

**STATE OF HAWAI‘I
HAWAI‘I COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
HEEIA MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2024
MINUTES**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The Hawai‘i Community Development Authority (“Authority” or “Board”), a body corporate and a public instrumentality of the State of Hawai‘i (“State”) met in person at the HCDA’s physical meeting site, American Brewery Building, 547 Queen Street, 2nd Floor Boardroom and provided an option to attend virtually (utilizing the State-supported Zoom Meeting platform) for a Regular Meeting on December 4, 2024.

Chairperson Sterling Higa called the December 4, 2024, HCDA Heeia Authority Regular meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Acknowledgment that the Meeting is Being Convened Virtually

Mr. Craig Nakamoto, Executive Director, reiterated the wording contained in the Meeting Agenda regarding the guidelines and directives provided by Section 92-3.7, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (“HRS”), to enable public boards and commissions to conduct business virtually with a meeting site open to the public.

About the foregoing, Mr. Nakamoto reiterated wording contained in the Meeting Agenda, noting that the HCDA welcomes public attendance via the Zoom link provided and also at the meeting site, located at The American Brewery Building, 547 Queen Street, 2nd Floor Boardroom, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813. The HCDA welcomes public comment and public participation via the submission of written or oral testimony. Mr. Nakamoto stated that individuals, if any, from the public who had requested to provide testimony were on standby and would be permitted to speak during the public testimony session of the specific agenda item. Mr. Nakamoto also noted the time limits for public testimony.

Chair Higa conducted the roll call. Those present were as follows:

Members Present:

Sterling Higa, Chairperson
Chason Ishii, Vice Chair
Miki‘ala Lidstone, Secretary
Melissa Miranda-Johnson, DOT (Ex Officio)
Mary Alice Evans, DBEDT (Ex Officio)
Tim Streitz, City & County of Honolulu DPP (Ex Officio)
JoAnn Leong
Kaiwipuni Lipe

Members Excused:

Mark Anderson, B&F (Ex Officio)

A quorum was present.

Legal Counsel:

Kelly Suzuka, Deputy Attorney General
Kevin Tongg, Deputy Attorney General

Staff Present:

Craig Nakamoto, HCDA Executive Director
Garet Sasaki, HCDA Chief Financial Officer
Ryan Tam, HCDA Director of Planning & Development
Lindsey Doi, HCDA Asset Manager
Francine Murray, HCDA Community Outreach Officer
Armaine Tomacder, HCDA Board Secretary

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2023

Chair Higa asked for comments or corrections. There were none. The meeting minutes were approved as presented.

III. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Presentation by the Executive Director of Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi (the Lessee of the Heeia Community Development District), Updating the Authority on the Activities and Accomplishments for the Year 2024.

Ms. Lindsey Doi, Asset Manager, introduced Mr. Kanekoa Shultz, Executive Director of Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi, to provide his presentation on current activities and accomplishments. He provided a brief overview of Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi, stating that they have received \$10.3 million in federal and private grants for the next three years, and they anticipate managing 180 acres by 2026 – allowing Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi to produce approximately 33% of all taro production in Hawaii. He summarized their land management activities, engagement with the community and education, food production from their local harvest, and efforts towards the restoration of native flora and fauna. He also noted multiple grant funding goals and prospective projects if acquired.

Member Lipe commended Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi for their productivity and ability to manage multiple grants in a creative way, and encouraged Mr. Shultz to share his management strategies to guide other organizations.

Secretary Lidstone appreciated Mr. Shultz’s presentation and work to restore the land and community. She asked how common it is to have a certified imu.

Mr. Shultz answered that the Department of Health has a process and outline to building a certified imu, therefore, he assumed that it may be more common than expected.

Member Leong asked for the employment numbers at Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi. She added that this organization is very involved in the community and building relationships.

Mr. Shultz answered that there are 32 full-time employees and 2 part-time employees, with salary funding made possible by federal grants.

Member Streit asked if there are any discussions to partner with Hawaii Tourism Authority as they have a common goal of sustainability.

Mr. Shultz answered that they are connected, and hopes that the connection may lead to funding assistance for their educational programs.

There were no further comments or questions from the board members.

Public Testimony

Chair Higa called for public testimony. There were no inquiries to provide oral testimony, and no written testimonies were received.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Higa thanked those who joined the meeting on Zoom and then adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Miki‘ala Lidstone, Secretary

Date Approved by the Board