

**COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI**

**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, ETHICS,  
AND TRANSPARENCY COMMITTEE**

March 10, 2023

**Committee  
Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

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

Chair and Members:

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee, having met on February 21, 2023, and reconvened on February 22, 2023, makes reference to Resolution 23-35, entitled “APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF KEKUHAUPIO AKANA AS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR.”

Resolution 23-35’s purpose is to approve the appointment of Kekuhaupio Akana as Managing Director, in accordance with Sections 6-2(5) and 8-1.2 of the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended (“Charter”).

Your Committee notes Charter Section 8-1.2 provides that the Managing Director be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the Council. In addition, Charter Section 6-2(5) provides that the Council confirm or deny the confirmation within 60 days after receiving notice of the appointment by the Mayor, or the appointment will be deemed confirmed. Accordingly, the deadline for the Council to confirm or deny the appointment of Mr. Akana as Managing Director is March 13, 2023.

By correspondence dated January 12, 2023, the Mayor transmitted the County of Maui job description for the Managing Director and a resume for the appointee.

Your Committee notes Section 2.14.120, Maui County Code, lists minimum qualifications for the position, including five years of administrative experience and three years of managerial and budgetary experience.

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Your Committee received comments from the Mayor and Mr. Akana regarding the appointment before interviewing Mr. Akana.

The Mayor said Mr. Akana displayed hard work and dedication by serving Maui County as an officer with the Department of Police for 25 years, including six years as Deputy Chief. The Mayor said Mr. Akana has the right balance of managing with experience, clear and firm humility, courage, and insight.

Mr. Akana believes that no matter your position in life, helping others succeed is equally important. He provided an example of his leadership style through addressing issues with A Cup of Cold Water, a community Care-Van outreach program, which he co-founded, serving Maui's vulnerable population via a van that delivers and distributes water, hygiene supplies, food, clothing, towels and blankets. He said his priorities for the Department will be filling vacancies, supporting directors, and helping to expedite the County's processes.

Your Committee expressed support for Mr. Akana's appointment.

Your Committee voted 9-0 to recommend adoption of Resolution 23-35. Committee Chair U'u-Hodgins, Vice-Chair Paltin, and members Cook, Johnson, Kama, Lee, Rawlins-Fernandez, Sinenci, and Sugimura voted "aye."

Your Committee notes the resolution required renumbering from Resolution 23-35 to Resolution 23-68.

Your Committee is in receipt of Resolution 23-68, CD1, approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee's nonsubstantive revisions.

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**Committee  
Report No. \_\_\_\_\_**

Your Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee RECOMMENDS that Resolution 23-68, CD1, as revised herein and attached hereto, entitled "APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF KEKUHAUPIO AKANA AS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR," be ADOPTED.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOHELANI U'U-HODGINS, Chair

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# Resolution

**No. 23-68, CD1**

## APPROVING THE APPOINTMENT OF KEKUHAUPIO AKANA AS THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

WHEREAS, by letter dated January 12, 2023, Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr. notified the Council that he appointed Kekuhaupio Akana as the Managing Director; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 8-1.2 states that, "The managing director shall be appointed by the mayor with the approval of the council and may be removed by the mayor."; and

WHEREAS, Charter Section 6-2(5) requires that the Council confirm or deny the appointment within 60 days after receiving notice of the appointment by the Mayor; now, therefore,

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

1. That it approves the appointment of Kekuhaupio Akana as the Managing Director; and
2. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor.

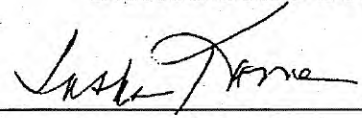
APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY



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VICTORIA J. TAKAYESU  
Acting Corporation Counsel  
County of Maui  
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INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Kame". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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Upon the request of the Mayor.