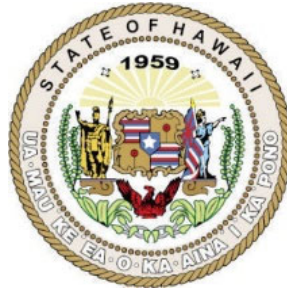


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



JOHN KOMEIJI
Chairperson

*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

MAUNA KEA 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, June 18, 2026

10:00 am

Online via ZOOM and livestreamed via YouTube
Meeting Recording Available at

<https://youtube.com/live/JbJF9wRXwbM>

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; Ryan K.P. Kanaka'ole; ; Kimo Alameda; Bonnie Irwin

EXCUSED Members: Lanakila Manguuil; Pomai Bertelmann

MKSOA SUPPORT: Pua'ena Ahn, Program Specialist- Research & Reporting (MKSOA); John De Fries, Executive Director (MKSOA); Linda Chow, Deputy Attorney General (AG); Keala Patterson, Administrative Services Officer (MKSOA)

GUESTS: Nahua Guilloz, Director of Stewardship Programs (CMS); Rodrigo Romo, MKSS General Manager (CMS); Greg Chun, Executive Director (CMS)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME PROTOCOL

Chair Komeiji called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. Opening remarks by Member Kanaka'ole.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Oral testimony via Zoom by Healani Sonoda-Pale.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 2026 REGULAR AUTHORITY MEETING

Document located at: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Item-III.pdf>

MOTION: Motion by 2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda, 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. Legislative Report

1. H.B. 2592 C.D. 1 Signed into Act 53, SLH 2026: Provides extension of transition term, clarifies that MSKOA will act as manager of Mauna Kea Lands, sets benchmarks that must be met or else management will revert to University of Hawai‘i. Act 53 gives MKSOA ability to extend existing observatory leases for up to 10 years. This provision originated in another bill (HB 2593) that automatically extended leases but was changed based on MKSOA’s Deputy AG testimony. Extension will not be used unless necessary - as part of new lease negotiations, and not automatically. EIS will take place despite any statutory exemption of MKSOA’s own volition.

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. MKSOA Staffing and Recruiting: In active recruitment for Executive Assistant position posted in mid-May. Special Projects positions received over 34 applications; interviews are also underway. Conditional offers to be made within the next two weeks.
2. Management Plan Update: Final interviews taking place to be integrated into the plan, Honuiaiākea sessions complete, financial plan underway, financial consultant being contracted. Phase 3 deliverables to be completed by end of July.
3. Communications Update: Legislative preparation for next session underway, aspirational statement under development, social media engagement continues to grow.
4. Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Mauna Kea Access Road: Two proposals by beneficiary groups, available to view online. Mauna Kea Access Road was found by Hawai‘i Supreme Court to have been illegally designated to Department of Transportation without proper DHHL beneficiary consultation and still belongs to DHHL. Director Kali Watson has appointed Vy Lam on the matter, who will be joining upcoming Joint Management Committee meeting. A working group will be assembled with representation by MKSOA, CMS, DHHL,

DLNR.

Comments by Member Hannahs and Chair Komeiji, CMS ED Chun; Questions by 2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda, Member Kanaka'ole.

- B. Status of Long-Term Transition Working Group (LTTWG): Report by Member Kudo: Working Group has met to review and provide comment on draft Master Transfer Plan version 3. One recommendation is a new PIG for UH Board of Regents and MKSOA to interact. Version 4 expected early July.

Comments and Questions by Chair Komeiji and Member Hannahs, 2nd Vice-Chair Matsuda.

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

- A. Underground Storage Tank Removal – Project update (Information only)- Report by MKSS GM Romo: Removal based on Department of Health requirement for replacement of single-walled with double-walled storage tank by July 2028. Review of timeline including environmental assessment and review by SHPD and OCCL, public comment period. Details contained in document located at: <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Item-VII-A.pdf>

Comment by 1st Vice-Chair Wong-Wilson.

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

- A. Update on Operational Services Transition Package to Ensure the Continuity of Operations on Mauna Kea Through June 30, 2027: Full \$4.534M encumbered, first invoices from CMS processing, heavy equipment and vehicles to be purchased to ensure continuity of services and stewardship. Ranger program and further equipment invoicing in development.
- B. Update on Comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): CMS and MKSOA will be holding a workshop to determine lease process and determine scope of EIS RFP. Cultivating community confidence a high priority.
- C. Update on Administrative Rulemaking: RFP to follow EIS RFP, mid-August expected timeline for drafting. MKSOA's administrative rules and the RFP for drafting will be far more technical than those of CMS.

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

- A. Report by Interim Administrative Services Officer Patterson- March Financial report including appropriations, budget, expenditures, balance: Details contained within attached document available at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/Item-IX-A.pdf>

Comments by Members Hannahs and Kanaka'ole, and Chair Komeiji.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. NEXT AUTHORITY MEETING- JULY 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.
- B. Letter received from UH regarding assignment of Master Lease to MKSOA,
currently under review and to be agendized for next Authority meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

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

ACTION: Meeting adjourned at 11:04 am.

*Approved*_____