

**STATE OF HAWAI‘I**  
**OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**  
**560 N. NIMITZ HIGHWAY, SUITE 200**  
**(VIRTUAL MEETING - VIA ZOOM WEBINAR)**

**Due to the threat of COVID-19, Governor Ige issued the most recent Emergency Eighteenth Supplementary Proclamation dated February 12, 2021 that suspend parts of Hawai‘i Revised Statutes Chapter 92, Public Agency Meetings and Records to, among other things, enable boards to conduct business without any board members or members of the public physically present at the same location.**

**The OHA Board of Trustees will hold virtual meetings until further notice. The virtual meetings can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA’s website at [www.oha.org/livestream](http://www.oha.org/livestream) or listen by phone: (213) 338-8477, [Webinar ID](#)**

**Minutes of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**MINUTES**  
**April 1, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Vice-Chairperson Leina‘ala Ahu Isa  
Trustee Dan Ahuna  
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka  
Trustee Keli‘i Akina  
Trustee Luana Alapa  
Trustee Brendon Kalei‘āina Lee  
Trustee Keola Lindsey  
Trustee John Waihe‘e, IV

**BOT STAFF:**

Colin Kippen  
Amber Kalua  
Kanani Iaea  
Lehua Itokazu

**ADMINISTRATION STAFF:**

Sylvia Hussey, Ka Pouhana / CEO  
Casey Brown, Pou Nui / COO  
Ramona Hink, CFO  
Raina Gushiken, CC  
Kevin Chak, IT Support  
Erin Nakama, IT Support

**Guest**

P. Kapi Kenoi-Chin  
M. Keolanui Kenoi-Okajima  
R. Kina Kenoi-Sai

### Call to Order

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Calls the Board of Trustees Meeting to order for Wednesday, April 1, 2021 to order at 10:10 a.m. Chair Hulu calls for a roll call.

| MEMBERS     |                    |         | Present | TIME ARRIVED |
|-------------|--------------------|---------|---------|--------------|
| TRUSTEE     | LEINA'ALA          | AHU ISA | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | DAN                | AHUNA   | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | KALEI              | AKAKA   | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | KELI'I             | AKINA   | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | LUANA              | ALAPA   | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | BRENDON KALEI'ĀINA | LEE     | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | KEOLA              | LINDSEY | x       |              |
| TRUSTEE     | JOHN               | WAIHE'E | x       |              |
| CHAIRPERSON | CARMEN HULU        | LINDSEY | x       |              |
|             |                    |         | 9       |              |

At the Call to Order, **nine (9)** Trustees are PRESENT, thereby constituting a quorum.

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Due to the threat of COVID-19, Governor Ige issued the most recent Emergency Eighteenth Supplementary Proclamation dated February 12, 2021 that suspends parts of Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 92, Public Agency Meetings and Records to, among other things, enable boards to conduct business without any board members or members of the public physically present at the same location.

The OHA Board of Trustees will hold virtual meetings until further notice. The virtual meetings can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA's website at [www.oha.org/livestream](http://www.oha.org/livestream)

Before we begin, I would like to note that items:

1. IV.B.1 and IV.C.1 were received under the 72-hour deadline. I will also be deferring Item IV.D to another date.

Please mute your mics when you are not speaking. Trustees and our CEO, please enable your cameras if you are able to do so. All other OHA staff please enable your camera and mic when addressing the board. If you get disconnected, we will pause the meeting for one minute and wait for you to log back on. After one minute we will proceed with the meeting. If you need to leave the meeting, please inform the Chair by announcing that you are leaving the meeting.

We are recording today's meeting for the sole purpose of producing written minutes, which will become the official record of this meeting. Joining the Trustees today is Sylvia Hussey our CEO, Judge Robert Klein, Colin Kippen-Chief of Staff, Board Secretary-Lehua Itokazu, and my Aides - Kanani Iaea and Amber Kahlua.

I would like to call upon our Ka Pouhana Sylvia to announce the administrative staff that is present.

**Sylvia Hussey, CEO** Thank you Chair and good morning Trustees. Today we have Casey Brown-Chief Operating Officer, Ramona Hink-Chief Financial Officer, Raina Gushiken-Senior Legal Counsel, and our IT staff Kevin and Erin for support.

### **Public Testimony**

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Thank you. I will move on to Public Testimony, item III. On the agenda. Do we have anyone signed up?

**Board Secretary** No one is signed up.

### **New Business**

**Action Item BOT #21-02: A Resolution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Honoring the Contributions of William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi to the Native Hawaiian Community and the State of Hawai‘i**

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Our next item is IV.A on the agenda and I would like to call upon our Hawaii Island Trustee Keola Lindsey to read and assist with this resolution that reads Action Item #21-02. Trustee Lindsey please proceed.

**Trustee Keola Lindsey** Mahalo Chair. I appreciate the opportunity to honor a man who provided a true impact and who left a lasting legacy here on Hawaii Island, throughout the State, and across the world. He left behind a large ohana and many friends. Before I read the resolution I would like to introduce the family members that have joined us today Deidre Kailiawa-sister, Kapi Kenoi-Chin-sister, Keolanui Kenoi-Okajima-sister, and Kina Kenoi-Sai, sister. I would like to offer this resolution for consideration.

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I**

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi was born on November 9, 1968, to Clayton Philip and Nancy Kenoi in Kalapana, Hawai‘i; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi graduated from Waiakea High School and attended both Hawai‘i Community College and the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo before graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi worked as a Congressional intern to Hawai‘i Senator Daniel K. Inouye, attending the Democratic National Convention in New York City and establishing a lifetime friendship with the Senator; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating from the William S. Richardson School of Law at UH Mānoa in 1996, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi passed the bar exam and then served as a clerk for Judge Richard K. Perkins of the Eighth Division of the First Circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi then worked as a deputy public defender, representing many Native Hawaiians in the judicial system, where he served in the Appellate, Family Court, Juvenile Criminal and Adult Family Court divisions, before finishing his career at the Public Defender’s Office at the Circuit Court; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning in 2001, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi served as an executive assistant to Hawai‘i Mayor Harry Kim for seven years, managing high-priority county projects, including community grants, a multi-agency initiative combatting a crystal meth epidemic, and a program to control invasive species; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi ran for, and at the age of 39 was one of the youngest to ever be elected, mayor of the County of Hawai‘i where he served two consecutive terms leaving office in December 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, as Mayor Kenoi, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi received praise for his efforts to unite the population, leading for two terms through a recession, maintaining services to its 198,000 residents, overseeing \$630 million in capital improvement projects, strategically investing in economic development initiatives, and effectively managing 2,500 employees and a \$463 million annual operating budget; and

**WHEREAS**, after his term as mayor ended, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi underwent several blood transfusions, bone marrow transplants and aggressive chemotherapy to treat his leukemia yet continued to serve his family, his friends and his community with guidance and advice; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 26, 2021, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi passed away at his home in Volcano, surrounded by his three children Justin, Liam and Mahina, and his wife of 25 years, Takako; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi will always be fondly remembered as a passionate civic leader who cared deeply for the community he served and who had a genuine love and aloha for all the families who resided in his island home; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi was gifted with charisma, intelligence, a deep personal commitment to the Hawaiian people and perhaps more than anything an exceptional mastery of the skill of public speaking, able to discuss and debate any issue as an orator with an inspiring eloquence rarely experienced; and

**WHEREAS**, it is said that William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi’s 2014 commencement speech to graduates of Hawai‘i Pacific University stands as one of the finest commencement speeches ever delivered in the Hawaiian Islands. In encouraging graduates to chase their dreams, he took the well-known Hawai‘i phrase of “If can, can. If no can, no can” and pleaded with graduates that “There is no such thing as no can...always can!”; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalahala Kenoi spent his last days still inspiring his community, giving a stirring speech on overcoming crisis through opportunity to the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai‘i’s 170th conference and virtual summit; and giving his last public speech at the inauguration of Hawai‘i County Mayor Mitch Roth in December 2020, stating to all that “by chasing perfection, we reach excellence.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the undersigned duly recognized as the Board Chair and Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of April 2021, do set forth their hand to recognize, honor, and

memorialize the life of William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoi.

**ADOPTED** this 1st day of April 2021, island of O‘ahu, State of Hawai‘i, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in its regular meeting assembled.

**I move that the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs approve:**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I’**

**Trustee Ahuna Seconds the motion.**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey Any discussion? Roll Call.**

|   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|---|---|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Trustee Keola Lindsey moves   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| that the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs approve:<br>A resolution OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF<br>WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND<br>THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I’ |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Trustee Ahuna Seconds the motion.   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|   | 1 | 2 | ‘AE<br>(YES) | ‘A‘OL<br>E<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA   |   | X | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KELI‘I AKINA  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON LEE   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KEOLA LINDSEY   | X |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE‘E  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| CHAIRPERSON HULU LINDSEY  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TOTAL VOTE COUNT  |   |   | 9            |                    |                      |         |
| MOTION: <input type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Motion passes with nine (9) YES votes and zero (0) EXCUSED vote.  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |

**Kina Kenoi-Sai** Aloha, I am the youngest sister but I am going to defer to my other older sister who is on the phone, Keola.

**Keola Kenoi-Okajima** Thank you Trustees. On behalf of my sister-in-law Takako and Billy’s children, Liam, Justin, and Mahina and all of our family members, we are so very honored for the reading of this resolution. We thank you all, we hope that you continue to serve our community and thank you for your time today.

**Deirdre Kailiawa** I just want to thank everyone for being here and honoring our very special brother who we all loved dearly and can't say how proud we all are of his accomplishments. He brought us all so much happiness. He has done so much for everyone. I just want to say Aloha, especially to his family, Takako, Liam, Justin, and Mahina, they have lost their most precious valuable resource in their family. I am sure it is not easy for any of us. Love you all.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** From all of the Trustees, we mahalo all of you for joining us this morning as we share our Aloha with you and your family for someone who we think quite highly of as well. So, mahalo nui. We will be moving on to Item B. I would like to call on Trustee Waihee.

**B. Joint Meeting of the Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment and the Committee on Resource Management**

- 1. Action Item BAE-RM #21-02: Approval to Reallocate the FY20 and FY21 Unspent Balance of Contract #3363 in the Amount of \$838,332; and Reclassify FY21 Unencumbered Sponsorships of \$205,921; for the Combined Purpose to Award a Grant of \$1,044,253 for Emergency Financial Assistance to Hawai'i Community Lending**

**Trustee Waihe'e** Your Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment (BAE) and your Committee on Resource Management (RM), having met on March 30, 2021 and after full and free discussion, recommends approval of the following three actions to the Board of Trustees:

**Action 1:**

**Reallocate the FY20 and FY21 unspent balance of Contract #3363 in the amount of \$838,332 for the purpose of an aggregated emergency financial assistance grant award. This award will be given to Hawaii Community Lending.**

**Trustee Akaka** Seconds the motion.

| Trustee Waihe'e moves   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|---|---|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------|
| <b>Reallocate the FY20 and FY21 unspent balance of Contract #3363 in the amount of \$838,332 for the purpose of an aggregated emergency financial assistance grant award. This award will be given to Hawaii Community Lending.</b> |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Trustee Akaka seconds the motion.   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|   | 1 | 2 | 'AE<br>(YES) | 'A'OL<br>E<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA   |   | X | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON LEE   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KEOLA LINDSEY   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E  | X |   | X            |                    |                      |         |

|  |  |  |          |  |          |  |
|--|--|--|----------|--|----------|--|
| CHAIRPERSON HULU LINDSEY   |  |  | X        |  |          |  |
| <b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b>  |  |  | <b>9</b> |  | <b>1</b> |  |
| <b>MOTION:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED |  |  |          |  |          |  |
| <b>Motion passes with nine ( 9 ) YES votes and zero (0) no vote.</b>   |  |  |          |  |          |  |

Chairperson Hulu Lindsey Trustee Waihee.

Trustee Waihe'e Thank you Madam Chair. Madam Chair I would like to move to:

**Action 2:**

**Reclassify FY21 \$135,000 (Board Trustees) and \$70,921 (Kaiaulu) Sponsorships for a total of \$205,921 from 56560 Grants in Aid Sponsorships to 56510 Grants in Aid Program Grants for the purpose of an aggregated emergency financial assistance grant award.**

Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.

|   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|---|---|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Trustee Waihe'e moves to  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| <b>Reclassify FY21 \$135,000 (Board Trustees) and \$70,921 (Kaiaulu) Sponsorships for a total of \$205,921 from 56560 Grants in Aid Sponsorships to 56510 Grants in Aid Program Grants for the purpose of an aggregated emergency financial assistance grant award.</b> |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Trustee Akaka seconds the motion.   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|   | 1 | 2 | 'AE<br>(YES) | 'A'OL<br>E<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA   |   | X | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON LEE   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KEOLA LINDSEY   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E  | X |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| CHAIRPERSON HULU LINDSEY  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| <b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b>   |   |   | <b>9</b>     |                    |                      |         |
| <b>MOTION:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| <b>Motion passes with nine ( 9 ) YES votes and zero (0) EXCUSED vote.</b>   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |

Trustee Waihe'e Madam Chair, I would like to move to:

### Action 3

**Award the total of \$205,921 to and contract with Hawai'i Community Lending for the purpose of an emergency financial assistance grant award.**

**Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.**

|   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|---|---|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------|
| Trustee Waihe'e moves to  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Award the total of \$205,921 to and contract with Hawai'i Community Lending for the purpose of an emergency financial assistance grant award.           |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Trustee Akaka seconds the motion.   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|   | 1 | 2 | 'AE<br>(YES) | 'A'OL<br>E<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA   |   | X | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON LEE   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KEOLA LINDSEY   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E  | X |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| CHAIRPERSON HULU LINDSEY  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TOTAL VOTE COUNT  |   |   | 9            |                    |                      |         |
| MOTION: <input type="checkbox"/> UNANIMOUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PASSED <input type="checkbox"/> DEFERRED <input type="checkbox"/> FAILED |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Motion passes with nine ( 9 ) YES votes and zero (0) EXCUSED vote.  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Thank you, Moving on to New Business C. Committee on Resource Management.

#### **A. Committee on Resource Management (RM)**

- 1. Action Item RM: #21-03: Approval of the OHA Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report for the Year ended June 30, 2020; and the OHA Report of Independent Certified Public Accountants in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Uniform Guidance, Year Ended June 30, 2020**

**Trustee Waihe'e** Thank you Madam Chair Your Committee on Resource Management, having met on March 30, 2021 and after full and free discussion, recommends approval of the following action to the Board of Trustees:



To approve the:

- OHA Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2020 at Attachment A; and
- OHA Report of Independent Public Accountants in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Uniform Guidance, Year Ended June 30, 2020 at Attachment B.

Trustee Akina Seconds the motion.

| Trustee Waihe'e moves to  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|---|---|---|--------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------|
| approve the:  |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OHA Financial Statements with Independent Auditor's Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2020 at Attachment A; and</li> <li>• OHA Report of Independent Public Accountants in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Uniform Guidance, Year Ended June 30, 2020 at Attachment B.</li> </ul> |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| Trustee Akina seconds the motion.   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
|   | 1 | 2 | 'AE<br>(YES) | 'A'OL<br>E<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED |
| TRUSTEE LEI AHU ISA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE DAN AHUNA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KALEI AKAKA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KELI'I AKINA  |   | X | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE LUANA ALAPA   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE BRENDON LEE   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE KEOLA LINDSEY   |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| TRUSTEE JOHN WAIHE'E  | X |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| CHAIRPERSON HULU LINDSEY  |   |   | X            |                    |                      |         |
| <b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b>   |   |   | <b>9</b>     |                    |                      |         |
| <b>MOTION: [ ] UNANIMOUS [ X ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED</b>   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |
| <b>Motion passes with nine ( 9 ) YES votes and zero (0) EXCUSED vote.</b>   |   |   |              |                    |                      |         |

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Trustees after the agenda was filed it became apparent that item D should have been made an Executive Session item even though the Report will not be discussed at this stage. The Report itself contains proprietary and confidential information and should only be released in Executive Session with proper steps taken to address the confidentiality safeguards that must be put in place. Consequently, as Chair, I am deferring this item until the next BOT Meeting when it can be released in Executive Session subject to adequate safeguards. Mahalo. Any questions? If not we will move on to Community Concerns.

### Community Concerns and Celebrations

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Do we have anyone signed up?

**Board Secretary** There is no one signed up.

## Announcements

**Chairperson Hulu Lindsey** Our next Board meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2021 at 10 A.M.

## Adjournment

**Trustee Akaka** moves to adjourn the meeting.

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

**Chairperson Lindsey** calls for a **ROLL CALL VOTE**.

| Adjournment             |         |   |   |              |               |                      |          |
|-------------------------|---------|---|---|--------------|---------------|----------------------|----------|
| TRUSTEE                 |         | 1 | 2 | 'AE<br>(YES) | A'OLE<br>(NO) | KANALUA<br>(ABSTAIN) | EXCUSED  |
| LEINA'ALA               | AHU ISA |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| DAN                     | AHUNA   |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| KALEIHIKINA             | AKAKA   | X |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| KELI'I                  | AKINA   |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| LUANA                   | ALAPA   |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| BRENDON KALEI'ĀINA      | LEE     |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| KEOLA                   | LINDSEY |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| JOHN                    | WAIHE'E |   | X | X            |               |                      |          |
| CHAIR CARMEN HULU       | LINDSEY |   |   | X            |               |                      |          |
| <b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b> |         |   |   | <b>9</b>     |               | <b>0</b>             | <b>0</b> |

**Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey** adjourns the Board of Trustees meeting at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lehua Itokazu  
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on April 15, 2021.

Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. Action Item/Resolution BOT#21-02



**ACTION ITEM**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**April 1, 2021**

**BOT #21-02**

**Action Item Issue:**     **Approval of “A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY”  
PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY  
AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”**

**Prepared by:**

*Ed Kalama*

Mar 23, 2021

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Ed Kalama, Ke Kahua Paikala Kūikawā  
Interim Public Relations Officer

Date

**Reviewed by:**

*Sylvia M. Hussey*

Mar 23, 2021

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Sylvia M. Hussey, Ed.D., Ka Pouhana  
Chief Executive Officer

Date

**Reviewed by:**

*Carmen Hulu Lindsey*

Mar 24, 2021

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Trustee Carmen Hulu Lindsey, Ke Kauhuhu o ke Kaupoku  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Date

**Action Item BOT #21-02: Approval of “A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”**

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**I. Action**

The OHA Board of Trustees approves **“A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”** at Attachment A.

**II. Issue**

Should the OHA Board of Trustees approve the resolution at Attachment A.

**III. Discussion**

In light of the recent passing of former Hawai'i County Mayor Billy Kenoi, Administration recommends to the Board of Trustees a resolution to honor:

- A Native Hawaiian 1996 graduate of the William S. Richardson School of Law at UH Mānoa;
- A former law clerk for Judge Richard Perkins of the Eighth Division of the First Circuit;
- An attorney who fought for many Native Hawaiians in the judicial system and who practiced in the Appellate, Family Court, Juvenile Criminal, Adult Family Court and Public Defender's Office;
- An executive assistant to former Hawai'i County Mayor Harry Kim who was known for managing high-priority projects;
- A two-term Mayor of the County of Hawai'i; and
- A gifted, charismatic orator who had a deep personal commitment to the Hawaiian people.

Mayor Kenoi was a passionate, beloved, civic leader who cared deeply about serving his community and who had a genuine love and aloha for not only Native Hawaiians but for all the people of Hawai'i.

**IV. Recommendation**

Administration recommends the BOT approve **“A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”** at Attachment A.

**Action Item BOT #21-02: Approval of “A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”**

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**V. Alternative Actions**

- A. To not approve Administration’s recommended resolution; or
- B. To approve an amended version of Administration’s recommended resolution.

**VI. Funding**

No funding is required.

**VII. Timeframe**

Immediate action is recommended.

**VIII. Attachment A - Resolution**

**Action Item BOT #21-02: Approval of “A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”**

**Attachment A**

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**A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA  
KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I**

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï was born on November 9, 1968, to Clayton Philip and Nancy Kenoï in Kalapana, Hawai‘i; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï graduated from Waiakea High School and attended both Hawai‘i Community College and the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo before graduating from the University of Massachusetts Amherst; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1992, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï worked as a Congressional intern to Hawai‘i Senator Daniel K. Inouye, attending the Democratic National Convention in New York City and establishing a lifetime friendship with the Senator; and

**WHEREAS**, after graduating from the William S. Richardson School of Law at UH Mānoa in 1996, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï passed the bar exam and then served as a clerk for Judge Richard K. Perkins of the Eighth Division of the First Circuit; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï then worked as a deputy public defender, representing many Native Hawaiians in the judicial system, where he served in the Appellate, Family Court, Juvenile Criminal and Adult Family Court divisions, before finishing his career at the Public Defender’s Office at the Circuit Court; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning in 2001, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï served as an executive assistant to Hawai‘i Mayor Harry Kim for seven years, managing high-priority county projects, including community grants, a multi-agency initiative combatting a crystal meth epidemic, and a program to control invasive species; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï ran for, and at the age of 39 was one of the youngest to ever be elected, mayor of the County of Hawai‘i where he served two consecutive terms leaving office in December 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, as Mayor Kenoï, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï received praise for his efforts to unite the population, leading for two terms through a recession, maintaining services to its 198,000 residents, overseeing \$630 million in capital improvement projects, strategically investing in economic development initiatives, and effectively managing 2,500 employees and a \$463 million annual operating budget; and

**Action Item BOT #21-02: Approval of “A RESOLUTION OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF WILLIAM “BILLY” PUNAPAIAALAIKAHALA KENOI TO THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN COMMUNITY AND THE STATE OF HAWAI‘I”**

**Attachment A**

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**WHEREAS**, after his term as mayor ended, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï underwent several blood transfusions, bone marrow transplants and aggressive chemotherapy to treat his leukemia yet continued to serve his family, his friends and his community with guidance and advice; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 26, 2021, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï passed away at his home in Volcano, surrounded by his three children Justin, Liam and Mahina, and his wife of 25 years, Takako; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï will always be fondly remembered as a passionate civic leader who cared deeply for the community he served and who had a genuine love and aloha for all the families who resided in his island home; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï was gifted with charisma, intelligence, a deep personal commitment to the Hawaiian people and perhaps more than anything an exceptional mastery of the skill of public speaking, able to discuss and debate any issue as an orator with an inspiring eloquence rarely experienced; and

**WHEREAS**, it is said that William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï’s 2014 commencement speech to graduates of Hawai‘i Pacific University stands as one of the finest commencement speeches ever delivered in the Hawaiian Islands. In encouraging graduates to chase their dreams, he took the well-known Hawai‘i phrase of “If can, can. If no can, no can” and pleaded with graduates that “There is no such thing as no can...always can!”; and

**WHEREAS**, William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï spent his last days still inspiring his community, giving a stirring speech on overcoming crisis through opportunity to the Chamber of Commerce of Hawai‘i’s 170th conference and virtual summit; and giving his last public speech at the inauguration of Hawai‘i County Mayor Mitch Roth in December 2020, stating to all that “by chasing perfection, we reach excellence.”

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the undersigned duly recognized as the Board Chair and Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, on the 1st day of April 2021, do set forth their hand to recognize, honor, and memorialize the life of William “Billy” Punapaiaalaikahala Kenoï.

**ADOPTED** this 1st day of April 2021, island of O‘ahu, State of Hawai‘i, by the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs in its regular meeting assembled.