

**State of Hawai'i
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
4319 Hardy St.
Lihue, HI 96766**

**Minutes of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Kaua'i and Ni'ihau Community Meeting
Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 6:30 pm**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Kaua'i and Ni'ihau community meeting of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees was called to order by Chair Robert K. Lindsey, Jr. at 6:30 pm. Those present were as follows:

Attendance

Trustee Robert K. Lindsey, Jr., Chair
Trustee Dan Ahuna, Vice Chair
Trustee Lei Ahu Isa

Trustee Peter Apo
Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey

Excused

Trustee Rowena Akana
Trustee S. Haunani Apoliona

Trustee Colette Machado
Trustee John Waihe'e IV

Staff Present

Hawley Iona, Acting CEO
Harold Nedd, Chief of Staff
Capsun M. Poe, Board Secretary
Jeremy Kama Hopkins
Kauikeaolani Wailehua
Claudine Calpito
Davis Price
Crayn Akina
Liana Pang
Bethann Ahsing
Lady Garrett
Alvin Akee

Kaliko Santos
Noalani Nakasone
Alice Silbanuz
Jocelyn Doane
Jonathan Ching
Joseph Lewis
Kehau Abad
Miles Nishijima
Ryan Gonzalez
Thomas Atou
Wayne Tanaka

Others Present

Anela Pa
Rowena Pangan
Carol Yotsuda
Jodi Ascuena
John Kaohelaulii
Tim Reis
Pua Nani Rogers
Richard Spacer
Ted Blake
Matthew Bernabe
Sherri Cummings

John Corey
Crystal Rome
Dirk Soma
Kevin Chang
Presley Wann
Gwen Wann
Rupert Rowe
Cholena Bray
Lei Wann
Berna Souza
Virgie Waiwaiole

Liberta Albao
Roland Sagum
Brittany Lyte
Lyn McNutt
Makani Kapua
Karen Kapua
Mahealani Hookano
Mike Usmar

BJ Waiwaiole
Palma Kamala
Frances Kamoku
Beverly Muraoka
Dennis Chan
Mari Chan

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Lindsey, Vice Chair Ahuna, and each of the Trustees introduced themselves to the audience.

III. STATUS OF OHA ACTIVITIES

Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund

Mr. Thomas Atou reported on the Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund (NHRLF). He shared the following information:

- NHRLF staff members include:
 - Robert Crowell – Technical Assistance Specialist
 - Tracy Viela – Senior Technical Assistance Officer
 - Lareina Meinecke – CMLP Officer
 - Shannon Toriki – Fund Development Officer
 - Thomas Atou – Finance and Operations Officer
- NHRLF's mission is to support and enhance the economic self-sufficiency of Native Hawaiians, while ensuring the availability of resources for future generations.
- NHRLF Loans include:
 - Mālama Loan Program
 - Unsecured loans up to \$19,999
 - Business Loans – Fixed rate of 4.00%, up to 7 year term
 - Consumer Loans – Debt consolidation, Education, Home Improvement, fixed rate of 6.25% up to 7 year term
 - Hua Kanu Business Loan Program
 - Collateralized loans ranging from \$250,000 to \$1,000,000
 - Loans and Lines of Credit strictly for business
 - Fixed rate of 4.00%, 7 year term, amortized 14 years
- Loan Eligibility Requirements include:
 - Must be of Native Hawaiian ancestry, State of Hawai'i resident, and US citizen
 - Consumer Loans are to individuals
 - Business Loans must be 100% Hawaiian-owned business
 - 18 years of age or older
 - Minimum of 6 months of employment history
 - A credit score of 600 or higher, 650 or higher for Debt Consolidation
 - Debt to income ratio of 45% or lower
- Since inception of the Mālama Loan Program in November 2007 to April 30, 2015, a total of 2,071 loans with a value of \$37.4 million have been disbursed to assist Native Hawaiians. Of this, 101 loans valued at \$1.9 million were to Kauai residents, 5.1% of the loan portfolio.
- The breakdown of loans disbursed to Kauai are as follows:

- Business Loans: 25 for \$468,534
- Debt Consolidation: 30 for \$555,884
- Education: 8 for \$153,323
- Home Improvement: 38 for \$757,410
- To apply on Kaua‘i, applicants can go to any First Hawaiian Bank branch (Ele‘ele Shopping Center, Koloa, or Kukui Grove Shopping Center).

IV. CEO’S UPDATE ON HO‘OULU LĀHUI ALOHA AND OHA ACTIVITIES

Ms. Iona had no updates.

V. COMMUNITY PRESENTATIONS

Hui Maka‘āinana O Makana

Mr. Presley Wann thanked the Trustees and OHA staff who visited with them earlier in the day. He stated that the largest project for them has been the Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area rules for Hā‘ena.

High Tech Youth Network Studio K

Mr. Shane Cobb-Adams reported that Studio K is located at Kawaikini and have a project-based approach, has a 3D printer, has a lot of software and toys that make it a good place for learning, and now have 50 members. He also shared the following information:

- Studio K has student centered learning from the start
- Their first project based learning project was to build computers
- They promote skills development through facilitated learning experiences. Real world skills now mean better jobs sooner and at home.
- Studio K promotes creating ownership and building a sense of accomplishment and pride. They also create a safe environment to be creative.

VI. COMMUNITY CONCERNS/BENEFICIARY COMMENTS

Ms. Anela Pa and Ms. Rowena Pangan, of Ho‘omana, Inc., addressed the Board to provide program updates. Ms. Pa reported that they focus on skills development and community instruction. They have recently expanded the program to help serve students who have transitioned out of the program when they are 22. Many do not work because they would lose benefits, but Ho‘omana has placed them in part time jobs to build confidence. Ms. Pangan shared that two of her longest program participants of seven years are both employed at Safeway.

Trustee Hulu Lindsey congratulated Ho‘omana for the job they are doing in helping young people and for the award from the State Legislature for renovations that will help them continue their work.

Ms. Jodi Ascwena, of Garden Island Arts Council, addressed the Board about their program E Kanikapila Kākou grant and budget cuts. She helps Carol Yotsuda with this program, which has been running for 32 years. Musicians and singers, both famous and not, have come to EKK, an educational event. This year, the Hawaii Tourism Authority has informed them that they will not receive assistance. It takes \$24,000 per year to fund EKK.

Ms. Carol Yotsuda, of Garden Island Arts Council, addressed the Board about support for E Kanikapila Kākou (EKK) for the 2016 season. HTA will not support 11 cultural events on Kauai that are scheduled for 2016. They are worried about funding and making it happen. It is a program that started on goodwill, but has been supported by HTA for the past 15 years.

Ms. Iona spoke about OHA's 'Ahahui Event Grants. The applications for next year will be available July 31, 2015. She encouraged Ms. Yotsuda to check the OHA website and apply for funding.

Mr. John Kaohelaulii, of Kauai Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Board to provide program updates. They have had business mixers, co-sponsored the Kauai Rice Festival, helped with the Kauai business Fair, hosted elected officials to speak to their members, helped with Kapa'a Turkey Trot, served on the Kauai County Strategic Plan Advisory Committee, KCC Business Program Advisory Board, assisted Kamehameha Schools with a business huaka'i program. Coming up, they will host "Start a Business on Kauai" seminars.

Mr. Tim Reis addressed the Board about Pohaku poi pounder legal expertise. He has an interest in Hawaiian stone implements. In his research, he has found there are gaps in our understanding of what ancient Hawaiians were doing with implements. He is troubled as a kanaka that he cannot go anywhere on the island to buy a poi pounder, but he does know there is an effort on Hawaii Island to do that.

Ms. Pua Nani Rogers, of Ho'okipa Network Kaua'i and Ahupua'a Council o Puna Moku, addressed the Board about her work. She expressed her desire for the Trustees to come more often than once a year. She formed an ahupua'a council in her moku, with just a few people. Eventually, each ahupua'a will have its own council, authorized by Act 288 in 2012 as part of the Aha Moku Advisory Council. They are a grassroots, community based organization. She also opposes telescopes on Mauna Kea. She also stated that the Kingdom of Hawaii still exists.

Mr. Richard Spacer addressed the Board about Kauai County proposing to spend \$70,000 of public monies to block a historic ala loa trail in Lepeuli. He is a public access advocate on Kauai. He requested OHA to oppose this by a letter to Kauai County.

Mr. Ted Blake, of Malama Koloa, addressed the Board about CBSFA in Hā'ena, TMT, and the DHHL waitlist. He is concerned that Haena's proposed CBSFA rules have been sitting on the governor's desk for months.

Trustee Hulu Lindsey encouraged Mr. Blake to work with Kaua'i's legislators to advance the signing of the rules.

Mr. Matthew Bernabe addressed the Board about water issues, land usage, and the whale sanctuary. He was concerned that on multiple fronts, Hawaiian issues are under assault, whether that is TMT, coastal issues, or CBSFA. He noted that sometimes legislators need an entity like OHA to push them. He realizes that what OHA does impacts everyone, not just Hawaiians.

Ms. Sherri Cummings, of Anahola Hawaiian Homes Association, addressed the Board about Hawaiian Homes. She asked the Trustees not to put fear into the people. She feels the state has not done its duty to bring down the DHHL wait list. She feels they fight for the same thing with water rights.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice Chair Ahuna announced the next BOT meeting will be on Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 9:00 am at Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center Kaua'i.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Chair Lindsey adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Capsun M. Poe
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on June 18, 2015:



Trustee Robert K. Lindsey, Jr.
Chair, Board of Trustees