

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
560 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, SUITE 200
(In-Person Meeting)

The OHA Board of Trustees meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA's website at www.oha.org/livestream or listened by phone: (213) 338-8477.

A physical meeting location open to the general public will be available at the
Nā Lama Kukui 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Honolulu, HI. 96817

This meeting can be viewed at:

Video 1: <https://www.youtube.com/live/yo5tPAJuKjg?si=M92WK2yz1lTuDUlr>

Minutes of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
MINUTES
February 12, 2026
9:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:

Chairperson Kaiali'i Kahele
Vice Chair Keoni Souza
Chair Emerita Lindsey
Trustee Dan Ahuna
Trustee Luana Alapa
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka
Trustee Keli'i Akina
Trustee Brickwood Galuteria
Trustee John Waihe'e IV.

ADMINISTRATION:

Summer Sylva, Interim Administrator/CEO
K.Sean Kekina, COO
Everett Ohta, General Counsel
Rozelle Agag, Assoc. General Counsel
Kapono Kiakona, Counsel
Bill Brenan, Dir. of Communications
Royce Cambell, Operations Manager
Arlene Aguinaldo, IT
Daniel Santos, IT

BOT STAFF:

Aleena Auyoung, Interim COS
Lehua Itokazu, Board Secretary
Richelle Kim, Trustee Aide
Kauai Robello, Trustee Secretary
Pohailani Kealoha, Trustee Aide
LeiAnn Durrant, Trustee Aide
Nathan Takeuchi, Trustee Aide
Mark Watanabe, Trustee Aide
Remy Keli'hoomalu, Trustee Aide

GUEST:

Germaine Meyers
Raymond Sin
Paul Altson

Call to Order (0:24 | 11:35 AM)

Chair Kaiali'i Kahele Calls the Board of Trustees Meeting to order for Thursday, February 12, 2026, at 11:35 a.m. Board Secretary, please do a roll call.

MEMBERS			Present	Notes
TRUSTEE	DAN	AHUNA	X	
TRUSTEE	KALEI	AKAKA	X	
TRUSTEE	KELI'I	AKINA	X	
TRUSTEE	LUANA	ALAPA	X	
TRUSTEE	BRICKWOOD	GALUTERIA	X	
TRUSTEE	CARMEN "HULU"	LINDSEY	X	
TRUSTEE	KEONI	SOUZA	X	
TRUSTEE	JOHN	WAIHE'E	X	
CHAIRPERSON	KAIALI'I	KAHELE	X	
			9	

At the Call to Order, **nine (9)** Trustees are PRESENT, thereby constituting a quorum.

Chair Kahele summarized. This meeting can be viewed on OHA's website at www.oha.org/livestream. The meeting will be livestreamed at www.oha.org/livestream and on 'Ōlelo TV Channel 49. Members of the public joining via Zoom will participate through a webinar format and may testify on agenda items by using the "raise hand" feature; when recognized, attendees will be promoted to panelist status to provide testimony and then returned to attendee status, consistent with HRS §92-9. All participants are respectfully asked to silence their cell phones.

K.Sean Kekina, COO takes a moment to introduce OHA staff.

Chair Kahele First and only item on the agenda is our executive session. Do we have anyone to speak on this item?

Testifier (2:36 | 11:37 AM)

Germaine Meyers summarized. The testimony supports Stacy Ferreira, asserting that she engaged in legally protected whistleblowing while serving at the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and was subsequently removed without transparency or due process. It raises concerns that efforts to shift her claims into limited arbitration could restrict statutory protections and undermine Hawai'i's whistleblower and Sunshine laws. The statement emphasizes that the issue is about upholding accountability, protecting those who report misconduct, and ensuring public trust in government institutions.

(7:09 | 11:42 AM)

Pickachu Billionaire summarized. The speaker references prior testimony regarding the Public Land Use Commission and raises concerns about the calculation of state ceded land revenues. Based on their estimate of approximately \$394 million in annual revenue, 20% due to OHA would be about \$78.9 million, while OHA currently receives approximately \$21.5 million. The speaker asserts a significant shortfall of roughly \$57.4 million annually. Additional factors such as inflation, depreciation, and broader claims for reparations are noted but not included in the calculation.

(11:46 | 11: 46 am)
Executive Session§

Legal Matters. The Board anticipates convening in an executive meeting pursuant to HRS § 92- 5(a)(4) to receive updated information, consult with its legal counsel, and take any necessary action regarding the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities with respect to matters relating to Stacy Kealohalani Ferreira v. OHA, Civil No. 1CCV-25-0001822, including but not limited to joint defense agreements and confidentiality requirements.

Motion to move into Executive Session is made by Vice Chair Souza.

The Board recuses into Executive Session at XXXXX a.m.

Motion to recuse into executive session pursuant to HRS Section§92-5						
	1	2	*AE /YES	*A*OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA			X			
TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA			X			
TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA			X			
TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA			X			
TRUSTEE BRICKWOOD GALUTERIA			X			
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE KEONI SOUZA	X		X			
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E			X			
CHAIRPERSON KAI KAHELE			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			9			
MOTION: [X] UNANIMOUS [] PASSED [] DEFERRED [] FAILED						
Motion passes with a NINE (9) Yes votes, Zero (0) No votes and Zero (0) Excused vote.						

Board returns to open session at 12:47 p.m

Chair Kahele *summarized.* reports that no action was taken during its executive session. The session was held pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4) to consult with legal counsel on a civil matter. The Board met with Board Counsel Paul Alston and OHA legal counsel regarding the agenda item. The matter discussed was OHA Civil No. 1CCV-25-001822.

(1:15:27 | 12:54 pm)

Community Concerns and Celebrations

Chair Kahele shares the following statement *summarized*. Community concerns are intended to provide a space for beneficiaries to share how OHA's work, decisions, and conduct affect them, not to serve as a venue for trustee disputes. Trustees have a responsibility to express their views during agendaized discussions, where deliberation and debate properly belong. The misuse of community concerns to advance personal grievances or harm the reputations of trustees or staff undermines trust and places an unfair burden on beneficiaries. As fiduciaries, trustees must uphold professionalism, impartiality, and respect while protecting staff and maintaining the integrity of the process.

(1:20:07 | 12:55 pm)

Germaine Meyers *summarized*. Raises a community concern grounded in history, highlighting the legacy of Frenchy DeSoto as foundational to the creation of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. DeSoto's leadership, including her role in the 1978 Constitutional Convention and as OHA's first Board Chair, reflected a commitment to advancing Native Hawaiian rights through institutional accountability and community-rooted governance. Her life story is presented as an example of resilience, determination, and leadership shaped by lived experience and connection to place. The speaker emphasizes that honoring her legacy requires upholding the standards of courage, responsibility, and service to beneficiaries that she established.

(1:25:12 | 1:01 pm)

Richard Sim *summarized*. an active-duty member of the United States Air Force, and expresses appreciation for the opportunity to address the Board. He shares his positive experiences living on O'ahu and his interest in learning about Hawai'i's history, language, and culture, including recognition of Mahina 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. He acknowledges community resources such as the Kaimukī Public Library and highlights local businesses and cultural expressions. The speaker also reflects on the historical and cultural significance of the Aloha spirit and Aloha attire, as well as broader multicultural influences in Hawai'i.

Trustee Akina *risers to the point of personal privilege. summarized*. Thank you for your comments regarding community concerns. I respect your willingness to speak candidly and accept your remarks as your honest perspective on my conduct. I agree that it would be inappropriate for any board member to use a beneficiary as a proxy to criticize or attack others, and I affirm that I have not engaged in such actions. The individual referenced acts independently, and my limited interaction—offering her a ride—was unrelated to her testimony. If any of my actions caused offense, that was not my intention, and I remain committed to upholding the board's code of conduct.

(1:33:28 | 1:08 pm)

Announcements

Trustee Akaka *summarized*. I attended a reception at the New Zealand Consulate General's official residence in observance of Waitangi Day, commemorating the 1840 signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi between Māori chiefs and the British Crown. The occasion recognized the treaty as a founding document and highlighted its continued importance through reflection, cultural celebration, and dialogue. I am interested in exploring future opportunities for collaboration and shared celebration with our relations in Aotearoa, particularly regarding indigenous rights and stewardship of lands and waters. I also acknowledge current concerns raised in their parliament affecting cultural practices, language, and education. I express interest in supporting these efforts while strengthening connections grounded in shared indigenous values and experiences.

Chair Emerita Lindsey *summarized*. Shares there is a hearing this afternoon at 2:00 pm on HB 2584 which is OHA's public land trust bill. She encourages all Trustees to attend.

Chair Kahele *summarized*.

- OHA is co-hosting Hawaiian Day at the Capitol starting at 10:00 am
- Saturday, February 14th – Happy Valentines day. OHA will be hosting Lā Kūkahekahe Day at Nā Lama Kukui
- Next Wednesday – Standing Committee meetings will happen and on Thursday – The Board of Trustees meeting will take place.

(1:40:35 | xx)

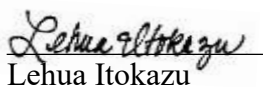
Adjournment

Chair Emerita Lindsey moves to adjourn meeting.

Adjournment – vote taken at 1:15 pm							
TRUSTEE		1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
DAN	AHUNA			X			
KALEI	AKAKA			X			
KELI'I	AKINA			X			
LUANA	ALAPA			X			
BRICKWOOD	GALUTERIA			X			
CARMEN HULU	LINDSEY	X		X			
KEONI	SOUZA			X			
JOHN	WAIHE'E						Left mtg at 12:50 pm
CHAIR KAIALI'I	KAHELE			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT				8			

Chair Kahele Adjourns the Board of Trustees meeting at 1:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Lehua Itokazu
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on June 25, 2026



Kaiali'i Kahele
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Attachments: No Attachments