



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

February 16, 2024
Entrepreneurs Sandbox – Purple Room
643 Ilao St., Honolulu, HI 96813

Member(s) Present

Sandra Fujiyama, Vice Chair (Vice Chair)
Rick Volner Jr. (Mr. Volner Jr.)
Edward Barnabas, (Mr. Barnabas) (arrived at 10:36)
Gregory Kim, (Mr. Kim) (arrived at 10:32)
Matthew Sullivan, (Mr. Sullivan) (arrived at 10:31)
Vincent Kimura, (Mr. Kimura) (arrived at 10:51)
Dane Wicker, (Mr. Wicker) (arrived at 10:35)

Staff Present

Wayne Inouye, Acting Executive Director (Mr. Inouye)
Cassidy Wong (Ms. Wong)
Paul Hsi (Mr. Hsi)
Ray Gomez (Mr. Gomez)
Wayne Layugan (Mr. Layugan)
Cindy Matsuki (Ms. Matsuki)
Umma Berkelman (Ms. Berkelman)
Sandi Kanemori (Ms. Kanemori)
Kristy Carpio (Ms. Carpio)
Karlton Tomomitsu (Mr. Tomomitsu)
David Molinaro (Mr. Molinaro)
Matthew Kobayashi (Mr. Kobayashi)

Member(s) Absent

Craig Nakanishi, Chairperson (Mr. Nakanishi)
Vassilis Syrmos, (Mr. Syrmos)

Counsel Present

Elise Amemiya, Deputy Attorney General (Ms. Amemiya)

Guest(s) Present

Brett Tobin (Mr. Tobin) (arrived at 11:28am)
Stewart Pressman (arrived at 11:30 am via Zoom)

Members of the Public Present

None

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:38 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Vice Chair Fujiyama, Mr. Kimura, Mr. Kim, Mr. Wicker, Mr. Barnabas, Mr. Sullivan, and Mr. Volner Jr.

3. Approval of Minutes

- a. **September 9, 2023 Regular Board Meeting**
- b. **October 20, 2023 Special Board Meeting**
- c. **November 9, 2023 Special Board Meeting**
- d. **December 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting**

Motion to approve the September 9, 2023, October 20, 2023, November 9, 2023, and December 20, 2023 minutes made by Mr. Volner Jr. / Second by Mr. Sullivan.

Amendment to the October 20, 2023 as follows:

Add Rick Volner Jr. under Roll Call

Motion to approve the September 9, 2023, October 20, 2023 with one amendment, November 9, 2023, and December 20, 2023 minutes made by Mr. Wicker / Second by Mr. Sullivan.

No testimony received.

Motion approved, 7-0.

4. Executive Directors Report

Mr. Inouye states that due to time restraints for item agenda seven, there is a possibility of skipping other agenda items.

Mr. Gomez provides an update on HTDC's admin bills and bills that have significant impact on HTDC. These bills have been heard by at least one committee, and therefore are considered alive.



Ms. Kanemori provides an update on the Entrepreneur Sandbox, sponsorships, and MRTC (Maui Research Technology Center). Sponsorships include the HVCA (Hawaii Venture Capital Association) awards

Mr. Layugan provides an update on a two-day workshop with America Makes and Deloitte. They helped with a workshop that is focused on growing advanced manufacturing in Hawaii. There were 21 participants from MEP (manufacturing extension partnership). He also states that the HSBIR (Hawaii Small Business Innovation Research) program completed the process of reviewing the applicants. MAP will be doing application reviews. Ms. Matsuki states that there was a total of 2 applicants for phase 0, 13 applicants for phase one, 18 applicants for phase two, and 2 applicants for phase three.

Mr. Sullivan questions if HSBIR applicants are required to be registered to do business in Hawaii.

Ms. Matsuki confirms this.

Ms. Kanemori provides an update on the Accelerator program.

Mr. Inouye states that an intern was brought on into HTDC to specifically focus on the economic impact survey.

Mr. Wicker questions if HTDC has communicated with the Research, Economic, and Analysis Division (READ) to help with the economic impact survey.

Mr. Inouye confirms that HTDC is working with READ.

Mr. Kim states that the board of directors should be more involved because part of the problem is a lack of new applicants. The board of directors could spread the word about the accelerator program.

Ms. Kanemori states that 7 of the 13 Accelerator applicants are new applicants.

Mr. Barnabas expresses agreements with Mr. Kim and states that the board of directors should be more involved in all events and deadlines of HTDC.

Mr. Molinaro states that the microgrid is progressing well. He mentions that HCATT was a part of a hydrogen hub grant proposal. The kickoff meeting is March 1, 2024.

Mr. Kimura questions if there will be any tours.

Mr. Sullivan questions how long the grant performance will be.

Mr. Molinaro states the period of performance will be two years.

Mr. Kobayashi states that the Aerospace program is progressing on assessment of the aerospace infrastructure on Maui, Hawaii, and Oahu. He provides an update on supporting projects relating to unmanned stratospheric platforms testing, towed launch platform, and monitoring sea glider.

Mr. Gomez states that he is in the process of getting the remaining general funds to be released. HTDC is trying to get \$1.8 million to get released for a project with University of Hawaii and a renewable energy project.

5. Hawaii Strategic Development Investment Update

Vice Chair calls for a motion to move into executive session made by Mr. Kimura /
Second by Mr. Sullivan

No testimony received.
Motion approved, 7-0.

Executive Session convened at 11:27 am

Executive Session adjourned at 12:11 pm

Open Meeting reconvened at 12:11 pm

Executive session summary announced in the open session after exiting executive session pursuant to Act 019, SLH 2023.

During the executive session, the Board was briefed by the Stewart Pressman and Brett Tobin, Special Deputy Attorneys General, on the pending litigation relating to an

investment made by HSDC and inherited by HTDC. The Board approved a proposed settlement and authorized an additional \$25,000 for legal fees and costs.

6. Executive Director Search Update

Mr. Inouye requests for acceptance of the scope of work for the search firm, or revisions.

Mr. Kimura questions the HlePRO system.

Mr. Inouye states that it is the lowest bidder, therefore the scope of work must be narrow according to expectations of the board.

Mr. Gomez states that a Request for Proposal is a different process.

Mr. Kimura states that the issue is HlePRO awarding to the lowest bidder.

Ms. Kanemori states that it is possible to deny the lowest bidder if they do not fit the scope of work. However, it is possible to cancel the HlePRO all together if the procurement does not work out.

Mr. Barnabas states that HTDC should outline the right core competencies needed for the search firm.

Mr. Kimura states that HTDC should have the right to deny.

Vice Chair calls for a motion to approve the use of HlePRO to procure a search firm.

No testimony received.

Motion approved, 7-0.

Mr. Kimura asks Ms. Kanemori if it is possible to bring back all the bids to the board.

Ms. Kanemori states yes, and questions if the board wants to allow firms outside of Hawaii to participate.

Mr. Kimura and Mr. Barnabas state yes.



Vice Chair calls for a motion to approve the use of HlePRO to procure a search firm and give HTDC the authority to post the scope of work made by Mr. Kimura / Second by Mr. Barnabas.

No testimony received.

Motion approved, 7-0.

Vice Chair states that HTDC will come back with results of the HlePRO before deciding to move further.

7. Announcements

None.

8. Adjournment

Vice Chair calls for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Volner Jr. / second by Mr. Sullivan

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

DRAFT

