-Wilson asked if there is possibility to have members of the Authority, KKM, MKMB, and others from University of Hawai‘i meet for a workshop meeting, instead of a public meeting, so that relationships are built and discussions are convened (no decision making). That is a question for the attorney generals to weigh in on. Further proposed to do this convening in June 2023.

Member Matsuda commented on immediate future planning, with no Authority employees, the Authority should not get involved in day-to-day management until there are staff members. A board of volunteer members may slow management things down.

Member Irwin noted that the University of Hawai'i still holds the legal responsibility and will have to do things it is required to do.

Member Krug questioned how, as the Authority develops its processes and plans, that fits in with other plans. Noted that things need to be strategically planned and acted upon.

Chair Komeiji stated that the Authority needs to be proactive and that he is creating a list (currently at 23 items) of things that need to be done by the Authority – management plan, framework for astronomy, etc. of items that need to be done concurrently.

Member Bal commented that these items are not trivial and can't over emphasize how much work is required in these documents.

Chair Komeiji noted that he will come up with a more detailed framework and inquire about the idea of a private workshop with the Authority and University of Hawai'i groups.

VII. FINANCE

A. Legislative Budget Update

Requested \$14M annually based on contingent matters that might occur. The legislature has approved \$14M FY23-24 and \$14M FY24-25. Governor Green needs to approve in order for the funds to be released. Five positions were approved effective July 1 – Executive Director, Administrative Officer, Administrative Supports, Program Officer. Currently drafting position descriptions and would like to start recruiting July 1. Wes Machida is helping with the descriptions.

VIII. OPERATIONAL UPDATE

A. Legislative confirmation of board members

Everyone has been confirmed and now need to turn in the Oath of Office.

B. STATUS AND DISCUSSION: Report from the Center for Maunakea Stewardship

- Caltech Submillimeter decommissioning is delayed to late June or early July. Transport of the mirror requires a cradle that needs to be redesigned. Deconstruction will start once the mirror has been removed. Discussions need to occur with the permitted interaction group regarding how to best capture the lessons being learned through this process.
- On April 14th the conditional use permit was approved for removal of Hōkūkeā. Currently awaiting county permits. It is a smaller facility, but still need to do all of the steps.
- On April 16 there was a power disruption to the observatories. The issue was resolved but there was a planned outage to resolve issues from the power disruption due to a fault in the line. These are the kinds of issues that management needs to deal with.
- There is a Montana program at Hale Pōhaku involved in a multi year study of

human performance in extreme environments. This is the 4th or 5th year of the study. Another example of a unique opportunity on Maunakea.

- Staffing announcements: Ian Kaleo Pilago hired as the Education Coordinator started on May 1, 2023. He will be working with KKM and with 'Imiloa for K-12 education and to coordinate with other observatory programs and staff development components. Stewart Hunter, General Manager of Maunakea Support Services, is retiring as of May 31, 2023. Stewart will continue to work part time to help in the transition to the Authority. Rodrigo Romo is hired as the new General Manager. Rodrigo previously managed the Visitor Information Station.

- C. Chair Komeiji requested an update regarding the intent to create industry and education programs to support telescope manufacturing and engineering in Hawai'i. Member Irwin noted that the bill did not pass however funds and positions were allocated to the University of Hawai'i. The budget worksheets were not yet provided, however 10 engineering positions were provided to Mānoa with 5 being located in Hilo, and funds for a facility to design and manufacture optics (instead of outsourcing these services). There is collaboration between UH-Hilo, the Institute for Astronomy at UH-Mānoa, UH System, and the College of Engineering at UH-Mānoa on this initiative.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Consultation with the Authority's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Authority's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(4) Hawai'i Revised Statutes, regarding proposed Legislation, Governance, Administration and Finance.

MOTION: Member Bal moved to approve to go into Executive Session. Member Wong- Wilson seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

Executive Session began at 11:04 am, and ended at 11:32 pm.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next public meeting, Thursday, June 8, 2023, 10:00 am.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Member Horner moved to adjourn. Member Matsuda seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33am

Approved _____