Due to COVID-19, the OHA Board of Trustees and its standing committees will hold virtual meetings until further notice. The virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA’s website at www.oha.org/livestream or listened by phone: (213) 338-8477, Webinar ID: 816 7928 9302 All members of the public that wish to access the physical meeting location must pass a wellness check and provide proof of full vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of entry.

Minutes of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Board of Trustees
MINUTES
June 9, 2022

ATTENDANCE:
Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Trustee Leina’ala Ahu Isa
Trustee Dan Ahuna
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka
Trustee Keli’i Akina
Trustee Luana Alapa
Trustee Brendon Kalei‘āina Lee
Trustee Mililani Trask
Trustee John Waihe‘e, IV

ADMINISTRATION:
Ramona Hinck, CFO
Everett Ohta, Interim General Counsel
Nietzsche Ozawa, Interim Senior Legal Counsel
Lei-Ming Ayat-Verdadero, BSA Mgr.
Starr Kalilikane - BSA
Erin Nakama-IT Support
Arlene Aguinaldo-IT Support

BOT STAFF:
Amber Kalua, Trustee Aide
Kanani Iaea, Trustee Aide
Kauai Wailehua, Trustee Aide
LeiAnn Durant, Trustee Aide
Anuhea Diamond, Trustee Aide
Nathan Takeuchi, Trustee Aide
Brandon Mitsuda, Trustee Aide
Mark Watanabe, Trustee Aide
Pohai Ryan, Trustee Aide
Lehua Itokazu, Board Secretary

GUEST:
Eric Enos – Ka‘ala Farms
Alapaki Nahale-a - ‘Iole Stewardship Center
Todd Apo - ‘Iole Stewardship Center
Richard Pezzulo – Waimea Valley
Call to Order

Chair Hulu Lindsey Calls the Board of Trustees Meeting to order for Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 10:03 a.m. Board Secretary, please do a roll call.

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At the Call to Order, nine (9) Trustees are PRESENT, thereby constituting a quorum.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Welcome everyone, we are here in Waimea Valley, here in Oʻahu. As a reminder for those joining us by Zoom, please mute your mics when you are not speaking and have your cameras turned off until called upon. The virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA’s website at www.oha.org/livestream

Joining the Trustees today is my staff, Aides-Kanani Iaea and Amber Kalua, our Board Secretary-Lehua Itokazu. Also with us today is Robert Klein and sitting in for our CEO is our Interim General Counsel - Everett Ohta. Everett, could you please introduce any staff that we have here.

Everett Ohta, Interim - General Counsel Thank you Chair Lindsey and good morning Trustees, we are honored to be here in Waimea Valley. Thank you for the hospitality shown by Richard Pezzulo and staff. Joining us for the BOT meeting this morning is Lei-Ming Ayat-Verdadero, Starr Kalilikane from our Beneficiary Services Program as well as, Jason Lees and Josh Koh from our Digital Media.

Public Testimony & Community Concerns and Celebration

There are no testifiers.

New Business

A. Community Presentations
   1. Kaʻala Farms – Eric Enos

Chair Hulu Lindsey Aloha Eric, thank you for being here and sharing your presentation with us.
Eric Enos, Kaʻala Farms Aloha mai kākou, I was invited by your staff to come out. This is an interesting place, so different from Waiʻanae. I am from Kaʻala Farms and we have been around since the 1970s. We have deep roots in Waiʻanae moku and we really appreciate that last funding cycle. This allowed us to shift gears with Covid. Normally, we have about three to four thousand school children at our learning center but because of Covid, we had to press stop and move into a food distribution. We were ready, we had alot of kalo coming from our fields and it was ʻulu season. We were able to cook, present, and give away food. More importantly, to engage and teach where the food comes from and how to make these food options ‘ono, delicious, and healthy. We work closely with the Waiʻanae Coast Comprehensive Health Center (WCCHC) and we were able to get some grants from the City to help us. We have 97 acres of Hawaiian Homelands – it use to be a youth program, I was working with the youth gangs. It was ranch land, the community got the land and the lease when the ranch got into trouble. I called the Bishop Museum and they came out. They brought a map that was done in 1906, it showed the entire back of the valley covered in taro. I went to see Senator Matsuura from Hilo. He came out and walked the trail with me and went out to the plantation diversion ditch and he told me what to do. He said you go through the process of a community, the district use application based on the water and then I’ll take you to inaudible waste water engineer. After the plantations divereted all the water inaudible. I went through the process and got everyone on board; DOFA, SHPD, DLNR, all the agencies. This was a great project working with youth. This was just to bring a little bit of water down to create a little creak. I handed the letter in and I got a letter back that said request denied. How can we farm? In the summer of 1978, I took action. Some people donated 2” pvc pipes, one mile. We stuck in the plantation diversion ditch and we followed all the conditions that was designed for us. We brought the water down from 600 ft. elevation to 400 ft. elevation. Prior to that, I took our youth to the Wāiaʻhole struggle. We met with the farmers and they put us in the frontline. We learned about civil disobediance. Governor Ariyoshi, at the time, took the valley over. Meeting all those farmers, I learned about kalo. At the time, I knew nothing about kalo but they all came out and helped us. I started to plant kalo and cleared all my land. About six months later, the State enforcement agency came on and I said okay, I am not going to argue with you, I know you’re doing your job. I went and looked up a list of the landlords, I went down the list and I looked for the first Hawaiian name, Larry Mehau. He didn’t return my call, so the next name was Moses Kealoha. He said come see me, bring all your maps and work that you did. He looked at everything and told me at the next board meeting, to come and testify, and I will take care of the rest. I went and testified before the land board. I followed all the rules and did everything that needed to be done. I really had no choice because we needed water. The land board then voted yes, they are going to support us putting in the 2” pvc pipe on State land; however, where the pipe entered the stream is out of the State’s jurisdiction. We had permission to lay the pipe on state land. Where it entered the stream, it was out of the State’s jurisdiction. Who owns the water? 1978, the Con Con, the water commission was established. What we did was start establishing a Native Hawaiian organization, rights to the percentage of the water in the watershed to allow us to have the uses to recharge other purged brown water, which recharges other purged brown water. This recharges the Board of Water supply wells below. It was a win-win. The hydrology of water is very critical, especially with climate change. We’ve done studies that looked at recharging brown water and we are going after that water. We had 1,100 acres of State land just turned over to us, the old Waiʻanae Ranch. The Department of Ag. – gross mismanagement. When William Aila was Chair, he removed the Department of Ag and it got turned over to us. We got $60K from you to do an environmental assessment that allowed us to have the lease and share it with Hoʻo‘omau Ke Ola Substance and Abuse Program. Now, we are working on water rights on the back of Waiʻanae. The Waiʻanae kai is the best preserved, intact Hawaiian system. The whole back of the valley was never bulldozed because it was too rocky. Hundreds of acres untouched, only cattle so we are going for the historical register for Federal recognition. I have been working with Hawaiian Homelands for kānākas who can have raw land, to transpire that into a viable living place. Sorry to go over my time, I just think these are key issues. What we have done with water sends a precedence. We are now working with the Board of Water Supply, we are working with HECO and they are helping to fund. Every summer, we have interns; juniors, seniors, and college students. We work with them and take each level of experiences. This
covers sustainability, fire, water, indigenous knowledge, ‘ai pono, energy, policy, and politics. These are all the issues, we take every level of issues and we bound them together. We need to produce more Native Hawaiian scientist, geologist, archaeologist, botanist. All that are applying to these kinds of jobs are coming in from other places.

Chair Hulu Lindsey I just want to say the Board is coming down to Wai‘anae for a community meeting. If you want to come down to present again, you can.

Trustee Ahuna You mentioned about getting more geologist and botanist, how do you think OHA can support that?

Eric Enos, Ka‘ala Farms You gotta get them early in our schools, public and private. Support from Kamehameha Schools, it is important that they support community nonprofits. They are pulling back our funding and I think that is very tragic.

Trustee Ahuna We should have scholarships ready for our children out there. These kids should have scholarships where they do not have to compete or have obstacles. We should be giving them away. How many kids in Wai‘anae have these options?

Trustee Akaka Mahalo for your presentation. I am very interested if we can do a site visit at your farm?

Eric Enos, Ka‘ala Farms Absolutely, yes. We had Ernie Lau, from the Board of Water Supply. We opened up fourteen acres in Makaha, this where Board of Water Supply has a lot of land. When the time comes, we have always testified; and when we fight, we fight clean. We disagree honorably, we set up communications. He came out to talk stories. The Hawaiian Civic Club did pass a water resolution and we mahalo them for that. This resolution looked at our water situation in Wai‘anae. We are not asking for all of the water, we are just asking for our fair share. It will be a recharge, it’s a win-win.

Trustee Akaka I also wanted to ask what can OHA do for you immediately to further your mission?

Eric Enos, Ka‘ala Farms Learning about the issues with water.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Mahalo nui Eric. When we have our meeting out your side, we will have our staff set up a site visit. Next up is Alapaki from ‘Iole Stewardship Center.

A. Community Presentations
   1. ‘Iole Stewardship Center – Alapaki Nahale-a

Alapaki Nahale-a, ‘Iole Stewardship Center Aloha Chair Lindsey, Vice Chair Trustee Ahu Isa, and Trustees, mahalo to Trustee Lee for the invite to present today, OHA staff for all your work, the Waimea Valley ‘ohana for hosting the meeting, and a special aloha to Uncle Eric. It’s been over thirty years since I visited Ka‘ala with Uncle Eric and Uncle Eddie, thank you for paving the way. I am the Alapaki Nahale-a, Interim CEO for ‘Iole and I am happy that our Board member Todd Apo is on here joining us.

I want to start with ‘Iole is a nonprofit and ‘Iole is about ‘āina. A traditional ahupua’a, very diverse and over 2,400 acres of land and has a deep cultural significance. To be there and traverse ‘Iole is to walk in history, there are many stories and evidence pre-contact. We know Kamehameha coming from Kohala, that this place has a lot of impact including his rare canoe landing that, here we are today, still with the challenge of
stewarding this place as a lāhui. The land is owned by the New Moon Foundation, they reached out to the

Hawaiian Community Foundation (HCF) to see if they would be interested in taking on this kuleana. I want to
give HCF credit because this is not something they would normally do but their leadership decided this was
something they would embrace. In order for HCF to receive this and implement anything, they started their own
nonprofit called ‘Iole. We see ‘Iole as a special kuleana to take of this place and our lāhui. Our Board consist of
HCF, University of Hawai‘i, and Arizona State University. Both Universities are interested in the work that is
being done here at ‘Iole. Early partners in our initiative have included Hawaii Electric Industries and
Kamehameha schools and we're now starting to work with our community, like Kohala High School.

Majority of this ahupua'a is agriculture, ag-lasses. We host learners for different events, a variety of education
programs, and we will be adding research programs. I believe an ahupua'a is really about a community and
community of practice. People who will wrap arms and keep each other accountable, support, and create an
abundance. Recently, I have been pushing restoration because we have been living detrimental to both the
environment and humans so we have to restore better practice. When we do this, then we can move to
sustainable practice. One of the things important to me is stewarding ‘āina but in away, we are modeling
solutions locally and globally; so globally, energy and food and onsite water and waste. One of the ways that I
am framing this is that within 7-10 years, I intend for ‘Iole to have the capacity to be totally self-sufficient for
water, energy, and waste. If we want find solutions for the world, then we need to be models of the behaviors
and practices to make recommendations and suggestions. I just wanted to give you an overview of ‘Iole. We
would love to have OHA a part of our ‘ohana in whatever way makes sense and I am happy to provide more
details if needed or host staff.

**Trustee Akaka** Mahalo nui for your presentation. Back in 2016, I had the pleasure of visiting ‘Iole with my
grandfather, Daniel Akaka. He was so enamored with the property there. I wanted to ask you what some of the
changes are that we’ve seen since then with facilities, ag-land, and the fish farm.
Alapaki Nahale-a, ‘Iole Stewardship Center  We have actually tried to keep the property as status quo as much as possible. Everything that has been happening there is positive and impactful so we’ve maintained *in audible* we are looking to add value and to amplify what the site can deliver. I would look at it more as a refreshing application rather than a change. In truth, many initiatives that the Kohala Institute started did not get launched and so we are starting with those initiatives like the ag-research and some stream restoration.

**Trustee Akaka** Do you still have the fishpond?

Alapaki Nahale-a, ‘Iole Stewardship Center  Yes, the fishpond is still operational but it is in the transitional phase right now, they will be located at another site.

**Trustee Akina** Thank you for acknowledging me. First, I wanted to say aloha to Alapaki and to Todd, good to see both of you on the screen and thank you for your work at the ‘Iole Stewardship Center, great initiatives. You mentioned earlier that you're moving forward to carry out some of the initiatives started by the Kohala Institute. Could I ask what the role of Kohala Institute will be in the forward direction of your stewardship center?

Alapaki Nahale-a, ‘Iole Stewardship Center  Absolutely and I’ll say it’s nice to see you again, the Kohala Institute is phasing out and I believe they will not be doing anything else. I think the organization is closing up shop but we did keep all the staff. All the research that has been done, the plans that were laid and community connections made. We want to continue them but as a former organization, I believe that the New Moon Foundation is closing them down.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Mahalo nui Alapaki. Moving on to item IV.B., I will call on Trustee Waiaheʻe

B. Committee on Resource Management

1. Action Item RM #22-10: Limited Delegation of Authority of Chapter 10-17 Grant Awards for the Purposes of Effecting Responsive Emergency Financial Assistance and Community Based, Micro Kokua Grants (2nd reading)

Trustee Waiaheʻe Madame Chair I would like to move to

**Action 3**

re: ACTION ITEM RM #22-10

Approve the limited delegation of grant awarding authority, pursuant to section 10-17, Hawaiʻi Revised Statutes, to the Chief Executive Officer for:

A. Program 3800 – Grants, Object Code – 56510 – Grants in Aid Program & Proviso Grants, Emergency Financial Assistance (“EFA”) Grants, up to $2,000 per award, and an overall budgetary limit of $830,000 in both FY22 and FY23, less any amounts in 3rd party grant agreements executed for the purposes of EFA;

B. Program 3800 – Grants, Object Code – 56560 – Sponsorships, Rural Community-Based, Micro Kōkua Grants for event sponsorships (“Kōkua Grants”), up to $1,000 per award, and an overall budgetary limit of $30,000 in both FY22 and FY23; and subject to weekly reporting to the Board
Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.

Trustee Waiheʻe Moves

Approve the limited delegation of grant awarding authority, pursuant to section 10-17, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, to the Chief Executive Officer for:

A. Program 3800 – Grants, Object Code – 56510 – Grants in Aid Program & Proviso Grants, Emergency Financial Assistance (“EFA”) Grants, up to $2,000 per award, and an overall budgetary limit of $830,000 in both FY22 and FY23, less any amounts in 3rd party grant agreements executed for the purposes of EFA;

B. Program 3800 – Grants, Object Code – 56560 – Sponsorships, Rural Community-Based, Micro Kōkua Grants for event sponsorships (“Kōkua Grants”), up to $1,000 per award, and an overall budgetary limit of $30,000 in both FY22 and FY23; and subject to weekly reporting to the Board

Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.

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MOTION: [ X ] UNANIMOUS [ ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED

Motion passes with nine (9) Yes votes, Zero (0) No votes and Zero (0) Excused.

Announcements

Chair Hulu Lindsey Are there any announcements?

Trustee Lee Tomorrow some of the Trustees will be gathering for the King Kamehameha Lei draping.

Chair Hulu Lindsey Yes, thank you. All the trustees are invited. We would like to mahalo Richard and all of his staff here at Waimea Valley for hosting us today.

We also have two Board members here with us, mahalo for coming.
Adjournment

Trustee Ahuna Moves to adjourn the meeting.

Trustee Waihe’e Seconds the motion.

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Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey Adjourns the Board of Trustees meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lehua Itokazu
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on July 15, 2022.

Attachments:

1. ‘Iole Stewardship Powerpoint
‘Āina ‘Iole

• A historic traditional ahupuaʻa in Kohala
• Just over 2,400 acres of land
• A diverse environment
• Significant historical sites
• Rich Agricultural lands
• Deep cultural significance
This gift is our kuleana as stewards of this ahupuaʻa
Current Uses

Agriculture

Hosting Facilities

Education & Community Programs
What does it mean to be community of place practitioners?
Partnerships grow collective action

- University of Hawai‘i
- Arizona State University
- Hawai‘i Community Foundation
- Kamehameha Schools & Hawaiian Electric Industries
A Model for Global Resilience

Water
Improve our water systems

Energy
Become energy independent

Food
Grow our food security

Waste
Reduce our waste
Mahalo

ʻIole Global Resiliency Hub
info@iolehawaii.org