



NATURAL ENERGY LABORATORY OF HAWAII AUTHORITY

An Authority of the State of Hawaii attached to the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2024
10:00 a.m.

**An Interactive Conference Technology Meeting was held at
NELHA OceanView Conference Room
Hale Iako Building
73-970 Makako Bay Drive
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
and via Zoom Video Conferencing Software.**

73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy., #101, Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i USA 96740-2637
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<http://www.nelha.hawaii.gov>

Full Board meeting recording available at: ADD YOUTUBE RECORDING

Members/Designees in Attendance

Noelani Kalipi (Gov. Appointee/Chair)
Gordon Bruce (Gov. Appointee)
Cyd Miyashiro (Gov. Appointee/Vice Chair)
Alan Hilton (RAC Chair)
Dr. John Wiltshire (RAC Secretary)
Dennis Lin (County of Hawaii)
Dick Jones (Tenant Representative)
Gregory Kim (HTDC)
Dr. Vassilis Syrmos (University of Hawaii)
Nathan Tsao (Tenant Representative)
Dane Wicker (DBEDT)

Guests/Staff Present

Laurence Sombardier (NELHA)
Faustine Edge (NELHA)
Pam Madden (NELHA)
John Cole (AG)
Kaliko Chun (DHHL)
Mark Ladao (Hawaii Public Radio)
NELHA Executive Director Candidate 1*
NELHA Executive Director Candidate 2*
NELHA Executive Director Candidate 3*

Board Members Not Attending and Excused

Russell Tsuji (DLNR)

*Identities Private for Executive Session, Item 4. Old Business Interviews, discussion and Decision Making regarding candidates for the NELHA Executive Director Position as reported by the Permitted Interaction Group for the Hiring of the NELHA Executive Director at the November 19, 2024 Board Meeting.

Full 2-Part Board meeting recordings available at: Part A: <https://youtu.be/E9G6ZJtLAqA>

Part B: https://youtu.be/_dLxHBVgnpl

- **Item 1. (11:02 a.m. video run time Part A, 0:00:01) Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kalipi at 11:02 a.m. Chair Kalipi asked Interim Executive Director (ED) Sombardier for a roll call of Board members and NELHA staff. Reference to Act 220. Ten members present and two excused.

- **Item 2. (11:07 a.m. video run time Part A, 00:03:11) Public Testimony.**

Vice Chair Miyashiro opened the floor to any public testimony or any open items not on the agenda. No one came forward.

- **Item 3. New Business. (11:10 a.m. video run time Part A, 0:09:03) Welcome new Board Member Dr. John Wiltshire who was elected as Secretary of the Research Advisory Committee at its December 2, 2024 meeting.**

Director Alan Hilton, RAC Chair, introduced Dr. Wiltshire and summarized his experience. Dr. Wiltshire expanded on Director Hilton's comments.

- **Item 4. Old Business. (11:13 a.m. video run time 07:24) Interviews, Discussion and Decision Making regarding candidates for the NELHA Executive Director Position as reported by the Permitted Interaction Group for the Hiring of the NELHA Executive Director at the November 19, 2024 Board Meeting. ****

Chair Kalipi introduced Item 4. Deputy Attorney General (AG) Cole explained the exception (11:15 a.m., video run time Part A, 0:09:06). Director Hilton made the motion in reference to the statute and Director Wicker seconded the motion (11:15 a.m., video run time Part A, 0:09:32). The motion passed (10-0) and Directors went into Executive Session at 11:15 a.m. (video run time, Part A 0:09:55).

Director Jones joined the meeting in Executive Session at 12:50 p.m.

Directors Bruce, Syrmos, and Wicker left the meeting at 1:05 p.m.

The Board Directors returned from Executive Session at 1:05pm (video run time Part B, 00:00:07). Chair Kalipi summarized the session.

- **Item 5. Announcements**

Chair Kalipi moved directly to Adjournment.

- **Item 6. (1:07 p.m. video runtime Part B, 0:01:49) Adjournment.**

Chair Kalipi adjourned the meeting at 1:07 p.m. (video runtime Part B, 0:01:49).

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