



MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA)

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Website: <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/maunakea-authority/>

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 8, 2024

10:00 am

Online via ZOOM and livestreamed via YouTube

AUTHORITY MEMBERS

PRESENT, Zoom: Chairperson John Komeiji; First Vice-Chair Noe Noe Wong-Wilson; Second Vice-Chair Rich Matsuda; Ben Kudo; Ryan K.P. Kanaka'ole; Doug Adams; Paul Horner; Kamana Beamer; Bonnie Irwin;

EXCUSED Members: Kalehua Krug; Lanakila Mangaui; Pomai Bertelmann

MKSOA SUPPORT: Jordan Ching, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Pua'ena Ahn (MKSOA Executive Assistant);

GUESTS: None

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

Chair Komeiji called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Opening remarks by Member Kanaka'ole on his background, 'ohana and sense of kuleana.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

None

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 11, 2023 MEETING

MOTION: Motion by Member Kudo to approve meeting minutes from January 11, 2024, Second by Member Horner.

ACTION: The motion was approved.

IV. CHAIR REPORT

- A. Introducing Ryan Kanaka‘ole as the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) Chair’s Designee- Also introduced DAG Ching as MKSOA Board Counsel
- B. Report on the Senate Higher Education Committee Hearing regarding the Sunshine law- Majority of hearing dealt with University of Hawai‘i (UH) Board of Regents difficulties due to Sunshine Law, Senators showed interest in the experienced operational challenges. Chair related Sunshine Law-related communication difficulties as they affect standing up a new State agency. Attorney General’s office has drafted a bill intended to remedy UH Regents’ concerns, MKSOA also has a bill being introduced to allow greater ease of communications for the duration of 5-year transition period while still upholding the intention of Sunshine Law in its other aspects.
- C. Report on the Senate Water and Land Committee Hearing regarding SB 2297- The bill would in effect revert the BLNR to being the final authority on matters regarding the Mauna Kea lands over that of MKSOA and enforcement powers remaining with the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE). Bill passed committee, although the two aye votes aside from the Committee Chair’s were made with reservations.

V. GOVERNANCE

No Report.

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

No Report.

VII. FINANCE

No report.

VIII. OPERATIONAL UPDATE: CENTER FOR MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP

No Report by CMS Executive Director Chun. Chair noted that Kahu Kū Mauna is looking into hiring a consultant to create recommendations regarding cultural practice policies which would be handed down to MKSOA. Chair will reach out to CMS to open the conversation around joint action on the matter.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. The Authority convened in Executive Session pursuant to Section 92- 5(a)(2), HRS, to consider and deliberate on the hiring of an employee and pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(3) to consult with the Board’s attorney on questions and issues

pertaining to the Authority's power, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities in the following matter:

- i. Briefing on Office of Hawaiian Affairs vs. State of Hawaii lawsuit against the Authority
- ii. Discussion on terms of employment for prospective Executive Director hire
- iii. Briefing on potential impact of Senate Bill 2297 on the Authority's powers, duties, and privileges
- iv. Briefing on potential impact of Senate Bill 2761 on the Authority's powers, duties, and privileges under the Sunshine Law

MOTION: 1st Vice Chair Wong-Wilson moved to enter into Executive Session. Member Adams Second.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

Board entered into Executive Session at 10:28 am.

Board returned from Executive Session at 11:44 am.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING- MARCH 14, 2024, 10:00AM-12:00PM

B. COMMUNITY TALK STORY SESSION- MARCH 13, 2024, 6:00PM-8:00PM
DLNR-DOFAW HILO BUILDING- 19 E. KAWILI ST.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Member Kudo moved to adjourn. Member Horner Second.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 am.

Approved _____