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JOHN KOMEIJI
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*KIMO ALAMEDA
POMAI BERTELMANN
NEIL HANNAHS
PAUL HORNER
*BONNIE IRWIN
*RYAN KANAKA'OLE
KALEHUA KRUG
*BEN KUDO
LANAKILA MANGAUIL
RICH MATSUDA
NOE NOE WONG-WILSON

*ex-officio

MAUNAKEA STEWARDSHIP AND OVERSIGHT AUTHORITY (MKSOA)

688 Kino'ole Street #212, Hilo, HI 96720
Telephone (808) 272-0259

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

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, March 12, 2025

10:00 am

Online via ZOOM and livestreamed via YouTube
Meeting Recording Available at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHBc66V18Bk>

AUTHORITY MEMBERS

PRESENT, Zoom: Chairperson John Komeiji; First Vice-Chair Noe Noe Wong-Wilson; Second Vice-Chair Rich Matsuda; Neil Hannahs; Kalehua Krug; Ben Kudo; Pomai Bertelmann; Lanakila Mangauil; Paul Horner; Kimo Alameda; Bonnie Irwin; Daniel Holt (BLNR Chair's Designee)

EXCUSED Members: Ryan K.P. Kanaka'ole;

MKSOA SUPPORT: Pua'ena Ahn, Executive Assistant, Board Secretary (MKSOA); John De Fries, Executive Director (MKSOA); Lloyd Unebasami, Interim Administrative Services Officer (MKSOA); Linda Chow, Deputy Attorney General (AG); Keala Patterson, (incoming) Administrative Services Officer (MKSOA)

GUESTS: Greg Chun, Executive Director (CMS); Ranjani Srinivasan, Acting Director (SMA);

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.

Members Kudo and Bertelmann joined the meeting at 10:08 am.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Written testimony by Cheryl Burghardt and Dee Green. Oral testimony by Deborah Ward.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 12, 2026 REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING

MOTION: Motion by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Second by 2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda.

ACTION: Unanimous by show of hands.

Members Krug and Mangauil joined the meeting at 10:12 am.

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

- A. Status of HB 2592 “Relating to the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority”: Passed out of House, will be heard by Senate.
- B. Status of HB 2593 “Relating to Mauna Kea”: Amended from original version, passed from House to Senate.
- C. Status of SB 2003 “Relating to Natural Resource Management”: Passed from Senate to House; Additional announcement that Chair Komeiji, Vice-Chairs Wong-Wilson and Matsuda, Member Horner have been reappointed pending confirmation.

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. Update on MKSOA Staff Positions
 - a. Administrative Services Officer (ASO):
Welcome to Keala Patterson, starting Monday. Attended Community Workshops voluntarily, impressive and relevant body of experience.
 - b. Program Specialist- Research and Reporting:
Current Executive Assistant/Board Secretary Pua‘ena Ahn
 - 2. Update on Special Projects Positions
 - a. Business Transformation Fellows (2): Skills and expertise needed that are not found in the Civil Service for the purpose of effectuating transition. Temporary position, limited to the duration of transition period.
 - b. Social Communications Fellow: Social media and online engagement and communication, also transition-limited position duration.
 - 3. Future Observatory Leases
 - a. Status and discussion regarding Comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): Performance & Oversight (P&O) Permitted Interaction Group (PIG)

asked Joint Management Committee (JMC) for a programmatic EIS for all uses, intended to comply with HRS-195H, including limitations on astronomy development. JMC conducted an initial analysis, will be providing further analysis and recommendations at next meeting.

- b. Status and discussion regarding identifying process to determine future lease rent: Meetings to take place with Maunakea Observatories (MKOs) to include decommissioning process. Current moratorium on new leases in effect per Act 255.

- B. Status of Long-Term Transition Working Group (LTTWG), Report by Member Kudo: First draft of master transfer plan complete, has been submitted to working group and counsel for review, initial concerns have been collected, second draft hoping to be completed by end of month. Final approval expected to be sought by May.

Question and comments by Members Hannahs and Horner.

- C. Meeting in Washington DC with Respective Staff Members of Hawai'i Congressional Delegation: Report by Vice-Chairs Matsuda and Wong-Wilson: Met with collective staff from full delegation and individual legislators, provided updates and background, as well as progress on new management plan.

Question by Member Hannahs

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

- A. Progress Report by [ED De Fries]: Community Workshop Series: 10 workshops across Hawai'i recently completed, mahalo to the Board members who attended. Total of 1559 combined in-person attendees and online viewers reached. Total of 190 completed surveys. Updates, materials and videos available on Kua o Wākea website.
- B. Summary Report on Phases 1 & 2 of Management Planning Process:
- C. Overview of Phase 3 Tasks and Milestones: P&O PIG meeting with Kua o Wākea had to be postponed, a better update will be available following this meeting.
- D. MKSOA Members and Staff Honuuiākea Training: Saturday, March 28, 2026 – Hilo (Tentative Date, Pending Confirmation): Staff to poll Board on availability by email later today.

Comments by Members Alameda, Hannahs, Mangauil, Bertelmann and 1st VC

Wong-Wilson.

Member Kudo left the meeting at 11:00 am. Member Alameda left the meeting at 11:07 am.

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

- A. Submillimeter Array Weather Instrument Upgrade, Concurrence – INFORMATION ONLY: Details contained in document located at: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Item-VIII-A.pdf>

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

- A. Financial Stabilization Package to Ensure Current CMS Staffing and Service Levels for the Continued Operations on Mauna Kea – ACTION ITEM: Details contained in document located at: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Item-IX-A-Financial.pdf>

Item deferred until April meeting. No action taken.

X. PALILA HABITAT PREDATOR-PROOF FENCE PROJECT – Public Testimony taken (written or oral) on any of these items

- A. Presentation by Bret Mossman, Forest Bird Recovery Coordinator, Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) – INFORMATION ONLY:

Questions and comments by Deputy Attorney General Chow and Members Hannahs, Mangauil, Krug and Irwin.

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

- A. Report by Interim Administrative Services Officer Unebasami- December Financial report including appropriations, budget, expenditures, balance: Details contained within attached document available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/Item-XI.pdf>

Remarks by Interim ASO Unebasami and ED De Fries.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING- APRIL 9, 2026, 10:00AM-12:00PM; KŪKAHAU‘ULA, INSTITUTE FOR ASTRONOMY (IFA) 640 N. AOHOKU PL, HILO

1. AUTHORITY MEMBERS: PLEASE NOTIFY BOARD SECRETARY IMMEDIATELY IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND NEXT MEETING.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Motion by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson, Second by 2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda.

Meeting adjourned at 11:57 pm.

Approved _____