



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALO'A
KAHO'OLAWÉ ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
Wednesday March 19, 2008
12:00 PM

Bishop Museum
Paki II Conference Room
1525 Bernice Street
Honolulu, HI 96817

COMMISSION MEMBERS

PRESENT: N. Emmett Aluli, Chairperson; Milton Arakawa; Charles Burrows; Craig Neff

ABSENT: Laura H. Thielen; Robert Lu'uwai, Vice Chair; John Waihe'e

KIRC STAFF: Michael Nāho'opi'i, Executive Director; Michele McLean, Policy Advisor-Special Projects (PA-SP); Ka'ōnohi Lee, Commission Aide (AIDE); Ray Enos, Policy Advisor-Governmental Affairs (PA-GA); Rowena Somerville, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Nicole McMullen, Commission Assistant (CA); Paul Higashino, Natural Resources Specialist; Kathy Kaohu, Resource Manager; Stephen Fulton, Reserve Manager

OTHERS: Myron Thompson and Dwight Streamfellow-21st Century Technologies; Davianna McGregor-PKO; Norma Wong; Burt Lum; Kylee Omo-PKO; Namaka Whitehead-PKO; Keoni Fairbanks; Attwood Makanani-PKO; Collette Machado-OHA; Jim Froneberger and Eric Brundage- Zapata Engineering, Kiki Hee-PKO, Don Cameron-PacHelo; Corey Boss, Spencer Leineweber and Janet Gillmar-University of Hawai'i

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Aluli called the 4th meeting for the year 2008 to order at 1:30pm followed by *Pule Na 'Aumakua*. A quorum was established with four commissioners present. Chair introduced Myron Thompson and his partner.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Lu'uwai moved to approve the minutes of January 29, 2008. Commissioner Arakawa seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

MOTION: Commissioner Arakawa moved to approve the minutes of February 12, 2008. Chair Aluli announced that approved minutes are on the KIRC website. Commissioner Lu'uwai seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

IV. COMMUNITY and PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Aluli asked if there were any public comments. There were no public comments presented.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

A. Program Status Updates

Restoration Program update: Paul Higashino said that they have met their volunteer match obligation for the DOH grant. Lyman Abbott and DAG Somerville met with DOH and USGS to re-allocate DOH funds. They reached a new agreement for \$1.5 million towards the restoration project. KIRC staff planted 350 plants on their retreat in February. He said that Christina Donehower joined the staff as Project Assistant II for the DOH grant. He reviewed the budget forecast for the Restoration program for FY08 and accomplishments based on the strategic plan.

DAG Somerville said that they would continue to work with USGS to get more funding. Commissioner Burrows asked if the budget included lodging and meals. Mr. Higashino said that they were covered by the grant and he did not figure it into the budget. Chair Aluli asked that they start looking at the total cost per volunteer. Mr. Higashino estimated that the cost per day per volunteer would be approximately \$200. Commission Neff asked if he planned to spend the rest of their budget for FY08. Mr. Higashino said that they want to expand alien species control for the ironwood. They may need to upgrade the augers. They are trying to get a student intern for the summer. They will need to stock up on irrigation supplies.

Commissioner Burrows asked if the pili cost was mostly for transportation and Mr. Higashino said that it was. He said that they are looking into using the 'Ōhūa more and into the cost to go from Maui. Commissioner Neff asked about the funding that has not been utilized. Mr. Higashino said that, as much as possible, they try to bill to the grant for the plants. This budget is for the irrigation supplies. Commission Neff asked what his priorities would be for the rest of the year. Mr. Higashino said alien species control, equipment needs, and native plantings at Honokanai'a Base Camp and at the beach.

Commissioner Lu'uwai asked about the rats. Mr. Higashino said they had four this year, all Polynesian. He said that they are working to eradicate rats, mice and cats. They are collecting data right now. Commissioner Lu'uwai said that last summer was not bad. Mr. Higashino said that last summer the population crashed in March. Hopefully the data will help them predict. Commissioner Neff asked about the control trap and why they choose certain areas. Mr. Higashino said that it was by the weather station. They choose areas based on factors like elevation and vegetation.

Ocean Program update: Kathy Kaohu reported that the aerial surveys are their longest running database. From the statewide whale count, the numbers were higher than last year. Cheryl King attended a conference on sea turtles in Mexico last month and will present her report at the next meeting. In the packet is the final bottomfish report. Dr. Kelley has been reassigned and is not sure he will be able to continue the work. Next week will begin the spring MOP surveys that have taken place for six years. They will keep an eye on the coral situation. The preparation for the MOP dives is not in the budget analysis. Ms. Kaohu said that the staff would like to continue the boater education. Dean Tokishi would like to keep registration annual. He is looking into decals.

Commissioner Lu‘uwai asked about damage to the ‘Ōhua. Stephen Fulton said in wave conditions of three to five feet, the stern bollard was damaged and they are sending parts. It is considered a manufacturer’s defect. Commissioner Burrows asked about grants in the Ocean program. Ms. Kaohu said that they do not have active grants. They have partnerships with NOAA. They provide equipment on a cost-sharing basis. We provide transportation for the Nature Conservancy to work with invasive limu. Commissioner Burrows asked what grants could be applied for in research and restoration. Ms. Kaohu said that there are NOAA grants. There is one for marine debris. Cheryl King and Ellen Pelissero attended a workshop on NOAA grants last week.

Commissioner Neff commented that the Ocean program is mainly focused on data collecting. Ms. Kaohu said that they need to monitor changes in the Reserve. They have discussed fishpond restoration or a possible feeding program. Commissioner Neff said that the data is good to have, but he would like to see the reef improved. Commissioner Lu‘uwai agreed. PA-GA Enos said that boaters could do test fishing and enforcement. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that they have been focused on preservation, but they could do more restoration. Commissioner Neff said that in the long run, he would like to see them be more proactive. Ms. Kaohu said that they could possibly remove non-native fish.

Commissioner Neff asked about the Ocean program’s priorities for the rest of the year. Ms. Kaohu said that they would be finishing the MOP dives, ‘opihi monitoring, and seal tagging. Commissioner Neff asked that they try to include more of a cultural component, such as the spirituality related to the fishing ko‘a. Ms. Kaohu said that there is a cultural component to the management plan and they have partnered with Kapono‘ai Molitau. She hoped the EKF plan would assist with protocols. Chair Auli mentioned the need to develop a research library for staff.

Commissioner Burrows asked about wetlands work. Ms. Kaohu said that they are looking into a grant for coastal areas with the NRCS. The Department of Agriculture grant would cover upland areas. Chair Aluli asked that they stay focused on the RAMSAR recognition, and Commissioner Burrows asked that they update them on the progress. **Chair Aluli asked that staff follow up of the storage of the coral slides with Dr. Stanton.**

Culture and Education Program: Kathy Kaohu reported that they finished mapping site 473 and Attwood Makaanani is returning in April to complete the wall. Theresa Donham will complete the site. Aunty Pua did not make it to the EKF solstice observation. They are finishing the burial site assessment, the first complete in three years. Commissioner Neff said that he hoped to present a draft of the plan at the April meeting. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that the PAF grant is in the second year of field-testing. Six hundred students have gone through the program and they hope to have another workshop at the end of the summer. The KIRC will be getting two copies of the curriculum. Commissioner Burrows asked that they be updated on the progress of the program. **Chair Aluli asked that the ED assign another staff member to report on the grant.**

Chair Aluli said that the cultural working group has helped to progress projects in the department. Commissioner Neff said that the members need to commit to a schedule. They need a minimum of four to five hours so that they can move projects forward. **ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that he would follow up with staff on a schedule.** Ms. Kaohu said that she would like to see a fuller agenda for the working group.

Commissioner Lu‘uwai asked if the Cultural Specialist works with volunteers on island. Ms. Kaohu said that he does give cultural orientations, but cannot be on every access. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that all staff that interacts with volunteers should be trained to transmit the cultural component. Chair Aluli asked if cultural competency should be part of job descriptions. He said that there should be cross training.

Outreach Program: Kathy Kaohu reported that Ellen Pelissero is looking into grant and partnership opportunities. The newsletter is moving towards feature articles. She has also been busy giving presentations. Chair Aluli reported that Kapono‘ai Molitau and Ellen Pelissero were at the Hawaiian Caucus today.

Reserve Operations: Stephen Fulton reported on the status of the back-up generator, the painting of the ROC deck by Mr. Molitau and a halau volunteer group, that they are incorporating suggestions for passenger transport on the ‘Ōhua, the retrieval of the “K”FAD buoy from the Reserve, the site assessment of the Kuamo‘o road by Goodfellow Brothers, and the draft alternative energy report by the University of Hawaii architecture students. Commissioner Neff asked why the road inspection was being done by Goodfellow Brothers. He replied that it was part of the State Civil Defense award. Commissioner Neff asked if Parsons was fulfilling their duties. Stephen Fulton said that he thought they could be doing a better job. Commissioner Neff said that they need to supply enough labor. PA-SP McLean said that the current contract is for maintenance, not repair. Mr. Fulton said that KIRC is involved with approving the work tasks and could shift the focus. He said that Parsons did a significant amount of work after the storm. DAG Somerville said that the new RFP mentions monthly inspections of roadways. Commissioner Neff asked if they should bring in more labor to complete the maintenance. PA-SP McLean explained that they bill the KIRC for their time, but we can prioritize their work. ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that it is not a fixed price contract. DAG Somerville said that the contract does spell out roadway maintenance.

Mr. Fulton said that the 5-ton truck is working well. They are getting the safety check and working on the CDL requirements. They will be getting a spill response plan from PacHelo this month. Commissioner Neff asked how he would prioritize the rest of the year. Mr. Fulton said that his priorities would be the ‘Ōhua EA, the alternative energy plan, bringing down energy demand and incorporating conservation measures. Commissioner Burrows said that the UH study has helped address alternative energy and he thought they should look into wind energy. Mr. Fulton said that he is open and that he sees a combination of wind and photovoltaic in the future. Commissioner Lu‘uwai asked about the Hākilo. Mr. Fulton said that repairs would be finished tomorrow.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

B. Transition Team Report

Chair Aluli congratulated PA-GA Enos and PA-SP McLean on their recent work with the legislators.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of the posting of a Request for Proposals to manage Honokanai‘a Base Camp.

PA-SP McLean explained that the Parsons contract expires at the end of June and there can be no more extensions. They need to post right away to have a contract in place July 1st. An

evaluation committee will be set up. They will bring a proposed contract to the Commission for approval. They can add a proposed budget or see how the bids come in. Commissioner Arakawa asked how the scope compares with the current contract. PA-SP McLean said that the revised contract is only for labor. Commissioner Arakawa asked if the staff directs Parsons scope of work. She said that Mr. Fulton works with the management and they direct their staff. Chair Aluli asked who resolves problems. Mr. Higashino said that he works with Parsons on day-to-day and Mr. Fulton handles major issues. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that he has talked with them and they understand that they work for the KIRC. Commissioner Arakawa asked if time and materials varied from month to month. PA-SP McLean said that it has been a balance. The monthly costs are estimated, but they have not exceeded their budget. Chair Aluli asked about other facilities. PA-SP McLean said that they are looking at Hakioawa, the LZs and the Comm. Tower. She said that the contractors could help with special projects, such as assisting with installation of alternative energy. The contract is open. Chair Aluli asked if pest control would be a duplication of services. Mr. Higashino said that they could check with mousetraps and baiting. Chair Aluli and Kiki Hee were concerned over first aid kits and asked who was monitoring them. PA-SP McLean said that Parsons was responsible and Bart Maybee went out recently to check them. Mr. Higashino said that Mr. Maybee, the Safety Officer, is in the process of upgrading the trauma kits. They will be up to date now that he is on board.

Commissioner Neff asked that the kits be checked.

Commissioner Burrows said that the contract is only for a year and they need a plan for the future of Base Camp. DAG Somerville said that they should move forward with the RFP and then focus on best management practices. Commissioner Burrows asked what we need them for and what can we do on our own. PA-SP McLean replied that we need them for the generators, vehicles, communications and the cook. Commissioner Burrows said that we need to look at ways the staff can take over jobs. Commissioner Arakawa said that they could incorporate as part of the motion to approve the one-year RFP and look into the cost effectiveness of running Base Camp. Commissioner Neff asked about the drinking water and how much was spent on bottled water. PA-SP McLean said that using on-island water would have to be approved by the DOH. Mr. Fulton said that \$6,000 was spent through February. DAG Somerville said that the RFP calls for a certified operator. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that testing and certification is expensive. Commissioner Neff said that they would have to take into effect the cost of shipping the plastic.

MOTION Commissioner Arakawa moved to approve the posting of a Request for Proposals for a one-year contract to manage the Honokanai‘a Base Camp and other facilities on Kaho‘olawe and direct the staff to re-evaluate and analyze the cost effectiveness of the management and use of Base Camp. Commissioner Lu‘uwai seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present

VI. ACTION ITEMS

B. Approval of the implementation of the Sustainable Renovation (Volunteer Hut) Project proposed by Mr. Corey Boss, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, School of Architecture

Mr. Fulton introduced Corey Boss of the UH School of Architecture. He has made a proposal to renovate Hut 10 to a sustainable energy structure, which requires approval to amend the FY08 budget to from \$30,000 to \$49,000. They have had many meetings on how to make the huts sustainable and livable. It is a first step for sustainability for Base Camp. The cost includes materials and labor and Mr. Boss will be the project manager. Mr. Fulton handed out a packet of the proposed drawings. Collette Machado asked Mr. Boss why he selected Kaho‘olawe. He said that he is interested in sustainability as an architect and thinks he can improve the energy

efficiency, comfort, livability, aesthetics and Hawaiian sense of place. He said that the air conditioning is the main power draw. He explained his diagrams for increased ventilation, a changing room and a gathering space in the hut. The sinks will be moved inside the hut for aesthetics and so they do not block the path. Commissions Burrows said that Mr. Boss is proposing a basic plan, but there can be alternatives. Mr. Boss said that the open plan would help with ventilation, as well as cooling skylights and overhanging eaves. Ms. Machado asked if men and women would be separated. Mr. Higashino said that they currently separate the men and women. Mr. Boss said that the huts currently use 37% of the power and he thinks it could drop to 8%. Myron Thompson said that there are DOE grants available that could help convert the camp. Mr. Fulton said that staff thinks volunteer labor could help lower the cost of the retrofit.

DAG Somerville asked if the design was ADA compliant. Mr. Boss said no and they would have to modify the walkways. Commissioner Lu'uwai asked if it would be insulated and if it was situated for wind. Mr. Boss said that they were looking at a radiant heat barrier and that the buildings are well oriented for ventilation and daylight. Commissioner Lu'uwai asked about materials. Mr. Boss said that many of the materials are already on island. DAG Somerville asked if the changing room was big enough for ADA. He said that it was. He is proposing to redo the flooring and paint. A brightened interior would feel more open. Chair Aluli asked what if they wanted to do two huts. Mr. Boss said that they want to use this one as a model and learn from it. Chair Aluli said that he was thinking that all the housing should be on one side. Mr. Boss said that they should look at site planning for the whole camp. Commissioner Burrows said that they did get an overall camp plan from the UH students and that they will be doing temperature readings throughout the year.

Chair Aluli said that he had not wanted to increase the budget. Timing is important and there will be a new budget in two months. He said that he loved the model, but maybe they should look at doing it next year. He said that Mr. Thompson is looking into a federal funding program. Ms. Machado said that they should not wait and Mr. Boss's availability is limited. It would be completed by September. Mr. Thompson said that he thinks the proposal has an eleven-year payback on reduced energy cost. PA-GA Enos asked if they need to be concerned about permits. AIDE Lee said that they did have a permit for the water catchment. PA-SP McLean said that she did not think building permits were required on island. Chair Aluli said that the staff needs to know they are serious about cutting costs and he hopes they can cut the labor costs.

Commissioner Arakawa said that they should look at Base Camp as something they inherited. He thinks the renovation makes sense and would save energy. It is in line with trying to save operating costs. Commissioner Burrows said that Mr. Boss has made revisions in the design since the Commission first looked at it and they can look at alternative plans. Mr. Fulton said that he is recommending that they enter into the MOA with Mr. Boss for the renovation on Hut 10. Commissioner Burrows asked that KIRC cover the travel costs of Mr. Boss to Maui. Chair Aluli said that they need to be clear on a budget and asked how often he would be traveling and about parking fees. PA-SP McLean said that, according to his timeline, he would need eight trips. Chair Aluli asked if they would cap the cost at \$49,000 plus the airfare. Ms. Machado said that OHA is soliciting grants and that they should get on the list for design work. The Community Grant Program has a ceiling of \$100,000. Check Mr. Thompson said that he and his team would mentor Mr. Boss for free. He believes his project will cut costs every year. Chair Aluli said that they must be strict on a budget. Commissioner Arakawa said it should be \$49,000 plus the travel.

MOTION Commissioner Arakawa moved to authorize the ED to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with Mr. Corey Boss to design and manage the renovation Volunteer Hut No. 10; to approve the project and its timeline and budget as proposed; to amend the Fiscal Year 2008 budget by increasing the line item for “Berthing Hut Renovation/Retrofit” from \$30,000.00 to \$49,500.00 for the project’s implementation; and provide eight round trips to and from Honolulu to Maui for Mr. Boss. Commissioner Burrows seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present

Attwood Makanani commented that it would be nice to have competition and allow others to participate. It is an opportunity that Kaho‘olawe gives to the community and the PKO would like to help. Chair Aluli said that this is the first real proposal they have been given. Mr. Boss thanked the Commission for the opportunity.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

C. Approval of the publishing of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the ‘Ōhua in the *Environmental Notice* with KIRC Anticipation of a Finding of No Significant Impact

PA-SP McLean explained that the motion is to approve the draft of the EA for the ‘Ōhua in the packet for publishing. Commissioner Burrows asked about concerns over invasive species. PA-SP McLean said that the ‘Ōhua would be taken out of the water everyday so there would not be invasive marine species fixed on the hull. Chair Aluli asked if they solicited comments from staff and if they had cultural input from outside. PA-SP McLean said that they did. She said that there would be two public meetings. Chair Aluli said that he thought the ‘Ōhua would benefit the whole island. It will not be able to beach if the area is not in the EA. Commissioner Lu‘uwai asked if they could be general, but Chair Aluli said that they would have to specify. Commission Burrows said that they could go to other bays, but not land. Chair Aluli said that he thought they should be comprehensive up front. He said that if we are considering landing we should put it in or have to come back with another EA. Mr. Fulton said that there are gentle bays and we should consider long term. Commission Lu‘uwai said there are many situations in which they would not have to land. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that they could supplement the EA later.

Chair Aluli asked if the ‘Ōhua could land without moorings. Commissioner Lu‘uwai said that it could. DAG Somerville said that they could make a list of all the places. Chair Aluli asked that they list all potential bays. Commissioner Arakawa asked if they would have to do the pre-consultation over. PA-SP McLean said it would just be with the PKO, others in Kihei and the Culture and Ocean staff. Commissioner Neff asked that they check with OSHA on the rope hold. Mr. Fulton said that they could establish their own internal safety standards. **Chair Aluli asked him to check on the rope.** Commissioner Lu‘uwai said they should check with the Coast Guard. Commissioner Neff said that they need to be clear on the uses of the ‘Ōhua until the EA. He asked if they would have used Hākilo to get the FAD buoy. Mr. Fulton said that they would have. PA-SP McLean said that if approved today, the EA will be subject to revisions before its publication. It will take a couple of weeks.

MOTION Commissioner Arakawa moved for staff to review additional landing sites on the island Kaho‘olawe for the ‘Ōhua for inclusion in the EA, to anticipate a Finding of No Significant Impact, and to approve the publishing in the *Environmental Notice* of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the ‘Ōhua. Commissioner Lu‘uwai seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FYI

Upcoming Commission meetings

April 29 on Maui

May 13 or 15 in Honolulu

June 27 on Maui

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Commissioner Burrows moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Arakawa seconded the motion.

ACTION: Motion approved by all Commissioners present.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.