



*KŪKULU KE EA A KĀNALOA*

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## KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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### MINUTES OF THE LIMITED MEETING August 1 and 2, 2008 on Kaho'olawe

#### **August 1, 2008**

**ATTENDANCE:** N. Emmett Aluli, Chairperson; Charles Burrows, Milton Arakawa John Waihe'e, Craig Neff, Laura Thielen, Amber NāmaKa Whitehead, ED Nāho'opi'i, DD McLean, DAG Somerville, AO Lee, Paul Higashino, Bart Maybee, Keone Laepa'a, Kaponō'ai Molitau, and Robert Lu'uwai

11:30 am at Honokanai'a Kauhale (Base Camp).

Chair Aluli reviewed the site visit itinerary. Today they would be looking at Base Camp, coastal planting sites at Kaukaukapapa, the Kealialalo wetlands area, the Loa'a stone, Site 101 and planting around Mōa'ulanui.

Commissioner Neff acknowledged the staff and thanked the commissioners for attending and said that the visit is important for the Commission when making decisions about the island, especially for those commissioners who have not seen some of the areas.

The Commission discussed Base Camp. Commissioner Neff was concerned about safety issues, including the Medevac availability, health standards for the kitchen, water system, power, fuel, and alternative energy. Chair Aluli said that the camp would be the emergency center of the island.

The commissioners discussed the importance of alternative energy for the camp, including the hut renovation by Cory Boss. They also discussed new reverse osmosis technology and the potential for drilling a well. Chair Aluli mentioned recommendations by Myron Thompson and DD McLean said that it was important that they look at all the alternative energy studies and then make a recommendation to the Commission. ED Nāho'opi'i said that they need to look at the long-term needs of the camp before deciding on an alternative energy system and try to shrink the power load.

Commissioner Thielen suggested they work with the Department of Accounting and General Services, who is currently doing energy reduction. Paul Higashino explained how they have reduced energy consumption and how a new generator could help. DD McLean explained the solar systems that have already been installed. Keone Laepa'a discussed possibilities for alternative energy. ED Nāho'opi'i said that they would be installing a donated windmill. Commissioner Arakawa agreed that an alternative energy plan that fits the future needs of the camp was a good goal. Chair Aluli stressed the need to reduce energy consumption as soon as possible. Commissioner Burrows suggested a task force on alternative energy.

Commissioners Neff and Whitehead discussed the military feel of the camp and the need for a different way of living and its influence on the way people connect to Kaho'olawe. ED

Nāho‘opi‘i suggested consolidating office and storage spaces and opening the view to the ocean. Chair Aluli said that they need to consider the landscape of the camp and the carrying capacity. Paul Higashino said that they would be cutting back volunteers this year because of funding. Commissioner Neff stressed the importance of the Commission developing a policy on the future of the camp to give the staff direction.

The commissioners and staff drove to LZ Squid and discussed future storage needs and the possibility for a nursery. They visited the mua site that will be built to commemorate the twenty-year anniversary of the ending of the bombing. They also visited Kealialalo and discussed food plants, the NRCS grant, wetland restoration and the introduction of sea birds.

Commissioners and staff visited the Loa‘a stone. Commissioner Neff explained the significance of the Loa‘a stone, renamed Kaneloa by Auntie Pua, and said that it is significant in the Cultural Use Plan. ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained how it was used to track sun movements during the equinox and solstice. Commissioner Neff said that it needs to be stabilized soon and that engineers with the PKO looked at the stone and made recommendations that he will present to the Commission. The group also visited a petroglyph site nearby.

Paul Higashino showed the commissioners the planting areas around Moa‘ulanui. He discussed the DOH grant, the success of the vegetation, the work of volunteers and future plans. ED Nāho‘opi‘i discussed the Restoration Action Plan, which includes removal of alien species and faunal restoration. Kapono‘ai Molitau discussed the integration of culture and restoration and talked about the rain ko‘a and the Planting Ceremony bringing the KIRC and PKO together. Chair Aluli discussed the importance of bringing culture back to the island. Commissioner Burrows said that the island is a model both ecologically and culturally. Commissioner Burrows talked about the Hokule‘a visit and the commissioners discussed the importance of Kaho‘olawe to navigation.

Commissioners Thielen and Whitehead left the group to return to Maui.

Commissioner Neff led the group to archaeological Site 101 and provided information about the site. The commissioners visited the Pu‘u Moiwi adze quarry and discussed the history of the site and the impact of the bombing. ED Nāho‘opi‘i discussed the quality of the basalt and the possibility of using other deposits for educational workshops.

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### **August 2, 2008 :**

**ATTENDANCE:** N. Emmett Aluli, Chairperson; Charles Burrows, Milton Arakawa John Waihe‘e, Craig Neff, ED Nāho‘opi‘i, DAG Somerville, AO Lee, Paul Higashino, Bart Maybee, and Robert Lu‘uwai.

Site visits:

Honukanaenae

Kealaikahiki – Alaloa establishment, Monk seal and Honu sites, Navigation platform

The commissioners visited a portion of the Alaloa trail at Kealaikahiki. ED Nāho‘opi‘i and Commissioner Neff explained the process of construction. Bart Maybee reiterated the need for a safety briefing on island before work begins. Paul Higashino said that the role of the kua is to oversee the crews and safety. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that they discussed in Access Guide training the need to focus on supervising if they have a large group and not participate in the work. Chair

Aluli asked if they had discussed lessons learned and redefining procedures. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that they did meet after the training and will write it up.

Commissioner Neff and ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained the route of the trail. ED Nāho‘opi‘i and Bart Maybee explained the process of flagging the route and using the GPS to plot way-points. KIRC staff will then map it and check for archaeological and natural resource concerns. The commissioners discussed ways to improve coordination between the plotting of the trail and when the work crews arrive. Paul Higashino said that the trail position should be finalized before work crews come out. Commissioner Neff said that the main person plotting the trail should be there from the beginning and suggested training other members of the PKO as a back up. ED Nāho‘opi‘i said that Attwood Makaanani would like to take a week or two and layout the entire route.

The commissioners visited the wetland area in Kaukukapapa which is the site of a project with NRCS. Paul Higashino discussed scarring from erosion and said that NRCS will be coming to the island to discuss how to better retain the water in the area. He discussed the level of clearance and the location of other wetland areas. He said they would be cutting kiawe and suggested they get a smaller chipper or burn box and use the large logs for other projects.

The commissioners discussed a PKO Access in October for the dedication of the hale. They next discussed the distribution of the Kanaloa plant and tightening up access permitting. They discussed the four canoes, Hokule‘a, Hoku Alakai, Mo‘olele, and Makali‘i landing in September.

The commissioners returned to Honokanai‘a and talked about Base Camp operations again. They discussed a more island-style look and less of a military look and making camp more sustainable. They also considered that, due to finances, they could use the existing camp structures. The Commission will need to consider issues with the Hut 10 renovation, a master plan for Honokanai‘a, and the possibility of opening an ocean vista by taking down the walls of existing huts.

The commissioners discussed major projects: 1) wetlands, 2) the Alaloa, 3) marine monitoring, and 4) enforcement and the need to prioritize projects. The Commission will decide which projects will be done first. ED Nāho‘opi‘i will prepare matrix of all projects for FY09 to prioritize. They discussed the need to restate task forces, including budget and finance and culture as separate from education. They discussed having another limited meeting for places they were not able to visit. They discussed bringing the OHA trustees to the island. They also discussed the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs Convention in October 2009.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm and the group returned to Maui via the ‘Ōhūa.