

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE

March 21, 2025

**Committee
Report No.** _____

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee, having met on February 25, 2025, makes reference to Resolution 25-50, entitled “APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN LIKEKE SCHEUER TO THE EAST MAUI REGIONAL COMMUNITY BOARD.”

Resolution 25-50’s purpose is to approve the appointment of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to the East Maui Regional Community Board as the Hawaiian Homes Commission’s representative for a term expiring March 31, 2030.

Your Committee notes that the Council approved Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to the East Maui Regional Community Board as the Hawaiian Homes Commission’s representative for a two-year term that expires on March 31, 2025 (Resolution 23-179).

Your Committee notes that the East Maui Regional Community Board was established after an amendment to the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, was approved by voters in the November 2022 General Election.

Your Committee notes that Charter Section 8-19.2 requires one member of the East Maui Regional Community Board be a representative of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and recommended by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Your Committee further notes that under Section 2.60.040, Maui County Code, only County residents are eligible for an appointment to a

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board, commission, or committee, unless the Council waives the residency requirement by a resolution adopted by a two-thirds vote.

By correspondence dated January 27, 2025, the Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission informed the Chair of your Committee that DHHL voted and unanimously approved Jonathan Likeke Scheuer as the representative on the East Maui Regional Community Board.

A representative of DHHL outlined steps in the selection process to fill the Hawaiian Homes Commission representative's seat:

- DHHL hosted a virtual meeting on October 28, 2024, to consult with beneficiaries.
- Approximately 3,063 postcards were sent to lessees and applicants living in the County, along with emails to 50 homestead leaders to advertise the meeting.
- Following the meeting, DHHL provided beneficiaries 30 days to submit their desired qualities for the representative.
- The following recruitment process was approved by the Hawaiian Homes Commission at its December 17, 2024, meeting:
 1. The East Maui Regional Community Board vacancy and application form were posted on DHHL's website. Homestead leaders were notified by email.
 2. The application deadline was January 13, 2025.
 3. DHHL staff reviewed applications and selected a potential nominee using the following guidelines:
 - a. DHHL affiliation; and

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- b. Relevant water experience and knowledge related to the water license areas of the East Maui Regional Community Board, including:
 - i. Firsthand experience with ranching, farming, aquaculture, or loko i'a;
 - ii. Water resource management and watershed restoration experience;
 - iii. Advocacy related to water; and
 - iv. Completion of the I Mana i ka Wai: Kūkulu Kahuwai Water Law and Leadership training series.
4. DHHL staff submitted their recommendation of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to the Hawaiian Homes Commission.
5. At its meeting of January 21, 2025, the Hawaiian Homes Commission voted to unanimously approve Jonathan Likeke Scheuer as its designated representative.

Your Committee interviewed Dr. Scheuer. Dr. Scheuer spoke to the Board's efforts over the last few years, including:

- Setting up the East Maui Water Authority as established in the Charter, including appointing its director and organizing the East Maui Regional Community Board's operations.
- Successfully advocating for the State Department of Land and Natural Resources to pause their proposed disposition of a

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water license covering the diversion of public surface water from Ko'olau Forest Reserve.

- Participating in preliminary discussions with Mayor Bissen and East Maui water license holders to develop a cooperative approach with State DLNR.

Dr. Scheuer acknowledged that there is a lot more work before the East Maui Regional Community Board. As the former Board Chair, he said he was honored to work with a group committed to finding solutions for Maui County's people.

Your Committee expressed concern that Dr. Scheuer did not reside in the County. Nonetheless, based on his expertise and the endorsement of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, your Committee expressed support for Dr. Scheuer's appointment and thanked him for his willingness to serve.

Your Committee voted 6-2 to recommend adoption of Resolution 25-50. Committee Chair Sinenci and members Cook, Kama, Paltin, Rawlins-Fernandez, and U'u-Hodgins voted "aye." Committee members Lee and Sugimura voted "no." Vice-Chair Johnson was excused.

Your Committee is in receipt of Resolution 25-50, CD1, approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee **RECOMMENDS** that Resolution 25-50, CD1, attached, entitled "APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN LIKEKE SCHEUER TO THE EAST MAUI REGIONAL COMMUNITY BOARD," be **ADOPTED**.

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This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 3 of the Rules of the Council.



SHANE M. SINENCI, Chair

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Resolution

No. 25-50, CD1

APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF JONATHAN
LIKEKE SCHEUER TO THE EAST MAUI
REGIONAL COMMUNITY BOARD

WHEREAS, Section 8-19.2(1) of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, requires one member of the East Maui Regional Community Board to be a representative of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, recommended by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, and approved by the Council; and

WHEREAS, on the East Maui Regional Community Board, Jonathan Likeke Scheuer's two-year term as the Hawaiian Homes Commission's representative expires on March 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, by correspondence dated January 27, 2025, attached as Exhibit "A," the Chairman of the Hawaiian Homes Commission advised that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands approved Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to be reappointed as the representative on the East Maui Regional Community Board; and

WHEREAS, Jonathan Likeke Scheuer is not a resident of the County of Maui; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.60.040, Maui County Code, requires that the appointment of a non-county resident must be approved by a resolution approved by a two-thirds vote; now, therefore,


BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That, under Charter Section 8-19.2(1) and Code Section 2.60.040, it approves the appointment of Jonathan Likeke Scheuer to the East Maui Regional Community Board as the Hawaiian Homes Commission's representative for a term starting April 1, 2025, and expiring March 31, 2030; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer, the Mayor, the Managing Director, the Director of the East Maui Water Authority, the

Resolution No. 25-50, CD1

Director of Water Supply, and the Chairman of the Hawaiian
Homes Commission.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:



Yukari Murakami

Department of the Corporation Counsel
County of Maui

wassp:misc:005(1)areso01:clm

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci", written over a horizontal line.

SHANE M. SINENCI

Exhibit "A"



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ke Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina 'o
Hawai'i*

SYLVIA J. LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII
*Ka Hope Kia'āina o ka Moku'āina
'o Hawai'i*

KALI WATSON
CHAIRPERSON, HHC
Ka Lana Ho'okele

KATIE L. LAMBERT
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIR
Ka Hope Lana Ho'okele

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
Ka 'Oihana 'Āina Ho'opulapula Hawai'i

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

January 27, 2025

Councilmember Shane M Sinenci
County of Maui
200 S High Street Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793
Shane.Sinenci@mauicounty.us

PO-25-013

Aloha Councilmember Sinenci

Re: 'AHA WAI O MAUI HIKINA EAST MAUI REGIONAL COMMUNITY WATER
AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTEE

Per the Maui County Charter Amendment, Section 8-19.2 (1), the Department of
Hawaiian Home Lands has appointed a nominee to represent the Hawaiian Homes Commission.

During the Hawaiian Homes Commission meeting on January 21, 2025, the Hawaiian
Homes Commission voted and unanimously approved Dr. Jonathan Likeke Scheuer as its
designated representative upon the County's East Maui Regional Community Board. Thank you
for your consideration.

Aloha,

Kali Watson, Chairman
Hawaiian Homes Commission