



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

**March 9, 2023**

**Foreign Trade Zone – Homer Maxey Conference center  
521 Ala Moana Blvd., Honolulu, HI 96813**

## **Member(s) Present**

Craig Nakanishi, Chairperson (Mr. Nakanishi)  
Vassilis Syrmos, Vice Chair (Mr. Syrmos)  
Edward Barnabas, (Mr. Barnabas) (arrived @  
3:07 pm)  
Sandra Fujiyama, (Ms. Fujiyama)  
Gregory Kim, (Mr. Kim)  
Vincent Kimura, (Mr. Kimura)  
Bernice Kissinger, (Ms. Kissinger) (arrived @  
3:07 pm)  
Rick Volner Jr. (Mr. Volner Jr.) (arrived @  
3:28 pm)  
Dane Wicker, (Mr. Wicker) (arrived @  
3:02 pm)

## **Member(s) Absent**

None

## **Guest(s) Present**

Peter Dames, Servco Pacific Inc. (Mr. Dames)  
Leilani Farinas, TRUE Initiative (Ms. Farinas)

## **Staff Present**

Len Higashi, Executive Director (Mr. Higashi)  
Ray Gomez, HTDC Controller (Mr. Gomez)  
Paul Hsi, HI-CAP Program Manager (Mr. Hsi)  
Sandi Kanemori, HTDC Contracts Manager (Ms.  
Kanemori)  
Wayne Layugan, MEP Program Manager (Mr.  
Layugan)  
Stephanie Yuu-Sato, HTDC Fiscal & Contracts  
Specialists (Ms. Yuu-Sato)

## **Counsel Present**

Elise Amemiya, Deputy Attorney General  
(Ms. Amemiya)

## **Members of the Public Present**

None

## **1. Call to Order**

Meeting started at 3:01 p.m.



## **2. Roll Call**

Members Present: Chair, Vice Chair Syrmos, Ms. Fujiyama, Mr. Kim, Mr. Kimura.  
Notes that Mr. Wicker arrived at 3:02 pm. Mr. Barnabas and Ms. Kissinger arrived at 3:07pm and Mr. Volner Jr. arrived at 3:28 pm.

## **3. Approval of February 09, 2023 Minutes**

No comments or changes to the minutes.  
No testimony received.

Chair calls for a motion.

Motion to approve the February 09, 2023 minutes made by Mr. Kimura / Second by Mr. Syrmos

Motion approved, 6 – 0

## **6. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Higashi provides a summary of the Executive Director's report.

## **4. HTDC Strategic Partner Presentation**

Mr. Higashi introduces TRUE Initiative's Board Chair, Mr. Dames, and Executive Director, Leilani Farinas.

Mr. Dames summarizes how and why the TRUE Initiative started.

Ms. Farinas reviews the TRUE Initiative presentation provided in the Board packet.

## **5. HTDC Strategic Plan**

Chair sets the protocol for the presentation:

Mr. Higashi presents the start of the HTDC strategic planning process.

The board offers the following feedback:

The strategic plan needs more structure, timeline, flowchart, metrics, new ideas, story with different levels, roadmap with priorities and justification, constraints, stay true to your mission, start with mission and vision. Reach out to DBEDT.



Mr. Kim will review the statute and look for new opportunity.

Board requests a timeline when the strategic plan will be complete. Timeline needs to include check back in with the board, start flushing out strategic plan in between specific path forward and direction, be more specific.

**7. Announcements**

**8. Adjournment**

Chair calls for a motion.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Wicker

Meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Yuu-Sato  
Board Secretary