

SCHOOL FACILITIES AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Date: July 6, 2023
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Teleconference via Zoom

Members Present:

Alan Oshima, Chairperson
Harold Edwards
Bettina Mehnert
Candy Suiso

Staff Present:

Chad Keone Farias, Executive Director
Anne Horiuchi, Department of the Attorney General
Emma Christopherson, Department of the Attorney General
Ronald Rodriguez, Department of the Attorney General
Scott Fuji
Cindy Watarida
Greg Zabinski

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – Chairperson Oshima called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.
- II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum – Four members were present at roll call. Quorum is established.
- III. Approval of the Meeting Minutes
Motion: To approve the June 6, 2023 meeting minutes.
 - a. Movant: Edwards; Second: Suiso
 - b. Discussion: Member Edwards noted that the minutes do not appropriately reflect Member Mehnert entering the meeting. The motion was amended by Member Edwards.
Motion: To approve the June 6, 2023 meeting minutes with the amendment reflecting Member Mehnert in attendance.
 - c. Vote: 4 Ayes (Oshima, Edwards, Mehnert, Suiso), 0 Noes, 0 Abstentions
 - d. Amended motion carries; minutes are approved.
- IV. Public Testimony - None
- V. Update from the SFA Executive Director

- A. Update on Act 257, 2022
 - i. SFA is working with the Executive Office on Early Learning (“EOEL”) on meeting the facilities needs for an anticipated 55 new classrooms opening over the next two years. SFA notes that a further update on the initial 11 classrooms located on DOE campuses is also in the DOE update.
 - ii. ED Farias noted that Project Manager Zabinski has been performing site visits at both the 11 classrooms underway as well as proposed and future sites for classroom renovations with DOE staff.
 - iii. ED Farias updated the Board that on-going meetings with Charter Commission staff are occurring to prepare for potential new builds.
- B. Other Updates
 - i. Legislative Updates: Scott Fuji
 - i. ASO Fuji provided the board with an update on Governor actions on bills that impacted the SFA.
 1. HB960 CD1: Signed by Governor Green as Act 175 on 07/03/23. Moves the previously appropriated \$200M for pre-kindergarten facilities to the SFA special fund. Appropriates the funds back out for FY24.
 2. SB531 CD1: Signed by Governor Green as Act 61 on 06/05/23. Amends HRS to allow the SFA Board to appoint the Executive Director rather than have the Governor appoint.
 3. SB941 CD1: Signed by Governor Green as Act 172 on 07/03/23. Deposits \$50M from the budget to the SFA special fund for the purposes of teacher housing. Appropriates that money back out for the fiscal biennium.
 - ii. ASO Fuji also updated the board on Governor Green’s line-item veto impacts in the budget. Governor Green’s reduction of the legislatively appropriated \$170M in general funds for teacher housing was reduced to \$50M. This sum is still deposited into the SFA special fund per SB941 (Act 172) and is available for expenditure over the fiscal biennium. ASO Fuji noted that there were no additional reductions in the budget for SFA and all positions and funding remained.
 - iii. Chair Oshima asked how the reductions in teacher housing funding would impact the SFA’s work. ASO Fuji noted that the monies are still allowable for plan and design work if there isn’t enough funding to complete full projects.
 - iv. Chair Oshima asked if staff could put together a chart with funding that the SFA has available, the purpose, and the lapse dates for the Board.
 - ii. Administration: ED Farias
 - i. The SFA is working with Department of Accounting and General Services (“DAGS”) on finalizing the lease agreement for the office space identified at the One Kapiolani building.

- ii. ED Farias updated the Board that he is working with the Department of Human Resources and Development (DHRD) on the posting of the new positions appropriated by the Legislature so that hiring and recruitment can begin immediately.
- VI. Update from the Department of Education
 - A. The Department of Education was unable to send a representative to the meeting due to the date change stemming from the 4th of July holiday. However; the DOE provided a handout with updates on the first 11 classrooms that are scheduled to open August 2023.
- VII. Discussion Items:
 - A. Board Policy on Land Transactions: ED Farias
 - a. ED Farias noted that there has been discussion around the SFA acquiring land parcels for pre-kindergarten expansion. The Board has expressed an interest in a possible policy to provide the SFA with directives on how land acquisition should be handled.
 - b. Chair Oshima asked if existing State requirements for land acquisition can be used as a template for SFA land acquisition. ED Farias noted that State law and rules around land acquisition apply to the SFA and that utilizing existing State policies would be the plan moving forward. ED Farias also noted that the SFA, when looking at potential parcels for acquisition for pre-kindergarten expansion, still requires an entity to operate the classrooms as it is only focused on the facilities.
 - c. Chair Oshima also asked for clarification that the SFA can hold title but then also transfer title to another State entity where appropriate. ED Farias confirmed this as his understanding.
 - B. Board Administrative Rules: ASO Fuji
 - a. ASO Fuji updated the board that the draft administrative rules have been approved as to form by the AGs office. ASO Fuji thanked the AGs office for their on-going help and assistance through this process.
 - b. ASO Fuji noted that the next step would be a public hearing process for the rules.
 - c. Member Edwards asked how and when this would be carried out and if he was able to provide the Board with a timeline. ASO Fuji reported that he would look at the next steps and see if there was a reasonable timeline that could be provided to the Board. ASO Fuji noted that the biggest unknowns would be public feedback that may require amendments or changes.
 - d. Chair Oshima asked if there were any rules in the near future planned for the SFA. ED Farias noted that as this time there were no additional rules but would be looking at other Departments rules for potential additions to the SFA rules.
 - C. SFA Strategic Plan Roadmap: Chair Oshima in the excused absence of Hawaii Institute for Public Affairs (“HIPA”).
 - a. Chair Oshima noted that a representative from HIPA was unable to

attend due to the date change and prior standing obligations. In the excused absence of a HIPA representative, Chair Oshima summarized the draft strategic planning document provided by HIPA. Chair Oshima highlighted the long and short term goals for the SFA and the potential for an upcoming summit in Fall of 2023.

- b. Member Mehnert commented that this document was a great summary of the SFA.
- c. Chair Oshima noted that the final report would likely require some graphic design work and asked ED Farias if this was work that could be contracted out. ED Farias confirmed this. Member Mehnert asked if ED Farias could keep Board members apprised of when and what types of contracts are issued so that the Board is aware.

VIII. Announcements

- A. No announcements were made

IX. Adjournment:

A. Motion to adjourn the meeting.

- i. Movant: Mehnert, Second: Suiso
- ii. Discussion: None
- iii. Vote: 4 Ayes (Oshima, Edwards, Mehnert, Suiso), 0 Noes, 0 Abstention.

- B. Motion carries; meeting adjourned at 9:25am