

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

May 30, 2023

Online Only via BlueJeans

CONVENE: 1:32 p.m.

PRESENT: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Shane M. Sinenci, Chair
Councilmember Gabe Johnson, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Alice L. Lee, Member
Councilmember Tasha Kama, Member
Councilmember Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez, Member (In 1:38 p.m.)
Councilmember Tamara Paltin, Member
Councilmember Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Member

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Tom Cook, Member
Councilmember Nohelani U'u-Hodgins, Member

STAFF:

James Krueger, Senior Committee Legislative Analyst
Jarret Pascual, Committee Legislative Analyst
Richelle Kawasaki, Legislative Attorney
Jocelyn Moniz, Committee Secretary
Stacey Vinoray, Committee Secretary
Lei Dinneen, Council Services, Assistant Clerk
Jean Pokipala, Council Services Assistant Clerk
David Raatz, Deputy Director of Council Services
Shelly Espeleta, Supervising Legislative Analyst
Nalani Fujihara, Hawaiian Language

Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sinenci
Gina Young, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sinenci
Don Atay, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sinenci

Susan Clements, Executive Assistant to Councilmember U'u-Hodgins

Jared Agtunong, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Cook

Evan Dust, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Kama

Noelani Ahia, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Rawlins-Fernandez

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Angela Lucero, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Paltin
Christi Keliikoa, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Paltin
Krystal Cabiles, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Paltin

Arthur Suyama, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sugimura
Jennifer Matsumoto, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Sugimura

Kate Griffiths, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson
Axel Beers, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Johnson

Zhantell Lindo, Council Aide, Molokaʻi Residency Area Office
Roxanne Morita, Council Aide, Lānaʻi Residency Area Office
Mavis Oliveira, Council Aide, East Maui Residency Area Office
Jade Rojas-Letisi, Council Aide, Makawao-Haʻikū-Pāʻia Residency Area Office

ADMIN.: Mariana Lowy-Gerstmar, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Mimi Desjardins, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel

OTHERS: Māhealani Carbonell
Lucienne de Naie
Malie Naheana
Faith Chase
Harry Hūʻeu, Jr.
Norman “Bush” Martin
Lurlyn Scott
John Blumer-Buell
Moses Bergau, Jr.
Jesse Nakooka, Jr.
Alicia “Napua” Hūʻeu
Jerome Kekiwi, Jr.
Jennie Kaahui
Francis Quitazol
Jonathan Scheuer
Additional attendees (4)

PRESS: *Akakū: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(gavel)*. . . Okay. Aloha ‘auinalā. And welcome to the second hafa adai of this Tuesday, May 30th, the meeting of the WASSP Committee. It is now 1:32 p.m. I’m Shane Sinenci, your Committee Chair. And may I ask that you silence all cell phones and noisemaking devices. Members, in accordance with the Sunshine Law, if you are not in the Council Chambers, please identify by name who, if anyone, is in the room with you, vehicle, or workspace. And minors do not need to be identified. Also, please see the last page of the agenda for information on meeting connectivity. Joining us today we have Committee Vice-Chair Gabe Johnson. Aloha.

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VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Aloha, Chair, Councilmembers, Committee Members. Hafa adai to you. There are no testifiers here at the Lānaʻi District office, and we are...oh, I'm alone in my office as well. And I'm here and ready to work. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: All right. Mahalo for joining us. Member Tom Cook is excused today. And, oh, Pro Tem Kama is here. Aloha and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Aloha 'auinalā, Chair, and hafa adai to you too.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thanks for being here. Next we have Council Chair Alice Lee. Aloha and hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Aloha. Hafa adai, Chair. Looking forward to your meeting. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. And then we have from the West Side, Councilmember Tamara Paltin. Aloha 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Aloha 'auinalā kākou. Broadcasting live and direct from the deep west in Nāpili. I have with me George Vierra, two unnamed minors, and one pocket Pitbull. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. Welcome, everybody. Okay. And I did see Member Rawlins-Fernandez, she's in between meetings, so I'm sure she'll join us soon. Next, we have Member Yuki Lei Sugimura. Aloha, hafa adai.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Aloha, hafa adai to you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you *(audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Sounds like a fun meeting, right, with that kind of greeting.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. . . *(laughing)*. . . And then, of course, Nohelani U'u-Hodgins is also excused for today's meeting. From the Administration we have Mariana Lowy Gerstmar. Aloha.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: Good afternoon . . . *(inaudible)*. . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: And our Committee Staff today, we have Ms. Jocelyn Moniz.

MS. MONIZ: Good afternoon --

CHAIR SINENCI: Good afternoon.

MS. MONIZ: -- Councilmembers.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. James Krueger, aloha. Ms. Kasie Apo Takayama, Ms. Jarrett...Mr. Jarret Pascual, excuse me, and Ms. Richelle Kawasaki, as well as Ms. Lei Dinneen, and Ms. Jean Pokipala. Aloha, everybody. Okay. Members, on the agenda again today we have one item, the WASSP-2 Resolution 22-260, Appointments to the East Maui Regional Community Board. Members...and again, thank you for agreeing to meet on an off week to continue with board interviews. For this item we'll have testimony, and then the applicants who have not previously made an opening statement may do so. And then we'll have another opportunity for testimony before we continue with our applicant interviews. Let's begin with public testimony. Do we have anybody signed up? Okay. Oral testimony via phone or video conference will be accepted. Please note that if you are signed in you are on the list to testify, even if you did not request to testify. Please let Staff know in chat if you are signed on and do not intend to testify. In accordance with the Sunshine Law, testimony can occur at the beginning of the meeting, but cannot be limited to the start of the meeting. The Chair will receive oral testimony for agenda items at the beginning of the meeting, and as the item is called up on the agenda. And when testifiers sign up to testify, they must let Staff know whether they wish to testify at the beginning of the meeting or before an agenda item, otherwise Staff will assume the testifier will testify at the beginning of the meeting. Testifiers wanting to provide video or audio testimony should have joined the online meeting via the BlueJeans link or phone number noted on today's agenda. Written testimony is encouraged and can be submitted via the eComment link at mauicounty.us/agendas. Oral testimony is limited to three minutes and will be accepted at the beginning of the meeting, and prior to the Committee's deliberation on each item. If you are still testifying beyond that time, I'll kindly ask you to complete your testimony. We ask that you state your name and organization, but if you prefer to testify anonymously, Staff will identify and refer you [sic] as "Testifier" and assign you a number. Please also indicate the agenda item or items you are testifying on. You may indicate in the chat if you do not wish to testify; however, chat should not be used for discussion or comments. Please be courteous to others by turning off your video and muting your microphone while waiting for your turn to testify. Once you are done testifying, or if you do not wish to testify, you can view the meeting on *Akakū* Channel 53, Facebook Live, or mauicounty.us/agendas. Thank you all for your cooperation in advance. The Chair will also be maintaining decorum during the meeting at all times. As a reminder, the chat should be used only to sign up for testimony, and not for public commentary on the meeting. It will be considered breach of decorum for members of the public to use the chat for anything other than testimony sign up. Committee Members, I'll now proceed with oral testimony, but before I do, I'd like to recognize Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Aloha, 'auinalā.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Aloha auinalā, Chair, mai Maui nui a Kama. Let's see... *(audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Any testifiers in your office?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: I'm trying...I'm trying to see. I'm guessing there won't be. Mahalo, Chair. It's great to be here with you today.

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CHAIR SINENCI: I didn't see if there's any in Hāna. Let's see. There might be some, but Ms. Mavis will let us know. Okay. Staff has been monitoring individuals joining today's meeting by phone and by video, and we'll do our best to take each person up in an orderly fashion.

**ITEM-2: RESOLUTION 22-260, APPOINTMENTS TO THE EAST MAUI
REGIONAL COMMUNITY BOARD**

. . . BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY . . .

CHAIR SINENCI: At this time, Mr. Krueger, or Mr. Pascual, please call the first testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the first testifier is Māhealani Carbonell, followed by Lucienne de Naie.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Carbonell.

MS. CARBONELL: Aloha. My name is Māhealani Carbonell. I have been serving as a kuleana steward volunteer at Honomanū Valley. It's part of a community-group effort led by Nāpua Hū'eu, and I am calling in to testify in strong support for her appointment to the East Maui Regional Community Board to represent the Honomanū lease area as the only active kalo farmer in that ahupua'a. And I've been blessed to be part of and witness her effort, and...and benefit from her extensive knowledge of the geography, the aquatic workings of the area, and her...her ability to conduct mass watershed restoration work with the community involved. She's aiming to ensure mauka-to-makai connectivity, and build tangible, indigenous food security. I just want to extend my support for that...for her appointment to the board.

CHAIR SINENCI: *(Audio interference)* Ms. Carbonell, for your testimony. Members, any questions for the testifier? We have a question for you from Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Carbonell. So, you know, on the list that we receive from the Chair, there is an Alicia Hū'eu. Is that the same person that you referring to?

MS. CARBONELL: Yes, Alicia Nāpua Hū'eu.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for that, Pro Tem *(audio interference)* --

MS. CARBONELL: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Any other questions? Seeing none. Thank you, Ms. Carbonell.

MS. CARBONELL: Mahalo.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Pascual.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the next person wishing to testify is Lucienne de Naie, followed by Malie Naheana.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. de Naie. Did you want to provide testimony now?

MS. DE NAIE: If...if I could give my statement now, would it be appropriate? I'm sorry, I...I did miss the last meeting, I've been traveling. But --

CHAIR SINENCI: We can --

MS. DE NAIE: -- would be this the appropriate time to make a statement?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, we have you on the list for opening remarks.

MS. DE NAIE: Okay, fine. Thank you. Well, first of all, greetings to all of you, and I...I miss Maui. I've been gone for two weeks. I...I'm very honored to even be considered for this position. I've lived in the Huelo area, in the ahupua'a of Pualoa for 40 years. And I'm very, very familiar with the area from both on the ground hiking, I've hiked most of the streams in the Huelo lease area from down near the ocean all the way...way up to the upper ditches. And I've learned from some amazing kūpuna in our area, many of whom, unfortunately, are no longer with us. But I'm very interested in seeing our communities have a voice in the management of the system that is literally in our backyard. I think that all of...of the people who serve on this board, our main goal needs to be the efficient management of the waters, and the watersheds, and the conveyance systems, as well as looking for ways to grow water by actually improving the ability of the watershed to store and discharge water. This will help everybody. This water needs to be shared. We have many farmers Upcountry. I work closely with many folks in the Upcountry farming community because our needs and their needs are very, very similar. We're all the little guys, and we need to make sure that the precious flow of water is adequately managed, and that we have some plans for the time when the water is the most sparse, and the most restricted during drought. So, I would be honored to put my long knowledge of this area to work. I have worked on watershed restoration projects, small ones, in the Huelo lease area, and have learned a lot through that process, and have volunteered for many years to lead hikes in the area, and meet with various folks who share their mana'o of generational knowledge of the area. So, thank you for your consideration, and I'm happy to answer any questions.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. de Naie. Members, we'll *(audio interference)* come back on, but for any...it looks like we have a question from Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering if you could clarify which seat that you were applying for?

MS. DE NAIE: I'm applying for the Huelo area. Of course, none of us live in the Huelo lease

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area because it's State land, and we don't live on State land, but we live below the Huelo lease area...the 15 or so streams that are in that lease area all pass through the neighborhoods that we live in. I...I live in one of those neighborhoods. My nearest stream is Waipi'o Stream...the nearest stream to me, but I am applying for that lease area. I live in the Ha'ikū/Pā'ia Community Plan area which, as some of you may recall, extends all the way to Kailua Town. So, it extends past Huelo, and...and actually to...to the boundary of the Hāmākua Loa, and Ko'olau mokus in Makaiwa. And that is also the boundary of the Huelo lease area. The boundary of the Huelo lease area is just a little bit past that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And just to clarify, that is the only one that you qualify for, the Huelo lease area?

MS. DE NAIE: I believe so because I do not live...I live in the Hāna Council District, but I do not live within the Hāna Community Plan District. And I believe the lease areas would be considered part of the Hāna Community Plan District.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Got it. Thank you.

MS. DE NAIE: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Any other questions for Ms. de Naie? And again, we'll bring her up if you have further questions during the interview section. Okay. Mr. Pascual, can you go ahead and call the next testifier.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the last person signed up wishing to testify is Malie Naheana.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Naheana.

MS. NAHEANA: Aloha. Thanks for having me. My name is Malie. Oh. There's my camera, I guess. Okay. Hi. Here I am. I am from Hawai'i. And I'm just here to testify on behalf of Alicia Nāpua...I mean, I'm sorry, Alicia Nāpua Hū'eu. I...unfortunately, I'm not very involved in community planning for several reasons, one of which, I'm just busy trying to survive here in Hawai'i as a single mother. I moved from Kaua'i three years ago, and one of the reason...one of the things I was interested in learning about was the watershed management situation happening here in Maui. We've, on Kaua'i, worked with Earthjustice lawyers, and they were...kept mentioning the case that they had in Maui. So, when I moved here, I was really excited to figure out what was happening with your guys' watersheds, and what's happening with your water. And I really have only been able to gather comprehensive information through my relationship with Alicia Nāpua Hū'eu, who runs the Honomanū Restoration Project. And I know that her intention...or one of her intentions of that project is to restore mauka-to-makai stream flow, which is not currently happening in that...in that watershed, or that area. So, I'm not the most educated person to Maui, I'm definitely not the richest, or have the biggest say, but I--as just one member of the community who's raising her daughter here in Hawai'i, and was raised in Hawai'i, and has seen the changes of...yeah, just the watershed changes, what's happening to all the rivers on Kaua'i, and then what has

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happened here. All the rivers here are dry, it's like a desert here. It's actually...was really saddening to me to come to Maui and see the water situation here. And anyways, long story short, Alicia Nāpua Hū'eu's work in Honomanū, it's really inspiring, and she's young, and she's from the area, and she has a lot of ideas, and she's going to be able to work in this watershed, in this capacity for many decades, and...or many decades to come. And she's also, like, a generational...like she's from here, so she has a lot of investment into the health and the well-being of the area. So, I really strongly support her, and I hope that you guys vote her in, or whatever process you guys go through.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Naheana. Any questions for the testifier? Seeing none. Again, thank you for your testimony this afternoon. Mr. Pascual.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, the next person signed up wishing to testify is Faith Chase.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Ms. Chase. Faith, are you there?

MS. CHASE: Aloha, Chair. Can you hear me okay?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you.

MS. CHASE: Okay. I can't see you, but I can hear you, so I'm going to continue. Aloha, Chair Sinenci. Aloha, Committee Members. I did get to testify last meeting, so I'll just reiterate that I'm in strong support of Alicia Nāpua Hū'eu. Lucienne de Naie...thank you for that...that opening statement, Auntie Lucienne. I didn't get to share testimony because I was unaware of the two applicants, I guess, that we found that had their applications early. So, I'm in strong support of Harry Hū'eu, Jr. I'm also in strong support of Auntie Lyn Scott. So, I just wanted to say both of these...both of these kalo farmers have intrinsic area knowledge, and I actually don't think that...I just don't think this community authority could move forward well without their input. I do...I have seen some emails coming through trying to clarify some of the jurisdictional language. So, I'm interested in that conversation that you will have later. I value the comments of John Blumer-Buell, you know, being raised in East Maui, and Hāna area. He's always been a community steward, certainly detail oriented. While I have worked with Hugh Starr, I do...I do...I do kind of scratch my head, and question his position as far as being appointed to this Water Authority, and him residing within the correct area. And then I just wanted to lend...just...I just wanted to give some...some reminder to Waipi'o Valley on Moku O Kiawe, or Hawai'i Island, that specific to the work that needs to be done in East Maui, and the youth that are going to be involved. The children of Kanu O Ka 'Āina, the students of Kano O Ka 'Āina, New Century Public Charter School, were doing their own water study in Waipi'o Valley. And I'll never forget the day the Water Department...I was on the...I was the local school board secretary at the time. The Water Department came down, and tried to tell these intermediate students that they...they couldn't be...what are they doing, and why are doing it, and they shouldn't be doing it. And they politely laughed, and continued their study, and that...that...that stream had...that valley, and that stream had full stream restoration due to student study. And so, as we...as you hear the testifiers speaking about the Honomanū Restoration Project, and certainly the other dormant valleys and riverbeds that are going to be returned,

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there is a huge educational component that we should all be excited about. And if you don't have the regional experts, and the knowledge masters, and the kalo farmers at the forefront, you're...you won't see that hand-in-hand bridging of that youthful education. So, I just wanted to remind you guys that, you know, congratulations on coming this far, and there's...it's a...it's a beautiful rainbow day around the farm just around the corner. So, thank you for your time.

CHAIR SINENCI: *(Audio interference)* for your testimony. Members, any questions for Ms. Chase? Seeing none. Mahalo for your testimony, and...and for your continuous support. Thank you. Mr. Pascual.

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, that is currently all the testifiers that have signed up wishing to testify. If there's anyone out there in the Chamber or in BlueJeans that is wishing to testify, please come up to the mic, or unmute yourself, and begin your testimony. I can give a brief countdown...three, two, one. Seeing none. Chair, no one else is wishing to testify.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Pascual. Okay. I'll now proceed with our agenda item. Members, today we are taking up Resolution 22-260, Appointments to the East Maui Regional Community Board, WASSP-2. At our last Committee meeting on May 8, we began the board application interview process, and made it through three of the seven seats--the DHHL seat, the agriculture seat, and the water expert seat--all great candidates. Members, today we'll be continuing to interview our applicants to the board for the four license areas of Ke'anae, Nāhiku, Honomanū, and Huelo. All of the applications are included in Granicus. And we have two candidates that have not provided opening comments yet, Mr. Hū'eu and Ms. Scott. And so, they will have three minutes, plus an additional 30 seconds to conclude, if needed. And just as a reminder, we asked all of our applicants to explain their knowledge and experience with watershed areas, the water service area, and the water system, if you want to speak to that. Also, what is your idea of the mission of this board, as well as looking forward on how would you like to see the system managed. And so, those were just some thoughts that if you guys wanted to speak to. If there are no objections, we'll start with Mr. Hū'eu from Ke'anae. Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Tamara had a question.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I just was wondering if any of the candidates felt that they would qualify for a different category if they could make mention of that. Like --

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- if --

CHAIR SINENCI: Like if they live --

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- if anybody was an ag expert as well. Is that possible? Or have we interviewed --

CHAIR SINENCI: Sure, we can include --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- all the ag experts there are?

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. We can include that. And I believe...Mr. Hū'eu, you...well, you can speak to...to your application of...of which areas, yeah, you qualify for. Go ahead.

MR. HŪ'EU: Aloha, Council Chair Lee, and fellow Councilmembers. My name is Harry Aukai Hū'eu.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aukai, you can just go ahead...and like this, speak right into the mic. Okay.

MR. HŪ'EU: Aloha, Council Chair Lee, and fellow Councilmembers. My name is Harry Aukai Hū'eu, Jr., and I reside at 180 Wailua Road, Wailua Ke'anae. I am employed full time by the State Highways Division at Ke'anae Base Yard as an Equipment Operator. I also have a small-scale farming operation consisting of 20 lo'i kalo. Attached are a few photos of my taro patches. As a taro farmer, Highways worker, and East Maui resident of 40-plus years, I believe I have the knowledge, and experience to know how to better manage our East Maui water resources. I think water should be allocated according to the following priority uses. Minimum stream flows...excuse me. Number one, minimum stream flows for Hi'uwai, 'ōpae, 'o'ōpū, and other stream life to not just survive, but thrive. Lo'i kalo farmers, all farmers who raise taro would be another priority. The water...the main resource is water. And that's what we have today, and...is a need to all kalo farmers. And number three, County of Maui sufficient to meet current resident needs, additional water to address all applicants too, on the Upcountry water meter waitlist, and projected future affordable housing development. Number four, existing small farms, and ranchers. Number five, large scale agriculture, such as Mahi Pono, subject to decrease in allocation should additional water be required by higher priority users. We need large scale agriculture to achieve food security for Maui. With regard to projects specific to the Ke'anae/Wailua District, County funding for repair/restoration of lo'i kalo piping and 'auwai ditch from Waikane Stream. For purposes of transparency, I would like to disclose that I currently lease the old EMI Ke'anae Base Yard building from A&B and Mahi Pono. That's where I make my poi. The lease is month to month. I expect my views of priority use will get back to my landlords. Hopefully it will not result in possible termination of my lease. Mahalo for giving me an opportunity to speak.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Hū'eu. And then we'll...we'll come back to you for questions for the Ke'anae seat.

MR. HŪ'EU: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo for --

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MR. HŪ'EU: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- your opening comments. And we already heard from Ms. de Naie, so we'll have Ms. Scott for opening comments.

MS. SCOTT: Aloha 'auinalā, Chairman Sinenci, Members of the County Council, this afternoon...or hafa adai. I did receive the email stating what questions you have to explain. And I redid my paperwork a couple times after listening to the presentations in the last meeting. So, let me begin with what I ended up with. Aloha. My name is Lurlyn Scott. I am seeking a seat representing the Huelo lease area. I am 63 years old. I was raised in the Ha'ikū area by my grandparents, John and Maria Kaleialoha. They were also taro farmers in Honopou on our family land. I also raise kalo there. I bring people in to learn about the system, learn about kalo, about working hard, and...and sharing our cultural practices that we have. My mother, Marjorie Wallett, and her cousin, Beatrice Kekahuna, were involved in the East Maui contested water case. You know, that case took almost 20 years, and of the poor...four people in our family that were there in these cases, went to all the meetings, listened to all the insults, did our testimonies, I'm the only one...surviving one left there. So, I take it on as my responsibility to ensure what they have done to replenish water in our streams, to recognize our East Maui practitioners, and cultural...just being culturally active out there. The result of full restoration in Honopou Stream has really resulted in bringing back of the Hi'uwai, as Aukai said, the 'o'ōpū...all the native streams...and also at the shoreline for fishing. You know, that's very important that our waters reach the shoreline from the mountain. Now, during these battles with the contested case, I learned many things. I learned about the lo'i in our area. I learned about the ditches, when they came in, how they operate. I've seen the many mechanisms that they use to retrieve the water. I've hiked the Waikamoi flume, it's amazing how much work they've done up there. I'm telling you, Stephen Cabral did a good job for HC&S, getting every drip [sic] of water from the mountains there. With the contested case, we were also able to view the Kamole Water Weir, to see where all those water is coming from the upper ditches go to...that's the Wailoa Ditch and the Hāmākua Ditch that totally deplete the whole system. If you've ever been there, and seen the big hole (*audio interference*) . . . (*timer sounds*) . . . that takes all the water, it's...it's just amazing. I have also been a member of the Taro Security and Purity Task Force.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thirty seconds to wrap up.

MS. SCOTT: Thank you. I will hurry this up. With the passage of Act 221 [sic] in 2008, we were tasked to seek solutions facing taro, taro farmers, and taro markets. I was able to tour other groups on other islands, and seeing their problems, which pretty much mirror ours. My thoughts on the East Maui Regional Board would to be kind of change our mindset. We all think that the waters in East Maui are just never ending. Well, . . . (*timer sounds*) . . . I don't think that's true. There have been times, like during this drought, water has not reached our lo'i. There have been times where many years in the past, we've seeded the clouds to create rain during the drought situations. And if this continues, we are going to be in a sad shape. I also believe that forest restoration is something that is very needed; we have too many invasives there. I'm hoping that this

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group will recognize the taro farmers in the East Maui areas, and...because we're always put last, on the end of the list, I believe that we should be first on the list, sharing this water, and making sure that everyone gets their little fair share. And in the future, we really need to conserve, and really look at our usage of how we can protect our streams, and our mountain, keeping them away from destructive activities, such as...like overfishing, dumping of contaminants, just general misuse, and we also need to educate the public and everyone here on this island. Thank you for this opportunity. I am willing to serve at least a two-year term on this board, and I await your further questions for clarification.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo for that, Ms. Scott. Thank you.

MS. SCOTT: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Next, Members, we're going to go to...we'll bring her back for questions. We have one more that we didn't have...hear opening statements from, and that's Mr. Bush Martin. Is he on the line, Staff?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. I'm here.

CHAIR SINENCI: Aloha, Mr. Martin. You have some opening comments for the Councilmembers?

MR. MARTIN: Aloha, everybody. I'm Norman "Bush" Martin, present Vice-President of Nā Moku 'Aupuni 'o Ko'olau Hui. I work for the County of Maui for almost 25 years. My experience in the watershed that we learn from our kūpunas, and my grandparents. And right now, we're...me and Jerome Kekiwi is collaborating with East Maui Irrigation. And I been in the water case for over 20 years. And, yeah, we just gather, and hunting, everything in the Ko'olau, taro farmer, and, yeah, we just...I just wanna participate in this and...on the board, and we have a lot of experience. And right now, like I said, we're collaborating with East Maui Irrigation on all the diversions, and all the leakage. So, we know that they're losing about 10 million gallons of leakage, so that is what Upcountry use. So, we could use more water for Upcountry. Yeah, that's about it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo (*audio interference*) for your opening comments. Okay. Members, at this time, if there is anyone wishing to testify under board appointments, you may unmute yourself, and identify yourself at this time. Staff, is there anyone wishing to testify after the presentations?

MR. PASCUAL: Chair, there's currently no one else signed up to testify. I can give a last call if you'd like.

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead.

MR. PASCUAL: All right. To anyone out there wishing to testify, please make yourself present now, and begin your testimony. This is the last call for testifiers. I will give a brief countdown...three, two, one. Seeing none, hearing none. Chair, no one else...no one

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else is wishing to testify.

CHAIR SINENCI: Members, seeing there are no more individuals wishing to testify, are there any objections to closing oral testimony for this item?

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you.

. . . END PUBLIC TESTIMONY. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, I would like to open the floor up for questions. And I can propose two rounds of questions. Each Member will have three minutes for the first round, and two minutes, 30 seconds to close for the second. And we can go ahead and begin with our Ke'anae appointees. So, I know we have Mr. Martin online, and then maybe Mr. Hū'eu can come up to the podium, and then you guys can go ahead and ask your questions of...of both candidates. Okay. We'll start with Committee Vice-Chair Gabe Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay, Chair. Well, I'm going to have the same question for both members from Ke'anae. So, I guess I'll just ask a question, and whoever wants to speak first to it, they can do that, if that's how you want to proceed, Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, go ahead.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. So, I...I appreciate the long extensive knowledge that both of those folks were saying that they had of their district. And just here on Lāna'i, we often hear the old timers say how...how the mists have change on Lāna'i. How it used to be really misty, and there was a lot of...just the overall the water on the island, it was more wet. So, I wonder, in their districts, has the water itself...change of flow, and the amount of rainfall, and all. Have you been watching your district's change in water, either through rain, or...or the streams, or however you want to describe it? Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Hū'eu, you want to go (*audio interference*) --

MR. HŪ'EU: I feel that scientist have measured, like, climate change, and stuff. Yes, I believe today is a less rain, and there is less water, for sure. And the UH scientist guys and stuff, they all part of this...being with this board thing, and I agree with what they predict, and the knowledge that they have, and working with them, for sure.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Hū'eu. Mr. Martin, did you want to respond?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Yeah, we been what the rainfalls. It doesn't rain as much as before. Today, the rain come, and it goes, and it doesn't rain for days and days and days, like before. Yeah, it just comes and goes, it comes in spurts. It rains heavy, then it rains light. Yeah, it doesn't really rain like before, and we see less water.

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VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you so much. That's all my...all my questions for now, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo, Vice-Chair Johnson. Pro Tem Kama, followed by Council Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Mr. Martin and Mr. Hū'eu. And since Mr. Hū'eu is here, I'd like to ask question of him first, Chair, and the same question for Mr. Martin also. Thank you for being here, again. Could you tell me, how many acres of kalo do you farm, and how long have you been doing that?

MR. HŪ'EU: Approximately two acres, and the time of doing kalo, from about 1978.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And do you farm kalo for subsistence farming, or do you actually sell your kalo on the open market?

MR. HŪ'EU: I...I...I work with the community, my aunties providing them...poi for them, helping with other family members for help me, using their tractor and trade, you know, kalo for making my farm sufficient, and labor too.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you so very much. And so, Mr. Martin, same questions. Do you want me to repeat it?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Well, right now, I'm not farming because my water intake is plugged up. We're trying to get that fixed. We...I was farming about two acres, and I used to supply Aloha Poi Shop [sic]. And, yeah, so right now, we...I'm just not farming right now till we get my intake...we trying to get the State Agricultures [sic] to help us to...help me fix the intake. We fixed one 'auwai that cost \$1.5 million on the opposite side of me. So, now we trying to get money from legislature to come and fix my side, then we can reopen my farm again.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

MR. MARTIN: *(Audio interference)*.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair. Let's see now. You have a full-time job, yeah, with the State?

MR. HŪ'EU: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And...and then you work in your farm. Would you have time to do work on the board?

MR. HŪ'EU: It's a few hours, like three, four hours, but it's sufficient.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And then how far is your farm from Bush Martin's farm?

MR. HŪ'EU: I think Bush is down Wailua. I am down Ke'anae peninsula.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, not too far away then.

MR. HŪ'EU: Like about one mile, mile and a half.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Uh-hum. Okay. For Mr. Martin, you...I would ask you the same question. Do you have enough time to...to spare to work on...on the board?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah, I'll be retiring from the County soon.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, you work in Hāna? Where do you work?

MR. MARTIN: Yeah, I'm Hāna at the County Parks, and I'll be --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh.

MR. MARTIN: -- retiring soon, so I will have time --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. MARTIN: -- to be working on a board.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: *(Audio interference)* known you and your family for many years. And so, how long have you been farming kalo in...in that area? Wailua, right?

MR. MARTIN: Wailua.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Wai...Wailani? Yeah, Wailua.

MR. MARTIN: Wailua.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: How...how...how long?

MR. MARTIN: From when I was young, I used to help my grandparents, then I started working construction. Then after doing construction, I used to go in and help my grandfather. Then after my grandma, and my grandparents passed away I took over the farm, probably was in the early '90's.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Well, thank you, both of you. And I appreciate what you do for us and the community. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Paltin, and then Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Hū'eu, Jr. and Mr. Martin, for your willingness to serve. I guess my first question would be for Mr. Hū'eu, Jr., you mentioned about your lease. Have you gotten a advisory opinion from the Board of Ethics if that would be a conflict of interest?

MR. HŪ'EU: No.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Would you be willing to request one?

MR. HŪ'EU: In the near future.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Sounds good. There's been talk that there isn't a depth [sic] of applicants. Would you be opposed to reopening the application period?

MR. HŪ'EU: Reopening what application? Is it for Water Authority?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Yeah, there's been talk about that. Because obviously, you guys had your things together that you got your applications in on time, and that you knew about this, and it was a open process. Just any statement if you think that would be fair to you folks or not.

MR. HŪ'EU: Fair is fair (*audio interference*) my kuleana, but I think the County's kuleana, I think...pretty sure about starting this thing. And...well, I don't know what happened...not aware of how they go about doing things. But I did my application on time, and I'm...I'm all good.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Mr. Martin, any...any statement as to the fairness of reopening?

MR. MARTIN: Well, we all signed up all together, and I think it's fair to me. But whatever happens, happens.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And I guess one of my last questions, I'm not sure...I forgot how much time we have, is about your willingness...or your ability to work...how you work with others that have differing points of view, if you can give us any example as to having done it, or how...how you can come to a consensus over a controversial, passionate subject with others who are of differing viewpoints?

MR. HŪ'EU: To me, my willingness to be part of this board thing is to be acceptable to all points and opinions. I know Maui is...get Mahi Pono, get Upcountry guys, everybody like part of this water over here. So, Maui, I think . . . (*timer sounds*). . . one County, one whole...we should look at this together, and come up with solutions for make this thing better for everybody, not just one person.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Martin, did you want to...oh. We'll allow (*audio interference*) --

MR. MARTIN: Yeah. Oh. We work together with my...my Nā Moku Board. And I'm in pretty

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good relationship with Mahi Pono.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Next, we'll have Member Paltin (*audio interference*) by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair, but I just went. So, I wouldn't want to double dip there.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, sorry. Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Mr. Hū'eu. How did you...mahalo for your willingness to serve on this Water Board. How...how did you hear about the application?

MR. HŪ'EU: (*Audio interference*) application --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: And to know to apply?

MR. HŪ'EU: Oh, I heard it from people who work County, and they told me about being of good courage because you one Hawaiian, and you work taro patch, you gotta take the step forward, and come out. You gotta get involve, and thank God get people like that that gave me the courage for come up here today. That's how I heard about it, from County, family members, friends.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right on. Mahalo. After doing the work to get your application in on time, before the deadline, do you think it would be fair, like Member Paltin was asking, to now reopen the application for others who did not get their application in on time?

MR. HŪ'EU: I...I cannot come up with the decision. I respect you guys, and that's your guys' decision, you know. I no work for County Council, I work for the State of Hawai'i Highways, and I'm all cool.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Do you think it's fair to --

MR. HŪ'EU: I'm all cool with what you guys decide, you know, you guys appointed by some higher power than all of us, but I respect you guys, what you guys choose for do.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Do you think that mauka-to-makai connection is a waste of water? Is it a waste of water for a stream flow to go into the ocean?

MR. HŪ'EU: No, because the ocean's, you know, benefitting the fish, and everything benefitting from all the water going out to the ocean to...to love eating reef fish, and everything. And I don't know, I kinda flexible towards how much water going out. You know, if get way too much going out, maybe we can conserve little bit for all the farmers, and...like I said, the large-scale agriculture guys, like Mahi Pono, and stuff like that. It's all cool.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo for your response. I think Chair Lee asked about attendance, and if you missed anything, or would like to add anything more regarding how you feel that your experience would contribute to the discussions on the Water Authority Board?

MR. HŪ'EU: Would be...the first priority is stream, and the livelihood in the stream. Our ecosystem . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . super important, that would be number one, and kalo farmers. Us guys been doing 'em long time, long time. And our grandparents, and generations before that, they been doing 'em long time anyway feel strongly we need for continue with that, and then the rest of the Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Hū'eu. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. So, I just wondered if...if Mr. Martin could continue on with the...the questions that were brought up by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Martin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: What are your...what would your priorities be?

MR. MARTIN: What was the question?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: What would your priority be to be on this board?

MR. MARTIN: My priority on this board is make sure that our people, and...get enough water for everybody. And we don't want to see a foreign entity running this water system because they get a few tricks up they sleeves. We been dealing with these guys for a long time. They been taking way too much water. They been banking water when the...the law...the judge told them banking is illegal. We been in this water case for over 20 years already, and it's just not run right. And the system is old, the system needs to be fixed, and somehow we can get the grant monies to fix these systems so we no lose all this water. There's a lot of water been running away.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. I just have a couple questions...or same question for both candidates. It looks like the DLNR is currently doing their consultation process for the East Maui Watershed Plan. And so, are any of you familiar with this process, or have you been participating with this process with the DLNR? I understand they already received input from the owners that are above the watershed, and may be looking for input from the lower watershed areas. Have you guys been consulted with?

MR. HŪ'EU: I have not been consulted with any of DLNRs. I don't know when they get

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meetings. Our community doesn't have a community center, you know, it's Ke'anae-Wailuanui, and I don't know nothing about DLNR --

CHAIR SINENCI: All right.

MR. HŪ'EU: -- and what they are.

CHAIR SINENCI: All right.

MR. HŪ'EU: *(Audio interference)* --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Martin, were you aware, or contacted, consulted with...this process?

MR. MARTIN: *(Audio interference)* no, haven't been contacted, anything, about this.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you guys for that answers. Members, is there a need for a second round of questions for our Ke'anae candidates? I see Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Go ahead. Two minutes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Same questions for Mister *(audio interference)* how did you hear about the application?

MR. MARTIN: Through my Councilmember and my sister, Amanda Martin.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And mahalo for your willingness to serve on this board. After doing the work to get your application in on time, do you think it would be fair to then reopen the application process now?

MR. MARTIN: Well, to me, we all got our applications in on time, so...but like Aukai said, it's up to you guys if you guys want to open it up again.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. When it comes to mauka-to-makai connection...in order for water to get from mauka-to-makai, do you think that water that makes it to the ocean is a waste of water?

MR. MARTIN: No, it's not a waste of water because you need water to go down to the ocean so it can evaporate, and create more rain. That's what it does.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Okay. I guess Chair Lee asked about attendance, that you going to be retiring soon, so attendance shouldn't be a problem. Is there anything else you would like to add to how you envision contributing to this Water Authority Board?

MR. MARTIN: Well, like I said, we're...me and Jerome is collaborating already with East Maui Irrigation. So, we pretty much got a lot of data, and lot of information on the system. Because of our water case, we been going up with East Maui Irrigation in the mountains, and looking at all the diversions, looking what they're blocking up, what the judge told

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them to block. And, yeah, we just...we collaborating already (*audio interference*)
...(*timer sounds*)... guys.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Mr. Martin.

MR. MARTIN: (*Audio interference*) --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Martin. Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Members, any other questions for our Ke'anae applicants? Okay. Oh, one more from Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. So, probably for both of them. So, Mr. Martin, you just mentioned the water case. So, what water case is this?

MR. MARTIN: The largest water case in the State of Hawai'i, the East Maui water case that we won --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So --

MR. MARTIN: -- 27 streams and rivers. And we...we got ten...ten streams running 100 percent, then the rest is all instream flow. And we...we got a water monitoring crew on...working in the Ko'olau already from Nā Moku.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you. So, could I also ask Mr. Hū'eu if you are also part of that? Is it a lawsuit?

MR. MARTIN: No, it's not a lawsuit.

CHAIR SINENCI: I think it's been --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: The DLNR?

CHAIR SINENCI: -- it's pau. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah, pau, right. But is --

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. HŪ'EU: I was never involve with that water movement, but thank God for all the supporters who went support them too.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Yeah, mahalo. Okay. Any other questions? If not, we'll move on to our Huelo candidates. Okay. Mahalo for your...participating in the interview, Mr. Hū'eu and Mr. Martin. Thank you. Okay. Next, we have Ms. Scott here in the Chambers, and then we also have Ms. de Naie online. And so, we'll go ahead --

MS. DE NAIE: Aloha.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- with questions. Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, we'll start with you again.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you, Chair. This question will be the same for both of our candidates. Thank you, once again, for coming. So, it's really based on your personal experience with climate change. So, you know, in the past, here on Lānaʻi, the old timers often talk about how misty our mountain was, and that's their personal experience. Can you guys speak on your personal experience of any type of climate change involving with water in your...in your district? Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: And if we can keep it (*audio interference*) other candidate can answer in this round, that'd be great.

MS. SCOTT: Yes, I have seen climate change in our area. As you go down Honopou Road, and cross over the bridge that goes over Honopou Stream, we have a water weir. And as my younger days, when water would flow over, it would cover the whole weir. In last 30 years we have water that barely even comes through...half of the water, so we've lost a lot of water in that sense. And, yes, climate change, there is less water on East Maui. The rains have not fallen as they used to. Like the past testifier say [*sic*], we would have times of storms, sometimes last for weeks, even months, and now we just have a storm for barely a day. A lot of our neighbors in Honopou Valley, they are rain catch, most the time of the year they don't have water for their usage. So, yes, rain has ceased, and that keeps water from building up in the mountains, yeah. So, climate change is a big problem.

MS. DE NAIE: My observation are very...yes, my observations are very similar, Councilmember Johnson. Although I've lived in Huelo for 40 years, I've actually visited there since the '70s, so for 50 years. It was a really rainy 50 years ago. It rained a lot, and it rained a lot of the time. And that has definitely changed in the last 20, 25 years. I...I have attended the meetings that the Water Commission...where they presented, you know, the report of climate scientists that Mr. Hū'eu was referring to. You know, we've had a reduction, and it's very, very clear. You just see different areas that used to be lush, now portions of the year they just dry up. Our streams have changed. I've been documenting our stream...Hanehoi Stream, our main stream, for years and years because it's a primary water source for people in our community. We don't have public water, so people rely on the streams in some case just for their everyday water. And, yes, the flows have decreased. So, we really need to strategize the best way to grow water because nature isn't delivering as much. The winds are different. We...we get mangos now where it was too windy to get mangos before. . . .(*timer sounds*). . .

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay. Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. de Naie. Mahalo, Member Johnson. Next, we have Pro Tem Kama, followed by Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for being here, Ms. Scott, and Ms. de Naie again. So...so, in...in the application I'm looking at, or the...the chart, it says that both of you have experience in water resource management and watershed restoration in the Huelo license area, and resides in the Hāna or Pā'ia-Ha'ikū Community Plan area; is that correct?

MS. SCOTT: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Ms. de Naie?

MS. DE NAIE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you.

MS. DE NAIE: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, can...and I don't know if you all can do it within the time I'm allotted, because it seems like if we--we have three minutes, right, Chair? So, that means in their response, so, they only get a minute and a half, kind of, like, sort of? Is that what it is? Okay. So, real quick, then, if you could, can you both speak to the experience that you both have in the water resource management and the watershed restoration?

MS. SCOTT: As far as knowing the watershed, I've been up in the watershed. I've seen the ditches. I've seen the state of some disrepair, some misuse, some waters not being accounted for, just running away. I've experienced Honopou Stream being used as a throwaway stream. If they didn't need the water in the town, they would just dump it into Honopou Stream. During the year 2015, our water in our stream was flowing very high. We were not able to access it, to cross it, to grow fish for o'ōpū, or 'ōpae, or anything because they used Honopou Stream just as a throwaway, like the water was nothing to them. So, when I informed Commission on Water Resource Management, because at that time we were involved in meetings at the Cameron Center, HC&S stopped the water coming to Honopou Stream, but then they dumped the water into Ho'olawa Stream.

MS. DE NAIE: Ho'olawa Stream.

MS. SCOTT: Those are practices that were just not consistent with what needs to be done.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Ms. de Naie.

MS. DE NAIE: Well, I've had a lot of on-the-ground experience, service projects, removing miconia, working with Lyn removing nonnative plants, cataloging the...the nature of the

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streams, where the lo'i are, and seeing where people had their village site so you can understand how the streams were used in the past. I've hiked pretty much the entire ditch system many, many times, and have worked to try to, you know, combat invasive plants, not just in the Huelo area, but also in the Nāhiku area, and to some extent in the Ke'anae-Wailuanui area. So, lots of hands-on experience. I'm a hiker, and I'm a doer . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . so, that's...that's my background.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Ms. Scott, how many people...how many kalo farmers are there in Huelo?

MS. SCOTT: Not a lot. There's myself in Honopou, there's the Kahiamoes in the Huelo area, but that's about it. We've lost all our kalo farmers.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, what, two...two families?

MS. SCOTT: Two families.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Two families.

MS. SCOTT: We do have the Croziers upstream from us, and the Magliatos. Right now, they are fallow.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, do you have a well, or a private water system?

MS. SCOTT: No.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: You don't.

MS. SCOTT: No.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, you rely on County water, or...and then water from the streams for your kalo farm? Is that how you work it?

MS. SCOTT: Only stream water.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Only stream water.

MS. SCOTT: Yes, ma'am. No County water *(audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, you capture the water, and you store it or something.

MS. SCOTT: Yes. For household use, yes --

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Uh-hum.

MS. SCOTT: -- we do water catchment.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Oh.

MS. SCOTT: . . .*(inaudible)*. . . the stream water irrigates our lo'i, our farm, and any animals that we have.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Uh-hum. Okay. Thank you. Same question for Ms. de Naie...questions.

MS. DE NAIE: Well, I am...I am not a kalo farmer. I have a few dry land kalo plants on my two acres. But in...in Huelo, we had several people attempting to grow kalo. They...they got really hard hit by the pigs, and I know Lyn's patches did too. And so, some of them have just, you know, given up at this point. But Mr. Solomon Lee has seven acres, and he is willing to let the lo'i there be reopened, and we just had a service project there last month to explore that possibility. And there is water in the stream, the stream runs near the lo'i. And so, our goal would be to bring back more kalo in our community.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: And do you use the private water system? And how much of...well, how many gallons a day...if you do have one, how many gallons a day do you use?

MS. DE NAIE: Our land came with one of the first wells drilled in the Huelo area. It's a little two-inch well. It produces, I don't know, a few hundred gallons a day, and that's what we use for our farm and our domestic use. There is...there is no public water in...in all of the Huelo area.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, what about your *(audio interference)* where do they get their water from?

MS. DE NAIE: Many of our *(audio interference)* have catchment. When their catchment runs dry they turn to our well, and we hook up hoses. Everybody helps each other, and they buy water. Sadly, you know, here we are sending water away, and I have three or four neighbors nearby that have to buy water during the drier parts of...of the year, and we have more drier parts of the year now, unfortunately.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: So, if you were to *(audio interference)* --

MS. DE NAIE: It just doesn't rain enough.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: What...what's your estimate of the population in Huelo? . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

MS. DE NAIE: I would guess about 500 people in the...in the greater Huelo area all...all the way to Kailua Village.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair. We'll have Member Paltin, followed by Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Ms. Scott and Ms. de Naie for your willingness to apply. I guess my first question is...would be your ability to fulfill this commitment. I...I believe Ms. Scott had said she's up for a two-year commitment. And my question would be, you intend on meeting that entire two years. And what term, Ms. de Naie, would you be open to? And would you be able to stick out that whole...you'd be surprised how many people sign up for a two-year commitment, and...and like seven months in, we're looking for new people.

MS. DE NAIE: I...I would be open to up to...I think what...what is the maximum, five years? Is it a...is it a...is it a two and three year, or is it a two and...two to five years? Anyway, I would be open to the maximum commitment. I am already tracking many of these things. I go to the Water Commission to testify. I...I've been weighing in on this watershed plan. This is just part of my life, I don't know why, but it's important to me. I have an excellent attendance record. I served on the General Plan Advisory Committee for three years. I missed one meeting in three years. I'm...I'm a pretty reliable person to serve on a board or commission.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and Ms. Scott, you...you make this be a priority for the two years...you'd fill out the whole two years that you sign up for?

MS. SCOTT: Yes, I am willing, and I will be committed to this board for two years.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And then my next question would be about your ability to work with others on controversial, passionate issues, and...and find a way forward that...folks that may not agree. Have you had experiences or examples?

MS. SCOTT: I've worked with --

MS. DE NAIE: I have.

MS. SCOTT: -- . . .*(inaudible)*. . .-- go ahead, Lucienne.

MS. DE NAIE: No. No, you...you can go first. It's fine.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sorry I didn't specify.

MS. SCOTT: Okay. I try to work well with others. *(Audio interference)* on several boards, and different committees within my community, at church. You know, people...if you don't have this diverse interaction from coming from different views, you...you can't learn, and you can't get further. So, I think that once we hear everybody's views, and then we can try to collaborate, work together. Sometimes you got to give a little, take a little, and...and just keep a cool head about it. I think I can work well with others under those

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situations. . . .*(timer sounds)*. . .

CHAIR SINENCI: I'll...I will allow Ms. de Naie.

MS. DE NAIE: Oh, thank you. I agree, Lyn works very well with everybody. I've known her for years. And I've served on so many different State and County boards and commissions that are very diverse representations, always gotten along with everybody. Focus Maui Nui, GPAC, advisory committees on realignment of, you know, the highways, you know, it's just...the only way to get things done is to find common ground, and it's something that's important to me.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. Okay. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Next, we have Member Rawlins-Fernandez, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. Aloha, Ms. Scott --

MS. SCOTT: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- and Ms. de Naie. Mahalo for...mahalo to the both of you for your applications, and for getting them in on time. Would you speak to how you both learned about the application, and how you're able to get it in on time?

MS. SCOTT: I pretty much heard it from the community, other people were talking about that. Lucienne, in my church, different things, that's how I heard about it.

MS. DE NAIE: Well, I heard about it because as you all know, I've tracked this process since it was first suggested by the temporary investigative group of the Maui Board of Water Supply.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. And then after getting your applications in on time, do you think it would be fair to you *(audio interference)* open the application process, Ms. Scott, and then Ms. de Naie?

MS. SCOTT: I feel that maybe some of our community members did not get the memo that this was available. So, in some cases, maybe we should see if there are other applicants out there...there are a few.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Ms. de Naie?

MS. DE NAIE: Oh, *(audio interference)* you know, it was a confusing process, and I wouldn't be surprised if people kind of got left out. And it's my understanding that the greatest concern is over the folks that the Mayor appointed who maybe didn't fill out applications...I...I'm not sure if they did or not. But the...I...I think you guys should get...get it clear about, you know, where the concerns are.

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COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. de Naie. Okay. Do you think...so, I think you both talked about mauka-to-makai connection, and that...and its importance. Would you speak to attendance, on whether you think...oh, I think, Ms. de Naie, you already answered about not missing any.

MS. DE NAIE: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Ms. Scott.

MS. SCOTT: I will be able to attend, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Mahalo. And then lastly, if there's anything else you think you'd like to add on how you would envision contributing to the conversations on the Water Board...Water Authority Board?

MS. SCOTT: Well, I would like to see full collaboration. I would like to see taro farmers get more of a say. We always been put at the back of the list, when we are...should be the first users. Taro farming doesn't take a lot of water. I mean there's a lot statistics on that, and I feel that sharing the water, and proper stewardship, and taking care of our system, storage...water storage is something very important, and just protecting our environment, protecting our lawai'a, and everything that makes Maui what the tourists want to come and see. . . .(timer sounds). . .

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. Scott. Would you allow Ms. de Naie too?

CHAIR SINENCI: Sure. Go ahead, Ms. de Naie.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Mahalo, Chair. Ms. de Naie?

MS. DE NAIE: Well, I...I think we have a real opportunity here. I...I agree with Lyn, we haven't heard from the people who really know the area, who know the streams, and in many ways, know the systems that divert the streams too because they've lived with them for years. And I think that these folks could...could really make...and people like me who...who have a knowledge of this even without having been, you know, generationally connected. But we have knowledge from just, you know, first-hand observation, and spending a lot of time there. It...it's time for people who know something, and live with the effects of it to have a say in how it's managed. And I think side-by-side, we could see some new milestones in management, and...and really do have more water in times when water is more questionable. We've got to be doing something different. And fixing these systems, and managing them in the...with the...with the best and soundest knowledge, which probably is traditional knowledge, is where we need to go. So, that's my dream for this Committee.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Ms. de Naie. Mahalo, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Next, we have Member Sugimura.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. So, Ms. Scott --

MS. SCOTT: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- I am...I represent Upcountry --

MS. SCOTT: Uh-hum.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: -- and I am concerned...or want to be sure that we have water for our residents and ranchers, and I always say we're the bread basket. So, if you were selected to be on this Committee, would you ensure that water keeps on flowing to our Upcountry residents?

MS. SCOTT: Yes. I don't think that's a concern. Maui County has received the waters that is needed, and sometimes they get more water than what's there. So, yes, I don't think that the...your constituents in the Upcountry area will be defaulted from any water. Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Thank you very much. Ms. de Naie, same question.

MS. DE NAIE: Oh. I passionately support our Upcountry farmers having all the water they need, and you...you've heard me testify at...you know, how can we make sure that we can drought proof this system. And East Maui has an important role to play in that, and other water sources do as well. But I have many friends who farm Upcountry, and I would be honored to collaborate, and make sure that their needs are met.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And the reason I ask this question, there are some members of the greater community who want to ensure that districts, community plan areas, do not share. And that is the big concern for me, you know, for our residents Upcountry. And I just want to be sure that the people that we propose to add to the Water Authority of...you know, will continue the water flows to the residents in my district, and every other district too. So, thank you for allowing me to ask that question.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. And then for my line of questioning, it's the same questions I asked the Ke'anae applicants. Have you been consulting with DLNR, the East Maui Watershed Plan, have they consulted with you, or have you participated in this consultation process?

MS. SCOTT: No, haven't heard about that.

CHAIR SINENCI: You haven't heard. Ms. de Naie.

MS. DE NAIE: I reached out to them. I was...you know, it's important to me to see what's in that plan. And unfortunately, it does not include our lower watersheds simply because there's not enough funding. And I...I really spoke to the need to consult with the folks

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that live with the effects of the watershed plan, all of the communities that live below the lease areas. So, hopefully the State will...will take that into account, and I think that they need to go beyond money, and look at how could we even use volunteer power to help manage our watersheds effectively below the area that is considered priority, and where most of the money is focused. So, yes, I've been involved, and, yes, our communities have not been consulted, and need to be.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. de Naie. Members, any need *(audio interference)* second round of questionings for our Huelo candidates? Seeing none. Okay. Thank you very much. Okay. Thank you, Ms. Scott, Ms. de Naie, for your...your answers to our questions. Members, at this--and by the way, great questions because each of these areas is a different watershed, different system. So, a lot of our candidates are coming with very specific knowledge of their area. So, I appreciate all of them coming, and answering our questions. At this time, Members, we've reached our mid-meeting mark. So, if there are no objections, I'll go ahead and take our break, and...oh, some of you might be jumping on some other meetings. And so, we'll...we'll come back at...we still have two more license areas, the Nāhiku area as well as the Honomanū area. So, if we can continue at this pace, I think we should be good...be on time. Okay. With that, the WASSP meeting of Tuesday, May 30th, is now in recess until 3:05. Okay. . . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 2:54 p.m.

RECONVENE: 3:08 p.m.

CHAIR SINENCI: . . .*(gavel)*. . . *(Audio interference)* Committee meeting of Tuesday, May 30th, please come back to order. It is 3:08 p.m. Thank you, Members, for the...the quick break. And we have two license areas to interview the candidates. And so, we're going to go to the Honomanū license area, and we have three candidates in Alicia Nāpua Hu'e'u, Mr. Jesse Nakooka, and I believe Mr. Kekiwi is online. And...and then again, we'll...we'll start with Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Would you like to do it the same way we did it before? I'll ask the question, and three members...or three candidates will respond?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, we might need...since we have three to respond, we might need an extra minute or so. Four minutes. Okay.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: We'll do this round four minutes.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Well, thank you all for coming and, you know, your willingness to serve. The question I'm going to have is the same question, you might have heard it already. But I kind of want to hear your personal experience in your district as far as climate change goes. Here on Lānaʻi, we hear the old timers often say how it used to be very misty here, and the...and the weather itself has changed. Can you folks speak to your personal experience in your districts? Thank you.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Hū'eu, you want to go first?

MS. HŪ'EU: Sure. I have been (*audio interference*) you know, the East Maui region for my entire lifetime, and I distinctly remember, you know, looking out the window as I drive in and out with my parents, my grandparents, and whatnot. And I can say that within the scope of my lifetime, I've seen the difference in our watersheds' capacity, just noticing different streams that used to flow, and then, you know, dwindled over the course of time, a few that have, you know, come back based on court rulings that have come about. I don't necessarily see the climate change effects in East Maui in the conventional belief of climate change. I believe that these climate change effects that we're seeing are because of the mismanagement of the watershed, and depleting the watershed. And then, you know, the natural reaction is for there to be less rain as, you know, Mr. Martin had noted, when there is not enough water meeting the ocean, then, you know, there's not, you know, rain producing...as much rain producing as there would be if it was reaching the ocean. So, I think that it's because of the mismanagement. And hopefully this board can be, you know, the means to putting the rightful management back in place. And then I did want to speak to the fact that climate change effects can be reversed, and we've seen that at Honomanū. You know, for decades, the water has just been spilling out. There's been an overgrowth of invasive species, and the water path doesn't...you know, didn't go from mauka-to-makai, the water was just spilling into sort of the marsh. And in putting the 'auwai system back, and having the water flow through the lo'i filtering that stream water, and then spitting out in the muliwai, the muliwai has actually improved a lot over the course of the last four years. Since we been there it's a lot cleaner, there's not as much goopy muck in the muliwai, and we've seen a return of a lot of our Hawaiian wetland birds because of the intervention that we have provided. So, climate change can be reversed, just wanted to note that.

CHAIR SINENCI: One watershed at a time. We'll...we'll go to Mr. Kekiwi, Jr. while we switch out Mr. Nakooka. Mr. Kekiwi, did you want to address that question? Is he on?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, Mr. Kekiwi is online, and he is unmuted on his end. Mr. Kekiwi, if you're speaking, we cannot hear you.

CHAIR SINENCI: We can go to Mr. Nakooka for now.

MR. NAKOOKA: Repeat that question.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Certainly. So, I...I want to get to your personal knowledge on...on the district that you'll be representing. So, we often hear of, like, the people speaking on how the weather has changed through the years in their districts. So, maybe if you can talk about the water, and has it changed in your lifetime growing up in that...in your district. So, have you personally experienced lack of rain, low...low water...water in the streams, or it's getting hotter, or anything like that?

MR. NAKOOKA: From what I...what I been da kine seeing is the days I...I go into the mountain,

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and I walk the rivers. What it is, is pretty much the...the basic thing is the corporate is having water given to them, and that thing is evaporating from the ditches more fast than they...they can use 'em. And that is pretty much where the waste of water go because of the the...the water going to waste out there. They taking too much water from...from the watershed. What it is, is when they made that...that...that well...I mean the new pono 'auwais up in the mountain, they...they tapping into the main source that feeds all of our wells back on the East Side. The thing for from Wahine...thing go from Waikamoi-Olinda, and the thing works its way back towards Hāna, the...the...the lava tubes. And the thing...and...and by the time the thing reach...reaches to the other people, we...we...we pretty much no more...no more water in that way, because of...they tapping into the main water source. I mean I don't know why . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . they doing dat.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Nakooka. *(Audio interference)* get Mr. Kekiwi, Jr. online? I see him on the meeting.

MR. KRUEGER: Mr. Kekiwi.

CHAIR SINENCI: He's unmuted on our end.

MR. KRUEGER: Uh-hum. Uh-hum. Mr. Kekiwi.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. There, we can see him. Can you hear us?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we can see Mr. Kekiwi, but we are unable to hear him. He might need to change his microphone settings, or he can call in to the meeting, and...and respond to the Committee over phone if...if that's preferable for him.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. You can *(audio interference)* if...if anything, Mr. Kekiwi. Okay. Next, we have Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Thank you, Chair. So, I'm going to start with Ms. Hū'eu, and then we'll go to, I guess, Mr. Nakooka. And then when Mr. Kekiwi answers my question, I guess, he could take Member Johnson's question at the same time too. At least that's a good plan. Thank you. Thank you for being here. So, this...this is my question, and this is for all three of our candidates today. And I'm going to start with Ms. Hū'eu. According to the chart that I have in front of me, it says for all of you that you all have experience in water resource management and watershed restoration in the Honomanū license area, and reside in the Hāna Community Plan Area; is that correct?

MS. HŪ'EU: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, do you...do you farm? What do you farm?

MS. HŪ'EU: Yes, I am the farm manager at Honomanū, where we have eight wetland lo'i kalo, and six dry land kalo māla active at this time.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, how much does your kalo farm or patch produce?

MS. HŪ'EU: We've harvested each of our more veteran patches --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Uh-hum.

MS. HŪ'EU: -- three times now since starting in 2019. And we are a subsistence farm, so we are providing food for all of those who come and volunteer. We also catered two significant community events. In 2020, May, we held the East...the first annual East Maui Watershed Council meeting at Ke'anae Congregational Church Hall, and we were able to cater the kalo and lau lau, all produced from our farm at Honomanū. And, yeah, subsistence, so not selling commercially.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Okay. And how many acres in total, and how many years have you been doing this?

MS. HŪ'EU: Right now, the...where our taro patches are laid out is just under an acre, but there's more than 15 acres that we intend to continue to sprawl our lo'i kalo over. There's a photo from the 1900s that show every lo'i kalo open in Honomanū Valley. So, we do have what the potential capacity is, and we do intend to continue to open taro patches until it's restored to its full capacity.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. And now, Mr. Nakooka, can you remember the questions? Or do...do you want --

MR. NAKOOKA: Yeah, I --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- me to repeat them? Okay.

MR. NAKOOKA: -- I remember.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

MR. NAKOOKA: I been planting da kine watercress since I was like 15 years old. I stay 40...48 years old now. And I...I...I got . . . *(inaudible)*. . . irrigation, and...and stuffs to the different...certain patches that I get. I...I don't know, about 15...15 acres. And I brought you guys some watercress today. I brought you guys one cooler for you guys aho kupu, one whole cooler --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you.

MR. NAKOOKA: -- two...two coolers.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Wow.

MR. NAKOOKA: Yeah, and I help...and I help my cousin down at Honomanū, so...but I plant...and I...and I grow...I mean raise 'ōpaes as well.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you so very much for that. And is Mr. Kekiwi here? Is he on, Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we are still--oh. Mr. Kekiwi, are you able to --

MR. KEKIWI: Can you guys hear me now?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you.

MR. KEKIWI: *(Audio interference)*. Oh. You guys can hear me now?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. Pro Tem Kama --

MR. KEKIWI: Alright.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- do you want to ask your question *(audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Mister --

CHAIR SINENCI: Kekiwi.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: -- Kekiwi, did you hear my questions? Or would you like me to repeat them?

MR. KEKIWI: Yeah, if you could repeat, please.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. So, in the chart that I have in the front of me, it says that you have experience in water resource management, and watershed restoration in the Honomanū license area, and that you reside in the Hāna Community Plan Area. And I just wanted to know if that's correct?

MR. KEKIWI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. And then I wanted to know if you are a farmer, and if you do, what is it that you farm?

MR. KEKIWI: Yeah, lifelong taro farmer from bebe days.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: And --

MR. KEKIWI: We get lo'is in...in Wailuanui Valley.

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COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: How many acres? And how many (*audio interference*) you been doing this (*audio interference*)

MR. KEKIWI: Shucks, about two and a half acres we currently farming. So, my dad . . .(*timer sounds*). . . went home...back home to the valley in about the late '70s. We went...my tutu started to get, you know, old age, so we went home for go help him take care the lo'is. And ever since that...that, what, is about 40 years already, we been...our 'āina been providing food for us, and everybody around. The thing go all over O'ahu, mainland. I feed plenty people.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Mr. Kekiwi. Thank you, Chair. And I guess you could ask him Member Johnson's question.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mr. Kekiwi, we had another question from Member Johnson. Member Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Okay. So, my question has been...I been asking everybody the same question. But have you personally experienced climate change in your years of living in your district? I'm looking for like your personal experience of maybe when you were...keiki days it didn't rain...it rain more, those kind of things. And can you speak on that, Mr. Kekiwi?

MR. KEKIWI: Yeah. Shucks. When...when I was...when I was one keiki, I remember a abundance of water. You know, the rain patterns was more consistent. The rain used to stay a little longer than previous. But...so, when, you know, the time goes on...'90s, now you stay in the...the 2000...the 2000 era...from 2000 till 2015 was one of the harshest times I seen--this is just my personal experience--and I believe because of the divergence that was happening, you know, they was taking 100 percent of East Maui's water. And now, since the release of the waters from 2016 till now, my personal point of view is that, you know, we...we see now that there's connectivity from the mountain to the ocean. There's life back into the rivers, there's life back into the forest, there's life back into the people. You know, the...the...the rain patterns is slowly coming back to be, it's consis--that is what it used to be, but I believe...yeah, that's...that's just my point of view.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you so much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Johnson. Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you, Chair. Ms. Hū'eu, are you related to the Mr. Harry Hū'eu?

MS. HŪ'EU: I am. He's my father, and he's a taro farmer in Ke'anae ahupua'a, and then I'm farming in the neighboring Honomanū ahupua'a.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, Honomanū goes from where to where?

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MS. HŪ'EU: It goes from the Nua'ailua Valley to Haipua'ena, I believe, maybe borders up into Puohokamoa. But it's neighbors to the Ke'anae-Wailuanui, but separate lease area.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh, separate. Okay. And so, how many people live in that area, Honomanū?

MS. HŪ'EU: Nobody lives in the Honomanū ahupua'a. My residential address is in Wahinepe'e, which is the neighboring ahupua'a to Honomanū.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Is...is it all State land, is that why?

MS. HŪ'EU: That nobody lives in Honomanū?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Yeah.

MS. HŪ'EU: I think just the coastal aspect of it. There are, you know, landowners in Honomanū Valley, but nobody lives there just...I believe after the tsunami in the '40s, I think that that was kind of the final time in which people lived down there, and then everybody migrated to other valleys.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And then...I guess, you answered for all three of you with that. I would ask everybody, what are some solutions that you might propose if you are a board member?

MS. HŪ'EU: Solutions in general to the issue of water?

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Uh-hum.

MS. HŪ'EU: I think that it's very important that the people of the place are able to provide and report what is going on in that area. For a long time we participated through testimony, trying to convey what's going on, and how much water is in the stream. And we've often felt that we've been unheard, or that our concerns are not carried over and reflected in the decisions that are made politically. And I think that this board is important because it provides the platform for us to each give an accounting of what's going on in the various leased areas. For a long time, you know, Ke'anae-Wailuanui are the larger taro growing communities in East Maui, but there are smaller taro farming operations going on, like us in Honomanū, and we haven't...and, you know, those in Wahinepe'e, and we haven't had the ability to voice our concerns. And so, I think that this just provides an...a mechanism for everybody to be accounted for where we can produce solutions that are...tend to everybody's needs.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. Mister...oh, no. I get...Kekiwi, or Nakooka? Which one are you?

MR. NAKOOKA: Nakooka.

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COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Nakooka, sorry. Okay. Do you have any ideas and solutions?

MR. NAKOOKA: Same thing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Same.

MR. NAKOOKA: (*Audio interference*) as what she...she said.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Would you have time to be on the board?

MR. NAKOOKA: Well, yeah. I no...I no work, I...I...I just mālama the ‘āina.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, that's not full time. And then the third gentleman, Mr. Kekiwi.

MR. KEKIWI: Yeah (*audio interference*)

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Do you have any ideas or solutions if you were a board member?

MR. KEKIWI: Can you guys hear me, though? Hello.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah. Yes, we can hear you.

MR. KEKIWI: Okay. My screen stays frozen, that's why, over here. So, I pretty much kāko'o what Nāpua saying, you know. And it's all about working together. We...the...the people...the community needs to have a voice in this...on this board so the water is rightfully accounted for right now. Because over the past years, we never have that...the accountability, yeah. So, now is our chance for, you know, all...all...everybody come to the table and figure this out so our future generation no need fight . . .(*timer sounds*). . . this fight that we doing.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: One last--oh. I...I guess I'm done.

CHAIR SINENCI: We can have a second round --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thanks.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- Chair Lee. Okay. Thank you. Next, we have Member Paltin, followed by Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Mr. Nakooka, Ms. Hū'e'u, and Mr. Kekiwi, for your willingness to serve. I guess my first question would be for Mr. Nakooka. How many streams run through the Honomanū lease area?

MR. NAKOOKA: What you mean, by way they bring 'em from Nāhiku?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I guess, you know, where...where the...the natural streams, how

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many of those run through the Honomanū lease area? Not the diversion that's brought through.

MR. NAKOOKA: Pretty much . . . *(inaudible)* . . . only two...two...two streams.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And --

MR. NAKOOKA: *(Audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- I guess then my second question would be for Ms. Hū'eu.

MR. NAKOOKA: Oh, yeah. Oh. Oh. Yeah. Yeah. I...I...I know what you mean.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: *(Audio interference)* okay.

MR. NAKOOKA: I know what you...what you mean. About...about maybe...maybe 15 of them...15 streams.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I guess my second question would be for Ms. Hū'eu. Would you agree that it's 15 streams that run through Honomanū license area?

MS. HŪ'EU: About, yeah. I was explaining to him because he was confused. I...he thought we were talking about just Honomanū ahupua'a, but the Honomanū's new lease area is from Nua'ailua Stream, I believe, and then all the way to Huelo. So, I would say it's about 15, maybe up to 20 at the most.

MR. NAKOOKA: *(Audio interference)* about 20.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then I guess my third question would be for Mr. Kekiwi, if you agree 15 to 20 streams, including the little ones. Do you have an idea if any, or all, or how many of those are...have water in them, or are diverted, if they're perennial or not . . . *(inaudible)* . . .

MR. KEKIWI: Shucks. I know...I know Nua'ailua flowing to Honomanū is, you know, flowing, but not flowing, Palahulu...I mean Haipu'ena, Waikamoi. But I mean I...for me, Honomanū...Honomanū, I just talking about Honomanū, that's all I know is get three main rivers up on...on way top, and get multiple tributaries that come down into Honomanū River. And right now, I know that not all of that water coming down. And...and everything from Nāhiku to Ke'anae gotta go through Honomanū for come out to Central Maui and Upcountry. But I know there is. So, like Nāpua said, from Nua'ailua to Haipu'ena, or Huelo, I know Nua'ailua is slowing, you know, Punalau, Haipu'ena, what else, Waikamoi, Wahinepe'e, Kamaēna *(phonetic)*, and *(audio interference)* get water in the river, but it --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And --

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MR. KEKIWI: -- it...it varies too *(audio interference)*

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- are...are any of those rivers--I guess for Ms. Hū'eu--are any of those rivers diverted? Or...or tributaries, or --

MS. HŪ'EU: Yeah. So, this is what I feel like the importance of this board is, is that we are able to provide report of what's going on in these streams. Because as you know, Honomanū was deemed, you know, restored, right, or on the list for restoration. But Honomanū is bone dry unless there's, you know, a substantial amount of rain up on...on the mauka side. And so, you know, it says it's been restored, and then there's nothing, you know, flowing consistently. For us, I feel like Punalau . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . which is the stream next door to Honomanū...within Honomanū Valley, that is the more consistent stream. That's where we're getting our water to farm kalo is coming from Punalau, not from...not from Honomanū. And then I would say that Waikamoi is probably the only other consistent flow, and everything else is very dismal to none, despite the fact that maybe, you know, it noted it was restored.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And just to clarify, that's because you feel it's still being diverted.

MS. HŪ'EU: Yeah, still water being taken, and/or, you know, the issue of clogs and, you know, the 'auwais, and the streams needing to be tended to.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you so much. I think I heard the bell, so I...I don't want to be a --

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member, we can --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: -- timer hog.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- for a second round. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair. Mr. Nakooka...Nakooka. I guess this is my question for everybody. But I represent the Upcountry area, and I would just like to know what your position would be about sharing water with the Upcountry residents, and ranchers, and farmers?

MR. NAKOOKA: I think, you know, in the future, if I was to be on this board, I think you would get...we...we would give you guys free water up there if you farming because get enough water for...for go around for all the farmers, and all the people in the houses. It's just the mismanagement between the corporate and us.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, you would share?

MR. NAKOOKA: Automatic.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. Ms. Nāpua Hū'eu.

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MS. HŪ'EU: Same question?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes.

MS. HŪ'EU: I think that it's, you know, inherently a part of our culture to share, and distribute wealth, or water, as we know it. And we would definitely make sure that everybody continues to receive their water, and we very much value the role that Upcountry farmers and ranchers have been serving over the last few generations, as East Maui lost its ability to be able to provide subsistence and food for the island. And so, we thank them for all their hard work over the generations, and we would continue to support them in their endeavors.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And Mr. Kekiwi, same question. Would you support sharing the water from East Maui with the Upcountry residents, ranchers, farmers, people?

MR. KEKIWI: (*Audio interference*) can you guys hear me?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yes.

MR. KEKIWI: Okay. Yeah, I...I fully support Upcountry farmers, and all farmers. You know, when we were in the water...the water battle, we were the ones that...that had the rights to the water, but they never like share with us. We always...we never did, ever, not wanna share. So, yes, I...of course, we support farmers, ranchers, you know, and food sustainability for (*audio interference*)

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much, Mr. Kekiwi. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. I just have one question. And through this discussion, I've heard...Mr. Kekiwi brought up an important point. There's going to be Ke'anae lease area, and Nāhiku lease area waters coming though the Honomanū area, right, because of the system that...that flows that way. How do you guys see the management of the 15-so streams in Honomanū while working with the other lease areas? For instance, hey, you...some streams might not be running at...at certain seasons, other times some streams would be flooded, right? We get a lot of flooding in Waikamoi. So, how do you guys see working with the other water lease areas when it comes to managing the...all the...the East Maui waters?

MS. HŪ'EU: I think that it's more practical to take water when you need it. And so, at this point in time, Honomanū, you know, we only have just under a dozen lo'ī...you know taro patches that we need water for. And it's like as we grow our need for water, you know, then we will need more water. But at this time, we're more than willing to partition the water, you know, to those streams that need to be revitalized because they've been dry for so long. So, I think that the purpose of this board is to be able to, again, provide an accounting of, you know, the streams in detail, and be able to partition, and maneuver the partition, you know, as we move forward, and as, you know, kalo farming restoration happens more widely.

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MR. NAKOOKA: I just think we could just probably build...build things for the floodings and...and...and...and the different types of flows that come through the place, we can build reservoirs on the side of them to provide the...in case there's drought or whatever, we can...we can save this...this ones. Because of the thing stay out at...in the watershed, the thing can be housed there better than to be housed if the thing was on the other side of the island.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Kekiwi.

MR. KEKIWI: Can you repeat the question? Sorry.

CHAIR SINENCI: How would you manage the water...the waters that's coming from the 15 streams in Honomanū? And likely having so many millions of gallons of water coming through Honomanū from the Ke'anae and the Nāhiku lease areas, how would you be working with the other lease areas as far as managing the water?

MR. KEKIWI: How would we be working with the other lease areas for managing the water? Well, the system is already there, you know. Like I said, everything from Nāhiku goes into Ke'anae, everything from Ke'anae goes into Honomanū, and everything from Honomanū goes into Upcountry, I guess, and to the Central Plains. But that's why...that's why we gonna have this board so everybody can take on their kuleana from their...from...each from their ahupua'a and their moku. You know, it's all about coming to the table and figuring the best system out. So, to our keikis, no need...so we can hand 'em down to our keikis, or to the next generations of leaders.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Kekiwi, for your comments. Members, I did see a couple that needed a second round. Chair Lee, Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you, Chair. I...I did have a question regarding all three...the same question to all three, starting with Ms. Hū'eu. How do you feel about groundwater development in East Maui?

MS. HŪ'EU: I would have to do my research on, yeah, creating an opinion on that. I don't have an answer at this time, but I'll think about it . . .*(inaudible)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay, that's fine. I'm just asking this question because the board members...we pretty much oversee the surface water, yeah. And so, what I'm talking about is domestic water, primarily, yeah, would be the drilling wells for houses, and...and other uses. How do you feel about that? No, you answered that question, so --

MS. HŪ'EU: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- I mean I was looking at the other guy. Yeah, Nakooka. Thank you.

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MR. NAKOOKA: (*Audio interference*) that...that should be good in certain areas, you know what I mean? The contaminations that had done from...from the...the sugar cane, and the...the pineapple, I no think those areas should be drilled or tapped in because of the contamination that that give. They'd still get rubbish over there.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you. How about, Mr. Kekiwi? How do you feel about drilling water for...instead of using it from the streams?

MR. KEKIWI: Where...so, I against drilling anywhere in East Maui because I know we...there's more than enough water, ground surface water for accommodate everybody. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. Thank you very much. Chair, thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I guess this question is for whomever would like to answer it first. I was wondering if Honomanū, or Punalau, and/or Waikamoi were traditionally perennial streams or additionally intermittent?

MS. HŪ'EU: I believe that all were perennial streams flowing mauka-to-makai, at least the ones that you spoke of.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And I know this question was asked before for another lease area, but if the water were to run through to the sea, do you consider that to be a waste? If no, then why not? If yes, then why not...why?

MR. NAKOOKA: The water gotta reach the ocean because we...we supposed to be...we...we supposed to be surviving 80 percent off of the ocean, and not...not 80 percent off the land. You know what I mean? We supposed to be surviving off of the ocean, and we...we do not survive because of the lack of water. Water makes the minerals grow, the fish come down, the...the...the lepo from the taro patches, the thing gotta reach the river. If that thing no reach the river, then the baby fishes no can provide food for our villages.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Mr. Kekiwi, do you agree with that statement?

MR. KEKIWI: Yeah, I...I agree that the water...the water in the rivers is not being wasted when it's going into the ocean. What...what it is, it's one life cycle from mauka-to-makai. The water . . . (*inaudible*). . . everything in the water and around the water is life. So, we get life from the top of the mountain, the water going down all the way inside the river, the thing come feed the...the taro farmers, all that water go down to the muliwai, and go out into the ocean, feed the fish, and the fish is what feed us. Yeah, it's...it's not one waste. That's...that's not wasteful to me or...or any Hawaiian, I think. That's common sense.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Ms. Hū'eu.

MS. HŪ'EU: Yeah, I wanted to speak on that. We've...you know, over the last 100 years-plus have seen the quality of our environment and the ecology just sort of, you know, drop.

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And that's because we've been running the system as is, which is lets in all the majority of the water from the watershed to, you know, the dry side of the island. And I think that we deserve to have the opportunity to run the system from an indigenous point of view so that we can prove the outcomes. There...the success . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . has already proven in ancient Hawai'i and their ability to feed, you know, the entire population of people. And so, we would like the opportunity, in the present day, to be able to prove the science of having mauka-to-makai connectivity, and prove that this is the mechanism to produce more water, and to, you know, restore the watershed.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: I just got to say, you guys not making my job easier to choose one person. Thank you, Chair.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you for your guys' willingness to apply.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. I think when the diversions stop, we have an oversupply of akule in the bay, right? Okay. Any other need for a second round for our Honomanū candidates? By the way, great questions. I think this round has been a lesson in 'Ōlelo Hawai'i. And by the end of the process, you'll know all the...the Hawaiian families of East Maui, as well as the...the stream names. So, again, mahalo for our Honomanū candidates. Thank you.

MR. NAKOOKA: Thank you. Eh...eh, grab your guys da kine watercress over there. I going leave 'em for you guys.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. And grab your watercress from Mr. Nakooka. Okay, Members, great questions. We have one more license area, and this is the Nāhiku area of the Hāna Community Plan Area. And we have both Mr. John Blumer-Buell, as well as Mr. Moke *(phonetic)* Bergau. Okay, I see, Mr. Bergau.

MR. BERGAU: Hello.

CHAIR SINENCI: And then is Mr. Blumer-Buell online as well?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: I am. Can you hear me, Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, we can hear you. And for this *(audio interference)* --

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Okay. I'm going to *(audio interference)*

CHAIR SINENCI: -- we'll go in reverse order. This time we'll start with Member Sugimura, followed by Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: So, I represent the Upcountry area, and as part of this Water Authority, which...you know, the East Maui Water Authority, the East Maui is...East Maui is a very important water source for us. And I would like to know, if you were to get selected, would you continue supporting the residents, as well as the ranchers and farmers Upcountry with...with their water?

MR. BERGAU: Hi, Councilmember Sugimura. Aloha, Chairman Sinenci. I...I...I really agree on, and appreciate your question that everyone should have water, and that is...that is what life is all about. And as far as sharing, I don't believe that should be...that is a question that I have any concern with because I have...I was raised with aloha. And water is a source of life. And to even consider sharing with others, it's not in the books. But I do appreciate the question, and if I am on the board faced with that question, it is a real, real true statement that life is water. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much. Same question for--is he on the call?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Blumer-Buell?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes, he is.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Oh, he is. Oh. Oh. Okay.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: *(Audio interference)* thank you. Hello. Can you hear me?

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: I can hear you. Okay. Yes.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Okay, good. Aloha, WASSP Committee, and aloha, Moke. Yeah, my answer will be yes. You know, of course, we're going to support. The reason...one of the reasons we have so many problems Upcountry is because of all the waste, all the waste. There's enough water being wasted to take care of many of the needs in Upcountry. And, of course, I totally support the farming and ranching community. My record on this is very clear from being...working on the GPAC, my record's very clear from working on the Hāna Community Plans. And the thing we really need to look at is how could we...the whole system, how can we manage it right. We have to, number one, stop wasting. We have to start looking at real sustainability, real forestation. We have to start by looking at the Hāna Community Plan when you look...take...talk about transporting water from Nāhiku to . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . the other ahupua'as. And if you look at the Hāna Community Plan, one of the biggest concerns in 1994 was the exportation of water from the Hāna District. So, all these things have to be discussed and resolved peacefully. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. I heard my buzzer.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Sugimura. Next we have Member Paltin, followed by Chair

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Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I was wondering how many rivers were in the Nāhiku license area.

MR. BERGAU: There is Makapipi, Kūhiwa III, IV, V. To tell...to...to make it real, as far as the boundary lies, I have no idea where it lies, and where it ends...starts and ends. But I do know that the system starts in Makapipi, Kūhiwa, and...and up to Hanawī, and onto Waikamoi (*audio interference*) but...did I answer your question?

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Sure. Mr. Blumer-Buell, of the streams in the Nāhiku area, do you know how many of them are diverted?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Everything. And the decision by the...regarding the recent decision regarding the 27 streams decision changes much of that. That's a basic thing for the board to look at. The streams are supposed to be rewatered. You have some of the most important streams in East Maui, and, you know, starting from Kūhiwa, and going over to...all the way to...especially to the other streams, there's no diversions there right now. And I thought Moke gave a good answer in his last interview, he can remember when the stream went dry back in the 1950s or '60s, I forget the date, but he remembers that. And there supposed to be completely rewatered right now. Hanawī is supposed to be rewatered. The...the unnamed stream, the next one over, is a major...is a good stream, it's called Unnamed, it's free running, the...then you have a big stream, which is part of Hanawī. Those are critical. There is a whole new understanding of that whole water system that came forward in the Kūhiwa Well contested case. It's a whole new understanding of water, and that area involving . . . (*inaudible*). . . aquifers, and lag time, and where the water is, and how it can be used. So, this is all new science...relatively new. I can send you articles by Doctor...by William Meyer, who's the head of USGS in the contested case for the Hāna Community, and this needs to be revisited. And the thing I wanted to make a point is when we were in that contested case . . . (*timer sounds*). . . it wasn't just all . . . (*inaudible*). . . we were hands on. I walked all the streams with Skippy Howe. I walked...you know, we went into tunnels. You know, we went all over Nāhiku. We found a lot of miconia. So, this is not just a theoretical case, it was a real hands-on case, and lots of people came out, you know, including people...Russell Kahookele for example. He just got back from the military, his family has lineal decedents down there. Moke knows all the lineal descendants, I know many of them, so basic information for the new board.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you. I think my time is up. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Paltin. Next, we have Chair Lee, followed by Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Hello, John. Good to hear from you. I...you...you work...not work, but live in Nāhiku?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: No, I live in...I've lived in . . . (*inaudible*). . . the ahupua'a of Mū'olea for about 50 years. I've been in this house and this location the whole time, and it is in the

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Hāna Community Plan area as required. And raised my family here, and have a farm here, and so forth.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So, you...you do have experience in water resource management and watershed restoration in the...the Nāhiku license area, right?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Absolutely. That's what the Kūhiwa Well contested case is all about, all of those things --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And then you --

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: -- everything *(audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- you recently sent us an email about concerns about some people not being qualified. Do you want to explain that?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: My concern is the way...I think...first of all, I think the County Council and Council Services is doing the best job of handling this, okay. You're using the tradition of making *(audio interference)* interviews, and so forth. Right on, you know. That's pono. Unfortunately, the Mayor is not following that, and *(audio interference)* discouraging the...the Mayor at all, but they...they don't have applications that the public can look at. And there's a question...like I don't believe the lease...I looked into the Nāhiku license area representative that the Mayor named, does not live at the Nāhiku license area or the Hāna Community Plan area. Now, I think that...there are problems, these are...I address them all very constructively. The Council's on the right track. Don't delay this process any more. If the Mayor's not willing to make it more public and more transparent, then that is his kuleana.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: You know, so that's *(audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Oh. Thank you.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Yeah. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you very much. Thanks for the clarification.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: *(Audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: I need to ask Mr. Bergau, do you live in Nāhiku?

MR. BERGAU: Yes. Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And so, you're...you consider yourself experienced, and a resource in water resource management and watershed restoration?

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MR. BERGAU: And experience that could use more. And today, I believe, the environmental standards and stewardship should be really, really worked on, and expanded out. They have a really excellent role model that started in Ke‘anae Honomanū.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So do --

MR. BERGAU: *(Audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: -- do...do you have any specific ideas on solutions?

MR. BERGAU: Well . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . --

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Mr. Bergau.

MR. BERGAU: -- a...a solution will be found in the future. And as far as giving a solution for now, we need to be more transparent in this transaction from this point on. That...that's...that's all.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you very much. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Next, we have Pro Tem Kama, followed by Committee Vice-Chair Johnson.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you, Chair. So...so, you know, when you changed the order, all my questions that I had in my head all went...no, that's okay. That's good. So, now I have to come up with new questions, right? So...so, I'll start with Mr. Bergau first, and then go to Mr. Blumer-Buell. So, you know, there's an old ‘Ōlelo no‘eau, yeah. It says, I ka wa mamua, I ka wa mahope. Are you familiar with that, Mr. Bergau?

MR. BERGAU: No, I am...no, I am not.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Okay. Basically, it's...it talks about we...we see the future by looking to the past. That's basically what it means. I ka wa mamua, the future, I ka wa mahope, to look to the back, right. So, to see our future, we have to look to the past. So, as you sit on...or contemplating sit on this Water Board, do you see things in your history, and in...in your past, that you believe should be brought forward onto this Board to be able to get this to a place where you believe we should be?

MR. BERGAU: Well, we be speaking of water.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Yes.

MR. BERGAU: I think that...that...that...this...that is the only thing that should be a consideration in the future thinking. And from the knowledge of the past, that is where the answer lies in traditional knowledge. So, to blend . . .*(inaudible)*. . . traditional knowledge with...with the scientific knowledge, modern knowledge today, that would be the challenge, I believe...my opinion that we face today, as we have heard through the

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testimonies, the blending of.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Yeah, it...and...and that...that is what we're going to be working toward, is the blending of the two. As we all know, we both walk in two worlds, sometimes three. But, Mr. Blumer-Buell, did you hear my question? And do you want me to repeat it?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: I did hear. Yes, I...I appreciate the question. It's a great question. I appreciate the mana'o of that...of that saying completely, yes. And I can tell you, there's a lot of people that wish that this process included the recognition of the konohiki system, which is vital in controlling the water, and the land (*audio interference*) does not, so I'm not arguing that. But we should learn from the history. I'm going to tell you, you'll be surprised, I think before I was ten years old, I knew about the . . .(*timer sounds*). . . biggest diversion in the world, which is all the water from the...the Mammoth Lakes area of California all the way to Los Angeles. The enormous diversion, and the destruction of the Owens Valley. I learned of this (*audio interference*) before I was ten because my father was a fisherman, and I learned all this from him when I was little. I've been fishing for a long time. Mahalo.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Thank you. Thank you very much, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Pro Tem Kama. Next, we have Vice-Chair Johnson.

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: Thank you, Chair. Good afternoon, gentlemen. Thank you for going through the gauntlet, this is the last one...last question. Excuse me. So, it's going to be the same questions I have been asking, is that, can you speak on your personal experience of the water, maybe, mismanaged, or disappearing of in...in regards to...is it climate change, or is it corporate greed? But basically I...I want to kind of hear you guys' personal experience on your...in the district that you live in on the streams, and the condition, and has it changed when you were a kid when you were growing up to what it is now. And you can speak in the past 10, 20, 15 years, however long you want to go back. Thank you.

MR. BERGAU: Thank you, Councilmember Johnson. Yes. My...my experience with the...with the system, and the water in the Ko'olau started from the age of ten. I got the opportunity helping my tūtū kāne inside the ditch, clean it up...intake for Nāhiku homestead, water intake. And that system supplies it through its vast amount of towns. But as far as climate change for today in...well, in (*audio interference*) I have witnessed the Makapipi, I once thought a perennial stream, completely dry, and all its biosphere disappeared. Every...every ponds, every spring ponds dried up. There is one that is other than the five that I am very concerned on, it's right...sits right next to Makapipi. It still has a instream flow, but it's a spring, and it...it still hasn't dried... through these many years of declining rainfall, it has not dried up. So, I'm very concerned about that, but that is just a personal opinion. But I really appreciate the question. And as far as climate change, it is a global...global phalomenom...phenomenon, and it really affects us, and I don't know how to answer that type of question, but I do know the effects. I do...did witness the effects, and it carries today. Thank you.

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MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Can I go...go ahead, Chair?

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead. Go ahead, John.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Can you hear me?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah, we can hear you.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Yeah, thank you. To answer Councilman Johnson's question, we've seen, in East Maui, things dry up, climate change, and for whatever reasons, it's happening...it has happened. Nāhiku used to be much wetter than it is now. . . .*(inaudible)*. . . towards more . . .*(timer sounds)*. . . towards *(audio interference)* that there has been...it's...because of the Waiho'i Valley watershed, and the Kīpahulu watershed...Kīpahulu Valley, the springs are still going pretty well. However, springs with the Hanawī Stream, and the...the spring that Moke just spoke of, they need to be protected. This should be a primary goal of the new board, and the . . .*(inaudible)*. . . mahalo, Moke. Regardless . . .*(inaudible)*. . . who they support, I'll be there supporting this Committee, and you, and I'm sure it be the same with you too. So, mahalo. Thank you, Mr. Councilman.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Mr. Blumer-Buell

VICE-CHAIR JOHNSON: *(Audio interference)* thank you, Chair, I have no further questions.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you, Member Johnson. I have just one general question. One of the challenges of the Nāhiku watershed and the license areas is the inundation of invasive species. Oftentimes the invasive species will suck up a lot of the water in the...the rainforest. What would be your take on managing the health of the Nāhiku watershed and rainforest when dealing with invasive species?

MR. BERGAU: MISC has been a wonderful addition to...to addressing, and I have...they're in a better condition to carry out those roles of controlling invasive species, but I do support MISC activities in the watershed.

CHAIR SINENCI: John?

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Yes, I'm very...you know, we're very concerned about this. When the National Park called me about 25 years ago and said, "John, do you know who bought the miconia plant at Howard Cooper's first plant sale?" They're calling me because I was at the sale. I said, "Sure, I knew a bunch of people that bought five-gallon pots of the beautiful miconia plant." Now, look what's happened. Tahiti is practically destroyed. So, look, I totally support it. MISC had a plan to control it within five years...they should. We need to fund that, and get it, because if we get it as...as a seed...miconia seeding during the big wind event, or a hurricane, it's going to ruin the whole island. That's what happened to Tahiti. So, we can't keep thinking a little bit at a time. Secondly, you have other invasives that aren't even on the...on the radar. Right

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now, you have the...not a big pest, but you have a...called a piper, related to 'awa. It's the false 'awa, it got loose in Nāhiku, Moke knows what it is, and it's loose in...all the way from Nāhiku all over the island. And it's what...just something people need to look (*audio interference*). So, yeah, we need to put the money there. I'll tell you, with all these problems, I'd like to see everyone put their heads together on issuing water bonds that the local people can buy. I'd love to put some of my retirement into a...a bond that would support the...the...the water for Maui people. And then the...the...the scientific and Hawaiian mana'o to manage things. You know, I think people would like to put some money into this, not just...it's not going to be...it's going to be very constructive, the whole thing. I share their...the Mayor's concern. I think we can do it, and we must do it. So, mahalo, all of you. Please read everyone's applications. I feel like this is too short. I'd love to have a conversation with any of you. It would take an hour, but there's so much to learn, and...anyway, mahalo. And mahalo, Moke.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mahalo. That was my time. Members, any need for a second round of questioning for our Nāhiku candidates? Okay. Seeing none. We wanted to thank bouse...both Mr. Blumer-Buell and Mr. Bergau, for their willingness to serve, and be a part of the...the East Maui Water Authority Board. Thank you, and we will keep you guys posted moving forward. Mahalo.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Mahalo.

MR. BERGAU: Mahalo.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members, we're ahead a little bit, but I did want to refer to Ms. Gerstmar. Member...Mr. Blumer-Buell did bring up an issue about some of the...the Mayor's candidates. So, I'll refer to her just to make a brief statement on...on the email that we all received. Ms. Gerstmar.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: Good afternoon. Good afternoon, Chair. So, we...Mr. Blumer-Buell testimony was also transmitted to, I believe, the Mayor's Office. So, I believe it should go its route in that sense. It was not included in the agenda for today, so I believe it should not be addressed today any further. And in any event, that...that should be addressed by the Mayor, and not this Council at this time.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Ms. Gerstmar.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: You're welcome.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. And...and we can reach out...I know there was some request from the...so, if we can get...we'll reach out to the Mayor's Office on...on this matter. But we did refer Mr. Blumer-Buell to the Administration. So, we just want (*audio interference*).

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: That...that is correct. And according to the Maui County Community Water Authority, it's in the Charter, the Mayor has four candidates that he will appoint without the Council approval.

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CHAIR SINENCI: But we can still move ahead, as the Council, to approve?

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: Absolutely, the Council candidates, yes.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Mr. Krueger, did you have anything to add? That was okay. Okay. All right. Thank you, Ms. Gerstmar. Before we adjourn this meeting early, I did want to express to this Committee...we've had several, I guess, requests to extend the application process. It looks like some Members were busy with the budget that we just got out of, we're still...we've still yet to hear the second reading, as well as it looks like not everyone got to see some of the community meetings that went out throughout the County, and so some members were...were not privy to some of these meetings, or...or this community outreach. So, I am looking to extend the process for seven days...for...for a week, so that we can take some of these...and...and again, all of our candidates have been qualified with water expertise, so listening to a few more, I think, will not hurt this process, and...and we will get more support from...from everybody if we...if we did just open it up for seven days. I'm looking at the end of business day on June 6, and if we can put out another press release that we have an absolute date of June 6 to go out. And we're hoping that we can have a...have a meeting, maybe in the next two weeks so that we can vet any of these latecomers, or some...some interest that we...we still received. Mr. Krueger, is that sufficient?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, as Staff, we'll...we'll do whatever...you know, as directed. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. All right. Pro Tem Kama.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: So, Chair, seeing as how such a short timeline, would it be feasible to put out a press release?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger?

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, we can draft a press release, and see if we can release it tomorrow.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Is that...is that sufficient?

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Oh, absolutely. Yeah.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER KAMA: Perfect.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member Sugimura, then Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you. And you'll add the deadline to the press release, right?

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes.

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COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And the link?

CHAIR SINENCI: End of business day on June 6.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: And the link to get the application.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yeah.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much.

CHAIR SINENCI: Do we have the electronic...the electronic version of the...of the application for people to --

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. We'll probably update the application a little bit to also update the deadline on it. And then, yes, we'll be sure to include a link to that application in the press release.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Thank you. Member Paltin.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Thank you, Chair. I wanted to clarify a couple things. So, you're saying we're going to open it up, and these will be for applications that we receive between, I guess, when the press release opens tomorrow, and June 6. Because people have been sending other applications, those do not count. This is the one week that we're opening it up, and whoever sends it in has to send it in during this week if they haven't previously been...been accepted. That's my first clarification question.

CHAIR SINENCI: Yes. *(Audio interference)* --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. And then my second--oh. Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: My second clarification question would be on the selection process. Did you have one? Like is it...we just...how...what is the selection process?

CHAIR SINENCI: Well...well, you still have...you need to qualify *(audio interference)* for the service areas, to be a farmer, I believe, and also the water expert. Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair. So, the application we...on the application we solicit information based on all of those criteria as outlined in the Charter, you know, as to what license area they want to represent, or if they reside in a water...in the water service area, and their expertise in water resource management, along those lines. So...and once we accept the applications, you know, on our end...on Staff's end, we do review...we go through the applications and...and as best we can, review the...the addresses to confirm

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that they, at least, align with the hard criteria. And then...but we're leaving it up to the body to make its determination after interviewing the...the applicants as to whether or not they satisfy, you know, having water resource management experience, things like that.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, to clarify what Mr. Krueger said, everybody that makes it to the interview process has already been vetted by Staff that they meet the...the minimum criteria. Is that a correct of what he said?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: On...on...on our end we did...we did...we vet the applicants as it relates to, like, their residency because the Charter does have clear...like you have to reside in the applicable community plan area, or reside in the water service area. On Staff's end, we did vet that, yes.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. So, I guess...you know, what I was really asking about in the selection process, like when we narrow down the South Maui Community Plan folks, we did it like...you know, you get so many votes, and like one, and whoever has the most numbers. But would it be like...I mean what would be the selection process? At...currently, it looks like we have two folks up for one seat in the Huelo area, three folks up for one seat in the Honomanū area, and like that. So, would it just be like you get one vote and...and you put it for one of your three. What if...is there...what if there's a tie, or something like that?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, Staff's current understanding is that it'll be up to the body. You know, when it comes time to fill out the Resolution...as posted, the Resolution...the Chair has an ASF with all of the names on it, and...and we'll have to update that ASF again to include any new applicants, but the approved members will be blank. So, it'll be up to the body to make amendments to the Resolution...or to the ASF to...to add in the names. So, it...it'll be like motions, and the body can decide up or down. You know, someone can put forth a motion to...for a certain applicant, and then if they receive five votes, they...they'll be added to the resolution. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: And we'll be...we'll be making motions to move from Exhibit A to B?

MR. KRUEGER: Not necessarily move, but...but placing the names on Exhibit B.

CHAIR SINENCI: On Exhibit B.

MR. KRUEGER: Uh-hum. We'll still want everybody's name on Exhibit A, that's why, but only the approved members on Exhibit B.

CHAIR SINENCI: Member Paltin.

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COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And so, based on what the Mayor's current appointees are, you...at the time when the selection process occurs you will let how many applicants there are, and how many seats there are for each category.

CHAIR SINENCI: The...the Mayor chooses one for *(audio interference)* the...the lease areas.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, we have one for each of the lease areas.

CHAIR SINENCI: And...and we have --

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And --

CHAIR SINENCI: -- we have one for...we get to choose one, and then two in the service area; one with a water expertise, as well as a farmer, or lo'i kalo.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: So, I guess we don't have any part in vetting the Mayor's candidates, that he meets the residency criteria that was *(audio interference)* the Charter. Somebody...that's a separate process that Corp. Counsel will have to go through with him, that he has met the residency areas in the Charter. Or if some...if he chose...is it possible for him to choose residency area members? Or he can just...he has to choose one from each residency area *(audio interference)*.

CHAIR SINENCI: And *(audio interference)* Ms. Gerstmar had...there is a Section 3-8 on the restrictions on the Council and Councilmembers. Ms. Gerstmar, do you have...on...on...on the Mayor's choices?

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: Yeah. So, the Council has no say on the...on the Mayor's appointment. And the Charter says that each...so, the...the...each license area has to have a minimum of two for the Council and for the Mayor, that's where it comes from. But the Council has no...no say in the Mayor's appointees. It's understood that he will have checked that, but that...that...that will be that...those questions that were submitted by...via testimony were also submitted to his office, so he can check that with his office at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: And...and then . . .*(inaudible)*. . . choose, we just need to make sure that where he has chosen, we're only choosing one to satisfy the Charter requirements. If...is that...is that correct?

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: That is correct.

COUNCILMEMBER PALTIN: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chair.

CHAIR SINENCI: *(Audio interference)*. Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you. I have two questions. So, those who have already applied, and were rejected because they missed the first deadline, can reapply.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Correct, during --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- this seven-day period.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right. So...so, they can just resubmit the same application.

CHAIR SINENCI: We're...we're encouraging them to do the online one. We switched...a lot of them that did...if they didn't might have turned in the written copy. And so, it would be easier if they turned in the online --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- application.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: And we'll share that in the press release.

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair, we'll be updating...and we'll know it's the updated application because it'll have the updated deadline of June 6...4:30, June 6th.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. And then my second question is to Corp. Counsel. If the Mayor fails to produce qualified candidates, then...by June 30th, then the Independent Nominating Committee that will be empaneled after July 1st--sometime after July 1st--will then choose...select those nominees.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: Yes, that's our understanding, that that's...that will happen if he fails to submit or update his list.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Okay. So --

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: He can also update his list before July 1st.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Right. And if that Independent Nomination Board selects new nominees, they will be subject through the Council's approval. Maybe you can check that when you have a chance, okay.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: I...I'll do that. Yeah, I --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Chair Lee. Member Sugimura.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Thank you very much for opening up the applications again.

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And so, for people to apply, just to be clear, is it once Mr. Krueger sends out the email tomorrow to June 6, or is it from this...when you gavel out from this meeting to June 6? Or what is the start date, so there's no confusion?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, if it's okay, if...if we can just initiate as soon as the press release is released. I do need to take some time to update...Staff will need to work on updating the application.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

MR. KRUEGER: And...and that way, once we have the press release go out, we'll know that the application is done, and we'll be able to receive, and have clarity as to who's a valid applicant for this one week...or from that time until June 6th.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: And we're only requesting that they do the online one because --

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Online.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- the original one had personal information that we didn't want them to share. So...so, that's why we updated the...the online application.

COUNCILMEMBER SUGIMURA: Okay. Thank you very much for clarifying.

CHAIR SINENCI: Any other questions? Member Rawlins-Fernandez.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo, Chair. First, I'm hoping to get clarification on what applicants were rejected?

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh. I...I think the ones that didn't make the...the previous deadline.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Oh. They...they were...they...they weren't rejected, they just weren't accepted because they didn't meet the deadline.

CHAIR SINENCI: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay.

CHAIR SINENCI: And they can...they can go ahead and apply during this seven-day period.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. Because rejected usually is, like, on the merits, and not...okay. Semantics, sure. Okay. And then for the selection process, do you know, like, how Member Paltin was asking, like our...for each seat, if it's going to be like...if we're going to do, like, a rank choice voting, or if we're all going to have one

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vote and we'll narrow it down? Or have you not decided on what that process will look like yet?

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger, I believe we just had one...one bill that we were going to move the names to...to Exhibit B.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Right, right, but for each seat. So, as we move the name, if you decided...so, if we have...you know, like, we're...we're reopening the application process. So, we could end up with ten names per seat now. And if we have ten applicants to choose from for each seat...each of the eight seats...yeah. Oh.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, I guess...well, DHHL...minus DHHL because --

CHAIR SINENCI: And I...I know --

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: -- there's only one name.

CHAIR SINENCI: -- some communities have had...met on their own, and kind of vetted their candidates, I believe some of the East Maui communities. So, they put forth, you know, their candidate. So, we didn't have...I think when...when we didn't see a lot of them, it didn't mean that we...we just had one or two. Some of the communities had...had met on their own, and submitted a name from their community. So, we're hoping...and again, Mr. Krueger and Staff will go ahead and make sure that they qualify for each of those seats, whether they live in the community plan area, and if they have the qualifications for...for those seats.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Are there some applicants that qualify for more than one seat?

CHAIR SINENCI: We did have...we did have two that...that qualified for two different areas--three, Mr. Krueger?

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: For now, until we reopen the process, and then there could be more.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mr. Krueger.

MR. KRUEGER: Chair, yes, currently for...your currently most update posted ASF, we do recognize two applicants who qualify for both...who qualify for water service area seat, as well as the license area seat. But yes, it...it is...so, it is possible that an applicant could qualify for more than one seat on the board.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: So, I guess because of that, it would be important to know, like, are we going to designate them to one seat, and vote that way, or will they

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have, like, two opportunities to be on one of those seats? So, I...and you don't have to answer that now, especially since there may be more after reopening the process. So, if there are more applicants that now qualify for multiple seats, we'll have to figure out how we're going to vote on them, if they're only going to get one vote for that one...for one seat, and that we choose, or if we're...if they're going to be able to be in multiple seats where we would vote on them multiple times.

CHAIR SINENCI: And we could come up with a process for you. We'll let you...we'll let you know the process.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Okay. And then for the Charter amendment, it says of the eight members, four are appointed by Council, and four are appointed by the Mayor. So, I don't think the Council approves the Mayor's nominees at any point in time, not even with the Independent Nomination Board because they're appointed. They're...they're not nominated by the Mayor.

CHAIR SINENCI: Oh, including the Independent Nomination Board, you're saying, Ms. *(audio interference)*.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Well, I think the Independent Nomination Board operates...it...it can't be in conflict with the Charter. And the Charter says, four are appointed by the Mayor. So, at no point, there's any approval process for it to come to the Council.

CHAIR SINENCI: Ms. Gerstmar.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: I'll get back to you with that, but that's my understanding, reading the Independent Board Nomination. That when it's a Mayor only, or a Council only, the candidates are proposed by the...this Independent Board, but then it gets approved or not by the Mayor, if it's his, or by the Council. That's my reading of this...it's number 20 on Section 13-2.

COUNCILMEMBER RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ: Mahalo. Mahalo, Chair.

MS. LOWY-GERSTMAR: You're welcome.

CHAIR SINENCI: Mahalo, Member Rawlins-Fernandez. Any other questions from the Mayor--I mean the...do we have the Mayor?--the Members? . . .*(laughing)*. . . That was a Freudian slip. Okay. Okay. If there are--Mr. Krueger, anything else?

MR. KRUEGER: No, Chair. Our understanding is...we have a clear understanding of what we need to do to move forward, so thank you.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Members --

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Chair.

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CHAIR SINENCI: Go ahead, Chair Lee.

COUNCILMEMBER LEE: Just want to thank you for you being flexible, and understanding. Appreciate it.

CHAIR SINENCI: Thank you. And mahalo for agreeing to this Committee meeting week, so I appreciate it, and we'll keep you all posted. With that, Members, if there--oh. I don't need to defer? I need to --

MR. KRUEGER: Yes, Chair, deferral (*audio interference*) --

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay. Any objections to --

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS.

CHAIR SINENCI: Okay, deferring this.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR SINENCI: And...and with that, the WASSP meeting of May 30th is now adjourned. It is 4:31. . . .(*gavel*). . .

ADJOURN: 4:31 p.m.

APPROVED:



SHANE SINENCI, Chair
Wailuku Authority, Social Services, and
Parks Committee

wassp:min:230530min:jcm/th

Transcribed by: Tricia Higa

WATER AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SERVICES, AND PARKS COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

May 30, 2023

CERTIFICATION

I, Tricia Higa, hereby certify that pages 1 through 59 of the foregoing represents, to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 5th day of July 2023, in Mililani, Hawai'i

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tricia Higa", is written over a horizontal line.

Tricia Higa