



Minutes

Regular Meeting

Maunakea Management Board

November 4, 2025

Meeting In-Person and Remotely by Zoom

Attending:

MKMB Members:

Present In Person: Gregory Chun, Andy Adamson

Present Remotely by Zoom: Chair Roberta Chu, 2nd Vice Chair Julie Leialoha, Dr. Billy Bergin

Kahu Kū Mauna: Excused

UH: (CMS) Gregory Chun PhD, Nahua Guilloz, Sarah Clark, Rodrigo Romo, Kaleo Pilago
(OGC) Gary Takeuchi
(BOR) Michael Miyahira, Wayne Higaki
(SRGII) Andrew Hood, Kristin Duin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 4, 2025. In accordance with Sunshine Law, remote attendees confirmed their locations and noted any individuals present with them (there were none).

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no written or oral testimony presented.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 7, 2025 meeting. A question was raised regarding confirmation that specific individuals known to conduct ceremonies were included in the outreach efforts at Kahu Kū Mauna. It was clarified that the request came from Kahu Kū

Mauna. Members discussed whether the minutes should follow the agenda order or the actual discussion order. It was agreed that the minutes will reflect the order in which the topics were discussed. A motion was made by Greg Chun to approve the minutes with technical corrections clarifying that the agenda items were taken out of order and that Item 6C included the request from Kahu Kū Mauna, and seconded by Julie Leialoha. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. KAHU KU MAUNA REPORT

Greg Chun reported that Kahu Kū Mauna (KKM) met to review several ongoing items:

- A. Halepōhaku Underground Storage Tank (UST) Draft EA** – The draft EA was introduced to KKM last month. KKM will meet this Thursday, November 6, to provide formal input. Members requested confirmation that known individuals who conduct ceremonies in the area were included in outreach efforts, which was confirmed. A follow-up review will occur during Thursday’s meeting.
- B. Education and Outreach** – Kaleo’s report on community engagement and educational initiatives was shared with KKM.
- C. Legislative Matters** – KKM was updated on the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority (MKSOA) legislation currently under discussion.
- D. Cost-Sharing Discussions** – KKM received an update on ongoing cost-sharing discussions with MKSOA. CMS’s FY26 budget data and a summary of discussions between ED Chun and ED DeFries were shared. MKSOA’s Performance and Monitoring Permitted Interaction Group is reviewing cost-sharing options and anticipates making recommendations to the full MKSOA board in December.
- E. Advisory Groups** – KKM was briefed on MKSOA’s planning process and current intentions to establish advisory groups. MKSOA intends to form an Astronomy Committee and a Cultural Committee by the first quarter of 2026. No mention has been made yet regarding the creation of analogs to the Environment Committee or the Maunakea Management Board.

V. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

ED Chun reported on the following:

A. Outreach and Education Program

- a.** Kaleo reported that from July 2024 through June 2025, the education and outreach program served 689 participants from local, statewide, and international groups. He noted the increased volume of community engagement and the need to consider hiring additional support staff to assist with outreach coordination. Partnerships with Hawaiian Studies programs at Ka Haka ‘Ula O Ke‘elikōlani are expanding, and staff training continues to emphasize protocol, oli, and kuleana.

Kaleo's position focuses on aligning educational outreach with conservation and resource management priorities and strengthening trust with the community.

B. MKSOA Legislative Proposals

- a. The Board was briefed on MKSOA's intent to introduce legislative proposals clarifying its authority over land use on Maunakea. Proposals include acquiring property interests in fee, transferring existing leases and subleases by act of law, and maintaining current management plans and administrative rules until MKSOA adopts its own. The University expressed concern regarding readiness to assume lease negotiations with observatories, particularly with federal and international partners.

C. MKSOA Transition

- a. ED Chun reported that MKSOA continues to develop its management plan. CMS will participate in a briefing at the State Senate Ways and Means Committee meeting at Imiloa, focusing on the transition of governance from UH to MKSOA. CMS is providing interim administrative support, on-site orientation, and office space to assist MKSOA's transition. The Joint Management Committee and Long-Term Transition Working Group continue addressing the transfer of assets and liabilities.

VI. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Draft EA Underground Fuel Storage Unit Replacement – Action

- a. Rodrigo Romo, Kirsten Duin (SRGII) and Andrew Hood (SRGII) presented the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the underground fuel storage replacement project at Hale Pōhaku. The project proposes replacing three existing underground tanks totaling 18,000 gallons with two above-ground, double-walled metal tanks. The site has been selected to minimize visibility and disturbance. No significant environmental or cultural impacts are anticipated. Julie Leialoha inquired about the project schedule; EA completion is expected by summer 2026, with construction beginning in early 2027. A motion was made by Julie Leialoha to approve proceeding with the fuel tank replacement project and seconded by Andy Adamson. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion to enter executive session to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4), regarding the Board's decision-making process in its joint-management role with MKSOA, was made by Greg Chun and seconded by Julie Leialoha. The motion passed unanimously, and at 6:17 p.m. the Board moved into an executive session. The session concluded at 7:03 p.m., and the public meeting reconvened at 7:07 p.m. Greg Chun reported that the board

and its attorney discussed joint management issues with MKSOA, and that no decisions were made and no votes were taken during the executive session.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Takeuchi (OGC) announced his plans to retire at the end of 2025.

The next MKMB public meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Roberta Chu at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Clark

November 6, 2025