MEETING MINUTES OF THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (HTDC) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: Monday, April 8, 2019
Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Place: Manoa Innovation Center
2nd Floor Board Room
2800 Woodlawn Drive
Honolulu, HI 96822

1003 Bishop St., Ste 2700
Honolulu, HI 96813

744 Wainaku St.
Hilo, HI 966720

85-199 Ala Hema St.
Waianae, HI 96792

PRESENT
Derek Lau, Chair
Elijah Yip, Vice Chair
Creighton Arita
Martin Zorn
Michael McCartney, DBEDT
Linda Rosehill
Bella Hughes

STAFF PRESENT
Len Higashi, HTDC Acting Director
Wayne Inouye, INNOVATE Hawaii Center Director
Sophia Lam, INNOVATE Hawaii
Sandy Park, HTDC Staff

EXCUSED
Race Randle
John Morton, UH
Craig Nakanishi
Mark Anderson

Guest
David Cho – Office of Sen. Dela Cruz

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Derek Lau at 2:02 pm.

2. Action by the Board – Personnel
   A. Formation of an Investigative Committee for the purpose of the Executive Director Search.
Chair called for a formation of the committee. *Motion made by Mary Alice Evans to create the Investigative Committee for the purpose of the Executive Director Search using services of the DBEDT Human Resources office and will report back to the Board and Linda Rosehill seconded to approve the motion. None opposed. Unanimously passed (7-0).*

3. Legislative Update – Len Higashi, Acting Director of HTDC provided updates on status of current bills. Approaching Conference Committee. HB624 SD2: The bill resurrects merging HSDC into HTDC. Both House and Senate moving to approve. There will be an amendment made to add funds into the base budget for staffing. Based budget zeroed out and amending in HB624. HTDC, HSDC and DBEDT working collaboratively. Also establishes a new Broadband office and including that also with HTDC. In past HTDC led the Broadband initiative. Base budget moves special funded positions into general funded positions and provide operational funds for HTDC.

Other bills still alive:
- SBIR and MAP grants still alive in budget
- CIP requests for First Responders campus
- HTDC facilitate DBEDT Creative Industry Studios land holdings and partnerships in West Oahu as a MOU.

Chair Lau responded that Legislators are showing confidence in HTDC capabilities with these projects. Len Higashi doing a good job on communicating to Legislators that we have resources to handle projects. Carry over from previous director’s tenure and HTDC delivered on projects, in particular the SandBox. Hopefully, HTDC will receive funds to work on the projects.

First Responders’ Campus will include $15 million to acquire land next to parcels. $55 million is for base infrastructure. HTDC’s role is to facilitate the infrastructure, with one of the priorities is the DataCenter.

Mr. Zorn inquired how will merge take place? HTDC is the surviving entity and HSDC merged into HTDC with renaming to Hawaii Innovation Technology Research Corporation by the Legislators.

Current version has one year grace period for HSDC to wind down their contracts. Delay effect date, however general funds conversion for HTDC staff is immediate, as of July 1, 2019. Some flaws to be fixed in conference. Shows conversion next year, but does not appropriate funds for base appropriation till next year.
Version submitted to Legislative staff did not have the flaw, but SD2 was flawed, may be straightened in conference, which we will be submitting comments. In rush to make conference deadline, did not fix corrections for this year. But maybe fixed in conference. Concern is in the base appropriations, relying on bill to provide base appropriations. If none provided HTDC would go away.

Name change impacts staff and communications and support to community. There will be expense on name change. Legally possible to do a ‘DBA’, but might not be what Legislators want. There may be other ways to get the message across. Entrepreneur community already has strong connection to current name and especially for the grants.

4. Next HTDC Board meeting: **May 9, 2019**.

5. Adjournment

*Motion to Adjourn made by Martin Zorn and seconded by Mary Alice Evans, unanimously passed (7-0). The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.*