

STATE OF HAWAI'I  
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
560 N. Nimitz Highway, Suite 200  
Honolulu, HI 96817

Minutes of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Board of Trustees  
Thursday, May 24, 2018  
10:00 am

**ATTENDANCE:**

TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO  
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA  
TRUSTEE LEINA'ALA AHU ISA  
TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA  
TRUSTEE W. KELI'I AKINA  
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY  
TRUSTEE ROBERT LINDSEY  
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E IV

ROBERT G. KLEIN, ESQ., BOARD COUNSEL

**EXCUSED:**

TRUSTEE PETER APO

**ADMINISTRATION STAFF:**

KAMANA'OPONO CRABBE, CEO  
LISA VICTOR, COO  
MOMILANI LAZO, SR. EA to CEO  
KAWIKA RILEY, ADV  
STERLING WONG, PR  
DAVID LAEHA, CFO  
MEHANA HIND, CE  
ALBERT TIBERI, CC  
JASON LEES, DPM  
JEROME YASUHARA, COMP  
JIM MCMAHON, ADV  
JOCELYN DOANE, PP  
JONATHAN CHING, LAND  
KIA'I LEE, TAPS  
KEITH GUTIERREZ, LPM  
KEONE NAKOA, WDC  
MILES NISHIJIMA, LPD  
MONICA MORRIS, PP

**BOT STAFF:**

CAROL HO'OMANAWANUI  
LÖPAKA BAPTISTE  
DAYNA PA  
LAURENE KALUAU-KEALOHA  
LEHUA ITOKAZU  
ALVIN AKEE  
KAMA HOPKINS  
LADY GARRETT  
MARIA CALDERON  
LIANA PANG  
MAX MUKAI  
MELISSA WENNIHAN  
KAUIKEAOLANI WAILEHUA

**GUESTS:**

SAMSON MALANI  
JOSIAH AKAU  
RICHARD PEZZULO  
CHARLOTTE ROSECRANS  
HEALANI SONODA  
LANDON PAIKAI  
CALVIN HOE  
KEVIN CHANG  
DIANE PALOMA  
WILLIAM AILA  
CHARLENE HOE  
LANCELOT LINCOLN  
ISAAC KAIU

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Colette Machado** Calls the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 10:02 am. Roll call is taken; Trustees Ahu Isa, Ahuna, Akina, Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Robert Lindsey, Waihe'e and Machado are present; constituting a quorum. An excused absence has been received from Trustee Peter APO. Trustee Rowena Akana is expected shortly.

We are going to make some adjustments to the agenda we will be taking out of order the Executive Session identified as VI.A. to consult with Robert Klein and Bill Yuen on the Hi'ilei Aloha LLC and Ho'okele Pono LLC it is identified as Action Item RM 18-05, we will take that first then come back into open session to review the referral from the RM Committee. Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey could you confirm that this is the process we would want to engage in.

**Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey** – I am sorry could you repeat that.

**Chair Colette Machado** – We are going to take executive session prior to coming back to address the Action that came from your RM Committee.

**Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey** – Yes.

*10:03 am Trustee Rowena Akana arrives.*

**Chair Colette Machado** – With that said we will move on the approval of minutes.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. April 26, 2018**

**Trustee Dan Ahuna moves to approve the Board of Trustees minutes dated April 26, 2018.**

**Trustee John Waihe'e IV seconds the motion.**

**Chair Colette Machado** – Any discussion, hearing none roll call vote please.

Trustee Dan Ahuna moves to approve the Board of Trustees minutes dated April 26, 2018. Trustee John Waihe'e IV seconds the motion.						
TRUSTEE	1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE LEINA'ALA AHU ISA			X			
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA	x		X			
TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA					X	
TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA			X			
TRUSTEE PETER APO						Excused
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE ROBERT LINDSEY		x	X			
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E			X			
TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			7		1 abstention	1
MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [ x ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED Motion passed with seven (7) yes votes, one (1) abstention and one (1) excused.						

**III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

**Chair Colette Machado** – We are now on public testimony. At the request of Calvin Hoe from Hakipu'u 'ohana I will be taking him out of order because he actually should be coming under community concerns. But he is a busy man and he would like to get back to school to teach.

**Mr. Calvin Hoe** - I think I am going to introduce myself with a chant. I want to thank you all Trustees for being here and for all your hard work. I want to mahalo everyone who is in the room today for coming to be part of this meeting. My name is Calvin Hoe, I come from Hakipu'u, Ko'olaupoko on this island where I was born at home in 1945 and where my family has lived for hundreds of years.

I want to thank you for letting me talk first. We have a public charter school call Hakipu'u Learning Center and I want to thank you because OHA has been very helpful to the Charter Schools. I have been teaching since 1967 and its very important that we teach the kids but what is interesting to me about Hakipu'u is that is not just a school for kids it about school for all generations because we all have to learn just like the kids. Thank you for your support. Just recently OHA has voted to support us again with something like \$3 million and I think it very worth the funding.

I want to talk about OHA because my wife was in the 1978 constitution convention with John's father. That is how this office came about. It was an office needed. I think it's still needed now even more so because where are we going, who is going to lead us there. Awesome responsibility. I hope all of us even though we are not elected we will all help. I've watched OHA from its inception and being put together and its had its ups and downs. That is regular, people from the outside have criticized us for not being organized always fighting. Everyone is like that, look at the United States Government.

I think some, maybe we call it guiding principles. Number one, Aloha. I am lucky because my tutu man, his name was Daniel Kealoha. My mother was Lucy Kealoha. My family aloha. I've been a community activist from the early 70's. We had to stand up and in recent years, I went to the Mauna Kea rally in Hilo I was very pleased Manu Meyer. They were talking about this idea, it's not new called Kapu Aloha. In leadership it is very important that you approach with aloha. You all have aloha, just no forget bring it up. The challenges that we have as a lāhui people can be addresses to our system called ho'oponopono. We can disagree. My wife and I are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this year. It is not like every day honky dory, everyday going get new challenges, but you work it out. Still lucky going celebrate it 50. But that is kind of what we have to do. We can disagree, but we can come to agreements through a process ho'oponopono we can all come together and work things out.

Mahalo for your support for education. All of our education that is what I see at Hakipu'u, how to live on an island, how to live in an ahupua'a, a place. Kamana'o, me and his family has been doing things together for a long time. His brothers and sisters were my students when I was teaching at Kamehameha. He has always been for our cause, maybe he makes mistake, I don't know about all of you, but I make plenty mistake too and we can work it out. I just want to mahalo Kamana'o and I've watched him in the health field and he has worked with my brother in ai pono to better the health of our community. He helps in Hakipu'u. Also planning for the future of our culture in Hakipu'u and Kualoa Park. Good Stuff. I know I talk to long already I going try close in about half hour.

Before I do I want to again, I got to see Lindsey on Maui and I thanked her for her hard work and all of you too. Sometimes not receiving any appreciation. I don't need the rest of the half hour. I just want to say Mahalo nui and lets all work together. Mahalo.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Thank you Cal. Our next speaker is Samson Malani and Youth. Representing Hi'ilei Youth Build.

**Mr. Samson Malani** – Thank you all for having me. Aloha, my name is Samson Malani. Something struck me on the way here and I want to share it. Capacity building, I never heard of that term in my whole life, I didn't even know what it meant. Then I learned what it was by seeing the actions of Mona Bernardino and Hi'ilei Aloha. To me watching them and their team and how they helped us defines capacity building. Now I understand what it is through their actions. We are a testament to that, our program under Hi'ilei Aloha, I'd like to introduce you to Youth Build Waimanalo. Right here is all the young people that stand before you.

Our program gives the youth a second chance. All of them have been deemed at risk by Government institutions and organizations that have passed some of them to us. They are not at risk; they just learn different. What I've learned by working with them is that the traditional system fails in many places. The traditional system has a hard time grasping and understanding alternate methods of teaching that can reach out and help these young people. Six months from now the people you see here standing are all going to have a GED for those that do not have a High School diploma, they are all going to have a post-secondary credit if they do have a High School diploma and they are all going to have built a house, at least one house from the ground up, from the foundation all the way up to the roof. They are going to have touched every piece of the build out, planning, blue prints, everything.

The most important thing is rather than let me speak for them I think allowing them to speak for themselves is important. Because we are a purpose driven program. Every one of them when they entered our program had to create a purpose for why they are there. It keeps them on track, coming to class everyday even if they carry a trash bag with a pillow and blanket, bare foot, walking from the beach out of a tent to come to our class and show up on time, these boys are here every single day, and girls and they are very hungry. Most of them are houseless, most of them were on ice when they first came to us. So we know dealing with them, we know that we can teach them. Their second, third chance we still got hope. These guys are our testament to that. Hi'ilei without their help wouldn't be possible. This is capacity building at its best. They all created their purpose, those that didn't have a purpose they adopted our general purpose, which is Kinai 'Eha which is to extinguish pain or end suffering. I'd like to introduce you to my partner, brother, Josiah Akau who can speak further on that. Mahalo.

**Mr. Josiah Akau** – Aloha, me speaking is really not important that are in need of a lot of help. Homeless, drugs, they will show you what Kinai 'Eha is in action not in words.

*All the youth participants introduce themselves (audio indiscernible)*

Thank you all for giving us extra time. Thank everybody. I never asked anybody for help when creating this. But Mona Bernardino and Hi'ilei reached out and helped me fund the nonprofit and help us gain Youth Build so that we could have the backing from more people. Aloha.

So the grant that we got with Hi'ilei, is a Federal Grant, Department of Labor Grant. That is the only help we really wanted. With them and their help it really solidifies that everybody can achieve anything. Instead of working against them we try to work with them. Now they can get real credentials for real construction work and join the unions. If anybody wants to know more we are 100% transparent, you can always drop in come and see us anytime, everyone is welcome. We let the youth take video and they put it on their social media. It is 100% real. Waimanalo Youth Build and Kinai 'Eha. Aloha.

**Trustee Keli'i Akina** – Aloha mai to all of you, I want to say that you have truly touched my heart today. All of you youth, you leaders, you are napua o Hawaii, you are the future, the flowers of Hawaii. You've reminded me of my first career for 31 years, full time I did what you did starting in Waianae Coast, Nānākuli, I was the director of youth for Christ and I poured my life into young men and women as you are doing. I want to say you have my prayers and you have my complete support that the work that is being done by Hi'ilei youth here will continue and grow strong. You make us proud to be OHA, to be part of what you are doing. We will fight to preserve your resources and help you to grow. More than that we will be watching you become the leaders of Hawaii tomorrow. Aloha, you have my full support, Aloha.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – I just want to add to that, a very impressive program. Let me ask about the Federal Grant, how long is it for? And when did it start?

**Mr. Malani** – It is for three years, it started in 2017.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – Do you have the ability to renew the grant to continue?

**Mr. Malani** – Yes, hopefully. We are trying to sustain ourselves the best we can in case we don't have that.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – The sustainability of the programs is important.

**Mr. Malani** - There are so many people who want to enter.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** - Do you have a waiting list?

**Mr. Malani** – Right now we have a bunch of people that want to come in so we are developing different cohorts. This is our first that you see right here. We have more but they weren't able to come.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – I want to commend all of you for taking the time to come here and talk to us. It is very important, there is nothing like meeting the people who are part of the program so that we know that is working. Thank you so much for your commitment and good luck to all of you. Just remember that whatever trade you go into, if your parents ever have to call a plumber and know how much it costs or an electrician not everyone is college bound and the trades are very, very important. Good luck to you and god bless each of you.

**Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa** – I used to be the budget director for Honolulu Community College, so I understand how important it is for the trades. Because we had everything from plumbing, sheet metal welding and all of our kids, they all got good jobs and they also became creative inventors. Our welding shop they made those roses, made out of roses and were selling them. Congratulations on your GED. That is great.

**Mr. Malani** – The credential is an NCCRE, it's National Center of Construction Research, Education, that is the credential that they will get to be able to place them in the union of their choosing.

**Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey** – I'd like to congratulate these young men for making the effort to make that change that is so important for the future of their lives. Mahalo nui to both of you for taking care of this program. In Maui we have a similar program in Hana and it is extremely successful and it's been in existence for quite a few years. It's basically around boys that don't want to go to school and similar activities as these young men here but their lives have been turned around just magically. So I'd like to give you this book Maka Hana ka Ike program in Hana that describes the program and showcases many pictures. I think it would be very endearing to your haumana here.

**Mr. Malani**- Thank you.

**Trustee Dan Ahuna** – Thank you all for being here. I want to thank Mona Bernardino and she works with our LLCs and I feel she is doing a great job too. I want to thank her for helping you guys. Before I moved to Kauai, I used to live in Poalima street, I know what goes on. I love all you guys, I love what you guys do, I love the way you speak, I love the way you guys are out here with your hard hats, I thought you guys were union workers. For me what I found out is, I always want to tighten gaps and I want to give everyone something little to take home. When I talk about the gaps, I talk about the acronym G.A.P. The reason why I am saying this is because you guys talked about purpose. G.A.P. – the first letter "G" you got to have a goal in life. You all have that. The second one is more important and that is having a great attitude. That is the beginning to everything in life. The last one is P, perseverance and you guys are all capable, you have to stay strong, be very strategic in how they are structuring your learning and I think this program is going to be very successful. I like commend you guys, Mahalo.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Our next speaker is Richard Pezzulo.

**Mr. Richard Pezzulo** – Aloha, tough group to follow, I hope I can touch a few hearts here. In a way I am sorry I have to be here today. I would much rather be in the valley doing my job but I feel I need to provide you with some information because I know you are going to be making some important decisions in relation to the LLC structure, and managers. I want to make three points.

The first point is that the currently LLC structure is working very well for Hi'ipaka. I have not made Hi'ipaka or Waimea Valley a success on my own. It comes from the support I get from above, and I am not talking about the almighty, and all the staff and employees that are working below me. Of course that support from above comes from Hi'ilei Aloha and Mona. She provides a number of services to Hi'ipaka, including organizing all of our insurance needs in dealing with our insurance carriers whenever we have issues. Hi'ilei maintains our accounting system and our licensing for that. She also arranges all of our annual audits, coordinates that and the most important thing she does is she provides me with high level feedback and review. When I am looking at changing a policy or developing a procedure, or writing a grant or having an HR issue I go to Mona first before I go to the managers. She is a set of eyes, a sounding board for me and that is very valuable to me as the Executive Director. I receive a lot of support from the managers. The managers provide guidance with my strategic planning and my day to day operations. They approve and monitor the strategic plan and annual work plans that I work off of everyday and over the long term. They approve my annual budget and any realignments that I need. They also approved my capital budget. This year our capital budget is around \$700,000. So it's not small budget.

Another very important function is that they approve any emergency funding that I need. Believe me, we are prone to natural disasters. We had a major flood last year and even this year and old abandoned well on our property turned into a sink hole. So I need to go back to the managers because I have a budget, I have a capital budget that's approved, if I need any additional funding I need to go back to the managers and usually it would be done through phone calls, or email. Quickly get it approved so I can move forward. I also meet with the managers every month. Once a month we meet, they provide me with feedback, we review financials, they provide me feedback on operations and my financial performance. Again, this model is working, its working well.

The second point I'd like to make is, if the Trustees strongly feel they need to change the structure it should be done in a planned and organized way. If it's not, it could leave Hi'ipaka in a situation where I will not be able to fully operate. My check signing authority is limited to \$10,000. I also wouldn't have anybody to approve for these emergencies as they come up. Believe me, they come up regularly. It's not just the natural disasters, something happens to one of the pumps that cost \$20,000 for sewage treatment plant, if we don't get that taken care of immediately the valley closes down. Again even the natural disasters, we are prone to rock slides, floods, sink holes now. So that support I need to have it in place otherwise we could probably stay open but we are not going to be able to fully operate. If we do have an emergency probably close down.

The last point I'd like to make and I know this is a sensitive topic but I feel I need to put this on record. I really believe that no matter how many audits, how many investigations are conducted you are not going to find any misdealings which is a word I hear often. You are not going to find fraud, you are not going to find any criminal activity, not going to find any dishonestly, none of that will be discovered I can guarantee that. I tell you that what this does to the organization is it distracts us from what we need to do and its demoralizing. It makes me feel like I am a criminal. It makes my staff feel like they are criminals and they are doing something wrong. It really impacts how we operate. I try my best to convince my staff not to worry, I'm not going to jail, they are not investigating me. But there is so much noise, so much negative noise out there that it has an impact.

I hope this information that I provide, because I am sure, maybe some of it you heard, maybe some of it you haven't heard, but I hope you take it to heart that you can use it in making this really important decision. Finally, I have some testimonial that I'd like to distribute. These are testimonials from community members for both Hi'ilei and Hi'ipaka. Thank you very much. Aloha.

*(Set of testimony is attached to minutes. These are the same testimonies that Chair will read into record.)*

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – Good morning Richard. It's nice to see your friendly face. Richard since you went out to Waimea that place has flourished. You have done an excellent job. I think every Trustee on this table will say that. We really believe that with all our hearts that you have done a fantastic job. The reason that the audit came up is because it is not a punishment, it's not supposed to be let's look for the worst. It is the responsibility of all the Trustees to take care of the trust. The LLCs are a part of us. So an audit since the time of the creation of the LLCs

have never taken place it is something that has to be done. It is not an investigation on individuals, at least is it not supposed to be. So that is the responsibility that we have. That is something that just has to happen. We get audited all the time. We do our own audit, the State Audits us, it's just a fact of life. When you manage money you need to be audited.

Secondly I want to say that the management structure is very important but when these LLCs were formed and I was a Trustee then, on Kauai when we looked at what the structure was going to look like, because we had purchased Waimea and the Board was not fully aware of all of the responsibilities we had no board set up for the LLC of Waimea. The attorney who handled the LLC creation along with our administration at that time said temporarily we should have our Administrator, our CFO and another officer of OHA take the helm. But it was never, never supposed to be permanent arrangement. Since that time OHA has never made the change. With the present audits from the State it's a reality that the management of OHA cannot manage the LLCs. There is no division between them and us and the LLCs. The LLCs is supposed to be separate so that there is veil between us and them. OHA is the Trust, they are administrators of OHA. They should not be managing the LLCs. This has been told to us over and over and over again. So it's so long overdue and with this latest audit pointing it out even more this is why this has to change. I agree with you that.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Excuse me Trustee Akana do you have a question for Richard.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – Well I am just explaining that because he made some statements I want to explain to him that this is not a punishment of any kind. It is a big responsibility for them to be the managers of the LLCs and also manage OHA. There is a conflict between that and our attorneys have pointed that out. This is why we are moving to do this. It has been advised and that is the advice we have taken from our counsel.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Thank you Akana.

**Mr. Pezzulo** – May I respond?

**Chair Colette Machado** – Not really Richard. You have anything else to your testimony? Our next speaker is Charlotte Rosecrans.

**Ms. Charlotte Rosecrans** – Aloha, I'm a licensed electrician here in Hawaii, I just got my contractors back in 2015. My family originates from my grandfather's side from Waihee Valley Maui, my grandmothers side is from Kohala and I have been residing on Oahu in Wahiawa for about 15 years. I've been a single mom since 2007. I got my journeyman's license back in 2006, I got my contractor's license back in 2015. I found Hi'ilei Aloha two weeks before they got their grant. They helped me incorporate into an LLC and gave me the information and situations of what I needed such as operating agreement, business plan, structuring the corporation status, funding for the marketing, branding logo. As a single parent it is hard to make it in Hawaii doing it individually. I just had a couple of things I wanted to say that I was going through.

Things that came to my heart as to what Hi'ilei has done for me especially Mona being the head of this game. Which was the blessings come to those who persist in doing good. I have to say that, that program is pouhana to me. I constantly depend on them for leadership guidance and help. To persevere in everyday life. I just want to say that they are so worth it and willing to go out there into the everyday joes, the commoners to succeed and make prosperous the next generations to come. Thank you for your time and have a great day.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Our next speaker is Healani Sonoda-Pale.

**Ms. Healani Sonoda-Pale**- Aloha Trustees, I am here on behalf of myself and my 'ohana. I was part of the march. We marched from Kamehameha statue today to here. I participated in the march because as a kanaka I have real concerns about the future of OHA. Real concerns, especially after the audit and the FBI investigation came out. We all know the good work that you go. You guys funded the Charter Schools, all these great work that you are

doing with the youth. But the audit and the FBI investigation is putting the foundation of OHA at risk. It's the actions that's been going on for the past years that have called attention to the FBI to come to OHA. I mean that is a serious thing, The Federal Bureau of Investigation. Just my concern over that as a beneficiary and knowing that the data, when you look at the data of kanaka maoli we are at the bottom of pretty much every statistic and we don't seem to be climbing.

So over the past years OHA has increase the spending significantly. You look at the check registers, I mean \$50 million going out in one year, more than doubling it in 10 years and this is a concern because where is that money going. The way that the money was spent is of concern and how it is being used. I feel we need to address more of the needs of the kanaka maoli, the day to day needs. I want to just address the agenda item, that is up today, V.A.1. Action Item RM 18-05, I think this is a step in the right direction. You all know I monitor OHA and over a year ago we were here pushing for an internal audit of OHA because we wanted a lot more transparency where these monies are going and we elect the Trustees to manage our monies. You folks are ultimately responsible for these monies. From what I know the LLCs have not been forth coming or transparent about where they're spending their monies and I feel that this is a step in the right direction in terms of you folks overseeing where the monies are going. I want to mahalo Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey on that for taking the lead on that. I also wanted to ask what is the update on the internal audit. It's been over a year since you approved it and we have been waiting for that as well. We wanted a real details audit of the spending, it's our money, we want to know where the monies are going. Because every day we go out in the community and we see kanaka on the street, houseless, you guys are doing a lot of great work. If you doubled your spending, you should be doing double the work. You should be actually addressing more of the needs of our people. Also an update on the FBI investigation. My mana'o is this, it's the actions that have taken place in OHA that have put OHA at risk. Yes, we are here holding signs. Yes, we marched here there is a lot of discussion out there. But what we have done is nothing compared to what has been done at OHA that has caused the FBI to come here and investigate this organization. Putting not just you folks at risk but the programs, our Charter schools' monies.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Healani, I have to correct you because we haven't been subpoena by the FBI just the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. I cannot tell you, they claim it is a joint investigation but we have not been served individually by the FBI.

**Ms. Sonoda-Pale** – Thank you for that. In my last letter I did ask for some information on that but I never received.

**Chair Colette Machado** – I ask you refrain from the FBI because we are not involved with any full knowledge of the FBI investigation. Just with the Attorney General of the State of Hawaii.

**Ms. Sonoda-Pale** – Got it, the Attorney General Investigation.

**Chair Colette Machado** – The AG investigation.

**Ms. Sonoda-Pale** – E kala mai, correction, thank you. That was just my mana'o and I hope you do move forward with that. I want to mahalo the Trustees that have been working to try to get OHA little bit more transparent, Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Trustee Keli'i Akina and Trustee Rowena Akana. Aloha.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Our next speaker if Landen Paikai.

**Mr. Landen Paikai** – Aloha and good morning Trustees. Couple of things I know I will be speaking latter in community concerns so I just wanted to address the LLCs issue. Thank you Trustee Rowena Akana for answering some of my questions. With that said, I did speak before about OHA being at the forefront of situations like this with the audit. Being out in the forefront telling people what you do not waiting for two months after the audit was done to show the support. Because OHA does great work in the community. You have these LLCs set up to cut through the red tape for the most part because as a State Agency there are a lot of red tape things that you have to



go through. Procurement is one of them. Now, Richard spoke about emergency funds being needed part of that is cannot be addressed at the table all the time because you guys meet as a board twice a month. A lot of the things that he needs to be done has to be done when it happens. For me the question that remains is, the people or the people that you bring on to manage the LLCs going forward is that a paid position? It is, ok. I guess that is something that we need to be made aware of as beneficiaries because that's less money that is being handed out to our beneficiaries. Don't get me wrong it's great to have this veil to have that separation between the Trust and the LLCs, I believe they were doing it with no pay. Making this change now we're kind of rolling into something else by giving out more money. That's the main question. Again, today proves that OHA does great work it's time for use to move forward, I'm really tired of hearing people's needs not being met and people marching, feeling that they have to march and protest because they don't feel we are being transparent as a Trust. It is really important for us to make sure we are doing what we can using social media, using public relations with the media, with news outlets to ensure the general public knows that we are doing great things for the lāhui. And that we are building up instead of always tearing down. Its burdensome. I walk through the halls here and its dead. The morale is down we need to spark that morale and the opportunities that you provide here will incite those changes for our people. Let's continue to do what we do, move forward and prosper. Thank you.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Our next speaker is William Aila. He asked to be taken out of order.

**Mr. William Aila** – Aloha and mahalo for the opportunity. Chair and Trustees, I really came just to cover two subjects. They involve the \$14 million that are on social media. So \$3 million of that \$14 million comes to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands as part of a bond memorandum of agreement. I just would like to remind OHA that, that funding is critical to the development of lots, the development of homes on Hawaiian Home Lands. Have the Trustees understand that we acknowledge that the \$3 million is a significant amount of money coming out of OHA's budget to support DHHL. Just report that in recognition of that in the timing of the ability to refinance bonds and I know Jobie sent this information to you folks just a reminder, we renegotiated the bonds so that there would be 7 years shaved off of the bond issue resulting in a \$20 million savings for Office of Hawaiian Affairs. I want people in the audience to understand that this partnership is a great partnership resulting in a people actually living in homes. Hawaiians being in homes and a fact that is often lost on a lot of folks is when these Hawaiians get into homes that home becomes the opportunity to build wealth.

That home now has value. That home now can be borrowed against to provide the children of that lessee with an opportunity to go to college, to pay for medical costs. This asset that, of course does not include the land, but includes the home in and of itself affords our people to build wealth. There is not a lot of understanding of this opportunity that is out there. They just think we just give people's homes, but that opportunity to build wealth, the opportunity to help their family and help their community.

The other issue that I would like to say somethings about is the World Conservation Congress because I was the Chairman of the Department of Land and Natural Resources at the time that we did put in the bid for the World Conservation Congress. The critical money that OHA put in to that budget and the results of that money being put in to the budget was not just more the pomp and circumstance, it provided, OHA was the only agency at the time that could speak to cultural issues. As the Chair of the Department of Land and Natural Resources I could not speak to cultural issues. I had at that time I had much broader responsibilities and much broader mission. OHA was the only one who could share with the world what in indigenous Hawaiian Cultural issues were and how they relate to the problems of dealing with climate change, the problems with dealing with sea level rise, the problems of dealing with the separation of environment and indigenous knowledge. So I want to thank you. I don't think we have done enough to share that with the world, the impacts of OHA's contribution to the World Conservation Congress. I will share with you the one thing that I think is priceless that occurred after the World Conservation Congress, it was the most number of counties attended, it was the most people that ever attended, it was the most intense, the most resolutions that were introduced. All of that it was tremendous success. But the real success that OHA played in the World Conservation Congress was the rest of the world now speaks, understand and wants to replicate this simple phrase, we went from cultural resources, environmental resources to bio cultural resources. That you cannot separate the kuleana for the land from the people. Your contribution and OHA's leadership

provided to the rest of the world and actually ignited in the rest of the world's indigenous populations this idea that we do count, that we do have value and that we are going to advocate at that level for better changes in the world. It occurred at the same time that Mālama Honua voyage was going around the world, it occurred at the same time and it provided the leadership for that. It provided the leadership for the expansion of Paphānaumokuākea, and the elevation of OHA from monument management board to a co-Trustee. I just want to explain that all of these added value, came about because of your contribution and because of your leadership. People around the world are saying bio cultural resources. For me personally that was the level of success. If we can talk about not separating environment from cultural we are going to have much better decision making and we are going to have much better understanding of how to solve today's problems. I just wanted to share that with you.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – Thank you William. When you came here with Jobie to talk about what our \$3 million do for Hawaiian Homes, it really wasn't clear to the board that our \$3 million was actually paying for homes. In fact, we weren't even sure if it was paying for infrastructure. With the State Audit showing that Hawaiian Homes monies were so confusing that when our consultants looked at it they weren't sure either where OHA's \$3 million was going. I questioning now your statement about our \$3 million going for actually putting people in homes. You want to explain.

**Mr. Aila** – I think on April 30<sup>th</sup> Jobie provided a presentation as well as a spreadsheet on all of the projects, individual projects, I'm not sure if that was made available to you. But I know that its available, you will see all the projects broken out State wide where the \$3 million in bond fund payments that OHA has agreed to do for us has allowed infrastructure mainly all over the State of Hawaii resulting in the recent lot awards in upper Maui, will result in awards being made on Kauai latter this year as well as on Lanai before the end of the year. You have to have what is called the pipeline. The pipeline has to be primed before you can get to the point to put a house on the lot. A lot goes to providing, a good example that people will never consider is there is a water tank on the hill just below the freeway, that was part of the offsite improvements that the Department has to make in order to build out the rest of Kapolei. So east Kapolei phases 1 and 2. So we put in our share of the infrastructure costs which now allow us the secondary infrastructure costs which now we just made an offering of 40 homes two months ago. These are turnkey homes in east Kapolei. Its real, the benefits of OHA's contribution is real, we understand the impacts that it has on your budget which is why we worked very hard with bond rating companies to renegotiate those bonds which will result in it instead of being 30 years it will be 23 years and the cost saving of about \$20 million over the last seven years to OHA.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – Well let's hope we get to discuss that at an RM meeting more thoroughly.

**Mr. Aila** – Yes, Jobie has offered any time.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – I'm talking about the reduction of the 30 to the 23 because we would like to hear that. We are paying the debt service of those bonds, if we were to invest that money we would make about \$200 million over the length of time that we have allowed Hawaiian Homes to use OHA money. Really we need to look at this at another time. This is not the venue.

**Chair Colette Machado** – It is not.

**Trustee Rowena Akana** – I just want to say to you that it was important for at least the audience to understand that our \$3 million really don't go to building houses. It is the bases by which you use the bond monies for what you do. We are actually paying your debt services.

**Mr. Aila** – You pay the debt service so we can create infrastructure that Hawaiians can build homes and build wealth over time.

**Trustee Dan Ahuna** – It helps to put Hawaiians in Homes.

**Trustee John Waihe'e IV** – I just wanted to say, in my opinion I feel like the auditors mischaracterized the money to DHHL and the money to Charter Schools. I think they mischaracterized them as unsolicited grants because whenever you move money between State Agencies its exempt from procurement and that's the States own law.

**Mr. Aila** – Someone said earlier that the complexity of being a quasi-State agency makes it very difficult to communicate. Coming from DHHL which is a State Agency which has different expectation by different beneficiaries, it is very difficult to explain how things have to be done and how things get done.

**Trustee John Waihe'e IV** – This is the first time in the History where I saw a transfer of money between State Agencies labeled as unsolicited grant. It is very suspicious.

**Chair Colette Machado** – We are going to move on I would like to go on record as saying that we have received testimony regarding RM 18-05 on our agenda.

Opposition testimony from:

Mililani Trask  
Germaine Meyers

We have received supporting testimony from:

Rebecca Justine Iolani Soon (Solutions Pacific)  
Kathleen Pahinui  
Bill Quinlan  
Elena Farden  
Aunty Betty Jenkins  
Kawika and Yuko Buchanan (Pa'a Pono Design)  
Jodi Akau (Tiare Breeze)  
Eileen Hirota (Liliuokalani Protestant Church)  
Ku'uileilanimekealohamau Kaho'ano  
Kekoa Enomoto (Pa'upena Community Development Inc.)  
Peter Hanohano (Hawaii Pasifika)  
Allen and Lisa Ann Kahalewai (Kahalewai Inc.)  
Bob Leinau  
Greg Pietsch (Sunset Ranch Hawaii)

(Please note that the testimonies from the individuals above were made available to the Trustees prior to the BOT meeting. Testimonies in support were also distributed by Richard Pezzulo when he addressed the board. All have been listed as an attachment)

That concludes Public Testimony, the Chair would like to turn it over to Kamana'opono Crabbe.

**Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa** – Chair I wanted to answer Mililani's letter.

**Chair Colette Machado** – No this is not the time. Without her here I wouldn't agree to allow that to take place. Just for the record it is on top there. We are now on IV. Unfinished Business CEO's update.

#### **IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### **A. CEO's 15-Minute Update on Ho'oulu Lāhui Aloha and OHA Activities**

**Kamana'opono Crabbe** – Mahalo Chair and good morning Trustees and to the rest of the beneficiaries. My first announcement I wanted to introduce our new Washington DC Chief, please welcome Keoni Nako. As you know unfortunately Codi Haia was our previous Chief but she was recruited by Senator Hirono's office and now is the

DC Chief of Staff. We are honored to have Keoni as part of our team, he is a graduate of Iolani School and attended Harvard University. After he received his degree from Cambridge University he moved to Washington DC and worked for Senator Daniel K. Akaka for several years on policy and communication issues. With the retirement of the Senator he moved back home to earn his MBA as well as JD from the University of Hawaii School of Law. So we have a very well qualified individual who actually has agreed to take the job and move from warm country to very climatic conditions and we look forward to working with him in the future. He is here for training and when he is done he will be flying out to Washington DC.

**Trustee Leina‘ala Ahu Isa** – I just wanted to welcome Keoni.

**Kamana‘opono Crabbe** – Just really quickly we are having our ‘āina summit being held at the end of June. Kokokahi YWCA. It is co-sponsored by OHA, KS and DLNR. Lastly, Timmy Wailehua, who was the former Native Hawaiian Loan Fund Manager unfortunately left us he moved to First Hawaiian Bank he is going to be the VP for a Mortgage program and it’s a very good job for him. It was based on the work he has done for the NHRLF program. We are transitioning to a management position; we’ve been in discussion with the Administration for Native Americans. What I want to reiterate, we submitted about 2 or 3 years ago a business plan that they have approved. We are in the second year we will finish it in 2019 with specific targets and goals. What I want to emphasize is that there is a new appointed commissioner for ANA by President Trump. Kawika and Keoni will be monitoring that. The reason that is important because the current administration and the previous commissioner we worked really hard and their commitment for our business plan to be accepted. And if we meet our target goals they are committed to releasing us from ANA that is contingent upon the new commission coming in. We have been quick successful when we implemented the business plan, we reduced our default from 33 now it’s down to 12, hopefully in the next couple months we will get down to single digit. We just had a meeting with First Hawaiian Bank who also recognized the work that we are doing. That’s it for announcements.

## **VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Chair Colette Machado** – We are now on item VI. Executive Session. Members I would like a motion to recuse ourselves into Executive Session pursuant to 92-5 (a)(4) to consult with our board attorney.

**Trustee Dan Ahuna motions to move into Executive Session Pursuant to HRS§92-5(a)(4).**

**Trustee Robert Lindsey seconds the motion.**

**Chair Colette Machado** – It has been moved and seconded any disuccssion? Hearing none, roll call vote please.

Trustee Dan Ahuna motions to move into Executive Session Pursuant to HRS§92-5(a)(4).  
Trustee Robert Lindsey seconds the motion.

TRUSTEE	1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE LEINA'ALA AHU ISA		X	X			
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA	x		X			
TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA			X			
TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA			X			
TRUSTEE PETER APO						Excused
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE ROBERT LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E			X			
TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1

MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [ x ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED  
Motion passed with eight (7) YES votes, and one (1) excused.

The Board resolved into Executive Session at 11:21 am.

- A. Consultation with Board Counsel Robert G. Klein, Esq. and William Yuen, Esq. on OHA's powers, privileges and liabilities regarding OHA's role as member of Hi'ilei Aloha LLC and Ho'okele Pono LLC, and Action Item RM #18-05. Pursuant to HRS § 92-5(a)(4).
- B. Consultation with Board Counsel Robert G. Klein, Esq. re: questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities regarding Civil No. 17-1-1823-11 JPC, OHA v. State, et. al. Pursuant to HRS § 92-5(a)(4).
- C. Approval of Minutes
  - 1. March 22, 2018
  - 2. April 26, 2018

The Board reconvenes into Open Session at 12:02 pm.

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

Chair Colette Machado – We are now back in open session. We will proceed to V. New Business. I would like to call on Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey.

- 1. Action Item RM 18-05: Approval to accept resignation of OHA executives as managers of OHA LLCs, to implement a transition plan to streamline and downsize LLC operations, and to recruit a replacement LLC manager.

Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey moves to authorize OHA Administration to assess the feasibility, timing, and downsizing of the current LLC operations structure, and to develop a transition plan to replace existing LLC managers, and report back to the RM Committee by June 30, 2018

Trustee John Waihe'e IV seconds the motion.

Chair Colette Machado – It has been moved and seconded, any discussion.

Trustee Dan Ahuna – I just want to say one thing, the reason why I asked so much questions about the LLCs is because my staff got targeted and I didn't like the concerns that some Trustees said about my staff and I don't think it was the proper thing to say. I even asked if there was anything criminal or anything wrong. There is

nothing wrong about anything that was going on with the LLCs and no one said anything on this table. My only concern was, when things like this happen we need to support the people who work here. We need to support our staff, we need to support everybody, we cannot be talking nonsense about things. That is all I have to say, but I am going to be supporting this.

**Chair Colette Machado** – Roll call vote please.

Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey moves to authorize OHA Administration to assess the feasibility, timing, and downsizing of the current LLC operations structure, and to develop a transition plan to replace existing LLC managers, and report back to the RM Committee by June 30, 2018						
Trustee John Waihe'e IV seconds the motion.						
TRUSTEE	1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE LEINA'ALA AHU ISA			X			
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA		x	X			
TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA			X			
TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA			X			
TRUSTEE PETER APO						Excused
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE ROBERT LINDSEY	x		X			
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E			X			
TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO			X			
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			8			1 excused
MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [ x ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED						
Motion passed with eight (8) yes votes and one (1) excused.						

**VII. COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

**Chair Colette Machado** – Members I will be leaving the table and the Vice- Chair will be convening the remaining portion which is the community concerns.

*12:05 pm Chair Colette Machado leaves the meeting.*

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – We are now going to Community Concerns. First up we have Kevin Chang followed by Diane Paloma.

**Mr. Kevin Chang** - Aloha everybody. My name is Kevin Chang I know some of you I used to be the land manager here at OHA. Left at the same time as Administrator Namuo to work for an organization called KUA, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo which means grassroots growing through shared responsibilities. Our acronym means backbone; we were created to serve as a backbone by next works of Kua'āina groups engaged in mālama 'āina work. So we current facility a network of about 40 communities across the State involved in things like fishery management, ahupua'a management, education and advocacy. We also facilitate the Hui Mālama Loko Ia which is a network of fishpond restoration activities about 40 projects across the State and the Limu Hui which is a group of mostly kupuna concerned with limu practices and restoration.

I've been doing that for 6 years. Before I did that work I worked here at Land Management. One of the things we did under the Namuo administration was to pursue more active participation and the bringing of the World Conservation Congress to Hawaii. That included making OHA and affiliate and helping advocate holding that here in Hawaii. That was while I was here I was part of that. When I left I continued to engage in that because I thought it was an important effort to connect our Kua'āina communities, not so much our policy makers and

decision makers, but the people on the ground doing the work to see and to interact and to be inspired by the fact that indigenous communities across the world are doing this. They are taking care of and control of the management of their place. In their place with each other and their governments. I just wanted you to know OHA has been involved in this effort for much more time than just the 2016 event.

I wanted to talk about some of the benefits. I realized I should come here and tell you this. I left my home I was packing this morning because I am leaving tomorrow to go to Halifax Nova Scotia with three other community member to talk about what Hawaiians are doing to change Hawaii through management of their own place. They are going to say this on seven different panels to 450 researchers and indigenous leaders from across the world to say what Hawaiians are doing for our community. That's because of the World Conservation Congress. But leading to the congress we brought our networks together in hale aha punaluu in the Koolauloa region to camp for 4 days about a 100 rural Hawaiian community members, leaders, with indigenous researchers and practitioners across the world for 4 days. They built walls around the fishpond, they planted limu, they shared genealogical stories and cultural practices. You know what they did, they headed together hand in hand into the World Conservation Congress. They sat at the front with the Governor to greet the boats that came in from around Polynesia. We printed 2,000 copies of the Kumulipo and took it in there and gave it to everybody. They took those copies and we walked in to the Pacific Island Forum where Kamana'o gave a really good uniting talk and they took that and they put it in the hands of almost all pacific island leaders to take home with them, the Kumulipo and the story of the queen.

Our people went into the Congress and they debated and negotiated 2 resolutions that they contributed to. One which we actually drafted together. It passed on the Congress floor in front of the entire world. They debated that on the floor in front of the entire world. They passed two motions, they are now resolutions of the IUCN. One of those resolutions is about community based management in Hawaii. The second resolution, says not just for Hawaii but for the World that indigenous communities, their knowledge and their practices should be respected, learned about, understood, and integrated into the way that we manage our natural resources. Bill was talking about that bio cultural resources. They actually got into rooms with heads of government to negotiate issues around conservation in the ocean and the land even when it wasn't in Hawaii but would affect the indigenous people throughout the world. They sat in those rooms our community members did that.

We sent 100 of those people to the congress. Since then, in fact the IUCN right now is writing a letter that they will be sending to you as well as our Governor in regards to community based management and community based subsistence fishing areas. They are sending out a letter now regarding those motions. Since then KUA my organization has become a member of the IUCN first indigenous people's organizations that work has taken the stories of communities of Hawaii into Guatemala, in to Uganda, into Delhi, into Tahiti, we were flown to Tahiti on behalf of the European Union to talk to the Tahitian community about restoring their traditional ways of managing their fisheries. Just this last February, KUA my organization, Kamehameha Schools, and the Edith Kanakaole Foundation three members of the Indigenous Peoples Organizations of the IUCN participated in the first meeting of the IPO members to begin to start pushing and shaping IUCN's policy to have more relevance on the ground for indigenous people. That policy is in a draft form but that is happening right now.

Lastly, I think it's important I wanted you to understand that what you guys supported wasn't just pomp and circumstance or whatever, that opened up a pathway for multiple voices. And when I've gone to these meetings around the world in the last two years, I am hoping tomorrow is my last trip for a while, there are talking about mālama honua, they are talking about aloha 'āina. They are struggling with concepts like konohiki, not just because these are values and terms for our place but they know they have similar values and terms in their places. So Hawaiians are helping people around the world to engage and build a narrative about how we can be more self-reliant and take care of our place. I just wanted you guys to know that's, that part of what the Congress lead to and what it has done. It is going to continue. Thank you.

**Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa** – I wondered how, when I visited Taiwan, they knew about indigenous Hawaiians.

**Robert Klein, Board Counsel** – When we have community concerns we don't interact.

**Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa** – Now I know why they know about Hawaii.

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – Next up is Diane Paloma.

**Ms. Diane Paloma** – Aloha, I'm Dr. Diane Paloma the current CEO of the King William Charles Lunalilo Trust and Home. Mahalo for taking the time for allowing me to come and give a very belated Mahalo for the time you spend at our Luau and the time you spent looking at our grants. I am here to share a little bit more about where our kupuna funds that you provided to us from 2015-2017 which just completed last year. It did complete just before my arrival so I was actually able to take use of all of the great improvements.

The legacy of Lunalilo Homes stems from being the first elder care home in upper Makiki. The vision of King Lunalilo gave an opportunity for his remaining assets to be designated for this special population. Over 130 years' latter his legacy continues in Maunaloa. We have a 42 bed adult residential care home which is designated as a licensed Arch 2 or expanded care nursing home. A separate adult day care facility as well as a daily hot meal delivery program. So in 2017 the year that the OHA grant was completed we average a 95% capacity in the care home, average a 75% capacity in our adult day care center and prepared an additional, when I say additional I mean in addition to all of our core residents and all of our adult day care clients, 12,544 meals of which about 3,000 of those we delivered ourselves. We have a partnership with Hawaii Meals on Wheels that does the delivery. We prepare they deliver.

These profound numbers illustrate the impact to our kupuna. Without the support from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs we would not have been able to comply with our State of Hawaii licensing requirements to operate and expand the expanded care adult residential care home while remaining true to our mission of our kupuna. We've also increased the safety and security, with a security surveillance system, and necessary ADA compliance requirements. We've also been able to preserve the Hawaiian home ambiance which I am sure you've all felt from one time to another. The repairs to the original wood flooring and that building now is going to be turning 100 years old. So you can imagine the amount of repairs necessary for that iconic and classic home but also aging facility. Things like appropriate furniture for arm rest so kupuna can easily get in and out of chairs, as well as consistent décor throughout the home. Whereas prior to this it was piecemeal so each individual room had a different look or feel. All this while remaining open for elder care services during an entire construction period and remodeling and since 1927 this has remained our primary and only site with only 5 acres from the original 400,000 of Lunalilo.

We also recognize this work consistent with OHA's strategic plan in culture, in health, in housing, in economic sustainability and education. I think we've enjoyed the building of this partnership between our ali'i trust and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs I appreciate and I look forward to you always have an open invitation to the home to come and visit with our kupuna. They are as feisty as ever and they keep me accountable every day, down to the attire that I wear every day and making comments about my attire. I do want to say that with the implementation of Lunalilo Homes 10-year strategic plan called Kauhale Kupuna we are now embarking on a new transformative way of working. I have just finished my 8<sup>th</sup> month on the job and I really look forward in building and continuing this long standing relationship with the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. Mahalo.

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – Next up is, I don't know if you want to go together, Charlene Hoe and the Hakipu'u students.

**Ms. Charlene Hoe** – Aloha. I've been asked to do a summary of a number of letters that have been sent today in support of the work of OHA. On behalf of the Hawaiian focused Charter Schools. As you know the Hawaiian focused Charter Schools and Charter School in general do not receive equitable funding or resources even though they are public schools. They don't get the facility support, the additional staffing support, the transportation, the lunch, etc. I think you've heard us talk about that before. All of these letter emphasize how critical our



collaboration with OHA is and has been since we have been working together since 2006 in one way or another. It has been really critical to the survival of our schools and especially our small schools.

I come before you with two hats. A retired delegate to the 1978 Constitutional Convention. So part of the original founding discussions that brought us OHA. As you are well aware that purpose was to really help address the concerns that we are facing in our Hawaiian Community. To help bridge that divide between those who are eligible for Hawaiian Homes, etc. and those who were not. And to bring the two parts of the community together to move forward as a total unit. I think OHA has had its ups and downs over the course of the years but has continued on that strategy and I think with the current CEO and the leadership as well as our committed Trustees is really helping us move along those lines and we want to acknowledge and appreciate that.

Individual Charter schools have indicated how important it has been toward bridging critical needs for high needs students and students that with special needs as well. So those high needs may be emotional or family related or they may be learning related. The OHA funds have helped us bring in resources to address that. Other schools look at their efforts to preserve the 'ōlelo Hawaii and in particular the Niihau language which otherwise doesn't have the same support our Punanaleo and some of the efforts that we have for 'ōlelo Hawaii overall. We appreciate the thoughtful process that OHA has put in to place and we understand and welcome the need for accountability and we hope we are meeting that for you so that we can continue this collaboration. OHA has been critical to the survival of many of our Hawaiian focused Charter Schools. Our efforts have not only benefited those students that are in our schools, but their families and their communities and more importantly the interaction we are having with the Department of Education and their efforts under the Office of Hawaiian Education to implement the same kinds of cultural relevant assessment strategies that we are trying to pilot within our Hawaiian focused Charter Schools. We see our focus and what OHA helps to support important on many levels not only for our own communities and our own students but throughout the state. Mahalo for that.

We are distressed that OHA gets regularly beaten up and that you individually and collectively have to deal with that. We just wanted to be present in giving our Mahalo for your support.

**Trustee Keli'i Akina** – Can we get the complete testimony; we need the second page of the first testimony?

**Ms. Hoe** – Yes, I have it. I will leave it with you.

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – I'd like to call the student from Hakipu'u Charter School.

**Ms. Pilimai Traub** – Aloha I am Pilimai Traub one of the administrators from Hakipu'u Charter School Learning Center. I just wanted to bring our students here, again mahalo for your support in helping to fund all of our 17 Hawaiian focused Charter Schools. I just wanted our students to be here to tell you how their education has impacted by your support.

**Suki Reyes** – Hi my name is Suki Reyes I have been attending Hakipu'u Learning Center for 1 year. I think you guys for the opportunity for letting us learn different ways and giving us the way to learn outside of school.

**Travis** - Aloha my name is Travis and I have been attending Hakipu'u for 5 years. I just wanted to say I appreciate all of your support for our school.

**Titan Au** - Aloha my name is Titan Au and I'd just like to say thank you for funding our Charter Schools.

**Kaui** - My name is Kaui, I wanted to thank you guys for funding us and helping us with all of our work.

**Olena** - Aloha, I am Olena and I have been attending Hakipu'u Learning Center for 4 years now. I just want to say Mahalo for everything you guys have done and all the work you guys have done. Because of your funding I think Hakipu'u has gotten so many amazing opportunities to do so much things that public schools could never do.

We are so in touch with our culture and we are so in touch with our community. All our community service and all the culture we do daily, all the learning that we do it because of you guys and I just want to make that thank you known with my testimony.

**Vice-Chair Ahuna** – Next up is Lancelot Lincoln followed by Healani Sonoda-Pale.

**Mr. Lancelot Lincoln** – Aloha kakou. I guess you all got my letter in the mail demanding your termination or resignation for this mishap \$14 million. Discretionary funds, give me a break, discretionary funds in any private business \$1 to \$100 not \$14 million. Now you create an LLC within our Trust I'd like to know how you people can do something like this. To create two different LLCs and call it a nonprofit within our nonprofit. How did that benefit me as a kanaka maoli please tell me? Hi'ilei, Hi'ipaka over there in Waimea. Waimea Falls park, please explain to me how you can do this. Even retired supreme court judge Mr. King say you cannot do this. You people supposed to be here watching and taking care of our business. The beneficiaries' business, you making it your own business. Where is all this money going, how is it helping our people please show me on paper. Now this making excuses I am trying to bring all this nice people in here to thank you for giving them money for their schools. I appreciate that. Kanawai should be taught everywhere in Hawaii. In fact, you all should be speaking both languages. Kumu Kanawai our language of this land and English according to our constitution.

When did this go away and you guys just go by this. When? Why you people doing like this? You know, I am really, really, appalled with this audit. Very, very appalled on all of you because it happened on your watch. I think you all should be dismissed and replaced with people that are transparent, people that honest. Anybody can make papers like this, yeah we spent the money and sent the money here and we sent the money there. This was not on the audit that the State made. I never seen none of this in their audit. Please. Don't start making up more things and digging yourselves in a deeper whole a deeper grave then you already in. Please. We need to fix this and we need to fix this now. No more games, no more pals, you take care of all of your people not just a handful. A lot of people tell me OHA doesn't have enough money for all the Hawaiians, \$14 million would have done a lot for a lot of Hawaiians. \$3 million dollars to Hawaiian Homes why wasn't it \$14 million to Hawaiian Homes to build us homes on our land. Why? \$3 million to Lunalilo Home great, I appreciate that but in the State Audit it don't show that you gave Lunalilo \$3 million. Anybody can draw paperwork like this, even I can do this on my computer, make up where I send money to. You need to stop you are our leaders in our community. You not just robbing Hawaiian, Hawaiians robbing Hawaiians. I think you even robbing the tax payers because some of this money come from them. It's funny only a handful of people showed up to this march today. I appreciate you many of you sitting at this table. Three of you are my own family. What you have done the good things that you have done, but \$14 million discretionary funds, don't come around telling this kind of things. This should not be happening not in this house. Not on your watch. You people are here to protect us the beneficiaries who are your bosses.

Regardless how you feel or think of me or anyone else you ought to be transparent, you have to honest. You have to treat everybody fairly. Not just your friends, your family. There is a lot of Hawaiian families that need help as well. Many of our people living in the bush, why? When we can come up with spending \$14 million discretionary, please this cannot be happening. Not in our community. It should be happening. You guys talk about people knowing about us around the world, yes, people do know us, I am recognized in 7 countries as the King of this Island. France, London, Brazil, Vietnam, Taiwan, Thailand I meet with ambassadors from all over the world in France to talk about what you guys talking about. Sustainability, bio, this is how they know us. This is how they know us. Talk about sustainability what are we doing in OHA sustainability, bombs, what are we doing. I go to all of our island to look at our loi to look at our loko ia to look at our heiau, they are crumbling. We supposed to be taking care of these things. Our kupuna didn't build these things for nothing. They build this because they knew we were going to need it. When they stop sending those Matson containers to our island, what are going to do. How are we going to feed our people? Build more homes, put up more condominiums. I suggest you guys go build a parking lot over there and charge \$20 for parking with that land.

That is supposed to be making more money and generating more money and not keep spending. Spend the money to generate more income for our people. The rail is a disaster. TMT is a disaster on Mauna Kea. They still trying

to force things down our throat. We say stop enough is enough. We have to make corrections in this house and clean this house. Very, very important and that is your jobs, we cannot do. We don't sit in your chair but we can replace you with other people simple. We can vote you out because we vote you in. But me I would like to see this whole thing dissolved completely no more OHA. Finish, done with. But we have to take what little we get from the United States Government, Hawaii State Government the little that they give to us. You should be doing the right things with these things. I know you do a lot of good things with some of these monies but this kind of audit should not happen in any business. This should not be going on. That is all I have to say today and I thank you for allowing me to speak today, please clean house. Kamana'o I have a lot of respect for you, watch young guy like you come up in this place. Please do what is right. You the head of this place and they will cut your head off to cover themselves. I don't want that I want all of you gone out of here. Eliminated because of this \$14 million audit, that is my mana'o, that is what I feel deep in my heart. I am Kumoalii Nui I come from Lonoikamakahiki, Eleiki, Keawe, Kalaniopuu, Kekuhaupio that is my genealogy, I am direct to Kamehameha I sitting at this table with you. I am the King in Hawaii today. I don't care how anybody else feel about what I say. I take that step out because I listen to my ancestors and my kupuna, and that's why I take the step out there to take that title and its very, very hard being a king. It's not very easy. Especially when everything was taken from my family, land, gold, everything. But I still fight and I never give up fighting for justice for our people, land for our culture. I love this land, I love all people, more than life itself to me. I struggle with things that goes on here up and down, up and down. This needs to stop please. Let's fix or move on.

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – Next we have Landen Paikai.

**Mr. Landen Paikai** – My name is Landen Paiki I am a beneficiary and also a candidate for OHA Trustee At-Large. I'd like to thank those who have gone before me for the insight that they brought especially the young people. I work with young people on a daily basis and one of the things that I share with them is if we don't know what is happening with you how can we better advocate for you. We are not mind readers the same thing I tell our beneficiaries. If they are not making their issues, concerns, comments known, then how do you 9 Trustees better advocate on their behalf. I mahalo those who have come before and shared their mana'o.

Couple of things, going out in the community, people have mentioned, and I am just the messenger. I am here just bringing you what our beneficiaries are telling me. One of those things is the fact that Trustee Apo who is not here and I wish he was here. I have to say to him that he didn't pay the \$50,000 to settle that deal. It's a really big issue for a lot of our beneficiaries. Again I am just a messenger here I wish he was here to defend himself. Secondly, thanks again for this I wish it would have come out earlier because it would have saved you 9 a lot of heartache and our beneficiaries a lot of heartache. The explanation that you give here really explains what our Trustees. The decisions that you make at this table are important and that they make a huge difference in the everyday life. You are teaching haumana and you are caring for our kupuna. You are bridging the gap of what is happening out there and helping our people mover forward. And part of our advocacy is doing this on behalf of the people. I applaud you for doing this. Those that came to protest, to each its own but it's a day late and a dollar short. If you are going to protest you know what you guys should be protesting is PLT and the fact they are not giving the Trust the money that we deserve. OHA put this out guys we all should know this, and stated that we are only getting 4% of the 20% that we should be getting. If you going protest anything, protest that, don't come in here tearing our Trustees down, tearing our people down because the reality is we still not getting our fair share and we continue to be robbed of those things. We need to focus our energy as beneficiaries and make this change. Lastly for the beneficiaries out there listening, watching, you have problem with this vote. Register to vote that your power, and you can register and you can vote in the comfort of your own home. That is all I have to say I am just a native Hawaiian addressing issues that affect all of our Hawaiians. My name is Landen Paikai you guys have a great day.

**Vice-Chair Dan Ahuna** – Next up Isaac Kaiu.

**Mr. Isaac Kaiu** – Aloha Trustees. I'm here as a concerned beneficiary one of the comment was, the audit is not the one can judge me. Nobody can judge us right; we know who the judge. But the audit found that there was \$14 million unaccounted for and somebody has to take responsibility for that and we are not here to dumb down

anybody talk about anybody. We are here to talk about what is right and what needs to be done. That's just my point of view as a beneficiary. Whether the State or us we as 'ohana, this is about us. I think something like that should be discussed among us even the beneficiaries, we have a right to know. I want to know. Transparency, honesty, truth, maybe you should let some of us beneficiaries come into the meetings, invite us into the meetings even closed doors. I like know. I not here for judge you but I like know. That is all I have to say, thank you guys have a wonderful day.

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**Vice- Chair Dan Ahuna** – If there is no further business I'd like to entertain a motion to adjourn.

**Trustee Rowena Akana moves to adjourn.**

**Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey seconds the motion.**

**Vice- Chair Dan Ahuna** – Roll call vote please.

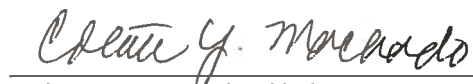
Trustee Rowena Akana moves to adjourn. Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey seconds the motion.						
TRUSTEE	1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE LEINA'ALA AHU ISA			X			
TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA			X			
TRUSTEE ROWENA AKANA	X		X			
TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA			X			
TRUSTEE PETER APO						Excused
TRUSTEE CARMEN HULU LINDSEY		X	X			
TRUSTEE ROBERT LINDSEY			X			
TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E			X			
TRUSTEE COLETTE MACHADO						Excused
TOTAL VOTE COUNT			7			2
MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [ x ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED Motion passed with seven (7) YES votes, and two (2) excused.						

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Dayna Pa, Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on June 21, 2018.

  
Colette Y. Machado, Chairperson  
Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. Excuse Memo – Trustee Peter Apo
2. Mililani Trask Testimony
3. Germaine Meyers Testimony
4. Rebecca Justine Iolani Soon (Solutions Pacific) Testimony
5. Kathleen Pahinui Testimony
6. Bill Quinlan Testimony
7. Elena Farden Testimony
8. Aunty Betty Jenkins Testimony
9. Kawika and Yuko Buchanan (Pa‘a Pono Design) Testimony
10. Jodi Akau (Tiare Breeze) Testimony
11. Eileen Hirota (Liliuokalani Protestant Church) Testimony
12. Ku‘uleilanimakealohamau Kaho‘ano Testimony
13. Kekoa Enomoto (Pa‘upena Community Development Inc.) Testimony
14. Peter Hanohano (Hawaii Pasifika) Testimony
15. Allen and Lisa Ann Kahalewai (Kahalewai Inc.) Testimony
16. Bob Leinau Testimony
17. Greg Pietsch (Sunset Ranch Hawaii) Testimony
18. Handouts from Kevin Chang: Lawai‘a Pono- Booklet and IUCN Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions.
19. Charlene Hoe Testimony – Hakipu‘u Learning Center
20. Susie Osborne Testimony – Kua o Ka La NCPCS
21. Mapuana Waipa Testimony – Ke Ana La‘ahan PCS
22. Hakipu‘u Learning Center Testimony
23. Mahina Paishon-Duarte Testimony – KANU
24. Hedy Sullivan Testimony – KANAKA
25. Maunalei Love Testimony – Hakipu‘u Learning Center



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Trustee Colette Machado, BOT Chair  
Trustee Dan Ahuna, BOT Vice-Chair

**FROM:** Trustee Peter Apo

**DATE:** May 23, 2018

**RE:** BOT Meeting Absence on May 24, 2018

2018 MAY 23 P 3 39

OFFICE OF  
HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
STATE OF HAWAII  
RECEIVED-BOT

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I am unable to attend the BOT Meeting on May 24, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. Please excuse my absence and extend my apologies to the members of the Board.

If you have any questions, please call my office at 594-1879.

Mahalo.

**Dayna Pa**

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**From:** Mililani Trask  
**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2018 1:58 PM  
**To:** Hulu Lindsey; Dan Ahuna; Keli'i Akina; Rowena Akana; Bob Lindsey; Dr. Lei Ahu Isa; Peter Apo; John Waihee; Colette Machado  
**Subject:** Testimony of Mililani B. Trask Regarding Board of Trustee (BOT) Meeting May 24, 2018  
**Attachments:** MBT Testimony OHA LLC Administrtrtion.docx

Attached you will find my testimony in strong opposition to the Action Item RM-18-05 which I am also forwarding to the FBI.

MBT

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\*\*\*This message, and any attachments, is non-public information for the intended recipient's use only. It may contain proprietary, confidential and/or legally privileged information. No privilege and/or confidentiality is meant to be waived, released and/or relinquished by any mistransmission of this email. If you have received this email in error, please inform the sender immediately and delete the email, and any attachments, from your system. The use, dissemination, transmission and/or distribution of this email, and any attachments, without the express consent of the sender is prohibited. Please be aware Indigenous Consultants, LLC reserves the right to monitor all email communication through its network.\*\*\*



**Mililani B. Trask**  
[mililani.trask@icllchawaii.com](mailto:mililani.trask@icllchawaii.com)



May 21, 2018

To: OHA Trustees  
From: Mililani B. Trask, OHA Beneficiary

Re: **Board of Trustee (BOT) Meeting May 24, 2018, Agenda Item 5-A-1:**

Committee on Resource Management 1.

**Action Item** RM 18-05: Approval to accept resignation of OHA executives as managers of OHA LLCs, to implement a transition plan to streamline and downsize LLC operations, and to recruit a replacement LLC manager.

**Testimony in Strong Opposition**

Aloha Trustees,

I am forwarding this testimony to express my strong opposition the ongoing effort of the OHA administration, minority Trustees and Legal staff to ensure that the current CEO, COO and CFO will control the corrective action to downsize and reorganize the OHA LLCs. **This is tantamount to putting the mongoose in charge of the chicken coop.**

At the RM Committee Meeting on April 25, 2018, the Trustees approved a motion for this action item that would give Administration (CEO, COO, and CFO) the responsibilities of this action item, which includes “to recruit a replacement LLC manager.”

The record reflects that the current LLC managers, CEO Kamana’opono Crabbe, COO Lisa Victor, and ex-CFO Hawley Iona are the LLC Managers that created/managed/terminated Ho’opakeu LLC, **without OHA Board’s knowledge and approval**, they have proven that they’re untrustworthy. The IRS, FBI and State Attorney general are investigating the OHA LLCs because of their receipt and apparently illegal disbursement of millions of trust dollars without adhering to State Procurement law or informing the Trustees!

Mona Bernardino, the Chief Operating Officer of Hi’ilei Aloha LLC claims she represented Kamana’opono Crabbe as his Attorney when she filed the Articles of Organization for Ho’opakeu LLC (and later when she changed it to Ho’opakeu LLC). I suggest the trustees review the State of Hawaii Bar Association web site which has a Directory of all licensed practicing attorneys in Hawaii. Ms. Bernardino is not listed as an attorney there, nor does she have an attorney ID number!

It is obvious that the person with oversight should be the current Chair of the OHA RM Committee, Trustee Hulu Lindsey. Because Hulu Lindsey has not played ball with the



fraud, waste and conversion of trust assets going on at OHA she is being prevented from doing her job.

This requires that there be an **amendment to the motion for RM 18-05 in order to have the RM Committee Chair Hulu Lindsey be in charge of creating an Ad Hoc Committee of Trustees and Trustee aides to implement a transition plan to streamline and downsize LLC operations, AND TO recruit a replacement LLC manager.**

There is significant evidence that the current CEO, CFO & COO have acted in violation of State laws, and violated their trust obligations by utilizing the LLC's to illegally transfer OHA assets. This evidence surfaced in beneficiary testimony in the last 3 years, and in recent months, in the State Auditors report. This is what triggered the FBI investigation.

The CEO, CFO and COO are the very people who have quietly and surreptitiously worked with the current staff of the LLCs to avoid State law. Its time to clean house and the LLCs need new management who will follow the law and who will work with all of OHA BOT. The current Executive Staffers including Crabbe, are the problem. Putting them in charge of corrective action is a thinly veiled effort to prevent corrective action from taking place.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mililani B. Trask', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mililani B. Trask  
CC: FBI

**Dayna Pa**

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**From:** G M  
**Sent:** Monday, May 21, 2018 1:04 PM  
**To:** Colette Machado; Dr. Lei Ahu Isa; Dan Ahuna; Rowena Akana; Keli'i Akina; Peter Apo; Hulu Lindsey; Robert Lindsey; Crayn Akina  
**Subject:** URGENT & IMPORTANT: Public Testimony for Board of Trustee (BOT) Meeting of May 24, 2018, Agenda Item 5-A-1.

TO: BOT Chair Colette Machado  
TO: All OHA Trustees

BCC: Beneficiaries on my blind carbon copy list

**Regarding Board of Trustee (BOT) Meeting May 24, 2018, Agenda Item 5-A-1:**

Committee on Resource Management 1. Action Item RM 18-05: Approval to accept resignation of OHA executives as managers of OHA LLCs, to implement a transition plan to streamline and downsize LLC operations, and to recruit a replacement LLC manager.

At the RM Committee Meeting on April 25, 2018, the Trustees approved a motion for this action item that would give Administration (CEO, COO, and CFO) the responsibilities of this action item, which includes "to recruit a replacement LLC manager."

In lieu of the facts that the current LLC managers, CEO Kamana'opono Crabbe, COO Lisa Victor, and ex-CFO Hawley Iona were the LLC Managers that created/managed/terminated Ho'opakeu LLC, **without OHA Board's knowledge and approval**, they have proven that they're untrustworthy.

In addition, Mona Bernardino, Chief Operating Officer of Hi'ilei Aloha LLC claims she represented Kamana'opono Crabbe as his Attorney when she filed the Articles of Organization for Ho'opakeu LLC (and later when she changed it to Ho'opakeu LLC). When did the Board approve for Mona Bernardino to have dual titles and responsibilities (COO and Attorney)?

In consideration of the above, and the findings of the State Audit 2018 of OHA, we compel the Trustees to

**amend the motion for RM 18-05** in order to have the RM Committee Chair Hulu Lindsey be in charge of creating an Ad Hoc Committee of Trustees and Trustee aides to implement a transition plan to streamline and downsize LLC operations, AND TO recruit a replacement LLC manager.

In reviewing the HPD Chief of Police FBI Investigation prior to the Indictments, the Police Commission took the lead in investigating the Chief's actions. The Chief was gracious in resigning. Later he and his wife were indicted. The same should occur at OHA. Semi-autonomy is not FULL-autonomy. Semi-autonomy does not exempt anyone from following City, State, and Federal laws. **H.R.S. Chapter 10 were violated by the "Administrator" also known as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).**

Ke Akua pu,  
Germaine Meyers  
OHA Beneficiary for Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment and  
Nanakuli Hawaiian Homestead Lessee



**HI'ILEI ALOHA<sub>LLC</sub>**

711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-5238  
Phone: (808) 596-8990  
Facsimile: (808) 596-8992

**Letters of Support for LLCs & Structure**

**Presented to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
Thursday, May 24, 2018**

1	Entrepreneur Jodi Akau (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
2	Pa'upena Community Development, Inc. (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
3	Solutions Pacific (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
4	Lili'uokalani Protestant Church (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
5	Entrepreneur Kāwika Buchanan (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
6	Elena Farden, M.B.A. (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
7	Entrepreneurs Allen & Lisa Ann Kahalewai (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
8	Hawaii Pasifika (Hi'ilei Aloha LLC)
9	Aunty Betty Jenkins (Hi'ipaka LLC)
10	Bill Quinlan (Hi'ipaka LLC)
11	Leilani Kaho'āno, 'Ohana Hewahewa (Hi'ipaka LLC)
12	Kathleen Pahinui (Hi'ipaka LLC)
13	Bob Leinau (Hi'ipaka LLC)
14	Sunset Ranch Hawai'i (Hi'ipaka LLC)
- More letters forthcoming -	

Mona Bernardino, CCO, Hi'ilei Aloha LLC  
Hi'ilei Aloha LLC  
711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha my name is Jodi Akau, I own a business called *Tiare Breeze* and a graduate of the Hi'ilei Aloha Entrepreneur Class of 2016. I've been through a business class in the past, but learning through Hi'ilei Aloha has really made an impact on me by equipping me with the necessary tools to get my business started. It gave me the confidence to accept the challenges that comes with a business.

Through their services Hi'ilei Aloha supported me with business cards, banner, technical advice, which has tremendously helped my business achieve successful.

Hi'ilei Aloha has made a difference to our Hawaiian Community's by having these services available to inspire our people to become Future Entrepreneurs. We need more classes, and follow up classes for those who are already graduated.

Mahalo,

Jodi Akau-Tiare Breeze





## Pa`upena Community Development Inc.

96 Ahulua Street, Kula, Maui, Hawai`i 96790

Telephone/Text: (808) 276-2713

Email: kenomoto1@hawaii.rr.com



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May 2, 2018

Board of Trustees  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
560 North Nimitz Highway, Suite 200  
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96817

Aloha mai kakou,

On behalf of Pa`upena Community Development Corporation, I heartily endorse Hi`ilei Aloha LLC — which serves as the nonprofit arm of the state Office of Hawaiian Affairs — as the most accessible, constructive and effective agency, with which I have interacted.

Pa`upena Community Development Corporation, or CDC, is a 17-month-old Maui-based beneficiary organization under the auspices of the 1921 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act federal trust. The mission of Pa`upena CDC is to provide resources and training to empower fellow Hawaiian homelands trust beneficiaries to build homes and self-sufficient agricultural and pastoral communities.

Since its inception, Pa`upena CDC has received invaluable Hi`ilei Aloha-sponsored capacity-building services, as follows:

10/15/16 — A three-part Maui workshop series on strategic planning, grant writing and fund development.

3/11/17 — A two-part nonprofit capacity-building workshop series on "business operations for nonprofits" and "governance, compliance and fiscal projections," taught by nonprofit lawyer Brian Ezuka and former bank executive Linda Ezuka.

5/20/17 — A six-week entrepreneurship workshop series.

6/24/17 — Technical assistance in launching and maintaining the paupena.org website.

11/27/17 — Submission of an application and fees for Pa`upena CDC membership in HANO, the Hawai`i Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations.

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*Pa`upena Community Development's vision is to fulfill Prince Kuhio's century-old dream for native Hawaiians to reconnect with Waiohuli ahupua`a in thriving agricultural and pastoral communities, and to share this paradigm throughout the pae`aina.*

These services were of value to me, my `ohana, business, organization and community because I gained the expertise and confidence to chair the Pa`upena CDC board of directors. My `ohana members became self-reliant to plan and provide meals for, and participate in, workdays to prepare the venue for Pa`upena-sponsored lectures and workshops. My business, Kekoa Agriforest, became more self-sufficient by obtaining a \$44,500 USDA grant to cultivate a native/nonnative forest. Hi`ilei Aloha services empowered my organization, Pa`upena CDC, to apply and qualify for grants. And the Hi`ilei Aloha services uplifted the Upcountry Maui community by providing a two-part strategic-planning process led by DTL Inc. of Honolulu in December 2016. The sessions were unprecedented for DTL Inc. because they simultaneously involved three homelands organizations: Keokea Homestead Farm Lots Association, Waiohuli Undivided Interest Lessees Association, and Pa`upena CDC.

Successful outcomes resulting from receiving these services include:

11/1/16 — Pa`upena CDC began serving as the project advisory committee implementing, on behalf of grantee Lei Ho`olaha CDFI (Community Development Financial Institution), a 16-month \$100,000 USDA grant for socially disadvantaged and veteran farmers and ranchers.

3/25/18 — The Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement awarded Pa`upena CDC a \$5,300 grant to hold Vote 2 Rise voter-registration events and activities.

4/16/18 — The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands awarded Pa`upena CDC a \$47,000 DHHL Regional Plan Priority Project grant to build seven water-catchment systems on Keokea/Waiohuli homestead lots, and to operate a water-intake monitoring program to provide research and data for water resource and infrastructure for build-out of the 6,112-acre Keokea/Waiohuli homelands.

4/29/18 — Tsunami Products Inc. of Liberty Lake, Wash., loaned free, indefinitely two Tsunami machines and a trailer valued at \$50,000 — one machine each for atmospheric-water extraction and for sprouted-fodder production — for Pa`upena farming/ranching-related training, technical help and economic development.

Having Hi`ilei Aloha-sponsored capacity-building services available contributes to the well being of the Hawaiian community and Hawai'i. Hi`ilei Aloha has perfected the paradigm of seeking grants and directing the grant funds toward workshops, programs and technical assistance to benefit native individuals and entities. And when Hawaiians benefit, everyone in the community benefits.

Very sincerely yours,

*Kekoa Enomoto*

Kekoa Enomoto, chairwoman of the board



Attention:

Mona Bernardino, COO, Hi'ilei Aloha LLC

Hi'ilei Aloha LLC

711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111

Honolulu, HI 96813

[monab@hiilei.org](mailto:monab@hiilei.org)

Martha Ross, Capacity Building Manager, Hi'ilei Aloha LLC

[marthar@hiilei.org](mailto:marthar@hiilei.org)

Solutions Pacific has been honored for the opportunities to partner with Hi'ilei Aloha to support and promote Native Hawaiian-owned small businesses and community-serving institutions. Through our partnership, we have been able to identify areas of need in which small businesses could benefit and synthesize strategies to target those needs including delivering Small Business Workshops, which equipped small business owners with skills designed to strengthen business practices. In providing small businesses with critical accounting tools and tutorials, Hi'ilei Aloha has ensured that business owners have an organized financial foundation that enables them to thrive.

Hi'ilei Aloha's dedication to creating opportunities for Hawai'i's small businesses and non-profits are critical. The opportunity for Native Hawaiian owned businesses to offer competitive services in a growing market is a vital response to Hawai'i's reliance on larger commercial and corporate resources. An elevated economic standing for Native Hawaiians directly addresses the disparity between opportunities for income and rapidly growing costs locally. Hi'ilei Aloha's work in empowering the Native Hawaiian community is critical in the long-term goals and needs of our community. Mahalo for all your work on behalf of the Native Hawaiian community.

Me ka 'oia'i'o,

Rebecca Justine 'Iolani Soon



# LILIUOKALANI

## PROTESTANT-CHURCH

February 28, 2018

Mona Berandino, Chief Operating Officer  
Hi'ilei Aloha LLC  
711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Aloha,

Mahalo a nui loa to Hi'ilei Aloha LLC for your capacity-building services that you have been providing to our Church this past year. As you know, we are one of the original Hawaiian churches, and Queen Lili'uokalani attended our church when she visited her summer home on this side of the island. Our long-term goal is to create a regular revenue stream so we can afford to hire a full-time kahu.

The capacity-building services you provided through Corinne Fukushima and others has helped us to think through our priorities and lay out a plan for long term success. We appreciate the strategic planning discussions as well as suggestions on ways to earn revenue, such as providing parking stalls to employees who work across the street. We now have more church members who are committed to working on our long-term success. We will work on completing a Gift Shop soon and holding regular historical tours of the property for tourists who are in our neighborhood every day.

Because of your advocacy on our behalf, we are receiving installation of a free sprinkler system from a local agriculture company to improve the Church grounds.

We were also able to apply for and receive a grant to hold our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Lili'uokalani Festival on February 3, to honor the Queen. As a result of your efforts, we now have an inventory of tents and large banners that we can use over and over again each year for the festival and other Church activities. We also have templates for the program, keiki scavenger hunt, and historical tour of the property. We were thrilled that Corinne was able to secure Amy Hanaiali'i as an entertainer this year at no cost to us. Ms. Hanaiali'i was a big attraction for the Hale'iwa community, and she has offered to return every year and bring Nā Hoku Hanohano friends with her.

We look forward to working with Waiālua High School's computer program and are grateful for Corinne's assistance in creating that partnership.

Mahalo a nui loa for all the ways you helped us.

Sincerely,



Eileen Hirota  
Moderator

P.O. Box 187 • Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712  
66-090 Kamehameha Highway • Haleiwa, Hawaii 96712 • Tel. 637-9364

United Church of Christ



April 26, 2018

To: Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs

I would like to thank the Hi'ilei Aloha for all they have done for me and our business. They opened many doors for my company Pa'a Pono Design. They have allowed me to be a part of events that I would not have had the money for, including the entrepreneurship class and vendor space at several events. They have helped with websites, Business Cards and Banners for our company as well.

They have given us the support needed to make our company successful. They open doors to the professionals in many different fields of professionals. Banks and OHA and networking was very helpful for preparations for our business growth. Julie Percell's class leadership with follow-up and Martha Ross' technical assistance and follow-up has been nothing but true greatness in making Pa'a Pono Design a great success. They believed in me and my idea to take me to the next level and beyond. All this is done with complete support of Hi'ilei and the leadership of Mona. I can only truly be grateful to them and the chance they have given me to making a difference in the Hawaiian Cultural and Arts for all Hawaiians.

I continue to recommend Hi'ilei to others in the community who need business help.



---

Kawika and Yuko Buchanan  
Pa'a Pono Design

May 5, 2018

To: Board of Trustees, Office of Hawaiian Affairs

My name is Elena Farden. As a Native Hawaiian entrepreneur, and someone who works with business accelerators, I want to share the value I experienced in Hi'ilei Aloha LLC services.

I attended one of Hi'ilei Aloha's 48-hour Entrepreneurship courses taught by Julie Percell. Now that I have graduated, I know I will receive one-to-one technical assistance and notification of all future workshops. I will also receive market expansion opportunities and other services relative to the status of my business.

I believe what I value most about Hi'ilei Aloha's services is more than coaching and technical assistance. In my experience, there are no Native Hawaiian incubators or Native Hawaiian-focused business development programs in the state. Most programs that offer similar services are reserved for established businesses and organizations that are ready to scale (accelerators) and require a rigorous application process and investment.

For true socio-economic restoration, Native Hawaiians like myself, need an opportunity to grow their ideas in a safe place with like-minded, driven, community-centered entrepreneurs. Through our work in small businesses, we help

- Innovate Hawai'i's economy with diverse goods and services that reflect our authentic culture as a people;
- Reinforce relationships with other local businesses as our suppliers, distributors and partners in growth;
- Cultivate new generations of entrepreneurs through our family and community-involved business allowing greater options in career pathways for our Native Hawaiian workforce beyond tourism.

Overall, small business like Native Hawaiian businesses are the lynch pin in our local and national economy. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are more than 27 million small businesses in the country, and they **generate approximately 50 percent of the national GDP.**

The Hi'ilei Aloha resource booklet and networking with others are essential elements of a successful foundation to launch a business.

The flexibility of Hi'ilei's program, and the distance learning equipment increase access to courses, workshops and networking statewide. I was able to attend a class when I had to be out-of-state for the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs annual convention.

**As someone who has an MBA and who works with businesses to help them grow, I know the capacity building services offered by Hi'ilei Aloha are necessary to help assure successful launch, sustainability and growth of Native Hawaiian businesses and nonprofits in Hawai'i.**

**I hope these services can continue for others to increase equity and inclusion of Native Hawaiians in our economy.**

**Me ka mahalo ha'aha'a,**

**Elena Farden**

**Mona Bernardino, COO, Hi'ilei Aloha LLC**

Hi'ilei Aloha LLC

711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111

Honolulu, HI 96813

[mona@hiilei.com](mailto:mona@hiilei.com)

May 7, 2018

Aloha! Ms. Bernardino,

As a married couple with quite different personalities we shared the same dream and determination of running a successful business. Starting a business in Hawaii is challenging and we were faced with a lot of uncertainty and challenges along the way. We are recipients of Hi'ilei Aloha LLC's eight-week long entrepreneurship class. The program helped us refine our idea, build a business plan, assess finances and determine our legal business structure. We were introduced to valuable key contacts in both private and governmental sectors, including respective trades and industries that gave us the ins and outs of running a business in Hawaii. The comfortable learning environment allowed discussions; questions and answers were most simplest and well understood.

Our participation included other workshops such as Technical Training & Support for website builds & logos, OHA Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund Workshops, Biz Operations Organizing For-profit & Nonprofit Successes, Quickbook Workshop, to name a few. Their dynamic attributes are an asset to our native Hawaiian people and our island's economy. As a beneficiary of their services and support, they have fostered our company throughout our journey so that we can continue to be competitive not only island-wide but internationally as well. Hi'ilei Aloha has been a vital part in every aspect of our business as they continue to pay very close attention and is a ready and dynamic comprehensive resource center.

In our role as President and CEO of Kahalewai LLC we have built a reputation in East Honolulu for being a resource that gives international clients an opportunity to live Hawaiian, live local. Our education management company recruits and services international clients to study English in Hawaii. We are partnered with worldwide agencies, various accredited language academies and universities that have its own program structure and requirements as well as student stay accommodations. Many of these students enter short-term or up to one year English language programs to enhance their career and personal life.

Whether it is travel, school or work, we have welcomed all ages from Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Russia, Europe, South America, Canada, and even as remote as Reunion Island (near Madagascar) an opportunity to become a part of our Ohana. As indigenous people we shouldn't have to change our lifestyles for visitors. As we carry on those who have come before us, we involve activities that local residents normally do from making laulau to learning about the ancient historical sites less commonly known to tourists; we educate without compromising authenticity. Although our doors are revolving, we allow enough time for each visitor to live the Aloha spirit and to recognize that they have come to a very special place. Besides ourselves, our family, friends and community we live in have also learned to become adaptive to intercultural interactions and learned how different yet similar we all are. Once we see them trade their strappy footwear for rubber slippers then we have done our job.

Execute is everything, we are doing something that we truly love, and we didn't wait for when things were perfect; we launched the business right away! We also had to consider when it's time to move, shift and adapt. For example, in the beginning, our focus was primarily on the Japanese market then we noticed that their society still remains strictly hierarchical with their set of rules and were not as receptive to broader experiences (besides hula) as we had hoped to accomplish. Since discovering that, we have expanded to multicultural societies that are more accepting of other people's differences and have opened the doors and since then our business is growing successfully.

Hi'ilei Aloha LLC has taught us to believe in ourselves and we continue to turn to them and their valuable hand-selected consultants for guidance, counseling and advice. Lastly, our company exists because we represent more than ourselves, we represent our kupuna.

Mahalo nui loa,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is on the left and the second is on the right, both appearing to be cursive and somewhat stylized.

Allen and Lisa Ann Kahalewai  
Owners, Kahalewai LLC  
'Aina Haina, Oahu

CC: OHA Board of Trustees



Hawaii Pasifika

May 7, 2018

Mona Bernardino, COO  
Hi'ilei Aloha LLC  
711 Kapi'olani Blvd., Suite 111  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
[monab@hiilei.org](mailto:monab@hiilei.org)

Re: Letter of Gratitude for Hi'ilei Aloha LLC's Capacity Building Support

Aloha mai e Mona,

On behalf of the Governing Board of the World Indigenous Nations University Hawaii Pasifika (WINUHP), I am pleased to submit this testimonial letter thanking you for the tremendous support and quality of Hi'ilci Aloha LLC's capacity building support to WINUHP and the other Native Hawaiian community organizations on Maui. Indeed, your services were clearly a game-changer, and exceeded all of our expectations. The services that you brought to us are not available on Maui. Thus, the experts and expertise that they brought with them is immeasurable, and has made a considerable impact on how we now do business, whether as a for-profit or a not-for-profit. All we can say is thank you, and that seems so inadequate. Please know that is has made all the difference in our capacity to better serve our Native Hawaiian people and communities.

Your many services included the following:

1. Grant writing workshops or sponsorship of grant writing workshops for Maui.
2. Strategic Planning for Maui nonprofit organizations, especially those in the Waiohuli and Keokea Hawaiian Homestead communities, by Malia Kaaihue and her dtl organization.
3. An excellent 8-week Entrepreneurship Training Course presented by Julie Percell, and assisted by your own Martha Ross that taught us:
  - Skills and knowledge to start up a business
  - Keys to successful marketing
  - How to write and present a business plan
  - Pricing our product to make money
  - Managing our finances
  - Resources we will need for our first year in business

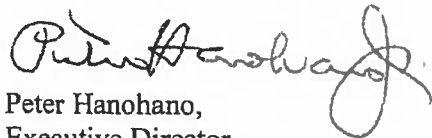
Without a doubt the training by Julie was exceptional, followed by one-on-one business counseling and technical assistance by Martha. The combination of these two ladies was outstanding, and helped us to hone in on our business model and marketing strategies. This class would be helpful, not only to business ventures, but nonprofit organizations will learn so much, if they ran their organizations using these entrepreneurial principles.

4. Follow up services, such as website development and social media training by Blaine Fergertrom of your office.
5. Memberships in key nonprofit support organizations such as the Hawaii Alliance for Nonprofit Organizations (HANO) and the Maui Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce.
6. Nonprofit formation legal counsel and training by nonprofit attorney, Brian Ezuka, and nonprofit finance and compliance by Brian's his wife, Linda Ezuka.

The capacity building assistance provided by Hi'ilei Aloha LLC has empowered our Native Hawaiian communities and community organizations to aspire to something higher. Because we lacked these skills and capabilities on Maui, we just learned to live without. We could not and did not try to compete with Oahu. But that has all changed now, because of your foresight and insight in knowing intuitively to connect and collaborate with the community first, to ascertain community needs and aspirations in improving community well-being.

Please convey to your funders and superiors our sincere gratitude for the services that you have graciously provided to our community. We are humbled by the generous support that you have provided to our community, and we pledge to always be there should you or Hi'ilei Aloha LLC ever need our help or support.

Me ka mahalo nui (with many thanks),



Peter Hanohano,  
Executive Director

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# AUNTY BETTY JENKINS

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808-637-9118

[WWW.KAPIKOOWAIALUA.INFO](http://WWW.KAPIKOOWAIALUA.INFO)

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## IN SUPPORT OF HI'IPAKA & WAIMEA VALLEY

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13 April 2018

'Ano'ai Kākou –

I am writing this letter in support of the good works going on in Waimea Valley, attributable to the management and 'ohana that are Hi'ipaka and specifically its Director, Richard Pezzulo. I am known affectionately as Aunty Betty Jenkins, and I am one of several Kupuna who love and treasure Waimea Valley. I have spent many years of my life in, on, and around Waimea, teaching, learning, sharing, and caring for this place and each other.

It causes me grave concern to know that some Hawaiians are raising accusations against OHA and Hi'ipaka. I have seen so many good things happen for our beautiful valley since Richard took over just a few years ago. This place was always special, but today it is even more special. Waimea's spirit has returned. In the many decades that Uncle Jack, my children and I have been enjoying Waimea, it has never felt so healthy and strong like it is now.

Together, we and others are caretakers of this beautiful place and it is now thriving and flourishing after many years of different priorities focused more on tourists than on Hawaiian values and culture. I have been actively involved on cultural projects in the valley for some time now, including the trail marker project and creating special kupuna places. Richard makes sure there is always a place for Kupuna when we come, and we are consulted regularly for Kupuna wisdom, protocol and cultural practices.

We also have regular meetings of community and 'ohana at the Waialua Courthouse in Haleiwa, hosted by Hi'ipaka in their space there. Richard is always respectful and considerate to Kupuna and other members of our 'ohana, he is supportive of our cultural and educational programs, and he has made an excellent and positive impact at Waimea.

With Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Betty K. Jenkins".  
AUNTY BETTY JENKINS

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Letter to

OHA Board of Trustees

9 April, 2018

Aloha, during my 30 year career I managed businesses in four industries in four countries.

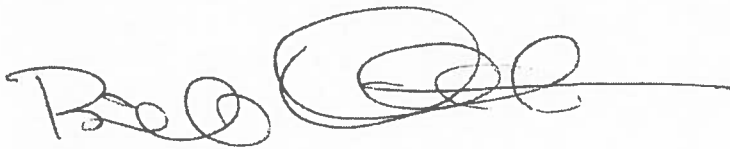
My experience taught me that the business model that is most successful is one where the Company/Organization that owns a business allows it to operate independently to achieve goals mutually agreed on by the business owner and the CEO who is managing the business. Highly successful companies I worked for such as General Mills and Mattel have used that model for many years.

For a business to be successful there needs to be total clarity for the staff as to what the goals are and how they can contribute to achieving the goals. Second guessing by the owner/s of the business creates confusion and low morale and will ensure that the business will not perform well.

Since Waimea Valley was reorganized as Hi'ipaka LLC I have seen significant changes. Staff morale is much higher and the property is much better maintained. Staff have taken on ownership and that is a key to success. Access for tour buses and other guests is much better controlled. Overall creativity is markedly improved.

From the community aspect, I feel much more welcome than was the case before Hi'ipaka LLC was formed. As Chair of the North Shore Chamber of Commerce I am happy to report that our 2016 and 2017 Christmas Parties, held at Waimea Valley, were extremely successful and the staff did an exemplary and very professional job.

I hope you find this communication helpful. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Quinlan". The signature is stylized with large loops and a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Bill Quinlan

58-115 Napoonala Place,

Haleiwa. HI 96712.

OHA Board of Trustees  
560 N Nimitz Hwy #200  
Honolulu, HI 96817

April XX, 2018

Aloha OHA Board of Trustees,

This letter represents the strong support for Hi'ipaka LLC, who spiritually and responsibly continue to heal this rare valley of ancient priests and Hawai'i peoples.

Since its inception, Hi'ipaka LLC, under the leadership of Richard Pezzulo and invested staff, has achieved a dramatic reNEWal: Inspiring the valley's natural and cultural resources through intentional restorations, invitations to Hawaiian-focused traditional stewardship groups, the integration of our 'ohana to participate in the spiritual valley's renewal and succeeding in economic sustainability of our beloved Waimea Valley. The magnitude of successful work accomplished is an indication Waimea Valley feels the spirit of her Caregivers and a home that better reflects the significance of her past can be perpetuated for the future generations under Hi'ipaka, LLC. She is the "Höküle'a" on land.

For decades before, we observed the decline of spiritual, financial, managerial and committed staff challenges. For the first time, our 'ohana Hewahewa have witnessed a spiritually lush valley, with deep cultural significance to our family lineage and all Hawaiians/non Hawaiians, now recovering from disrepair, inability to sustain itself financially and disconnection from the rich cultural resources unique to her 'āina only.

Waimea Valley deserves your keen sense of responsibility and analysis to the successful qualities of Hi'ipaka, LLC, under Richard Pezzulo. On behalf of our 'ohana hewahewa and kūpahu, direct descendants of Kahuna Nui \*\*Hewahewa of Waimea Valley - who is laid to rest on this 'āina - we know any changes from this current pathway will be detrimental to the seven years of intentional team efforts. Our ancestral land is mana - spirit - inherited and acquired. Together, ancestral Waimea Valley can now perpetuate her legacy of healing Hawai'i and the world. She has transformed from infancy into boundless beauty of \*nui hewahewa. Aloha ke Akua.

In our Aunty Malia Craver words: Me ke aloha mau (everlasting love),

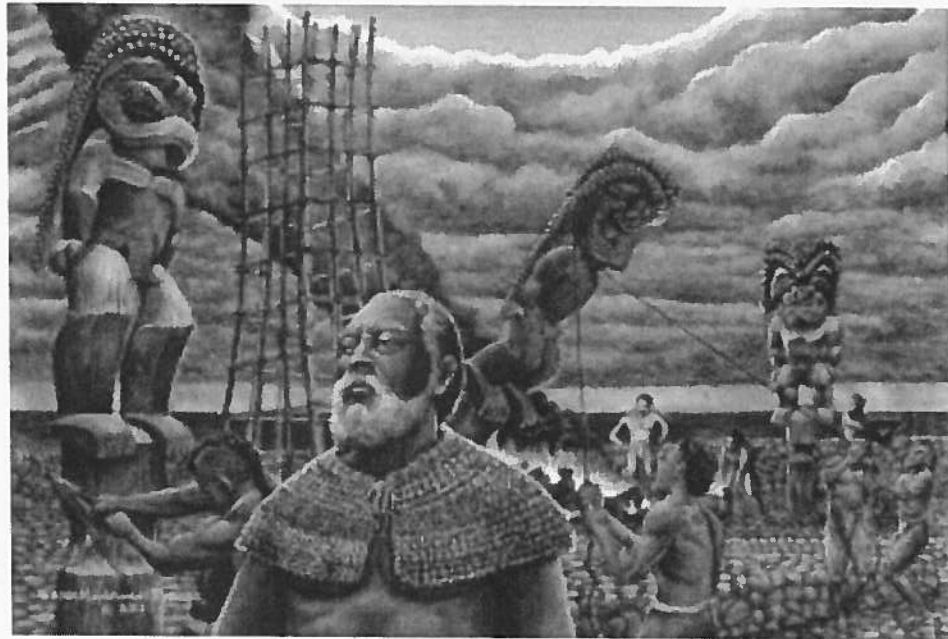
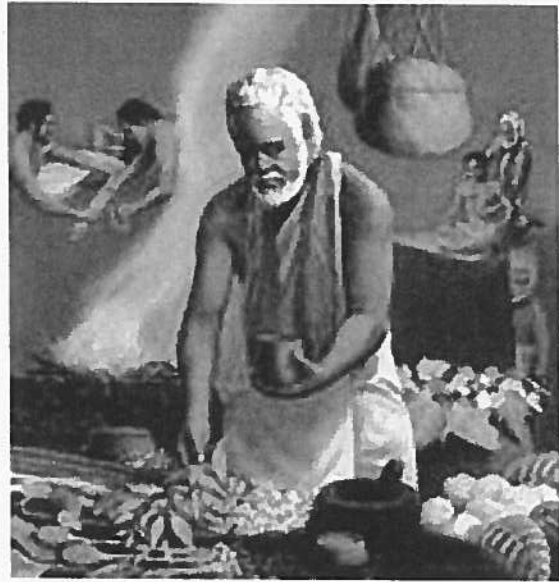
Ku'uleilanimekealohamau "Leilani" (Kupahu-Marino) Kaho'āno

\*\*Pukui-Elbert Dictionary

**hewa.hewa**

1. nvs. A great many, very, vast, in great quantities. He nui hewahewa nā mea nani a kēia home, there are many, many beautiful things in this home. 'A'ole o kana mai i ka hewahewa o nā mea 'ai, there were boundless quantities of food.

Kahuna Nui Hewahewa - high Priest for Kamehameha Nui.



With permission of Brook Parker. Kamehameha Nui is from [google.com](http://google.com).

April 23, 2018

**From: Kathleen Pahinui**

67-237 Kauai Street

Waialua, HI 96791

**To Whom it May Concern,**

I have worked with Mr. Pezzulo and his team very closely for well over 5 years. In that time I have seen nothing but positive outcomes: culturally, environmentally, and fiscally for the Valley. I was part of the team that rescued Waimea Valley from the development plans of Christian Wolffer back in the early 2000's and whole-heartedly supported OHA taking the Valley under its leadership. Their appointment of Mr. Pezzulo, his hard work and that of his team, have brought the Valley back from the red ink it was drowning in and have made it a fiscally sound business that respects and promotes Hawaiian culture in a respectful manner.

I appreciate the fact that some of the OHA Trustees want an audit, audits, when correctly done, can provide good information and inform better business practices. The agency I work for does annual financial audits and we have benefited greatly from them. However, what is not helpful is when Trustees and others who are ill-informed start throwing around spurious accusations without doing any fact-finding. What is even worse, is the fact that these claims are being tossed about to push personal agenda of the various Trustees. That is just wrong.

The claim I find most offensive is that the LLCs are somehow in the pocket of the OHA administrative team and that shady deals such as land transfers have been done and hidden. Anyone going to the OHA website can easily find information on these LLCs and how they were formed, why and who is in charge. Clearly some of the Trustees and their supporters have not done this. I actually had a conversation with a North Shore friend who knows the management at Waimea Valley and she believed the rumors – I directed her to the website which she was completely unaware of.

Please leave Waimea Valley alone. It is doing well, supported by the community and brings honor to the Hawaiian culture and its people.

Mahalo,

Kathleen Pahinui

67-237 Kauai Street

Waialua, HI 96791

E-Mail: [pahinuik001@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:pahinuik001@hawaii.rr.com)

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OHA Board of Trustees

April 24, 2018

Dear Board of Trustees,

Waimea Valley has undergone many changes throughout history, and certainly over the last few decades. I began working at the valley in 1974 and served in several capacities over the next 35 years, where I witnessed the shift from a focus of commercial use to a focus on cultural enrichment and stewardship.

Hi'ipaka LLC was created in 2007 as a nonprofit organization to nurture and care for the valley, in collaboration with several government agencies relative to the State and City Conservation easements, the Trust for Public Land and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. I served for a time as general manager, and I currently serve on Waimea Valley's 'ahahui along with a group of local kupuna and civic-minded residents. Together, we share Waimea Valley's current issues, future plans, and budgets to ensure the valley's beauty, history and cultural significance are perpetuated.

I have been fortunate to experience firsthand the positive changes taking place at Waimea Valley with the help of strong leadership from executive director Richard Pezzulo, Hi'ipaka, and the Waimea Valley staff.

After OHA acquired the land, its first order of business included responsibly addressing the deferred maintenance issues including getting squared away with the DLNR. Richard Pezzulo, a talented businessman and well-respected leader, came to Waimea Valley from within the ranks of the OHA. He knows their corporate culture and how to integrate the OHA cultural mission into Waimea Valley. He networked rapidly in the community with several nonprofits including the North Shore Chamber of Commerce (of which he is a current board member), the North Shore Outdoor Circle, Mālama Pūpūkea-Waimea, and several cultural practitioners.

Under Richard's leadership, Waimea Valley has flourished and seized new opportunities to engage with our community and welcome visitors.

Thanks to our events team and food and beverage offerings, Waimea Valley has become a desired venue for wedding receptions and fundraising events, as well as holiday celebrations such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, Valentine's Day and Christmas. Waimea Valley also sponsors regular musical concerts featuring Hawaiian entertainers that nurture the soul and help keep Waimea vital.

The store is well run and posts steady numbers reflecting sound management. The entry booth/admission has a number of discounts for kama'aina and keiki. The exit guest register is a great source of pride as it reflects a high level of customer satisfaction.

The cultural department keeps everything pono. Staff members meet in the mornings and get focused with traditional oli. Signage in the valley is new and very informative. The staff also has strong core values based on good safety practices.

Waimea Valley has assumed the responsibility for the historical Hale'iwa Court House. It is used by many cultural practitioners of hula and for meetings.

Waimea Valley has raised public funds for the purchase of a historically important Pu'ukua kuleana within Waimea Valley. They are also currently working to finalize a Conservation Easement on this property with the North Shore Community Land Trust.

Waimea Valley perpetuates the annual Makahiki observance with a grand cultural celebration including Hawaiian games, a hula competition, and more. School children come to Waimea Valley to learn about Hawaiian history that occurred within the reconstructed living sites.

The botanical gardens at Waimea Valley have one of the best fully documented collections of Hawaiian plants in the world. Expertly trained plant personnel provide a high level of stewardship. The valley has a new nursery that raises Hawaiian plants for maintaining the collections as well as selling to the general public, a valuable resource. Waimea Valley also holds botanical events that teach about kalo and 'awa.

Waimea Valley shows stewardship for the greater ahupua'a. The organization has received grants for restoration and planted thousands of native plants with an active cadre of volunteers. They have consistently reduced undulant damage with exclosures and/or eradication in sensitive areas. These considerable efforts to improve the watershed have resulted in a healthier Pūpūkea Marine Life Conservation District makai of the muliwai.

Waimea Valley's business objective has always been to become a financially sound operation that does not need to ask the OHA, or anyone else, for financial support to shore up any shortfalls. Richard Pezzulo has been able to accomplish this with skill and gratitude. He has put together a dedicated and passionate team that shows their love for Waimea Valley every day.

It hurts me to see attempts to drag Waimea Valley's proud record into OHA's current state of consternation. Waimea Valley is owned and managed by Hi'ipaka LLC, which is governed by Hi'ilci Aloha, another LLC which reports to OHA. There is a considerable administrative distance between Waimea Valley and the OHA board. Audits are good for accountability, but they should not be ordered by adversarial individuals as a public relations billy club.

Waimea Valley has come a long way and has many accomplishments to be proud of. The management and staff within Waimea Valley are exceptional and do our community proud.

Sincerely,

Bob Leinau



SUNSET RANCH HAWAII  
ESTABLISHED 1960

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April 20, 2018

Ms. Colette Y. Machado  
Board Chair  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)  
560 North Nimitz Highway, Suite 200  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

**Subject:** Letter of Support for Hi'ipaka, LLC (Owner and Operator of Waimea Valley)

Aloha Ms. Machado and OHA Board Members,

I hope this letter finds you happy and well. I am the owner and operator of Sunset Ranch Hawaii, a 27.44-acre parcel adjacent Waimea Valley to the northeast. This letter will serve as support for Hi'ipaka, LLC (Hi'ipaka) as owner and operator of Waimea Valley. I lend my full support by sharing the following: (1) a brief history of my family's involvement with Waimea Valley, and (2) my close observation of, and business interactions with, Richard Pezzulo and his staff since 2012.

**1. Family History**

My grandfather, Charles Joseph Pietsch, Jr, worked to acquire Waimea Valley from Castle and Cooke in the early 1960s. He was an entrepreneur at his core and he had a grand vision for the land: to honor its cultural history and significance by creating one of the most beautiful botanical gardens in the world. And to make it accessible to the local community, and to all visitors of Hawaii. No small task! Having had much success in his life, my grandfather set forth to execute on this mission. He committed most of his financial resources to creating the valley as one remembers in the seventies, eighties and early nineties. In my opinion, he was successful in bringing his grand vision to life.

Unfortunately, hard financial times hit our family in the mid-1990s. The capital-intensive nature of the business was cause for too large a debt burden. After my grandfather's passing in 1995, my father, Charles Joseph Pietsch III, partnered with Mr. Christian Wolfer in 1996. Mr. Wolfer assumed all debt and the family lost its equity position in the valley. I think it is fair to say that Mr. Wolfer's interests were purely financial. And it showed. The valley was mismanaged for years and many endangered flora and fauna were lost as a result. Consequently, the City and County of Honolulu condemned the property and subsequently fought Mr. Wolfer in court for years. While doing so, The National Audubon Society (Audubon) managed the valley. While well intentioned, Audubon appeared overwhelmed at the task and the valley continued to struggle. These were very long and difficult years for the valley, the community and everyone involved. The property was then eventually sold, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) took title, and Hi'ipaka was created and took ownership and operational control in 2012.

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59-777 PUPUKEA ROAD. HALEIWA, HAWAII 96712  
(808)638-8333

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## 2. Hi'ipaka, LLC


Given the prolonged period of mismanagement from the time of Mr. Wolfer's involvement, I was very curious as to how the property would be managed by Hi'ipaka. The property was in major disrepair, the gardens an overgrown mess, and the future uncertain. Waimea Valley was in desperate need of a good steward to take control and manage it efficiently, effectively and thoughtfully. Thankfully, Richard Pezzulo was the perfect man for the job.

Richard immediately began working towards restoring the valley to my grandfather's vision. Specifically, his thoughtful leadership restored the valley's infrastructure, stabilized the botanical gardens, and returned the operations to economic sustainability. Richard also successfully managed the unique challenge the valley presented of having to balance: (1) respect for the cultural history of the property, and (2) the importance of economic sustainability. There is no question in my mind that Richard's leadership, in combination with his hard-working staff, is why Waimea Valley is the thriving Hawaiian cultural attraction it is today. He took control of an extremely challenging asset on the verge of irreparable damage and rescued it.

Lastly, I'm happy to share that Richard and I have worked together to support our respective operations in the community. Specifically, we have supported and advised each other on: (1) land conservation and forest restoration efforts on our respective properties, and (2) improving operational efficiencies at our respective facilities. I look forward to continuing to work with Richard in years to come.

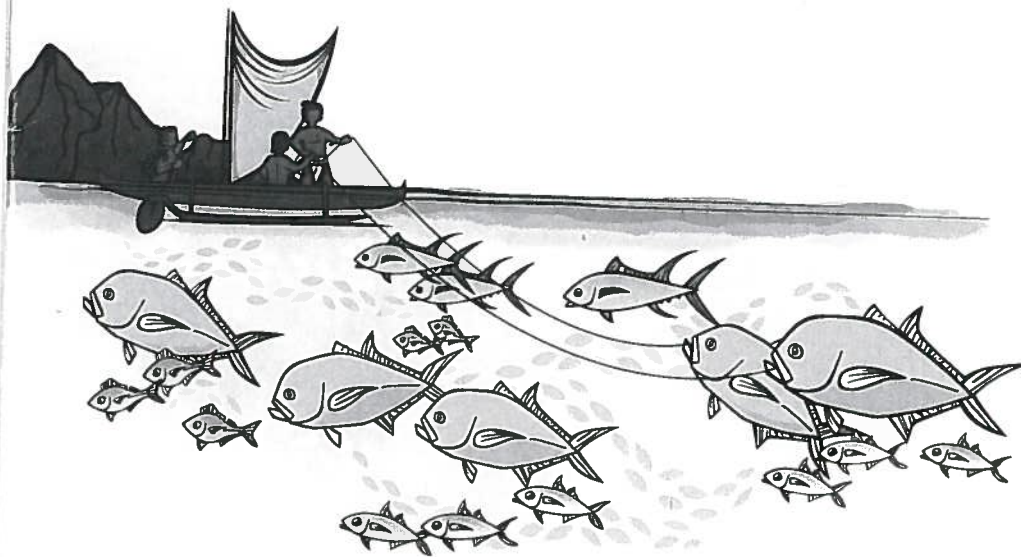
In closing, I can't thank Richard enough for his leadership at Waimea Valley. In fact, I speak on behalf of the entire Pietsch family when I say that we are all so very thankful for his involvement, care and love for the valley. We sincerely hope he remains involved with the operation for many years to come. I wholeheartedly support his efforts to date and in the event you, or anyone, would like to discuss the contents of this letter in greater detail, please feel free to contact me at (949)394-4997.

Mahalo nui loa,

  
Greg Pietsch  
President



\* copy of the cover of the booklet. Approved minutes on file will include complete booklet.



# LAWAI'A PONO

Enduring Fishing Traditions From  
Around Hawai'i: A Brief Look

Illustrated by Kelsey Ige



# IUCN Resolutions, Recommendations and other Decisions

World Conservation Congress  
Honolulu, Hawai'i, United States of America  
6–10 September 2016



**WCC-2016-Res-075-EN**

**Affirmation of the role of indigenous cultures in global conservation efforts**

NOTING that while the world seeks innovative approaches to sustainable development, indigenous peoples and local communities can provide examples of sustainability to serve as global models, including by means of their traditional knowledge;

RECOGNISING that the scope of indigenous knowledge is broad, including native species diversity, ecological processes and patterns, and land and sea management practices that are applicable today;

ALSO RECOGNISING that prior to Western contact, the indigenous people of Hawai'i sustained a population of up to one million people through the ahupua'a system of land management, which integrated land and sea ecosystems and relationships within a shared geographic, social, cultural, and political context;

NOTING Resolution 5.095 *Traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local peasant communities in the Andes and the Amazon Rainforest as a mechanism for adaptation to climate change* (Jeju, 2012);

NOTING Resolutions 4.055 *Integrating culture and cultural diversity into IUCN's policy and Programme* and 4.099 *Recognition of the diversity of concepts and values of nature* (Barcelona, 2008);

NOTING Resolution 4.052 *Implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UNDRIP) (Barcelona, 2008); and

ACKNOWLEDGING that the integration of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems with other conservation efforts is essential to achieve sustainable development;

**The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:**

1. INVITES the Director General and Council to acknowledge the value of indigenous peoples' and local communities' approaches and knowledge systems in helping to address the challenges facing our global ecosystems, and that working with indigenous knowledge holders appropriately to integrate their values and approaches into modern conservation efforts can greatly enhance the long-term success of conservation;
2. REQUESTS the Director General and the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) to develop voluntary guidelines regarding the appropriate participation of indigenous peoples in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of conservation projects, programmes and policies; and
3. INVITES the Council and Members to acknowledge and respect indigenous values that build appreciation and responsibility for care of natural resources through learning the regional history of indigenous peoples' and local communities' relationships with lands and waters of conservation value and by working to rebuild and maintain the relationships with indigenous peoples and local communities.

**WCC-2016-Res-065-EN**

**Community Based Natural Resource Management in the State of Hawai'i**

NOTING that decentralised management enables local people to address unique social, political, and ecological problems and to find solutions ideal to their situation;

FURTHER NOTING that community based natural resources management (CBNRM) projects are beneficial for the environment and partnerships between wildlife and communities;

RECOGNISING the contemporary importance of indigenous Hawaiian principles such as kuleana (the indivisibility of rights and responsibilities) and aloha 'āina (the love of the land which feeds) to the well-being of Hawai'i and the world;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the indigenous people of Hawai'i developed a culture of environmental interdependence, achieving an abundance of resources that sustained a population near current levels;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that the State of Hawai'i's adoption of CBNRM projects and indigenous Hawaiian resource management knowledge, principles, and practices furthers the spirit of reconciliation expressed in the United States' formal apology resolution in 1993 to Native Hawaiians on behalf of the people of the United States for the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii on January 17, 1893 with the participation of agents and citizens of the United States, and the deprivation of the rights of Native Hawaiians to self-determination;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Article XII Section 7 of the Hawai'i Constitution protects Native Hawaiian customary and traditional rights, and supports land and marine laws and programmes that empower community input and CBNRM;

AWARE that Hawaii's voyaging canoe Hōkūle'a is sailing around the globe, bringing the message of Mālama Honua (Care for the Earth) from Hawai'i to the world;

RECALLING that past IUCN Resolutions, 5.077 *Promoting Locally Managed Marine Areas as a socially inclusive approach to meeting area-based conservation and Marine Protected Area targets* and 5.092 *Promoting and supporting community resource management and conservation as a foundation for sustainable development* (Jeju, 2012) support indigenous co-governance and CBNRM as a foundation for sustainable development;

COMMENDING the State of Hawai'i for passage of the milestone 2015 Community Based Subsistence Fishing Area (CBSFA) rules for Hā'ena, Kaua'i; and

CELEBRATING Hawai'i's application of CBNRM principles as an example for the United States and the world;

**The World Conservation Congress, at its session in Hawai'i, United States of America, 1-10 September 2016:**

1. REQUESTS IUCN, its Commissions and Members, to recognise and promote CBNRM principles that support the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources by the local community, through adopting and applying local and traditional knowledge, and through customary institutions and regulations;
2. CALLS UPON the Director General to send notice of support of CBNRM to the Governor of the State of Hawai'i, its Department of Land and Natural Resources, Hawai'i Legislators and Congressional delegation, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and all County Mayors and Councils;

3. CALLS UPON the Director General, Commissions and Members, to encourage and support communities in the State of Hawai'i who wish to pursue CBSFA designations and rules;
4. CALLS UPON IUCN, its Commissions and Members, to encourage the State of Hawai'i to increase its support of CBNRM and indigenous Hawaiian principles in conservation by providing adequate funds and administrative resources to support communities seeking to implement CBNRM: and
5. RECOMMENDS that IUCN, its Commissions and Members, significantly strengthen institutional frameworks to promote collaboration and co-governance or co-management in a spirit of partnership with communities among government at all levels in the State of Hawai'i.



# Hakipu'u Learning Center

A Public Charter School

*Ma ka hana ka 'ike* Knowing is in the doing

Wednesday May 25, 2018

Honorable OHA Trustees,

I am writing to you today as one of the founders of Hakipu'u Learning Center charter school and as a delegate of the 1978 Hawai'i Constitutional Convention that helped establish the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs under the leadership of Kamana'opono Crabbe has genuinely engaged with the Hawaiian community and the community at large to truly address issues and inequities experienced by the Hawaiian community. In articulating the basis for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA), the Constitutional Convention members sought to realize and access resource commitments made to the Hawaiian community upon statehood, to help bridge the divide between those of Hawaiian ancestry eligible for Hawaiian Homes benefits and those who did not qualify, and to address issues impacting the overall wellbeing of the Hawaiian community. This proposal was solidly supported by the citizens of Hawai'i – Hawaiian and otherwise.

In the intervening years, OHA has worked hard to meet the expectations of the 1978 founding vision. Under the leadership of Kamana'opono Crabbe, there has been significant hard fought progress in many areas. Bringing resources to the education of Hawaiian learners is one of those areas. The active engagement of OHA leadership, staff, and committed Board members and the OHA financial contribution to Hawaiian-focused charter schools and community-based educational initiatives have helped not only the participating students, staff, families, and communities but have also contributed to the improvement of the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) public schools, its strategic plan, and creation of the Office of Hawaiian Education to serve all public school learners.

It is extremely distressing to have this work denigrated. The OHA Board of Trustees wisely contributed 3 million in Trust funds to the 17 Hawaiian focused Charter Schools in support of their work with Hawaiian learners, their families, and communities AND to leverage their work related to culturally relevant assessment, experiential learning strategies, and community collaboration integration with the HIDOE efforts toward the same. This approach addresses OHA's primary beneficiaries, as well as the general public.

At the individual Hawaiian-focused charter school level, the funds are essential for sustainability. Speaking on behalf of Hakipu'u Learning Center specifically, these funds have been applied directly to student learning supports – personnel, supplies, transportation, and facilities. Though charter schools are public schools, they do not receive equitable support from the HIDOE. They receive less than half of what is

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[hakipuu\\_hlc@yahoo.com](mailto:hakipuu_hlc@yahoo.com)

published as the HIDOE per-pupil spending and are not supported at all for facilities, lunch programs, transportation, etc. Along with the other Hawaiian-focused charter schools, Hakipu'u Learning Center is grateful for this support and it would be a great hardship for all of our schools to operate without this support, especially our smaller charter schools.

“These inequities force Charters to seek outside partnership with mission-aligned partners such as OHA. Without this support, many of us would not be able to stabilize financially or even survive. We are working hard to address the state inequities but at this time we are completely reliant on the support funding of our most important and impactful partners including OHA and Kamehameha Schools.” I am in completed support of this assessment by Susie Osborne.

Finally, I would like to speak in support of Kamana'opono Crabbe and his leadership at OHA. He is not an individual who seeks leadership for the sake of leadership prestige. He is an individual that has and continues to lead by example and his commitment to positively contributing to the well being of the Hawaiian community and Hawai'i in general. He has demonstrated this throughout his life with his learning, understanding, and practicing in the fields of public health, healthy eating, natural resource stewardship, perpetuation of Hawaiian cultural practices and 'ōlelo Hawai'i, and his commitment to meaningful and culturally grounded education.

Me ka ha`aha`a,  
Charlene Hoe

**Honorable OHA Trustees,**

**I am providing this testimony on behalf of Kua O Ka La Governing Board of Directors, Staff and `ohana.**

**We are extremely distressed at the accusations that the OHA Board of Trustees has misused Trust funds which included 3 million being allocated to the 17 Hawaiian focused Charter Schools.**

**These funds are distributed to the schools with a formula that results in Kua O Ka La receiving close to \$70,000.00 annually. This goes directly to our rent cost. We are all aware that Charter Schools get no funding for facilities or transportation which severely impact our ability to operate. We are so grateful for this support and would be a great hardship for the school to operate without this support. Every penny counts for us, especially as a small school.**

**These funds also support our Annual Ku`i Ka Lono Conference which brings together students and staff statewide from all the Hawaiian focused Charter Schools. It is a powerful and unique conference that is student designed and led by our schools selected leadership representatives and leadership program 'Ke EA' There is no such other conference or leadership program in the state for our schools and the Hawaiian focused Charter Schools lead the way in these innovative practices that support building a new generation of culturally based leaders. It is powerful beyond words.**

**3 million stretched between 17 schools and the conference amounts to really very little and these protestors have narrow minds and hearts. Investing in education is essential and our Hawaiian focused Charter Schools offer such promise for our Native Hawaiian youth for a future that is bright and grounded in place and excellence.**

**In todays Honolulu Star Advertiser, Wednesday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, there is a large article entitled 'Make education spending transparent' The use of OHA funds to support Charters has always been transparent. The real issue lies in the State DOE system which exceeds 3 BILLION dollars of which they cannot articulate how much gets down to the school and their refusal to cooperate voluntarily in the development of a transparency tool.**



**Our Charter Schools have stated for years that there are large inequities of funding between the DOE and Charters and have never been able to close this gap due to the inability to access the information.**

**These inequities force Charters to seek outside partnership with mission aligned partners such as OHA. Without this support, many of us would not be able to stabilize financially and even survive. We are working hard to address the state inequities but at this time we are completely reliant on the support funding of our most important and impactful partners including OHA and Kamehameha Schools.**

**This claim of misuse of OHA funds by Trustees is baseless and this small- minded movement should not be taken seriously.**

**We are truly grateful and dependent on the support and partnership with OHA. Please stay the course.**

**Me ka ha`aha`a,**

**Susie Osborne**

**Po`okula: Kua O Ka La NCPCS**

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STATE OF HAWAII  
**Ke Ana La'ahana**  
Public Charter School

May 23, 2018

Aloha mai e Na Alaka'i o OHA,

On behalf of Ke Ana La'ahana Public Charter School, a Na Lei Na'auao member, and one of 17 Hawaiian focused culturally based public charter schools, we are grateful for your continued support of our mission. In order to provide an educational foundation that recognizes, nurtures, and fosters cultural identity and cultural awareness, your funding affords our students, school, and families the opportunity to engage directly with cultural practitioners, develop opportunities for self-sufficiency, increase 'olelo Hawai'i, and malama 'aina, malama kai.

State allocated per pupil funds has not provided equally for our charter schools the needs necessary for all our childrens' academic success. OHA has helped to fill the gaps to insure Hawaiian focused charter schools continue their innovative, indigenous, and intellectual approaches to education.

Mahalo no na kako'o 'ana mai.

Ku I Ka Mana,

*W. Mapuana Waipa*

W. Mapuana Waipa

Po'o – Ke Ana La'ahana PCS

162 Baker Ave. Hilo, Hawai'i

1-808-961-6228



# Hakipu`u Learning Center

## A Public Charter School

*Ma ka hana ka `ike* *Knowing is in the doing*

May 24, 2018

TO: OHA  
FROM: Hakipu`u Learning Center - Administrative Team *Pilina'i Leland*  
SUBJECT: Testimony Supporting the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

As a small Hawaiian Focused Charter School (HFCS) Hakipu`u Learning Center (HLC) depends on the financial support provided by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. 88% of students attending HLC are native Hawaiians, and 90% of our students are identified as "at risk" based on homelessness, low socioeconomic status, and identified disabilities. As a Title 1 Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) school identified by the state and eligible for additional funding, HLC has submitted five proposals this school year to the School Transformation Branch (STB) for a school counselor to assist our students with social and emotional learning (SEL) challenges impacting their learning. The STB has denied all proposals to fund a counselor position at HLC, even though our data identifies a need to support 90% "at risk" students. HLC will be using OHA funding to support a counselor position to address the SEL needs of our students. OHA's financial support of HFCS historically and in the future will continue to provide the services and resources needed for our schools to operate and serve the next generation of native Hawaiian youth.



May 23, 2018

TO: Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs

**Re: Mahalo to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for support to Culture-based Charter School Education**

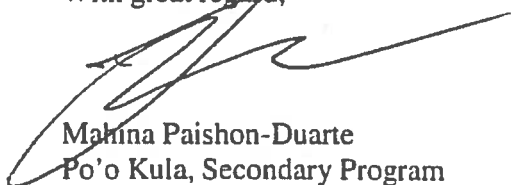
Aloha Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,

Kanu o ka Aina New Century Public Charter School (KANU) school administration extends much gratitude to the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for their diligent work in supporting educational opportunities as a mainstay vehicle to uplift our communities.

We are very proud of our school. Our community has worked very hard to provide our children with an appropriate learning environment that is worthy and this cannot be achieved without OHA's continued support. Similar to our sister schools, KANU feels distressed of the concerns that were raised, insinuating that OHA has misused Trust funds. As you are full aware, all Charter Schools are required to submit end of year reports to OHA for accountability purposes and is also required to submit annual independent financial audits to the Charter School Commission Office to assure financial solvency.

KANU would like to reassure OHA Trustees that the 17 culture-based charter schools maintain transparent and accountable systems to provide high quality education to some of Hawai'i's most vulnerable populations. Moreover, many of our schools maintain higher on-time graduation and college enrollment rates in comparison to our DOE counterparts. Again, we thank the leadership of OHA for believing that culture-based education is a viable mechanism and strategy to foster a vibrant and prosperous society.

With great regard,



Mahina Paishon-Duarte  
Po'o Kula, Secondary Program



**KULA AUPUNI NIIHAU A KAHELELANI ALOHA (KANAKA)**  
**P.O. Box 610**  
**Kekaha, Hawaii 96752**  
**Phone No. (808) 337-2022**

24 May 18

RE: OHA Support Letter

Aloha Kakou:

This letter is written on behalf of Kula Aupuni Niihau A Kahelelani Aloha New Century Public Charter School Governance Board, Administration, Staff and Niihau community supporters. As a beneficiary of monies from OHA this school has been able to survey many years of underfunding by legislated per pupil allocations. Our ability to perpetuate the Niihau olelo through education of our Niihau and Kauai haumana is only possible from the supplemental monies provided by OHA.

We feel it is ludicrous for people to accuse OHA of mismanagement of the funds that we receive. These funds allow our Hawaiian community to overcome the oppression of our language that is a necessary component of our ability to preserve and perpetuate the Niihau culture. Our community has suffered from decades of educational neglect for which the OHA funding has direct impact on over coming.

KULA AUPUNI NIIHAU A KAHELELANI ALOHA (KANAKA), PCS

O wau me ka Haahaa,

Hedy D. Sullivan/Poo

Cc: file

## Monica Morris

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**From:** Vanelle Lov  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 24, 2018 9:17 AM  
**To:** Monica Morris; Momilani Lazo  
**Subject:** Fwd: OHA Funding Support for Hawaiian Culture-Based Charter Schools

Aloha,

I tried to submit testimony to the OHA Board email, but it was rejected...  
Hoping this email gets to you.  
Kalamai for the late response.

Mahalo,  
Maunalei

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Vanelle Love**  
**Date:** Thu, May 24, 2018 at 9:13 AM  
**Subject:** OHA Funding Support for Hawaiian Culture-Based Charter Schools  
**To:** [botmeetings@oha.org](mailto:botmeetings@oha.org)

Aloha Kakou,

I'm submitting testimony in support of OHA's Funding Support for Hawaiian Culture-Based Public Charter Schools. Hawai'i's public charter schools receive funding through a different formula than Department of Education schools. As a result, our charters do not receive funding for facilities and other needed resources. Our charter schools greatly need and appreciate the support that OHA has offered. Funding support has assisted in many ways allowing our schools to address areas of need. Many of our charters have high percentages of Hawaiian and At-Risk students. I believe this support is in alignment with OHA's Plan of being able to positively assist our community.

Mahalo,  
Maunalei Love  
Hakipu`u Learning Center, Board Vice-Chair  
Former Executive Director of the Charter School Administrative Office (CSAO)  
Co-founder of Hawai'i's Charter Schools