



# 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 AGENDA\***  
**Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority**  
**January 20, 2026**  
**1:00 p.m.**

**An Hybrid Interactive Conference Technology Meeting will be held**  
**via Zoom and one location.**

**Board Directors and members of the public may attend the meeting**  
**at the location listed below or via Zoom using this link:**

**<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82379638324?pwd=WOPSdTF5IVwyRVo5av0JelQPiYjbk9.1>**

**Meeting ID: 823 7963 8324**  
**Passcode: 083425**

**Members of the public can also join via the toll-free telephone numbers listed below:**

**+13462487799,,82379638324#**

**or**

**+16694449171,,82379638324#**

**NELHA OceanView Conference Room 208**  
**Hale Iako Building**  
**73-970 Makako Bay Drive**  
**Kailua-Kona, HI 96740**

- 1. Call to Order.**
- 2. Approval of NELHA Board of Directors' November 18, 2025, Meeting Minutes.**
- 3. Public Testimony.**
- 4. Old Business.**
  - a. Update and discussion regarding the Amended Complaint Filed by Keahole Point Hatcheries LLC on October 28, 2025\***

**5. New Business.**

- a. Discussion and Decision-Making regarding the Request by State of Hawaii School Facilities for Approval in Concept for Early Learning Center.
- b. Create a Special Investigative Committee for the purpose of preparing and delivering to the Board the performance evaluation of the NELHA Executive Director.\*\*

**6. Financial Report: Approval and Decision Making.**

- 7. **Executive Director's Informational Status Report on ongoing projects including: 2026 Legislative session, FY26 budget planning, research campus leases, new leases under discussion; water quality and seawater system maintenance; offshore deep seawater pipe removal planning and design; regional seawater air conditioning planning and design; new potable water supply update; aquaculture accelerator and investment fund initiative; grant applications; new Mauka Research Campus; renewable distributed energy resources initiative for microgrid; and, solar desalination; contracts and agreements including master plan and EIS update.\***

**8. Announcements.**

- a. Date of next regularly scheduled NELHA Board of Directors meeting is Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at 1:00 pm.

**9. Adjournment.**

- \* On any of the above items the Board may convene in Executive Session pursuant to section 92-5(a), HRS, to consult with the Board's attorney on issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities pursuant to section 92-5(a)(4), HRS, to discuss business trade secrets of confidential or proprietary commercial or financial information of tenants or prospective tenants pursuant to section 227D-3.5, (HRS), or to receive information that is proprietary to a particular enterprise pursuant to HRS 227D-6.
- \*\* The Board may enter Executive Session pursuant to section 92-5(a)(2), HRS to consider the hire, evaluation, dismissal, or discipline of an officer or employee or of charges brought against the officer or employee, where consideration of matters affecting privacy will be involved; provided that if the individual concerned requests an open meeting, an open meeting shall be held.

In the event a location loses its audiovisual connection, the meeting will be automatically recessed to restore communications as described in section 92-3.7(c), HRS.

Members of the public may submit written testimony on this agenda via e-mail no later than 2:30 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2026, addressed to: [laurence.sombardier@hawaii.gov](mailto:laurence.sombardier@hawaii.gov). Alternatively, members of the public may mail written testimony on this agenda to Laurence Sombardier, Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority, 73-4460 Queen Kaahumanu Hwy., #101, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii USA 96740-2637.

**Internet Access:**

To view the meeting and provide live oral testimony during the meeting, please use the link shown on page 1 of this agenda. You will be asked to enter your name in order to access the meeting as an attendee. We request that you enter your full name, but you may use a pseudonym or other identifier if you wish to remain anonymous. You will also be asked for an email address. You may fill in this field with any entry in an email format, e.g., \*\*\*\*\*@\*\*\*mail.com.

As an attendee, your microphone will be automatically muted during the meeting unless you are providing testimony. For each agenda item you wish to testify on, please click the "Raise Hand" button found on your Zoom screen. Board staff will individually enable each testifier to unmute their microphone. When recognized by the Board Chair, please unmute your microphone before speaking and mute your microphone after you finish speaking in order to prevent audio feedback. When testifying, you will be asked to identify yourself and the organization, if any, that you represent.

**Telephone Access:**

If you cannot get internet access, you may get audio-only access by calling the Zoom telephone number listed on page 1 of this agenda.

Upon dialing the number, you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID which is also listed on page 1 of this agenda. After entering the Meeting ID, you will be asked to either enter your panelist number or wait to be admitted into the meeting. You will not have a panelist number, so please wait until you are admitted into the meeting.

When the Board Chair asks for public testimony, you may indicate you want to testify by entering "\*" and then "9" on your telephone's keypad. After entering "\*" and then "9", a voice prompt will let you know that the host of the meeting has been notified. When recognized by the Board Chair, you may unmute yourself by pressing "\*" and then "6" on your telephone. A voice prompt will let you know that you are unmuted. Once you are finished speaking, please enter "\*" and then "6" again to mute yourself.

If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Ms. Faustine Edge at 808-327-9585 or [faustine.x.edge@hawaii.gov](mailto:faustine.x.edge@hawaii.gov) as soon as possible, preferably

three (3) working days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made. If a response is received three (3) working days or less before the meeting, we will try to obtain the auxiliary aid/service or accommodation, but we cannot guarantee that the request will be fulfilled. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.

The next NELHA Board of Directors meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday March 17, 2025.

**Issued Wednesday, January 14, 2026, in compliance with Sunshine Laws**