



*KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOĀ*  
**KAHO'OLAWÉ ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION**

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793  
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885

**MINUTES OF THE 2nd REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday January 29, 2008**  
**9:00 AM**

Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Boardroom, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
711 Kapi'olani Boulevard  
Honolulu, O'ahu, Hawai'i

**COMMISSION MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:** N. Emmett Aluli, Chairperson; Robert Lu'uwai, Vice Chair (arrived late); Milton Arakawa; Charles Burrows; Craig Neff; John Waihe'e (arrived late)

**KIRC Staff:** Michele McLean, Policy Advisor-Special Projects and Interim ED (PA-SP); Ka'ōnohi Lee, Commission Aide and Deputy ED (AIDE); Ray Enos, Policy Advisor-Governmental Affairs (PA-GA); Rowena Somerville, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Kathy Kaohu, Resource Manager; Stephen Fulton, Reserve Manager; Nicole McMullen, Commission Assistant (CA)

**OTHERS:** Manuel Kuloloio; Stanton Enomoto; Michael Naho'opi'i (arrived late)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Aluli called the 2nd meeting for the year 2008 to order at 10:00am followed by *Pule Na 'Aumakua*. A quorum was established with four commissioners present.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Arakawa moved to approve the agenda as written. Commissioner Burrows seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

**IV. COMMUNITY and PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chair Aluli asked for public comment. Manuel Kuloloio said that he officially turned in his access request to PA-SP McLean and Chair Aluli. He sent a letter to KIRC on December 22 and received a reply on January 11, 2008. He hoped that the Commission would facilitate his access. He hopes to visit Hakioawa, Moa'ulanui, and Honokanai'a for traditional and educational purposes. He thanked the Commission for the discussion the last meeting. He asked his father to attend the Molokini meeting and he hoped the lessons of Kaho'olawe would be transferred. He said that he grew up going to Kaho'olawe and that he hoped the Commission would discuss sovereignty. Chair Aluli said that he hoped the work together on Molokini would be positive and that the KIRC would help to keep the cultural significance in view.

PA-GA Enos was concerned about Mr. Kuloloio's comments about his time on Kaho'olawe when he was young. We need to be careful what is said so that the public does not think that it is safe when it is still dangerous. Chair Aluli said that PA-SP McLean would present Mr. Kuloloio's request at the next meeting and that he has refined it.

The Commission briefly discussed the UXO disposal on Molokini. (KIRC staff facilitated discussions between cultural practitioners and the US Fish and Wildlife Service in accordance with Historic Preservation, Section 106.)

**MOTION:** At 10:30 am Commissioner Arakawa moved to enter into Executive Session - Personnel Planning - Pursuant to HRS Chapter 92-4 & 5(a)(2), the Commission will resolve into executive session to consult with legal counsel and staff on personnel issues where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved. Commissioner Burrows seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** Motion approved by all commissioners present.

Commissioners Aluli, Neff, Arakawa and Burrows, DAG Somerville, CA McMullen, and Jean Santos resolved into executive session.

**MOTION:** At 1:55 pm Commissioner Arakawa rose to report out of Executive Session. He reported that the Commission met regarding personnel issues. Commissioner Lu'uwai seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** Motion approved by all commissioners present.

## **V. DISCUSSION ON STRATEGIC, BUDGET, AND ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING**

PA-SP McLean handed out copies of the current strategic plan and updated versions showing how the staff ranked the priorities and updated the action items. The staff agreed that enforcement and environmental restoration are two areas in which we are doing well and that should be maintained. For the other priorities, more work needs to be done. The staff ranked the trust fund as the highest priority. They also ranked infrastructure and cultural sites as high priorities. They suggested that we needed to have a more cohesive organization. Some different language was used when the staff voted on priorities compared to the language used when the commissioners voted. One priority that was listed for the staff was meaningful safe use of the island. This was also important to the staff, but they felt that all of the priorities contribute to this as an overall goal.

The staff went through the action items on the current plan. Some they proposed to delete, some to revise and they also suggested new items. They suggested that all the work they are doing is working toward the second priority, the preparing for the transfer to the Native Hawaiian sovereign entity, so the staff suggested removing this as a priority. They also suggested taking out items that are ongoing, such as preparing the annual budget. PA-SP McLean said that this ranking presents how the staff sees the Commission's vision. It is intended to help the commissioners to start thinking about our priorities so the commissioners and staff are in sync.

Under sustainable infrastructure, the staff suggested a two-year CIP plan for alternative energy at Honokanai'a base camp. They also suggested a need for a base camp master plan. They suggested a new priority, to establish and maintain the Ala Hele perimeter trail. They felt that this was important enough to make a priority. They felt that maintaining a presence in the Reserve should fall under enforcement. They want to continue the consultations with the cultural working group. They suggested developing a curation plan for artifacts and records. They would like to increase the frequency of cultural protocols and practices on island.

Chair Aluli said that he is excited about the direction the staff is going. **He would like to see what has been accomplished or initiated be included with the plan.** The plan will be used to develop goals and business plans. Some goals might require consultants. PA-SP McLean said

that the staff feels that it would be best to have a grant writer on staff where they could administer the grant, have interaction with people and access to resources. Jean Santos agreed that they need a dedicated person on staff for grant writing. Chair Aluli asked why they were removing soliciting donations. PA-SP McLean explained that the item was to access the feasibility of soliciting donations. We are passively soliciting them now. DAG Somerville suggested adding “donations” to number one, pursuing grants. Chair Aluli said that they could have a campaign, perhaps annually. PA-SP McLean said that that should be made a directive, rather than a strategic priority. Chair Aluli said that a plan for education is needed to solicit donations. Perhaps a consultant could set up a structure for the grant writer. Ms. Santos said that a consultant could provide advice in setting up. Commissioner Neff said that public relations would be a big part of fundraising to raise the consciousness of the community concerning Kaho‘olawe.

Commissioner Neff said that he is concerned about making sure the money is going where we need it. Ms. Santos asked what the next step was in this discussion, and what does the staff expect from the Commission. Timetables and measurements are needed. PA-SP McLean explained that a timeline would be developed. They will continue reworking the plan and start looking at the final language at the March meeting. Chair Aluli said that it would be a back-and-forth dialog. PA-SP McLean said that major changes are on the horizon, such as the base camp management contract, and the staff wants to make sure they are going in the right direction. She said that a revised strategic plan should be adopted by April.

PA-GA Enos asked if he should prepare a packet to send to other islands. DAG Somerville suggested putting the plan on the website for comment. Ms. Santos said that they would need the input of stakeholders. Commissioner Burrows asked who would have access to the plan on the website. PA-GA Enos suggested that those on our mailing list be notified. Chair Aluli suggested reaching out to schools and volunteer groups to help us shape our future. PA-GA Enos said that they could add an action item to the plan to follow up with volunteers. Mr. Naho‘opi‘i suggested having small meetings like coffee talks that would be an opportunity for people to contribute outside of a public hearing. Ms. Santos said that the action items should be explained and articulated before presenting it to the public. PA-SP McLean said that they will be and that this is a draft for brainstorming. **Chair Aluli asked to see a list of partnerships that have already been established.** PA-GA Enos said that we would need to list and define accomplishments. Chair Aluli said that he wants to know what the staff has done. PA-SP McLean said that they would include a timeline on the plan when they know they are going in the right direction.

Chair Aluli said that he wants to see how to improve the investment potential of the trust fund to give the KIRC longevity. PA-GA Enos said that the risks of pulling out of the investment pool would need to be weighed. Commissioner Burrows asked if there was any way for the KIRC to move under the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. **Chair Aluli asked that the second priority, to prepare for the transition to the future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity, be put back in the plan.** He said that we are preparing Kaho‘olawe so it can be assumed by a Hawaiian organization such as OHA or Kamehameha Schools. Our responsibility is to make sure the island is protected while we continue to manage it. Commissioner Burrows suggested looking into money from ceded lands for Kaho‘olawe. Chair Aluli said that a long-term strategy needs to be developed. PA-GA Enos said that stewardship and caring for the island was preparing for the future transition. Chair Aluli said that we are developing how to care for the island, but we need a plan for where Kaho‘olawe is going. He suggested tweaking the second priority to include working with Hawaiian organizations. Ms. Kaohu said that Hawaiian Homes changed their

policies so that they could manage their lands. DAG Somerville said that they have an entire division to handle the management.

Chair Aluli said that we should go beyond just having a more cohesive organization. We need to focus and plan on what we want to organization to become. PA-SP McLean said that to create a more cohesive organization is more of a management task, but the staff feels strongly enough that they made it a strategic priority. Chair Aluli said that we need to involve stakeholders like the PKO. Commissioner Burrows suggested fusing the KIRC and the PKO. PA-SP McLean said that she did not know if that would be desirable from the PKO side. Commissioner Lu'uwai said that it would tie them down to the state's rules and liability. DAG Somerville said that the Stewardship Agreement was created so that the state would not interfere with certain activities of the PKO. Chair Aluli said that perhaps the PKO and the KIRC could incorporate and be sovereign like Hawaiian Homes.

Commissioner Waihe'e asked if there was a master plan for base camp. Mr. Fulton said that we need to define it and to incorporate various plans. PA-SP McLean said that we have SOPs, but need a plan for future use. Do we continue as we are, phase out or relocate the camp? Chair Aluli said that if we had to, we could just do enforcement and leave the island alone. Commissioner Neff said that we could just focus on health and safety and go small, or we could go to the governor and become a leader in alternative energy. Chair Aluli said that Cynthia Thielen thought that Kaho'olawe would be perfect for developing wave energy.

PA-SP McLean said that everything ties to the strategic plan. If we are going to pare down volunteers, then we have to look at our staffing needs. The staff wants to see the programs continued, offset by grants and funding. The staff is aware of Parsons as a major expense. **Commissioner Neff asked how Parsons was benefiting the island.** We need to start thinking long range. We need to make changes or there will be nothing in five years and the resources will not be protected. This is a reality check. He asked what if we could take ourselves out of the state and become a non-profit. Chair Aluli said that if we do that, we would assume the liability. We have to be forward thinking. Commissioner Neff said that we should approach OHA and the state to bring in what we need. Chair Aluli said that we need to ask the governor what else is possible for Kaho'olawe. Commissioner Burrows said that we should look at the results of the past years to see what reasons there may be to continue or to shut the island down. Perhaps we need to tie with OHA or another organization. DAG Someville said that we should seek partnerships and designations. Commissioner Neff said that we should get OHA trustees and Kamehameha Schools on an access. Chair Aluli said that he agrees that we need groups to come and others will want to come. Commissioner Neff said that we have to start sharing at the highest levels, including the mayor and the governor. We need to make it easy for them to come on island. Commission Waihe'e said that OHA trustees would have to initiate an access. Chair Aluli said that when the Cultural Use Plan is finished, he would have Aunty Pua present it to them and show them the vision. We could show them how to manage land in a cultural way.

PA-GA Enos said that the last strategic plan was sent to the mayor for review. **Commissioner Neff said that it should be presented in person. Commissioner Burrows asked Commissioner Waihe'e to work with Stanton Enomoto on an OHA access. Commissioner Neff asked if they could put a story in the OHA newsletter.** Chair Aluli suggested that they needed a political action committee and a strategy. Commissioner Burrows said that they need to have the strategic plan in order. Chair Aluli said that he does not want to approach anyone until we are ready. Commission Burrows suggested that OHA have a meeting on Kaho'olawe.

Mike Naho‘opi‘i said that they would be receiving a request in March from the Pedro family to access Kuheia. Chair Aluli said that KIRC would facilitate their access. He said that the Pedro family should see the ranch artifacts, and we should ask them if they are interested in restoring that area.

Chair Aluli said that Toby McLeod would be returning in February. He also has been in contact with Dr. Weisler. **Chair Aluli wants the Bishop Museum’s archeologist involved with the adze research.** Chair Aluli said we should work with groups like OHA to fund research. PA-SP McLean said that Kapono‘ai Molitau has started cleaning out the ROC in preparation for developing it into an education center. PA-GA Enos said that he has been in contact with Derek Chow and the Kuheia feasibility study is proceeding as planned. Commissioner Neff asked about the Clivus toilets. Mr. Fulton said that he believed that they were all delivered and will be put in place at the same time. Chair Aluli said that the Helm family would be going on an access in March.

#### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Arakawa moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Lu‘uwai seconded the motion.

**ACTION:** Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

#### **Upcoming Commission meetings:**

February 12, 2008 on Maui

March 18 and 19, limited meeting on Kaho‘olawe followed by meeting on Maui