

**HAWAII HOUSING FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING**

**March 20, 2023**

**MINUTES**

The Board of Directors (Board) of the Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) held its Special Meeting on Monday, March 20, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., in the HHFDC Board Room, located at 677 Queen Street, Suite 300, Honolulu, Hawaii. The meeting was also livestreamed via Zoom and YouTube.

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

A roll call was taken with a quorum present. Those present and excused were as follows:

**Present:** Director Donn Mende, Chair (in-person)  
Director Gary Mackler, Vice Chair (in-person)  
Director Sean Sasaki, Secretary (in-person; arrived 10:02 a.m.)  
Director Carol Reimann (in-person)  
Director Jay Kimura (remote)  
Director Jason Bradshaw (in-person)  
Director Luis Salaveria (remote)  
Director Chris Sadayasu (remote)  
Director Nani Medeiros (remote)

Executive Director Denise Iseri-Matsubara

**Staff:** Sandra Ching, Deputy Attorney General  
Ryan Kanakaole, Deputy Attorney General  
Delmond Won, Executive Assistant  
Chris Woodard, Chief Planner  
David Oi, Housing Finance Manager  
Dean Minakami, Development Branch Chief  
Randy Chu, Development Section Chief  
Lee Miller, Property Management Specialist  
Evahn Beresiwsky, Housing Development Specialist  
David Partin, Project Coordinator and Inspector  
Marc Orbito, Information Technology Systems Analyst  
Gordon Pang, Housing Information Officer  
Helmer Betiong, Information Technology Intern  
Esa Pablo, Secretary to the Board

**Guests:** Stanford Carr, Stanford Carr Development  
Theresa Ng, Senator Chang's Office  
Rick Blangiardi, Mayor of Honolulu  
Michael Formby, Office of the Mayor  
Giulia Shaughnessy

Chair Mended confirmed there was no one present at the remote locations of Directors Kimura, Salaveria, Sadayasu, and Medeiros.

Chair Mende stated that Executive Director Denise Iseri-Matsubara is resigning from her position as HHFDC's Executive Director. Therefore, the Board needs to start the search process for the appointment of a new executive director.

Chair Mended noted Director Sean Sasaki's arrival at 10:02 a.m.

Executive Director Iseri-Matsubara stated that she will be transitioning to the City and County of Honolulu Mayor's Office as their executive director on Housing and Homelessness. She thanked the Board and staff for their support and hard work over the years, resulting in the delivery of thousands of affordable housing units for Hawaii as well as securing record levels of funding.

Vice Chair Mackler inquired about HHFDC's By Laws and procedures regarding this matter. Deputy Attorney General Sandra Ching advised that discussion on the Board's duties and obligations be discussed in executive session.

Director Bradshaw moved, seconded by Director Reimann, to convene in executive session at 10:06 a.m., pursuant to Section 92-5(a)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to consider the hire of an employee, and Section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's power, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, as it relates to this matter.

The motion was carried unanimously.

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Chair Mende reconvened the meeting at 10:42 a.m.

Chair Mende announced that a decision on a new executive director will be deferred to another special meeting to be scheduled next week. Secretary to the Board Esa Pablo was asked to poll the Directors on their availability.

Executive Assistant Delmond Won announced HHFDC's protocol for providing public testimony.

Mr. Stanford Carr, CEO of Stanford Carr Development; Mr. Moe Mohanna, Highridge Costa; Housing Finance Manager David Oi; Chief Financial Officer Holly Osumi; and Chief Planner Chris Woodard, each provided testimony in appointing Development Branch Chief Dean Minakami as HHFDC's new executive director, also thanking Executive Director Iseri-Matsubara for her service and leadership to HHFDC.

Written testimony was also received for the appointment of Development Branch Chief Dean Minakami as the new HHFDC executive director by: (1) Castle and Cooke Homes Hawaii Inc.'s president Harry A. Saunders; (2) Mr. Carleton Ching; (3) former Land Use Division administrator Rodney Funakoshi; (4) Hunt Communities Hawaii, LLC's senior vice president Anthony Gaston; (5) Ms. Natalie I. Kiehm; (6) Mr. Dan Yasui; (7) Department of Housing and Human Concerns director Ms. Lori Tsuhako; and (8) PBR Hawaii and Associates, Inc. representatives R. Stan Duncan, Russell Y.J. Chung, Vincent Shigekuni, Grant Murakami, Kimi Yuen, Catie Cullison, and Tom Schnell.

Mayor Rick Blangiardi stated that he received the Governor's blessing on the transfer of Ms. Denise Iseri-Matsubara to the City and County of Honolulu.

There being no further testimony provided by the public, Chair Mende reiterated that another special meeting will be held to decide on an interim and encouraged written testimony to be submitted by the public.

Vice Chair Mackler stated that the selection process of the executive director position should be one that is open and fair, seeking an individual with, but not limited to, the following qualifications/standards: (1) able to effectively carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Corporation; (2) having specialized skills and knowledge to do the job successfully; (3) implement the housing priorities of the Governor's Administration; (4) able to engage with the legislative body to effectively further those objectives; as well as (5) manage 60 employees in a high moral environment.

**II.**  
**EXECUTIVE**  
**SESSION**  
Discussion and  
Action on a  
Personnel Matter  
Regarding the  
Appointment of a  
New Executive  
Director

**RECONVENED**  
10:42 a.m.

Vice Chair Mackler inquired about a recruitment notice process. Deputy Attorney General Sandra Ching stated that a Permitted Interaction Group can be established and tasked with the hiring process in collaboration with the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism Human Resources to assist in such outreach efforts.

There being no further business on the agenda, Director Bradshaw moved, seconded by Director Sasaki, to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.

**III.**  
**ADJOURNMENT**  
11:05 a.m.

*Sean Sasaki*  
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SEAN SASAKI  
Secretary