

**STATE OF HAWAII  
HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY  
AT-LARGE MEETING  
(Kakaako, Kalaeloa, and Heeia Business)**

**Wednesday, September 16, 2020**

**MINUTES**

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

The Hawaii Community Development Authority (“Authority” or “Board”), a body corporate and a public instrumentality of the State of Hawaii met virtually (utilizing the state-supported Zoom platform) for a special meeting on September 16, 2020.

Board Chairperson, John Whalen, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Those present and excused were as follows:

**Members Present:** John Whalen, Chairperson  
Amy Luersen, Vice Chair  
Shirley Swinney, Secretary  
Chason Ishii  
Wei Fang  
Robert Yu, B&F (Ex Officio)  
Kevin Sakoda  
Jason Okuhama  
Mitchell Tynanes  
Maeda Timson  
Jo-Ann Leong  
Kathy Sokugawa (DPP, non-voting)

**Members Absent:** David Rodriguez, DOT (Ex Officio)  
Philip Hasha  
Daniel Ito  
Jobie Masagatani (DHHL, non-voting)  
Donna Camvel

**Staff Present:** Garrett Kamemoto, Interim Executive Director  
Tommilyn Soares, Secretary to the Executive Director

**Legal Counsel:** Lori Sunakoda, Deputy Attorney General  
Kelly Suzuka, Deputy Attorney General

A quorum was present.

**Acknowledgement that the Meeting is Being Convened Virtually**

Chair Whalen reiterated the wording contained in the Meeting Agenda regarding the state's COVID-19 Pandemic and Social Distancing guidance and the necessity to convene the meeting virtually.

With regard to the foregoing, Chair Whalen reiterated the wording contained in the Meeting Agenda noting that the public may observe the meeting virtually in real time and, in addition to written testimony, the public may provide oral testimony via the Zoom Meeting Link and information posted in the Meeting Agenda Notice.

Chair Whalen stated the Board will now proceed with the action item set forth on the Meeting Agenda.

## **II. ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Shall the Authority Confirm the Selection and Hiring of Deepak Neupane to Fill the Position of the Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development Authority?**

*The Authority anticipates convening an executive meeting pursuant to HRS § 92-5 (a)(2) & (4), to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee or of charge brought against the officer or employee, where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved; provided that if they individual concerned requests an open meeting, an opening meeting shall be held and to consult with the Board's attorneys on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities relating to the above item.*

Chair Whalen stated the board will vote to confirm and select Mr. Deepak Neupane as the Executive Director for HCDA, and noted, the board may enter into an executive meeting if Members would like to consult with the Attorney's.

Chair Whalen called for questions from board members. There were no comments or questions.

#### **Public Testimony**

Chair Whalen stated the board received four written testimonies in support of Mr. Neupane. Those testimonies were submitted by Len Higashi, Carson Schultz, Richard Praher and Catherine Camp. Chair Whalen also called for any verbal Public Testimony.

Mr. Garrett Kamemoto, Interim Executive Director stated there were no requests for verbal public testimony and confirmed there were no additional written testimony received as of 10:00 a.m. today.

#### **Motion:**

Chair Whalen called for a motion.

Member Timson motioned for the board to confirm the selection and hiring of Mr. Deepak Neupane to fill the position of the Executive Director of the Hawaii Community Development Authority.

Member Swinney seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

Mr. Kamemoto conducted the roll call vote. Motion passed with 11 votes and 4 excused.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Whalen congratulated Mr. Neupane and thanked those who joined today's board meeting via facebook. There being no further comment or questions the meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

*John P Whalen*

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John Whalen, Chairperson

January 6, 2021

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Date HCDA Board Approved