

**STATE OF HAWAI‘I  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
Kailapa Community Center (at playground)  
61-4016 Kai Opae Place  
Kamuela, HI. 96743**

**Hawai‘i Island Site Visit Summary  
of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Board of Trustees  
Summary Report  
Septemeber 14, 2023 – 1:00 pm**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Trustee Hulu Lindsey  
Trustee Kalei Akaka  
Trustee Luana Alapa  
Trustee Dan Ahuna  
Trustee Keli‘i Akina  
Trustee Keoni Souza  
Trustee Mililani Trask

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Colin Kippen, Interim CEO  
Casey Brown, COO  
Ilima Kela, BSA

**BOT STAFF:**

Lehua Itokazu, Board Secretary  
Kanani Iaea, Trustee Aide  
Amber Kalua, Trustee Aide  
Richelle Kim, Trustee Aide  
Crayn Akina, Trustee Aide  
Ruben Sierra, Trustee Aide  
Lei-Ann Durant, Trustee Aide  
Kahelelani Keawekane, Trustee Aide  
Nathan Takeuchi, Trustee Aide  
Anuheia Diamond, Trustee Aide

**GUEST:**

Jojo Tanimoto  
Kailapa Community Members

**I. Call to Order**

Site visit starts at 1:30 p.m. *Jojo Tanimoto does introductions of Trustees.*

**II. Site Visit**

**Kailapa Community Center**

Jojo thanks OHA for a variety of things such as the community receiving money in the past to clean up the area in Kailapa. This helped to mitigate fires and opened up trails to their fishing area. She is also thankful for the help on Mauna Kea and helping the kūpuna. She thanks Representative Pi‘ilani for being with them and assisting with the new “Do not Park” sign along Queen Ka‘ahumanu Hwy. This sign deters runners and motorist from iwi buried there. The police manage and enforce this area

One of the major issues they are having is with water. Kailapa residents are paying six times the national average for water as they purchase water from a private well. The well is owned by Kohala Ranch and each household pays Kohala Ranch for their water. The operational cost of running this well is past on to the consumers as they pay an additional \$100 service charge. Recently, the pumps were replaced, and everyone’s monthly bills rose 38% for the year. This private well can give a two years’ notice before stopping service at any time. Ideally, getting another potable water source would be beneficial. An example provided on water source is if everyone turned their water sprinklers on then the fire hydrants, Kailapa would not have water to fight a fire. It is shared that the monthly water bill for a household of four people is \$450 a month. This ‘ohana could not continue their dryland kalo patch because their monthly bill was almost \$600. The best choice to secure freshwater is to get pipelines with county water coming across the gulch. They see this issue getting worse over time as more development happens in Kailapa. They are going into their third month of water restrictions. One of the biggest concerns is losing their fresh water source all together due to the incineration of wildfires. The fires in Lāhainā has brought up another issue that they face in Kailapa which is an alternative evacuation route. An option is to make a road to the upper road. The issue is smaller private ranches are saying that no one can come on their property.

Representative Evans shares that she would like to see partnerships between DHHL, the County and the State to deal with many issues such as cesspools and the water situation.

**III. Public Testimony**

None

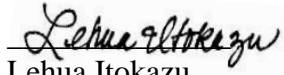
**IV. Announcements**

None

**V. Adjournment**

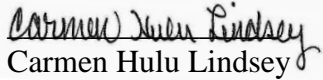
The site visit ends.

Respectfully submitted,



Lehua Itokazu  
Board Secretary

Site Visit Summary Approved at Board of Trustees Meeting on May 9, 2024



Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees