

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Carmen. Hulu Lindsey, Chairperson
 Mililani Trask, Vice Chairperson
 Dan Ahuna, Trustee Kaua'i & Ni'ihau
 Kaleihikina Akaka, Trustee O'ahu
 Keli'i Akina, Trustee At-Large
 Luana Alapa, Trustee Moloka'i & Lāna'i
 Brickwood Galuteria, Trustee At-Large
 Keoni Souza, Trustee At-Large
 John Waihe'e IV, Trustee At-Large



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

DATE: Friday, August 25, 2023

TIME: 10:00 A.M.

PLACE: Virtual Meeting
 560 N. Nimitz Hwy.
 Honolulu, HI. 96817

Viewable at www.oha.org/livestream Or

Listen by phone: (213) 338-8477, Webinar ID: 846 8624 4111

This virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA's website at www.oha.org/livestream or listened by phone using the call-in information above. A physical meeting location, open to members of the public who would like to provide oral testimony or view the virtual meeting, will be available at 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. New Business
 1. Report of the findings and recommendations of the Permitted Interaction Group to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires, *no discussion*, HRS§92-2.5(b)(1)(B)
- III. Community Concerns and Celebrations*
- IV. Announcements
- V. Adjournment

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact Everett Ohta at (808) 594-1988 or by email at everetto@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.

Meeting materials will be available to the public at least 48-hours prior to the meeting at OHA's main office located at 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817. Meeting materials will also be available to view at OHA's neighbor island offices and will be posted to OHA's website <https://www.oha.org/bot>.

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 are available upon request to BOTmeetings@oha.org until the written meeting minutes are posted to OHA's website.

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, Public Agency Meetings and Records, prohibits Board members from discussing or taking action on matters not listed on the meeting agenda.

†Notice: The 72 Hour rule, pursuant to OHA BOT Operations Manual, Section 49, shall be waived for distribution of new committee materials.

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

Testimony can be provided to the OHA Board of Trustees either as: (1) *written testimony emailed* at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting, (2) *written testimony mailed* and received at least two business days prior to the scheduled meeting, or (3) live, *oral testimony online or at the physical meeting location* during the virtual meeting.

- (1) Persons wishing to provide *written testimony* on items listed on the agenda should submit testimony via email to BOTmeetings@oha.org at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting or via postal mail to Office of Hawaiian Affairs,

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Attn: Meeting Testimony, 560 N. Nimitz Hwy., Suite 200, Honolulu, HI 96817 **to be received at least two business days prior** to the scheduled meeting. Any testimony received after these deadlines will be late testimony and will be distributed to the Board members after the scheduled meeting.

- (2) Persons wishing to provide *oral testimony online* during the virtual meeting must first register at:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_OUijkILSRXe-VDP0cHd9aA

You need to register if you would like to orally testify online. Once you have completed your registration, a confirmation email will be sent to you with a link to join the virtual meeting, along with further instructions on how to provide oral testimony during the virtual meeting.

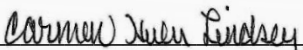
To provide oral testimony online, you will need:

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

Oral testimony by telephone/landline **will not** be accepted at this time. Once your oral testimony is completed, you will be asked to disconnect from the meeting. If you do not sign off 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.

- (3) Persons wishing to provide *oral testimony at the physical meeting location* can sign up the day-of the meeting at the physical meeting location.

Oral testimony online or at a physical meeting location will be limited to five (5) minutes.



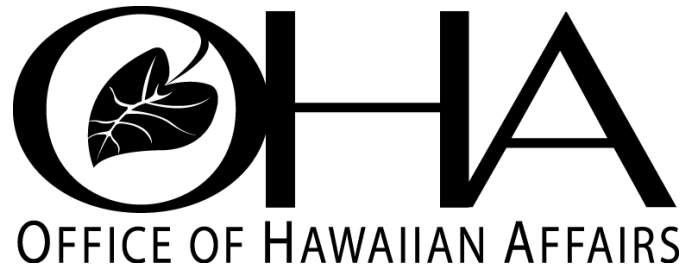
Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

8/17/2023
Date

Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
August 25, 2023
10:00 A.M.

III. New Business

- 1. Report of the findings and recommendations of the Permitted Interaction Group to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires, *no discussion*, HRS§92-2.5(b)(1)(B)**



Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Report of the Permitted Interaction Group to
Investigate Native Hawaiian Community Needs Resulting
from Maui Island Wildfires

August 25 2023

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- A. **Overview.** On August 17, 2023, via Action Item BOT #23-08, the Board of Trustees (“BOT” or “Board”) approved the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (“PIG”)¹ to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires.
- B. **Permitted Interaction Group - Purview.** The purview of the PIG is for the Board of Trustees (BOT or Board), BOT staff and OHA Administration staff to work together to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the recent devastating fires occurring in Maui.
- C. **Permitted Interaction Group – Members.** The membership of the Permitted Interaction Group is proposed as follows: (a) Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey; (b) Trustee Kalei Akaka; (c) Trustee Dan Ahuna; and (d) Trustee Brickwood Galuteria. Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey will serve as the Chair of the Permitted Interaction Group and Trustee Dan Ahuna will serve as its Vice Chair. Casey K. Brown, Ka Pou Nui, functions as the Project Manager.
- D. **Permitted Interaction Group - Term/Duration.** The term of the Permitted Interaction Group expires at the completion of the assigned tasks or at the discretion of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, subject to later adjustment, but in no event later than August 25, 2023.
- E. **PIG Investigation Activities and Related Recommendations.** The PIG convened for three meetings on August 20, August 22, and August 24, 2023 to perform its investigation and assessment the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires. The primary goal of this investigation was to gain a deeper understanding of the impact of the August wildfires on the Native Hawaiian Maui community; to identify OHA role in addressing these impacts; and to report back to the full Board. The PIG members collected information from on-the-ground community leaders and government officials which informed discussions about keeping OHA’s focus on continued assessment, strengthening communications, and creating meaningful public messaging; and supporting the requests by community to allow the relief efforts and needs to be community driven. PIG members also discussed that long-term relief efforts are needed to increase stability and responsible re-building. **The action recommended is to Accept and Implement the Report of the Permitted Interaction Group to investigate Native Hawaiian Community Needs Resulting from Maui Island Wildfires.**
- F. **Report Distribution.** The report distribution is agendized for the August 25, 2023 Board meeting and consistent with past practice, no discussion will be held. Full and free discussion and related Board action(s) are scheduled to be agendized for the Board meeting on August 31, 2023.

II. PERMITTED INTERACTION GROUP WORK

- A. **Purview.** The purview of the PIG is for the Board of Trustees (BOT or Board), BOT staff and OHA Administration staff to work together to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the recent devastating fires occurring in Maui.

¹ Consistent with Hawai‘i Revised Statutes §92-2.5(b)(1)A.

B. Context. The firestorm that tore through the western shores of Maui on Tuesday, August 8, and Wednesday, August 9, 2023, forced the evacuation of more than 2,000 people, according to authorities. Lāhainā, a town of roughly 12,000 people, is virtually destroyed, with many confirmed deaths, and many more missing. Over 1,700 structures have been destroyed, including entire neighborhoods. The U.S. Census Bureau estimates that approximately 2,090 Native Hawaiians, across approximately 360 Native Hawaiian families, reside in this area. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands homestead of Leiali‘i was also impacted by these fires.

In response, OHA BOT scheduled an Emergency Meeting on August 17, 2023, pursuant to Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS) §92-8(a), the BOT found that the August 2023 wildfires affecting Maui and Hawai‘i counties caused a significant loss of life and property and created an imminent peril to public health, safety, and welfare. The unprecedented impacts from the wildfires necessitate a coordinated response from OHA, which was determined to be best facilitated by the formation of a PIG, pursuant to HRS §92-2.5(b)(1), that would immediately begin gathering emerging information about the needs of the community in order to guide an expeditious response from OHA that meets the needs of its beneficiaries directly impacted by the wildfires.

This PIG convened for three meetings on August 20, August 22, and August 24, 2023 to perform its investigation and assessment the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires.

C. Information Gathering. The PIG members collected emerging information from on-the-ground community leaders and government officials on the needs of the community, current resources available, and recommended actions, including:

1. Time and space are requested by community to allow for grieving and healing processes;
2. Lāhainā and the island of Maui have many strong, trusted, and united Native Hawaiian leaders and organizations on the ground. OHA is requested to support these community led and community-controlled disaster relief efforts;
3. An intentional and phased response from OHA is requested to ensure that funding from all donors and contributors is optimized to achieve maximum effectiveness; a well-informed assessment of needs is conducted by community; and OHA funds are deployed to complement existing resources in addressing the continuing and longer-term needs of community;
4. Many resources are currently available and more will need to be deployed in a deliberate and organized fashion to ensure all community needs are met, after comprehensive assessment and resource gap analysis are completed;
5. Leaders and organizations acknowledge OHA’s presence and support and are ready and willing to work with OHA BOT and Administration staff to conduct due diligence and assessment of need and resources on the ground.

D. Immediate OHA Actions. The PIG members identified the needs for immediate OHA actions to focus on:

1. Continued assessment of the on-the-ground needs of and requests from the Maui community and continued assessment of the resources that are available, including Administration staff assessments, individual trustee, and BOT visits to conduct due diligence and ensure OHA actions are targeted to fulfill any remaining gaps in resources.
2. Strengthening communications that are culturally grounded and ensure that OHA's intentions and approach to supporting the long-term and community-driven relief efforts are well known and understood by beneficiaries in Maui and statewide.
3. Sharing meaningful public messages on the historical and cultural strength and resiliency of our Native Hawaiian people in the face of devastating tragedy; as well as our unity, undying hope, and vision of a revitalized Maui community.

E. Long-Term OHA Actions. The PIG members also identified the need for long-term OHA actions to focus our own resources on:

1. Supporting relief efforts that are community led and community controlled. OHA resources have an important role to play in recovery and rebuilding, but the role is supportive of and responsive to community vision and desires, not directive or prescriptive.
2. Long-term relief efforts, so that immediate needs can be met by government agencies that are well experienced in disaster first response. OHA will support Maui communities for the years-long duration of recovery, including advocating for Native Hawaiian rights and culturally driven re-building efforts.
3. Increasing community stability and responsible re-building. In alignment with OHA's Strategic Plan, Mana i Maui Ola, OHA resources will focus on relief efforts that build upon ancestral and existing strengths in the Native Hawaiian Maui communities, including 'ohana, mo'omeheu, and 'āina. These efforts will support the re-building health outcomes, quality housing, economic development, and educational pathways for our Native Hawaiian Maui communities.

F. Recommendation. The PIG makes the following recommendation: **The action recommended is to Accept and Implement the Report of the Permitted Interaction Group to investigate Native Hawaiian Community Needs Resulting from Maui Island Wildfires.**

III. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The following documents are listed as reference documents for report development purposes:

Action Item BOT#23-08: Approve the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires, August 17, 2023.

IV. CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

Consistent with Hawai‘i Revised Statutes §92-2.5(b)(1), on August 17, 2023, via Action Item BOT #23-08, the Board of Trustees approved the formation of a Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) to to investigate and assess the needs, programs, and services necessary to address and meet the needs of Native Hawaiians on Maui as a result of the August wildfires. The report distribution is agendized for the August 25, 2023 Board meeting and consistent with past practice, no discussion will be held. Full and free discussion and related Board actions are scheduled to be agendized for a Board meeting on August 31, 2023.

V. ATTACHMENTS

NONE