

Minutes of a Regular Meeting  
of the Members of the  
Hawaii Community Development Authority  
State of Hawaii

Wednesday, January 4, 2017

**HEEIA BUSINESS**

**I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

A regular business meeting of the Members of the Hawaii Community Development Authority (“Authority” or “HCDA”), a body corporate and a public instrumentality of the State of Hawaii, was called to order by John Whalen, Chair of the Authority, at 9:36 a.m., January 4, 2017, at Authority’s principal offices at 547 Queen Street in Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1 of the Authority’s Bylaws.

Members Present: John Whalen  
Beau Bassett  
Scott Kami  
Amy Luersen  
David Rodriguez  
Mary Pat Waterhouse  
Kathy Sokugawa

Members Absent: Donna Camvel  
Wei Fang

Others Present: Jesse K. Souki, Executive Director  
Mike Wong, Deputy Attorney General  
Lori Sunakoda, Deputy Attorney General  
Deepak Neupane, Kakaako Planning and Development Director  
Aedward Los Banos, Administrative Services Officer  
Lindsey Doi, Asset Manager  
Garett Kamemoto, Communications & Community Outreach Officer  
Tommilyn Soares, Secretary  
Laura Savo, Court Reporter

**II. HEEIA MATTERS**

Shall the Authority Authorize the Executive Director to Execute the Governance Charter for the Heeia National Estuarine Research Reserve at Heeia, Oahu, Hawaii?

Mr. Deepak Neupane presented the report provided in the board packet.

In December, 2016 the University of Hawaii and other stakeholders presented the Governance Charter. Staff reviewed the charter with input from HCDA board members, staff, and Counsel for UH and HCDA. The current Governance Charter has the support of

all parties and agree that it is consistent with the purpose of Hawaii Revised Statutes 206E-203 that designates the Heeia Community Development District.

Chair Whalen asked for a representative from UH to confirm that the language in the agreement is acceptable. Mr. Preseley Pang, General Counsel's office for the University of Hawaii thanked HCDA's Deputy Attorney General for its language suggestion and confirmed the agreement is acceptable and confirmed that the suggestions helped clarify the purpose and intent of the charter.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Chair Whalen stated the board received two written testimonies from the Ko'olau Foundation and the Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club, both in support.

Mahealani Cyper, representing the President of the Ko'olau Foundation asked the board to support the agreement and allow Executive Director Jesse Souki to sign the Charter. She stated it's a good public-private partnership and the community feels that the program will enhance and improve the value of the property.

Jo-Ann Leong, speaking for Alice Wood (retired director of Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology) stated her support of the charter as they have been involved in the process since its inception. This charter will help the environment and the community to examine the estuary.

Dawn Chang and Justine Nihipali of the State Office of Planning, stated they have been working to help facilitate the NERRS site partners on this designation process and stated that Kamehameha Schools and the Department of Land and Natural Resources are also parties to the charter. Ms. Chang and Ms. Nihipali wanted to be clear that if either party has substantive changes the charter would have to be brought back to the HCDA board for approval. If there are no substantive changes it will move forward for signature.

Member Luersen asked if all community entities that are part of this agreement are in support as the charter stands. Ms. Chang replied yes, and also stated that NOAA only requires those entities that have ownership interest to sign it and all parties have been part of the discussions but not necessarily a signatory.

Kanekoa Schultz of Kako'o Oihi stated support for the NERR. Hi'ilei Kawelo of Paepae O Heeia is also in support who will mostly likely be the signatory on behalf of Kamehameha Schools.

Rob Toonin, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology stated full support.

Chair Whalen called for a motion.

Mr. Jesse Souki asked that before the board make a motion they allow some authority for the executive director to sign off on non-substantive changes.

**MOTION:**

Member Luersen made a motion that the HCDA board authorize the executive director to execute the governance charter of the Heeia NERRs site at Heeia, including an opportunity to modify this slightly for non-substantive changes to sign off on non-substantive changes.

Member Bassett seconded the motion. Mr. Deepak Neupane conducted the roll call vote. Motion passed with six votes and two excused.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

1. Chair Whalen adjourned the regular meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whalen  
Chair

Note: The transcript of this meeting contains a verbatim record and should be consulted if additional detail is desired.