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Dan Ahuna - Trustee, Kaua'i & Ni'ihau
Kaleihikina Akaka - Trustee, O'ahu
Keli'i Akina, Ph.D. - Trustee, At-Large
Luana Alapa - Trustee, Moloka'i & Lāna'i
Brickwood Galuteria - Trustee, At-Large
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**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200
Honolulu, HI 96817

EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Monday, August 17, 2026

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Remote Meeting via Interactive Conference Technology

This meeting will be held virtually and may be viewed live via OHA's website at www.oha.org/livestream or listened to by phone by dialing (213) 338-8477 and entering Webinar ID: 916 0575 4835. A physical meeting location will be open to the public for those who wish to provide oral testimony or observe the meeting in person at: Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817.

Findings of the OHA Board of Trustees:

Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 92-8(a), the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees (Board) finds that an imminent peril to the public health, safety, and welfare exists that requires a meeting of the Board in less time than provided under HRS § 92-7.

Specifically, Hurricane Lala has caused devastating and widespread damage across Hawai'i Island, with particularly severe impacts in the Ka'ū region, including the communities of Pāhala, Nā'ālehu, and Wai'ōhinu. Torrential rainfall and extreme flooding have damaged and destroyed homes, bridges, roads, utilities, and other critical infrastructure; isolated communities; disrupted electrical service and transportation; displaced residents; and created continuing threats to public health and safety.

Current reports indicate that homes in Nā'ālehu were swept away by floodwaters, a resident was rescued after being swept away in Wai'ōhinu, at least six bridges were destroyed in Ka'ū, and severe flooding and infrastructure damage left Pāhala isolated and significantly impaired access into and throughout portions of the district. Widespread electrical outages have also affected Hawai'i Island, while damaged roads, downed trees, debris, flooding, and other hazardous conditions continue to impede access and recovery efforts.

The Board further finds that the full extent of the damage continues to be assessed and that conditions on the ground remain fluid. State and county emergency response and recovery operations are ongoing, and residents in affected areas continue to face hazards associated with damaged infrastructure, debris, contamination, electrical systems, interrupted utilities, and limited transportation access.

The Board further finds that Ka'ū is home to a significant Native Hawaiian population and that the impacts of Hurricane Lala therefore directly and substantially affect OHA beneficiaries. Based on 2020 Census data and OHA staff analysis, approximately 1,520 Native Hawaiian residents live in Ka'ū out of an estimated total population of 6,111, meaning approximately 25 percent of the community are OHA beneficiaries.

The Board further finds that Native Hawaiian individuals, families, and communities in Ka'ū and

elsewhere on Hawai‘i Island have experienced immediate and ongoing impacts from Hurricane Lala, including damage to homes and property, displacement, loss of personal belongings and income, disruption of essential services, transportation and communications challenges, and increased vulnerability among kūpuna, families, and other beneficiaries requiring immediate assistance.

The Board also finds that timely coordination and deployment of OHA’s existing emergency relief resources, including the I Ola Lāhui emergency assistance program and the Fiscal Year 2026 Emergency Relief Fund, may be necessary to address urgent beneficiary and community needs resulting from Hurricane Lala and to complement ongoing county, state, federal, and community-based response and recovery efforts.

Given the magnitude of the damage, the isolation and disruption experienced by communities in Ka‘ū, the significant concentration of OHA beneficiaries within the affected district, and the immediate needs of those beneficiaries, the Board finds that allowing the regular six-day notice period would unduly delay OHA’s ability to respond during a period of urgent need and could increase the risk of further harm to affected beneficiaries.

Immediate deliberation and decision-making are therefore necessary to enable the Board to receive current information regarding conditions on Hawai‘i Island; assess the immediate needs of OHA beneficiaries; coordinate with governmental agencies, community organizations, and other response partners; and consider and, if appropriate, authorize emergency response measures and the deployment of available OHA resources to affected Native Hawaiian individuals, families, and communities.

The Board further finds that the severity and immediacy of the impacts in Pāhala, Nā‘ālehu, Wai‘ōhinu, and surrounding Ka‘ū communities require action now and cannot reasonably await the expiration of the regular public meeting notice period.

Accordingly, the Board finds that the imminent peril to the public health, safety, and welfare resulting from Hurricane Lala requires immediate Board consideration and justifies convening an emergency meeting pursuant to HRS § 92-8(a).

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. New Business

- A. Discussion of the impacts of Hurricane Lala on Hawai‘i Island, including the devastating damage to communities in the Ka‘ū region, particularly Pāhala, Nā‘ālehu, and Wai‘ōhinu, and the resulting impacts on OHA beneficiaries, including damage to homes and property, displacement, economic hardship, disruption of essential services, transportation and infrastructure impacts, and other immediate health, safety, and welfare needs; and consideration of OHA’s emergency response options, including the potential authorization and deployment of emergency financial assistance through existing programs and funds, and any related Board action.

III. Executive Session§

- A. Discussion of the impacts of Hurricane Lala on Hawai‘i Island, including the devastating damage to communities in the Ka‘ū region, particularly Pāhala, Nā‘ālehu, and Wai‘ōhinu, and the resulting impacts on OHA beneficiaries, including damage to homes and property, displacement, economic hardship, disruption of essential services, transportation and infrastructure impacts, and other immediate health, safety, and welfare needs; and consideration of OHA’s emergency response options, including the potential authorization and deployment of emergency financial assistance through existing programs and funds, and any related Board action.

The Board anticipates convening in an executive meeting pursuant to HRS § 92-5(a)(4) to consult with

its legal counsel and take any necessary action regarding the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, HRS § 92-5(a)(6) to consider sensitive matters related to public safety or security, including the welfare of affected beneficiaries, and HRS § 92-5(a)(7) to discuss matters relating to the solicitation and acceptance of private donations and other support in response to the emergency.

IV. Community Concerns and Celebrations

V. Announcements

VI. Adjournment

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact Keola Fong at (808) 626-5484 or by email at keolaf@oha.org as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

In the event that the livestream public broadcast is interrupted and cannot be restored, the meeting may continue as audio-only through the phone number and Webinar ID provided at the beginning of this agenda. Meeting recordings will be made available on OHA's website <https://www.oha.org/about/leadership/board-of-trustees/> as soon as practicable after the meeting.

Public Testimony will be called for each agenda item and must be limited to matters listed on the meeting agenda. Community Concerns and Celebrations is not limited to matters listed on the meeting agenda. Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 92, prohibits Board members from discussing or taking action on matters not listed on the meeting agenda.

The board packet will be available for the public to inspect at OHA's main office located at 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817, no later than three full business days before the meeting. The board packet will also be made available on OHA's website, <https://www.oha.org/bot> as soon as practicable thereafter.

§ Notice: This portion of the meeting will be closed pursuant to HRS § 92-5.

Testimony can be provided to the Board of Trustees either as: (1) written testimony or (2) live, oral testimony online or at the physical meeting location during the remote meeting.

(1) Persons wishing to provide written testimony on items listed on the agenda should submit testimony via email to botmeetings@oha.org or via postal mail to Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Attn: Board of Trustees Meeting Testimony, 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817. Testimony is requested to be received at least twenty-four hours prior to the scheduled meeting to allow board members with sufficient time to review the testimony before the meeting. All written testimony will be posted on OHA's meeting website. Please omit or redact any personal information (e.g., name, email address, phone number, home address, or materials) that you do not want to be disclosed publicly online.

(2) Persons wishing to provide oral testimony online during the remote meeting, please click on the link below:
<https://zoom.us/j/91605754835>

To provide oral testimony online, you will need:

- (1) a computer or mobile device to connect to the remote meeting;
- (2) internet access; and
- (3) a microphone to provide oral testimony.

Persons wishing to provide oral testimony at the physical meeting location can sign up the day-of the meeting at the physical meeting location. Once your oral testimony is completed, you may be asked to disconnect from the meeting. If you willfully disrupt the meeting or do not disconnect on your own, support staff will remove you from the Zoom meeting. You can continue to view the remainder of the meeting on the livestream or by telephone, as provided at the beginning of this agenda.

Oral testimony online or at a physical meeting location will be limited to five (5) minutes. Oral testimony by telephone/landline will not be accepted at this time.



Trustee Kaiali'i Kahele
Chairperson, Board of Trustee

8/16/ 2026
Date