



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRUST FUND SPENDING POLICY, AS AMENDED

Adopted by the Board of Trustees, September 15, 2004

Amended and adopted by the Board of Trustees on July 6, 2006

Amended and adopted by the Board of Trustees on May 21, 2009

Reviewed with no modifications by the Board of Trustees on April 18, 2012

Amended and adopted by the Board of Trustees on February 27, 2014

OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRUST FUND SPENDING POLICY

I. PURPOSE. The purpose of this policy is to ensure the continued viability of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs's (OHA) Native Hawaiian Trust Funds (NHTF) by providing specific guidelines to balance the objectives of maintaining principal and producing large, stable and predictable spending. Decisions affecting management of the NHTF focus upon four conflicting objectives:

- A. Maximize long-term total return;
- B. Maximize annual spending from the Trust;
- C. Preserve the real value (purchasing power) of the Trust's principal and of its spending distributions over the long term;
- D. Maximize the stability and predictability of spending distributions. In other words, minimize the spending shortfall risk.

II. OBJECTIVE. The following spending policy reflects the objective of distributing as much total return as is consistent with the overall defined investment objectives while protecting the value of the principal.

III. DEFINITIONS. To further clarify the spending policy, the following definitions are used:

A. Native Hawaiian Trust Fund defined as all Public Land Trust revenue emanating from 5(f) funds that is subject to OHA's Native Hawaiian Trust Fund investment policy.

B. Spending Rate is the percentage (%) applied to the average market value to determine the spend amount.

C. Annual Spending Withdrawals defined as the maximum amount authorized to be budgeted from the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund in one fiscal year.

D. Moving Average Rule – to spend a fixed percentage of the average Native Hawaiian Trust Fund's average market value (e.g., spend 5.0% of the average market value of the previous 20 quarters).

E. Annual Ceded Land Revenues – shall be the \$15.1 million (fifteen million one hundred thousand dollars) annual revenues received from the state of Hawai'i as of fiscal year 2006-2007, or including any adjustments to annual ceded lands revenues in the future by the state of Hawai'i.

F. State of Hawai'i General Fund appropriations are determined by the Legislature during each Biennium and are spent for a specific purpose.

G. To Spend is the result of multiplying the moving average rule (Moving Average) by the spending rate.

H. Spent is when actual disbursement or encumbrances of funds is made. Trustees should never appropriate funds beyond the Spending Policy calculated amount.

I. Average Market Value – shall be computed quarterly based upon the monthly statements received from OHA's Custodian of Record, the average shall be computed from the most recent 20 quarter period ending as of March 31st, fifteen months prior to the start of the budget on July 1. If real estate is included in the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund then the real property market value shall be included to compute the average market value.

J. Public Land Trust Revenue – emanating from 5(f) funds that the State of Hawai'i remits to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

K. Real Property Market Value – shall be based upon the latest real estate appraisal. Such an appraisal should be conducted every five (5) years or upon the sale of any respective real estate property, whichever comes first.

L. Investment – an acquisition for future income or benefit.

M. 5(f) Funds – refers to Section 5(f) of the State of Hawai'i Admissions Act.

N. Total return is defined as the sum of earned interest and dividends and realized and unrealized gains or losses, less all investment management costs (*e.g. investment consultant, custodian, money manager fees*).

O. Native Hawaiian Self-Governance Spending Withdrawal defined as a maximum cumulative authorization not to exceed \$3,000,000 to be budgeted from the

Native Hawaiian Trust Fund for self-governing efforts of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

IV. POLICY/PROCEDURE. Consistent with the overall investment goals of the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund, the following spending rates and rules for distribution are set forward.

A. The formula for determining **annual spending withdrawals** and the mechanics of its implementation shall adopt the **Moving Average Rule**, whereby;

1. OHA will **spend** a fixed percentage of no more than five percent (5%) of the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund's **average market value**,

plus

2. **Ceded Land Revenues** received by OHA

plus

3. **State of Hawai'i General Funds** received by OHA

plus

4. Any funds available but not spent in previous fiscal years (Fiscal Reserve), held within the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund.

B. Regardless of the performance of the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund, OHA's spending policy will apply. The 5% spending rate shall be applied to investment portfolio and real property assets intended to be income or benefit producing.

C. Funds available from sources other than those defined in Section IV.A. of this policy are not limited by this annual spending withdrawal formula.

V. SPECIAL SPENDING WITHDRAWAL. Public Law 103-150 recognizes that the "...indigenous Hawaiian people never directly relinquished their claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people or over their national lands..." and urges the President of the United States to "...support reconciliation efforts between the United States and the Native Hawaiian people." Act 195 was signed into law on July 6, 2011 and recognized the Native Hawaiian people as the only indigenous, aboriginal, maoli people of Hawai'i. Act 195 encourages OHA to "...continue to support the self-determination process by Native Hawaiians in the formation of their chosen governmental entity" and notes that the State has designated OHA "...as a trust vehicle

to act on behalf of Native Hawaiians until a Native Hawaiian governing entity could be reestablished...". Balancing the opportunity for the formation of a governmental entity that would empower Native Hawaiians to exercise their un-relinquished inherent sovereignty with the objectives of maintaining principal and producing large, stable and predictable spending, a special cumulative spending withdrawal of no more than \$3,000,000 can be authorized to be budgeted from the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund for self-governing efforts of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and will be known as a **Native Hawaiian Self-Governance Spending Withdrawal**. Authorizations of funds pursuant to Section V. will require a separate Action Item appropriation request pursuant to Section 1.4.b of OHA's Board of Trustees Executive Policy Manual. This Section V. specifically disallows transfer of funds or appropriations of any kind to the Native Hawaiian Roll Commission, as established by Act 195.

VI. REVIEW

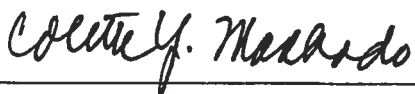
A. The Spending Policy will be reviewed at least every two years or as recommended by the Chair of the ARM Committee.

B. Modifications to the Spending Policy must meet requirements as provided by the then current By-Laws. Any modification or exceptions to OHA's Spending Policy shall require six (6) votes and two (2) readings at the Board of Trustees level and require external due diligence to be conducted.

VII. EFFECTIVE DATE. "The effective date of this policy is February 27, 2014 and this policy shall be deemed to pre-exist funds disbursed to OHA by the State pursuant to Act 178, SLH 2006."

Adopted on the 27th day of February, 2014

OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Colette Y. Machado, Chairperson

First Reading 2/20/2014

Second Reading 2/27/2014

OHA'S NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRUST FUND SPENDING POLICY'S FISCAL RESERVE WITHDRAWAL GUIDELINES

I. INTRODUCTION. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs two criteria for an effective Fiscal Reserve are the following: (1) the fund collects and dispenses appropriate amounts of money at appropriate times; and (2) it is simple to operate. Of the various alternatives studied by Administration, the fiscal reserve fund proposed here comes closest to satisfying these criteria. The purpose of this section is to describe the proposed operation of OHA's fiscal reserve as established by OHA's Spending Policy, which was initially adopted on October 31, 2000 and subsequently amended in September 2004, July 2006, and May 2009, respectively. These guidelines are not policy, rather it clarifies existing policy that exists on page 3, section IV of OHA's Native Hawaiian Trust Fund Spending Policy section entitled, "Policy/Procedure" and states "*plus*" A.3 "*Any funds available but not spent in previous fiscal years, held within the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund.*"

II. OHA'S NATIVE HAWAIIAN TRUST FUND SPENDING POLICY'S – FISCAL RESERVE. Following is a description of the fiscal reserve fund:

A. Objective. OHA's fiscal reserve fund is designed to provide money in certain situations.

B. Authorized uses. Money can be authorized under any of the 3 (three) permissible purposes as follows:

- 1. Budget Stabilization** – To address shortfalls in funding that directly translate into a significant spending decrease for a budget year. The shortfall can be the result of a downturn in the economy that negatively impacts the value of the NHTF investments, or can be the result of a reduction in general funding or ceded land revenue payments received from the state. Costs of programs can be funded through the fiscal reserve if it is determined that not providing the funding will have a severe negative impact on OHA's beneficiaries. The amount that can be utilized under this category in any given fiscal year, cannot exceed the previous year's spending limit subject to the limitations set forth in (E.) below. In other words, the budget stabilization can be used so that the fiscal reserve will supplement the current year budget to be at least equal to the prior year budget up to the limit set forth in (E.) below.
- 2. Unpredicted One-time Payments** – to address events or opportunities that are non-recurring in nature, have not been contemplated in the

budget process, and cannot wait to be included in the next budget cycle. This category would also include any expenditures needed to address legal issues as well as to remedy an emergency condition (which means a situation that creates a threat to public health, welfare, or safety that may arise by reason of major natural disaster, epidemic, riot, fire, or other reason.) The maximum designation amount under this category is subject to the limitations set forth in item (E.) below.

3. **Capital Acquisitions** – Major purchases of non-investment land or other capital assets that either have not been contemplated during the time of budget preparation, or cannot be addressed within the confines of the budget, and cannot wait to be included in the next budget cycle. The maximum withdrawal amount under this category is subject to the limitations set forth in item (E.) below.

C. Maximum Designations. The maximum designations allowable to be made in any given fiscal year, using any combination of items B.1. through B.3. above, are limited to no more than \$3,000,000 annually. The \$3,000,000 limitation is based on the fiscal year in which the designation is made, regardless of the year of funding specified in the designation. For example, if a \$2m designation is made in budget year 1, to be funded in budget year 2, the \$2m will count towards the limit in budget year 1, and only an additional \$1m can be designated in budget year 1. In budget year 2, the full \$3m of designations is still available.

D. Special Circumstances – There may be special circumstances that will require the use of funds in excess of the categories noted above. For example, the imminence of the passage of a federal recognition bill may trigger events for which OHA will be required to spend monies not otherwise available. In these special circumstances, the criteria set forth above can be waived by the BOT with a vote of the super majority plus 2 (8 affirmative votes). Since the “fiscal reserve” is a part of OHA’s Native Hawaiian Trust Fund and not an account established separately, if and when the fiscal reserve is utilized, the funds identified will merely serve as an additional means of financing.

E. Deposit Calculations. The source of data required to calculate the amount to be “restricted” as an OHA NHTF Spending Policy Fiscal Reserve shall be subject to audited financial statements for the respective fiscal year. Estimated year-end budget surpluses based upon unaudited records are not permissible.

F. Restrictions. The operation of the fiscal reserve fund is subject to two (2) restrictions:

1. no more than the current balance of the fiscal reserve in any year will be designated from the fund (e.g., the fund's balance cannot be negative after accounting for all designations; and
2. the total amount of money earmarked as a fiscal reserve does not have an upper threshold (*cap*) imposed upon it.

G. Operation

A. Pursuant to the OHA Spending Policy, Administration is tasked with calculating the spending policy limitation for the upcoming fiscal year utilizing a 20-quarter rolling average of the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund's market value, ending as of March 31st, fifteen months prior to the start of the budget on July 1. The respective 20-quarter rolling average along with a Board of Trustees determined spending rate (up to 5%) eventually determines the upper threshold for the development of a biennium budget, which is revisited during the supplemental year to correct any upward or downward adjustments in accordance to the actual spending policy formula. Note: during the development of a biennium budget, only the first fiscal year can utilize actual figures with the second year requiring Administration to "estimate" the market value of the upcoming four quarters based upon financial analysis techniques.

B. Only upon the close of OHA's fiscal year end financial records and the successful completion of a financial audit engagement can fiscal year "expenditure" figures be utilized, less any investment related expenses, and then deducted from OHA's calculated spending policy ceiling. As a part of OHA's adjusting fiscal year end journal entry, the difference is to be accumulated to any existing fund reserve account. Note: the funds are maintained within the Native Hawaiian Trust Fund, without the benefit of interest income and/or capital gains accrual, and are merely recognized as "reserved" funds within OHA's financial statements.

III. PROCEDURE. The procedure to be followed when requesting money via these guidelines for Board consideration shall be in the form of an Action Item and must include, at a minimum, the following information:

1. Identify the originator of the request;
2. Cite specific "Authorized Use" being requested as:
 - a. **B.1. Budget Stabilization,**
 - b. **B.2. Unpredicted One-time Payments, or**

c. B.3. Capital Acquisitions

3. Cite **D. Special Circumstances** if applicable.
4. Explain why the request cannot be accommodated with funds from the current Core Operating Budget.
5. State the urgency of the request and its impact on OHA if the request is denied or the decision is delayed.
6. Attach a letter or proposal detailing the request in sufficient detail to reasonably draw a conclusion of merit.

IV. VOTING REQUIREMENTS.

A. The Board of Trustees with six (6) affirmative votes may authorize expenditures from the fiscal reserve up to the maximum designation allowable under Budget Stabilization, Unpredicted One-time Payments, and Capital Acquisitions categories as set forth in Section II. B.1., B.2. and B.3., respectively, above.

B. The Board of Trustees with eight (8) affirmative votes may authorize expenditures from the fiscal reserves above the maximum designation allowable under the Special Circumstances category as set forth in Section II.D. above.

Adopted on the 27th day of February, 2014

OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Colette Y. Machado, Chairperson

First Reading 2/20/2014

Second Reading 2/27/2014