

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

Due to COVID-19, the OHA Board of Trustees and its standing committees will hold virtual meetings until further notice. The virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA's website at [www.oha.org/livestream](http://www.oha.org/livestream) or listened by phone: (213) 338-8477. A physical meeting location open to the general public will be available at Kaua'i Community College Fine Arts Auditorium, 3-1901 Kaumuali'i Hwy.; Līhu'e, HI 96766. All members of the public that wish to access the physical meeting location must wear a mask and follow all applicable COVID-19 requirements of the meeting venue.

**Minutes of the Kaua'i Island Board of Trustees Meeting  
of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
MINUTES  
June 23, 2022**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Trustee Leina'ala Ahu Isa  
Trustee Dan Ahuna  
Trustee Kaleihikina Akaka  
Trustee Keli'i Akina  
Trustee Luana Alapa  
Trustee Brendon Kalei'āina Lee  
Trustee Mililani Trask  
Trustee John Waihe'e, IV

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Sylvia Hussey, CEO  
Ramona Hinck, CFO  
Casey Brown, COO  
Everett Ohta, Interim General Counsel  
Nietzsche Ozawa, Interim Sr. Legal Counsel  
Capsun Poe, Community Engagement Director  
Alice Silbanuz, Communications Director  
Lei-Ming Verdadero, Beneficiary Services Mgr.  
Joshua Koh, Multi-media Designer  
Jason Lee, Multi-media Designer  
Tiger Li, IT Support  
Erin Nakama, IT Support  
Daniel Santos, IT support  
Kaliko Santos, Beneficiary Services Agent

**BOT STAFF:**

Amber Kalua, Trustee Aide  
Kanani Iaea, Trustee Aide  
Lehua Itokazu, BOT Secretary  
Kauikeaolani Wailehua, Aide  
Brandon Mitsuda, Aide  
Ruben Sierra, Aide  
Nathan Takeuchi, Aide  
Anuheia Diamond, Aide  
Claudine Calpito, Aide

**GUEST:**

Elizabeth Okinaka  
Kiara Rodrigues  
Alfred Medeiros  
Shyanne Olores  
Pulama Callejo  
Terill James K. Williams  
Canen Hookano  
Aber Boyognan  
Nawai Rivera  
Nā Kai'elua Villatora  
Rupert Rowe  
Tara Rojas  
Kulanui Perez  
Roslyn Cummings

## **Call to Order**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Calls the Board of Trustees Meeting to order for Thursday, June 23, 2022 at 9:33 a.m. Board Secretary, please do a roll call.

MEMBERS			Present	TIME ARRIVED
TRUSTEE	LEINA‘ALA	AHU ISA	X	Joined by Zoom
TRUSTEE	DAN	AHUNA	X	
TRUSTEE	KALEIHIKINA	AKAKA	X	
TRUSTEE	KELI‘I	AKINA	X	
TRUSTEE	LUANA	ALAPA	X	
TRUSTEE	BRENDON KALEI‘ĀINA	LEE	X	
TRUSTEE	MILILANI	TRASK	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.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Aloha kakahiaka everyone and welcome to our Board of Trustees Kaua‘i Island meeting. We are so happy to be here with all of you.

As reminder for those joining by Zoom, please mute your mics when you are not speaking and have your cameras turned off until called upon. The virtual meeting can be viewed and observed via livestream on OHA’s website at [www.oha.org/livestream](http://www.oha.org/livestream)

Joining the trustees this morning, we have our COO-Casey Brown and our CEO-Sylvia Hussey joining us by Zoom. Today, my staff is with me, Board Secretary-Lehua Itokazu and my two Aides-Amber Kalua and Kanani Iaea. I will ask each Trustee to introduce themselves.

**Trustee Ahu Isa** Aloha kakahiaka, I am sorry I cannot be with you in person. I am here and present. If you need anything, you can ask my Aide, Nathan Takeuchi. We are always ready and willing to answer your questions and to help. Good morning Kaua‘i, mahalo.

**Trustee Ahuna** Aloha mai kākou, with me today are my two Aides, Claudine Calpito and Anuheia Diamond. Thank you.

**Trustee Akaka** Aloha e Kaua‘i ‘ohana, mahalo nui for having us. My name is Kalei Akaka and I am honored to serve as your O‘ahu Trustee and to serve as your OHA Chair on the Committee of Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment. Joining me today is my Trustee Aide, Brandon Mitsuda and also my ‘ohana, Tyler and our baby Ana Āiwaiwa. Mahalo nui to our Kaua‘i Trustee, Dan Ahuna, for hosting us and mahalo to all of you joining us today.

**Trustee Akina** Aloha kakahiaka, I am Trustee Keli‘i Akina and I am delighted to be here with you on Kaua‘i. I appreciate everyone who came out last night. Your mana‘o was very meaningful. I would like to introduce my Aide, Ruben Sierra. Mahalo to Trustee Dan Ahuna for hosting us. We look forward to hearing from all of you today, mahalo

**Trustee Alapa** Good morning Kaua‘i, I am Luana Alapa. I am the Trustee for the islands Moloka‘i and Lana‘i. I am very happy to be here. Your mana‘o was greatly appreciated last night and I am looking forward to listening you today, mahalo.

**Trustee Lee** Aloha mai kākou, I am Brendon Kalei‘āina Lee, I am the at-large Trustee for the OHA. I would like to take a minute to thank Trustee Dan Ahuna for his hospitality, his staff, the Kaua‘i office staff, the rest of Administration, and all the IT support. Mahalo to the community that was here last night and that are here again today. I would like to introduce my Aide, LeiAnn Durant who is here with me, mahalo again.

**Trustee Trask** Aloha Kaua‘i, what a beautiful day we had yesterday. Thank you so much for hosting us and awakening us with the issues here. I am Mililani Trask, I live in Ola‘a on the Big Island. I was not elected but when Trustee Lindsey left, my colleagues appointed me to this seat. My Aide is Kauai Wailehua. I was asked by my cousins why I did not speak of my ties to this island. The Trask family is from this island, Kaua‘i. Three generations ago they came here, our family burial place is at the cliffs of Molowa‘a. If you go there, you will see a little cemetery, that is all my ‘ohana. I am so please to return here, aloha.

**Trustee Waihe‘e** Aloha mai kākou, I am John Waihe‘e, IV, Trustee at-large. I want to again, express my gratitude for being able to be here in-person and thank the community of Kaua‘i for coming out and sharing their mana‘o with us last night. Thank you to my colleague, Dan Ahuna, for putting on a great community meeting and to everyone that made this meeting happen. My Aide is Crayn Akina and he is here with me today. Thank you again everyone for coming out.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Thank you Trustees. I am Hulu Lindsey, the Maui Trustee, and I presently serve as the Chair of our Board. I would like to introduce my staff, our Board Secretary, Lehua Itokazu and my two Aides, Amber Kalua and Kanani Iaea. Thank you to all of you, we enjoyed all of the testimonies given last night. We just want you to know that we listen. It is not going over our heads, we heard you last night. As always, the Trustees will do whatever we can to help in the different issues. Before we move on with the agenda, I would like to ask our COO to introduce our staff that is here with us today.

**Casey Brown, COO** Mahalo Chair, aloha Kaua‘i, I am Casey Brown, Chief Operating Officer for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs. I will introduce the staff on site first. Today with us, we have Kaliko Santos-on island BSA, Community Engagement Director-Capsun Poe, Communications Director-Alice Silbazuz, BSA Mngr.-LeiMing Averdadero, IT Mngr.-Tiger Li, two of our Multi Media Designers-Jason Lee and Josh Koh; and we have staff online: our Pouhana-Sylvia Hussey, CFO-Ramona Hinck, Interim General Counsel-Everett Ohta, our Interim Sr. Legal Counsel-Nietzsche Ozawa, and our IT support staff as well – Dan Santos and Erin Nakama.

### **Approval of Minutes**

#### **1. June 2, 2022**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Mahalo nui Casey. Our next item is approving the June 2, 2022 minutes. Do I have a motion to approve the minutes?

**Trustee Akaka** Moves to approve the minutes.

**Trustee Ahuna** Seconds the motion.

<b>MINUTES:</b>						
<b>A. June 2, 2022</b>						
	1	2	'AE (YES)	'A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
TRUSTEE LEI <b>AHU ISA</b>			X			
TRUSTEE DAN <b>AHUNA</b>		X	X			
TRUSTEE KALEI <b>AKAKA</b>	X		X			
TRUSTEE KELI'I <b>AKINA</b>					X	
TRUSTEE LUANA <b>ALAPA</b>			X			
TRUSTEE BRENDON <b>LEE</b>			X			
TRUSTEE MILILANI <b>TRASK</b>			X			
TRUSTEE JOHN <b>WAIHE'E</b>			X			
CHAIRPERSON HULU <b>LINDSEY</b>			X			
<b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b>			<b>8</b>		<b>1</b>	
<b>MOTION:</b> [ ] UNANIMOUS [ X ] PASSED [ ] DEFERRED [ ] FAILED						
<b>Motion passes with eight ( 8 ) YES votes, zero (0) NO votes and one (1) ABSTENSION votes.</b>						

### Public Testimony

*No testimony*

### New Business

#### **River Heritage Foundation**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** We will call up our first presenter River Heritage Foundation, Kamealoha Hanohano Pa-Smith.

**Kamealoha Pa-Smith** Aloha, I am Kamealoha Hanohano Pa-Smith. I work at the Hanalei River Heritage Foundation and we are based at the muli wai. We are located at the extreme north shore of Kaua'i. Presenting with me today is Nawai Reveira and his wife La. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to present to you today. Although we are based in Hanalei, in 2020 there was a need for us to expand due to a number of reasons. One is because we've had some extreme impacts of climate change. There was a call out by the state for us to assist with some projects associated with that and also because of COVID-19, there was a need for Native Hawaiian non-profits to come together and collaborate; and because of that, we expanded the work that we do.



With the gracious support of volunteers, families and the dedication of hard working Hawaiians and allies of Hawaii we are able to present

Kūā'ina responsibility for outreach in Kanaka Maoli communities a project for the rehabilitation of Hawaiian families and genealogical connection to natural resources of Hawai'i by increasing opportunities to access language and cultural practices and protocols of antiquity



We have been able to organize employment of Kanaka Hawaii to perpetuate native Hawaiian fisher practices and protocols.

Efforts to record and observe spawning and population in Hawaii marine life have brought awareness and attention to the importance of a mauka to makai connection in the vitality and health of an ahupua'a



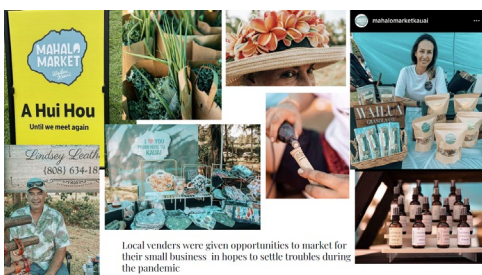
Pa'au'au spawning in Hanalei, Hanalei Maui June 17 2022 8:35am



The Hanalei River Heritage Foundation is a non-profit since 2013. I came to the foundation in 2018 as a Program Administrator. The actual non-profit was started by the Wilcox Sheehan family. We are involved in cultural-based, cultural environmental stewardship. One of the projects we have going on right now is Project Mālama Ola, native Hawaiian fish habitat and cultural monitoring project. This is based in Hanalei. On this project, four Native Hawaiian practitioners are employed to assist with project research. There are four project deliverables that we are responsible for:

1. To create an E-based aloha ‘āina curriculum resource manual.
2. We have to create a Hawaiian moon calendar – partnered with Western Pacific Regional Management Council
3. Cultural Exchange – Myself and other fishermen and practitioners are on our way to the Federated States of Micronesia where we will engage in cultural exchanges with people in Yap.
4. International virtual conference – we are partnered with the Office of Insular Affairs

We are planning a summer outreach program and this particular project is supported through a grant from the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations, which is part of the Department of Interior and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife and, of course, based in Hanalei. We are working with beneficiaries to develop a traditional knowledge driven, cultural monitoring program to study native fish habitat and migration on the Hanalei river. We are looking at what is the impact of climate change on traditional knowledge practices and traditional knowledge resources. We are really fortunate to have gathered a number of younger fishermen who come from this side of the island and they're working with us to gather data on two resources. One is the ‘ama‘ama and the other is pig hunting. Another project is the Mahalo No Ka Mea‘ai culture-based farmers market based in Wailua and Kapa‘a. We partnered with 15 Native Hawaiian vendors to host a weekly Native Hawaiian Farmer Market that features native produce and ‘āina-based value added products. This project allowed us to hire four Native Hawaiians to run the market. We are happy to announce that we got approved to run a SNAP program. This means we will be able to offer vegetables at a discount too. The 15 vendors that we have, 13 of them are Native Hawaiians and the other 2 are Pacific Islanders. In addition to this program, we do outreach to the homeless community to ensure their access to fresh vegetables. This particular project is funded by the Administration for Native Americans, known as ANA, from the U.S. Department of Health, Human Services.



One of the last things I want to talk about is we are sponsoring a Hawaiian language project in the context of aloha ‘āina based learning at Uhau‘iole. We are providing the administrative support for the group to carry out this project in the context of not just ‘āina-based, but cultural restoration. In this program, we have about 12 Native Hawaiian families.

I want to turn the time over to Nawai, he has a degree in Forestry Management from the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo. We are fortunate that we are able to work together, he, his wife, and baby.

**Nawai Aipa-Reveira** Aloha mai kākou Trustees. Aloha to Uncle Dan, my old teacher from Kanuikapono. I was the first class from Kanuikapono and Uncle Dan was one of my main teachers. Everything I've learned was from my kūpuna, and also Kanuikapono and going to Waipā, doing fish management and watershed management. I am not finish with college yet, and I want to go back to get a masters degree. I am a fisherman. My family is from Anahola and my geneological ties to Hanalei is in Wai'oli. I have been living the life of a fisherman all my life. I had the opportunity to learn from many different fishermen, the Hermasura family, the Chandler family, and my own family.

What I do with the project in the mornings and with the different times of the moon cylces, is that I watch the fish to see where they go, how do they react, where they spawn, and how the boats impact their livelihood. I try to do this throughout the week so that I can track the different moons, this is what I do for Hanalei.

I started this project in 2017. We just started working with Kamealoha for funding for this project. We have been doing everything by hand since 2017. One of our goals is food security for our people and gathering rights. How can our people gather when there is nothing to gather? One of the things we deal with is the foreign hau bush. The whole wahi pana in the area is basically albizia and hau bush, this is what we are battling. We are doing a lot of work with charter schools like Kawaikini and homeschools too. We do this every Sunday at 9 am. I have people that help me cook and steam kalo during the workdays. Our main plant is hāloa because this is our main staple. We also have 'ulu, banana, and ohia'ai. We also do bird and watershed management. My observation is that we need an 'auwai system in that area. My family's last name is Ka'auwai so I feel like our last name was made for the 'auwai. I feel like I have a deep connection with the irrigation system and I have helped with various projects on the different islands: Maui, Big Island, and Kaua'i. I will now pass this portion onto my wife.

**Pumehana (Lā)** Welina ke aloha, we have a lot of foreign plants that grow up at the lo'i where we work. A practice of our kūpuna was always use what we have and utilize all the resources that we were given. We are looking for ways to use albizia and and to repurpose the hau bush. Uhau is a word for strike physically or with sorcery. The name also ties into mo'olelo of that place of a time when kupua use to live on that land. 'Iole is a little mouse and is a reminder to our kānaka Hawai'i that without properly taking care of our resources, not even the littlest of us have anything. Even the little mouse cannot eat or drink anything if we are not taking care of our resources. Our goal at Uhau'iole is first to take care of the knowledge of our ancestral practices. Also, with COVID-19, we've been able to put an emphasis on the importance of food security especially since we are on an island. Families here have been known to share resources during hard times. During the 2018 floods, I got to witness people pulling their resources together from different parts of the 'āina, it was inspiring to me. During COVID, I had a hard time learning with the classes being offered online. I parted ways with the University and decided to go full time into the community. Our practices up at the lo'i are for the next seven generations and we are looking to share this project with as much people as we can. We have started to look up different organizations on O'ahu to see if we can do different collaborations. We also need to be aware more of our resouces and how we will be affected like the albizia. One of our goals is to start making paddles from the albizia. I want to give you folks a big mahalo for your time and aloha for listening to our project.

**Trustee Trask** I am so happy and uplifted to be here and to hear this presentation. When I look at the scope of your work, I feel like it is very encompassing. I would like to share this with other communities on other islands. The other islands are trying to do what you are doing here. There are some projects that you take a step back and see the broad expanse of the many componants. I think that type of vision is something you presented. I just want to thank you. I want to share with you, Nawai, a long time ago we went to Kaho'olawe. We would beg people and went everywhere for someone to help us understand the erosion. We never had a single Hawaiian with a degree in this area or someone with a degree with invasive species. In the future, do not let go

of the opportunity that you can harvest from the white man's educational system and yourself as well, Pumehana. We don't go into that system to augment our cultural knowledge but rather to acquire the tools that we need to continue to mālama the 'āina and to address appropriately those who are not Hawaiian, who are on our lands. Thank you so much for your work and I look forward to coming back.

**Nawai Aipa-Reveira** I just want to share briefly that when we first started the project, I proposed to the Forest Reserve if I could have a job to manage the watershed and do what I do now by horseback. We should have kānaka up there managing the place. Right now, there is nothing to gather. You have to go deep into the forest. You can't harvest anything but pigs. When I gave the Forestry Reserve the proposal, they said no. They said I was not allowed to farm in the area. After a few years, they had to give me a Right of Entry into that area. The reason was the other community, that was not kānaka, was complaining about me, so I had to sign this paper that I never wanted to sign. I feel like I have a right to go up to that Forest Reserve. I am a descendant of that place. My family has kuleana and we have the right to say what goes on in the ahupua'a as well. We have 37 different families that have kuleana in there. We want this area to succeed for all of the kānaka, thank you.

**Kamealoha Pa-Smith** I just wanted to follow up with it takes some ingenuity to work with some of these State agencies. We work hard to do the paperwork and the due diligence documents that are necessary. We do have a special use permit that allows us to connect the work we do in Hanalei to Wailua but it takes time and effort to sit with these agencies to work out what these permits look like.

**Trustee Akaka** I share great pride seeing our youth take on this kuleana with such greatness, mahalo nui. I wanted to see how OHA can collaborate with you folks. Is there something that you could share on how we can collaborate together?

**Pumehana (Lā)** I would like to give my mahalo to you folks. I feel strongly that the young ones can do this because of the strong foundation all of you have put together for us. One request is to bring in more kūpuna. We do have a lot of keiki that come, but it would be beautiful to have the mākua and kūpuna generation as much as possible to share their stories.

**Nawai Aipa-Reveira** I want to share that the State is giving us a hard time with the 'auwai system. Nā pūnāwai on the 'āina that bubbles out of the ground but it is not enough for us to sustain ourselves and the kalo. The kalo needs fresh flowing water. Right now, we are dependent on the pūnāwai that is not stable. We have to fight this hau bush to get to the pūnāwai. Thankfully, we have some machines that are coming up there to help us do the work. Once we get to the pūnāwai, there was a landslide that happened in that area and it covered the system of the pūnāwai, this is why there is a pond in the area. We also utilize that spring for the kalo. It is a ½ mile from the stream to the site; and it is about 40,000 sq.ft. of the area. We would not be taking too much water. It will be to build the ecosystem for our fish. Right now, we have bass in the water that we are trying to get rid of. The bass are eating all of our 'o'opu and 'ōpae. On Sundays, we sometimes fish for the bass and use it to feed the people. Bringing back the 'auwai system will bring back the 'o'opu and the 'ōpae in that area. If you guys could kōkua us with bringing the water back, that would be awesome.

**Kamealoha Pa-Smith** If we could set up a meeting with Kaleo Manuel, that would work. We have to fill out an application and start a dialogue.

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** Where is this market that you are talking about?

**Kamealoha Pa-Smith** No, it's not that one. We were originally at Ho'omana, but we moved down the street called the Dragon Building on Kapa'a. We will start the market again on July 2nd and we are hoping to get into a few hotels.

**Trustee Ahu Isa** Are you helping them through the Heritage foundation? How are you being funded?

**Kamealoha Pa-Smith** We have the permits to work and we partnered. We are working directly with the Department of Forestry and Wildlife and DLNR to secure the due diligence paperwork.

**Trustee Akina** I join my fellow Trustees who commended Pumehana and Nawai, your work is marvelous. It is wonderful to see where it is going and what a model it is for other young people. I also want to commend Kamealoha. I thank you, Kamealoha, for what you have done through your non-profit in empowering other organizations, providing the administrative structure, the mentorship, and the guidance; that is so important because it multiplies the work many times.

### **Community Concerns**

**Terrill James K. Williams** Aloha mai kākou, my 'ohana are the Contrades and (*inaudible*) that have history here on Kaua'i. I have ties to Wailua, Kaua'i. I want to share about my education, I have a Masters in Business Administration with a concentration in Management. I want to discuss mismanagement of Wailua by DLNR and the State of Hawai'i. There is a concern by my 'ohana for the pōhaku 'ele'ele heiau, located on Kuamo'oloa Kane. Throughout that entire ridgeline is where my iwi kupuna rest. I am one of the few from my 'ohana that practices at the heiau and maintains our family knowledge of the heiau. Over the years, my 'ohana has dealt with documented bulldozers coming into the area. On the east side of the heiau, there is a plaque that says registered national historic landmark. To my understanding, it should have federal protections and there shouldn't be any bulldozers or machinery going through the complex. There is now a gate that was put up between 2007 and 2013. The State has failed to take care of the site and has restricted our 'ohana from being able to access it. There are many stones there, some may know them as the solstice stones, but they are a part of the heiau, they are hidden behind the cane grass. I took a photo of the excavator that is located at the bottom. This excavator had to go through this burial ground and through where the heiau is located to get in. There is only one way in and one way out. If there is suppose to be protections for our sacred sites and DLNR is still able to bring this type of equipment through what is registered as a historic landmark, then what are the federal consequences? What about sites that do not have that type of protection? There needs to be some type of intervention and remedy. I would prefer that the management come back to my 'ohana. I am the one that takes care of this site and our family has been restricted from driving up. I want to echo the concerns that were shared with you yesterday of frustration with DLNR; the failure of DLNR to respond to the 'ohanas regarding the burial sites, being given the runaround, SHPD not stepping in, the burial council meetings being cancelled in the past two months in a row. There are many families on the island that have iwi being desecrated and none of us are getting any remedy or intervention from the agencies that are suppose to be stepping in. What are we left with?

**Canen Ho'okano** Aloha distinguished Trustees, I want to say mahalo to all of our cultural advocates, our cultural practitioners, and protectors for perpetuating, preserving, and protecting our resources. Last night, I heard people speak about the burial council. I think there are restrictions that don't allow people to want to be a part certain boards and commissions. A lot of them, you have to distinguish your income and that deters people. I think that is one of the biggest issues that deters people from wanting to serve on boards and commissions. Another thing that I would like to talk about is housing, this is a big issue. There is a big division between Department of Hawaiian Homelands and OHA from our perspective. It is not about the 50% and above or the

49% and below, it is about all of us. We should not have to look at our kids and say, you don't have half Hawaiian so you don't deserve. We are in this together. Through the COVID pandemic, we have been under the radar. We have some of the richest people in the world right here on Kaua'i. Some of them help to preserve our culture but they should do more, and our department should do more. I think collaboratively we should all get together and talk story more. DHHL got \$600 million dollars, the average medium home goes for about \$1 million dollars, so what are we going to do? Only help 600 people out? I think we need to think outside of the box. We have all our people trying to protect our 'āina and our burial sites, we need more people like that, but due process. I hope one day the division between DHHL and OHA can come together and figure out this problem. Your Grandparents will be renting a house until the day they die and when they die, their family home is gone.

**Amber A.** Yesterday, you saw me as a farmer and now, today, I will speak a bit more professionally. Kūhio did the Native Hawaiian Rehab Act that changed to the Homestead Act and that project became illegal after the Western family used it to house us out of our lands. They did this thing called scorching the land, a military tactic to empty the land so that the water would just be gone. This is why they say you cannot farm. This is where Kailua, Kōloa and Kekaha coincide with the same issue. The water should be going east all the way to Hanalei, but then there is Kalāheo dam and there are tiers of water in the 'auwai that is also trapped. I have a geo map that you can look at if you inquire my email. I am not going to share that with everyone because it works for both sides. Most body of waters have burial sites because villages were built next to it. There is footage for all of these locations but they are being withheld. I have already asked Bishop publicly and Bishop was nice enough to take out the book and post them online.

**Nawai Aipa-Reveira** Aloha, I want to talk about the diversions. I don't know if you saw the diversion plans for Wai'ale'ale but the forestry or DLNR want to upgrade the diversion up at this site. One of my concerns is that if they start the project, I will be one of the ones standing in front of the gate and the machines; that is my kuleana to defend that place. I will also speak on Kōloa, I want to offer my concerns for the families of this ahupua'a. My kuleana isn't the actual site but it is next to it and it is also being impacted. My kūpuna are buried near there. I have never had the chance to go to this site yet because of my schedule, but my cousin has gone to help the people. Thank you for your time, aloha.

**Nākai'elua Villatora** I was not planning on testifying today but last night I had a dream about having to bring up the truth. If you know the truth, then you have to bring the truth forward. For me, as a kanaka maoli, as a wahine maoli, we have to be able to put ourselves in uncomfortable situations and become the leaders that we need. I want to talk about the accessibility to 'āina through what they consider culture traditions and customs. I recently met other mothers from Moku o Keawe from this last conference I attended. They shared with me their project Ala Kūpuna and it resinated with me. A lot of kānaka have the innate ability to connect to our kūpuna through different practices and using our leo to become vessels for our kūpuna. In the 'āina of Kōloa, there is hapa trail that is suppose to be federally protected and it is a pathway. I've learned there are multiple different types of pathways that our kūpuna use to use for different reasons. Some encompassed the islands and those paths would take us to our iwi kūpuna burial sites. On that basis, kūpuna wanted me to bring up my experiences I had back in 2020. I got fined at Kalalau State Park on Kaua'i for entering enclosed areas without a permit. This is a prime example of what kānaka have to go through to be able to exercise their customary traditions as Native Hawaiians. I have the document here and I got acquitted by the Honorable Michael Soon. I battled the State in 'ōlelo Hawai'i. This is not for me to toot my own horn but during that time, I realized what my purpose was on that day, it was to tend to iwi kūpuna. It was such a heavy experience that it made me realize, as kānaka maoli, we need to be able to start at our foundation which are our iwi kūpuna. I have a certified copy of 2/3 of the great mahele which are government and crown land. I want to read off to you about the lands that is suppose to be government lands, on this, it is Waimea, Hanapēpē, Kalāheo, Wailua, Kapa'a, Anahola, Hanalei,

parts of Makaweli, Olohena, and in Nāpali, Kalāleo, Pōhakuao, Honopū and so on and so forth. The continued displacement of kānaka maoli on ‘āina, our home, and we have the State of Hawai‘i controlling what we need to be as people, how we need to practice, and how language is spoken is unnecessary. I am here speaking because this is what we will be presenting to our next generation. I am thinking about my children and other children that will be put under these limitations. My time is up, mahalo nui.

**Rupert Rowe** Good morning, I want to talk about my organization on how we started off and where we are today. The people that surround you must be a “we” and not an “I”, an “I” will never get you to the first base. When we first started, my partner got in trouble with SHPD and the game wardens came to arrest them. He called me and asked for me by my first name, Rupert, that is how you know it was important. I asked Llewellyn, how can I help you? I told him you have to ask the kūpuna if you can enter Kāneiolouma, so we did what we did and that is how we started off. We were at the area and he asked me if I could hear people talking and I saw him stand up and jump around. I asked him, whats wrong with you? He said, I can feel someone touching my leg. I told him, they telling you to walk in the middle and clean the piko, that was our first start there. As we moved forward, I knew the restoration of this project and how we moved around the State of Hawai‘i was very critical. A person who I know that did a 3 dimension of Machu Picchu was on my team and by having this knowledge for our area allowed to be one step above the State of Hawai‘i and their archaeologist. The problem of dealing with an archaeologist is 95% of their opinion will always over power you as a kanaka. We did lidar and drone. As long as you do not disturb the ground, you will never have a problem with the State. After meeting with Bill Aila, he said we were thirty-five years ahead of the State of Hawai‘i. The State gave us the restoration and we are the only group out there given the authority to restore a cultural site. The people who surrounded me was Peleke Flores, Keaka Flores, Kehau Nisemean, and Kaina Makua. We started to move forward and we have a hula hālau that represents us, Leina‘ala Pavao. Our legal counsel is Maunakea Trask. By having all of these individuals, we became pretty outstanding in the eyes of the State. As we moved forward, we had to shutdown for a bit due to COVID. Now, we are back up, read to start the restoration. Everybody that comes here will learn if you are a kanaka or a foreigner. I just did a Zoom with the San Francisco Times, the Chicago Times, and the New York Times about the word quantum. The Native Alaskans are the eskimos, the Native Americans are the American Indians but Hawaiians are represented by an organization but not by the Kānaka. As I have many students that come to Kāneiolouma, I ask them how many of you are Hawaiian? Some of the kids are shame and do not know how to express their identity. Identity in a young person is very critical. I explain to them by saying, never measure your identity by a blood quantum. If you do that, you will never understand yourself. Identity affects the blood quantum and the iwi that lies in rest. What I want to say to you folks today is thank you for coming and I am honored to see you. Thank you for this opportunity, aloha.

**Tara Rojas** I am from O‘ahu and speaking on behalf of kānaka maoli. Before we start, I want to say decolonize the mindset. For future meetings, the table is blocking you all versus if we all sat in a circle. This is a suggestion and one to decolonize the mindset. The way it is setup puts a barrier between you and the people. Next, the iwi kūpuna, what do we have in common with the iwi kūpuna? It is the sprit, the only difference is our physical body. Why we are here, we need to use our physical body to do things, empower Hawaiians and strengthen Hawai‘i. Another suggestion are these meetings, there should be more interaction and feedback. These meetings we come to present, share and we pour our hearts out but what happens next? Are you here because you want to listen? Do you want to listen to our concerns and implement the solutions? Or are you here fulfilling your duties? Some of you feel like there is a connection and want to help the lāhui, and others that are just here to check the box. We can feel and see who really wants to be here and who has the heart for the kānaka maoli. Did you folks even go to the site in Kōloa where the blasting is happening? Why was a site visit not held there?

**Kulanui Perez** 800,000, that is how much malihini we had before colonization; that is a lie, we had over a million people on this island alone. 90% of our diet was just plants. Look at our fishponds, we use to have huge

fishponds. Why did we engineer massive fishponds all over the islands? These malihini archaeologist are saying we had less. As Auntie Roslyn said last night, they are only counting one body when there are hundreds in a single site. They will drop the number from 800,000 to 600,000 to 100,000. They will say there wasn't that much people; we could care less if you folks continue to live or not, we are going to keep taking from you. They are going to continue to act as if we did not exist. We need representation to protect these iwi and these sites. I go the UH and I am in those rooms with the professors who you think are with us, but they are not. They are perpetuating the lies. The books we read now say 800,000, but we were far more than that number. We need to protect these spaces so that our stories continue. We cannot let them continue to lie. They need to know that just because a pōhaku is moved, does not mean that a place is not a wahi pana. We really need more legal representation in these spaces to help protect these places.

**Roslyn Cummings** Aloha kākou, I just want to start off by saying thank you for your presence. I need to say thnak you for allowing me to speak for the third time. This time I want to dig deep into all of the connections to the developments that we are standing against. When we were at Salt Pond last year and the kānaka maoli people were getting pushed out by the police department, they lied to the public about their placement. They said they offered them housing and it was not true. When they pushed them out to the street, they threatened the families with children with CPS. These people are literally living in bushes and do not have water access. It is hard to speak on behalf of them because I have a house. All the Kaua'i agencies need a full blown investigation. I will make it verly clear that we need you guys to continue an investigation and a lawsuit in SHPD and DLNR. DOCARE will not do their full investigation and Burial Council is very corrupt. I will be very clear, they are not reporting the burial finds in the newspaper. They are calling the cops and not allowing us to make our own reports. They are taking away the part where we have evidence. At the end of the day, we are lucky that we have a spiritual connection where kūpuna will call us out to these spiritual sites prior to the desecration. This is why I try to reach out to you guys. I am here calm because I get there is a bigger picture. I will speak to everyone equally. The housing crisis is real. Kaua'i County is suppose to be 70/30, but we are at a 90/10. There are numerous planning department agents that left Kaua'i County and are scared to speak about this. The developers are buying out places. They found out that we were tracking TMKs and changed things into trusts. There needs to be full scale investigation against the County of Kaua'i. We are known as the most corrupt county in the State of Hawai'i. I am here humbly to ask that you folks see clearly that there are huge issues here on Kaua'i and we need the outer islands' help. I mahalo you all for your time and take care.

**Elizabeth Okinaka** Aloha and mahalo for your time. I would like to address some ongoing concerns for Kōloa. OHA must know that the County of Kaua'i is deeply rooted in corruption. We need OHA to apply pressure to the County of Kaua'i. This year alone the Kaua'i Planning Commision approved numerous luxury developments on over 100 acres and that's just Kōloa; new hotels, new condominiums and thousands of new luxury homes, this is happening island wide and it needs to stop. These are things OHA should be aware of, like third party agreements that the county is using with developers. Agreements that were signed by county attorneys who now work for many of these large developers like the Kiahuna project. For eighteen months, we worked hard to protect that 'āina. The developers have numerous projects in Kōloa, one is in Kiahuna and two are in Kukui'ula; these projects will have a negative impact for the entire community, increase in traffic, our trash where the landfill is already at capacity. The runoff that will go into the ocean where are keiki swim, and the increase of visitors as the local community struggles to find housing. Kōloa cave ecosystem is cited as one of the 10 most endangered cave ecosystems in the world; these caves are regularly destroyed, collapsed and gone forever. Yesterday, I was brought to a cave entrance that I had never been to and about 20 feet from this cave entrance is a new multimillion dollar home with two swimming pools and over five bedrooms at this house. It will be a VRBO. These caves and lava tubes hold two species that are found no where else in the world, the Kōloa cave wolf spider and the Kōloa cave anthropods. When these species were listed as endangered, the County of Kaua'i was suggested to preserve 4,000 acres for these species in Kōloa. The County



said no because it would be too costly to private landowners and developers, instead they preserved 200 acres. The Kiahuna lot being developed was once considered critical habitat. This developer has broken the law multiple times and just this week, the head archaeologist admitted that he never did a full archaeologist survey of that land and that he mistakenly signed off on the approval letter that went out to SHPD and the County. Kaua'i Police Department has been privately contracted onsite and are threatening to arrest mothers with children. We have been completely blocked access to this site and are now told that if we step foot, they will arrest us immediately. The County of Kaua'i is making the focus on rich foreigners moving here and helping them develop it. What are they doing for the local community? We need to hold them accountable. Mahalo for your time, aloha.

**Kiara Rodrigues** I am from the island Moku o Keawe, Big Island, and today I want to talk about how our kīno, our first given ahu. Our ahu is where our kūpuna can gather sacredly. Yesterday, we heard by many that our history is our future so we have to understand that iwi kūpuna set that foundation for us. Again, once we learn where we come from, we can stand taller. For myself, once I did this, I stood taller with my kūpuna behind me. Our islands are all connected, our kūpuna traveled more than we will ever know. We need to understand the kaona. Our people were not just what meets the eye, they dove deep into everything and understood it. We need to get back to our true purpose, our 'āina where our kūpuna are buried. We need to be taught, we know our kūpuna were 100% sustainable. More than ever, we need you to hold these different companies accountable. You see the corruption.

**Alfred Medeiros** Aloha mai kākou, Alfred Medeiros from Waianae, O'ahu. I was one of the kia'i here in Wailupe where there was desecration going on, and Healani and I stopped them. There is a connection to our iwi. I am new to this, I was a westernized Native Hawaiian but I am now a decolonized kanaka maoli. My roots run deep in Hawai'i, kala mai if I get emotional. People are speaking and we are speaking upon deaf ears. I show up to meetings all the time. We have all these people speaking on what is wrong but nothing comes out of it. It is sad because Kaua'i is place being held by corruption in every angle. I don't think the Kaua'i Trustee did anything for the people of Kaua'i. I'm sorry to come off this way. I was raised by some powerful kāne, and I look at the OHA kāne sitting at the table and I see nobody that holds that type of power. If we can volunteer our time to be kia'i to mālama 'āina, to mālama kūpuna, and mālama iwi, then you guys need to do what is right for the people of Hawai'i. More people need to be involved in OHA like the community. You folks need to come and talk to the community face-to-face. You need to step foot on Kōloa and see what is happening. There is corruption and you need to see what is happening. Everything is being brought out to the news. I tell you now, if you do not know who I am, I was a part of this to ensure Keith Kaneshiro was arrested and people who are corrupted serve the time. Everything we do is considered hewa by people who are not from here, they do not understand us or recognize us. I hold my hae Hawai'i up high to ensure that they see us. We need to stop depending on SHPD to do what is right, we know they are not. This goes the same to DHHL and DLNR, we need to clean the system. I will leave you with this, if we don't do something now, our keiki and future generations are in danger. They will not have a place to call home, no more kānaka maoli walking in Hawai'i. This will just be a resort for the rich and wealthy to enjoy. They will utilize all of our resources from mauka to makai and they will ruin Hawai'i. I am sorry that I come off in an angry type of way but this is something that has gone on forever and it needs to stop. I ask OHA to help us, mahalo.

**Pulama Callejo** Aloha, I am from the island of Kaua'i. I grew up here with parents who are not Hawaiian and throughout my whole life, I never thought I would be here speaking in front of you here today. I have deep concerns about the 'āina I live on. In my generation, if we do not take care of it and we do pass on the ike to our children, they may not have land to live on. The education they are teaching in schools are very whitewash and westernized as I just graduated high school. My point of view is that we need to fix the school system and the education board. I took two years of Modern Years of Hawai'i. I learned the same things in both classes, the

annexation and the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom. There was no modern history involved; nothing about kū kia‘i mauna, save Kōlea, Hanalei, and nothing about what is going on. If we fix this and perpetuate our keiki from a young age, they will want to become kia‘i too. I feel like it is my responsibility to pass down the knowledge and continue to protect Hawai‘i. I am in Hālau and we have gone to Kōloa twice. We did protocol there, it was so hewa to stand there and see the machinery. You can envision the dreadfulness that has happen there. I feel disgusted that this is happening to our ‘āina, a place where I grew up. That is all and I just want to thank you so much for listening to me.

**Shyanne Olores** It is difficult to watch our ‘āina be desecrated. I thought the meeting at noon yesterday was cool and that the Board of Trustees came down to Po‘ipū. I also thought it was slap in the face that it wasn’t down in our ‘āina, where we are protecting. I am wondering if the Trustees went to any of the sites? I am disheartened that after the meeting, I proceeded to go to the ‘āina and to find no OHA Trustees there. It was sad to me. It is also a slap in the face to have a developer have a condominium of 280+ luxury condos being built on the same location that is being published as an ancient koa field system. I hope more public awareness will get out there. Thank you for allowing me to speak.

### **Announcements**

**Chair Hulu Lindsey** I want to share that we did drive up to the site that you are speaking about. We were greeted by a police officer that requested we move along. I saw employees sitting around, machinery, half of the property dug up and the other half not. I hope that a resolution should be coming out in the next 2-3 weeks. Please bare with us.

I want to thank the Trustees for traveling to Kaua‘i. Mahalo to Kaua‘i Community College for allowing us to use their facilities and mahalo to all of Kaua‘i and our beneficiaries for coming out to our meeting. I want to reassure you that we hear you, we hear your pain, and we will do whatever we can within our authority to assist in the problems we heard.

### **Adjournment**

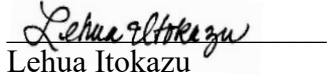
**Trustee Akina Moves to adjourn the meeting.**

**Trustee Akaka Seconds the motion.**

Adjournment							
TRUSTEE		1	2	'AE (YES)	A'OLE (NO)	KANALUA (ABSTAIN)	EXCUSED
LEINA‘ALA	AHU ISA			X			
DAN	AHUNA			X			
KALEIHIKINA	AKAKA		X	X			
KELI‘I	AKINA	X		X			
LUANA	ALAPA						Left mtg at 11:05 am
BRENDON KALEI‘ĀINA	LEE						Left mtg at 11:05 am
MILILANI	TRASK			X			
JOHN	WAIHE‘E						Left mtg at 11:05 am
CHAIR CARMEN HULU	LINDSEY			X			
<b>TOTAL VOTE COUNT</b>				<b>6</b>			

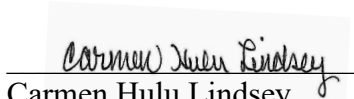
**Chairperson Carmen Hulu Lindsey** Adjourns the Board of Trustees meeting at 11:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lehua Itokazu  
Board Secretary

As approved by the Board of Trustees on January 26, 2023.



Carmen Hulu Lindsey  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees

Attachments:

1. Community Sign-in Sheet
2. River heritage Foundation - handouts



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS  
COMMUNITY SIGN-IN SHEET

MEETING TYPE:

☐ BOARD☐ COMMITTEE☒ COMMUNITY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

6/23/22

LOCATION:

KCC Fine Arts Auditorium

NAME AND/OR ORGANIZATION	STREET	ADDRESS CITY	ZIP CODE	AREA CODE / PHONE NUMBER	EMAIL
RHOODA LIBRE					
NOELANI JOSEPH					
Kaneali'i Williams					
KAPANA KAHONUEI					
Nawaa Aipa-Rivera					
Trey Wong					
Kamelethe Henderson					
Nikolai Villatorre					
Dana Shimoda					
DAVID CHAIKIN					
KAINOA PAHAQUA					
Rupert Kane					
Imatia Naito					
CAUEL Hope					
Dawn Davis					
Dea Davis					

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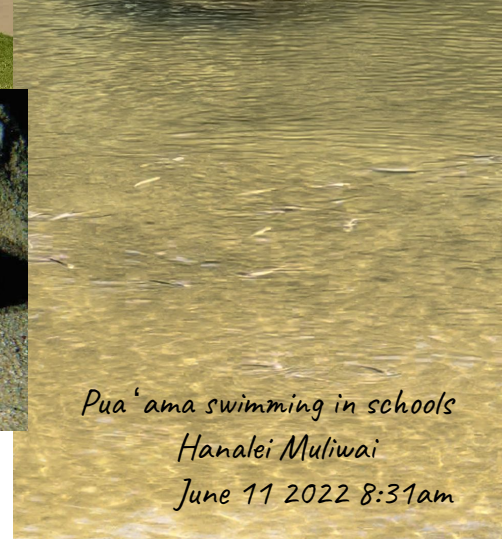
# Ho'ihō'i ke ea Ho'opulapula lāhui



With the gracious support of  
volunteers, families and the  
dedication of hard working  
Hawaiians and allies of Hawaii  
we are able to present

Kua'āina responsibility for outreach in  
Kanaka Maoli communities  
a project for the rehabilitation of  
Hawaiian families and genealogical  
connection to natural resources of Hawai'i  
by increasing opportunities to access  
language and cultural practices and  
protocols of antiquity





We have been able to organize employment of Kanaka Hawaii to perpetuate native Hawaiian fisher practices and protocols.

Efforts to record and observe spawning and population in Hawaii marine life have brought awareness and attention to the importance of a mauka to makai connection in the vitality and health of an ahupua'a

*Pua'ama swimming in schools  
Hanalei Muliwai  
June 11 2022 8:31am*





Local venders were given opportunities to market for their small business in hopes to settle troubles during the pandemic



# *Ke'ehina Hana, implementing solutions*

*Employing native Hawaiians through stewardship opportunities from mauka to makai to instill connection to the reciprocal relationships of natural resources*

*Creating curriculum and advancing learning opportunities*

*Food security and perpetuating Hawaiian cultivation practices in partnership with the Kauai forest reserve and dedicated volunteers*

*Watershed management for Wai'ale'ale and how various ahupuaa are affected by mismanagement or lack thereof*

*Outreach to families, endangered through lack of safe areas, houseless, communities who have mental health & substance abuse issues or are facing poverty*





