



University of Hawai'i at Hilo

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**Minutes
Regular Meeting**

Mauna Kea Management Board
Tuesday, June 28, 2011

Kukahau'ula, Room 131
640 N. A'ohoku Place
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

Attending

- MKMB:** Chair Barry Taniguchi, 1st Vice Chair Patricia Bergin, 2nd Vice Chair/Secretary Ron Terry, John Cross and Lisa Hadway
- Kahu Kū Mauna:** Chad Kalepa Baybayan, Tiffnie Kakalia, Hannah Kihalani Springer and Ed Stevens
- OMKM:** Arnold Hiura, Stephanie Nagata and Dawn Pamarang
- Others:** Billy Bergin, Steve Businger, Rob Christensen, Gerald DeMello, Jesse Eiben, Cory Harden, Stewart Hunter, Allan Ikawa, Ka'iu Kimura, Bob McLaren, Masashi Nakata, Cindy Nomura, Russell Oda, Scotty Paiva, Betty Stevens, Donald Straney and Ross Wilson

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Taniguchi called the meeting of the Mauna Kea Management Board (MKMB) to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Ron Terry and seconded by Lisa Hadway the minutes of the April 27, 2011 meeting of the MKMB were unanimously approved.

III. INTERIM DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Thirty-Meter Telescope (TMT) Conservation District Use Application (CDUA)

A pre-hearing conference for the TMT CDUA was held in Hilo on May 13. The matter of standing was addressed and it was agreed that Deborah Ward, Clarence Ching and Paul Neves would represent themselves as individuals and not as representatives of an organization. Kealoha Pisciotta would be representing Mauna Kea Anainahou and Marti Townsend, Kahea. The Flores Ohana would be represented by either Kalani Flores or Pualani Case, and not together at the same time. The granting of standing for the guardian deity, Mo'oinanea was left for the hearing officer to make a determination. All parties agreed to a hearings schedule of August 15 through 18 with a holdover date of August 25. The University and petitioners also agreed to submit their considerations for a site visit scheduled for August 11.

On May 27th the hearing officer recommended that the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) deny standing for Mo'oinanea stating that it was a spirit and not a person, therefore, it did not meet the criteria set forth in the administrative rules. Specifically a spirit is not included in the definition of a person. On June 23, the BLNR approved the hearing officer's recommendation.

On May 31st the University of Hawaii submitted its opening brief, witness list and direct testimony. The plaintiff's deadline to submit similar documents is, June 28th. The University has two weeks to submit their rebuttal to the plaintiffs' submissions.

B. Pohakuloa Training Area Final Environmental Assessment (EA) for High-Altitude Mountainous Environmental Training (HAMET)

Representatives from the Army and the National Guard met on May 11 with Kahu Kū Mauna, members of Pohakuloa Training Area's Culture Advisory Committee, Ron Terry and Interim Director Nagata to discuss the revised EA for the HAMET. Comments were submitted on May 19. Overall, the new EA provides a much sounder basis on which to allow temporary training. It was also our understanding that the Army will be preparing a State EA for the semi-permanent training proposal.

C. Canada-France-Hawaii Telescope (CFHT) Extension of the Permit for the Ohana Above Ground Conduit Between Gemini and CFHT

CFHT requested a time extension of their permit to test the OHANA project operations using the above ground conduit between the CFHT and Gemini summit facilities. Based on discussions with Ed Stevens, OMKM granted CFHT a three-year extension. The extension was granted because the request did not include any new type of activity, including excavation.

D. Fireweed Removal

On May 6th an informational meeting on fireweed was held at Hale Pohaku (HP). James Leary and other members of the Big Island Invasive Species Committee met with the rangers, VIS staff, and some observatory staff to give background information about Fireweed and methods for controlling it. Ranger Shane Fox and other rangers have taken the initiative to manually remove Fireweed along the summit access road. They started at the summit and are working toward HP. They are currently at about the first switchback above HP. Other methods of control are being considered but will not be implemented until the impacts of these methods are discussed.

E. Advance Reconnaissance Tour of Mauna Kea for Chinese Media

OMKM hosted an advance tour for members of the Lt. Governor's office and Stryker Weiner and Yokota, the firm helping with coordinating public relations activities related to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) conference. One of the activities planned is an advance familiarization tour for a group of business, science and technology writers from the Peoples Republic of China who will be visiting Hawaii Island in July. Part of their visit to the island will include 'Imiloa and a tour of CFHT and Gemini observatories.

F. Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH) Board of Directors Tour of Mauna Kea

On June 15th the Institute for Astronomy and OMKM hosted a tour of Mauna Kea for the RCUH Board of Directors and staff. The group was also hosted by Subaru who gave them a tour of their summit facility.

IV. KAHU KŪ MAUNA COUNCIL (KKMC)

Ed Stevens reported he received two letters from the commanding officer at Pohakuloa. Both are to begin consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). One is for a project within the boundaries of Pohakuloa, which is to drill a test well to explore the potential for developing a ground-water well to supply water for the camp. The other is training for the United States Marines to establish a Tactical Recovery of Aviation Personnel (TRAP).

In his opinion, both projects are benign. Mr. Stevens will prepare a letter to the commander stating he will be referring both matters to the Council for their review and report back to MKMB and the Army.

Mr. Stevens announced this is his last official attendance as chair of the Kahu Kū Mauna Council at the Mauna Kea Management Board. As of June 30th he will be stepping down as chairman. Chad Kalepa Baybayan was introduced as the new chairperson for the Council effective July 1st. Tiffnie Kakalia was introduced as the First Vice Chair. Hannah Kihalani Springer was also recognized as a long time member of the Council.

V. Committee Reports

A. Environment Committee

Dr. Terry reported the botany survey on the summit is ongoing. For the first time we will have a comprehensive assessment of the astronomy precinct and a very good assessment of the Science Reserve.

Dr. James Leary will meet with the committee at their July 6th meeting to discuss different alternatives for controlling fireweed (*Senecio madagascarensis*).

The natural resources personnel action is slowly moving thru the hiring process. Interim Director Nagata informed the Board that the governor issued a hiring freeze. Dr. Terry thought the University was exempt. As the TMT

moves forward it will be ever more important for us to have a coordinator. Chancellor Straney added the governor's freeze is thru the end of June and it is not known if it will be extended.

The committee is also discussing a hydrological survey. The committee would like to have Don Thomas present to Kahu Kū Mauna and discuss the possibility for hydrological investigations.

Cory Harden said if the state does not have money for the natural resources person she wished the Board would advocate more strongly for that. There is money for all these telescopes. There should be money somewhere for a natural resources person to protect Mauna Kea. Perhaps writing a strong letter or speaking to the governor to advocate this is needed. Dr. Terry was in complete agreement and added he would do that. Chair Taniguchi clarified he did not think it is a matter of funding in our case. It is a matter of procedure and state process. Funding for the position is available.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Summit Arthropod Study – Jesse Eiben

Jesse Eiben presented a project he will be doing for OMKM over the next three years – Baseline Inventory and Monitoring of Arthropod Diversity. This study proposes to:

1. Publish species descriptions of about 15 species known to occur in the Alpine Stone Desert (summit area.)
2. Create baseline inventory and species accumulation curves of arthropods within UH managed land (Mauna Kea Science Reserve) from about 9,000 to 13,796 feet.
3. Provide arthropod biodiversity monitoring protocols for OMKM to integrate into management activities.
4. Continue Wēkiu bug population monitoring and habitat assessment.

B. Climate Downscaling for the Island of Hawaii and Mauna Kea Weather Forecasting – Steve Businger

Dr. Steven Businger presented information on his climate study change for OMKM. The purpose of the study is to investigate future climate and future climatic variability of the alpine and subalpine zones of the Island of Hawai'i through the middle of this century. The goal is to evaluate the general impact of climate on the high altitude ecology of Mauna Kea, with a focus on the stability of the Wēkiu bug population and other biota found on the summit of Mauna Kea. The objectives of the study are to run high-resolution simulations of the Weather Research Forecasting model (WRF) over the central Pacific using output from a selected Global Climate Model. The WRF runs will provide critical predictive data for monitoring and managing Mauna Kea's summit ecosystem.

Dr. Businger talked briefly about the weather forecasts that his team does for the Mauna Kea Observatories. Ms. Harden asked who funded this operation. Dr. Businger explained initially it was funded thru the Mauna Kea Support Services as a pilot project. It is now funded by all of the observatories.

It was also added that OMKM is planning a tropical alpine symposium that will take place next summer. Members from the international scientific community, the United States, including Hawaii will be invited. We hope to have Jesse Eiben and Dr. Businger participate in this. The Moore Foundation is also providing support of the symposium.

VII. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2011. There will be no meeting in July.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ed Stevens was recognized and honored for his commitment and service in leading Kahu Kū Mauna since its inception over a decade ago. On behalf of UH Hilo and Chancellor Emeritus Rose Tseng, Chancellor Straney acknowledged Ed's steadfast service, leadership, vision and care over the years. Chancellor Straney presented Ed with a koa bowl.

Allan Ikawa spoke about the historical work on the Master Plan. At the meeting on voting for the Master Plan, Ed was personally attacked by several of the people with opposing views. Ed stood tall and firm and was a pillar of strength. He stood up for what he thought was right. Ed has shown him how spiritual Mauna Kea is and that Mauna Kea is a special place. It is our duty to protect it. Allan presented Ed with a Big Island Candies gift basket.

Billy Bergin recognized Ed's wife, Betty Stevens. He credits Ed tremendously for the fact that he obviously has very deep seated convictions about what is right and proper and the direction we should go in. For him to take those strong feelings and convert them to positive motion is remarkable.

Bob McLaren stated there has been a lot of progress on the understanding and appreciation of the native culture and its relationship with Mauna Kea over the past dozen years. In his opinion, although a lot of people have contributed to this, no single individual has done more than Ed Stevens. Three aspects of Ed that contributed to that is 1) his passion for the subject, 2) his willingness to work hard to persevere and invest large amounts of time, and 3) the single characteristic that really marks Ed is his willingness to engage constructively. Ed can be very critical and quite sharp in some of the things he says, but it is always directed towards a constructive goal. He has never seen Ed back away from engagement or an attempt to perceive in a constructive manner. On behalf of astronomy and the community and himself personally, Dr. McLaren thanked Ed.

Chad Kalepa Baybayan stated as a student of leadership it has been a real privilege and honor for members of the Council to be under Ed's leadership. He is honored with the trust Ed has placed in them too. He has been a great leader and mentor for all the members of the Council and for the future of the mountain.

Interim Director Nagata thanked Ed for his years of dedication and for helping to set us on the right path in the stewardship of Mauna Kea. He has always been there for the mountain; he is our conscious; and he reminds us gently about our responsibilities and helps to keep us focused in our duties. He is very generous in sharing his mana'o and gives tremendously of his time and effort to malama Mauna Kea. And, although Betty was not an official member of the management team, she has always been a member of the management ohana.

On behalf of the Mauna Kea Management Board, the Office of Mauna Kea Management, and the University of Hawai'i Hilo, Chair Taniguchi read aloud and presented a Resolution of the Mauna Kea Management Board and Office of Mauna Kea Management to Ed Stevens.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Chair Taniguchi adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Signed by Dr. Ron Terry
Dr. Ron Terry, Secretary, MKMB

8/9/11
Date