



MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA)

19 E, Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720
Telephone (808) 272-0259 Fax (808) 933-3208
Website: <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/maunakea-authority/>

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 12, 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; Doug Adams; Paul Horner; Bonnie Irwin; Lanakila Mangauil; Pomai Bertelmann; Ryan K.P. Kanaka'ole; Second Vice-Chair Rich Matsuda; Ben Kudo; Neil Hannahs;

EXCUSED Members: Kalehua Krug;

MKSOA SUPPORT: Alana Bryant, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Pua'ena Ahn, Executive Assistant, Board Secretary (MKSOA); John De Fries, Executive Director (MKSOA); Lloyd Unebasami, Interim Administrative Services Officer (MKSOA); Bill Stormont, Project Director (MKSOA)

GUESTS: Greg Chun, Executive Director (CMS);

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

Chair Komeiji called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Opening protocol by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, pule Nā 'Aumākua, to ask our ancestors to guide us and give us the understanding and ability to do our work for Mauna Kea.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Written public comment by Steven Thomas and Lono Mack.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 8, 2024 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MOTION: Motion by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson to approve meeting minutes from August 8, 2024 Regular Board Meeting.

Second by Member Horner.

ACTION: The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. CHAIR REPORT

No Report, brief introduction of Deputy Attorney General Alana Bryant sitting in for Deputy Attorney General Ching. Chair Komeiji stated to Board that leadership team is working “very, very hard on many, many, many different matters...almost overwhelming, the amount of initiatives the have to work on” regarding the establishment of the organization, a new State agency in accordance with the mandates of Act 255, which Executive Director (ED) De Fries will cover.

V. GOVERNANCE

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

A. Report of Executive Director De Fries:

- a. Status of Request for Proposals (RFP)- Management Planning Consultant: Welcome to all. Working in a bureaucracy is challenging, what is more challenging is trying to create one. Chair is referencing an array of assignments we have. Working on an RFP for a planning consultant, Management [Plan] Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) has reviewed RFP, Board members will all receive final draft. Will remain open to comments or any additions needed. Target posting date is October 1. Executive Assistant (EA) Ahn will be authorized to post, reaching out to Chair Chang to stand as interim Procurement Officer pending completion of training and delegation of authority to ED De Fries. Mahalo to Wes Machida and Administrative Services Officer (ASO) Unebasami for moving this along.
- b. Moving from Current Office to Interim Office: Currently housed at temporary office at ‘Imiloa, we have located an Interim office on Kino‘ole street across from Post Office. EA Ahn found this office on Craigslist, it’s a wonderful office.

Project Director (PD) Stormont: Office building is just mauka of Downtown Post Office, room is 732 square feet with two small private offices and an adjacent unit we are hoping to also acquire. We are going through leasing approval process with Department of Accounting and General Services.

- c. Status of Search for Permanent Office: That will move us from a two-person situation we’re currently in to potentially a seven-person office and enable us to continue to build out staff. That’s the Interim office, the permanent office is to be Bank of Hawaii building in Hilo. PD Stormont conducted a preliminary inspection with a qualified inspector, albeit in the dark.

ASO Unebasami: We were given the opportunity to have a lease with Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), working with their office on a 30-year lease. Building is currently unoccupied, still configured as a bank,

requires a lot of construction to convert into office space. There are a couple of issues with Department of Health and Hawai'i County that need to be worked out regarding use of the building. We're working to see if DLNR is willing to issue a 7-year rent credit from due to cost of work needed on the building and would need to be approved by the Land Board. DLNR has rules and regulations on what kinds of costs qualify toward a rent credit.

ED De Fries: 7 years of free rent for a lot of work to do.

PD Stormont: Unoccupied for a couple years, air conditioning probably doesn't work, no electricity, plumbing appears to be in order but will take some upgrades. The building is essentially one giant room with some adjacent smaller rooms. 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson visited the space with us during an initial visit, thought it would be a nice space to be able to host Board meetings and Community meetings. Very visible location at the corner of Kanoelehua and Kawili. Hoping to get roof access because it has an amazing view of the Mauna. According to DLNR Land Division, it's the best property they have in Hilo. Considering cost, space, situation, and opportunity it provides as a working space for the community, it's the best thing going that we could find. This is not going to be the baseyard, we will eventually need a baseyard space for vehicles that are currently under CMS, 50-plus members of CMS staff as well as a place to receive goods and supplies that need to go up the mountain. That search is underway but further out. Expecting to be in interim space for 18 months to 2 years during Bank of Hawaii redevelopment, pending signing of lease. Working on lease with DLNR Land Division but have also reached out to Engineering Division for assistance with contract management for demolition and planning interior configuration.

- d. Personnel Matters- Commencement of Interviews for Program Specialist- Compliance: Week of Oct 7 Bill and JDF will start interviewing 5 candidate list, looking forward to initiating process.
- e. Community Talk-Story Sessions: Tonight from 6pm to 8pm. Going forward, asking Board members to use your networks and platforms to help promote flyers. Future meetings will go around the island and it will be important to get off the island to introduce the Authority and Act 255, answer questions and listen to comments and ideas. There are a lot of ideas out there not grounded in Act 255. Incumbent on us to begin a more vigorous community outreach program.

Member Adams: Regarding interim and permanent offices, is there a conversation needing to be had with county regarding permitting? I can help facilitate convos with Planning and Public Works. County was looking at the permanent site for another use. Regardless, there is a need to connect cesspool to county sewer.

ED De Fries: We are aware of the need to hook up the sewage line and looking at reimbursements for that work. Once we have a draft lease we will send it out to you, but county support will be a big help for both.

- B. Long Term Transition Working Group (TWG)- Executive Director De Fries: Thrilled to see Member Kudo is with us. You and I and Deputy Attorney General Ching had a meeting with the attorney that has been selected, one more potential conflict (administrative) that needs to be cleared.

Member Kudo: The conflict has been resolved as of last week, currently before the AG for approval then can go into contract with the attorney. We're close.

VII. FINANCE

No report, noted that Management team has mostly been working on travel reimbursements for leadership and Board members. But with coming bigger expenditures, leadership team has been asked to find a better way to report so that Board can be better kept abreast. Previous expenditures "not manini," but comparatively pretty small.

Member Hannahs: Do we have a schedule for sources, use and allocation of funds? Budget guidance?

Chair Komeiji: That's part of the more formal process that needs to be established.

VIII. OPERATIONAL UPDATE: CENTER FOR MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP

ED De Fries: Since after UH Board of Regents meeting in August, every 2 weeks we meet with Joint Management Committee, PD Stormont, ASO Unebasami, CMS Executive staff, augmented by senior managers as needed. Phrase "drinking water from a fire hose" applies to this process, we're fortunate the people with the fire hose are handling it gently. Grateful for time that is being put into and the manner they are handling this. Emergence of Act 255 created natural levels of anxiety due to uncertainty. They've received us extremely well and we've gone out of our way to make them feel comfortable as well. Working on Mauna Kea is a different kind of environment, and is not for everyone. CMS are individuals dedicated to the Mauna with a high level of professionalism and go beyond their job descriptions. Taking this opportunity to thank ED Chun and his team.

- A. Report by CMS Executive Director Chun: Looking at items that are most relevant to MKSOA. Using JMC Reviews items to determine focus
- a. Tropical Storm Hone Recovery: Damage assesement, Hurricane/Tropical Storm Hone was an interesting storm because of its intensity and brevity. Approximately 10 inches of rain in a 10 hour period, Hurricane Lane was 8 inches over 3 days. Rangers said they had never seen this kind of runoff and erosion from any previous storm, at its peak, recorded gusts of 100mph at the summit, not the highest ever but clearly it was blowing. Response by our team was immediate, responded to two downed trees on portion of Mauna Kea Access Road that goes through Hawaiian Homelands, stranded visitors were unable to get down, Rangers responded and were able to contact Department of Transportation (DOT) to clear tree, Rangers had to come back down for the

second tree as well. Erosion caused road blockages at several points in road, exposure of utility lines. Some repair work CMS was able to do, some needed Hawaiian Tel and Hawaiian Electric to come in due to being around the transfer boxes and utility. Utilities crew was able to respond immediately and assess damage and open roads back up within 48 hours. University Risk Management has asked us to track costs and person hours and submit damage assessment and recovery costs for possible recovery of funds through insurance. Photos of runoff, road blockages and erosion. Wind and rain was so strong waterblasted the paint off the Subaru elevator shaft.

- b. Pu'uwēkiu- Managing Access to Summit Ahu: Ahu built by Royal Order of Kamehameha in the 1990s, longstanding challenge of managing access. People go up there despite being briefed not to, changed signage a couple times. Technically is an area that we could close access to but would need to ensure we are providing access to cultural practitioners. Given that this Ahu was built by the Royal Order, we have reached out to them to work with CMS in caring for Ahu and better manage access. Site is not treated respectfully or well by many (not all) people who go up there. If seen, they are told to come down. Some have actually been escorted off the mountain. Met with Royal Order last week, productive meeting but no decisions or agreements made. All kinds of things left at Ahu as ho'okupu, many things left not related to or associated with traditional Hawaiian practice. MKSOA management team has been briefed on these things, and will continue to be involved in those discussions.
- c. Implementation of Focused Visitor Experience Programming at Visitor Information Station (VIS): In accordance with Comprehensive Management Plan, required to constantly expand educational experiences offered at the VIS, through input from staff and training Education and Outreach Coordinator Pilago received. VIS staff and possibly cultural practitioners to provide guided interpretive tours in the area and hands-on workshops that could be offered on a daily basis that visitors can register for and participate in. Similar to the kinds of programs done at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, such as Ranger talks on geology or birds, for example. VIS staff get a lot of questions about native plants, cultural resources, a lot of questions about the ahu in the 'Ahinahina Silversword enclosure. We've done training with the staff that have gone on for a while, staff are able to select a topic they want to be an expert in to give these workshops.

Member Adams: In the instance of storm events such as Hone, what are the connections between CMS team and Hawai'i County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)?

ED Chun: Primary connection is when there is an emergency that requires calling 911, Police were called during Hone but DOT is the one that came up. Rangers are in communication with County Emergency, and Pōhakuloa [Training Area] and Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) depending on situation.

Member Adams: Would you say that the Rangers are the ones that are connected to Hawai'i Emergency Management Agency (HIEMA) or County EOC? We were all hands on deck at the County, that wasn't necessarily the case

around the state, we had meteorological information from Thursday into the weekend that would have been helpful. I'm just wondering if that was made available. We [Hawai'i County] didn't necessarily before, but now we have a vested interest, and if there isn't involvement maybe we should think about that.

ED Chun: We were receiving regular updates through UH Hilo Safety and Risk Management, they are our primary contact to the County's Emergency Center and HIEMA, and we have our own weather center, tracking information specific to the Mauna.

2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda: Please pass on thanks to the crew who responded to the erosion damage. Previously there's been problems of erosion and road undercutting on that section just below the ridge, did the rain from Hone affect that?

ED Chun: There was some, but where it seemed to be worse was on the gravel road behind Keck and on the way to Subaru and the Submillimeter Array.

Member Mangauil: Because we're stewarding conservation lands here, the paint stripping on Subaru, does that trigger any reporting process on where that paint went or possible effect regarding contamination? Any documentation?

ED Chun: Subaru is checking on that right now, normally it would. This was such an unusual event that we don't even know where it might have gone. Subaru is currently putting together their assessment. But you are correct, certainly when any work is done on a building, if there's a concern about lead paint, HAZMAT procedures have to be done.

Member Mangauil: Another question regarding topography, if it's part of previous studies could we look at? This is an unusual event in our time, but as we know through our mo'olelo, this is Kāne, this is why the Mauna is sacred is those high elemental water forces. In that knowing, how much of this flooding is caused by human shaping on the mountain? This is a question I'm raising to us all, how much of the hydrology and water distribution is affected by the human impacts of introduced roads. Example of Pōhakuloa gulch being formed by drastic transformation, is this the kind of study that should be looked into, or already exists?

ED Chun: Not aware of any such study that looked at that particular aspect of impact, could be useful for looking into. No doubt that roads certainly cause channelizing.

Member Hannahs: When I was there in February with First Nations Fellows, and we were looking at the stargazing programs one idea that came from one of our young Polynesian navigators. There could be some integration and training on, as you're doing stargazing tours giving information on Western names, but also Hawaiian nomenclature as well as their utility and value to visitors in terms of navigation, the discovery of our islands and the advancement of our knowledge systems.

ED Chun: Absolutely, that's why primary emphasis with Focused Visitor

Experience is on staff training because there are so many different aspects that we need to build up, they know a lot but there's a whole lot more we need to integrate.

Member Hannahs: It really creates a value to it, you could have gotten the stuff that we've got anywhere, but you could have more, here. If we're going to do astronomy here let's do it with our names and traditional value.

IX. JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (JMC): CMS Executive Director Chun and MKSOA Executive Director De Fries- Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Upcoming Reviews of Fuel Tank Removal and Replacement Project, Caltech Submillimeter Observatory Sublease Termination, and Summit Utility Decommissioning: Preconsultations completed with Maunakea Management Board (MKMB), Environmental (Enviro) Committee, Kahu Kū Mauna (KKM). Have been put into formal Project Proposal, now under formal review. Met with KKM, meeting with Enviro Committee today, plan to bring formal review to MKSOA at October meeting.

Termination of CSO Sublease now that decommissioning process itself has been completed. In order to terminate Sublease and Operating Agreement, fairly straightforward, one key condition added to Termination Agreement with CalTech's agreement, contribution to a summit-wide Utility Decommissioning Fund which is to be created. Comes from a number of sources including public, CMS was working on this with observatories prior to Act 255, and would be included in any new leases. Complex methodology was gone through to determine estimated costs for decommissioning of utilities and how costs would be allocated to various observatories. We landed on a number that CalTech has agreed to. Explained history of issue and methodology at JMC meeting, will provide Sublease Termination Agreement and a more detailed explanation of determination at future meeting. No date for Sublease Termination Agreement for Formal Review, will review summary of terms at next JMC meeting so MKSOA is appraised. One reason for the focus on this is because monies collected from CalTech will go into a special fund held by UH, which will be transferred to MKSOA at time of transition and will be added to the inventory which TWG is currently analyzing. Unsure exactly how fund will be transferred from UH to MKSOA but will be held in a separate account for that purpose.

Chair Komeiji: The process we are developing as different projects are presented is that MKSOA staff will be reviewing individual projects and coming up with recommendations regarding approval, which will be left to MKSOA Board.

Member Hannahs: Is there a spreadsheet that summarizes critical terms of each lease?

ED Chun: There is one, it's in the inventory.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Authority, if needed, convenes in Executive Session 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.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING- OCTOBER 10, 2024, 10:00AM-12:00PM, DOFAW-HILO, 19 E. KAWILI ST
- B. COMMUNITY TALK-STORY MEETING- SEPTEMBER 12, 2024, 6:00PM-8:00PM, HALE 'OLELO- UH HILO, 113 NOWELO ST-

ED De Fries also appeared on "Spotlight Hawaii" on Hawaii News Now, 20 minute interview is online

Member Irwin: Hilo Sessions with UH President candidates September 24 and October 1, 2024. UH Hilo is doing a series of community talk-stories as well, including Kaleo Pilago of CMS

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement is holding its annual conference next week, at least three panels regarding Mauna Kea, I am on one with Pua Case and Kalani Flores.

ED De Fries: I am on a panel on Wednesday afternoon entitled "The Future of our Lands" with Mahina Paishon and Kali Watson moderated By Summer Silva,

Member Hannahs: I will be on a water issue panel as well, looking at Hawai'i Island serves as an important part of our watershed. Lanakila brought up good questions as well today on how we affect the mountain and its geophysical qualities,

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: There is one more panel about Section 106 consultation process,

Member Bertelmann: We are also doing presentations on Wednesday "He Wa'a he Moku" covering from the top of the mountain all the way down to ka lipolipo, what we are doing as a community to be able to steward management on Hawai'i Moku.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: Our panel will also be teaching another chant for the community to learn about Mauna Kea. Our Board is very active.

Member Kanaka'ole: DLNR Community Listening Sessions on Hawai'i Island on October 12, 9am in Hilo at UH Hilo UCB100, Kona in the afternoon, at Natural Energy Lab Hawai'i

Member Mangauil: Also, I have been meeting with Aunty Pua Kanahele on protocols to bless CSO site, will have more info later.

ED De Fries: Chair Komeiji, 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson will not be at next meeting, 2nd Vice-Chair to preside. ED De Fries, 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Members Adams and Horner will attend on zoom due to attendance at a conference at Hapuna.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson moved to adjourn. Member Hannahs

Second.

ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 am.

*Approved*_____



MAUNA KEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA) COMMUNITY MEETING

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Hilo, HI 96720
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MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, September 12, 2024
6:00 pm

In person at 19 E. Kawili Street,
Hilo, HI

Online via ZOOM, livestreamed at
<https://www.youtube.com/@MaunaKeaSOA>

AUTHORITY MEMBERS

PRESENT, Zoom: Chairperson John Komeiji; First Vice-Chair Noe Noe Wong-Wilson; Doug Adams; Lanakila Mangaui; Pomai Bertelmann; Bonnie Irwin; Neil Hannahs

EXCUSED Members: Ben Kudo; Second Vice-Chair Rich Matsuda; ; Kalehua Krug; Ryan Kanaka'ole; Paul Horner;

MKSOA SUPPORT: Pua'ena Ahn (MKSOA Executive Assistant); John De Fries (MKSOA Executive Director); Lloyd Unebasami (MKSOA Interim Administrative Services Officer);

GUESTS: Jean-Gabriel Cuby, Director, Canand-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFH); Fengchuan Liu, Project Manager, Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT); Doug Simons, Director, University of Hawai'i Institute for Astronomy (IFA);

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

Chair Komeiji opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson led pule Nā 'Aumākua. Chair Komeiji asked for all attendees to introduce themselves.

Chair Komeiji asked Executive Director (ED) De Fries to lead conversation and established a basic protocol of one speaker at a time, that attendees be respectful

of one another in choice of words, tone and body language, and to listen to one each other to understand rather than to respond.

ED De Fries: Thank you John. I became Executive Director for the Authority back in April. Part of my attraction to the leadership role was like all of you, I have a lot of respect and aloha for the Mauna. At this of my life, being accountable to the Mauna felt right. Because I know that deep down it will test everything all of us have learned in our lives. This may be the toughest assignment for me in my life, and you may feel the same way. The law that created the Authority has a number of responsibilities built into it. When we go out and talk with people, there's a tendency for the topic to immediately go from, you're the Mauna Kea Authority, let's talk about TMT. For us on the staff, it's not that easy, when you work inside a beuraucracy, that in itself is a challenge. When you're creating one, like we're having to do now, it's even more difficult. There's a whole range of things we have to get done before we can even talk about TMT, astronomy or the mana'o all of you have. In line with what our Chair shared with you, whatever your mana'o is about Mauna Kea, embrace it, hold it, protect it, continue to advocate for it. But I would also ask you to teach and share that mana'o that you hold so deeply. The third element is that we all need to increase our capacity to be empathetic so that we can listen better and learn from others, because we're going to need one another to move through this. Albeit there's a tendency for the general public to jump from the Mauna Kea Authority to astronomy, one of the first important hires we made has nothing to do with astronomy. He actually has a career in natural resource management and conservation. I want to introduce Bill Stormont who started in early July.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: Forgive me for interrupting, the reason we're having these community meetings, it's quite an unusual thing for a government agency to do, because that's what we are as the Authority. So normally we have our Board meetings, and if you've ever been to one, they're one of the most boring things that people experience. That's because there is this process that we have to go through that there's no getting around. But what's really important about the Authority that hopefully you witness as we move along the years, is that we want to make sure there are ample and significan avenues for this kind of, just talk-story and exchange, for people to come to a more informal setting. Sometimes we were told that this is out of the ordinary, you shouldn't be doing this, but we as an Authority know this is exactly what we should be doing, to open avenues for to to be able to hear what people in the community are thinking, or to have conversations where we don't have to follow Robert's Rules or any of the other restrictions we have on us. I just wanted to make that really clear, we want to be doing this every quarter, that's our intention. While we started here on Hawai'i Island, because that's important, our intention is to go out to the other islands so that people don't have to fly over here to participate in something like this. It should be the way government works, to be more open and give the community the opportunity to exchange.

ED De Fries: Thank you Noe Noe. It should be noted that before Act 255, there was a working group that actually recommended to the Legislature that an Authority be created, and that preceded the law. Noe Noe was a member, Bonnie Irwin was a member, Lanakila was on that working group. And that document was

the seed from which the Authority grew. I wanted to introduce Bill Stormont, who has an understanding of the Mountain that he has brought to the Authority immediately, and in a previous life was actually the Director of the Office of Mauna Kea Management. I'll let him explain his background but we're extremely fortunate to have him as a senior member of the team.

II. INTRODUCTION OF PROJECT DIRECTOR BILL STORMONT

A. Self-Introduction

Thanks John, I appreciate that, and thank you all for being here. To start, I was born in Honolulu and raised here in Hilo, my mother's family is from the east side of this island, just north of Hakalau. I have three younger brothers, they were all born here in Hilo, so we're a long time Hilo family. My association with Mauna Kea started at a young age, and between my sophomore and junior years of high school I worked in the Youth Conservation Corps here and did a lot of work on Mauna Kea. That planted the seed of what turned out to be a long and fruitful career in natural resource management. Off to the mainland, go get the piece of paper that says I can be a forester, get a job with the State starting in 1986. So for nearly 40 years I've been working as a professional in resources on Hawai'i Island, most of that with the Division of Forestry and Wildlife in various roles. In 1990 I became the manager of the Natural Area Reserves program here, one of those is the Mauna Kea Ice Age Natural Area Reserve, as I was doing that work and enjoying it very much, I was watching what was happening on Mauna Kea, fast forwarding, there was the creation of the Office of Mauna Kea Management, and I became the first Director in 2001. I did that through 2008, and I met Doug Simons and many other folks that I'm reconnecting with. I left that job in 2008 with some unfinished business, quite frankly. It was an interesting time, they were having their first conversations with the TMT folks from CalTech at that time, 2005-2006. Over that period of my life I got to know Mauna Kea more from a physical standpoint, I know the mountain pretty well physically. I've had a chance to be on a lot of really neat places all across the mountain. I included that in the cover letter of my application, how I think the mountain receives me, I feel comfortable on the mountain if I approach it properly. I'm a plant nerd by nature, I enjoy the plants, the ecosystems, that's been driving much of my career. I've done a lot of different work with DLNR, but then this opportunity came up, and of course I'm watching what's going on with the mountain, and the working group, and the subsequent legislation and opportunity for staff employment with it. People asked, "brah, you sure you wanna do that?" I got a lot of different comments from friends of mine about this opportunity to go back to the mountain, but I seized it and I'm really happy to be part of the group that's going to work with the community towards better care of the mountain overall. Because in my mind it starts there, we take care of the mountain everything will flow. If we're taking care of it then good will come in our community. I'm really driven by it being a community resource, and I want to make sure that that is how I go forward with my work with the Authority. Thank you. Thank you.

B. Presentation: "My Connection to Mauna Kea"

[Presentation not available due to technical difficulties, topics incorporated into above self-introduction]

III. OPEN DISCUSSION

A. Open Discussion with Attendees

ED De Fries: We just had people walk in from Waimea that we anticipated, if you would introduce yourselves.

Member Bertelmann: Aloha nō kākou, my name is Pōmai Bertelmann, my family is from Waimea, we were fortunate enough to be raised on the flanks of Mauna Kea by my grandfather on ‘āina that we still maintain and take care of today. We have established another stronghold, and it has been our kuleana to mālama and to maintain ecosystems in those two places especially recently, it’s become very important for us to recognize that to be on the ocean, it matters that we understand how important the land base is. We’ve started to reestablish forest in an area that hasn’t had forest in over 200 years, and I’m really happy to say that the ‘io have been starting to nest again in these koa trees that had not been there for some time. I’m currently on the MKSOA as the lineal descendant, and I am grateful to sit in that seat, that I don’t take it lightly, but that I can’t say that I surely understand exactly what it means, in the sense that everybody get kuleana, everybody’s family is connected not just to Mauna Kea but all of our mauna, and all of our ‘āina. So because of that, from the front door of our house, where our ‘ohana has been pili to the Mauna, where quiet ceremony was done, and had and kept for many many years. Because of the pili to that place, to the people there, I think that the space and the place that we’re creating continues to be refined. Every time you get ready to have these meetings I always think to myself, what is the one thing that you share tonight that is important for me to say, is this- that I liken this journey of where we currently are as we work toward transition with Mauna Kea at the center. I look at that imagery and I see that, and I compare it to the birth of a canoe, specifically to the birth of the canoe Makali‘i. Not because we built it, but because it’s taken 30 years this year, for us to potentially reach a stride that we’re happy with, but no we still got to grow. And over that 30 years, there’s been a lot that we’ve had to experience to be able to be at a place that we’re at now. But I perceive and I believe in every part of me that that’s what it takes for anything to grow.

[Other introductions by late arrivals]

ED De Fries: Thank you. So going back to the opening comments by our Chair, we’re here to listen. The Mauna Kea Authority has four staff people, myself, Lloyd, Bill, Pua‘ena. We report to a twelve-member Board, six of them are here. Doug, John, Noe Noe, Pōmai, Bonnie Irwin and Neil Hannahs. So we’re going to shift gears here and open it up for conversation, if you feel moved to contribute, the Board is here to listen, the staff is here to listen, and we’re grateful that you’re here. Thank you.

Chair Komeiji: If you have a question, last time we talked about, for example, somebody asked why do you need a land-based telescope, why can’t you just use Hubble or something out in space? And someone was able to answer that, so if there are questions like that. Some of you weren’t here, so if you want to hear the answer, we can talk about that. But if you have other questions like that, we want to hear what your concerns are, what you guys are thinking. One of the questions Neil asked is, we talk about the Mauna and sustainability, and conservation. To you, what does that mean,

what would that look like, what would that entail? That's the kind of discussion we would like to have, I know that sometimes people get intimidated about raising questions, but the whole goal is to be as transparent and responsive as we can. We've got the people here that can answer, we've got someone from astronomy, we've got someone here who knows a lot about conservation on the Mauna and the geographic nature, so we'll open it up for anybody that might have a question.

Kanoe Case: There is some questions I've had, I stumbled across the Department of Water Supply plan that they put forth in 2011, it seemed to be like a running document because I guess in 1989-1990 they started really trying to find a master plan for the use of our water on our moku. It had projections out to 2025 which should be expiring this coming year. Which means that they probably should be analyzing their data in regard to the projections and seeing if, our aquifers is really what I'm trying to get at, because all of our Maunas hold all of this water. The question that needs to be asked is, the function of all of our mountains in relation to our water sources, and that water source being the sustenance for life, how are you folks going to be focusing in on that primary function and working with the Water Commission and Department of Water Supply to ensure that the aquifers are maintained? Because there's construction, there's the military right underneath, there's a lot of developments coming up and it's just immense. How are we going to be able to sustain and maintain what we have left without moving the waters all over the place?

Chair Komeiji: Well lucky we're going to have a general answer and a more specific answer about Mauna Kea, Neil Hannahs actually just ended his term as a Water Commissioner.

Member Hannahs: Mahalo for asking the question, in my years on the water commission, the communities, Ola I Ka Wai, they understand, they get it. They get that our life depends on water. When we received testimonies, our [MKSOA] meetings are easy, one hour, two hours. We [Water Commission] had eight hours, twelve-hour hearings, largely attended by Hawaiians who testified, not only with concern but with wisdom coming from our ancestors and with real recommendations of what we need to do. Water is a regional issue in the sense here, man has affected what was a dense forest and made it grass. If it has nothing to grab, it's not going to rain. We caused that, we did that. Now we can change that. When you manipulate the aquifers, like you said, you may get more development, you may serve more need, but you may not be doing the right thing for those aquifers. In terms of their long-term sustainable yield, and their ability to keep that, because it's not just for our generation, this is for every generation that follows us. So that's an issue, and that's going on right now, that's going before the Water Commission. Waimea, and that whole Waikoloa area, is on the table, it's not just effects up there, it's looking at effects in Waipi'o. So we're paying attention to the issues, and the Hawaiian community, no, the whole community needs to step up and address them. The other thing is that we need to think about what the land needs, not just what we need. So the Commission says instream flow standard, they say before we start dividing this up among us, what does the stream need to sustain life and provide sufficient resource so that there are pathways for the fish and it's a healthy system. They're trying to set those changes, and of course every time you set it they take away from people who want it, it creates a conflict that has to be brokered and negotiated about at the Commission level. The third part of this is really putting the system health first before you start dividing. The last thing I'll say is when you don't read your

[Hawai'i State] Constitution or the Water Code, that there are protected uses that we prioritized, the beneficial trust. Water is held in Public Trust. It's not for you to own, it's for all of us. And for these Public Trust interests, cultural interests are in that hierarchy. And so every time there is a use, there needs to be a Kapa'akai Analysis, as it's come to be known, to understand was there a practice here, is it affected, how is it going to be addressed so that practice is not harmed? In Kona side in particular you have water at different levels, you've got high-elevation water, dike-impounded water, you've got basal water, so it's not just about how much did you take out- which bucket did you take it out from? And which cultural practices were influenced by that bucket, and it's kind of easy to say but kind of hard to know what's going on under the ground all the time. And when people are anxious to get things done, they don't want to take the time to study it and to figure it out. They just want it done now, how come you delaying development, how come you delaying economy, how come you delaying housing that we need? Those pressures get put on to accelerate the decision but sometimes it's at the expense of really understanding, number one, what it's doing to the resource and what it's doing to culture. So we fight for these things, and the commission's job is to kind of balance all those interests. So those are the broad issues and we don't want to make this a whole water thing. It's a whole other topic but I'm happy to talk to anybody about it, I'll be talking on a panel next week actually at the CNHA conference to discuss these issues, but really important, and the role of that Mauna, no matter whether the water is actually used by us or not, should really do its job of recharging the aquifer, it's vital. And part of putting it first, it's been said, is to really understand that that's its role. We shouldn't be screwing that up.

Chair Komeiji: Bill, do you want to add something?

Project Director (PD) Stormont: I'll offer that I'm not a water expert, thank you Neil for that explanation, I really loved it. I do know that, specific to Mauna Kea, we know that 85% of our weather comes out of the northeast, and it bangs up against the eastern and northern side of Mauna Kea. There's a vast area of forest, actually it's quite hard to conceive how much forest there is. If you drive and you look north at certain points, you look out at a vast area of forest. It kind of tapers down as you get around the corner towards Laupāhoehoe and Honoka'a, and it's like this big triangle from the sugar lands mauka to the tree line. That is receiving an awful lot of rainfall, we know this, 250-300 inches a year in some places in that tradewind band where the clouds bang up against that mountain. And that water is captured by that forest in many ways, and it sinks down and recharges the aquifer for that part of the island. It takes a very long time for that water that falls to filter down through the substrate to get to that aquifer, a very long time. I'll share a quick story though too, I had a friend from the mainland visit many years ago. He arrived in Kona, stayed in Waikoloa a few nights, came around the southern end of the island to my house up in Waiākea. We were going to go backpacking, to Waimanu. We leave, we cross the Wailuku River and he goes, that's the first running water I've seen. When you think about this island, from Waiaka stream, if you go south from there all the way through South Kona and around to Ka'ū, there's no running water. There are no perennial streams, it's just on this chunk of the island, and Kohala where you have perennial running streams, and those are recharge areas that are so vitally important for this island. I worked with the Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death response when I was in the Forestry and Wildlife Division for about four years, and we came to the conclusion that the best thing we could do in preventing the impact to our native forests was to protect large tracts of them from invasive species, so that if you

lose some 'Ōhi'as, the right stuff's coming back. So I add that, as sort of our watershed protection measures statewide, the biggest, best thing we can do for our forest and our water is to protect those large tracts of land so that they can continue to provide that function of protecting our watersheds. So yes, it's about the 'Ōhi'a trees, but it's more about the assemblage of those ecosystems that thrive on 'Ōhi'a. 'Ōhi'a is a keystone species in our forests statewide, unique in all the world. So that's the bigger effort we all have to be part of in protecting our water.

Member Adams: Neil was a part of the State [Commission] on Water Resource Management, that was the perspective he was talking from. The Department of Water Supply is a County agency, they have a Board that operates, they're always looking for members, always. You can go on the County website and say, hey I want to be a member of that Board and you'll be contacted by the individual in the Mayor's office who gets back to everybody who's interested in being a member of a County Board, so I would encourage you to do that. The other thing is that they meet monthly, so they have minutes, the Board has responsibilities to oversee what the Department is doing. All of that stuff is out in the open record and you can get access to it.

Kepa Kaeo: I had a comment. Thank you for the explanation of how the Water Board works. I liked the way he answered it because we have to have foundation in order to move forward. I was a student at the University back in 2013-14 and after we had a, I guess you could say awakening from education. We started to dig deeper about the context of the illegal occupation, what's true and not true. And we see this, and we ask ourselves, yes we have issues with the way management has gone, whether it's DHHL, whether it's DLNR, whether it's other State entities. We decided to go up there on the Mauna in 2015 to get arrested, because we believe that there's more at stake than what we were taught. So a few of us got arrested in 2015, a bunch of us said ok let's sit down with the makuas. Because he's right, everything has a foundation, everything has structure. That was the a-ha moment, when you realize that it's more than just us trying to mālama. It's in our Kumu Kānāwai. So when he says, it's in our [State] Constitution that's referring to the Kumu Kānāwai it's descended from. And so the University and other agencies, as we look at Mauna Kea and we say, how do we manage it? I think management has to have a foundation which the kānāwai lays out, but it also has to have 'oia'i'o to move this. It has to have truth, it has to have some kind of basis, and I think that's why we're having this conversation of, is it astronomy or not? I don't think it should be just that conversation. I think we should be talking about the identity of the parcel, it's just like when you buy a house, a house has title. Is it clouded, is it fee, does it have heirship to it? And I think that's the proper venue, and we all want to do our best, we have dig deeper within ourselves to figure out how we're going to address something such as the illegal occupation from 1893 getting overlapped by DHHL. He wants to talk about conservation, right? He wants to talk about the [State] Constitution...

Member Hannahs: Well the Kumu Kānāwai was written before, it wasn't written by us. Portions of it were preserved in the Hawai'i Constitution.

Kepa Kaeo: Exactly, that's why I appreciate your honesty because yes, it is preserved. So the reflection that we're talking about, let's not forget about the Kumu Kānāwai and the essence that it has it's rules and regulations. It's that they want to forget the native tenant rights, or the heirs, or the heirships of DHHL on this moku. You know I came

here to listen, of course, because we have this opportunity to listen to experts about water, we have these different Board members that show up that have different skill sets that they've been achieving over these years, and I think to myself that's a perfect opportunity to start from the basics, before we start jumping to telescopes, because like you said, we don't want to jump straight from this conversation and then all the way to TMT. Because there's going to be many moments for that, but I think that before we get to that, that there's a long history of community abuse before we can just jump to solutions or anticipate these dreams, these hopes, these aspirations. Because I think that's when hearts break, that's when community kind of shakes up, and I think that's why we're in this predicament we are in, because we're trying to go, go go, we never mālama. That's why I just wanted to share, because I think the way he started, it's really key to talk about the Kumu Kānawai, to talk about the State Constitution, and fiduciary duties and obligations that were breached, and I think that's part of the ho'oponopono that we're missing. Because we can jump towards whichever star we want to go to, astronomy, TMT, but we don't malama that space...

Tram Ngo: Can I share something, and I want to thank you for that because in my community and hearing a lot of stuff, I think a lot of times is there any way that government can let the people know how transparent the government is? Because I've been to several of the meetings for the government, they're very detail oriented, it's the first time that I went and I saw that if you go to the County, there's all these papers that's listed and have the time, the date, every single one. I actually attended two of them, and they were very transparent, all the heads were there. Can I share something with you? I was the only one there, this was like an open meeting. So it's almost kind of like I feel government is doing their best, everything is so transparent, it's there but people don't know. Not only that, I went to another one, it was BISAC [Big Island Substance Abuse Council], it was an amazing event, they had vendors, all this stuff for kids and parents, outside they had all these food vendors and stuff like that, and the main reason they were having it was to reach and to uplift the community and let them know that there's all these resources, but most of the people were outside. Another thing I would share with you I know that the hospital got a really great donation from Benioff, I believe. One of my clients came in one day and I asked if she had heard, and she said yeah, one of those guys trying to show off and get credit and stuff like that. I asked her why would you say that, and she said I heard it from my friends, so there's like misinformation going around. And then I heard from another one of my clients that Benioff has been living under the radar for a long time in Hawai'i, and he's very community oriented, and he always helps people, he's really into healthcare, and he's been living in Hawai'i, and so when I told my other client this, she was like, oh really? So it's kind of like misinformation from one person to the next. Even like Mauna Kea, I had another client saying that there was this whole thing on the mountain, a lot of people were up there getting arrested, and most of them didn't even know why they were there. They were just like, hey let's go there and have a party or stuff like that. But they didn't even know what the real meaning of like why the people are there, the ones that are trying to protect. It's like the telephone game they play at girl scout camp, the one where they go around repeating things into the next person's ear and by the end the story changes. I feel like, you know there's resources there, there's so many nonprofits. I see that the help is there, but people aren't getting it. And then the miscommunication misinformation. So how can we come together to get the right information?

Kanoe Case: I also want to interject to that comment, I actually work in the community as a mental health case manager, I hear what you're saying regarding misinformation, but there's also a component of generational trauma that we incurred as a people, so there's a lack of trust in government. And so when you see all of the people coming together, it's not to be misinterpreted that some don't know why they're there. They know why they're there. They may not be able to interpret why they're there the same ways that other people can, because some are stronger than others in that capacity. But we are limited peoples, that's why I think there might be a misinterpretation, and that's not to say we're not misinformed. Yes, some may be, maybe a percentage is misinformed, but a very high percentage are actually generationally wounded and have trauma. That is what I do in the community, I work with these people first hand. And that's also why I'm brought here too, because a lot of this, impact statements, when you look at the codes, reports and the recommendations, the problem is they're not following what they say, and these recommendations have been approved, in a legal binding document for years. And it's still saying we're ok, or the water is ok, and then all the recommendations are not being followed. So there's policy, and then there's a difference between policy and practice. And in Hawai'i, when you get to know, it's a lot being occupied aboriginals, and that we are, it's hard for someone from outside to look inside, because we don't see the same.

Chair Komeiji: Let me ask you a question. What can the Mauna Kea Authority do to gain that trust that we're trying to do the right thing?

Kepa Kaeo: It's a tall order. I just explained, it's something that has been compiled for a long time. I think this is a first good step. For me, to have this open conversation, this is a first big step, because a lot of people don't know, don't have the opportunity. So that's why I said, it's not for us to come down here and shoot down the messenger or shoot down the conversation. Just to add in the mana'o, right. It's not to say we have the only mana'o. Like I said, his expertise is invaluable. What he has done in his career and understanding of the laws and how things structure. Just like your tools that you have accomplished. I think that by everybody sharing these separate set of unique tools that you guys used throughout your career can weigh a lot on people's mind, a lot of Hawaiians or a lot of non-Hawaiians. That's why I say education and open policies of talking about these things. I think that's the first step to the next step that we're trying to achieve. Sorry, I don't really have a bluepring of how you gonna map it out, but I'm pretty sure this is the right way.

Executive Assistant (EA) Ahn: I have a question from the chat. Someone asked, why does Mauna Loa not have a stewardship and oversight authority the way Mauna Kea does?

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: I can venture a guess, not based on anything but my own opinion, is that the only facility up there that I know about is the volcano observatory. So two things, one is there's not the community concern about overdevelopment. It's not on the summit, the most sacred part of the Mauna, which I think if they tried to go up and build buildings up there we would all be standing on the road again. So I'm going to say again, this isn't about being anti-science. It's about making sure that our sacred sites are protected. And I don't think the activity on Mauna Loa has reached anywhere near that temperature in the community. So there's no direct reason.

Member Hannahs: It is no less sacred.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: Right? But then, if you drive through you can see the sun reflect on the few facilities there, and it's about two-thirds of the way up, so we know it's there. And they do good work just by measuring the conditions of the atmosphere. But I think if they try to build more up there, it would certainly draw opposition. So that's probably why there's no issue of conflict. But thank you whoever is watching, wow, we've got some viewership!

Member Hannahs: I just want to go back to the first part, I don't want to say I've got expertise, I've got some experience, and it's taught a lot. So I want to phrase this as much as my estimate, but ask you if this is the right thing to do. What you describe is a political issue in some ways, if you see it as a political issue and try to get a political solution then it takes its course that way. I've watched us try to have a political solution for occupation my whole life, and it hasn't. Nothing's emerged yet. And I'm not sure that our 'āina can wait for us to have a political solution. And I worked for 41 years at Kamehameha when, we had at one point all Hawaiians in our leadership positions, who got to that position and saw their job as to kind of be the dominant force like every other corporate, it was like we were doing it to ourselves. Now that we were at the table, we didn't go back to an ancestral view of ourselves that adapted to this place, that provided justice for our people. We did what the other guys did before us who were not of our people. It told me that just being Hawaiian is not enough. You don't just change the politics, you change the values. It's the values that matter. It's like when you talk about ea, it's that sense of self-determination. We don't need somebody to give that to us. We need to assert it, we need to do it. When we assert our values, no matter who we are, no matter where we came from, let's assert the values for the right reason. And part of that is going back to, what does the 'āina need? Let's do this correctly. Let's understand this Mauna, and what's threatening it. And is it here for us, or are we here for the Mauna, and how do we express that? In our policies, and in our oversight, in our stewardship. It goes right to our name.

Tram Ngo: Can I ask you, when you were sharing that? Like what I was trying to share with you who said that...

Kepa Kaeo: Oh no you were just saying something that I got lost in the conversation.

Tram Ngo: I liked what both of you said, that let's sit down and talk about the first step before we get into the politics, and earlier what you were saying about generational trauma. I feel that's what I hear a lot of from the community is just generational trauma, they're so hurt. And I feel like, how can we even go to the next step. So that's what I'm just trying to ask, what government can kind of do to develop that trust, but I'm sorry, I don't know if I said something that...

Kanoë Case: It's good, it was an opportunity for us to think about it like that, if you hadn't said what you said, then I wouldn't have had the opportunity to share about intergenerational trauma. To answer your question, trauma-informed care, that's what we run by in what we do as our profession, and for us to be leaders in this kind of capacity, I think that's what's lacking.

Member Bertelmann: To add to what Kanoe is saying, it goes back to what Aunty Noe Noe was saying with Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa. The question that comes from the chat was amazing, because what comes from that is really a lot of what the trauma represents. When you know the truth of something, because you see it every day, you look at Mauna Kea, you look at Mauna Loa, you know what it pono. Yes, government is working hard. On what? There's many levels of definition in the eyes of k̄naka, right? And so I love the way you wrapped it up, because it's kind of like a question of, how do you want the mountain to receive it? And I bring it to light because that's a great, great energy, as to the kind of intelligence that goes through us and that we have to sift through every day. Because you can see everything at the ni'ō of the Mauna, and you can see how the mountain is functioning, and we have to temper that every day. And I think that's a great thing, this is a great ground for that conversation, because it needs to be said, it's part of the foundation and the substrate under our feet, and substrate has the capacity to move and to be shaken up. We've all felt that a couple times in the last many years, which is really good in the mind.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: So maybe I can bring all this conversation back to the Authority. One of the remarkable things, I say remarkable because we all know the political system, and the process of the Legislature, and the challenge. The challenge of working through our own political system for the Authority to be born, with our purpose as stated in our law, to protect Mauna Kea for future generations is remarkable to me. I would have never have thought to have seen that come out of our government in my lifetime. And of course there's all kinds of other things in there as well which we have to put on the table and figure out how we manage all of this, that's a huge challenge. There's language about astronomy as a science. Under the laws of the government at the moment we can't just erase it, but we can manage it and we can say what it should look like. So that's the picture. There's talk about human uses, about the Authority having the ability to determine what the carrying capacity is, how many people should you have, how many tourists should you have? And what should they do when they're there? So that's a big chunk of what we're going to have to look at. There's language that says we need to know and understand, and take care of all the other elements of the Mauna, the conservation and natural resource piece, which is why Bill Stormont is so key to our staff, right? Because he brings so much of that information. And then there's a whole piece on education, we have to have an educational program, we need to have something that community can learn about our Mauna, and that it is an educational platform, as it should be. Every 6th grader in Hawai'i goes to Volcano National Park, right? Every single one. Well, somebody should be coming to Mauna Kea as well, and to learn about what Mauna Kea is and how important it is to us, not just Volcanoes National Park. There's several other requirements that are in there. So for me, the Authority has, we, the community, has this opportunity to shape the Authority so that we can do those things, and we can protect Mauna Kea for future generations.

Chair Komeiji: To add to what Aunty Noe Noe is saying, to me the difference with the Mauna Kea Authority is the composition of the Authority in terms of who gets appointed. So they're required to appoint a cultural practitioner, they're required to appoint a cultural practitioner that's a lineal descendant, and someone who has an expertise in land and water use. Because it's dealing with astronomy they're required to appoint someone that's in the astronomy field. So for the for the first time, I tell people, that government has created an organization where those people that didn't have a

voice are required to be put on a decision-making body where they don't only have input, but they actually have a vote, right? I mean who would think, that one of the leaders of the Kia'i would be appointed to help decide this issue. But one of the ideas behind the Authority was to give voice to people who didn't have a voice. But more than a voice, give her a vote, so she has more than input, she has a vote in the decision making. So to add to what Aunty Noe Noe said, in addition to all that she tries to do, this is why it's a big experiment for me. And maybe how we answer the question is going to be different from other governmental bodies just because of the makeup of the Board.

EA Ahn: So speaking of our Cultural Practitioner seat, who did help stop a certain groundbreaking back 10 years ago, everybody say hi Lanakila! Lanakila does have a comment. What he says is: The main kuleana when it comes to management of the Mauna, is managing the presence and impact of Humans. Human impact and presence have been heavy on Mauna Kea, and in many proven cases, negatively impacting. So it is our kuleana to do better to protect and restore. And we must look and learn from past impacts and take responsibility to ho'opono. But the truth is, the less human impact and presence, the less management would be needed. We must remember that we, as a people, are also part of government and our involvement influences policy. Our Authority is a result of the movement of the people that demanded something must change and do better to help guide and support how we mālama Mauna Kea. We were not formed just by the idea of a politician we engaged, and therefore guided the change for Mauna Kea.

[applause]

Member Hannahs: I appreciate his consistency to even today, if you were at the hearing today, because of the hurricane, the 100 mile per hour winds blasting that's knocking the paint off the building. He was wondering if there was lead in the paint, and whether it was creating a toxic or hazardous waste issue that should be managed carefully. He was wondering whether the road system and how we use that landscape is accelerating erosion, and help causing runoff unplanned. Those consistency of values.

Kepa Kaeo: So you mean the management, right? The management is the carbon footprint right? So we was fortunate, the Kanaka Rangers, to stay up there for the whole year to monitor our real specific kuleana up there, which was the road. And the data that we compiled was astronomical. We were following the scale of how much the National Park pays per head, would be bringing in over a million dollars for just the year, just us sitting there and taking this count. That was a tough sell, because some of the Hawaiians thought that we were blocking access. But we wasn't blocking access, we was just counting heads. So we had that that we had to face at some point, overall we had to make it clear to them that, we're not here to manage. And that was one of the most anxiety that the community had. We met a lot of community members that was really concerned. And they said hey, look at these Hawaiians, they think they own the road, they're blocking the road, we have the right to go up there, this is Crown and Government land. And we had to ensure, that yes those are inalienable Crown and Government lands. But if you do go up, do you know what make, model, how much people you had. We didn't take names, because I don't feel that was our kuleana to manage people. But I think management going forward, there's going to be levels to that, right? DHHL has the first bottom sector, right? You guys are talking about the

top, so before you get to the top you gotta come through the bottom, so there's these things, how to talk about management, especially Hawaiian management. I think that's where the grits gonna hit, is where we talk about Hawaiian management. Because yes, we don't like the carbon footprint, we don't like how much tourists is going over, or just using the bathroom along the road, right? Because we had to clean up a lot of that. People can't make it up to the top to go to the bathroom, where do they go to the bathroom? On the Crown and Government land. Where's DLNR? Where's everybody else? Nowhere to be found in the middle of, 10:00 [pm] all the way to 6:30 [am] before the first telescope workers go up. So there's a big gap of management. Is it going to be just to tell people and mark our carbon footprints? Or is it going to be micromanaging, they're going to be around that clock. Because protection, Volcanoes National Park, they pretty much have that around the clock. They have people there watching, taking care and making sure that everything is being maintained, rubbish and all these things are a big component of it. So yes, that's what I'm here too, is to here like, what is the management plan? We can have a plan of how we can keep the top, but there's going to be people traveling up, a high volume of numbers of people coming up all around the clock. Some people are going to go to gather, do ceremonial, the cultural practitioners, but then how are we going to order these things, regulate, or how are we going to set the tone. And I don't think it comes from a crack of a whip, in the form of a badge, a gun, I think we need to win them over with the common understanding of our kānāwai. I think we need to move them intellectually. I don't think we should herd them like cattle, but other people might have different views about it. And I think this conversation, and things that Lanakila guys, and other people who are watching, I think those are great comments and great thoughts to put in our brains to really consider. If we're going to change and advocate for these rules, then we better prepare for everything that comes with being that management, or perceived management of our kuleana. That's why for me it's not a political conversation, we're talking genealogy, kuleana. And I that's where I think it kind of draws the line, that there is within the Constitution our water rights, and who gets X amount of percentage, because without that, I already know, like OHA, we've been engaging with OHA too, that they don't feel right about this management issue of how it's going to operating. They feel like they're being priced down. They claim to have 20% of the Crown and Government inventories that's supposed to be mālama'ed in this issue. So if they're not here, who's speaking up for the 20% and that's where OHA, and DHHL, and DLNR, it takes more components than just astronomy and community within this. So it has to be divvied out correctly for the proper voices, for these sectors that unfortunately can't be here as often. I think this is definitely the spot to discuss these concerns. Because if we're just going to go to community, and we're just going to go straight to astronomy, there's a lot in between that's going to feel left out. And I'm pretty sure OHA is saying that as we discuss, and I think we've got to be mindful about how we go about the process, or how we decide to level it and decipher it, there's just things we have to get through.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: So can I suggest John, can you just share with everybody, because I'm sure they don't watch us, or hear the news during our meetings where we are right now in terms of bringing in a consultant to start the management plan.

ED De Fries: It's been really helpful to hear everybody at this particular time. Because earlier Auntie Noe Noe kind of recapped the kuleana that we have at the Authority that all needs to be channeled into the creation of a new master plan, a new management

plan and a new financial plan. Those kinds of planning efforts, in order to be fair to the community will take time. So as we sit here tonight, the master plan may be two and a half years away. So at the moment we're evaluating and have not made a recommendation to the Board as yet. But the current plan that the University of Hawai'i is operating under has gone through under extensive community review. We won't get into the details of it, but even if we presume that 50, 60% of that plan is still fair and functional, that would put us 50-60% ahead. So we're still evaluating that, but what's important about tonight's meeting is that plans are plans are plans, right? But the recurring theme, is this original indigenous identity that the Mauna has, and the values that Neil is talking about, the water cycles that provide life. The connection that lineal descendants have, all of that now moves in a very high priority about how this plan will emerge, because every time that humans have fussed with the flow of fresh water, we get in trouble. And this goes back for me, like 30-something years in Waipi'o valley. That every time we fuss with the flow above the valley, in the valley something goes awry, and there's a reason why it's going to be important for us to understand what the natural cycles were about. And so we've got a ways to go, we've got that massive undertaking and at the same time we've got to order pencils and paper to get this new Authority going. [laughter] We'll be able to get it done, but we're going to have to accelerate it going forward. But I can't tell you how invaluable it is, and the opening question I thought was ideal because it takes us right to the essence and foundational priorities that we need to get in place. Act 255 has a lot in it that we've got to unpack and repack, but what we need is commitment by our Board, by our staff that the community has to coauthor this. And we need to facilitate a process that will allow for honest communication to take place in a safe environment where everybody's respected.

Chair Komeiji: Tell him what you said about your response to OHA.

ED De Fries: You know, I was asked in an interview a couple days ago about the OHA lawsuit. My response was that a lot of people at OHA I know and respect there, and that lawsuit was filed before I joined the Authority. I'm not completely clear how it got disjointed and why OHA is not here tonight. But within the last six months there's been a new CEO appointed, so she and I are now in contact, and we've agreed to meet after the election because the makeup of OHA is going to change as well. But the idea that you need a lawsuit so that you can protect the claims that you have against the State or the University of Hawai'i, we believe is a flawed premise, that it's not necessary. We actually support your protection of the claims, and at the moment we actually need your support and guidance, not the added distraction of a lawsuit. And the sense I got is that she agrees, so you know we're going to try and unpack that and see how we can get on with it. And their presence, frankly, is missed here. Also next week Tuesday we're meeting with Director Watson from DHHL who happens to be Neil's classmate, as school that didn't accept me. Talk about generational trauma. [laughter]

Member Hannahs: Back to the management plan, I really like that you guys are measuring stuff, but I would ask the community, what to you is important to measure, because that's going to tell us. In a water chart, you measure the degree of recharging of the aquifer, that'd be one thing, the carbon footprint is another good one, what are other good things to measure? Because then that will go back to what we manage, what we oversee, and how we steward and what we're trying to improve. It'll tell us whether

we're winning or losing, whether we're gaining ground and making a positive difference, or not doing our job.

Kanoe Case: I have something I've been thinking about, our voices can be measured. Our voices aren't being heard, because I think about all of our kūpuna talking for years and years and years, and there's no end. How can these voices go unheard? It's because it's not being measured, and I guess you have to do a qualitative study, and you have to go out, that's the only way you can answer the question. Because my 81 year-old grandma cannot come to these meetings. How can my voice be quantified into a voice that represents 20 people? Because I am representing probably more than that today. I'm not here to go on about that, but just the mere fact that all of our voices, it's not quantifiable, it's unmeasurable, but it can be done. It has to be done in a qualitative study, and someone has to put together a thing, and a trusted source has to go out into the community, and might have to go door to door, if that's what it takes. Because when it actually comes out, when you pull out the measurable voice that's been missing in the data, then you going know, and then you can do the thing and say X, Y, Z and put it in that report to reflect the exact number. Because it's not, in every report, every report now, government report, every department, every agency, no more.

EA Ahn: I do want to offer something. I'm kind of here behind the scenes, but I do have something that I do want to throw something that kind of encapsulates several points that have been made. When I first started this job, one of the first things I did was I pored over, I read the 2022 Comprehensive Management Plan Update, which was an update of the 2009 Comprehensive Management Plan. What it also included was an evaluation done by our very own DLNR Chair Dawn Chang. You know, Ku'iwalu, right? Because I believe she had a hand in writing the first one. So when they went back and looked at what is working, and what is not. Every single bullet point, every single aspect of this plan, and how was it improved on in the 2022 version. And this is to what Uncle John is saying about, whatever the percentage is that's actually solid, whether it's 50, 70. And what they found was that the conservation, the resource management, cultural and natural, arthropod studies, iwi, all of that was good. But the number one, glaring, worst part about it, guess what it was? Communication and outreach with the Hawaiian community and the community at large. You know, I'm mostly a behind the scenes guy, but I try and make suggestions. And I will say that I did push, firmly, for these to happen because of what I read in that plan. The other thing about this is that, when it comes to the actual nuts and bolts day-to-day management, the Rangers, Justin and Kaleo and all the folks over at CMS and how hard they work up there, in thin air. Reading that plan, and down to Hale Kūhiō, counting cars, right? You find surprising things when it comes to the actual problems, solutions, management. Cars, right? One of the things they found about, where are the visitor impacts, these human impacts? One of the things they discovered is that tour vans? Tour vans are not the problem, tour vans are part of the solution. Because the number one issue is you have people with rental cars driving wherever they like, whether they have four-wheel or not. And Bill, you had pictures of what happens when you don't drive four-wheel, you end up in the bushes or in the rocks, right? But, tour vans, the licensed CTOs, the Commercial Tour Operators, because they have a license they have to maintain, there's a limited number of tour vans, a limited number of tours, they are responsible for all those people that they bring up and bring down, they wrangle them, that is actually how...

Member Adams: They also take care of each other.

EA Ahn: Right! They also help to enforce against the illegal tour operators who are up there operating without a permit. These are the kinds of measures that you have to put in, and you'd be surprised at what actually works, what the problem actually is, what the solution actually is. This is the nitty-gritty, the actual granular aspects of day-to-day management that unfortunately, and this is one of the things that I've found most unfortunate is that the whole conversation of TMT gets in the way of actually taking care of the place. That is an unexpected outcome of the TMT. But, this is one of the things that surprised me, and actually even the most disappointing about trying to get this agency off the ground. Coming from one of you, brah you and me, we go back long time, you know? But, it's like, everybody TMT! TMT! TMT is the big bad, but there's not a whole lot of conversation about what it takes on the day-to-day, hour-to-hour, in thin air, managing all these people. That's what we need to look at, not worrying about the big eyeball-boogieman on the top of the mountain that isn't even there yet. That's what stewardship is, that's what management is. Thank you.

Member Irwin: Pua'ena, that reminds me of when we were doing the working group, and this was my litany, in saying, this is a big job. Of course it all currently reports to me on the CMS side, but I still remember the presentation we had about Papahānaumokuākea. Some days I pronounce that much better than others. And they were saying they finally figured it out, they said, super awesome is super hard, and I have never forgotten that phrase that night when they said that. Because I was thinking about, this is not easy work. It's not easy work what's going on now, the work the Rangers do, the work the conservationists do, it's not easy setting up an Authority. But if we care about what we say we care about, it's worth the time and the efforts. And so I really just appreciate not only what everybody has been saying, but particularly how you just kind of wrapped it up all together. It's a lot of work, but it's worth the investment.

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: You know we get paid a lot of money to do this.

[laughter]

Chair Komeiji: Just so everybody knows, we're not getting paid a cent. [laughter]

1st Vice-Chair Wong Wilson: My hair used to be black.

ED De Fries: As a result, staff is going to propose doubling your salary.

Member Hannahs: You know John, sometimes you have to frame it like that. When you're in the trenches you feel the enormity of the responsibility. It's an enormous amount of work, but it's a huge opportunity. And believe me, I've been through figuring out ROD [Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death] and how we save our forests. That's a hard problem. Figuring out how we're going to deal with human influences from around the planet, the other side of the planet, that's causing changes here, those are hard problems. Figuring out what we do to ourselves, here, that seems like it's easier. And I've dealt with Kamehameha Schools and other organizations that were on the brink of disaster, and our community can work together. There's brilliance, and there's love in our community. I mean we galvanized a lot of Aloha 'Āina for that Mauna, and for

Hawai‘i that come from, we’ve heard it already from people who weren’t born here but who come here and come to love it, and that’s what we can marshal. And would you rather not have the opportunity? I’m old enough that we don’t have to do this stuff now, but we’re doing it because, let’s try, let’s give it a whack under our watch. Pua Kanahale says, you know that stuff about the children are our future? That’s just a bunch of adults who don’t want to have to dive in and deal with it. [laughter] You know, you dive in and deal with it. So that’s the opportunity. Yeah, a lot of work, but this could be good work.

ED De Fries: We’ve got about five to seven minutes left, but I’m reminded as I’m sitting here tonight, my father’s older sister, my Auntie Emma was one of the central kupuna in the Kaho‘olawe movement. To the extent that she went on the island with the young ones back then were Walter Ritte, and I asked her why she was so involved with this. She was a generation removed, or above Walter at that time. Her concern was that at that younger age, many of us are motivated toward political solutions, and she felt that the young ones needed to also focus on the spiritual purpose behind all of this, and not over-invest in political miracles to happen. So tonight, the talk about water, kānāwai and the foundations, all of that is going to be extremely informative to us going forward. And my hope is that you will remain engaged with the Authority. The Authority is not only undertaking a massive assignment, but it’s trying to design itself as it moves forward, and the only way it can design itself is to co-design it with the community. Not easy, but it’s the commitment and the direction we’re getting from the Board. So thank you again for being here tonight. Noe Noe, you want to make some closing comments?

1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson: I think John you wrapped it up. I really appreciate everybody who came from our community. I’m not thanking all of you guys from the astronomy area yet because it’s part of your job, I appreciate that you’re here as well. And I hope that you’ve heard clearly the voices that we heard tonight, and I hope next time we get a little bit of time to hear from you as well. But this is important. And mahalo for calling all your neighbors, because you’re just a small handful of our community. I hope this grows and maybe we’ll have to use the larger room next time we do something like this. But it really is important, and what John just said, and Neil and others, is that this Authority will not survive and will not flourish without the community. That’s why it’s being set up this way, and that message got heard loud and clear by the political leaders. When, if you recall, back in 2019 and in the couple years that followed, Mauna Kea became the most divisive topic in all of Hawai‘i. And so this is the solution that was offered, by us as well as by our political leaders, and so now it’s up to us, the community, to make it work from the reason that we’re all coming from and that’s to take care of the Mauna. So mahalo, really, for spending the time to be here, and I hope you come back the next time. We’re trying to do this every three months. And you don’t need to wait three months, you know how to reach us. You can call Pua‘ena. [laughter]

EA Ahn: Follow us on Instagram! [laughter]

Chair Komeiji: I want to kind of echo what Pua‘ena said. I think the only way we’re going to try to move forward is through communication. My belief is, we are where we’re at because of communication. So we gotta have hard talks, we gotta have hard discussions. Communication doesn’t mean, sometimes people say, well, you’re not

listening to me. You're not listening to me cannot be judged by if I do what you tell me to do. That's why I started this thing off by saying that we got to listen to each other and be empathetic, and kind of understand where the other person is coming from rather than trying to respond. I'm a lawyer by trade, that's what we do, you say something I going try come back at you, but that's not how you solve problems. So this is one way that we have to increase communication. We're open to other ways to increase communication, and the other thing that's important to us. We want to go out to the community and not expect, like many government agencies, that you got to come to us. So if there's opportunity for us to go out to the community to improve communication, to hear what people want to tell us. We're more than happy to go out to the community or to wherever to do that. So this is a different way of doing stuff, but the whole idea is to increase communication, because one of the reasons that I'm doing this is that I don't like the divisiveness. For me, that's not Hawai'i, that's not the Hawai'i that all of us love. How will we become less divisive? And I don't know what the answer is. But as Neil said, this is an opportunity for us to try to figure out how we can move forward in a less divisive way. But thank you again to all of you for attending, we really appreciate it. Like Aunty Noe Noe said, our goal is the next time we have to use, I don't know if you've seen the next room, but the next room is like three times this size. We want to build a room up to have these conversations in a respectful way and exchange ideas. Thank you again.

ED De Fries: John, thank you. You're actually a recovering attorney. [laughter]

PD Stormont: The communications part, I just want to add to that. If you haven't had the opportunity to sign in this evening, please do so, and leave an email address for us as well so we can communicate out what we may need to, to reach those of you that joined us tonight and going forward. So please if you haven't had the chance.

EA Ahn: Thank you Bill, all the email address that I take down on these sign-in sheets get added to the meeting notifications, so every time there's a Board meeting, every time there's one of these, I send out to everyone who signs in. Thank you.

ED De Fries: Pōmai, can I ask you to offer a closing pule?

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

V. ADJOURNMENT

Closing by Member Bertelmann- Pule Ola Lō'ihī

Meeting closed at 8:20 pm