

SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Date: February 6, 2024

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Teleconference via Zoom

2759 South King Street, Room C5

Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

**This meeting was a remote meeting under Section 92-3.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The meeting recording is available on our website at*

<https://www.hisfa.org/board-meetings/>

Members Present:

Alan Oshima, Chairperson

Edmund Aczon

Harold Edwards

Jan Iwase

Bettina Mehnert

Staff Present:

Alison Kunishige, Acting Executive Director

Cindy Watarida, Business Manager

Kenyon Tam, Policy and Program Officer

Douglas Cullison, Project Manager

Wilmurf de Vera, Project Manager

Jiaping Fouse, Project Manager

Guest Present:

Riki Fujitani, Interim Executive Director candidate

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Alan Oshima called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum

Chairperson Oshima and Members Edmund Aczon, Harold Edwards, Jan Iwase, and Bettina Mehnert were present at roll call. Quorum was established.

III. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony.

IV. Receipt of Executive Director's Resignation

Chairperson Oshima stated he received and acknowledged Chad Farias (SFA's first Executive Director (ED) and former member of the Board) resignation effective January 29, 2024. Chairperson Oshima accepted Farias's resignation.

Chairperson Oshima shared his appreciation for Farias's service in starting up SFA's operations. Board Member Mehnert agreed SFA is still in its start-up phase and appreciated Farias's passion and dedication to the SFA. Board Member Edwards also shared his appreciation for Farias and extended well wishes to Farias and his future endeavors.

V. Action Items

A. Board Action on Operations Subcommittee recommendation regarding appointment of interim executive director and ratification of appointment of acting executive director

1. Board Member Mehnert provided the Operations Subcommittee's recommendation to appoint Riki Fujitani as the interim ED. She thanked Acting ED Kunishige for stepping in while the Board looked for an interim ED.
2. Chairperson Oshima noted that the Board's three subcommittees met with Riki Fujitani.

Motion: Move to (1) approve the appointment of Riki Fujitani as interim executive director of SFA at the same salary as the previous executive director with an effective date determined by Chairperson Oshima; and (2) ratify Chairperson Oshima's appointment of Alison Kunishige as acting executive director, effective January 30, 2024 and ending on Riki Fujitani's effective date (Mehnert/Iwase). 5 Ayes (Oshima, Aczon, Edwards, Iwase, Mehnert), 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions. Motion carries.

3. Chairperson Oshima invited Fujitani to make a statement. Fujitani commented on the huge amount of promise associated with SFA.

VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2024

Motion: Move to approve the January 9, 2024 meeting minutes (Aczon/Mehnert). 5 Ayes (Oshima, Aczon, Edwards, Iwase, Mehnert), 0

Nos, 0 Abstentions. Motion carries; minutes are approved.

VII. Workgroup and Subcommittee Reports

A. Subcommittee on Learning Spaces

1. Learning Spaces Subcommittee Chair Iwase reported the following:
 - a) The subcommittee received an introductory email from SFA staff on subcommittee roles and responsibilities.
 - b) The subcommittee is requesting a listing of projects SFA is currently working on; specifically ore-kindergarten classrooms that are scheduled to open this August 2024 and permit status.
 - c) The subcommittee participated in an interview for the SFA interim ED position.
 - d) The subcommittee advised SFA staff on legislative testimony for House Bill 2384. SFA submitted testimony in favor of the legislation; the hearing will take place later today.

B. Subcommittee on Workforce Housing

1. Workforce Housing Subcommittee Chair Edwards reported the following:
 - a) The subcommittee received an informational email on January 11, 2024 from SFA staff on subcommittee roles and responsibilities.
 - b) The subcommittee attempts to meet weekly with the SFA consultant who is currently assisting the SFA with its education workforce housing Requests for Proposals (“RFPs”).
 - (1) SFA issued Addendum No. 1 to the Mililani High School Workforce Housing RFP, which extends the deadline to submit questions to the end of February because many potential developers asked to submit questions after visiting the site.

The deadline to submit proposals remains the same, by 4:00 p.m., May 17, 2024.

(2) Chairperson Oshima asked for confirmation that the Mililani Housing RFP is posted and that the Mililani site was one of the areas designated by the Legislature. Subcommittee Chair Edwards confirmed. Subcommittee Chair Edwards also commented on the robust interest in the RFP.

(3) Chairperson Oshima asked whether the Mililani High School principal is willing to work with the SFA and RFP participants. Subcommittee Chair Edwards confirmed.

- c) The subcommittee advised SFA staff on legislative testimony for House Bill 1631. SFA submitted testimony in support of the legislation.
- d) The subcommittee participated in an interview for the SFA interim ED position.

C. Subcommittee on Operations

1. Subcommittee Chair Mehnert reported the following:

- a) The subcommittee received an introductory email on January 11, 2024 from SFA staff on subcommittee roles, responsibilities, and expectations.
- b) The subcommittee participated in the interview for the interim ED position and developed a recommendation on the appointment of an interim ED.
- c) The subcommittee advised SFA Staff on legislative testimony for House Bill 2527. The bill was discussed at length and the subcommittee provided testimony with comments to the House Committee on Education.

VIII. Public Testimony

There was no public testimony.

IX. Discussion Items

A. Presentation on 2024 Legislative Session and Measure Tracking Process

1. Acting ED Kunishige presented on the legislation SFA is tracking for the 2024 legislative session. She noted that the legislation tracking list (which is attached to Acting ED Kunishige's memorandum as Exhibit A) was divided into four categories aligned with the SFA's strategic areas of focus: Pre-kindergarten Facilities, Educator Workforce Housing, Operations, and School Impact Fees. Acting ED Kunishige described the four-step process SFA is using: (1) identification and categorization by SFA staff; (2) determination of action and position by the ED, with advice from subcommittees; (3) monitoring and communication, and (4) testifying, hearings, and meetings. She stated that if SFA submits testimony on a bill, SFA staff attends the hearing.

- B.** Chairperson Oshima asked for a follow-up on a question raised at the last board meeting regarding clarification on the maximum number of Board members that can attend events in compliance with Sunshine law. Acting ED Kunishige reported the SFA received guidance from SFA's Deputy Attorney General and that she will be disseminating this information to the Board.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting (Mehnert/Iwase). 5 Ayes (Oshima, Aczon, Edwards, Iwase, Mehnert), 0 Nos, 0 Abstentions. Motion carries; meeting adjourned at 9:25 a.m.