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LANAKILA MANGAUIL
RICH MATSUDA
NOE WONG-WILSON

**ex-officio*

MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA)

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, December 11, 2025

10:00 am

Online via ZOOM and livestreamed via YouTube

Meeting Recording Available at

<https://youtube.com/live/iRAW19PWoeE>

AUTHORITY MEMBERS

PRESENT, Zoom: Chairperson John Komeiji; Second Vice-Chair Rich Matsuda; Ryan K.P. Kanaka'ole; Neil Hannahs; First Vice-Chair Noe Noe Wong-Wilson; Kalehua Krug; Ben Kudo; Kimo Alameda; Bonnie Irwin; Pomai Bertelmann;

EXCUSED Members: Lanakila Mangaui; Paul Horner

MKSOA SUPPORT: Pua'ena Ahn, Executive Assistant, Board Secretary (MKSOA); John De Fries, Executive Director (MKSOA); Lloyd Unebasami, Interim Administrative Services Officer (MKSOA); Craig Iha, Deputy Attorney General (AG); Christopher Daggett, Consultant (MKSOA);

GUESTS: Greg Chun, Executive Director (CMS); Doug Simons, Director, UH Institute for Astronomy (IFA);

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

Chair Komeiji called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Opening remarks by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson.

Member Irwin joined meeting at 10:08 am

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 13, 2025 REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING

MOTION: Motion by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Second by Member Hannahs.

ACTION: Unanimous by show of hands.

IV. CHAIR REPORT – Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Status of Draft Legislative Bill: Comment sought from other agencies regarding Conservation District Use Permits (CDUPs) and original legislative intent in drafting Act 255. Significant complications could arise if MKSOA were to take over CDUP issuance process but maintains significant input regardless of CDUP issuing power. BLNR would not need to review or approve MKSOA “master” plan. Portion of bill to be tabled temporarily to determine appropriate direction. Consideration of implication of Act 255 and appeals of contested cases to circumvent appellate court and go straight to Hawai‘i Supreme Court

Comments by Vice-Chairs Wong-Wilson and Matsuda, Members Hannahs, Kudo, Bertelmann

Member Alameda stepped out of meeting at 10:15 am

V. GOVERNANCE– Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

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

- A. Report by Executive Director (ED) De Fries:
1. In Response to Governor Green October 24, 2025 Letter to TIO Principals: Status of Permitting Requirements Report: Met with DLNR and UH to determine process, meeting with Governor upon completion

Member Alameda returned to meeting at 10:25 am

Member Mangaul joined meeting at 10:37 am

B. Correspondence Between UH System Leadership and MKSOA

1. November 20, 2025 Correspondence from UH System (UHS): Original letter available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Item-VI-B-1.pdf>
2. November 30, 2025 MKSOA Response to UHS Leadership: Original letter available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Item-VI-B-2.pdf>
3. December 5, 2025 UHS Leadership Response: Original letter available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Item-VI-B-3.pdf> [Regarding above Sub-Items (1)-(3)]: Series of letters between UHS BOR Chair, UHS President and MKSOA initiated based on meetings between MKSOA PIG and UHSBOR and by Gov’s TIO letter, draft legislation discussed, positions clarified.

Comments by Chair Komeiji, 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Members Kudo, Hannahs, Alameda, Mangauil

- C. Status of MKSOA Annual Report to Legislature Due December 31, 2025: Work on Annual Report underway, guidance by consultant Christopher Daggett, draft report to be submitted to Board for review prior to final submission
- D. Status of Long-Term Transition Working Group (LTTWG), Report by Member Kudo: Master Transfer Plan outline approved, greenlight given to outside consultant to draft plan, subject to review. Draft expected January 2026, Final expected March 2026,

VII. MKSOA MANAGEMENT PLAN– Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Progress Report by Kua O Wākea: Ten community workshops scheduled, first in Kona on January 7, 2026 at La‘i ‘Ōpua, and then in Ka‘ū. Two meetings on O‘ahu in Wai‘anae and Kāne‘ohe. Followed by meetings on Maui and Moloka‘i, Kaua‘i. Concluding on Hawai‘i Island in Laupāhoehoe and Waimea. Dates and details contained in attached document at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Item-VII.pdf>

Comments by ED De Fries, 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Member Bertelmann

VIII. STATUS OF DECOMMISSIONING PROCESS ON MAUNA KEA– Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Presentation by Doug Simons, Director, UH Institute for Astronomy: Details contained in document at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Item-VIII.pdf>

Questions by Chair Komeiji

IX. CENTER FOR MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP (CMS)– Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Operational Update- Report by CMS ED Chun: Verbal update- Quiet on the mountain, still in pre-holiday slow period. Biggest current project is Draft Underground Storage Tank Environmental Assessment, out for public review. Permit application to be prepared on public comment. Notice of Intent to decommission UKIRT has been filed, currently under committee review, Kahu Kū Mauna complete, Environmental Committee this week, MKSOA review at next January meeting. Issues with faulty inverters in Photovoltaic system at Halepōhaku.

X. MKSOA-CMS JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (JMC) Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

Verbal update- Stabilization fund agenda item has been removed from this meeting’s agenda, will be on Jan agenda, recommendation to Board to be presented then.

XI. FINANCE– Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Report by Interim Administrative Services Officer Unebasami- October Financial report including appropriations, budget, expenditures, balance: Details contained within attached document available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Item-VII.pdf>

Member Alameda left the meeting at 11:23 am

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING- JANUARY 8, 2025, 10:00AM-12:00PM
- B. NEW MEETING VENUE- KŪKAHAU‘ULA, INSTITUTE FOR ASTRONOMY (IFA) LIBRARY 640 N. AOHOKU PL, HILO

Final comments by Chair Komeiji and 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.

*Approved*_____