

**STATE OF HAWAI'I  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
560 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, SUITE 200**

**JOINT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEES ON  
BENEFICIARY ADVOCACY AND EMPOWERMENT  
AND  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
MINUTES**

**May 24, 2017 12:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Chairperson Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.  
Vice-Chairperson Dan Ahuna  
Trustee Rowena Akana  
Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa  
Trustee Keli'i Akina  
Trustee Peter Apo  
Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Trustee Colette Machado  
Trustee John Waihe'e, IV

**EXCUSED:**

**BOT STAFF:**

Kauikeaolani Wailehua  
Lehua Itokazu  
Lopaka Bapiste  
Davis Price  
Claudine Calpito  
Maria Calderon  
Crayn Akina  
Liana Pang  
Alvin Akee

**ADMINISTRATION STAFF:**

Kamana'opono Crabbe Pouhana / CEO  
David Laeha, CFO  
Deja Ostrowski, ADV  
Jaycee-Lynn Smith, TAP  
Sarah Antone, TAP  
John Kim, Controller  
Kawika Riley, CHIEF  
Lisa Victor, COO  
Misti Pali-Oriol, TAP  
Jocelyn Doane, PUBL  
Monica Morris, PUBL  
Jim McMahon, ADV  
Kanoë Tjorvatjoglou, CE

**GUESTS:**

Leimomi Khan  
Germaine Meyers

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Lindsey (CL) calls the Joint Committees on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment and Resource Management meeting for Wednesday, May 24, 2017 to order at **1:02 p.m.**

CL calls for a Roll Call. Below is the record of members **PRESENT:**

| MEMBERS    |         |              | AT CALL TO ORDER<br>( 1:02 pm ) | TIME ARRIVED |
|------------|---------|--------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| CHAIR      | ROBERT  | LINDSEY, JR. | X                               |              |
| VICE-CHAIR | DAN     | AHUNA        |                                 | 1:04 pm      |
| TRUSTEE    | LEI     | AHU ISA      | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | ROWENA  | AKANA        | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | KELI'I  | AKINA        | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | PETER   | APO          | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | HULU    | LINDSEY      | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | COLETTE | MACHADO      | X                               |              |
| TRUSTEE    | JOHN    | WAIHE'E      | X                               |              |

At the Call to Order, **EIGHT (8) Trustees are PRESENT**, thereby constituting a quorum.

CL announces that the Minutes of May 4, 2017 will be deferred.

CL requests a motion:

To waive the OHA Board of Trustees Operations Manual practice at which materials will be distributed at least 72-hours prior to the meeting where said materials will be reviewed, discussed, or acted upon regarding items:

IV. New Business

A. BAE/RM #17-01 Fiscal Biennium 2018-2019 Community Grant Recommendations

Trustee Hulu Lindsey (T. H. Lindsey) – moved

Trustee John Waihe'e (T. Waihe'e) – second

| MEMBERS    |         |              | 1 | 2 | Y | N | Kanalua | Abstain | Not Present at time of vote |
|------------|---------|--------------|---|---|---|---|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| TRUSTEE    | LEI     | AHU ISA      |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| VICE-CHAIR | DAN     | AHUNA        |   |   |   |   |         |         | X                           |
| TRUSTEE    | ROWENA  | AKANA        |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | KELI'I  | AKINA        |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | PETER   | APO          |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | HULU    | LINDSEY      | X |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | COLETTE | MACHADO      |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | JOHN    | WAIHE'E      |   | X | X |   |         |         |                             |
| CHAIR      | ROBERT  | LINDSEY, JR. |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |

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

### **III.PUBLIC TESTIMONY\***

CL invites Germaine Meyers forward to share her testimony.

\*\*\*Germaine spoke in SUPPORT of RM #17-06 as there was not enough time in that meeting to speak on the topic. The testimony is attached.\*\*\*

CL invites Leimomi Kahn forward to share her testimony.

\*\*\*Leimomi Kahn spoke in SUPPORT of RM #17-06 as there was not enough time in that meeting to speak on the topic. The testimony is attached.\*\*\*

CL calls upon Kamana'o Crabbe (KC) to present item IV. A.

### **IV.NEW BUSINESS**

#### A. BAE/RM #17-01 Fiscal Biennium 2018-2019 Community Grant Recommendations

KC recounts to Trustees that there have been 2 previous workshops on the Community Grant Program and today the Administration would like to present its recommendations as to who should receive the grant awards.

KC calls Program Grant Specialist, Misti Pali-Oriol (MPO) forward to present the Action Item (AI).

T. H. Lindsey asks if any of the recommended awardees have been notified of the potential for them to receive a grant award.

MPO says no. The awardees do not receive notice until after the Chair of the Board of Trustees signs award letters after the Board of Trustees approve the awards.

KC recalls that at the previous meeting, a number of Trustees had feedback regarding the Trustees' priorities and how Administration looks at the funding for the grant disbursement. Page 2 of the AI shows what the Trustees approved last year in terms of funding for this Community Grant cycle. He mentioned that these grants are not the only way OHA tries to meet its Strategic Priorities and Results. The \$3 million a year to DHHL and the \$1.5 million a year to the Hawaiian Focused Charter Schools are examples of fulfilling the goals of the Strategic Plan that don't use grant funds.

Trustee Akana (T. Akana) asks a question regarding the "Income" category found in Table 1. What is the money used for when it is for "Income?"

MPO responds that OHA's "Income" programs provide services that include Career Assessment and funds for vocational training, provided that they will stay with the selected field of employment for at least 6 months.

T. Akana asks if that is an "in-house" program or is this service contracted out.

MPO responds that these are granted out to non-profits.

T. Akana ask if statistics exist that show this money is well spent.

MPO says yes.

T. Akana remarks that at some point, she hopes that Trustees can have a workshop to see these statistics and understand how OHA is making a dent in these areas and exactly how many beneficiaries OHA is helping.

KC agrees with that and suggests that the workshop can happen in the future.

Trustee Ahuna (T. Ahuna) asks if the amounts in the line items are the maximum amounts to be awarded for the category.

KC responds, yes for each fiscal year.

MPO begins by asking for the Trustees' support in approving the 23 vetted projects Administration is recommending. She continues by going through the timeline on page 3 and letting Trustees know that 236 people participated in the statewide orientation. The 105 eligible proposals were reviewed by internal and external reviewers. The rest of the timeline was followed and we have now come to the final step in the process, the awarding of the Community Grants. MPO also notes that the AI has a lot of information broken down so Trustees can see where the money is going and how much is being dispersed where.

KC shared that in the last workshop, Administration was asked to make up the shortfall in the Grants budget that the Legislature did not match when they gave OHA a General Fund appropriation. Administration did make up the shortfall in the amount of \$630k.

T. Ahuna asks why Administration is recommending full funding for some of these proposals. Did the proposing organizations not receive matching funds from other sources? The reason for the question is that at the Kaua'i meeting, organizations doing projects on Kaua'i have not received funding.

MPO says that all 105 eligible applicants had the required matching funds. Of the other 18 applicants that were not deemed eligible, only a handful did not have matching funds. Some had compliance issues and others did not turn in complete applications. Match funding has not been shown to be a huge barrier to receiving an OHA grant.

T. Akana asked if Queen's Medical Center had matching funds.

MPO said yes.

KC shared that some believe that Queen's would receive all the grant funding and that none would go to the community. He asks MPO to explain where the money would go if Queen's was awarded the grant.

MPO asked Trustees to look at Attachment D for further information. It shows that Queen's would not use any of the grant money. Instead, the money would be given to Ma Ka Hana Ka 'Ike as a subcontract. They are located in Hāna, Maui and the money would be used for their staffing, garden program, building program, hula program, fish net program, etc. MPO continued and shared that Queen's flies in their own staff and also contributes about \$16k to the Ku'i 'Ai Program.

T. H. Lindsey shared that she had concerns at first until her questions were answered by staff. She then realized that Queen's was not going to be receiving any grant funding and instead was going to spread it around the Hāna community.

T. Akana shared concerns that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> year for this same grant recipient and OHA needs to do more regarding health. She mentions that she doesn't see a direct correlation to health. She continues that yes their programs are exercise and that goes towards obesity, but she would really like to see OHA do something with Health if resources are being awarded for Health. T. Akana says we have drug problems on every island and OHA should be looking at that for Health. OHA has to expand Health.

KC responds yes, we should be considering other areas. He asks MPO to share some of the results for Health that the community and OHA have derived from this grantee.

MPO shares that one of the reasons OHA focused first on obesity was because it is a common denominator for many risk factors for chronic diseases. The strategic plan directs OHA to reduce the onset of chronic disease for Native Hawaiians. If OHA can combat obesity, the other risk factors will be combated as well. This project for this community is about obesity, but it also goes after diabetes, cardiovascular disease, heart disease and asthma.

T. Akana asks how often does Queen's go to test these people; to test their blood, to test their obesity, do they put them on diets while they are doing all this activity, what is their contribution?

MPO responds and says that the Queen's clinical staff, the nurses, visit the Hāna community every month and the doctors visit quarterly. At the nurses' visit, they take the blood pressure and BMI of those participating in the program. When the doctors visit, they try to do a much more comprehensive health screening.

T. Ahuna asks if the board adopted any policy that limits awards to organizations whose mission is to serve Native Hawaiians or Native Hawaiian communities.

KC responds by saying that if T. Ahuna is alluding to the fact that through this grant process, one notices institutions that may not just serve Native Hawaiians, but may also serve the broader community and if there is a policy to restrict those organizations in the way suggested by T. Ahuna, the answer is no. There is no such policy.

MPO adds that indeed, there is no policy. However, in the application process, the applicants are asked to respond to such questions as how many Native Hawaiians are in the communities or areas

they will be servicing and what are the needs of those Native Hawaiians in that area. Furthermore, when the applications are reviewed, those are the types of questions that are reviewed and considered very seriously. When making grant recommendations, things that are looked at are the amount of Native Hawaiians that will be served, the effectiveness of the service for our Native Hawaiians and the cultural responsiveness of the program. Those are things that staff requires to be enumerated in the application and then staff looks seriously and scores the application based on these responses.

T. Ahuna mentions that there is no Queen's Medical Center on Kaua'i. How are we looking at serving our people?

MPO replies that this is the reason staff looks at the geographic area of the proposed service. For the area of Health, a project on Kaua'i was recommended, Mālama Kaua'i. If awarded, they will provide nutritious lunches for the Hawaiian Focused Charter Schools on Kaua'i. Often times, applications come in for specific geographic areas, but the grant staff, in their recommendations, tries to spread the money around so that more communities benefit from the grant funds.

Trustee Apo (T. Apo) says that the dialogue is really good. He mentions a new suggestion regarding a new grant category such as geocultural. Some discussion is held regarding this and other new ideas, but those ideas can be agendaized and discussed when Trustees come back to the table for the new grant cycle.

Trustee Machado (T. Machado) shares that the 2-year or 24 month cycle of grants really locks out start-up organizations that do not meet the bigger goals the grant staff is looking at. This is heard repeatedly by Trustees. T. Machado asks that Trustees play more of a role in the current process. Maybe communicating more or letting Trustees know which organizations may not have been recommended. In previous years, Trustees were made aware of organizations that did not make it through the process, but that does not happen now. Trustees now receive calls from applicants letting us know that they did not receive anything and we are caught off guard. Some big organizations are getting all the money and they repeatedly get it. Goodwill is getting approximately \$700k.

MPO shares that Goodwill is being recommended to receive \$720k to serve four sites. Two sites are on Hawai'i Island, one on Kaua'i and one here on O'ahu.

T. H. Lindsey asks what happened to Maui.

MPO responds that the organization from Maui that applied for grant funding was not partnered with Goodwill. Goodwill did not want to "step on toes" and did not apply for any potential funding that may have ended up servicing the community on Maui.

T. Machado repeats that this cuts out the small organizations.

T. Akana shares that she asked the Chair of the Resource Management Committee to schedule a grant workshop in the future so that Trustees can review the policy and structure of the program and share their thoughts. Maybe Trustees may be interested in revising the policy and structure at that time.

Trustee Akina (T. Akina) believes that if Trustees continue to scrutinize each grant recommendation to this level, then this process may be drawn out. Trustees do have legitimate questions and concerns, but Administration is in a bind as they are up against deadlines and they have worked through this process according to its current design and directives. When the Administration has come before the Trustees in the workshops to explain the process and to update the Trustees, it has been a disciplined process. It is a fair process and the Administration is commended for that. T. Akina shares that he doesn't believe that Administration has failed in this effort. Instead, Trustees need to give stronger direction in order to fulfill the policy desires of the board. Trustees should pass the package and bifurcate, if necessary, to address certain concerns. However, the committee should meet again in the future to discuss these policy issues and make changes if necessary.

T. Ahuna believes that Trustees should defer approval of this grant package until Trustees concerned and/or recommendations are addressed. T. Ahuna continues on and shares a thought on what the Trustees should do in terms of changing the grant policy. He shared that there should be a year-round grant policy. He believes funds should be identified and this should begin in 2018. Awards should be restricted to those who serve Native Hawaiians. If none apply, then the application process can be opened up to those organizations with a broader mission. He believes that the award amount for some of the current recommendations should be cut. He believes if the legislature is cutting funding then so should OHA.

KC thanks Trustees for their constructive mana'o. He asks them to remember that these organizations, while they do not only focus on Native Hawaiians, they still help a good number of Native Hawaiians. In the case of Queen's, it is much more of a community based health care facility because of their support. In the past, only certain community members with certain insurance were able to go to the health center. It also now has a greater cultural focus. KC continues and shares a word of caution of changing some parts of the policy may change the ability to assist those in a geographically isolated community.

T. Ahuna acknowledges those concerns, but shares that the money really needs to be spread around to smaller organizations as well. If small reductions are made, perhaps smaller organizations can receive funding too.

MPO shares that many of the recommendations already include reductions to their originally proposed budgets.

T. Machado asks how Trustees would have known that had this not come out at the Board table. This is what she means by additional communication with Trustees; letting them know what changes or negotiations had to be made in order to get these recommendations to the table. She continues and shares some of her concerns regarding Ka Honua Momona.

T. Waihe'e shares that there is an argument to be made about the dispersing of grant funds serving a large amount of beneficiaries rather than just a small amount of beneficiaries.

T. Akana restates T. Machado's comments regarding the information Trustees used to receive. Trustees used to receive the original grant application, the recommended award and a little more information as to the organization and how the staff negotiated or changed the original request to the current recommended request.

T. H. Lindsey asks if Trustees are intending to bifurcate today.

T. Machado recommends the bifurcation of Ka Honua Momona.

T. Ahuna recommends deferring the item until the concerns can be addressed.

T. H. Lindsey shares comments regarding Awaiaulu. She shares that the grant award would be \$353k for 14 people, about \$25k per person. She questions that amount for just a few people.

T. Apo shares his thoughts regarding Awaiaulu. He feels that it is an important project. The project is to train Hawaiian Language translators to train new translators. He remarks that only about 10% of all Hawaiian language material including newspapers, letters between ali'i, etc. are translated. So much more material still needs to be translated for our beneficiaries to know what went on in those times and what knowledge was possessed by the people of that time. He shares the complexities and the difficulty of the translation process for that period of time.

T. Akana agrees with T. Apo's comments, but mentions that OHA has paid for translators doing translations before and those items can be viewed at the Bishop Museum. She agrees with T. H. Lindsey that this is too much money for 14 people.

MPO mentions that in the area of culture, the staff does not usually focus on the amount of people involved in the program or project. Instead, the focus is placed on the cultural practice or the ability and effectiveness of the continuation of such a practice in the sustaining of the Hawaiian culture. In this case the cultural practice being perpetuated is the Hawaiian language.

T. Ahuna reminds Trustees that Kaua'i did not receive any grants 2 years ago. Kaua'i was lucky to receive \$25k for the Food Bank. He asks how Kaua'i can receive grant funds.

KC shares that he is appreciative of the comments. However, he reminds Trustees that if the grants are not approved, it may delay the approval of the budget. If the board chooses to defer, KC suggests a special meeting soon to bring this back to the table. Grants staff can also provide more information in packets regarding the different recommendations, so the Trustees have more information upon which they can base their decisions.

T. Apo suggests that questions regarding any of the grants be sent to Ka Pouhana's office to make the staff aware of such questions and perhaps assist them in the way they prepare the informational packets.

Discussion occurs regarding a possible date to bring this discussion back. Trustees then discuss with Administration the need to only revise or take a closer look at only some of the grant recommendations.

KC calls John Kim (JK) forward to speak to the necessity of passing the grant awards soon.

JK mentions that Trustees could leave the total grant budget intact and leave the amounts that are assigned to each area intact, but the awardees could possibly change. That's one possibility. If other changes occur, then Administration may need to come back to the Board with a Budget realignment in FY '18.

T. Machado mentions allowing the first year of the grants go forward, but year two should be subject to availability. She suggests changing a little for start-ups and tapping the funds. She again shares her frustration regarding Administration not accommodating the desires of Trustees. She also mentions that she could call a Board meeting for June 1 if the Joint Committee can pass something out on May 31.

T. H. Lindsey shares that the Budget workshop would happen on May 31 and this Joint Committee meeting could occur in the afternoon.

CL shares the thought of recessing the current meeting and reconvening on the afternoon of May 31 at 1 pm.

CL calls for a motion to recess the meeting for the purpose of continuing discussion on item IV. A. until May 31 at 1 pm:

T. Waihe'e – moved

T. Ahuna – second

| MEMBERS    |         |              | 1 | 2 | Y | N | Kanalua | Abstain | Not Present at time of vote |
|------------|---------|--------------|---|---|---|---|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| TRUSTEE    | LEI     | AHU ISA      |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| VICE-CHAIR | DAN     | AHUNA        |   | X | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | ROWENA  | AKANA        |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | KELI'I  | AKINA        |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | PETER   | APO          |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | HULU    | LINDSEY      |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | COLETTE | MACHADO      |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| TRUSTEE    | JOHN    | WAIHE'E      | X |   | X |   |         |         |                             |
| CHAIR      | ROBERT  | LINDSEY, JR. |   |   | X |   |         |         |                             |

MOTION:  UNANIMOUS  PASSED  DEFERRED  FAILED

**VI. BENEFICIARY COMMENTS\***

None

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

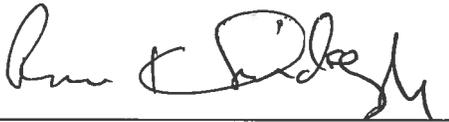
None.

Respectfully submitted,



Kauikeaolani Wailehua  
Trustee Aide  
Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment

As approved by the Joint Committees on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment and Resource Management on 11/29/17.



Trustee Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.  
Chair  
Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment



Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Chair  
Resource Management

ATTACHMENT(s):

- Testimony of Germaine Meyers
- Testimony of Leimomi Kahn