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## Minutes Regular Meeting

Maunakea Management Board  
July 16, 2020, 5 p.m.

Virtual Meeting By Zoom

### Attending

- MKMB:** Chair Roberta Chu, 1st Vice Chair Doug Simons, 2nd Vice Chair Julie Leialoha, Billy Bergin, Greg Chun, and Diana Van de Car
- BOR/ UH System** Bonnie Irwin, Jesse Souki and Gary Takeuchi
- OMKM:** Fritz Klasner and Stephanie Nagata

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Roberta Chu called the meeting of the Maunakea Management Board to order at 5:07 p.m. Those in attendance constituted a quorum.

### II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Julie Leialoha and seconded by Doug Simons, the minutes of the December 20, 2019 and February 18, 2020 MKMB meetings were unanimously approved.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests received for public comment for the meeting and no public comment was presented.

### IV. KAHU KŪ MAUNA COUNCIL (KKMC)

Chair Chu read Kahu Kū Mauna Council’s report on behalf of its chair, Shane Palacat-Nelsen. The Council referred to the Board of Regents resolution about shortcomings in Maunakea management. The Council opposed the resolution for lack of clarity and the Regents’ lack of community consultation, noting that the Council felt it was consulted after decisions had already been made and “earnest, respectful and meaningful consultation had not occurred.” The Council also related that it met with Greg Chun but still has concerns about the proposed restructuring of Maunakea management. Finally, the Council asked UH to retract an inaccurate media statement made on April 22, 2020 that the Council contributed to the development of the governance restructuring. The Council reported it still had not heard back from UH on this matter.

### V. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

#### A. Decommissioning of the Caltech Submillimeter Telescope (CSO)

Director Stephanie Nagata reported there was no progress on the decommissioning of the Caltech submillimeter telescope (CSO). Caltech is preparing a site decommissioning plan, that will include deconstruction and site restoration plans, and is also preparing a draft environmental assessment.

#### B. Decommissioning of the Hōkū Ke‘a Telescope

SSFm has been retained as the consultant for the Hōkū Ke‘a decommissioning. SSFM is responsible for preparing the deconstruction and site restoration plans, an environmental assessment, a Conservation District Use Application (CDUA), and community outreach. The environmental due diligence including the Environmental Site Assessment

and hazardous materials report are nearly complete. SSFM is seeking public comment on alternatives for deconstruction and site restoration, which are on today's agenda as discussion items.

**C. New Teaching Telescope**

UH is in the process of hiring a consultant for the new teaching telescope. The consultant will be responsible for finalizing the design of the telescope and infrastructure, including the dome and telescope support, environmental assessment, and CDUA. The consultant will also conduct community outreach to inform the public about the new teaching telescope, including the overall size, location, its purpose as a teaching tool for UH Hilo students, and other community purposes.

**D. Maunakea Management Reorganization – Board of Regents**

As required by the resolution passed by the Board of Regents (BOR) in November 2019, a briefing on the proposed management reorganization was given to the Regents at their April meeting. This included a presentation of other types of management models, including attached agency and multi-agency concepts. The Regents were poised to vote on an internal reorganization model, but because the matter was not agendaized as an action item for decision making, it was deferred to May. At the May meeting it was announced that the matter was being deferred to June, and the Regents instead were briefed on modifications to the reorganization plan made since the April meeting. Based on concerns expressed by MKMB, Chair Kudo extended the time for consultation and deferred the matter to August.

**E. Environment Committee**

The Environment Committee met on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Committee discussed the construction of a greenhouse, a requirement of the Visitor Information Station (VIS) ingress/egress Conservation District Use Permit. OMKM is working with community volunteers to help with design options, and construction planning. However, even without a greenhouse, native plant restoration efforts are continuing at the VIS and surrounding areas. Numerous native plants have regenerated and are thriving on their own. The Environment Committee also began review of some of the Hōkū Kēa decommissioning documents. OMKM's annual arthropod monitoring concluded at the end of June. Preliminary review of results have identified no new threats and bug levels appear to be in the normal range, just slightly below the long-term average. Finally, annual historic property monitoring is tentatively scheduled to begin in early August.

**VI. AGENDA ITEMS**

**A. Hōkū Kēa Decommissioning Funding Plan**

Fritz Klasner provided an overview of the Hōkū Kēa decommissioning funding plan. It is a conceptual document to show proof of resources to complete decommissioning. The plan was prepared by UH Hilo and approved in early June by Chancellor Irwin. Dr. Simons expressed concern whether the document functions as an internal cost estimate to prepare a site decommissioning plan, and how this plan compares to CSO's plan. Dr. Simons was also surprised at the \$600,000 estimate for the removal of a couple of small buildings. He stated that probably exceeded their construction costs, but that the decommissioning cost estimates for three major observatories were in the three-to five-million dollar range. OMKM staff replied they had not received CSO's plan and could not make any comparisons, but Caltech is committed to carrying out the decommissioning of their facility.

Dr. Simons asked about contingency funding, noting it is disallowed by the National Science Foundation. Mr. Klasner replied that UH follows NSF guidelines and the full, detailed cost estimate will be provided with the complete decommissioning plan. Mr. Klasner anticipates SSFM would have a detailed cost estimate during the draft environmental assessment phase, sometime in late 2020 or early 2021.

Ms. Van De Car asked whether the agenda item to approve the decommissioning alternative depends on the decommissioning budget, and whether it is separate from the funding plan; in that case, would the funding on which the alternative is selected affect the funding plan? Mr. Klasner added that to generate the conceptual cost estimate, the entity starts with assuming full removal and full restoration, i.e., taking absolutely everything out and restoring to as close to the original condition as possible, thus costs are on the high end.

It was moved by Dr. Simons and seconded by Ms. Leialoha to approve the Hōkū Ke'a decommissioning funding plan. The motion was carried unanimously.

**B. Maunakea Education and Outreach Plan**

Director Nagata presented the Education and Outreach Plan (EO-1). The Plan is a Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP) requirement to provide guidelines on informing the public and regular users about the resources and stewardship of Maunakea. As currently drafted, the Plan incorporates several CMP management actions and Native

Hawaiian cultural perspectives, and is the result of collaborative work by ‘Imiloa, Maunakea Support Services, VIS, and OMKM. EO-1 is flexible and broad enough to guide future plans, such as those envisioned and tasked by the Regents to ‘Imiloa. Director Nagata further stated Kahu Kū Mauna reviewed the plan several months ago and their comments have been addressed.

Referring to the proposed Maunakea management reorganization, Dr. Simons asked who is responsible for implementing this plan. Director Nagata responded that the CMP points to OMKM as being responsible for the EO-1 and that OMKM already provides educational materials and does its own community and outreach activities. However, Resolution 19-03 that was approved by the Regents, tasked ‘Imiloa with developing education and outreach based in their mission and expertise. The plan is broad enough to include programs developed by ‘Imiloa. Dr. Chun added that OMKM has a central role in ensuring these plans are being followed and there are many parts of the university that would be involved. The university also has a desire to involve ‘Imiloa more as we go forward with this kind of education and outreach, in addition to the outreach that OMKM will continue to do. Dr. Simons requested further clarification on the role of the Office of the Executive Director (OED) under the proposed reorganization, stating the OED would clearly have some oversight, but that OMKM would also still be responsible for ensuring implementation. Dr. Simons also suggested things would get complicated pretty quickly because OMKM is down towards the bottom of the proposed reorganization.

Dr. Chun responded that he encouraged people not to look at the Center for Maunakea Stewardship organizational chart as a hierarchy but as a network that OMKM continues to be a central player in holding the network together.

Dr. Simons asked what the confidence level is of the university’s support for this plan. Chancellor Irwin commented that many legislative proposals are now dead and the next two to three years’ budget will be very hard, but that ‘Imiloa is going ahead with fabricating VIS displays, is committed to continuing work with OMKM on the EO-1, and that the university will do the best it can. She added that resources exist, such as training student interns through ‘Imiloa.

Dr. Bergin expressed that ‘Imiloa is a wonderful conduit for the community and this presents a huge opportunity.

It was moved by Dr. Simons and seconded by Ms. Leialoha to approve the Maunakea Education and Outreach plan. The motion was carried unanimously.

### **C. Hōkū Ke‘a Decommissioning Alternatives**

Mr. Klasner stated the Decommissioning Plan calls for a proposed decommissioning action. The starting point for discussion is full removal and full restoration to the extent feasible. State environmental regulations require that one of the alternatives be a no action one, meaning no removal and no restoration. There are four alternatives proposed for this project including taking everything out and another leaving everything, and two alternatives with various stages of removal and restoration. OMKM discussed the alternatives with Kahu Kū Mauna, the Environment Committee, and with the Decommissioning Review Committee comprised of subject-matter experts such as engineers, architects and planners. SSFM is seeking public input and based on discussions and public comments received there may be revisions made to the alternatives.

What is physically at the site cannot be truly confirmed until physical removal commences. Hōkū Ke‘a was originally the Air Force 24-inch telescope with a separate generator building that was used until the another generator building, now summit lunchroom, was built for UH-88. Full removal and full site restoration are under Alternative Four; all areas outlined in white, including all the concrete, pier and slab foundation, would be fully removed. Area A has never had plumbing or buried tanks such as a cesspool, septic tank or fuel lines. Utilities to the Airforce telescope were delivered through buried conduits. The area is currently used by the public for sunset viewing and a starting point for skiers and snowboarders. In Area B, all conduits and cables will be removed. However, UKIRT and the Utility Building need to stay in operation, so digging out conduits around existing live conduits is a challenge under the full removal full restoration alternative. Full restoration means restoring arthropod habitat and the original terrain. Wēkiu bugs are opportunistic, and this area could be good Wēkiu bug habitat. The Environment Committee sees a challenge in keeping people from trampling on restored arthropod habitat.

A major concern was potentially losing the area as a public purpose area for parking under the full removal full restoration alternative. Director Nagata stated the CMP requires summit parking areas, and that some of the parking areas on the summit have been created over time by public use. Having designated parking areas would be one way to mitigate impact, but it could create more congestion which is not ideal. The area during normal sunset-viewing times can be busy, and much busier during snow events when visitors are predominantly local residents. The rangers

estimate ten feet of parking space for each car, but there people also walk through the area and others spread out personal belongings including lawn chairs, making it a challenge in estimate a parking capacity.

Dr. Bergin asked if there was an alternative skiing location for those who ski. Director Nagata replied it was not possible to launch from nearby UKIRT because there is a guardrail and a steep drop-off.

Ms. Leialoha asked about pairing educational aspects with cultural sensitivity and proper use. She asked if, once UKIRT is decommissioned, would the UKIRT site be considered for possible parking or sunset-viewing? Mr. Klasner replied it would be the same conversation of whether there are better options or needs for using that area for access.

Chair Chu noted there are some people who want nothing up there, so why would you keep a parking lot when a telescope is taken down? Ms. Leialoha acknowledge there was high use during snowdays and felt the primary issue was safety.

**D. Information and Discussion Regarding Maunakea Stewardship**

Chair Chu stated they would discuss the proposal that was presented at the Regents May meeting. Dr. Chun explained the matter had been delayed to provide more time to consult, including MKMB. He said he was waiting on KKMC's meeting schedule to continue discussions with them. Dr. Chun stated he had proposed changes based on conversations thus far, but the changes had not been vetted internally and he was waiting for input from others above himself. Dr. Chun stated that most of the focus has been clarifying the role of advisory groups, MKMB, KKM and the Environment Committee, and formalizing an avenue for major stakeholders such as the Maunakea Observatories Oversight Committee.

**VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

It was moved by Ms. Leialoha and seconded by Dr. Chun to enter Executive Session to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the Boards' powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities related to the proposed Center for Maunakea Stewardship. The motion was carried unanimously.

**VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 10, 2020, at 5 p.m.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Chu adjourned the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Signed by Julie Leialoha

8/11/2020

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Julie Leialoha, Secretary, MKMB

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Date