

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 6, 2009

Helene Hall, Hana

CONVENE: 6:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Chair
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo, Vice-Chair (In 6:08 p.m.)
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Sol P. Kaho`ohalahala, Member
Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, Member
Councilmember Michael J. Molina, Member

EXCUSED: Councilmember Jo Anne Johnson, Member
Councilmember Wayne K. Nishiki, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

STAFF: Scott C. Jensen, Substitute Legislative Analyst
Tammy M. Frias, Substitute Committee Secretary

Ken R. Fukuoka, Director, Office of Council Services
Dawn Lono, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Medeiros

OTHERS: Jeanette Rocca
Lehua Cosma, Hui Laulima O Hana
Sam Akoi, Maui Invasive Species Committee (MISC)
Rick Rutiz, Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike
Robert Carroll
Paul Bodnar, Board Director, Nahiku Community Association
Chuck Gray, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui
Corinna Kekahuna, Treasurer, Nahiku Community Association
Mapu Kekahuna, Vice President, Nahiku Community Association
Dorothy Kamalu Kahookele Sili, President, Nahiku Community Association
Carl Lindquist
John DeMello, Program Specialist, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. Youth Services
Laurie Smith-Kaukini, Co-Chairperson, Hana Aloha Festivals
Neil Hasegawa, Hana Aloha Festivals
Benny Maile Perry
Joanne Medeiros-Young, Hale Hulu Mamo
Ward Mardfin, Treasurer, Hana Cultural Center
Chad Evan "Frog" Kirkwood
Zach Newton
John Blumer-Buell

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

John Villiarimo, Hana Youth Center
Gilbert Arias, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui
Mary Elbert
Verlaine Hashimoto, Hale Hulu Mamo
Blair Toulouse
Jerry Schwartz
Brooke Woessner
Carla Woessner
Joyce Mitchell-Mynar
Darius Mynar
Bob Getzen, Member, Hana Canoe Club; Maui Fest Hawaii
Ken Martinez Burgmaier, Maui Fest Hawaii; Hana Film Festival
Shawn Kroop, East Side Skateboard Community
Nancy Plenty, Board Member, Hana Arts; Maui Fest Hawaii
Fergus Flanagan, Board Member, Ohana Makamae, Inc.
Ray Henderson, Executive Director, Ohana Makamae, Inc.
Robin Newton
Sheila Agnitsch, Co-Director, Hale Hulu Mamo
Kathryne Childs
Keoni Darisay
Dawn Lono
Daisy Lind
Stanley Akoi, Department of Parks and Recreation - Hana District Office
Sonia Helekahi, Department of Parks and Recreation - Hana District Office
Additional attendees (approximately 75)

ITEM NO. 1: PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2010 FOR THE COUNTY OF MAUI (C.C. Nos. 09-59 and 09-88)

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(*gavel*). . . The Budget and Finance Committee meeting at Helene Hall, Hana on April the 6th, 2009 is now in session. Good evening, ladies and gentlemen.

AUDIENCE: Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Aloha. It's nice to be here again reviewing the 2010 Budget as proposed by the Mayor of the County of Maui, Mayor Charmaine Tavares. It is our intention to receive public testimony for the Hana community this evening.

But before I call on Member Medeiros to introduce the Members that are here this evening, I, I'd just like to make a comment in regards to what's happening in the State Legislature. As we go from district to district to receive public

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

testimony. . .as, you know, the Budget and Finance Committee here tonight, we've been notifying the public to support the Budget and Finance Committee in contacting your State Legislators in regards to House Bill 1744 and there's a Senate bill which accompanies HB, HB 1744, and that's, that's in regards to the transient accommodation tax. What the State is proposing to do is to suspend the transient accommodations tax for six years, and we utilize the transient accommodations tax as part of our revenue in creating our 2010 Fiscal Year Budget. What we're talking about is the possibility of the State taking away \$18 million from the County. So if they do that, you know, we need to make certainly adjustments in, in how to meet the Budget shortfall. So. . .you know, I encourage you to contact your State Senator, your Representative to tell 'em that, you know, how important the TAT to the County of Maui--and not only the County of Maui, but the County of Kauai, the County of Hawaii, the City and County of Honolulu--how important it is that we receive the transient accommodation tax. I'm sure the State Legislators are trying to do their best in trying to provide some alternative as far as how the County can, you know, receive more taxes through surcharge that is, that was contemplated as a possibility to makeup the shortfall. So please contact your State Senators, your State Representative in regards to the transient accommodations tax and how important it is for the County of Maui.

So at this time, I would like to call on your Councilmember, Bill Medeiros, to introduce the Budget and Finance Committee Members that are here tonight.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair Pontanilla, and aloha mai kakou to all of you, welcome. I want to thank all of you for being here. It's a nice turnout tonight, and I can see we have certainly members of the Hana community, but we have Lower Nahiku and Nahiku here and, you know, we, we're hoping that, you know, maybe Keanae, Kipahulu. . .we have some Kipahulu ohana that are here and Kaupo. But, you know, East Maui starts way over at Kaupakalua Road, comes through Hana and ends up in Ulupalakua. So we have a large geographic district. So we want to get as much people out and participate in this Budget process.

And before I introduce the Members that are here this evening, I want to make some acknowledgments. First of all, I want to thank Rae and Carl Lindquist who provided dinner for the Council Members--great stew and rice. So. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And also helping with that was Dawn Lono, I think Dawn made the salad. And we had Dot Pua who made the two cakes. So thank you very much.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And as you were coming in this evening, if you saw all of us out on the road, we weren't trying to attract the road or, or the traffic. We had a blessing of a new MEO bus for Hana, and that's what was going on out there. MEO has been a godsend for Hana and other districts, and this is a new bus that will be put in the fleet in Hana for transporting people within the Hana area or out to Central Maui and back. So we thank MEO for being here this evening for that bus. . .blessing. And I was just joking with the MEO executive about, you know, Hana buses need DVDs in it. It's a long ride without watching something, and they laughed and said maybe the next one. They went in the bus and there was a DVD.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: So our kupuna, when they ride out, they can watch DVDs or listen to the radio. So we're very happy about the new bus and we thank MEO, once again.

This evening, I want to introduce the Members of the Budget and Finance Committee. I'm going to introduce, first, our Council Chair from Molokai, and I want to thank him for being here this evening. He flew in from Honolulu after being down at the State Legislature representing us and being sure that Maui County was visible and they heard our concerns. So please welcome from Molokai our Council Chair Danny Mateo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And I'll just go down that way. And the beautiful lady you see here represents Upcountry. . .Pukalani-Kula-Ulupalakua, and this is Councilmember Gladys Baisa.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And to my right and her right is our Council Vice-Chair representing Makawao, Haiku, and Paia, and he's been here a long time because this is his last term, his term limits, he can't run again next time. So we welcome here in Hana and that's Councilmember, Council Vice-Chair Mike Molina.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And to my right here is our Budget and Finance Chair. He has a great task on his hands to lead us through this Budget Session because of the economic conditions that exist today, and I think you heard him say about the TNT tax, TAT tax which Council Chair Mateo went down to testify in. But we were predicted to received about \$18 million of our share of the transient accommodations tax, and the State is looking to keep it all now. So that'll really hurt our Budget missing \$18 million that we apply to the budget process. So please contact your Representatives or whoever you know in the State Legislature or even higher up, but mostly the State Legislature. To my left here from the island of Lanai, representing Lanai is a familiar face, he was on the Council before, then was on the State Legislature, then the Executive Director of the Kahoolawe. . .Island Reserve Commission. And he's back on the Council, he got re-elected, not re-elected but elected, so he's back with us on the Council and I'm happy to introduce to you Sol Kaho`ohalahala.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, everybody. And thank you for being here. I'll turn it back over to the Budget Chair.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Member Medeiros, for introducing everyone here this evening. I'd like to introduce the Staff that are with us tonight. We do have Scott Jensen, who is the Legislative Analyst and Tammy Frias, who is a Committee Secretary.

Just one more thing before we receive public testimony from. . .the people that are here tonight. In regards to the stimulus dollars, the American Recovery Reinvestment Act, the County has received approximately \$12 million thus far in regards to the stimulus money, and part of the stimulus money that we received was through CDBG in the amount of \$550,000. The Water Department. . .we are expecting another \$6 million to do infrastructure work, and we've received other fundings for other projects here in Maui County. So far as the stimulus money and the American Recovery Reinvestment Act, Maui's starting to see its share. It's coming slowly to Maui, but we're starting to receive those monies. And one of the responsibilities for the, this Committee is to make sure that we act on it as soon as we can because we're competing with the different counties, Kauai, Hawaii, as well as the City and County of Honolulu, for those funding. So whenever we get word that we need to act, we act right away to make sure that, you know, we get first crack at the dollars.

Tonight for those of you that will be providing public testimony, the Chair is going to give you three minutes to provide your testimony and when you come up, if you can state your name, the organization that you represent, and as soon as

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

you're done, stay awhile because some of the Members may have questions for you this evening. But before we start, if everyone can turn off their cell phone to the silent mode or turn it off. Thank you.

The first person to testify is Jeannette Rocca, followed by Lehua Cosma.

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MS. ROCCA: It's not that I'm so brave I asked to go first, it's just I live Lower Nahiku and the driver has offered to take me as soon as I state the situation. I think it's plain and simple, is that all the years I've been utilizing the bus and our drivers are here, I, I respect and salute them all for their service. And I have been selfishly utilizing the shopping time on the short days mainly to do shopping and neglecting medical appointments, such as mammograms and the routine things we're supposed to do, and so because I like to get home early. But now that I heard that they might discontinue the longer days and maybe just give us those two short days, I'm realizing. . .I'm going to be 71 next month and I better start paying attention to my medical health 'cause Dr. Schwab, the cardiologist, writes to medical center and tells them I'm noncompliant and I'm not doing what I'm supposed to be doing. I look very well, but some days--I did suffer a heart attack back in 1995 and I've survived all these years. I must be doing something right. So, I would like to utilize my birthday in May. . .utilize, I promise, my time from now on to make use of medical appointments as well as shopping and hoping that then I can go out more than one day, one or two days a month, which is. . .it's straining my budget. I love Hana and I've been in Hana for 20 years between Hana town and Lower Nahiku, but I do like to and have to conserve my money so that I try to do as much as possible. I have animals--everybody knows that. They tell me get rid of your animals. Well, that's like telling you get rid of your kids. So, I unselfishly deprive myself of things I need to do in a sense to go shopping where the things are available and less expensive.

So in short, I would ask the Council. . .come time to thinking about cutting those days down to two, to please think of somebody who's been here a long time, and I would like to continue utilizing this service and hope that they do not cut these days down. Even though they may cut them short, give us the days that we need because in Lower Nahiku, they weren't even going to come down there for service. I think I called the Director and asked them why, because our road's full of potholes and pitholes. Well, that's a County thing. And if it needs fixing, then we gotta fix it. So that's what the Governor said in her campaign. So, I'm applying and appealing that we can fix this and monies needed to be channeled in our transportation to keep us healthy, and then I won't have to go emergency out as I have a couple of times in the night plane because something I neglected to do,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

which should've been done. . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Thank you very much and I address all of you. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much. Lehua Cosma, followed by Sam Akoi.

MS. COSMA: Aloha.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. COSMA: Thank you for coming out to Hana this evening. I'm just happy to be here because for the first time I can stand up in front of you and say yes, dialysis is here in Hana. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

MS. COSMA: I thank all of you for your support, I thank my community behind this, and we started March 25th in Hana and the families are happy and I'm starting to see the quality of life coming back, not only with my parents, but with Uncle Francis Lono and his ohana. And we're ready for. . .just to be moving on in life and just enjoying the Hana lifestyle. I thank all of you. And I'm here because I want to see your continuous support with not only Hui Laulima O Hana, which is the organization that I founded, but with all the other organizations that are doing a fantastic job in Hana, such as Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike--Rick Rutiz and the boys, they did a beautiful job on the home and I guess you saw that for yourself today, and I'm glad that you came--and also Hale Hulu Mamo. They're such an important program that I support because now with our dialysis patients back home, they can utilize the services of Hale Hulu Mamo, which before they could never. And also with the Ohana Makamae, they're doing a wonderful thing for Hana, and also our Hana Youth Center, the MEO Program that provides transportation for our kupuna to the other side. I thank you for being there for these organizations. And mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the. . .testifier? Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Cousin Lehua, now that the dialysis home is in operations and, and it's providing treatment services for dialysis patients in Hana, what would be the need of Hale. . .with the group, your group that have organized it and, and are operating it? What kind of budget support are you looking. . .as requesting from the County in upcoming budgets?

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

MS. COSMA: I think one of the main concern for us right now is maintaining, operations and maintenance of the home because it came to us as an elder home, and a lot of the monies that you supported us with went all towards the home. So in order for us to keep it going for years to come, we'd probably rely on more fundings because we...of the maintenance and preserving the home so that it lasts forever. And so probably that's when it would go back to the County for help, just for that...the upkeeping...besides fundraising and other things that we're willing to do.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Uh-huh. Has your group looked at securing other funding sources as well?

MS. COSMA: We're trying to collaborate now with other Hawaiian organizations that wants to be a part of this, and I think that's one way of moving this forward and working together by more collaborative effort for our community.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, Lehua. Mahalo, Chair.

MS. COSMA: Thank you. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Sam Akoi. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .followed by Rick Rutiz.

MR. AKOI: Aloha, Council Members.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. AKOI: My name is Sam Akoi and I work for MISC. MISC is not my wife, MISC is a company that I work for. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .(chuckle). . .

MR. AKOI: . . .that Maui Invasive Species Committee.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .(chuckle). . .

MR. AKOI: And right here, I work on the east side of Maui and I do the miconia, mainly only the miconia. And I, I really don't really stay here. I travel all around the island, to Kahoolawe, Lanai, Molokai. We do other invasive species, too. Mainly

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

my target is home, here, the miconia, and I got a seven-man team which I think, you know, try to get more and then they're cutting the budget. . . 'cause I asked for more people, you know. And the reason I want more men is like we get two budgets, you know, like first the budget is for the ground crew is different, and then another budget is for the helicopter and helicopter is like 800 bucks an hour, where I can get more ground crew, you know, instead of using 800 bucks for one hour, you know. And, and but this job is very interesting because, you know, you not only work with invasive species, you also kind of saving the, the native plants. And then we bring out a lot of students from high schools that come work with us. That way you can be a role model in teaching the, teaching the kids about the native plant and non-native plants, you know, and you do a lot of planting, too, of native plants. So. . . and my job, you know, you not only learn how to do things, you know, you gotta do. . . how to survive, so we go around and do survival training, you know, and helicopter training, repelling. You name 'em, we, we go all through that. So, you know, but most of all, I'd like to thank the Council Members for the support you guys gave us. And I've got some supporters up here that worked with me from Hana there. . . if you can stand up.

Note: Approximately 10 people in the audience stood up.

AUDIENCE: . . . (applause) . . .

MR. AKOI: Again, again I'd like to thank you, Council Members, for the support you gave us.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Hi, Sam. Thanks for coming tonight. Just a quick question. I don't know if you're the person to ask, but lately I've observed that the pastures in Makawao and Kula are just being overrun by fireweed. When you look, look like gardens instead of pastures--they're all yellow. Is there anything being done that you know of?

MR. AKOI: Yeah, we've got. . . well, we got, we got some crews. Our main baseyard is up in Piihola, Makawao. We've got, you know, plant crews that does certain plants, and I think mainly it's like. . . what you're talking about is the, the ranch do that. . . most of 'em, you know, and with the help of us, if they don't have enough workers, we'll send some workers and help the ranch out.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: It's really getting out of control.

MR. AKOI: Yeah.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: It, I've never seen it like that. I mean with all this rain it's growing along with the grass.

MR. AKOI: Well, I, I notice a lot of people approaching me and, and telling me about the koa trees, too, you know, they're, they're dying off from some kind of a fungus, you know. And then, again, the State, you know, handles that.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Anyway, thank you for your what you're doing because it looks like we got some serious problems. So we'll be talking to more of these folks as time goes by. Thank you.

MR. AKOI: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier?

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Next testifier is Rick Rutiz, followed by Robert, Bob Carroll. And, and, Rick, if you can talk directly into the mike or any person that's going to testify, please talk directly into the mike. Thank you.

MR. RUTIZ: Aloha. Thank you very much for coming out tonight. And . . . on Friday, I talked plenty about Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike. So no need to talk about that anymore. I really appreciate your support for everything. . . and, you know, I'd like to keep on going with this as long as we can. But I'm also really amazed here in Hana as I get out more and talk story with more nonprofit people and leaders, and I learn a lot of competition and head-butting and, you know, kind of pushing aside trying to get money with other groups and other areas. And in Hana, it, it's amazing because you see the people who come up and support and everyone talks about how all the nonprofits are sharing, working together, collaborating together, helping each other and leveraging resources. . . you know, basically, you know, our kids learn carpentry, but we're able to go and help dialysis, we're able to help sober living house, we're able to help other people, and in the same way they help us. . . and it's all back and forth. So, I, I just would love to talk about how, how well this community comes together, all of our nonprofits, and shares our resources, shares our clientele. I know that a new group is going to talk tonight later on about the skateboard park for the kids, and I've been at the last couple of their skating events, and there were so many kids that were having so much fun and so into it, and this would get them off the street. And I'd like to offer our help, our builder's help to try and leverage the resources, the money that it cost so that it doesn't have to go out to a fancy company for bid, that maybe we can get a couple--'cause I'm no expert in that. But if we could get a couple experts thrown out our way and then let us do the labor, let the community put it together, saving

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

a lot of money and making it more realistic for it to happen. So things like that, I would love your support on, and thank you very much for everything you've done for us.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?
Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Mr. Chairman. And, Mr. Rutiz, thank you for being here and thank you for all that you do for the community, especially the most recent project at the, the home dialysis. It looks wonderful up there. You mentioned the skateboard park, and I'm glad you did because we're trying to move that process along for Hana and I think your suggestion if we can do it with community help, like yourself, that would save the County a lot of money. I believe the skateboard park that's going to be built in Lahaina, as much as they wanted to keep it, you know, the cost as low as possible--and let me check with my, my Budget guru. . . .Anyway, it costs a lot now to build the skateboard parks. . .

MR. RUTIZ: Right. But I think if, if we do the labor, as long as--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: And the materials.

MR. RUTIZ: --great expertise--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah.

MR. RUTIZ: --on showing us how to do it right, 'cause I don't know how to do it right.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Uh-huh.

MR. RUTIZ: And we want to get it right, we want to have it work for our climate and safe and all that, but it's not rocket science.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: No, it isn't. And we have a consultant already contracted for that project, and they're the experts on telling us what needs to be done, how to do it, what the working models are. So if we can get the assistance from the community to build it, that would save the County a lot of money, and I thank you for suggesting that. I'll, I'll bring that up in my next meeting with Parks and Recreation and with the consultant to see what they think about that idea and if we can make it work.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

MR. RUTIZ: Yes. Sign us up.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you.

MR. RUTIZ: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions? Next, next testifier is Bob Carroll. . . followed by Brooke Woessner.

MR. CARROLL: Aloha, Council Members.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. CARROLL: I'll be brief, as always. You've heard Rick Rutiz talk about his program. You heard Lehua talk about the dialysis center, and she listed all the, a lot of the other programs we have in Hana. MEO, we dedicated a bus. Actually, lives have been saved because we did have that extra bus, and still yet, that bus is what's bringing our people to the dialysis center now. We have the Living Farm Kipahulu. We have many things over here. And a lot people say, well, there's a budget coming up, there's budget cuts to be made. But I would like to remind all of the Council Members that Hana, Lanai, and Molokai only have an infinite number of resources. When you cut something from us, there's no other place to go. People seem to forget that Hana is special. The Department of Education long ago realized for transportation that Hana was considered like Molokai or Lanai, a different island. Me and Pat Kawano used to knock off work every time, the same time. He goes to the airport, jump on the plane, drive home. . . get on his truck and go home. He always beat me home. He beat me home every time. A lot of us forget that because we're on the same island what we have to go through, and a lot of us forget about Lanai and Molokai, that anytime we take a program away from them, it's just like Hana, they have no place to go. I hope that as each testifier comes before you now that you will consider when you're going over the budget, that when you take something away from over here or you cut services over here, there is no other place, there is no place where they can move laterally. The other side of the island, yes, I feel sorry for them, but they do have other services. They have multiple locations where they can go. They have other opportunities. We don't. I hope that as each testifier comes up and as each one comes before you during the budget deliberations, that you will remember that, yes, some people might say oh, well, Hana has many programs, but each program services a specific thing and if you take that away, there are no alternatives. Thank you.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much, Bob. Brooke Woessner, followed by Joyce Mitchell-Mynar.

MS. B. WOESSNER: Please, can you build a skate jam.

MS. C. WOESSNER: The skate park. Good job.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MS. C. WOESSNER: She said, please can you build a--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Can you talk in the mike?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: You can speak for her.

MS. C. WOESSNER: Okay. She's just asking please, to build the skate park for all the children here to have something to do, recreational. Thank you.

MS. B. WOESSNER: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Joyce Mitchell-Mynar. . . --*(CHANGE OF TAPE, Start 1B)*-- . . .followed by Darius Mynar.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: . . .Ooh, a little taller than her. Aloha.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Thank you all for being here. I'm here with my son Darius to ask for support for the skate park. Frog who's--I don't know what your full name is *(chuckle)*--but he's a second place world champion skateboarder, which I think is pretty awesome, and he resides in Hana part time and has given so much to the keiki here. I was a little skeptical at first 'cause, you know, I didn't want my son in a cast and end up in the Health Center, but his main objective is to teach them how to skateboard safely, and I've sat through eight, one-hour lessons

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

and I'm really, as a teacher, amazed at his skill with the young ones and his ability to get them focused and keep them excited and raise their self-esteem. So whatever you can do to make that dream come true, I ask for your support. Because driving out to Kahului every Saturday so they can go skateboarding would be really a pain. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

I'm also here--I don't know if it's on the agenda--but I'm one of the directors with Hana Arts, and because of all the cutbacks and strains, we don't have a major production going on this year, but we ask for whatever continued support you can give so we can continue the theater program with our young ones here in Hana. Okay. You want to talk?

MR. MYNAR: I like skateboarding because it intrigues me and it focuses me. I like it a lot and I wish I, I go to skate parks everyday, but I can't. I've never been to a skate park my whole entire life. I like skateboarding because I focus it and it makes me feel good.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Excuse me. Excuse me. Ms. Mynar.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Oh, I'm sorry.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah. For those of you testifying, again, please stay a moment at the mike. Thank you.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: I'm sorry.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, Chair. Yeah. Because there's the applause after the testimony, you know, you don't hear the Members asking a question. So, yeah, just a reminder to everybody to stay up until there's no questions. But, you know, you testified and your son testified on the skate park and as did other members. And our Staff looked up some of the funding for the West Maui Skate Park--

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Right.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: --and it's \$1,100,000.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: I understand.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: It's hard to believe that a skate park costs that much. So Mr. Rutiz idea of the community putting it together along with the County is a great idea. The other part is your friend that's a skateboarder. . .

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: . . .if you can get his name and contact information and leave it with our Staff. . .

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: . . .I'd like to contact him and, and so that we can get some of his ideas to talk to our consultants on it.

MS. MITCHELL-MYNAR: Right. I understand that it's very expensive and I think if we can work as a community to make it happen, that it would be a great thing. Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. The next testifier is Paul Bodnar, followed by Chuck Gray.

MR. BODNAR: Aloha, Council Members.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. BODNAR: I'm with the Lower Nahiku Community Board Association. I'm a Director. We are seeking a fund for our, beginning for our Community Association. . .for our structure. We've had it in planning for some years. So we're trying to get our start here at this, at this hearing. And we have, I have other members of our community here, too, have more of the detail. I am pretty much just up here just to bring my mana`o into it. This is for. . .I believe I'm looking forward to is, I'm basically looking forward for a certified kitchen for a chance to make plate lunches, make fundraisers, for the children to. . .a place where they can play, a place where the Police Department also to come and for

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

the Fire Department. A place for. . .when there's maybe say bad weather or something goes haywire, we have a place where we can cook for the people, a place where they can all can come and have shelter; a place for blankets, supplies, siren, things for. . .to alarm us for a hurricane coming or a tidal wave. And we want to get. . .we. . .it's time for us to get onto the map now. So, I thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MR. BODNAR: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chuck Gray, followed by Corinna Kekahuna.

MR. GRAY: I am, my name is Chuck Gray, I live in Muolea, and I'm here representing the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization as well as the taxpayers of Muolea. First, the. . .we seek your continued support to the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization which has done a wonderful job for the youth of Maui. We have a limited program going in, in here in Hana School and have several people working on it. We've also put on a program to get more community involved in, in anti-drug programs here in Hana, all of which Hana can really use. Now with regard to myself, with respect to the transient accomm. . ., the loss of the transient accommodation tax, I would support getting the State out of the transient accommodation tax business totally. Then I would ask, that I would support Maui raising its own transient accommodation tax. And I, and I know that there's a whole lot of, of members of the Maui Vacation Rental Association who would be very happy to participate in a program like that if, especially if they could get transient vacation rentals solved and, and made to be some places just outside as well as in. . .the hotel zones, but outside of the hotel zones because many of the people who come to Maui don't want the hotel operation. They want something like home. Anyway, thank you very much for your time and appreciate you coming down.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again for being here.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Corinna Kekahuna, followed by Mapu Kekahuna.

MS. KEKAHUNA: Aloha ahiahi.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. KEKAHUNA: My name is Corinna Kekahuna. I am a resident of Lower Nahiku and also the Treasurer of the Nahiku Community Association. I have. . .I am here to seek the help of our County Council Members and Budget Manager [*sic*] for appropriation funds to help build and design a community center in place of the Lower Nahiku School which burned down by arson back in December of 2005. At present time, there is no place for the residents of Nahiku to have meetings or gather for special events and occasions. We are also looking at the community center for emergency reasons and a place for our civil servants also, such as our Fire Department, Police Department, and EMT or ambulance departments.

I also have a timeline so the County has an idea of how long we've been going through this process for the community center in Lower Nahiku on the old school lot property. Okay. 12/05. . .December 2005, school burns down by arson; March 2006, HR 115 amended to HR 155, HD1; August of '06, HB 2889, HD 1; September of '06, HCR 155, HD 1 in companionship to HR 115, HD 1; December of '06, former Mayor Alan Arakawa requested for transfer of school lot from State to County by executive order; June of 2007, BLNR approved of submittal D-6 by DLNR recommending to the Governor for an issuance of executive order, reference HRS Section 171-11; October 2007, letter to Governor Lingle requesting executive order; March 2008, Executive Order No. 4220 signed by Governor Lingle and Lieutenant Governor Aiona according to HRS Section 171-11 transferring Nahiku School lot from the State to Maui County; November 2008, service plan and agreement presented to Director Horcajo of the Department of Parks and Recreation, Maui County; as of January 2009, Senator English and House Representative Mele Carroll submitted HB 1392, SB 708, HB 1833 for appropriation for capital improvements regarding the Nahiku Community Center.

I ask for your consideration and support to appropriate funds for this facility for my kupunas, my family, friends, and keikis for years to come. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Mapu Kekahuna.

MR. KEKAHUNA: Aloha, Council Chair Mateo. . .

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

VICE-CHAIR MATEO: Aloha.

MR. KEKAHUNA: . . .and Budget Chair. Aloha, everybody. Thank you for coming. I guess the Treasurer from the Association said the whole thing in 500 words, but I just want to shed some light. You know, when the school was burnt down a few years ago, it drew some concerns from our kupuna in the district as well as some of the nearby residents regarding having an area for social gatherings, safety in the event of an emergency of that nature--and because now we have none. And, you know, the gymnasium in Hana is the *only* emergency shelter available for the whole district, from Kaupo all the way through Huelo. That would give a relief pack to have a, have the building rebuilt. I know it's kind of scary to come up here and ask you for funding, but we've worked diligent, diligently with Representative Mele Carroll to appropriate funds at the State level to do the plan and design of this. . .community center, and we are humbly asking for your support. Because in the review of the CIP that was handed down for the Hana District, apparently somehow the Nahiku Community Center was not appropriated for this Fiscal Budget. So we are humbly asking for your support on that for this year's Fiscal Budget.

And also since we're on the same, I'll talk about the improvement of our Lower Nahiku Bridge that has been out of commission for the past three months that links. . .the only way access to and from, to the landing area which has been. . .that we need to look at having it repaired for safety reasons 'cause there's no access to and from that landing area. So if you could somehow appropriate some kind of funding for that, that'll be great as well. I thank you all for coming, and. . .(*inaudible*). . .maika`i. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?
Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Aloha, Mapu.

MR. KEKAHUNA: Aloha, Uncle Bill.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you for being here, for testifying. The old Lower Nahiku School, the building as, as was mentioned by you and the former testifier, was burnt down in 2005, that property belongs to the State. What has the community done to transition that property from the State to the County?

MR. KEKAHUNA: Yeah. The State, we put in a. . .the. . .we, we requested that the State, Governor Lingle do an executive order to transfer the property to the County of Maui. That was signed by the Governor and the, the executive order

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

was transmitted to the County of Maui. So as it stands now the property, the 1.9 acres, is in jurisdiction of the County of Maui.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you for that information. And has the community of Lower Nahiku Association approached the County Administration about funding in the Executive Budget from the Mayor?

MR. KEKAHUNA: We've had talks with the Director of Parks and Recreation, Tamara Horcajo, regarding her support, the President of the Association, as well as the Representative, Mele Carroll, did sit in meetings and she's in full support of this appropriation for the park, the facility. There's also been talk with the . . . Representative Mele Carroll with the Mayor regarding this facility, and she was in support of it as well.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you, Mapu. And just to give you a little information and the ohana from Lower Nahiku, which I spoke to you folks about that, I'm trying to secure from the State their intentions and plans for the bridge. They, they say that they want to, you know, rebuild it and as you know, prior to that they didn't claim jurisdiction over the bridge, and so this is something new that I have to confirm. But we're also, through the Public Works Department of the County, trying to figure out who has jurisdiction over this bridge so we can rebuild it and not leave it as it is where it's not passable or to pedestrians it becomes dangerous for children. So thank you for your testimony this evening.

MR. KEKAHUNA: And also, if I could also mention and this might help you, that back in 2005 there was an environmental assessment done on the Nahiku Road improvement, and if you look that up in microfilm, I think that'll cover that as far as the County's standpoint on that. Okay. Mahalo. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Dorothy Kamalu Kahookele Sili, followed by Carl Lindquist.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: Aloha ahiahi ia oukou.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: My name is Dorothy Kamalu Kahookele Sili, and I am from Lower Nahiku Village. Aloha to Maui County Chairperson Danny Mateo,

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

Budget Chairman Joseph Pontanilla, and present County Council Members. I am here to ask for the Council's consideration in including the Nahiku School lot re: Nahiku Community Center in the proposed Budget, Fiscal Year 2010. It has been transferred by the Executive Order No. 4220 on March 24, 2008, signed by Governor Lingle, Lieutenant Governor Aiona, and the Deputy Attorney General of the State of Hawaii. The State Senate has introduced appropriations for this cause on January 23, 2009, passed its first reading on January 26, 2009, and referred to WAM on January 28, 2009. It was introduced by Senator Kalani English and 13th District House Representative Mele Carroll, submission was introduced on January 28th, 2009, and first reading passed on January 30th, 2009 and referred to FINA. HB 181..., HB 1833 and SB 707, 708, e kala mai ia`u, are the bills introduced for appropriation of funds for the Nahiku Community Center. If there is anything that the NCA Board need to sub..., submit to the County Council, please feel free to notify myself, NCA President or Vice President at 248-8887 or 248-7818. Mahalo for this opportunity to speak. Dorothy Kamalu Kahookele Sili, NCA President. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?
Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. And aloha, Kumu Kamalu.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you for coming all the way from Lower Nahiku.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: A`ole pilikia.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: `Ae. And thank you for being vigilant about the property, the old school property and trying to get it for use by the community. And did Senator Kalani English and Representative Mele Carroll indicate to you about the amount of funding they were trying to get through the State this session?

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: I believe I do have something in writing, but it, it's at home, I did not bring it with me. E kala mai ia`u.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Alright. Okay. And, and that funding that they made secure would be for planning and design of the community center?

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: `Ae, yes.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. And so certainly, you know, we'll make our efforts, but we'll, we'll hopefully, maybe in the subsequent budgets, have the support of the Administration to put it in the Executive Budget first for us to look at.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: Mahalo. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Mahalo, Kumu Kamalu.

MS. KAHOOKELE SILI: . . .piha. Aloha.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Aloha.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Carl Lindquist, followed by John DeMello.

MR. LINDQUIST: Aloha and thank you for coming to Hana. Thank you for the kind words about the stew.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. LINDQUIST: I don't want to be redundant and repeat what a lot of other people have said. Rick Rutiz said a lot of what has been on my mind, and that is that when you. . .I'd like you to consider that when you give money to organizations in Hana, you truly are, are giving what can be honestly called seed money because it goes a long way through collaboration, not only among the organizations here in Hana, but collaborations with other people outside of Hana that, that help. As an example, I'm speaking specifically for Hale Hulu Mamo, on behalf of Hale Hulu Mamo, and Hale Hulu Mamo needed to expand its deck because there wasn't enough space for tai chi lessons and some other things that needed to be done in the, in the house, and we were able to get the cooperation of Pacific Source, a building materials supplier on the other side of the island who gave us literally all of the building materials. Rick Rutiz and his, and his gang came and helped. Several contractors here in Hana helped. And, and strictly on a voluntary basis, we were able to expand the deck which, which would have cost ordinarily something in excess of 25 or \$35,000. So it's a County facility and, and you own the deck now that it's done, but it was done without having to ask the County for any money at all. And speaking of Hale Hulu Mamo, I want you to also keep in mind that you're not talking about a place where kupuna go just to enjoy themselves and relax. You know, Hale Hulu Mamo collaborates with a lot of other organizations throughout the year: the hospice people, Legal Aid people come out and give legal advice. There's all kinds of programs going on for

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

information and to help kupuna live their lives better and, and to a fuller extent in their, in their aging years.

And also you helped us, I want to thank you particularly for the grant that we got for the feasibility study for the new senior center and the potential of a senior housing project in Hana. We collaborated with Hale Mahaolu on that project. The feasibility study showed very clearly that it's something that is needed, and we're moving forward now with plans to, to try and make that facility a reality. I thank you for all you do for Hana and thank you for coming here.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Carl. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, again thank you for the stew. John DeMello, followed by Laurie Smith-Kaukini.

MR. DeMELLO: Aloha. Thank you for coming out. Just the mere fact that you drive our road shows us that you care enough to hear what we have to say and our concerns. I represent. . .I'm a Program Specialist with MEO Youth Services, and I want to thank you for supporting our program. I want to just reiterate or reinforce what's said about our community as far as collaboration is involved. I believe we get more bang for the bucks here. Recently with the Kick Butt Day, we had Alu Like and the Hana Youth Center and our, our agency collaborating, and I, I just wanna encourage and ask for your support for all of our youth programs. And whatever you give us, I believe we are creating our future every time we invest in our children. So thank you very much. Appreciate it.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, John. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

MR. DeMELLO: I forgot one thing. My, my youth said remind them that two years ago we were allocated funds for a bus. So the brakes just gave out last week on our bus. So, I saw the dedication of the first one, ours is right behind. Thank you.

ALL: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. They call that just in time. . .*(chuckle)*. . . Laurie Smith-Kaukini, followed by Benny Maile Perry.

MS. SMITH-KAUKINI: Aloha, Council Members. Thank you, again, for being here. I am Laurie Smith-Kaukini and this is Neil Hasegawa passing out these, the DVDs

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

and the letter about what we do and who we represent. We represent the Aloha Festivals here in Hana, and we'd like to thank you for your support throughout the years, and we'd like to ask you to continue your support. I do not want to be in your situation because there's so many people behind of me asking for the same things. Your job is so hard. But if you can find it in the budget to help Aloha Festivals to continue throughout the years, we thank you very much.

Hana Aloha Festivals have been in operation for as long as I can remember when I was a child, and I think it's one of the oldest traditional events here in Hana, and I'd like to see it continue for my grandchildren also. Our . . .this organization really helps the Hana community as far as the . . .to generate funds, you know, monies, to all the organizations, to our stores, to our hotels here in Hana to help boost our econ. . . , economic system in Hana. And also, to all the other, like Taro Festival and all of the stuff, we all try to help to stimulate the economy in Hana. And I think it's a very important thing and it's also a family-oriented event. I'm not sure if any one of you have come to participate in our festival here in Hana 'cause it's a whole week event, it starts from one Saturday to the next Saturday, and in between we have all kinds of activities and events. We have a talent competition, we have Hawaiiana night, we have the luau which ends the whole festivities where everybody comes. After a whole week of planning this event, all the volunteers, we're kind of like all burnt out and this is a great time for us to get together and enjoy the event with everybody else, with our own families. So if you can continue to support Aloha Festivals, I'd really appreciate it, we would. I am the Co-Chairperson for Aloha Festivals and Neil Hasegawa is our Treasurer. So thank you very much.

And just to add, that I really would like to ask for your support for all of the other people who have been up here asking for your support, and especially for the miconia program. 'Cause, you know, I've never seen my Uncle Sam come up in front of people and speak.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

MS. SMITH-KAUKINI: So that means he really loves what he does and when he loves what he does, he means it and he's doing an excellent job. So thank you very much for coming.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?
Member Medeiros?

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Yeah. Just one question, Laurie Ann. The Aloha Festivals used to get State funding. Do you still get State funding other, besides the County funding?

MR. HASEGAWA: Actually, we only get County funding. The funding from HTA, we just had some of that last year, and we're trying to see if we can get more because it is the only weeklong Aloha Festivals event in the whole State.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Right. It used to be where the State created a large fund and then divided it among the islands. They don't do that anymore?

MR. HASEGAWA: We only get the Maui County funds. That's the only funds we get. The State, I guess, forgets that we're here. . . .*(laughter)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. Thank you, Neil and Laurie Ann.

MS. SMITH-KAUKINI: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Just for your information, that the Aloha Festivals basically is funded by, through HTA and, and the money that we receive basically is a pass-through to each of the islands and Hana community. The next testifier is Benny Perry, followed by Joanne Medeiros-Young.

MR. PERRY: Thank you, Members of the Committee. My name is Benny Maile Perry. I am a resident of Hana and Kahului. I was born and raised in this community, and today I represent myself in this presentation. I'm not sure I'm going to get through in the three minutes I'm allotted. So I, I put. . .had organized my thoughts and gave you a written copy.

I want to comment and give input to a project that is currently underway in County Planning and Development. That project "Improvements to Helene Hall", includes the addition of a central air conditioning system.

Committee Members, if it were within my prerogative and power, I would halt the air conditioning work and that is the purpose of me appearing before you today. Adding central air conditioning to this hall would be a waste of good money and forever change the character of this special place as we know it.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

There are far more serious issues pertaining to Helene Hall at the present time which demands a higher priority for consideration than the addition of a central air conditioning system.

Number one on that list should be a replacement roof. The fire-free shakes which were previously installed are cracked and missing in so many places. All you have to do is stand outside and look. There are places where rain water seeps through into the attic space, soaking through the ceiling panels, and puddling on this beautiful cedar floor. You can see where the damage is evident in the ceiling. A similar condition exists in the kitchen area. There is a section under the eaves outside the door to my right where the wood underlayment structure has completely eroded away due to water damage and the undersides of the shakes are exposed. Hana Council Services has pictures.

It is not a simple matter of just replacing the damage or missing shakes. Fire-free shakes that were installed are no longer manufactured, and the Maui source who carried it says the product is no longer available. Secondly, the shakes as they exist on our roof is so brittle and fragile, even the most cautious of footsteps will cause additional cracking and breakage. Additionally, heavy moss growth, encouraged by our favorable inclement weather. . . --(*CHANGE OF TAPE, Start 2A*)-- . . .contributes to the deterioration of the shakes. Where heavier moss growth is evident, overhanging branches contribute to the problem. It is not a simple matter of getting out there and eliminating the culprit branches. One must secure necessary approval from the County Arborist office before such removal can take place.

The air conditioning project is moving ahead as I understand it. This was the result of a request from the people of Hana. However, I have difficulty locating "those people of Hana" among the general population of this community. People I've spoken to about this project have absolutely no idea what is taking place in their name. Further pursuing the issue--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. PERRY: --I did learn that a particular segment in our community did in fact make such a request to address the noise, sound, stage lighting, and warm conditions. I understand my time is up, so I'll. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Benny, for your testimony. We do have it in writing and it's very detailed in what, what I read in regards to Helene Hall, and with this public testimony we'll provide this to the Parks Department to review what is being planned at this time. So, again, thank you for your testimony. And,

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

Members, do you have any questions for Mr. Perry at this time?
Member Kaho`ohalahala?

COUNCILMEMBER KAHO`OHALAHALA: Aloha, Ben. Thank you for bringing this to our attention. Maybe just a . . . everyone understands his, his testimony in the audience? Just by a show of hands, how many of you agree with the idea that he's presenting versus putting an air conditioning in this Helene Hall? Okay. Thank you very much. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you, Benny.

MR. PERRY: Member Pontanilla, if I, I may request some additional time to finish after the others, I, I'd like to do that because I think there are some very important points that need to be heard.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: You can do that, as soon as everybody is through testifying.

MR. PERRY: I'd like to do that. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Joanne Medeiros-Young, followed by Ward Mardfin.

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: Good evening, Council Members. I'm here on a testimonial letter that was written by Patricia Eason. She couldn't, she apologizes for not being here, but I'm going to read her testimonial letter for her.

"I apologize that I won't be testifying in person regarding Hale Hulu Mamo. For many years now, I have witnessed the importance of this organization in the lives of the Hana residents. Before my father's passing on January 22, 2008 at the age of 100, he looked forward to going to Hale Hulu Mamo for visits with friends he had made. He had loved the fact that the people were so caring and friendly. The program included meals, outings, music, dancing, exercising, manicures, pedicures, haircuts, massage therapy, and above all much aloha. All these things made the quality of his life fulfilling and his last days joyful.

Our kupunas and their families have grown to rely on the workers of this organization for support, especially during the week when family members had to work. Sheila, Malia, Shannon, and Tim offer our senior citizens care and love in a family environment. Hale Hulu Mamo fulfills a need for the families of our

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

senior citizens. It is comforting to know that our elders are in a safe and secure place while we are at work.

For the above reasons, I implore you to continue funding the program at Hale Hulu Mamo. It is imperative that the kupunas of Hana District have access to these services which are readily available in other parts of Maui. There should be no cutbacks for programs which serve those individuals who have lived through periods of recession, financial depression, and several wars. We should instead assure them that they will be taken care of in the best possible manner benefitting their station in life. They have so much to offer with their life's experience and cultural knowledge, and should be regarded with deep respect and appreciation. Let's give them what they need -- all the services at Hale Hulu Mamo. I pray that it will be available when I am ready. At age 72, I know that it will be sooner rather than later. . . .(chuckle) . . .

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. I hope your response will be positive. If you have any further questions or would like clarification on any of my statements, please feel free to call me, 248-8441 in the evenings. Sincerely, Patricia A. Eason".

And she's not here this evening, but I believe if you have any questions, I'm quite sure--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Sure.

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: --Sheila was here or someone from Hale Hulu, Rae Lindquist. . . maybe they can answer your questions.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Let me ask the Members. Members, do you have any questions for the testifier? Sure, go ahead. Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Mahalo, Chair. Cousin Joanne, would you be able to leave that testimony with our Staff?

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: Yes, I have--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: --already left a copy with--

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Oh, you did? Okay.

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: --this girl here and also with Sheila.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Great.

MS. MEDEIROS-YOUNG: And I, too, support Hale Hulu Mamo because my father goes there for his daily haircuts and pedicures, and also--he's 94. And also, I really am and we are in full support, please don't cutback the MEO services 'cause we use them, too. . . .*(chuckle)*. . . Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: The next testifier is Ward Mardfin, followed by Chad Avery [*sic*] Kirkwood, also known as "Frog".

MR. MARDFIN: Aloha, Council Members. Welcome to Hana. Thank you for taking the long drive, which I do every other Tuesday in the opposite direction. I'm here primarily because I'm Treasurer for the Hana Cultural Center, and we depend very much on the monies you give us through the arts, cultural and arts grants and we are really appreciative of it. We notice that we're in for the same amount for the 2010 year and we, we hope that that will be able to go ahead full-bore. I want to echo what, both what Rick Rutiz had to say about the collaborative nature of all the nonprofits here in Hana and what. . .Robert Carroll said about them. . .it, it. . .not having too many alternatives out here. The Cultural Center works with all the other organizations. Hale Hulu Mama, Mamo. . .I did tai chi with them today and we did it in the Hana Youth Center. The Hana Youth Center is very important, the Hana Arts are very important. They don't have a production this year, but I've been in five of their productions over the last several years. . . .Now, I'm going to forget. Aloha [*sic*] Makamae, Hale Hulu Mamo, Hana Youth Center, Hana Arts, Hana Cultural Center, Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike--we all work very closely together. And thanks to some leadership from Ray Henderson, we've, we've recently gotten together and gone in with the Hawaii Community Foundation to help get long-term funding. As people give these grants, it can help us. . .all of the nonprofits for the long term. . .and, and that has some hopes, but it won't be tomorrow. We're going to still need the support from the County for quite some time.

I'd like to speak to one other organization that probably won't be mentioned otherwise here, and that's Hui Malama Learning Center. I'm the GED teacher for Hana. Hui Malama pays my salary. I get something like \$20 an hour for two hours a week, so it's not very much money coming in. We meet at the Hana Library on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and over. . .it's been in--I've only been with it for five years, but it's been in operation in Hana for eight years. I

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

went back to the figures, we've graduated 48 students in 8 eight years, including 4 from Keanae and 3 through the competency-based program. That's six, that averages six a year. Hana School graduates something like 30 a year. So we're making an impact here and, and the services are offered to the students here in Hana at no cost, so that encourages them to come.

I'd also like to mention the MEO van services. Now that the dialysis is operating here, there might be a tendency to want to reduce the services, but I hope you don't do that. It's, it provides a valuable line particularly for the senior citizens and by having a bunch of people together, you get older people off the roads and in one vehicle. So you solve some traffic problems as well as making the roads potentially safer.

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. MARDFIN: The only other thing I wanted to say was--so I hope you don't cut that back. The only other thing I wanted to say was I hope you support the Department of Planning and have money in there 'cause we're going through the GPAC process right now, and June 2nd we're going to have the hearing in Hana and we intend to make our 180-day deadline, and there may be need for funds to implement the Department of Planning and Long-Range Planning. And I hope that you'll support that operation. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Chad, Chad Evan Kirkwood, followed by Zach Newton.

MR. KIRKWOOD: Aloha, Councilmen and Council lady. Hi. My name's Frog. I'm the pro skateboarder that Joyce was talking about. I'm from the mainland, Orange County, California. I've been skateboarding for 20 years. I actually took second place in the World Cup at the LA County Fair at the Pomona Fairgrounds. I also have a second-degree black belt in martial arts. That's actually where I started teaching, and I've been coaching kids in skateboarding in . . .and martial arts for the last 15 years, but more skateboarding. I also work at a camp in Pennsylvania called Island Lake. It's a sport and recreation center in Starrucca, Pennsylvania, and this will be my fifth summer. I'm the director of the skate park, and we actually work with about 700 kids. We have 300 staff members and 700 kids. In '95, actually I opened up one of the only wooden skate parks in Orange County. Someone else financed it, but it was pretty much my baby, like I did everything. . .and that went really successful, and then that landed me a job

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

with Vans, the shoe company, and they opened up the world's largest skate park which is a 43,000 square foot, \$5.1 million facility. I was the first manager, had 20 employees. Basically a friend of mine moved out here and bought some property, and I came out to check it out and I fell in love. . .and while I was here, I happened to find out that a sheriff was in town going around asking people to sign a petition to get a skate park. Now where I come from, that doesn't happen. You get either arrested or you get tickets, or you get your board taken away. Cops are not trying to help you out. So, I was, I was somewhat flabbergasted, right. So, I literally moved here from the mainland to help Hana get a skate park--that's why I'm here. I've pretty much been teaching all the kids in the community and I offer free time, and really why I'm coming up here tonight is because I want to make sure if you, we really are getting a skate park, I'd like to know what's the status on it and I would love to offer my service. I mean I have an impeccable record at the camp in Pennsylvania with hardly any accidents whatsoever. And. . .I mean, I'm really passionate about what I do and I love teaching and I love kids, and I just think this would be one of *the* best things that could happen and, you know, it would offer a camaraderie to the kids, not to mention it would keep them active, and I'm actually certified to teach people how to teach. So it's just another plus. I mean this isn't about me, but I would love to be either on the board or on the committee and help out with designing and financing and, and just really be a part of this 'cause it means so much to me. And. . .I know it means a lot to these people, too. So thanks. That's all I have to say.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier?
Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Just a comment. I'd like to thank you. You're the kind of person we welcome to Maui. Thank you.

MR. KIRKWOOD: Oh, mahalo. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for the testifier?
Member Medeiros?

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Thank you, Chair. Thank you for your presence and your testimony this evening. I did ask for your name and contact information, I think which the Staff already has.

MR. KIRKWOOD: Yes.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui**

**April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana**

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: I'll be contacting you and possibly setting up a meeting to get your ideas on it. . .

MR. KIRKWOOD: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: . . .and, and possibly I'm going to talk to our consultant that is already hired to consult on the Hana skateboard park. . .

MR. KIRKWOOD: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: . . .and, and then maybe a meeting together would be a good time to share ideas and information.

MR. KIRKWOOD: Alright. And, you know, that's so cool that you're Bill 'cause. . .you're really a hard guy to get a hold of. I'm been trying to talk to you forever.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MR. KIRKWOOD: Some people in Lahaina told me that you were asking them to help Hana get a skate park, and I'm like, oh, my God, I gotta talk to this guy.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. KIRKWOOD: So, I would love to do that. I'm actually going back to camp on May 23rd, I'm leaving here back to the mainland and I'll be in Pennsylvania from June 1st until the end of August, and then the World Cup will be back in Lake Forest at the Etnies Skatepark.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Uh-huh.

MR. KIRKWOOD: And so my return here will either be at the end of September, early October, but I, I definitely want to get involved and I'll help you guys with whatever you ask.

COUNCILMEMBER MEDEIROS: Okay. And all your travels, just leave us your worldwide cell phone.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(laughter)*. . .

MR. KIRKWOOD: Alright. How about a landline?

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Any more questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much for being here.

MR. KIRKWOOD: Okay. Mahalo, aloha.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Zach Newton. . .followed by John Villiarimo.

MR. NEWTON: Aloha. Aloha, Hana. I go to Hana Elementary, I go to Hana Elementary School. I am. . .I am at this meeting because I really want a skate park in Hana. Skating is one of my favorite things to do, but there are no, but there are not very much places where I can, where I can skate. My mom can't always drive me to Paia, Kihei, Kahului, or Lahaina where there are skate parks. Any kind of skate park for the kids of Hana would be great. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: John Villiarimo, followed by Gilbert Arias.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Aloha, Budget Chair--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Excuse me, John. That John. . . .(chuckle) . . .

AUDIENCE: . . .(chuckle) . . .

MR. VILLIARIMO: That's the problem when get too many Johns. Aloha mai kakou, my name is John Villiarimo and I am the Executive Assistant for Hana Youth Center. Mahalo nui for traveling out to Hana this evening. We always appreciate your attendance and for listening to our concerns. As always, Hana Youth Center would like to thank you for supporting our programs financially, and we ask that you continue to support us and the many different nonprofits, nonprofit organizations in Hana. Because funding is so hard to come by today, Hana has a very unique way in collaborating with one another to create a bigger bang for our buck. Hana Youth Center collaborates with the following on a regular basis: MEO. . .both the Youth Bank and the Transportation, Hale Hulu Mamo, Ohana Makamae, Alu Like YAPP, Ala Kukui, Kahanu Gardens, Hana Arts, Hana Cultural Center, Kipahulu Ohana, Hana Canoe Club, Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike, and Kenny Burgmaier and the Hana Film Fest. In an effort to create a safer environment for our youth, tonight I ask you to look into the possibilities in

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

creating more signage to be posted while coming up the park hill just before the Youth Center, or put in more speed bumps along the, this route. Too often our youth are playing police by shouting at tourists and locals alike to slowdown as they speed past our center. And in the subject with the, the skate park, the other night I was watching Channel 52 and you guys, you folks had a meeting on it, and somebody made a comment about possibly Hana Youth Center can help facilitate the skate park. With funding being so tight, we feel that it wouldn't be feasible, but we definitely have somebody in Hana who could probably be that facilitator. Mahalo again. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, Gilbert Arias, followed by John Blumer-Buell.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

MR. ARIAS: Thank you for being here. My name's Gilbert Arias. I'm here for Big Brother Big Sister. My boys is 9 and 12 years old, and all other keikis on the island look forward to things, functions that are like the Christmas program over on West Maui, the gingerbread building, the paddle boarding in Kihei, we had bowling in Wailuku, the radio control airplane over on. . .off Mokulele Highway, the Hard Rock Café over in Lahaina. And I just wish that and I hope these programs can continue. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: John Blumer-Buell. Members, as soon as Mr. Blumer-Buell provide his testimony, we'll take a ten-minute recess. Go ahead, John.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Thank you for coming out tonight and. . .aloha. I'd like to say mahalo for all the Council and Administration's help with the Hui Laulima O Hana and the dialysis center. And I think the Hui Laulima, the Board of Directors has been meeting and talking about collaborations with Hui No Ke Ola Pono, OHA, other organizations. I think we will need a. . .a modest level of support for several years, particularly for the, the health aids. That's a very basic, very basic component of keeping this service going. I'm going to reiterate a lot of things you've heard, but these are. . .there are so many great collaborations in Hana. And I just want to support Hale Hulu Mamo; Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike; and the skateboard park and I, I'm really glad that Bill's picking up on that and will get that collaboration happening; Hana Youth Center; Ohana Makamae; Hana Arts; Hana Canoe Club; Maui Invasive Species Committee; and the Maui Film--well, I

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

should say the Hana Film and Music Festival. And I think Kenny's looking at a real challenge, those festivals are. . .you're going to have to get very creative with raising money and I think you ought to give, get together with Kenny who's got a lot of experience and say, look, how can we make some of these festivals work when we're short of cash.

I'd like to speak to one of the most important things that hasn't been done in Hana since the 1994 Community Plan, and that the 1994 Hana Community Plan called for. . .to prepare a domestic water system master plan and wastewater system master plan for the Hana region. So that is *way* overdue. It's in the six-year capital program, in 2015. That would make it 21 years after the community had asked for this. This is one of the most important things you could do out here. The Hana Soil & Water District presented this to the County in 2004--I was one of the board members at that time. More than 100 people from Nahiku participated in a survey with Tri-Isle Resource Conservation and Development and we had several. . .we had several health professionals from Hana that wrote letters who were very concerned. So, I would, I would urge you to put the money in there this year, even to get it started, to prepare a domestic water system master plan and wastewater system master plan for Hana region. And part of this was the, the. . .was the concern from the upper Nahiku road coming towards Kaeleku. That's a real important one now--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. BLUMER-BUELL: Okay. If I could just finish with this. I think the Oheo Fire Station should be taken out. I've been testifying against that for at least five years. As you know, every fire station is \$1 million a year, probably. We need to get Haiku done and the. . .that's 3, 3 million plus initially and it'll be \$1 million a year after that. I'd rather see a community center in Lower Nahiku with. . .if we have money for capital improvements. So, mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for Mr. Blumer-Buell? If not, ladies and gentlemen, the Committee is going to take a short recess and we'll reconvene this meeting at 7:40. This meeting is in recess. . .*(gavel)*. . .

RECESS: 7:33 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:44 p.m.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .(*gavel*). . . The Budget and Finance Committee meeting is now reconvened. The next testifier is Mary Elbert, followed by Verlaine Hashimoto.

MS. ELBERT: Mahalo. My name is Mary Elbert and I'm a fairly recent resident of Hana, and this is the most amazing and wonderful place I've ever been and I'm very grateful to be here and be part of this community. It's beautiful, the people are wonderful, the cooperation is marvelous, but it's not the easiest place in the world to live, especially when you're older. And I'm one of those people that Ward has mentioned should not be driving the road to the other side. So, I am very grateful for MEO. I use it often. It's a lifesaver, not only my life, but those people that I might run into if I were driving. That's good. I take advantage of all of the programs because they're so wonderful. Hale Hulu Mamo offers so much to all of us and in keeping us healthy, well-informed. . .just so many things they offer. The Cultural Center has been a real blessing. I've tried to learn as much as I can about the community through them, but the MEO and the Hale Hulu Mamo are just really essential to being able to live a good life in this wonderful community. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Verlaine Hashimoto, followed by Blair Toulouse.

MS. HASHIMOTO: Hello. . .and thank you for coming tonight. My name is Verlaine Hashimoto, and I'm just repeating what everybody else said. I especially came here to support Hale Hulu Mamo and the Hana Youth Center. I love the water aerobics through Hale Hulu Mamo. They got us into water aerobics and it's been a, a blessing and it's been wonderful, and it's a wonderful thing for the kupunas here and to keep us active. And my grandson really enjoyed the Hana Youth Center and he would really enjoy the skate park when he came, when he comes. . . .(*chuckle*). . . And so he comes from Washington and he loves, he loves Hana, and he really enjoyed going to the Hana Youth Center. But we. . .and I enjoy all the programs at Hale Hulu Mamo. Thank you.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Blair Toulouse, followed by Jerry Schwartz.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

MS. TOULOUSE: Aloha, my name is Blair Toulouse, and I want to thank you all for coming here tonight. It's a very hard job that you have, and I appreciate your dedication and your time away from your families. It's precious that you would spend it with me tonight. Thank you. I came up here mostly to talk about the skate park. I'm a mother of two young boys and my husband's a skater also. We all skate. And if my husband skated out here, he would get arrested or get a ticket or get in trouble, and my boys will face that someday, unless there's an opportunity for them to skate safely and freely in this town. I don't live in Hana to drive out to Paia for services. I live in Hana, I rely on the Hana community. We make it happen. You've heard about the collaborations. It's individuals in this town that come forward with their special talents to share, and we want to make this happen. You've heard from Rick, you've heard from other folks. People want to come out and have this happen. I'm happy that Lahaina's getting a skate park--good for them. There's one half an hour away from them in Kihei. If I want to go skating, 2 ½ hour drive on a winding road. Those guys have a straight shot to Kihei, and those are the kinds of things I want you to consider. It's already been mentioned, this is like another island, and I, I don't want to be on the road all the time. I even buy my groceries here for the most part because of the time and the energy it takes to go out, and I rely on this community and I want to see it enriched more and more. So as you're considering your budgets, please remember that these services affect us individuals out here. And it is a small community, but it's a vital community. . .and all of these things that we're working hard to create, they get used and utilized. So thank you again for your continued support of the services in Hana and, and there's not one thing that's been mentioned that I would say no, don't support that. Please, whatever you can do to help us out here to continue these programs, we appreciate it.

And throw us a bone with Pa`ani Mai Park. It's been a *long* time since, what, 2004, '05. You said you were going to do something with Pa`ani Mai and working on it and, and nothing's happened. You can't even park there. There's two swings. We need to create that Pa`ani Mai Park and put some energy into it, even if it's a small skate park, even it's a small swing set--something. Please get that project going. Please utilize the energy and services that people are coming here tonight saying they want to do. Thank you very much.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*) . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you very much. Jerry Schwartz, followed by Bob Getzen.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER (from the audience): I think Jerry left.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

CHAIR PONTANILLA: . . .Bob Getzen?

MR. GETZEN: Aloha, Council Members, and mahalo for coming out. I'd like to also say a big mahalo for your past support. I'm here to represent several organizations. First, the Maui Arts & Cultural Center. . .has an outreach program that's very beneficial to Hana. It brings cultural events to Hana and it supports a. . . --(*CHANGE OF TAPE, Start 2B*)-- . . .we have a Friday school, and this is utilizing the classroom that Rick Rutiz's students have built. And if you haven't been there, you should stop by and see this classroom, it's pretty spectacular.

Also, the Hana Arts provides the art instruction in partnership with this program. So the continued support of Hana Arts is also very important. And, and the Hana Canoe Club has benefitted in the past from your support and we would like your continued support. The Canoe Club is a very expensive operation to run, it's run by volunteers, and Hana presents a big challenge getting to the other side. And this is where that your support of MEO is very important. MEO transports the students to the regattas here in the summer to get 'em to Lahaina and Kihei and Kahului. So that support is also very important.

And then the Hana Film Festival and Hana Maui Fest is a program that helps with the fundraisers for various nonprofits, including Hana Canoe Club and Hale Hulu Mamo and, and some of the other nonprofits. Besides that, you get a lot of benefit because this program is, is seen on statewide and national TV and promotes Maui as a destination and Hana as a destination. So you get a lot of support there. And, again, I realize times are tough, but your continued support is very much appreciated. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .(*applause*). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Jerry Schwartz. Jerry, not here? Ken Martinez Burgmaier, followed by Shawn Kroop.

MR. MARTINEZ BURGMAIER: Aloha, Council Members. A big mahalo for coming out here. I'm a resident, Ken Martinez Burgmaier of Hana and Makawao. And Uncle Boy Kanae is here with us and sends his aloha. He's with us everyday. But me and Uncle Boy, we founded Maui Fest Hawaii seven years ago now and it's been an amazing journey of bringing Hawaiian and Polynesian music, arts, culture and film all for free for our communities in East Maui and Molokai and Lahaina. And I just want to--you know, it's a celebration of Hawaiian and Polynesian music, arts, culture, and film. And bringing the festival to Hana, you

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

know, we strive to bring the highest quality and entertainment all for free to the families here, and we work directly with many of the organizations here, the nonprofits: Ohana Makamae, Hana Canoe Club, the Hana Youth Center, Hale Hulu Mamo, and many others. Everyone. . .it seems like this last couple of years we've been doing it right here at Hana Bay, and every one of them was very magical, we have over 2,000 people that attend it now and it's all for free and it's a huge profit, you know, fundraiser for many of these organizations. And the last several years we even helped Hana Canoe Club raise enough money to buy two new Bradley Striker canoes, which we're really proud of that as well. And, you know, without Ray Henderson and all his ohana and the volunteers who brings all the families, you know, we really want to, you know, tap my hat off to Ray 'cause we couldn't really do it without all the other nonprofits that help us, you know. . .you know, fulfill all these great entertainments that we bring here. And I'd just like to say that, you know, we've had tremendous support from all the families here, the keiki, the kupunas. . .everyone just embraces our festival, and not only here but around the islands. And I just want to say thank you and, Danny, thank you for everything you do with us on Molokai. It's going to be our sixth year for our Molokai Film Festival, and that's always with--Molokai Against Cancer is our theme 'cause Molokai has such a, you know, a high cancer affliction for some reason. So we always work with all the nonprofits there as well.

And just. . .and all the nonprofits and all the organizations here in Hana, please support all of 'em 'cause were all one big hui here, and we just need to continue that. So. . .I guess that's about it. So malama ko aloha, keep the love, and thank you guys for all your hard work. I know you guys work so hard. Okay. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? If not, thank you again.

MR. MARTINEZ BURGMAIER: Okay. Thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Shawn Kroop, followed by Nancy Plenty.

MR. KROOP: Aloha.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MR. KROOP: I'm here to talk about the park, and you've heard a lot of stuff about the park. And so a couple of things I want to point is that from what I understand, the park was originally supposed to be about 10,000 square feet and. . .I heard that it

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

was knocked down to 5,000 square feet. Five thousand square feet won't cut it. The park's going to be very popular and we want to at least be able to have 10, 12 kids enjoying the park at the same time. Five thousand square feet is quite small for a skate park. The skate park in Paia is a minimum 10,000 square feet, the skate park in Kihei is a minimum 10,000 square feet, and the skate park in Lahaina will be a minimum of 10,000 square feet. I also would like to make a point as far as--and I know everyone wants to expedite this--but Paia's had a park for quite sometime and Kahului's had a park for quite sometime; Kihei has had a park for quite sometime; Lahaina's had a couple parks already, now they're getting *another one*. I know this 'cause I've skated at all these parks. I'm 37 years old, I've been skateboarding my whole life. I just came from the North Shore, I was in Oahu, they got a park over there, too, and a really, really nice park. And so I would really like to express that it's time that we have our park. And one thing I'd also like to point out is if you open up the pages of any surfer magazine, you will always. . .if you scan through that magazine, you will find a name in that magazine from Hana, whether it's Hank Gaskell or Monica Byrn-Wickey, or Ola. . .or whoever, and I'm leaving out a few names as well, but the kids in Hana have the worst waves and they're some of the best surfers in the whole State. You guys give us a skate park and we're going to have some of the best skateboarders, too. So give these kids a chance, they can make a career out of skateboarding. They just need a park, they need to be able to keep up with the kids on the other side. So that's, that's what I have to say and I really appreciate you guys listening. And I, I spoke with Mr. Medeiros and we're going to get together and we're going to get some stuff going on here, and the sooner we have something we can start raising money for this something, too, but I cannot go out and raise 10 or \$20,000 because I have nowhere to put that money. It's illegal for me to raise money for the skate park right now because there is no skate park that exist for me to raise money for. So when we can get that ball rolling, we can start getting you guys funding, because there's guys that want to help fund this. There's guys that want to help us out. Tony Hawk Foundation, other foundations. . .it's, it's. . .the ball's in your court right now. You put it in our court and we'll take care of it. So thank you, guys.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

MR. KROOP: Okay. Thank you, guys. Aloha.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Nancy Plenty, followed by Fergus Flanagan.

MS. PLENTY: Aloha.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Aloha.

MS. PLENTY: Thanks for coming out here. I know it's a long, long day for you folks. I'm on the Board of Hana Arts and I'd like to speak on behalf of that organization. I know you're all familiar with it. We appreciate your support in the past. It's a wonderful organization that benefits the community on many levels. Probably one of the most comprehensive programs would be the Friday school program offering arts. . .both drama, dramatic arts, visual arts, music, all kinds of activities. As you know, the arts are the first thing that gets cut from the school budgets, and it's been shown in many studies that arts education benefits student in developing their other skills, their reading, writing, and mathematical skills as well. It's also fun and it gives them a lot of self-confidence and a lot of abilities that are, that contribute to their development. So we also, in addition to the school program, have ongoing programs in the community, arts, education, yoga classes, physical classes, tai chi, things like that that are available to all members of the community for very minimal, if any, cost, and all ages, from very young to our kupunas as well. So, I'd like to ask for your continued support for Hana Arts.

In addition, I would like to put in a word for Ken Martinez Burgmaier and the Hana Festival, the Maui Fest. He's a great guy and he. . .as you heard him say, he, he creates these wonderful events in small communities like Hana and in Molokai where people can, can enjoy first-rate entertainment, films, and topnotch musical productions, and he said that people can enjoy the performances and as well generate income for the nonprofits in the community. So, I'd like to ask for your support for his program.

And one more organization that I've been involved with is Hana Canoe Club, and I know you're all familiar with the wonderful things that they do. And as, as Bob pointed out, it's really challenging for the Hana community to participate in the regattas because they're so far away. So any support that you can give to the Hana Canoe Club to further their, their prowess in the art of the. . .the state sport of canoe racing and the cultural programs that they offer, too. Thank you for your support in the past for all the activities and programs in Hana, and mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again for being here.

MS. PLENTY: Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Fergus Flanagan, followed by Ray Henderson.

MR. FLANAGAN: Good evening, Council Members. Thank you very much for being here. I'm a teacher at Hana School, my wife and I are both teachers there, and I'm also privileged to be on the board of Ohana Makamae with Ray and Sheila and Daisy, who are also here tonight. I also feel very lucky, my wife and I are, are very lucky to live in Hana, it's such a wonderful community, and I know that we're very dependent on the support that you give to our community. And so I want to say thank you to that support, for that support that's been ongoing, and I know it's not easy. I know you have a lot of conflicting priorities, and I just want to say thank you very much. And I also want to say thank you to the community. I've been here eight years, so I'm still somewhat of a newcomer compared to most people here, and just being here tonight listening to what everybody had to say, I just want to turn around and say thank you to everybody. A lot of people have left. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. FLANAGAN: . . .but I want to say thank you to everybody who has spoken here tonight, for making this such a great community. I mean it's so impressive for me to hear all of the wonderful things that people are doing and the time they're spending, and it kind of supports the idea that whatever support you can give to Hana is multiplied because of the cooperative efforts of the people here. So, I think whatever you can do for Hana, it's, it's going to be bigger than what you give us because the synergy here is incredible. So, I want to thank you very much, and two very small personal notes. I do have occasion to ride the MEO bus, and I think it's a wonderful service. I, I use it for occasional medical appointment, things like that, and I know for a lot of the people it is a real lifeline, and so I just hope that the wonderful good news of the dialysis center coming to Hana won't inadvertently lead to a lessening of the MEO bus service because I think it is a lifeline for a lot of very good people.

And then on a smaller note, I've never thought much about skateboarding. . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MR. FLANAGAN: . . .or surfing for that matter, but I have a grandson who's eight years old and he came here at Christmas time and had a wonderful surfing experience with Haboy down at Koki Beach. And he's just taken up skateboarding and he's so excited by it, and it's just going to be a great thing for me, as his grandfather, if he comes to Hana and he can go skateboarding with Frog or whoever is there at

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

the skateboarding park. And so I think it will be a wonderful new addition to the Hana community.

But most of all, I want to thank you folks very much for what you've done for Hana. Have a good night.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again. Ray Henderson, followed by Robin Newton.

MR. HENDERSON: Aloha, Council Members, Council Chair. Grateful for you being here tonight. I stand here tonight representing Ohana Makamae, as I have for the last ten years. Thank you, County of Maui, for your continued support of Ohana Makamae. Our mission ten years ago was to help people in Hana with substance abuse addiction issues, and we've become I think a hub of social service in Hana. We collaborate with everybody you can think of on the other side. We are the site that Maui Mental Health comes and does their visits here twice a month. They use our facilities to do their appointments all day long with the people that have dual diagnosis and mental health issues. Child and Family Services, Maui Family Support Services--they, we basically are the hub of that. I want to echo what Rick Rutiz said and, and all the rest of the people that we do. We leverage every dollar that we get. One note on that is that this year--I was telling Gladys earlier--we were able to take County of Maui money and because we get that, that's in the line-item, we, we went after money that never has come to Hana before from the State Department of Health, which is aid at money. It helps to fund substance abuse services. Even though I feel bad about taking money away from Jud Cunningham at Aloha House, we were able to carve a little piece out, \$180,000 a year for three years to help us, and what that does for me, I don't have to write 13 or 14 grants a year to fund us. I can take the County money, we leverage it against State money, and now we can focus on quality programming and some of the things that are really important. So, I really appreciate and I hope you understand that the leveraging is just outstanding when you can take County money, put it against State money and Federal money.

I want to support all the programs that were talked about here before: Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike, Hale Hulu Mamo, the Youth Center, Cultural Center, Canoe Club, Kipahulu Ohana. There's just so many, we all get together and hui together. A good example is that we bought, we leased this really, really nice Xerox copier, and so we at cost let everyone else use the Xerox copier for their newsletters. But that's just one way I'm saying we're trying to figure out ways that we don't all have to have Xerox copiers and things like that.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

Lastly, I'm grateful for Kenny Burgmaier being here tonight to talk about the, the Hana Fest; Hawaii Fest, the Film Festival. It is one of those events that we do. Each year we get together as the nonprofits and we support that entertainment. We've had the Nevilles here. We've had people that are Grammy award winners playing guitar and saxophone at Hana Bay, and that's just an amazing thing for the people here in Hana. And lastly, we have a Summer Fest that all the nonprofits again hui together, we put on a summer festival all day long just for the community and we make our money from selling food. But it's, you know, those things you've supported and I really appreciate, that you're in a very tough bind this year. But whatever dollar you give to Hana, we'll leverage it. Mahalo.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for Mr. Henderson? Seeing none, thank you again, Ray. Robin Newton, followed by Sheila Agnitsch.

MS. NEWTON: Aloha. Thank you for listening to all of our needs here in Hana. I also am here in support of the skateboard park, and I know it seems like a lot of people came up here tonight. But in my mind for how many skaters and the young people that we have enjoying this sport, that sport, it was actually a small group of people who were able to make it here to speak. And for this, we had a couple of skate jams here that Rick mentioned and there were literally hundreds of kids that attended this, and even I was surprised how many kids were in Hana that are enjoying skating. Unfortunately, we do not even have the sidewalks here and it's not legal to skate in the streets. So our children really don't have a place to go and skate. We've been going to the ball park where there's big signs that say, please, no skating, and they've been kind of, you know, shutting their eyes to allow our children to be there because at least that is off the street, and we put them in their helmets and let them go at it. But, yeah, I just would love to see something expedited as soon as possible, and whatever we can do, just give us the word and we're here to help make that happen. And Jerry Schwartz who wasn't able to speak was also going to be in support of the skate park. . .*(chuckle)*. . .just for the record. So thank you and whatever we can do over here.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you. Sheila Agnitsch. I hope I pronounced your last name right.

MS. AGNITSCH: Close enough, close enough.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Followed by Keoni Darisum, Darisay.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

MS. AGNITSCH: Aloha. And I, too, want to thank all the kupuna that are still here, and thank you all for coming. And, Scott, don't you keep me, keep time. I want to talk about a lot of things, but I'll be real fast.

ALL: . . .(chuckle) . . .

MS. AGNITSCH: First of all, I am Sheila Agnitsch and I'm here for myself and to represent my community and all the organizations that are here. I am the Co-Director at Hale Hulu Mamo, along with Malia Henderson, and we're part of Maui Adult Day Care Centers. And, you know, the Mayor's Budget de . . . , decreased by 5 percent for us. Last year we had 90,000; this year we have 85,500, which we're very grateful for. But, you know, besides--when I looked around here earlier when there was a whole bunch of people here, I counted about 50 to 60 people that utilized our center for some reason or other as a kupuna or as a caregiver. It could be a haircut, lomi lomi--all the different services that we provide at Hale Hulu Mamo. But one of the things that, one of the other things--and we provide all these services, programs, and activities for free to the kupuna and caregivers--one of the things we do above and beyond is our Hana hospice. And, you know, within these last two or three years, it's really hit home with me what a big help that is for the community of Hana. You know, Hana. . .Hospice of Maui, we collaborate with them, and we're able to store in our containers at our center. . .hospital beds, wheelchairs, walkers, we have a designated oxygen concentrator that they service and keep over at the Hospice of Maui. And so we get the phone call, Hale Hulu Mamo, we get the phone call whether it's from the hospital, Maui Memorial Hospital or from hospice letting us know when there, there's going to be a client in Hana. And, you know, just recently we had two kupuna that were in need of hospice care in Hana, and it made me really aware that we only had one hospital bed sitting in our container, we only had one oxygen concentrator, but were able to work this out. And just today alone, we have two hospital beds that are being donated that got picked up and I got to find the room, we're going to find the room to store it in our container so that when our families in Hana need this service, it's right here, you know, they don't have to try and figure out how to get a hospital bed home. So, I just wanted to tell you that that's one of the things we do that's not in our brochure about all the different things we do for Hana. One of the, the main things Hale Hulu Mamo was created for was to create respite for the families of Hana, which we do. You know, we're, we're a place that they can drop off their loved ones and go to work and know that their kupuna will be well taken care of. We also provide support group and workshops for caregivers. Okay, that's Hale Hulu Mamo.

Ohana Makamae. I'm a Board President at their and I'm also a recovering addict, and in October I will have eight years clean, sober, and serene. And. . .

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

AUDIENCE: . . .(applause). . .

MS. AGNITSCH: . . .you know, that. . .if it wasn't for Ohana Makamae, I wouldn't have been able to get clean right here in my own hometown, you know. They have substance abuse counselors, they have. . .today we have a sober living house, you know, we have counseling, they have outpatient treatment, they have a school-based program that's able to help the students who are dealing with substance abuse. We have a thriving recovering community today in Hana, and there's so much more that they provide, Ohana Makamae. They have Keiki Makamae that takes care of mothers, you know, they provide food boxes for them, they do presentations, lunches. So, you know, I really want, want to support Ohana Makamae.

Also, our Hana Youth Center--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MS. AGNITSCH: Okay. *Scott*, be quiet. Okay.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .(chuckle). . .

MS. AGNITSCH: Our Hana Youth Center, all these intergenerational things we do with them, you know. Earlier, Carl Lindquist talked about our expanded porch. Well, it's still too small to do tai chi there. So we've been doing tai chi over at the Hana Youth Center for, for a while now, and we also borrow all their ukulele to have our ukulele lessons with our kupuna. And we collaborate on more than--you know, between Ohana Makamae, Hana Youth Center, and us, we put on a movie in the park every month for the community of Hana. What I like about the Youth Center is my son, he's learning how to set goals. They, they go on field trips, they learn cultural things. They learn how to do service projects in Hana. Okay, moving on.

Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike retrofitting. You all know that they retrofit our kupuna homes, those who now need rails in their showers 'cause they can't, you know, they're unable to. They need ramps because they're now wheelchair bound. So these are the things besides 12 x 12 room spaces, you know, 12 people living in one house. I have a kupuna right behind me who has a beautiful little 12 x 12 room, her own space, because of Ma Ka Hana Ka Ike. They're now doing gardens--you probably heard that.

MEO. I don't drive and if it wasn't for MEO, I wouldn't be able to go to the doctors, and that goes for my mom. Shopping, business. . .you know, there's our families, our kupuna that come, they provide the transportation to and from Hale

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

Hulu Mamo to their homes and also to the meals, congregate meals with Kaunoa. So MEO is such a blessing. I'm sorry I missed the blessing, you know. Thank you for our new van.

Okay. Hui Laulima Ohana.

MR. JENSEN: Five, five minutes.

MS. AGNITSCH: Oh, okay. I want to sing--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: I tell you what--

MS. AGNITSCH: --yay, at last. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: How many more you got?

MS. AGNITSCH: I almost pau.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. AGNITSCH: I going sing first.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MS. AGNITSCH: Hui Laulima. We have Hale Pomaika`i, the grand opening. I want to sing at last because praise the lord, you know, we finally have Hale Pomaika`i in Hana, you know, and I, I rode how many times on the MEO bus with Uncle Blue. Uncle Blue is a changed person. I wish Aunty Anna was here to tell you guys that he is cooking dinner, he--she feels like a queen at home. He's cleaning the house. He's got so much energy because he's not taking this trip. My Aunty Cece, the other client, you know, kupuna that's up there, you know, to see their just relaxed and smiling faces, I mean, you know, I wish you guys could--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay.

MS. AGNITSCH: Okay.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Can you conclude? Because I gotta be fair to everybody.

MS. AGNITSCH: I will right now. I will conclude right now. I also want to support Kipahulu Ohana, Kahanu Gardens, Hana Canoe Club because they provide the cultural education for our schools, university, and youth. And last but not least, Kenny, Hana Film Fest, Hana Cultural Center preserves our history. And I just

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

want to thank you for bearing with me and giving me more than my three minutes. Thank you. . . .*(chuckle)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Keoni Darisay, followed by Kathyne Childs.

MR. DARISAY: Aloha and welcome. Uncles, cousin, aloha. First of all. . .see, I write 'em down 'cause I can talk for one hour. I gave some time to Aunty anyway. Right on, mahalo. . . .*(laughter)* . . .

MS. AGNITSCH (from the audience): . . .*(laughter)* . . .

MR. DARISAY: I going keep 'em da kine. Anyway, mahalo for the dialysis center, what a blessing for all our kupunas and everyone in need. Also, for all the supports that you guys supported for that.

Before I represent Big Brothers and Big Sisters, I work for the Water Department and I always pass by Pa`ani Park--there's a lot of families there, but the parking, no more, maybe only four, five cars and, and it's real narrow, you know. If can make one parking right by that. . .I mean one, at one part--get horses over there once in a while--but just little bit parking at least for the family for go through and one other gate. Instead of the gate being right on the highway, put 'em where the trees are where was going be that skate park or whatever, but give everybody just one safety over there.

Okay. The pictures I passing out is. . .there's five kids in there. About three years ago, Chuck Gray brought it up to my Pastor John DeMello and one, one day after church he asked if I wanted to be a Big Brother Big Sisters. I thought was for appliances. . .*(chuckle)* . . .but it was to be a mentor to one of the boys in school. But I had the chance to go with Chuck Gray to the Hana School and for lunchtime they get. . .and I'm. . .the boy that I was supposed to have, his name is Chauncey--he's in the picture, too--but he went to the mainland. So I told Chuck anytime I'd do another chance. And then had two, had one boy Makai Arias--the father stood here, his name is Gil Arias--and then I had him for a year and then the. . .Makai's brother, Jessie, wanted me for be his big brother, and then Tyren Hoopai [*sic*]. . .anyway Barbara Ann Hoopai's grandson wanted me to--so, I had four and I love it because we go to every event. I just found out who support, the County supports it a little bit and then there's, there's all kind. . .Dowling, you know, everybody. But every. . .there's pictures over that, oh, my gosh, they just, they just light up. And what was interesting to me is being brought up in a big family and not being able for see 'em--and I love kids and everything, I love family--I got to share my mana`o with them, and whether it's ukulele, dancing, singing, or taking them out. And just the, the awesome thing--and kala mai, and I'm not meaning anything--they're haoles and are

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

awesome. I love every, every race. But when they--this was the thing--when he introduced me, he said this is your big brother, and Makai said. . .he looked down at the ground and said, you want to be my big brother? I said, you like me be your big brother, and he said, yeah, and we both looked at each other and we never took our eyes off after that, and it's been three years and, you know, you can be a big sister to somebody. But--

MR. JENSEN: Three minutes.

MR. DARISAY: --I met hundreds of families that are--and so, I support this. And anyway, pictures speak a million words. So, I thank you very much. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you.

AUDIENCE: . . . *(applause)* . . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Kathyne Childs. Kathyne Childs? She here? No. Daisy Lind.

MS. LONO (from the audience): Can I go first and then she--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Yeah, please. Dawn Lono.

MS. LONO: Aloha, Council Members. I don't want to take a lot of your time. I know you've had a *very* long day today. But I have a written report here.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. LONO: And there's copies for the rest. But the main thing I wanted to discuss was this building and the other buildings that the County owns in Hana. And it looks like it's a stable structure, but I went on a very extensive tour of this building thanks to Stanley and Benny--and not everybody has the pictures; I didn't have enough time to print out enough copies. But we are in a serious need of a new roof. And if you look up here, you can see where the water is coming through right up in the ceiling right there and puddles on this floor, and we have a river that runs down this floor and out that door when it rains. And if we don't take care of our structures, maintenance-wise, we're not going to have 'em, and this is all we have in Hana. We've never gotten new structures and we need to take care of the ones we have. And it's not the. . . just this building, it's also the Hana Preschool, you can see by the pictures that we have *serious* roof leaks in that building. . . --*(CHANGE OF TAPE, Start 3A)*-- . . . is affecting the integrity of the structure. So we need to take care of them. I'm concerned that we don't have a

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

maintenance plan for our building, and I don't know what the County Administration is doing and how they look at these things, but we need a maintenance plan where you have, you know, weekly, monthly, annually, and every five years, you know, and we don't have that for any of our buildings. I have never seen it. So we have our structures up there where the Youth Center and all of that is, where my office is, your office is, and that building has some issues also. We finally got a half-time maintenance person, that's Uncle Benny Perry, who spoke earlier. He's doing a great job, but there's no way that one half-time person can keep up with the general maintenance of these structures. So please, if there's anything you can do to get some funding in for our roofs or else we are going to lose the integrity of these structures and we won't have them anymore. So thank you so much. Thank you for being here today--

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you.

MS. LONO: --I know it's been a long day for you all. Mahalo.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for Dawn? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Daisy Lind, followed by Benny Perry.

MS. LIND: Look at all of piula, yeah. Well, I came here to thank you folks for all the work you did for Hana, for the community especially, and you've probably seen my every time you came over here. This kupuna still like talk.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

MS. LIND: Well, anyway. . . I need to thank you folks for Hale Hulu Mamo, we really use it, and for Ohana Makamae, the Youth Center. The community use all of that. But I need to thank you and, and say good night because you have a long trip to go home, and God bless you all. I thank you again.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any questions for the testifier? Seeing none, thank you again.

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Benny.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

MR. PERRY: Again I am Ben, Ben Perry. Thank you for allowing me to come back. I realize my presentation was quite lengthy and I practiced several times, but I couldn't, could not get it in three minutes. But you have my, my written testimony and I think I covered all of the points that I wanted to. But my other objective was to make the members of our community aware of what is happening in their name, and I, I think I accomplished that purpose this evening.

In my--I'm going to gloss over this--in my presentation I said something about the upper bank of windows, and I'm talking about those up there. The jalousies speak for themselves and, and the roof. And in all sincerity, I hope you consider this my presentation over the addition of something that I think is not really necessary at this point in time. If more air is needed to cool down this facility, look overhead, we have two banks and this was calculated to accommodate a room this size. However, we have room to add three more banks, if necessary. Some, there was some concern about back in the stage area. There's room for wall-mounted fans.. So that should address the warm conditions.

As far as the noise and noisy complaint, I get one word--or maybe little bit more--deal with it. It's only a temporary thing, not permanent. But I, I also wrote something else that. . .as a suggestion.

The public address system, that will speak for itself. I'd like just to summarize that the people who planned and had this building built did a good job. This building has served this community for over 50 years now and I was just a little kid when they were building it. But this building will be here long after I'm gone, with or without the air conditioning system. And as one of my friends was telling me this evening, I never know was going get air conditioning in here. The ehukai going eat it up. And I said, yeah, but it's not for me to say. Mahalo for taking the time to come out and share with us, but also for allowing me to share my thoughts with you. Thank you very much.

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Members, any more questions for Mr. Perry? Thank you again, Ben. Nice seeing you. . . .*(chuckle)*. . .

AUDIENCE: . . .*(applause)*. . .

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR PONTANILLA: Members, that's. . .Ben was the last testifier this evening. I just want to say thank you very much, people of Hana, for coming out and providing us with your public testimony so that we can do a better job in regards to creating the 2010 Budget. As I spoke earlier, you know, the County is faced with an issue

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
Council of the County of Maui

April 6, 2009
Helene Hall, Hana

with the State Legislature in regards to the transient accommodation tax. If that's taken away, then we'd need to make some adjustments to the Mayor's proposal.

Again, I just want to say thank you for coming out. And to the Members, thank you for being here. Staff, thank you again. So good night, people of Hana. Members, tomorrow morning we'll meet at 10 o'clock. This meeting is now adjourned. . . .(gavel). . .

COUNCIL MEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS. (excused: JJ, WN, and MV)

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 8:29 p.m.

APPROVED:


JOSEPH PONTANILLA, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

bf:min:090406-Hana

Transcribed by: Tammy M. Frias