



KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA
KAHO‘OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

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COMMISSION MEMBERS

MICHELE MCLEAN

Chairperson

JOSHUA KAAKUA, Ed.D

Vice-Chair

C. KALIKO BAKER, Ph.D.

SUZANNE CASE

JONATHAN CHING, D.ARCH

HÖKŪLANI HOLT

CARMEN HULU LINDSEY

Michael K. Nāho‘opi‘i

Executive Director

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

9:00 am

Kalana O Maui Building

Mayor’s Conference Room, 9th Floor

200 South High St

Wailuku, Hawai‘i

COMMISSION MEMBERS

PRESENT: Michele McLean, Chairperson; Josh Kaakua, Ed.D, Vice Chair; C. Kaliko Baker, Ph.D; Jonathan Ching, D.Arch; Hōkūlani Holt; Carmen Hulu Lindsey

EXCUSED: Suzanne Case

KIRC STAFF: Michael Nāho‘opi‘i, Executive Director (ED); Ka‘ōnohi Lee, Administrative Officer (AO); Daniel Morris, Deputy Attorney General (DAG); Lyman Abbott, Natural Resources Specialist III (NRS); James Bruch, Natural Resources Specialist III (NRS); Terri Gavagan, Commission Coordinator (CC); Paul Higashino, Restoration Program Manager (RPM); Kelly McHugh, Public Information Specialist (PIS); Carmela Noneza, GIS/Lan Specialist; Grant Thompson, Logistics Specialist (LS); Dean Tokishi, Ocean Program Manager (OPM); Lopaka White, Maintenance & Vessel Operator (MVO)

GUESTS: Eric Brundage (Zapata, Inc.); Mika Madali (Hui Kāpehe); Tazman Shim (Hui Kāpehe); Koty Kalili (Hui Kāpehe); Kawika Freitas (Old Lahaina Luau); CJ Elizares (Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana)

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 am. Quorum was established with six Commissioners.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of June 26, 2017 Regular Commission Meeting

MOTION: Commissioner Lindsey moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2017 Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Baker seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

III. COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC COMMENTS

Written testimony from Jaydon Isobe, Wileen Ortega, Merrill Ranken, Donelle Sakuma and Joann Shishido was submitted and is available at the KIRC office for viewing. No other oral community or public comments were made at this time. Chair McLean commented that the public would be invited to make comments for each agenda item.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. Review and Approve Legislative Positions for 2018 Session

ED Nāho‘opi‘i provided a summary of last year’s legislative funding. The KIRC received funding for 15 temporary positions and a little over \$1 million which would also cover the office lease, office expense and operations of Maui based functions, including the Commission for FY18 and FY19 in the State budget. There was not sufficient money for field operations, logistics and on-island support. Staff requested that \$500,000 in supplemental funds be included in the DLNR’s budget. Another request was made to add another temporary position –Cultural Resources Project Coordinator (CRPC). This position was not funded for FY18 and FY19 because it was vacant at the time of legislative funding approval. These requests were not passed by Budget & Finance so they are not included in the Governor’s supplemental budget that was presented yesterday. There was an opportunity to go through the legislature, mostly likely in the form of a new bill which would receive hearings. He stated that the preference was have the request inserted into the administration’s budget so that it would be a more permanent funding source. ED Nāho‘opi‘i would be meeting with Representative Yamane and request that he introduce legislation in support of these two requests.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i reported that HB 620, RELATING TO THE KAHO‘OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION, which included supplemental funding was still alive. ED Nāho‘opi‘i will be asking Senator Shimabukuro to resurrect that bill. However, it would not get a hearing until the very end of the conference. It would be best to request a new bill be introduced which would allow for multiple ways of getting funding.

Chair McLean asked if the legislature was line item specific with regard to personnel funding. Staff responded it was, however, staff has the opportunity at the end of the session to re-describe the funded position but would lose the UXO position. It would probably take longer than six months to re-describe a position.

There was a discussion about whether it would be easier to argue for a UXO position than a cultural position.

Vice Chair Kaakua asked for clarification of funding request. ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that the two initial requests were made to the department so that they would be placed in the department’s budget request to the governor. The instructions from Budget & Finance were that only trade-offs (i.e., that the funding would need to come from some other part of the department) would be allowed. Vice Chair Kaakua asked how would the KIRC insure that if the funding did come from the legislature it would be set aside for the KIRC and not some other part of DLNR? ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained it would be designated for the KIRC within the statute.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that the funding may come through a bill as one-time funding or it may be added into the department’s budget which may be recurring funding.

Vice Chair Kaakua and Commissioner Lindsey volunteered to be in the Legislative Working Group (LWG).

Commissioner Ching asked if the funding for the CRPC included fringe. Staff responded no.

MOTION: Commissioner Lindsey moved to authorize the Executive Director to submit testimony in support of the following expected legislative issues for the 2018 legislative session:

- Supplemental general fund request of \$500,000 for on-island operations and logistical support (LNR906)
- Request additional temporary position and \$53,864 in additional general funds for KIRC Cultural Resources Project Coordinator (CRPC)

Commissioner Holt seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

MOTION: Commissioner Ching moved to assign Commissioner Lindsey and Vice Chair Kaakua to the Legislative Working Group. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

B. Authorize the KIRC Executive Director to develop and enter into agreements with NOAA, Maui Ocean Center and Bishop Museum to facilitate the repatriation of iwi koholā

ED Nāho‘opi‘i provided background about how a humpback whale skeleton collected from Kaho‘olawe in the 1950s eventually came to be displayed in the Hawaii Maritime Museum at Aloha Tower as well as how Maui Ocean Center (MOC) came to be interested in the skeleton. The current proposal is to have the skeleton dismantled and removed from the Hawaii Maritime Museum. The metal fasteners which are currently used to mount the skeleton would be removed so that a 3D printed version of the skeleton could be created. The metal fasteners would then be reused to hang the 3D version of the skeleton at MOC and the actual iwi would be reinterred by the KIRC. NOAA, which controls the possession of any humpback whale remains would transfer the permit to possess the skeleton to the KIRC for educational and scientific use as well as eventual reinternment. NOAA asked that the bones be tested for any chemical residue from solutions that might have been used in the past to clean or preserve the iwi before reinternment to prevent any chemical contamination. MOC would pay for the removal and transport of the iwi to Maui as

well as the 3D scanning and printing. It was also willing to provide the funding needed for the repatriation of the iwi.

Commissioner Ching asked for clarification about the logistics of moving the iwi and the costs involved. ED Nāho‘opi‘i responded that the iwi would probably be transported via the ‘Ōhua. Staff at MOC stated they were willing to help fund the move. Commissioner Ching asked how cultural practitioners such as the ‘Ōhana would be involved. ED Nāho‘opi‘i responded that this was an opportunity for the Commission to determine the appropriate cultural practices and protocols. MOC seemed to be very supportive of whatever the KIRC planned. Commissioner Ching noted it would be an opportunity to create an education piece explaining the cultural significance of why the repatriation was done.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that staff and MOC still needed to determine terms and the appropriate use of the image of the skeleton.

Commissioner Baker asked for clarification on the tests that would need to be conducted on the iwi. ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that the required chemical residue test was a swipe test to prevent any type of pollutant from entering wherever it will be interred.

Commissioner Lindsey asked how the bones would be kept together. ED Nāho‘opi‘i responded that the details could be worked out with MOC. The matter was placed before the Commission to see if it was supportive of the idea. ED Nāho‘opi‘i also explained that staff and the Cultural Working Group (CWG) consisting of Commissioners Baker and Holt would be working with MOC.

Commissioner Baker stated that one of the CWG members and Craig Neff (or his designee) should be present for discussions with MOC, including budget discussions.

Vice Chair Kaakua was pleased that the CWG would be consulted but also asked that the PKO be involved.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i stated that the timeline for this project would be dependent on the Bishop Museum.

MOTION: Commissioner Baker moved to authorize the Executive Director to develop and enter into agreements with NOAA, Maui Ocean Center and Bishop Museum, in consultation with the KIRC Cultural Advisory Working Group, to facilitate the repatriation of iwi koholā currently located at the Hawaii Maritime Museum. Commissioner Holt seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

C. Review and Approve Proposed CY2018 Access Dates and Activities for the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana

ED Nāho‘opi‘i provided background and summary of the proposed dates and activities for PKO accesses in 2018. ED Nāho‘opi‘i also noted that Makahiki ceremonies and Ka‘apuni were KIRC approved activities only since ceremonial activities are not KIRC authorized activities. There were no changes to the list of KIRC approved and authorized activities.

Commissioner Ching asked if the Ala Loa project was a KIRC approved and authorized activity. Staff responded yes.

There was a discussion about standard operating procedures regarding changing the dates of activities. ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that once the activities are approved the executive director can administratively approve changes in dates. Kylee Mar was currently the PKO point of contact for the KIRC. It would be preferable if the KIRC was given a six month notice of any requested changes in dates if KIRC support is needed, specifically within the next six months because of the construction schedule on island.

MOTION: Vice Chair Kaakua moved A) pursuant to HAR §13-261-13 and Section 8 of the Palapala ‘Aelike Kahu‘aina, approve the proposed access dates and activities for the 2018 calendar year requested by the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana as KIRC approved and authorized activities with the exception of the November 8-12, 2018 Opening Makahiki, February 13-18, 2019 Closing Makahiki and the Ka‘apuni portion of the June 28-July 1, 2018 access request and B) pursuant to HAR §13-261-13 and Section 2 and 6 of the Palapala ‘Aelike Kahu‘aina, approved the request for access by Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana as KIRC approved only for the November 8-12, 2018 Opening Makahiki, February 13-18, 2019 Closing Makahiki; and June 28-July 1, 2018 Ka‘apuni. Commissioner Ching seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

V. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Executive Director’s Report

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained there was a delay in completing financial reports with the vacancy of the Administrative Assistant III position. A summary page of the budget was provided to the Commission. The data as of November 30, 2017 was included in the budget summary. There was a variance in the budget due to the Ocean Program non-personnel cost exceeding the anticipated amount. Neither the HCF (Hawai‘i Community Foundation) nor Hui Kāpehe grant projects were included in the approved budget. Adjustments would be made to include an allocation for both grants by the next Commission meeting. Approximately 33% of the approved budget has been spent. General funds were being used for personnel costs and a combination of general funds and trust fund for non-personnel costs.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i referred the Commission to the legislative report about the Status of the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund. The trust fund balance the start of the year was approximately \$400,000. The trust fund was being used to encumber contracts and to receive reimbursements from grants to replenish the trust fund. Staff was hoping to end the year with the same amount.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i briefly reviewed the grant status report. The annual appeal also started. He reviewed the latest annual report which will be available to the public next week.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i reported that the UXO position was still vacant. On-island UXO duties were being handled by Eric Brundage (Zapata, Inc.).

ED Nāho‘opi‘i commented that even though Commissioner Baker’s term was authorized until June 30, 2021 he could only serve until June 30, 2019 because Commissioners are only allowed to serve eight consecutive years. ED Nāho‘opi‘i briefed the ‘Ohana about this situation at the annual meeting with the KIRC.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i thanked DLNR/Boating for issuing the KIRC a slip at Ma‘alaea for the ‘Ōhua while repairs were being done at the Kīhei Boat Harbor as well as working with KIRC staff to get the ‘Ōhua back to the boat house as quickly as possible.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained that it was anticipated that the photovoltaic system and renovated Base Camp would be operational by the end of June. There was a discussion about the possible timeline of the renovation of the kitchen, installation of the solar panels and the installation of the new reverse osmosis (RO) system. Chair McLean asked if there was any recent problems with the intake given the king tides. Eric Brundage responded that there had not been any problems with the intake. There were leaks on the high pressure side which were repaired. It was currently down pending the delivery of parts.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i reported the funds were released for the planning and design of the Kaho‘olawe Operations and Education Center in Kīhei. RIM Architects LLC was selected to provide consultant services. The goal of this project was to get an estimate of construction cost, get the entitlements finished and move toward final construction drawings.

Commissioner Ching asked how close the KIRC was to getting a full CD set. ED Nāho‘opi‘i responded he had not received an estimate yet. There was a discussion about what entitlements were still needed.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i reported that staff requested release of CIP funds for the Native Dryland Forest project and was still awaiting its release.

C. Discuss Changes in the Sunshine Law Effective July 1, 2018 and Impacts on KIRC Meetings

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained changes were made to the Sunshine Law which will be effective July 1, 2018. The changes include:

- When packets are mailed to Commissioners a hard copy of the packet (excluding exempt materials such as executive session minutes, etc.) must be made available for public inspection at the KIRC office
- The agenda must include notification that the packet is available for inspection at the KIRC office
- The agenda must be posted no less than six days prior to the meeting on an electronic calendar maintained by the State. A copy of it still needs to be provided to the lieutenant governor’s office. This was already being done.
- The packet must be available electronically as soon as practicable

Staff’s goal was to have the agenda and board packet materials electronically and in hard copy ready at the same time. The Commission would need to decide what should be included in the packet since everything sent to the Commission would need to be available to the public. If documents are distributed at the meeting staff would need to post the documents the next day or link it to the agenda. Action item memos along with any information related to those items would be included in the packets. ED Nāho‘opi‘i asked the Commission if they wanted the updates to still be included in the packets or distributed at the meeting. The Commission indicated that the updates should still be included in the packet since they would need to be digitized at some point.

Chair McLean noted that a summary of the minutes could be posted if there was an issue with meeting the 40 day requirement. It would be a much condensed summary of the action taken along with the time in the audio recording that the action happened along with posting the audio recording. Minutes do not need to be approved by the Commission. Most minutes are verbatim and so are not approved. Since the Commission’s minutes are a summary it might be a good idea to approve them.

ED Nāho‘opi‘i explained the proposed plan was to post draft minutes within 40 days on the KIRC website. The draft minutes would then be presented to the Commission for approval at the next Commission meeting. Once the minutes are approved they would replace the draft minutes.

VI. PROJECT STATUS UPDATES

A. Status Update on current and planned Restoration Projects: Kaho‘olawe Island Seabird Restoration Project; Water Security Project

RPM Higashino reported that the Kaho‘olawe Island Seabird Restoration Project was just completed. The objective was to look at operational scoping and feasibility of eradication of invasive animals on island. Acoustic bird monitors were placed to record the presence of various seabirds in cliffs on island. Additionally, bat monitors were placed on island which indicated a peak period of bat presence in the late summer which follows patterns on other islands.

RPM Higashino reported restoration staff completed the KIRC biosecurity plan for implementation to prevent invasive species from arriving on Kaho‘olawe. Volunteers are informed about the plan during orientation and their baggage is inspected at the boat house prior to being loaded onto the boat.

RPM Higashino provided an update on the Kanaloa plants located at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens and Ho‘olawa Farms. Two more cuttings were made last April at Ho‘olawa Farms. An additional six cuttings were made at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Those cuttings were relocated to Native Nursery in Kula. There are now four plotted plants.

Chair McLean asked if there had been any recent surveys of the plant on island. RPM Higashino stated no; it was difficult to access that part of the island.

RPM Higashino discussed the Water Security Grant which was a one year project with the DLNR Commission on Water Resource Management. The goal was to place 10,000 plants in an area which was previously worked to recreate a native scrubland or forest by removing alien species.

B. Status Update on current Ocean Program Projects: Hawai‘i Community Foundation (HCF) IV Grant; Malama Kaho‘olawe; NOAA Bay Watershed Educational Training (B-WET); Learning Aina Through Kaho‘olawe and Arts Integration

OPM Tokishi provided an update on Malama Kaho‘olawe project funded by HCF which will run through June 2018. The grant requires the removal of 250 pounds of invasive fish biomass and putting a minimum of 5,000 native plants along the shoreline. Both require utilization of a minimum of 768 man hours from volunteers. Staff removed approximately 172 pounds of invasive fish biomass and 2500 ‘aki‘aki plants have been planted within the ‘ili of Kealaikahiki. The grant also allows the staff the opportunity to monitor the coral reef in the Honokanai‘a area. The coral bleaching event in 2015 was the worst when the ocean temperature increased 3-4 degrees. Based on time lapse photos 30% of the coral coverage in the area has been lost and 60% coral diversity has been lost. Staff was trying to calculate the recovery rate. The recovery rate is slow as with the rest of the state. Some coral is more resilient than others. The cauliflower coral was among those hit hardest. Approximately 80% were damaged in the Honokanai‘a area. These events may build resiliency in those corals which survived.

Commissioner Baker asked if there were instances of coral die off in the historical record. OPM Tokishi responded there were bleaching events, but there had never been a trend where the temperatures were constantly climbing.

There was a general discussion about the process of coral bleaching as well as factors contributing to it.

OMP Tokishi updated the Commission on Learning Aina Through Kaho‘olawe and Arts Integration Project funded by the B-WET grant which started in August 2017 and ends in July 2019. Staff is working with teachers from Pōmaika‘i Elementary School and exposing them to the management and restoration of the

watersheds on Kaho‘olawe as well as the importance of restoring the watershed. The teachers were creating curriculum which will be implemented during the life of the grant. It will also be an art integrated curriculum. Pōmaika‘i is the only arts integrated public school in Hawai‘i. Staff will also be looking at taking this curriculum to other schools. The Commission was referred to the teachers’ written testimony. The KIRC’s obligation was to take five teachers to Kaho‘olawe twice; once during a wet season and once during the dry season.

C. Status Update on current Culture Program Project: Hui Kāpehe

GIS/Lan Specialist Noneza (interim Hui Kāpehe coordinator) reported that this was the fifth year of this program. The program was restructured and now offered certifications that are in line with what the KIRC already does such as drone instruction, PADI certification, first aid/CPR and boater certification, etc. The in-house certifications and the Maui accesses help the interns complete the program in a timely manner. It also develops team work skills since the interns are responsible for cooking and cleaning their camp on Maui much like on Kaho‘olawe.

Three Hui Kāpehe interns introduced themselves and provided oral testimony about their experiences with the program. Koty Kalili testified that the program gave him a lot of opportunities to do things that he probably would not have been able to on his own such as going to Kaho‘olawe and getting a glimpse of the ‘ike our kūpuna had as well as receiving a drone license. He thanked the KIRC for the opportunity.

GIS/Lan Specialist Noneza commented that Hui Kāpehe interns took the photos used for the Water Security grant using drones as part of their training as well as taking videos of other areas using the drones.

Commissioner Ching asked how long this program will last. GIS/Lan Specialist Noneza responded that Year 5 will end in 2018 and the KIRC will have to compete for the grant again. Commissioner Ching noted that the resources the KIRC was creating become resources for the KIRC and the State to use by hiring these interns in the future.

Commissioner Baker asked if the PKO was looking at using a drone for the Ala Loa work. ED Nāho‘opi‘i commented that a partnership was a possibility.

Chair McLean asked how many drones were in KIRC’s possession. Staff responded that there was one Inspire which needed two operators. There are also ten practice drones. There was also a discussion about the certification requirements and costs for drone operators.

There was a discussion about insurance for the drones as well as future potential uses for drones, including checking the Kanaloa plant.

D. Status Update on current Administrative Projects: Kaho‘olawe Living Library; Kaho‘olawe Island Guide-Hō‘ike ‘ano o Kanaloa

CC Gavagan explained that the Kaho‘olawe Living Library project was funded by a second IMLS grant which ends in June 2018. Staff has digitally photographed all of the archaeological artifacts/cultural resources that will be included in the sample to be inputted into the Living Library database. Staff was invited to participate in Nā Waihona Waiwai: Strengthening Native Hawaiian Students’ Access to Archival Collections in Hawai‘i in support of this grant. It was held on the campus of UH Mānoa in September 2017. Staff gave a brief presentation about the contents of the KIRC Archives. Staff was required to provide an update on the grant project at the Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services grantee meeting which was held in conjunction with the 2017 International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries and Museums. Which was held in Santa Ana Pueblo, New Mexico. Additionally, staff was invited to participate in a conference session, “Preserving the Past, Sharing the Future: Tribal Museums and Cultural Centers Leading the Way.” The staff was able to provide a little more detail about the Living Library project, its challenges and its impact on the community.

Staff was planning to add enhancements to the Kaho‘olawe Island Guide app. One of the eventual goals was to have orientation information on the app such as the packing list, volunteer forms, etc.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS/FYI

Chair McLean recognized KIRC staff in attendance and commented that staff had done an amazing job with getting grants and working on projects and having the different programs working together. She thanked the staff and Zapata, Inc. for another great year and good work.

Vice Chair Kaakua agreed and added that most organizations do not do as many things as the KIRC does—today a staff of 13 discussed the Virtual Museum, education, job training, repatriation of iwi, restoration, underwater surveys, and aerial surveys. Commissioner Holt added that these would be entire departments in other places. Vice Chair Kaakua asked how the Commission could kāko‘o staff besides trying to increase funding. ED Nāho‘opi‘i responded it would be helpful if other people could testify at the legislature.

Commissioner Lindsey commented that the KIRC cannot give up on getting the federal government to clean up the island. The KIRC needed to keep working with the Hawai‘i congressional delegation.

Commissioner Ching wanted to commend the staff and volunteers for the work they have done. The work was impressive. He was impressed that the work was integrated throughout the programs as a cohesive unit.

Commissioner Holt stated that when she came on as a Commissioner it was perhaps the bleakest time for the KIRC because the trust fund was almost down to zero and people had to be let go. She was not sure if she wanted to serve another four years. She was so happy that the KIRC was turning a little bit of a corner; so many wonderful things are happening and some many people are enthusiastic about helping Kaho‘olawe and we can

help people to do that. She was going to follow up with her fellow Commissioners to send in their annual appeal envelopes; 100% participation was wanted from all Commissioners. It was very important that the Commission support the KIRC's finances when staff apply for grants. She truly hoped that the Commissioners make the right decisions to help staff do their work better and to help Kaho'olawe's future. She mahaloed the staff.

Commissioner Baker echoed the mana'o that was shared by the other Commissioners. He came on around the same time as Commissioner Holt, during the lean times. He was impressed with what has been accomplished with 13 people. He wanted to personally to say mahalo a nui for November's access because there was a lot of coordination between the PKO getting there for Makahiki and the arrival of Hōkūle'a. Everything went very smoothly. He wanted to have it on record that the 'Ohana truly appreciated the staff's ability to flow with the 'Ohana and PVS. It was difficult to manage but he thought collectively everyone did a very good job.

Commissioner Ching added that that access was very important because of the times in the past with PVS and Kaho'olawe and the 'Ohana & the KIRC. It was good to start Makahiki in that way.

Chair McLean stated that the work the 'Ohana has accomplished for decades should be recognized. It was nice to see the relationship between the KIRC and the 'Ohana move along cooperatively.

VIII. NEXT MEETING AND FOLLOW-UPS

It was decided to try to meet again in February based on the legislative calendar. It should be mostly be for updates. The meeting would probably be on O'ahu.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vice Chair Kaakua moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ching seconded the motion.

ACTION: The motion was approved by all Commissioners present.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.