

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

April 9, 2014

Paia Community Center, Social Hall

CONVENE: 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Mike White, Chair
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Member
Councilmember Elle Cochran, Member
Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr., Member
Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Member
Councilmember Don S. Guzman, Member (In 6:34 p.m.)

EXCUSED: Councilmember G. Riki Hokama, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Robert Carroll, Member
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino, Member

STAFF: Carla Nakata, Legislative Attorney
Erin Fleming, Legislative Attorney
Tammy Frias, Committee Secretary
Raynette Yap, Committee Secretary

David M. Raatz, Director, Office of Council Services
Troy Hashimoto, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White
Spencer Lau, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Mike White
Arthur Suyama, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Stacy Crivello
Susan Clements, Executive Assistant to Councilmember Donald G. Couch, Jr.

ADMIN.: Roderic Wade Antone, Executive Assistant I, Office of the Mayor
Robert W. Parsons, Administrative Assistant II, Office of the Mayor

OTHERS: Prism Reinier, Member, Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Caylie Peterson, Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Nicholas Brunner, Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Chloe Cohen
Trysten Pitts, Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Maurice Bajon, Unit Director, Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Morgan Leeks, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Kaya Glomb, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Ryder Jalbert, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Malcom Mason, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Taona Fiederer-Sheppard, Paia Youth & Cultural Center

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Casey Hearl, Vice President, Best Buddies
Maya Ooki, Treasurer, Best Buddies
Keoni-lei Nakila, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Underage Drinking Prevention Program)
Annalise Howell, Best Buddies
Jamee Howell, Best Buddies
Nicholas Howell, Best Buddies
Justin Ma`alea, Student, Hui Malama Learning Center
Michael Trusty, Student, Hui Malama Learning Center
Thomas C. K. Lum, Jr., Teacher, Hui Malama Learning Center
Anna Ade, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Jean Ade, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Kylie Takushi, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Underage Drinking Prevention Program)
Louise Corpuz, President, ILWU Pensioners Club
Barry Rivers, Festival Director, Maui Film Festival
Miyoko Kim, Director of Veterinary Services, Maui Humane Society
Jerleen Bryant, Director of Development, Maui Humane Society
Jennifer Chirico
Joshua Levenson, Math Teacher and Facilitator, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Duane Kim, Maui District Manager, Harbors Division, State Department of Transportation
Ka`iulani Spencer, The Maui Farm
Betsy Sears, The Maui Farm
Jennifer Hunt, The Maui Farm
Paula Ambre, Executive Director, The Maui Farm
Brianna Demello, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Head Start Program)
Marnie Cabral, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Head Start Program)
Dyan Todd, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Head Start Program), and Boys & Girls Club of Maui
Jay Penniman, Manager, Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project
Richard Lucas, Program Manager, Friends of Old Maui High School
Leinaala Romkee, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc.
Helga Fiederer, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Gerry Ross, Maui Coffee Association; Hui Malama Learning Center; and Maui Invasive Species Committee
Christina Anderson, Clinical Director, Maui Youth & Family Services
Les Skillings, Maui Economic Development Board; and Maui School Garden Network
Lehn Huff, Coordinator, Maui School Garden Network
Kyla Barker, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Jeffrey Henderson, Paia Youth & Cultural Center

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Jennifer McGurn, Administrative Assistant, Maui Humane Society
Rose Potter, Director, Paia Town Association
Cristiane Martins, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Mike Foley, President, Makawao Community Association
Angela Montilliano, Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. (Core Four Program)
Dolores T. Bio, Board Member, Heritage Hall
Nancy Johnson, MSN, APRN, Professor, University of Hawaii Maui College
Joseph Breman, President, International Underwater Explorations
Richard Pohle
Marcy Martin
Jashana Kippert
Susan Stanton
Yamuma Joelle Rebollar
Robert K. Tew
Makena Calvert
Lionel Mayell
Janine Calvert Biagi
Manya Reinier
Link Reinier
Netra Halperin
Aimee Anderson, Board Member, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to
Animals (“SPCA”) Maui
Dawn Hall, Executive Director, Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation
Ben Bland, Captain, Department of Fire and Public Safety
Zak Pacholl, Club Director, Boys & Girls Club of Maui (Makawao)
Debbie Redd, Field Supervisor of Animal Control, Maui Humane Society
Tricia Calhoon, Garden Coordinator, Maui School Garden Network
Hannah Bernard, President, Hawaii Wildlife Fund
Alec Stewart
Veronica Lomeli
Adrienne Laurion, Paia Youth & Cultural Center
Daniel Boren
Rachel Nielsen, Maui Humane Society
Elijah Nielsen, Maui Humane Society
Joslin Nielsen, Maui Humane Society
Karen Chun
Nikhilananda
Elaine Ryan
Additional attendees (30+)

PRESS: *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

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**ITEM BF-1: PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET FOR THE COUNTY
 OF MAUI (CC 14-31)**

CHAIR WHITE: ...(*gavel*)... Good evening. Good evening and welcome to the public hearing for Paia. It looks like we've got a great crowd tonight. We've got quite a number of testifiers and actually I didn't get the count to see whether we need to limit the timeframe... Troy?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We can't hear you.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay. Where's the controls? You got the controls.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: It's on.

CHAIR WHITE: Can you hear me alright if I speak directly in to it? Okay, we have about 54 testifiers this evening and we have the ability to take a vote and limit it to two minutes instead of our normal three to start with and an extra minute to finish up if you need it. So I would just ask that everyone try to make their points and let others have time. I would rather not limit it to two minutes each because I know most of you come here having already tested what you have to say to keep it within the three minute timeframe. So with the understanding that you all say what you need to say and then let others have their time as well, we will keep it at the three minutes with one minute to conclude. So with that... do we need to turn this up at all do you think?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yup.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay. Can we... is that better? It doesn't sound like it. I get complaints that I'm too soft spoken.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Oh, much better.

CHAIR WHITE: And I only yell at home. My wife is cringing. But anyway this evening we have with us our Council Chair Gladys Baisa to my far right. And Don Guzman will be joining us shortly and next to Don Couch or in between the two Don's, Stacy Crivello from Molokai, Don Couch from South Maui, and Elle Cochran from West Maui, and Riki Hokama and Mike Victorino are on the mainland doing business with the national organization of counties and they will be returning I believe on Monday. And Bob Carroll is also excused and we're hoping that he'll be joining us as soon as possible. And to introduce our staff, first we have Carla Nakata, in the pink dress and our Secretary in training, Rayna Yap, and Tammy Frias our Secretary, and starting at the sign-in table we have Troy Hashimoto from my office, Spencer Lau also from my office, and near the computer is Erin Fleming, one of our attorneys, and where did Art Suyama go?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Over here, on the side.

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CHAIR WHITE: Oh, there we are, and we have Art Suyama from Stacy's office, and Susan Clements from Don Couch's office. So with the announcements out of the way we'll get right in to the testimony. This is going to be a very challenging budget for us. There's significant increases in taxes and very significant increases in expenses, mostly driven by the salary and wage increases that have been passed in the last six months or so. Well by both the County and the State. So as we normally do, we give preference to the elders and the youngins and allow them to come up and testify first and then we'll get in to the remainder of the testimony. So our first testifier from the Boys and Girls Club is Prism Reinier and he will be followed by Caylie Peterson. And just as a side note, I'm calling the following names so that if you're in the back of the room you can please work your way forward just to keep the timeframe moving along nicely. Alrighty, are you Reinier?

...BEGIN PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

MISS REINIER: Yes.

CHAIR WHITE: Go ahead.

MISS REINIER: Okay. Hi, my name is Prism Reinier of the Haiku Boys and Girls Club. 100 percent. You might be wondering why I'm saying 100 percent. I am saying 100 percent because that is how much the BGC helps me in my everyday life. It helps me with my future, my further goals, and it has a bunch of programs like LIT, Youth for Unity, College Bound, and many more, but that would be way more. So yeah, thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. And Caylie will be followed, well I won't, since I'm assuming you're all in line I'll let you just keep going.

MISS PETERSON: Hi, my name is Caylie Peterson and I'm a sixth grader at Kalama Intermediate. I've been going to the club for two, for about two years now and it has really changed my life. I was bullied for what I wore, but at the Boys and Girls Club I learned to express my individual self. It taught me not to change myself due to people's negative comments and how I looked. They helped me realize I am who I am and who I will always be. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Caylie. Nicholas?

MASTER BRUNNER: Aloha, my name is Nicholas. I am currently a fifth grader at Haiku School. I am also the Treasurer and read at a ninth grade level. After school I go to the Haiku Boys and Girls Club. I'm currently participating in a new program called LIT or Leaders in Training. In this program they train you to be a junior staff and you're treated with the same respect as the staff and you also have the same responsibilities. It prepares you for a real job and gives you

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some experience so you can have a higher chance of getting a job when you apply in the real world.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Nicholas. And you must be Chloe. Okay, go ahead.

MISS COHEN: Hi, my name is Chloe and here's what I do at the Boys and Girls Club. There are games, movies and where there are problems the staff fix it very well. If there wasn't a Boys and Girls Club I would have to deal with A+. I like all of the staff the same way. I think they are terrific. One thing I really like is we all participate in raising money for the club. The thing that I'm most proud of being most responsible on the soccer league because I'm the only person who has not missed a practice or game ever and they made me that responsible. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Good job, Chloe. And you must be Trysten.

MISS PITTS: Aloha, my name is Trysten and I am a, I have been a proud member of the Haiku Boys and Girls Club for almost two years. The Club has helped me improve myself in everything I do in my daily life. I have come to this hearing for this club three times before today and each time I gave a speech. Some of the programs at the club that helped me the most are Life Skills, Youth for Unity, Money Matters, and Girls Club with Aunty Joy where we learn how much everyday supplies cost, common sense, different countries and their traditions, how to write checks, deposits, and withdrawals and also how to handle being a girl at my age. There is also LIT and College Bound with Krystal. In LIT we get a chance to work at the Haiku Boys and Girls Club on an internship with no pay but it pays with experience, knowledge, and leadership training. In College Bound we research colleges that would support what we wanted to do when we were older. To be in College Bound you have to be in middle school but it's still very helpful. We have soccer and outdoor rec with Marie _____ which is always fun and great exercise. Stars Club, Sewing Club, and Fashion Club with Rosie where we learn how to sew, design, style, and model accessories and clothing, these are the programs run by all the amazing staff members at the Haiku Boys and Girls Club where everyone is a big ohana. Mahalo for listening County Council.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you Trysten. And next we have Maurice Bajon.

MR. BAJON: Good evening County Council. Thank you for allowing me to speak in front of you today. Another year, another speech asking for a budget increase, basically I want to tell you what's going on at the club like every year. We're on track to have 300 members for our fourth year in a row and our average daily attendance for our fourth year in a row is over 100 kids during a school year and over 65 kids during the summer and school breaks. Our building is very near its capacity, it's getting to be outdated when we have days where we have 120 kids at the club but the staff managed to make it all organized and keep everybody safe but we're definitely... the needs of our community are growing and we need to grow with those needs. From what I understand we're consistently the lowest funded youth center on Maui and I think

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it's time to maybe revisit our particular budget and see that Haiku is definitely in need of more funding. BGC has been supplementing the gaps every year, the gaps in the budget, but it's getting tougher and tougher and it's the toughest job that we have as managers of these clubs is to keep staff. We have very dedicated, very well trained staff who generally care about every member who walks in through our door as our young citizens already told you. We have staff that have been working at our club for 14 years, we have staff that have been with us for over three, we have staff who worked for a year, left to start an orphanage in India and came back and took a less paid position just to work with our kids. But what we need to do with this funding that we're getting is make sure that we retain the staff, that they don't go work in a hotel, they don't go off island and start a family in Oregon because it would just be a shame if we lost these people. So I ask you kindly to increase your budget for this year so we can keep these people working and doing what they love to do. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Maurice. Our next testifier is Morgan Leeks, followed by Kaya Glomb. I'm not sure if I got the... Kaya's last name correct.

MASTER LEEKS: Good evening, my name is Morgan Leeks and I've been a member at the Paia Youth and Cultural Center for about four years now. I joined on my ninth birthday. I consider the PYCC a second home because I go there just about every single day that it's open. Mainly I am active in the cooking program and we get to explore lots of different cooking techniques and it's really kept me interested for a long time there. I do Photoshop projects with Pete and I used to have my own radio show on the radio. We go to amazing field trips all around the island. I think that we've all learned a lot over the four years that I've been there. The Youth Center acts like a shelter for kids to keep them out of trouble and by helping them make decisions and keep them out of potentially dangerous situations. The Youth Center is a social club for the youth from all around the island. We're asking you to support our Youth Center because it would not, I would not know what to do without it.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Morgan.

MISS GLOMB: Hi, I'm Kaya and I've been going to the PYCC for five years and I've been on the radio for that long too. The Youth Center keeps kids out of trouble with their fantastic activities. The Youth Center to me is filled with learning and fun. If I didn't have the PYCC I would not have the greatest friends in the world, our great relationship with the staff members. So please support the Youth Center so that lots of other kids can grow up here.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Kaya. And are you Malcom?

MASTER JALBERT: Ah no, I am not Malcom but my name...

CHAIR WHITE: What's your name?

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MASTER JALBERT: Ryder.

CHAIR WHITE: Did you sign up?

MASTER JALBERT: Ah, no.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, the next...

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Alright, um...

CHAIR WHITE: Let me just, let me just ask him a quick question.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Ryder, Ryder, you're wanted, man. They want you. You're popular, man.

CHAIR WHITE: Do you, the question I have for you is do you support the Paia Youth Center?

MASTER JALBERT: I do.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. So are you Malcom?

MASTER MASON: Yeah, so I'm Malcom.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, and the next one will be Casey Hearl. Please proceed, Malcom.

MASTER MASON: Okay, so hello my name is Malcom Mason. I am 15 years old and I have been attending the Paia Youth and Cultural Center for about six years now. The PYCC, it's a wonderful place for children and teens to just hang out in a positive environment and not necessarily have to worry about making the right choices because with the staff and all of your peers you know, you're always provided with encouraging words and kind of yeah, encouraging environment. But without the PYCC I wouldn't be the same person that I am today and the PYCC has taught me important values and life skills that I use every day. If you would consider improving funding I think it would benefit the entire town of Paia because if the PYCC was further funded, the organization would be able to cope with more children and their needs and keep kids off the street and from getting in trouble.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Malcom. Did you...

MASTER FIEDERER-SHEPPARD: I am Taona, I am representing the PYCC and I have to say that the PYCC just as it's mentioned in the title, it's a Youth Center that brings culture together and I wouldn't know half the people I would know without the Youth Center and I think it's very important for future generations to experience that glamour. Thank you very much.

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CHAIR WHITE: Okay, thank you. The next testifier is Casey Hearl, followed by Maya Ooki.

MISS HEARL: Hello, my name is Casey Hearl and I am a sophomore at King Kekaulike High School and I am the Vice President of our Best Buddies program. Best Buddies is a program that focuses on inclusion and one to one friendships with students with special needs. Best Buddies is truly an amazing program and it changes people's lives. We have monthly parties and they're so much fun, we dance, and we eat, and we just hang out and it's always a really great time. I love hanging out with my buddy Alicia and she always brightens my day and whoever joins Best Buddies, their lives will truly change by this program. So I ask you to please take in to consideration Best Buddies in your Mayor's Budget. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Casey.

MISS OOKI: Hi, my name is Maya and I am also in Best Buddies at Kekaulike, I am our club's Treasurer and my buddy's name is Sky. We met last year during my Freshman year and we've been buddies ever since. During recesses and lunches we like to hang out and sometimes I'll sing for him while he dances or I'll play the piano while he dances or we'll both dance. And so with Best Buddies I wouldn't have met half the people in that program without you just going around at all the different events that we have. It brings our community together with all of the different events that we have with the chapters all over our island. And so I really hope you think about Best Buddies tonight because I want Sky to be in this program for as long as he can. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you both for what you do. It's a great program. Our next testifier is Kylie Takushi, followed by Keoni-lei Nakila. Kylie Takushi?

MISS NAKILA: Hi, I'm Keoni Nakila but Kylie's not here right now.

CHAIR WHITE: Oh, okay.

MISS NAKILA: So I go to Kalama Intermediate School, I am in the eighth grade and I'm fourteen years old. I'm with the MEO Underage Drinking Prevention Program. I've been with them for like about two years. Through MEO I got to go to Camp Hope where I got to learn how to make poi. I also went to Oahu where I met some kids from other islands and we got to sticker shop and we were on the news where we got to talk about underage drinking prevention and being a jerk. Over spring break we painted a mural in Paia, we got to be in videos and work with *Akaku* and youth from other schools. I am now in leadership training where we meet every Tuesday. Yesterday we got to plan some of our summer activities. If it wasn't for MEO I'd probably be at home being bored in my room. Thank you for listening and supporting MEO.

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CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for your testimony. Our next testifier is Annalise Howell, followed by Jamee Howell.

MS. HOWELL: Hi, I'm representing Best Buddies, my son is, wants to say a few words, he can't come up with the whole speech but, are you ready? No? Okay, well I'll start. I'm Nicholas' mother and I want to share with you the unique value and importance I believe the Best Buddies program has on our community. Best Buddies nurtures and embraces not just one but two very important demographics. Best Buddies is not just about helping the intellectually challenged population feel accepted and validated through activities and support which is of course a valiant and noble cause, but Best Buddies teaches a core value that all of our children today need to learn desperately, and that is humility. The wonderful Best Buddies student volunteers that I have met from both King Kekaulike and Seabury are already embarking on a remarkable experience. They are learning humility and compassion for their fellow humans. These young people are embracing something that will carry with them through adulthood which will enrich their perspective on tolerance and acceptance in a society laden with oppositional challenges. I can't say it enough, but this key characteristic is a monumental accomplishment for young people today in our global Internet influenced generation. I applaud the value the Best Buddies program brings to our world, a beautiful and important opportunity for the greater good. My son has both Asperger's and Autism and he says he doesn't learn like others. He told me, mom, it's like Lady Gaga says, I was born that way. He just doesn't process things the same. This has kept him separated from the other students that he wants to engage with, his friends. Best Buddies has given him an opportunity he can learn and grow from, an environment that allows him to feel accepted and not ignored. He can feel genuine interest and engagement from his Best Buddy pals and loves spending any time they get together to do things from dancing to hiking. Please support the Mayor's Budget request for Best Buddy. Here is my son Nicholas. He's just going to say a few.

CHAIR WHITE: You can feel comfortable, Nicholas.

MASTER HOWELL: Um, is this thing on? Ah, my name is Nicholas and I like going to Best Buddies dances and activities and please let Best Buddies keep running on Maui.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Nicholas.

MASTER HOWELL: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Our next testifier is Justin Ma'alea, followed by Michael Trusty.

MASTER MA`ALEA: Aloha, my name is Justin Ma'alea and I am 15 years old. I have been attending Hui Malama Learning Center for about three years and I am in the high school program. I came to Hui Malama because I got in to trouble in my old school. Hui Malama is important to me because if I weren't here I would be at my old school still getting in to trouble. Something I

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enjoy and I'm learning at Hui Malama is how to play rugby. Our rugby coach, coach's name is Jack Breen. He volunteers to teach us how to play rugby. Coach Jack not only teaches us how to play rugby but he teaches us how to, he teaches us the history of rugby and how important teamwork is. Coach Jack is also trying to help me to go to New Zealand to experience practicing with a team he knows there. At Hui Malama I'm also learning more about Hawaiian culture and science and about things like showing respect to other people, it's good for, to know my only chance and how to speak Hawaiian because then I can share my culture with the next generation. I also thought it was interesting to learn about our water supply and how it is diverted to different places and how that affects our taro patches, fishes, and other stream and ocean life. The lessons I learn at Hui Malama will help me to get ready for my future. I would like to someday join the Navy, own my own company or work construction. Math, science, and PE will help me in all of these jobs. The nicest thing about Hui Malama is the teachers and staff because they tell us important messages we need to hear like try our best and not give up, do not be a follower, be a leader and eat healthy food. We always eat healthy snacks, breakfasts, and lunches. It's important for my classmates and...

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MASTER MA'ALEA: ... me to hear these messages because some of us don't hear these things outside of school. Thank you for supporting Hui Malama, if you didn't support my school I wouldn't be here right now. Mahalo once again for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Justin. And Michael will be followed by Thomas Lum.

MASTER TRUSTY: Aloha, my name is Michael Trusty. I am a high school student at Hui Malama Learning Center in Wailuku. I like Hui Malama because learning at the public school that I went to before wasn't as fun as compared with Hui Malama. We go on a lot of excursions and do exciting activities like playing rugby for PE class, going to different places around Maui, learning history, and about the many purposes and uses of local plants. Sitting in a classroom all day was boring for me. I learn better outside by experiencing things like working with my hands and doing projects. Hui Malama Learning Center is important to me because I can get my GED and go to college. I also interviewed for and was selected to do an internship at Goodfellow Brothers over the spring break. At school I'm learning the Hawaiian language and culture which is important because I am helping to keep the Hawaiian culture alive for generations to come. I'm learning how to grow and harvest taro, pronounce and speak the Hawaiian language, chant, and much more, and I am proud and happy to do these things even though I do not have Hawaiian blood. Kumu Ko'i has even chosen me to be the alaka'i for our morning oli. Hui Malama will add an achievement to my life by helping me get out of school two years earlier than an average student and go to college. My dream job is to be a cyclist tour guide showing people around our island on mopeds to visitors. This will help me save up money to get my first vehicle, a Kawasaki Ninja 300 sports bike. The nicest thing I can say about Hui Malama is that we are trying hard to learn but we're all having fun learning together and with our teachers and

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mentors. Thank you for supporting Hui Malama Learning Center, it really means a lot to me and my classmates.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Michael. And Thomas will be followed by Anna Ade, I'm not sure of which pronunciation, please proceed.

MR. LUM: Aloha mai kakou and a lehulehu o ka aina hoio Paia aloha ahiahi kakou. Good evening to everybody here, Council members . . .*(spoke in Hawaiian)*. . . Hui Malama Learning Center. My name is Ko`i or as my students they call me Kumu Ko`i and I'm a teacher at Hui Malama. I'm known as a Hawaiian studies teacher, Kumu. My area of teaching is papa oli, Hawaiian chanting and our protocol, papa mahi`ai, gardening, papa olelo Hawaii, Hawaiian language, as well as papa mo`aukala Hawaii and dealing with Hawaiian history and stuff like that. So I really have the pleasure and honor of teaching our kids here, and the gentleman that was speaking first, Justin Ma`alea is a really, really, really shy individual so it takes a lot of courage you know to come up here. In our morning protocol when we start off the day is we stand in the front and they present themselves in the front of the teachers and they ask for permission before coming on to school campus and when we listen to just what they have to share and we agree and we confirm yes you may come and learn today. It sets the tone for our students at Hui Malama Learning Center and from there we just encourage them and give them hope and through some of the activities that we conduct ourselves in, particularly one of the activities is like we ku`i kalo, we pound taro. That's like the carrot you know, because we you know like Kumu, eh I'd like to learn how to pound poi or eat poi yeah? And I say okay we can do that, so we had a wonderful event out in Maui Ag Fest and the one thing I'd like to highlight on this is olelo no`eau and it specifically says . . .*(spoke in Hawaiian)*. . . and with that in that saying is basically he who takes his teachings and applies it tomorrow, yeah, increases his knowledge and my hope for our haumana or my students is for them to prepare today for tomorrow. And mahalo nui a ko . . .*(spoke in Hawaiian)*. . . and I really appreciate for your continued support for our school, aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: Aloha, Thomas. Anna will be followed by what looks like her sister Jean, is that correct?

MISS ADE: My mom.

CHAIR WHITE: Oh, your mom, okay. Please go ahead.

MISS ADE: Okay. My name is Anna, and these are my friends Maddy, Kate, and Rolly and we are here for PYCC and we support it 'cause it's a great place for all of us 'cause we all get to like hang out together and PYCC, they do fun things with us and they take us on all these awesome places to go and all the staff they're just really nice and they're caring and they listen to your problems and they try to help you fix them and they're really nice because they communicate with you a lot and we get to, and we learn a lot there 'cause we do all sorts of things and we learn

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how to use technology and we learn like our math and our better skills and we, they're just really supporting people. And they're all really nice and we get to like we do the radio and they make sure we all know what we're doing and they're just really nice people, so yeah.

CHAIR WHITE: Great job, Anna. And it's like, my mom.

MS. ADE: Hi, I'm Jean Ade and I'm here for PYCC. I just want to say I've never seen any Youth Center like PYCC anywhere.

CHAIR WHITE: Could you get a little closer to the microphone please.

MS. ADE: Oh, okay.

CHAIR WHITE: Sorry.

MS. ADE: Oh, Anna had tipped it down but, I've never seen anything like PYCC. It is just rich in resources for the kids. There's no sign, you know there's no you need to be here at a certain time or leave here at a certain time. The staff there is incredible and what they do is when kids come in and they want to, they have an interest, I think the staff is 100 percent behind them in finding an interest, I mean in supporting them in their interest. They have the radio station, the cooking program, the Malama Pono project which ties them, it gets the kids outside and involved and attached to this island and learning to care for it and be responsible for it. They promote a lot of volunteer work with the kids and I think just the variety, I mean the kids that come in, they're from all different kinds of backgrounds, different socioeconomic, ethnicity, everything I mean it's just so, it's so multicultural and all different levels and these kids are learning just how to do so much together and what it is is, it's like...

CHAIR WHITE: You need to stay by the microphone.

MS. ADE: Oh, sorry. I'm one of those, I'm not Italian either. Anyway, but it's like this group of kids it's going to go on and do great things. They just have super confidence in themselves, there's so much available there. It is the best thing that you could ever put your money into for the future of this island is this program and these kids and that's it.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Jean. And we're back to Kylie Takushi, has she arrived? Kylie Takushi, okay our next testifier is Louise Corpuz followed by Barry Rivers.

MS. CORPUZ: Good evening, this is Louise Corpuz, I have to apologize because I really wanted to be at the Budget Hearing in Pukalani but when you get young you forget so when I went to the PNCC I was reminded Budget Hearing but I'm here to say on behalf of the MEO, Hale Mahaolu Board of Directors, and the ILWU Pensioners Club, we want to thank all you Councilmen, the Mayor, and everybody in the County building, a very big thank you for helping us with the

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Budget on this island and MEO has really helped all the people on Maui in every way and means with dialysis, good health, shopping, and everything. So we really we need a lot of support for our MEO and also our Hale Mahaolu the Board of Directors, giving us assistance to make more affordable buildings and much thank you for the ILWU Pensioners Club because we can't bring in all the cars in to the parking lot when we have a meeting and believe it or not, the ILWU Pensioners Club have a huge amount of members that attends meetings whether they're on wheelchairs, walkers, canes, and I give them a lot of credit and I give you a lot of credit for giving us the money and support to help our community. And therefore this is a political year so we're all out there for you. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Louise. Following Barry will be Miyo Kim.

MR. RIVERS: Aloha, my name is Barry Rivers. I'm the founder and director of the Maui Film Festival. I wanted to thank you all for fifteen years of support due to the Mayor's Office as well. This is our fifteenth year coming this June and we couldn't have done it without you, so thank you so much. We're planning another one, I've been up since 3:00, 4:00 in the morning for about two weeks now trying to just pull this thing together but we're getting there. We're focusing again on trying to bring more films, either about Hawaii or shot in Hawaii this year we've got some great films coming. We're sort of keeping the schedule under wraps a little bit but suffice to say I think people will be happy when they see it. We are, also I want to thank the MEDB before I forget who's been our fiscal sponsor since the very beginning, Jeanne Skog and Cari Taylor her right hand who've just been fantastic at every turn so big thanks to them. Also as always this year we plan on having our, we've changed the name, it's actually the Toes in the Sand Cinema this year, it's the Wailea Beach Cinema, it's a free event to you any and everybody so that'll be happening again and we always find family friendly films to do there, we're looking for that again this year that'll happen I'm sure. We're also adding a new venue this year called the Seaside Cinema, it's just sort of another venue to show more films just to sort of open the festival up and sort of shake it up a little bit in our fifteenth year so that's happening. We will also again have our nonprofits in the past, they've included Punana Leo O Maui, they've included Surfrider Foundation, Women Helping Women, Habitat for Humanity, there's a laundry list of 30 or 40 we sort of move it around every year and they get to sell all the water and the soda and that sort of stuff and they get a percentage of sales and they also get to reach out more importantly or as importantly about the things that they're up to and let the community know what they're doing so that folks like this can you know learn about all these wonderful things that you help support in addition to the festival and you know dozens and dozens I'm sure of other things. I mean that's kind of it. I normally don't work off of notes but I'm literally like bleary eyed here today so I just figured this would help. Oh, there's one film actually, let me think here, well a couple things I just want to let you know I have, I'm just curious were any of you at last years' opening night when we showed Hawaiian: the Legend of Eddie Aikau?

CHAIR WHITE: If you could just...

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MR. RIVERS: I'm sorry is that not loud enough?

CHAIR WHITE: No, no instead of asking us questions...

MR. RIVERS: Oh, you want me to just tell you, well I will just tell you though we've been trying for years now and thankfully there are better films, we're more comfortable showing things. We had a wonderful film last year called Hawaiian: the Legend of Eddie Aikau, we had 3,000 people out there, a kahiko male halau performing and it was just one of the most magical nights we've ever had out there. We had about 140 nights of cinema at the Celestial Cinema out there that was the best so if you missed it, don't miss it this year. And I mean that's really about it I guess so if I'm forgetting anything, oh we have some films that are about Maui people that are going to be known farther and wider than they ever have been, William Merwin the poet has a documentary that we're doing about him, there's another film we just were approached by today called the Breath of Life, it's a film about the challenges the planet is facing and uses Hawaii and a lot of material is shot on Maui to sort of present some of the alternative ways of being on the land and living on the planet that can help solve these problems. So...

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. RIVERS: You're welcome, we're good. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Rivers. Miyo will be followed by Jerleen Bryant.

MS. KIM: Good evening Budget Chair White.

CHAIR WHITE: Good evening.

MS. KIM: And Council members. Thank you for letting me testify tonight on behalf of the Maui Humane Society. My name is Miyo Kim and I am the Director of Veterinary Services at the shelter. My simple message for you tonight is to please provide us with adequate funds to cover the services we are mandated to do by Maui County. Today we had to pay someone to fix our garage door. I doubt he would have provided this service unless I was willing to pay him what it cost him in labor and materials, no less. This is all we are asking of Maui County. Pay us what it is costing us in labor and materials to provide the service that you are requiring us to do as mandated by our County contract. It is a simple request. In all my 18 years as working at the shelter, the County has never been able to provide what was needed to cover our expenses for County mandated services. We have always had to dip in to our donor monies to help cover this cost and this is just not right. We are currently funded at about the same level that we were paid seven years ago. Everyone knows that everything has cost, has risen in cost. Gas, electricity, cost of living, and in my department, the cost of drugs have skyrocketed. Seven years ago, our funding wasn't adequate and today, seven years later it is even more so. We should not have to use donor monies to cover this cost. How do we spend our donor monies? I'd like to share with

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you some projects near and dear to my heart and none of these use County funds. We have a Hana initiative, last year I mentioned that we're providing free spay/neuter services out in Hana once a month. We have now done spays and neuters for over 400 animals out there, assisting 166 families. Our goal is to do at least 250 more surgeries. Since we started this program, we have seen a 60 percent drop in feral cat intake from Hana, 40 percent drop in friendly cat intake, and a 20 percent reduction in dog intake from Hana. This ultimately helps us save more lives and I can tell you that the residents of Hana are very appreciative of our services. No County funds are used for this but the County benefits. We have our Baker Trust Project where we provide free spay/neuter services for feral cats in a one mile radius around the Kanaha Pond. This is in collaboration with the DLNR feral cat groups, the HSUS and the Airport's Administration. Our hope is to bring the feral cat population under control so there is less impact on our protected wildlife in the area. Again, no County funds are used for this. We have our own low cost spay/neuter program where we provide surgeries to the public at a significantly reduced fee. Costs start as low as \$35 and many times people pay even less if they cannot afford the surgeries. Again, no County funds are used for this program. Our donor monies should go towards projects such as these that directly help the people and animals of Maui and help us save more lives. Donor monies should not go to help the County pay for services mandated by the County. I'm not asking you to fund our special projects or to ask you for grant money. I'm simply asking you to pay us for the services that you are contracting us to do.

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. KIM: It's a reasonable request. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Miyo. And Jerleen will be followed by Jennifer Chirico.

MS. BRYANT: Aloha, Committee member, Mike White, and Committee Members. My name is Jerleen Bryant and I am Director of Development at the Maui Humane Society. This is Laura Forsythe, she's a volunteer and Board Member for the shelter, and this is Rachel McGee and she's an adoption counselor at the shelter. We're here today to let you know that by not fully funding the services and programs we are contracted to provide, you hurt this shelter and the animals in it. Over the last four years, Maui Humane Society has had to use almost \$1.5 million of our own money, this is money that we've received through private donation to supplement the shortage in the County budget. Our donors do not want their money used in this way. They want their donation to go towards helping the animals and saving lives, not to pay for utilities, wages, or to put gas in our trucks. It's as simple as that. Committee members, if you hired a contractor to do work at your home, would you pay him less than the cost of doing the job simply because you could? Probably not, you'd end up in court. But somehow when it comes to Maui Humane Society, it's okay, but it's really not. In closing, my request is that the Maui Humane Society be fully funded for the services and programs we provide. Let us use the money we raise to help our animals. Thank you for your time.

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CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Jennifer will be followed by Joshua Levenson.

MS. CHIRICO: Aloha, Council members. My name is Jennifer Chirico and I'm here tonight to show support for three local community organizations. First, I want to express my support for MEDB and actually the County for putting on the Maui County Energy Conference. It was an incredible conference, as a small business owner it was in this area of sustainability. It was one of the best conferences I've ever attended. It brought together the key decision makers from all over the State and really people from all over the world, and I felt that the conference really focused on finding solutions to the energy problem rather than people just complaining and honestly it was one of the best conferences I've ever attended and I hope that Maui continues to support that conference because I think it really does put Maui County at the leading edge for sustainability and energy. Second, I want to show my support for the Ka Ipu Kukui Leadership Program, thank you, Gladys for so much support from you. I'm currently a 2014 Fellow and that program has just been amazing. I started the program thinking that I might be a little too old to do it but it has been one of the best experiences of my life. It really helped me to take off my sustainability hat 'cause all of my work is focused on sustainability but you really get a very objective, broad perspective of all of the key issues happening in the State and here from key stakeholders everywhere really candidly about the real problems and how to go about addressing them. So I actually recommend that for anyone going in to any leadership position in the County, it's so valuable. And then third, I just want to show my support for Malama Maui Nui, formerly Community Work Day. I'm a former board member and that organization is one of the best environmental groups on Maui doing incredible work and I think a lot of times it's kind of out of sight, out of mind because they're on the back roads cleaning up all of the illegal dumping, handling a lot of our waste on Maui and it really benefits our ecosystem as well as the tourist industry and all of our residents living here. So it's a great organization and I hope that you will continue to support it and thank you for all of your support for all of these programs and I hope that you consider supporting them going forward. So, mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jennifer. Joshua will be followed by Duane Kim.

MR. LEVENSON: Hello my name is Joshua Levenson. I am here to testify on behalf of the Paia Youth and Cultural Center as well. I am a new volunteer that's been doing a math program with the Youth Center. I've been amazed with the program, how they're able to stretch such a small budget and small number of people to provide this amazing environment for students to do almost anything they can dream up they find a way to do. Any art project, radio project, cooking, any homework, the staff is there to support and be a beautiful shelter and place to like make great friends with the counselors and facilitators as well as the other students that I think a lot of the kids there wouldn't have an opportunity to bond with and have such great friendships that creates an amazingly bright, outgoing, there's a lot of actors and actresses and they're totally ready, they're shy little kids and they'll be on the radio just presenting. It's super outgoing and laughing and they develop so many different skills that I think I can't imagine any other environment that can provide that kind of skill, and then I'm going to bring some numbers since

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I'm doing a little bit of a math program on Wednesdays. I think the Youth Center has increased their membership from 250 to 500 members and they're averaging about 65 members per day so yeah, and they're asking, there hasn't been any significant increase in the budget over the last four years that they've increased that membership so they're stretching that budget to, yeah, in an amazing way to still provide the summer camps and field trips and try to still add those extra activities and make that such a rich environment and I think roughly they're asking for \$30,000 extra this year which comes to just a few dollars per student per day and that would make a huge difference for them to be able to provide enough facilitators to accommodate that 65 student group. And, yeah, I think that is most of it. Thank you for letting us speak and thank you for supporting the Youth Center, it's a great program.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Joshua. Duane will be followed by Paula Ambre.

MR. KIM: Hi, good evening, Council Budget Chair White, and your Council Budget Committee. Good evening, Council Chair Gladys. My name is Duane Kim, I work for the DOT Harbors. I'm here tonight in support in support of the Maui Humane Society. My wife Dr. Miyo Kim just recently spoke. She's been a veterinarian for 35 years. She's been with the Maui Humane Society for eight, the past 18 years. The Maui Humane Society has been in existence for 60 years and in all those 60 years there's always been a passion on Maui to help the animals and the community. I've had the opportunity over the past 18 years to meet a lot of professionals who have a lot of passion for these animals on Maui. These professionals include the current employees and Board Members of the Maui Humane Society. They also include former employees and former Board Members and volunteers of the Maui Humane Society. In this day and age, to have an organization be funded with a flat line budget for seven consecutive years is pretty unheard of. My involvement over the years has been with Maui United Way, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Maui, Boy Scouts of America Maui County Council, I've served on the board for those organizations and fully aware of what funding means to these organizations. I've been in private practice, I've been, I'm currently with the State so budget is also very important. The Maui Humane Society really needs your consideration and your reconsideration of the current budget that they have on mind. To have an organization with 40 plus employees that have had their salaries frozen for the past seven years, well in this economy, they're trying to live that way, to have programs that they have to work with, with the budget that they've been taken and as you've heard to use donor monies to do more. This organization I'm very proud of because even though they had to cope with the last seven years of a flat line budget, they have added more and more programs. They've done a lot more. You would think that an organization would step back and reduce their programs, not this Maui Humane Society. They continue to do more, they continue to show the passion for the animals and all that they're asking for, and I'm in total support of that is for this Budget Committee to consider what they truly deserve as far as them to carry out what they need to do. Thank you for this opportunity.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Duane. Paula will be followed by Ka'iulani Spencer.

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MS. AMBRE: Aloha Council members. I'd like to introduce I think the three speakers coming up are Ka`iulani, Betsy, and Jennifer and I'd like them to speak first if that would be acceptable.

CHAIR WHITE: That's fine.

MS. AMBRE: Thank you.

MS. SPENCER: Aloha, my name is Ka`iulani and I'm blessed to be a part of The Maui Farm's Family Strengthening Program. I've lived in Maui, I've lived on Maui all my life but never knew of The Maui Farm. They found me just when I needed it the most. I was living at the Women Helping Women shelter with my four keiki and was referred to The Maui Farm. After gathering information on their website, I was so excited to be part of their program and their safe community, I learned that as a resident my family and I would be able to rebuild our foundation to be a strong knit family. After being in the Family Strengthening Program for almost a year my children and I have gained so much knowledge from participating in the life skills classes, ohana sessions, akamai parenting classes, and planting our own food, caring for the animals, and most importantly planning our future. I've learned planning and setting goals are important for my family and we've completed many of our goals and also have set new ones. I am currently enrolled back in college and feel better about my role as a mother. Providing a safe and stable home for my children is something that is very important to me and without the support of The Maui Farm this would not be possible. Having this opportunity has brought me to a better place in my life and I'm very thankful for the County's support to The Maui Farm. Please continue to support this program because it has helped my family and many other families. This experience has motivated me to set career goals. I'm hopeful that with the County's support, the Maui Farm will continue to help other families in the future. The farm has given so much to my family. Thank you for this opportunity and please continue to support The Maui Farm. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Ka`iulani.

MS. SEARS: Aloha, my name is Betsy and my son _____ and my daughter Ophelia have been living at The Maui Farm for a year now and I'd like to share with you my experience of how The Maui Farm has helped my family to thrive and improve our lives. We got to spend a lot of time working in the gardens and with the animals for the first six months and myself and my kids felt safe and welcomed by the farm ohana and grew closer together as we worked on healing and mending our lives. With the help of the farm's staff I was able to look at my life differently and plan for a better future by setting goals and accomplishing them. I took the MEO Core Four Business training course, the Hawaii Real Estate course and earned my real estate license. My goal is to be able to fully support my family financially and give back to my community. When I look back at this last year I see how much I've grown and my children have blossomed and we have become stronger and having a place to go where you're accepted and supported through a really difficult time there are no words for. The best I can do is say I'm so grateful for The Maui Farm and what they have done for me and my family. Our lives have changed for the better and

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instead of looking down we're all looking up. A big mahalo to The Maui Farm and I hope it continues to grow and expand and be able to help more people change their lives. So please continue your support for The Maui Farm.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Betsy.

MS. HUNT: Aloha, my name is Jennifer and this is Keen and this is Reiko. We've been living at The Maui Farm for nine months. When I came to the farm last summer I was in desperate need of peace and stability for my family. I didn't realize at the time that I would find both of those things and I would also heal my life and create a bright future for our ohana. The Maui Farm is an amazing model for healing and empowerment. It's a safe... sorry, it's a safe environment so my children immediately felt at home there. The many gardens are full of life so it didn't take long to start feeling that same life within me as I spent time caring for the land. The kids and I fell in love with the farm animals, pigs, goats, chickens, and bunnies. We saw them give birth, we fed them, we talked about them every day we were not at home because we couldn't wait to come home to them. They became a part of our family too. I worked in the farm's stipend program which allowed me to earn extra money. I was even able to work with my one year old baby by my side. Our weekly support groups Malama O Pono I which means to care for one's self, and our life skills group helped me to find support to keep healing my life to forgive people who may have caused me harm, to forgive myself, and to realize that the future was mine to create for myself and my family. Currently I am building at my massage therapy practice and am also about to start my own small business. Being at The Maui Farm has helped me to find the peace and clarity within my own mind and heart. I've had a chance to regroup my family and find out just who I am and what my dreams are without feeling distracted or clouded by the drama or dysfunction of relationships I had centered my life around in the past. I feel that I've healed my life and as a result I can give my children a happy and stable future. I owe so much of this accomplishment to the presence of The Maui Farm. I ask that when it comes time to consider what Maui programs will receive funding that you will continue to support The Maui Farm. It's a program that works and I would be so grateful to know that other families received the same opportunity that we have been blessed with. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jennifer. And the next testifier after Paula will be Brianna Demello.

MS. AMBRE: Aloha, I'm Paula Ambre, Executive Director of The Maui Farm. I'm here tonight to request your continued support for our line item grant for the Family Strengthening Program. I'm going to start by acknowledging the courageous mothers that are in front of you here. Theirs are the true stories of how families are being challenged in our economy and that these are families who are making their commitment to leave family violence behind and to move forward to create and maintain a safe and healthy home environment for themselves and their children. So I want to acknowledge them and thank them for sharing their story tonight. All of us at The Maui Farm ohana want to thank you for your past support for the Family Strengthening Program, our farm based family-centered residential program serving families who have been impacted by

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family violence and economic challenges. With your support we are helping struggling members of our community to create a brighter future for themselves and their children, and with your continued support The Maui Farm will be there to continue to make that difference. The Family Strengthening program assists families in developing and implementing their own plan for self-sufficient living and we support them in attaining things like improvements in their attitudes about life and their motivation to change, improvements in their parenting skills and creating a healthy home environment for their children, advancements in education and work force training, advancements in setting a career path and obtaining employment, and support in locating a safe and affordable home in the community. Since 1990 the County has been our biggest partner in the establishment and ongoing operation of The Maui Farm. This has included a lease for our land, funds to construct our residential buildings and support for the development of our educational farm and operation of our programs. As Chair Baisa said in one of the three minute opinions that you do in *The Maui News*, we are one of those County resources in which the County is partnering with us. You provide some resources, we provide the passion, the mission, and the day to day operation and we want you to know that we have a beautiful thriving environment. We invite you all up to visit, a special mahalo to Member Cochran and Member Guzman for visiting us this year. Thank you so much for coming and learning about The Maui Farm. We also want you to know that we're diligently working to expand our resource base to our resource development program, it's about reaching out to our community to find new sources of support that will help us with our ongoing work. We have also diversified our programs by adding farm based educational programs for the community. The Maui Farm is now a site where we do field trips for school children and school groups. We do an employment and training program with AmeriCorps volunteers, students from the college and others who are interested in internships around sustainable agriculture and environmental stewardship. We also provide an opportunity for individuals and groups from our community to do community service in a beautiful farm environment. We're doing that without the County's input in terms of funding to operate those programs. We are sustaining those programs through our fundraising efforts and grants to private trusts and foundations. So we're respectfully here tonight --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. AMBRE: --asking for your continued investment in The Maui Farm and thank you for your support.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Paula. And Brianna will be followed by Marnie Cabral.

MS. DEMELLO: Aloha, my name is Brianna Demello, I'm here for MEO Head Start. I'm a college student. Between the years of 2012 and 2013 I withdrew from college due to child care. The expenses of it was too high for me, you know it's a lot of money to put in for someone to watch your child while you're trying to work or while you're trying to go to college. MEO is a one stop resource center for me, anything I need they're there for me, even my children. They've

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helped me this past year to continue college. Because of them I am able to go back to college and continue my goals in the future. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Brianna. Marnie will be followed by Dyan Todd.

MS. CABRAL: Good evening everyone, my name is Marnie Cabral and I would like to take this opportunity to thank the County Council members for your commitment and generosity to the MEO Head Start Program. It is because of the MEO Head Start Program my niece is able to receive a preschool education which is preparing for her entry in to kindergarten. Without the program our children would not be able to engage in such a progressive early childhood education program that improves our children's wellbeing that would not have otherwise been available to them. The extended day services and extended year programs are also vital to parents who are working full time or are attending school to further their education. Without this help, trying to raise a family while keeping steady employment can become a hardship to some families. Therefore I kindly ask for your continued support in keeping the MEO Head Start Program available to the families and children of our community. It is an essential service that benefits our children and their education. Thank you for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Marnie. Dyan Todd will be followed by Jay Penniman. Dyan Todd? Okay, we'll go on with Jay Penniman.

MR. PENNIMAN: Aloha, Chair White, Chair Baisa, Members of the Committee.

CHAIR WHITE: Aloha.

MR. PENNIMAN: I'd like to speak in support of the Office of Economic Development Budget in specifically your natural resources work that is supported through that budget. I am the manager of the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project and we address the seabird aspect of the natural environment that we all thrive in here and depend upon to bring continued tourists that support what the island really can be so it's really critical that you keep up that support. We keep the Save our Seabirds Program running, we respond for avian emergencies even beyond seabirds, we go to the Maui Humane Society for birds who are regularly called. People have our number basically for bird emergencies and I think you all recognize that, I'd like to tell you just a quick story about what supporting us, keeping us here that's what your support does. We have jobs for all the people working in natural resources and some of those people, one of them is a friend of mine Keahi and he's married to Jasmine, he works for the plant extinction prevention program. Their son's name is Koa'e Kea for complete and that is the white tailed tropic bird. Their son is an infant now, he went to the beach at Hamoa down by Hana and during that time there they went to the base of a cliff in the driftwood and they found a bird that fit in your hands like this, it was just a tiny little bird. It was the Koa'e Kea and they brought it home because they knew that we work with seabirds, they called me up, we got that baby Koa'e Kea and we got it transported to the Hawaii Wildlife Center where it's been raised ever since. This was about six weeks ago.

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You can get on the Hawaii Wildlife Center website and see pictures of that bird. This is a success for that bird and just that remarkable coincidence of the young local boy who came down and found his aumakua and thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for sharing, Jay. Our next testifier is Richard Lucas followed by Leinaala Romkee.

MR. LUCAS: Mr. Committee Chair, Council Chair Baisa, members of the Committee, my name is Richard Lucas. I am the Program Manager for Friends of Old Maui High School at Hamakuapoko. I am here tonight on behalf of 4,500 alumni, community supporters, and volunteers to say thank you to the Mayor and to the County Council for including us in the County's 2015 budget. As many of you already know, probably most of you already know, Friends of Old Maui High School has been involved in the preservation, rehabilitation, and reuse of the Old Maui High School campus since 2005. The 23 acre campus is not only an important historical site but also a valuable County asset. The Charles Dickey designed administration building built in 1929 has been added to the State Register of Historic Places. It has been a long project for all of us and we are happy to see it moving forward as the years go by. Last year was our centennial year. The school was founded in 1913 as the State's first co-educational public high school and over the years we have seen thousands of young people receive an exceptional education at Old Maui High School including some important members of the County Government. Our task is a large one, we have 23 acres of land to take care of, over 20,000 square feet of buildings to maintain and repair. We provide 24 hour security, we supervise a volunteer force that provides \$30,000 a year worth of free labor. We provide a semi-annual newsletter to over 4,000 supporters, some of you probably receive that, and we also provide assistance to groups especially alumni groups that want to have meetings or reunions at the campus. We've also been working side by side with the Office of Economic Development to develop a strategy for the reuse of the Old Maui High School campus and its resources. OED Director Tina Rasmussen has been a great advocate of this project and we're happy to see that the resources and expertise of OED have come to bear and we're hopeful that we're going to be able to develop a reuse of the campus that is both consistent and respectful of its educational background. This is an important project and we are devoted to the mission of seeing the Old Maui High School campus become an important community resource that will benefit residents throughout Maui County and it is with your help and support that we're able to accomplish this goal so we want to say again thank you for your continued support of this important project.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Richard. Leinaala will be followed by Helga Fiederer.

MS. ROMKEE: Aloha, my name is Leinaala Romkee and I am here on behalf of MEO.

CHAIR WHITE: Could you get a little closer to the microphone.

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MS. ROMKEE: I'm here on behalf of MEO, particularly the rental assistance program. About a year and a half ago my family went through a divorce and we filed bankruptcy. At the time I was a full time student and working part time. But of course due to you know financial reasons I had to go to work full time. I continued going to school part time, eventually I had to stop going to school and work more. So although I was able to maintain my own household for the majority of the process, towards the ending I knew I needed help so I went to MEO and I asked for help for my rent. They helped me with a couple of months of rent and I'm so grateful and so thankful. With their help I was able to go to the budget class. It helped me to learn how to create a monthly budget and understand how credit works and how not to get myself in to that situation again and not only helping me with financially with the rental assistance but it also gave me hope and encouragement to move forward, put my past behind me, and just know that there are people that are out there that care and help us. There's a lot of single mothers, single fathers, struggling families and you know having the rental assistance just let that financial worry be put aside for a little while and helped me focus more on what I needed to do to start healing for me and my family. Also, I'd like to talk a little about Kahi Kamali'i. My daughter's three and she's been going to Kahi Kamali'i MEO for two years. I do receive a County scholarship from them and that has helped me continue to work. Now I'm working full time, I am in the process of starting my own business, and this fall I plan to go back to school and graduate with my Associates in Accounting. So please, you know although divorce, bankruptcy, single moms, single dads... it's a sad situation, it's a reality and helping us with our rent to maintain our home for our families is a big help. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Leinaala. And Helga will be followed by Gerry Ross.

MS. FIEDERER: Good evening, my name is Helga Fiederer and my son goes to PYCC.

CHAIR WHITE: Could you move a little closer to the mic.

MS. FIEDERER: Oh yeah sure, I'm sorry. So again my son goes to PYCC, he did testify today, he was the tall boy. He's 15 and a half years old and he used to go to Haiku Boys and Girls Club but kind of outgrew that and I just want to say you know how incredibly grateful we are and I as a mother and I know his dad as well we are so grateful to have the PYCC available here to our teenagers. There are, I do know there are families you know where the kids are maybe you know disadvantaged or have you know problems in the family and what I have seen at PYCC is that the teenagers there are really well taken care of, they are being helped. The teenagers feel confident to speak with the staff, they feel they can have a heart to heart conversation with the people there and personally I feel that this is very, very important for a young boy or girl, for a teenager because at that age you know things can go wrong, they can go down the wrong path and I do have just a piece of statistics that I picked up today, apparently the State of Hawaii spends over \$199,000 per year on every delinquent youth in the correctional facility, youth facility, \$199,000, if that number is correct I'm shocked. You know this is so much more money that the PYCC gets for the whole year taking care of 500 youth and many of them, not many of

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them but there are definitely some of them that are troubled, come out of troubled families and I feel prevention in this case you know is the answer. This is where we have to go, so if there is any more money available for the PYCC I'm all for it. Thank you so much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Helga.

MS. FIEDERER: Aloha.

CHAIR WHITE: And Gerry will be followed by Christina Anderson.

MR. ROSS: I have some copies of the testimony if you need it.

CHAIR WHITE: If you can hand it to our staff. We're good at making copies.

MR. ROSS: Okay, great. Aloha, Councilors, my name is Gerry Ross and with my amazing wife Janet Simpson we are the farmers behind Kupaa Farms, a 16 acre award winning coffee, vegetable, and fruit farm in Kula that provides people on Maui with healthy organic produce 52 weeks a year. I have three items to present or discuss with you today. The first is a big mahalo for your past support that's been provided by the County for Maui Coffee Association. Last year we celebrated the bicentennial of coffee in Hawaii with special events throughout Maui County including the Molokai Coffee Festival, the Lanai Jazz Festival, and the Seed to Cup and East Maui Taro Festival here on Maui. County funds allowed us to get these events off the ground but through our efforts at securing sponsorships we were able to return some of these funds as unused back to the County. Continuing support from the County for education of our coffee farmers through workshops on soil fertility, pruning, management of the coffee berry borer which fortunately is not here yet has helped us improve the quality of Maui coffee's at last year's State cupping competition, partially supported by Maui County, Maui coffees took three of the top five places in the state which is a great statement of the quality and growth potential of Maui coffee. With your help our organization is helping to build the coffee industry here on Maui. Item number two is education. I work with students from Hui Malama who you've heard from earlier today who come to the farm to learn about compost, the periodic table of elements, pollination, soil forming, formation, and how to farm sensibly and sustainably. The kids really enjoy the opportunity to have some hands-on experience at a working farm. It's a great way to influence and empower young people about the science and future of agriculture so I hope you find it in your budget to continue to fund Hui Malama. Another important educational resource has been the Maui School Garden Network led by Lehn Huff, they've helped initiate school gardens at nearly every school on the island and this provides a great environment for school children to learn about food, seeds, soil, cooperation, collaboration. It's my understanding that they're looking for financial help from the County. My third point is that we seem to be struggling on a weekly basis with new invasive pests. The Maui Invasive Species Committee has been doing a yeoman's job of education of the public and eradication of the invasives that they can within their budget. A new pest has made it to the Hawaiian Islands, the little fire ant

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and this has the potential to be our most serious invader yet. The little fire ant forms colonies in trees and when the wind blows or the colony is otherwise disturbed they drop out of the trees and inflict numerous painful bites on unsuspecting animals and people including tourists and coffee pickers. Now is the time to hit these invaders hard and to exercise vigilance before we're faced with an unsolvable problem. It is my understanding that MISC is faced with funding cuts at a time when we should be directing additional funds in their direction. If the little fire ant gets established here on Maui it has the potential to devastate the tourist industry as well as local agriculture --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. ROSS: --and our flavorful coffee farms. Please help us keep Maui educated, free of the little fire ant, and well caffeinated. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Gerry. Gerry, just hold on one second.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Gerry for being here. You said something about MISC being cut? We didn't notice it was being cut in the budget. Where did you hear that they might be?

MR. ROSS: It was my understanding that some of the funding from the Department of Water Supply was not necessarily going to MISC this year and so that they were actually going to be receiving less funds than historically.

CHAIR WHITE: I don't believe that's... we're... we'll work on it.

MR. ROSS: Okay.

CHAIR WHITE: We've been... this Council and previous Councils have been very, very supportive of all the environmental protection programs, the Watershed, MISC, and others --

MR. ROSS: Okay.

CHAIR WHITE: --and we've actually significantly increased the funding in the last several years.

MR. ROSS: Right, that's great news, keep up the good work.

CHAIR WHITE: Thanks. Okay, Christina Anderson will be followed by Les Skillings and after that we'll take a five minute break. So please proceed.

MS. ANDERSON: Good evening, Committee Chair and members of the Committee. My name is Christina Anderson and I am a clinical director at Maui Youth and Family Services. I'm here to

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ask for your continued support for our adolescent substance abuse treatment program. We are the only intensive outpatient program on Maui for adolescents dealing with drugs and alcohol. We provide an individualized treatment that does group therapy, individual and family counseling, education about addiction, activities and excursions that reflect Hawaiian cultural values, we're located on Baldwin Avenue and we work with kids from all over the island. We've served more than a hundred teens each year. Many of our clients come from single family homes and have experienced some sort of trauma in their life. Most common issues we see are related to alcohol and marijuana used during school. However, we've seen a real increase in prescription drug abuse and synthetic drugs. Many teens come to us when they are caught at school and are suspended. We not only work to get them back in to school earlier but also on the right path so they can succeed and obviously succeed more in their life. We've recently experienced severe budget cuts and adolescent substance abuse is not going away. Funding is more critical than ever because we need to break the vicious cycle of substance abuse in Maui so that our young ones don't grow up addicted and our community stays safe. Our teens need help and opportunities to succeed within a safe and supportive environment. I have a quick quote for you from one of our former clients. I am 16 years old. Two years ago I was homeless, on drugs and committing crimes so I could eat. I felt hopeless and lonely and every day seemed to get longer. My MYFS counselors made me feel like I mattered when no one else did. They gave me hope that there was something better and they gave me a place to heal. I got treatment, I work full time now and no longer use drugs to escape reality. We need to step up and make a difference in these young people's lives. Thank you so much for your time and your support. Mahalo.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Christina. And after Les' testimony we'll take a five minute break and we'll get right back to it.

MR. SKILLINGS: I'm Les Skillings a retired teacher, Baldwin High School, 35 years. First thank you for the opportunity, I'm here to talk about two issues, the MEDB Conference which several of you attended this past month on the electric utilities was excellent and it was great to see all of the stakeholders basically in the same room and I came away as my wife did also, we attended it with a much better understanding of the issues involved and also thinking about getting my own windmill. We have three systems already, PV systems, and looking at the smart grids, smart inverters and also acquiring a battery backup system. But hopefully this conference will continue. Maui is a leader and we want to continue that. On another note, the Maui School Garden Network is sort of a sleeper, it's been around for several years and been doing some fabulous things. I know the coordinator quite well, she's my wife. Anyway, hopefully you will, can find some funds for her program at the moment and she'll be explaining more of the details after the break. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Les. Just to give you an update, we have had 41 testifiers but most of those were kids that testified, in relatively short time, we have 35 left and so I'm going to amend the break to a three minute stretch. We're in recess. . . . (*gavel*). . .

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RECESS: 7:30 p.m.

RECONVENE: 7:37 p.m.

CHAIR WHITE: . . . (*gavel*). . . Our next testifier is Lehn Huff, followed by Kyla Barker.

MS. HUFF: Thank you very much. I am a sleeper. The Maui School Garden Network, I'm here just for one time, just this year and Maui School Garden Network was founded in 2008 when I retired from Seabury Hall after 30 years of teaching, the last 20 of starting and running the middle school and I founded the School Garden Network because it was very obvious to me that our students needed to return to the aina for many reasons. Number one, because so many of them were suffering from nutrition related, lack of nutrition related diseases. Over a third of our students are obese, large rates of juvenile diabetes and other food related diseases. Secondly, because there's an opportunity when you return to the land to really understand learning. School gardens are a living lab. They are a place where you can learn virtually everything. Virtually everything, think about it, and this has already been spoken about by Gerry Ross today and besides that it's also a place where students can achieve. A garden does not grade you A through F. In a garden you collaborate, you cooperate, you nurture. Schools that have incorporated school garden programs have found definite increases in achievement; they have found definite decreases in behavior problems. So I say let's start with pre-K Kindergarten and work our way up. This is a County that needs more students who are interested in agriculture and agriculture is not just for the recent immigrants and special ed students. Agriculture is something that all of us should have as either a vocation or an avocation. So I am very pleased to announce that after six years of working on this we've gone from 5 to 42 schools out of 46 in Maui and Lanai and that is because you care. That is because we care, as educators we care. Our partners, I want to mention briefly, our partners are UH Maui College, the community garden that is in there now, CTAHR Master Gardener Program, The Maui Farm, the Maui County Farmers Union, the Maui County Farmers Bureau, and I don't want to forget, I'm sure I'm forgetting excuse me Grow Some Good, very important partner, educator partner. So we are at this point all over the island and every day is a learning experience for me. Here's my favorite one, Ms. Huff, there's a tomato in our garden and we did not plant a tomato seed. If that isn't the moment where you seize hold of what is going to be learned that day then I don't know what is. I'm here to ask for \$15,000 --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. HUFF: --to get a school garden coordinator for the West Side because I really feel that we've neglected the West Side. We need to get out there and we need to have someone who is stationed there and that will complete my goal. My goal is this, my goal is to get every school

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with a garden program, a school garden coordinator, and a sustainability committee. So this would be a wellness committee, all our schools are required to have wellness policies so this would be built around that policy and what it means is that the principal would sign a letter indicating that they've gone out and they've brought in four community agencies to give maintenance support, support for nutrition, a restaurateur, our chefs are anxious to get out there in to our schools, and help these kids understand how to take those green beans and turn them in to something because they're going to eat the green beans because they grew them and don't we know, moms and dads, that they're not going to eat them at home. But if they're taking them out of the garden where they just harvested that day --

MS. NAKATA: Four minutes.

MS. HUFF: --then they will wait in line, and I think that's three minutes so I think the last thing was I just would appreciate your kokua for one year. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Lehn, and Kyla Barker will be followed by Jeffrey Henderson.

MS. BARKER: Hi my name is Kyla Barker and I am the mother with two children that both go to the PYCC and I am here on behalf of PYCC and all the Counselors that work there. No one will argue with you that the children are our future, but what they will argue with you about is what is important that we are instilling in our youth to make the world a better place. Leadership, courage, humility, honor, self-respect, compassion, nurturing, acceptance, friendship, and love to me these are the things that are important and the PYCC center provides themselves or prides themselves in their ability to help all kinds of children be more like these things. It doesn't matter what school you go to, how much money you have, what car your parents drive. When you are there, you are all equal, just children enjoying being with other children. This center deserves to have more funding. We need to put our money in to preventative measures such as the PYCC and what each one of those counselors does for these children. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Kyla, and Jeffrey will be followed by Jennifer McGurn.

MR. HENDERSON: Good evening Council, thank you for hearing, I am here to ask for more funding for the PYCC. I think it's an amazing institution, it brings children of all economic backgrounds together and it's a safe yet not too safe environment where children are allowed to run around, scream, yell, jump in the ocean, do things that they are not allowed to do at home and they're not texting on their phones and computers when they're there, or at least not very much. And I just want to make sure that you're remembering them in your budget and also I feel strongly that the money invested there is better than money invested in a penile [*sic*] system holding children who may not get the attention for that. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jeffrey, and Jennifer will be followed by Rose Potter.

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MS. MCGURN: Aloha, Council members. My name is Jennifer McGurn, I am the Administrative Assistant at the Maui Humane Society. I'm here to plug MHS but I have to say after sitting here for an hour and 45 minutes all of these other groups that just spoke, they all deserve money too. These groups, all of these groups are doing great things for the community and we're all just looking for a piece of the pie. There's never going to be enough money for all of us to do what we want to do. But back to my script here it is, Maui Humane Society is a little bit different than some of these other groups because we have a contract with the County to do a job. We have to do these things that are in that contract. As Dr. Miyo Kim discussed earlier, we aren't getting paid the money that we need to do those things. I'm here tonight to request that you bring our funding back to where it needs to be as requested in our bid so that we can carry out the services as required in our contract with the County of Maui. For the past several years our County funding has remained flat. We all know that flat funding is actually a cut in funding because expenses don't stay flat, they increase every year. Using our private donor dollars to cover services mandated by our County contract, it's not right. We could be using those donor dollars to save more animals lives by doing things like sending more dogs to the mainland via our Wings of Aloha program which is awesome by the way. That program is very effective but it's also really expensive. The more we as the community, the animal loving community can work together, the more good things we can do, things that will benefit all of us both humans and animals alike. I also wanted to thank those of you Council members who took time out of your busy schedules this past year to either visit our shelter or at least took the time to meet with us. Last year during the budget hearings there were some things said that were upsetting to our staff. If I recall correctly there was a comment made insinuating that we at Maui Humane Society lacked passion that other volunteer groups do because we get paychecks. Nothing could be further from the truth. Most of us are grossly underpaid and have not gotten raises of any kind for several years. Personally, I truly love my job and if I could afford to work for free I would. But I have a family of five and bills to pay so that's not my reality, not really for anyone else I know either. I'm willing to bet that you yourselves as well probably wouldn't work for free either even though you probably also feel very strongly about what you do. Councilmember White, we invited you, many of us did, to come tour our shelter, talk to our staff so we could try and show you how much we care. I personally, myself, called your office on 12 occasions --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. MCGURN: --in the past 11 months and was given the same response every time. No one ever called back and you never came. So I'll ask you again, please come and see what we do and let us show you how and where those funds are being used and why we are asking you for more. Thanks for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jennifer. Rose Potter will be followed by Cristiane Martins.

MS. POTTER: Hi, I'm Rose Potter. I'm the Director of the Paia Town Association. Thank you, Council, for being here tonight and giving us all the opportunity to talk about all of our important

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needs. I'm here to request the continuation and the expansion of the Small Town Grants Program. In your budget the Paia Town Association was able to obtain \$22,000 last year in small town grant funds that have been essential in our transition from a small merchants association to one that is working towards being an effective representative for our entire community. With that money we are rehabbing our planters and creating other beautification projects that'll be visible in the next few weeks. We were able to redesign and update Paia's website reflecting our town's unique character. Paiamaui.com will offer tons of information and calendars that will be useful for our residents and our visitors. Most importantly we've been able to hire town planning consultants to help us organize and deliver a strategic plan for Paia Town's next seven to ten years. In the next few months we'll be holding a series of meetings and distributing surveys inviting everyone to help decide what is most important to Paia's future and how we can find ways to work together to achieve those goals. I believe the small town grants have allowed our communities to find a voice. The funds have directly provided strategies meant to help Paia succeed and self-sustain. While each town has decided on various projects, the improvements are undeniably beneficial to everyone sitting here tonight. I'm hopeful our program will continue and I'm excited to each, to see each small town improve with these resources. With more County support, we can accomplish more good in our communities. Additionally, I want to stress how important the Youth Center is to our town. Their programs engage and activate our youth, their radio station serves as our town's voice and is great entertainment, and their incredible efforts and role in our community should be recognized and supported. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Rose. And Christiane will be followed by Mike Foley. Christiane? Christiane Martins. Okay Mr. Foley, you're up followed by Angela Montilliano.

MR. FOLEY: I am not Christiane, I'm Mike Foley.

CHAIR WHITE: You could've fooled us.

MR. FOLEY: Thank you all for being here. Thank you for your extreme patience in listening to all of us come and plead for money. I am here tonight as the president of the Makawao Community Association. Last year we were lucky enough to receive a small town planning grant from the County and we want to thank you very much for that. We spent most of that money opening the Makawao History Museum five months ago. We created a separate museum board with six directors and Peter Baldwin as our president. We also have five advisors and with me tonight are two of the directors Gail Ainsworth and David Parish. The museum is staffed by more than 40 volunteers. We keep the museum open seven days a week. We also are doing interviews of senior citizens from Makawao and areas around Makawao. We have received tremendous support from Makawao merchants and from Upcountry ranches. We've obtained \$15,000 more in donations including \$2,000 that have been donated in our little donation box in the museum. We've had between 2,000 and 3,000 visitors in only five months. Unfortunately recently our rent went up 25 percent and our rent is unfortunately our biggest expense. We have applied for

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three other grants from various foundations and none of those grants will cover rent. So we would love, like Paia, we would love to see the County continue the small town planning grants. This year we are requesting the same amount this year as we received last year which was \$22,000 and we could easily spend twice that amount but as you've heard tonight there are many worthy organizations here before you so we are requesting the same amount that we received last year and it would be great if you could continue that small town grant. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you Mike. Angela Montilliano will be followed by Dolores Bio.

MS. MONTILLIANO: Aloha, my name is Angela Montilliano and I am the owner of KyMoKi Entertainment, it's a film and television production company and I'm the founder of the Women of Hawaii Foundation. I'm here to speak on behalf of MEO's Core Four Class. They are so awesome. This is their Core Four Book. This is my business bible. I refer to it so many times. It was such an awesome eye opening experience and Ms. Baisa was at my graduation. Before I started, before I took the class I kind of fumbled around trying to start my business. Whether your business is a for-profit or a nonprofit you still have to have the basic core four planning strategies and after I graduated it was like ahh you know, the skies opened up and I followed everything that they're doing. The only thing I knew about cash flow was how it flowed out of my pocket. I wanted to make it flow back in to my pocket, so it is a valuable course for our entrepreneurs of Maui. So please continue to support them because I needed that class badly and for this year I hope to get out several of my projects and for my nonprofit as well we have several projects on the table, so it was very valuable for me to take that course. So please support them, continue to support them and supporting them will support the entrepreneurs of Maui. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Angela. And Dolores Bio will be followed by Nancy Johnson.

MS. BIO: Hi, but I have to smile a little bit because everybody seems to be, don't be serious. Actually you know I'm here for the Heritage Hall, I'm in the Board and there's a lot of things that's going on in our book here. We are ready to build this beautiful building if once you see it coming up, but Puerto Ricans and the Portuguese get together you got good music there but the thing is we need the money to build. We have some of the money but every time we're ready to build and we're ready to say gee we got the land, we're ready to put this beautiful building up, oh something went wrong here so we got to wait. No permit, can't be helped, but we will get there and the reason for this building it's going to be beautiful to serve the community and we have been teaching the children. I think most of us it's the kids because like they say it's the future. Right now we're teaching little kids. We have instructors how to dance the kachi kachi music right so we can go out there and do our thing. But those are the things. But we always would like to be in the budget to finish this building, we need the help and we thank the Council very much for being there for us and we are always talking with every one of you that once we get this building up, once we're there we'll stand on our feet you know because the Maui Puerto Rican Association and also the Portuguese gives out a lot of scholarships for students. Now we

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have a building that we'd like to come up and be part of the community, serve the community all the way around. Teaching is one of our things. You know teaching how to make pasteles is very important. You know why? In Polynesia it's all this food, we like to eat happy and our thing is that right now money is also at the top. Once that money is gone, it's gone. But now we need to put that building there. We're going to start, but I hope we're going to start soon you know because I'm getting older you know, so I want to see the thing gets up there and we will. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Dolores. And following Nancy Johnson will be Joseph Breman.

MS. JOHNSON: Good evening, I'm Nancy Johnson from Maui College. I made a handout for you and I want to just point out to you, first I want to thank you for all your support for our nursing and dental programs. Now they're on their feet and we're coming to you this year to ask for emerging health careers and tonight I'm going to talk about the one called Pharmacy Technician. This is a relatively new career opportunity, but I want you to look at the diagram that I've got for you and it talks about the changes in healthcare, coordinated care, prevention, chronic disease management, and if you look at the diagram you'll see that the section for the hospital is smaller than the section for the pharmacy. And if you've been going to Maui pharmacies lately you've seen how pharmacy care is changing, how they now have clinics in the pharmacy, and the emphasis is not only expanded role for the pharmacists but a pharmacy technician to assist the pharmacist. So I've put down here some of the places where these pharmacy technicians are going to work and on the back I've got some of the curriculum for the pharmacy technician program and it includes three credits of work practicum so that's like 300 hours in a Maui pharmacy as a part of their training. And then on the back I have some, what I think you'll find very interesting information. The Bureau of Health Statistics projects that pharmacy technician employment will increase 31 percent and so not only the jobs are there now but they're going to increase 31 percent because people are not going to go to the hospital as much. They're going to be cared for in their home and in the community and they're going to get information about their drugs and they're going to get information in their pharmacy from the pharmacist and the pharmacy technician. And just to show you that our program works, I have e-mail from March 24th of this year, where CVS Pharmacy wrote to our pharmacy tech instructor and said they have four jobs on Maui and could we refer our graduates from this year. So this is a new program, it's one of the many emerging health careers. Each time I come I'm going to talk about a different one.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Nancy. Joseph Breman will be followed by Richard Pohle.

MR. BREMAN: Good evening, Council and Chairs. Thank you for the opportunity to stand here and say a few words tonight. My name is Joe Breman and I'm the president of a small business here in Haiku actually called IUE and we have software applications that we develop primarily for Federal so we started here about seven years ago and we do software development for the Navy and for the Department of Homeland Security and NGA, the National Geospatial Intelligence

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Agency. We've been very fortunate to have some good Federal contracts over the last seven years. One thing I'd like to do tonight is thank MEDB because they were what kind of watered the seed that was the idea for our company. And when we first started MEDB was able to point us to the right people within Oahu and also local government to pair us with the Navy contracting opportunities that we've found and then funding kind of dried up and at a Federal level earmarks curtailed and we were kind of scrambling in the last five years we've been very resourceful and able to maintain. But it's created a full circle where we're now looking for local business and have some opportunities and specifically related to the cable project and our focus is on seafloor mapping as well as terrestrial. So we do a lot with map applications and again there's a pointer that came from MEDB to point us to NextEra Energy Company that's coming here interested in helping to develop some of the grid and we're excited about that, we're going to be pitching towards that and again there's another pointer that came from MEDB to look at the EDRF, the revolving, the Economic Development Revolving Fund. And so we're going to be applying towards that and I wanted to say thanks to the good pointers that we get from MEDB, they do a lot with very little. They're very subtle in the way that they connect people and it works because on a business level you can't be too pushy, you have to sort of bait the hook and have the people come to you and they helped to make that happen. Also, we started this year a nonprofit, I'll be quick about this part. I have two boys, one of them is here, the other one's at home. The other one has autism and he's eleven years old and he's non-verbal. We were fortunate this year to profit, we started a nonprofit and the nonprofit is called the Wisdom Center for Autism and it's also in Haiku and in the last three months we've had an influx of kids. Ten kids have shown up and we're providing services to them, we're having skills trainers, speech therapists, occupational therapists, people coming out of the woodwork who are volunteering because we don't have funds right now to pay them but the parents are very active and proactive. People are giving, donating, giving mattresses for a sensory area, giving refrigerators and couches and we're renting space which is very expensive. So we'll be pitching a couple of different directions for both IUE and the Wisdom Center and trying to keep these local businesses growing and providing good opportunities for employment here and something for the kids who have special needs who really need the help. The big picture is that we put the software development together to help the kids who are having trouble communicating and we're working on a software application that will help enable communication and that's the exciting thing that's sort of on the horizon that I've run out of time to talk about, but thank you for the opportunity to stand here and tell you this.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for sharing, Joe. Richard Pohle will be followed by Marcy Martin.

MR. POHLE: Mr. Chairman and Members, I am Richard Pohle, a Protea farmer on Crater Road. I represent the working people of this County that are taxed enough. I represent those on the Upcountry meter list who will never get meters in their lifetime. Those Upcountry natives who have died waited, waiting and their children who have given up, sold their land and moved away from Maui. I represent those needing affordable housing and businesses that struggle along under your increasingly rules and regulations. I represent those who want to start projects and

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businesses but cannot because of the time consuming and expensive permit and licensing processes. Mr. Chairman, the Mayor has asked you for 12 percent increase over the current budget and a tax rate increase of 6.5 percent. What has the Mayor or this Council done to earn the right to increase our property tax rates and the right to be generous benefactors here? Have you identified how to reduce any County staffing? Have you identified any programs or regulations to be eliminated? Have you allowed reasonable development to proceed? If you did all these things, then you could fund all of these very deserving programs. But we are taxed enough already. Where is the Upcountry Water Drought Conservation Bill that the Water Department requires before issuing more than just a few hundred Upcountry water meters. Where are your new wells? What is the effort to help the Kula Ridge Project build their affordable homes Upcountry? Sometimes when you're in Wailuku on a clear night, look up to the slopes of Haleakala. Over to the right you will see the lights of the Hawaiian Home Land development surrounded by darkness just as in the lights of South Korea contrast to the darkness of the North Korean gulag. This is a direct result of your policies. As a farmer my property taxes are very low. I live on my land but my wife and I are getting too old to farm. If I could subdivide, my parcel would bring Maui revenue of 10,000 a year, 20 times what you get now. That subdivision would help Maui's economy with the construction work, homes, and rentals for our children and taxable income for our businesses. In 1994 you made that illegal. In 2008 you made it unfeasible. We read that Pacific Biodiesel will cease operations at the Central Maui Landfill and layoff three workers quote, with just over two years left on our contract we just couldn't justify the costly site improvements that were required to meet the County demands, closed quote, said the company owner. A decades old store on Crater Road has closed and is now a rental because it was just too much effort to renew the necessary permits. I end with this quote from a small business owner, the business climate in this County is terrible, you can't talk to a single small business owner --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MR. POHLE: --who doesn't have a horror story about regulations, primarily permitting. If the government would get out of our way, we could create more jobs and improve the overall economy. Mr. Chairman, you don't deserve the right to raise our taxes. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Mr. Pohle. Marcy Martin will be followed by Jashana Kippert. Well, she was here a minute ago. Okay, the next testifier is Jashana Kippert followed by Susan Stanton.

MS. KIPPERT: Thank you, Council. I'm here to tell you a really terrible story and the reason I'm telling you this terrible story is to prevent it from happening to other people. Walking in my neighborhood I was viciously attacked by a dog on July 8th of last year. I did nothing to provoke this dog, I was simply walking along. I noticed it approaching me, it was big and hairy and scary and I knew not to be afraid and not to look at it and it just charged and attacked me. It knocked me over, I had to face it and use all of my energy, every bit of my strength to fight it away from me and I screamed at it and it attacked me again and knocked me over. It had, if it had gotten a

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hold of my knee or it bitten any other place I couldn't walk. As it was it took me three months to recover and I've discovered I am not the only one who's been attacked by these dogs. I'm the first in a long list with our neighborhood it is now being terrorized. I can't walk out of my neighborhood because these dogs are still there. So I am the first of a line of dog stories.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Jashana. Susan Stanton is the next testifier.

MS. STANTON: My name is Susan Elaine Stanton. I was asked by the people that live on Kahiapo to come tonight because they are concerned, and I am concerned about how animal control has handled a situation of repeated pit bull attacks by a certain owner and these dogs are not, have not been taken in to the Humane Society. I was walking to 77 Kahiapo three weeks ago. I saw a black pit very quickly towards me along the street. I did not realize what was going to happen and I did not even see three other pits. They dragged me to the ground, I don't entirely remember what happened. I think I may have blacked out but I screamed and I thrashed and I tried to get the dogs off of me but it was dark and I couldn't see. I remember waking up and standing and screaming and I remember looking inside my arm and I could see pieces missing and I couldn't walk and I screamed until a neighbor came out. It was dark, I couldn't pick a stick up and I didn't see the dogs even leave. The man named Robert Tew came out with a baseball bat and helped me get to a van that pulled up by this woman and I was covered in blood but she allowed me in her car and we got to 77. I went to the hospital, they did surgery on me and sewed me back together. I could not walk for a while, I needed a walker. I couldn't use my thumbs still, I cannot use 30, I only have 30 percent of my right hand left. I told the police at the ER you need to take these dogs in tonight. If I was a child, or if I was an elderly lady I would not be standing here talking to you. I asked the officer why the dogs were not going to be taken in and he shrugged his shoulder and he said he would pass it on to animal control. I did not check out of the hospital until Tuesday. I thought the dogs were taken in. I have a man named Kalia walk up to me three days later in Haiku and tell me the dogs are not taken in. I cried, I think I vomited, and he said call Officer Redd at animal control so I called her the next day and I wanted to know why four dogs that almost mauled me to death were not taken in. I don't remember what she told me actually but when she met with me Monday, she tells me that they don't have the authority to take them in until they deem them dangerous and then they've seen them unrestrained again. I don't understand this. I think when four pit bulls drag a woman to the ground and almost kill her I think you can impound, but I'm told no. I don't know because I no longer go to Kahiapo, but neighbors have told me they have seen these exact same dogs running around --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. STANTON: --at night. I am asking you, the Council, to look in to this matter and look in to what is going on with funding with animal control and enforcement because something is wrong when four pit bulls that have already attacked other members of this community go right back to the

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owner, right after being almost mauled to death and are still with an owner who is not responsible. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for sharing, Susan.

MS. REBOLLAR: So I just want to add that when I was there, I mean it looked, it looked like a scene from a horror movie. Flesh was hanging from her body. It was a, we have school children that walk up and down the street you know that, we're surrounded by children. We're held hostage by these animals and something needs to be done with the budget.

CHAIR WHITE: Are you, what is your name?

MS. REBOLLAR: My name is Yamuma, I was just with Susan.

CHAIR WHITE: Oh, okay.

MS. REBOLLAR: Yeah.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. The next testifier is Robert Tew.

MR. TEW: Good evening. My name is Robert. I live at 26 Kahiapo. The owner of the dogs lives right next door to me at 40 Kahiapo. It was 10 o'clock at night on March 21st, Friday and I was getting ready to go to bed and I just heard this screaming in my front yard and there's no street light so it's very dark. I had to run across the yard to see what was going on and when I saw what was happening it was horrifying. She had a pit bull locked on each limb, each leg, each arm and these dogs were ripping and tearing and pulling her in different directions. They were trying to kill her. I ran back in the house and got the bat, grabbed the phone and called 911 and a flashlight and did everything I could to try and get the dogs off of her and keep them at bay. Somehow the dogs finally let her go and I kept the dogs at bay while the paramedics were working on her and loading her in the ambulance you know, begging the dispatcher you know, where is the police at? You know I need some help here. You know and I was told by Officer Redd that those dogs which are still right next door to my house, 50 feet away from my bedroom window, that those dogs are still on the property and that the owner is supposed to keep them in a locked windowless room and those dogs are supposed to not come out of that room unless they're leashed and muzzled. I chased one of those dogs out of my yard Sunday. I heard the owner calling for another one of the dogs on Sunday. They're still getting loose and I called animal control, left a message, didn't get a call back as usual. If those dogs get out as a pack again, they will kill somebody. Those dogs are dangerous. They're killers.

CHAIR WHITE: This was, was this March 21st of this year?

MR. TEW: Friday, March 21st, about 10:05 p.m. I was just climbing in to bed.

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CHAIR WHITE: This year?

MR. TEW: Yes, sir.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, thank you very much. The next testifier is Makena Calvert.

MR. CALVERT: Hello, my name is Makena. I live on Kahiapo too. I was almost mauled by those dogs and there was two of them and I was with my best friend biking to school and they were just surrounding us and trying to bite at our legs until the nice woman in a red sports car came up and tried to box in the dogs with two other cars and then let us escape.

CHAIR WHITE: And when was this again?

MR. CALVERT: It was September I think. A few months ago.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: At school.

MR. CALVERT: At school.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah, it was September.

MR. MAYELL: There's been nine attacks out there. The same dogs.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Reported?

MR. MAYELL: Well no, only four reported. Yeah, so the other people have to report it.

CHAIR WHITE: Could you, could you come to the microphone and give us your name?

MR. MAYELL: I know Rick Stanton. My name is Lionel Mayell. There's been nine attacks. We thought four were reported and two of them they didn't report actually, and you didn't either, huh, yeah, so there's only two on record we understand now but there were five physical biting. Your daughter was bit in the face, right? Was your daughter, no? One of the kids were bitten in the face so we have a problem with animal control here and we need this funding. What's happening with this money? What can we do? I know the dogs were deemed by Officer Redd as dangerous. But the owner on the property has contested that as being dangerous and so they're there and they are, they were running around, last week I saw them again running around too. I think it was on a Saturday, not Sunday. So you saw them on Sunday? So we've got a problem and it needs to be dealt with. I hope something will happen here.

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CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for sharing. I really appreciate. Hold on just a moment, Mr. Couch has a question for you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. You said that the owner has contested, did it go to the animal control board?

MR. MAYELL: Yes.

MS. STANTON: The meeting has not been set.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: The meeting hasn't been set. Okay, thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, we have Netra Halperin. Oh.

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: I'm Janine Calvert Biagi. I'm Makena Calvert's mother and I was the one that just said okay enough is enough and got everybody in the neighborhood together. I put fliers in everybody's mailboxes and just called everybody and pulled the neighborhood together to see what we could do about either changing the laws or having the laws enforced, changing the language from an officer may at his discretion destroy a dog that is dangerous to humans or changing that from may to shall definitely because it's a matter of public safety. This is a, this should be a no-brainer for everyone here. I mean who wants their children, their family, their neighbors mauled to death? This is I mean, it's outrageous that it's happening like this and the animal control needs to be held responsible for this because after these dogs were deemed dangerous Officer Redd explained very carefully to me about the fact that the dogs have to be in a cage or in a house with no windows or screens that they can get out of and if they, and they can't be, they cannot be on a leash or a collar at all outside the house. On the 2nd of April, I drove by at 3:05 in the afternoon and that same black dog that has mauled everyone was just laying out in the sun in the driveway ten feet from the mailbox, four feet from the street just right as kids were coming home from the Boys and Girls Club.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: ...*(inaudible)*...

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Yeah, they're out right now.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: ...*(inaudible)*...

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Yeah, my neighbor she lives above me.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: ...*(inaudible)*...

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Yes, it's incomprehensible. So please consider the alternatives. There is another organization I'm sure you know of that right now has been volunteering and that's not

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my job. My job is just to bring it to you so I trust it in your wisdom you will do what is right for the community. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. We have a question for you.

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you. Thank you for your written testimony as well. When you say when you've seen the dog out on April 2nd and you guys are seeing them out now, are you guys calling every time?

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Yes, I did.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay that's good.

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: I called her twice and, called Officer Redd twice and first she said well do you have, did you get a picture and I'm like well I was driving by, I was alone. I don't text and drive you know it's not, you know I abide by the law. I drove immediately home, grabbed my daughter and had her you know with the cell phone, I said look you're going to take a picture of the dog and by then the dog was in. So that night 7:30 p.m., we drive by to go to the grocery store and there they are, he's working on, Logan is working on his car or his truck and there are two dogs laying right unrestrained in the carport. So we have, I mean we're, the neighborhood is taking everything, we're doing everything we're supposed to do and nothing is happening. So we're appealing to you.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you.

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: Thank you. Netra?

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you.

MS. CALVERT BIAGI: No, no, no, here.

MS. REINIER: Aloha, I am on your list. I don't know if I'm on there later. I think it might be more effective if my son and I said something now with our group though?

CHAIR WHITE: Well, we'll allow it this, since you all came as a group. What is your name?

MS. REINIER: Manya Reinier.

CHAIR WHITE: Oh yeah, I think we do have you.

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MS. REINIER: Thank you. Thank you from the many families of Haiku, including mine for your investment, for making an investment in our Haiku families. Through your support for the Haiku Boys and Girls Club, you allow for children and teens to have a safe place to socialize and grow as well as to be tutored and learned good citizenship as well as most importantly how to make good decisions. When you invest in the Haiku Boys and Girls Club you are investing in families and investing in the future, a future where those same children will one day step up and take on your responsibilities and because of the wonderful opportunity that you have provided them to excel in life, they will be equipped to fulfill that responsibility. So thank you from the many families of Haiku, including mine, for your proactive investment. That said, we have the luxury, our community of living very close to the Haiku Boys and Girls Club, to the Haiku School, and to the bus stop that services all of the Makawao, Kalama School. Our children have the ability, or had the ability to walk to school and to walk to the many programs and feel safe as a group. Last year, my children, or in this last year, my children and those of our neighborhood are constantly being harassed by some neighborhood dogs that are not properly restrained. It has gotten so that I personally no longer walk out of my neighborhood but will drive to the community center to jog or walk and we are actually shuttling our children back and forth which is not healthy for them in any way shape or form, they should be able to walk. These dogs attack our neighborhood children and adults alike. I've actually had to hitchhike down my own road, getting a ride from a neighbor because the dogs attacked me. They've attacked my son several times driving on his bike and my daughter and her friends as well. We didn't know that you were supposed to call in until the last couple days as the community has gotten more active, I wasn't sure that everybody else was dealing with the same things and was surprised to find out that some people had actually been bitten and then bitten again, and then other people bitten also. I don't understand why something's not being done about this. What would you like to say about your bike?

MASTER REINIER: So I was riding down the road and then I was like, this dog was running up to me, I was like, what you doing there, doggy? And he was like I'm going to eat you and I was like please don't, and I kicked him in the face and rode off. And that's one of them.

MS. REINIER: So we are as a community just asking for your involvement, and we would love for you to be able to support the animal control so that they can actually do their job.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. Netra Halperin?

MS. HALPERIN: Thank you. So now I want to tie this, okay you're the Budget Committee, so how does this have to do with the budget? Well right now animal control is being given to a nonprofit who needs to have the community to have a warm and fuzzy feeling about them. They need the community to want to give them donations and adopt animals, and animal control is not a warm and fuzzy activity. You don't say oh wow I wasn't attacked, you know that's just not how it works. So we think what needs to happen is that the animal control section needs to be separated from the shelter, from the adoption programs. That's what needs to happen at the

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budget level so that the animal control people can just do animal control and they will put their whole heart and soul in to it, they will be properly funded and that not to have that comingling of resources and not have a nonprofit. It needs to be a governmental agency that is just going to enforce. Do, you know, if this dog is dangerous take him away, that's it, bam, done. So that is my recommendation on a budget level. Thank you for protecting this community and all Maui communities against vicious dogs and helping the dogs get the needs they need in a proper way but not all comingle. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Netra. The next testifier is Aimee Anderson, followed by Dawn Hall.

MS. ANDERSON: Good evening, Council members. My name is Aimee Anderson, I am an SPCA Board Member but this evening I am testifying as an individual. As most of you know, I am the former Director of Animal Control where I worked from 1988 to 2008. I was made aware of this situation on Kahiapo and that's how I became involved. The community reached out, was wanting insight, information, guidance, and hopefully assistance and so that's why I'm here. From what I've been told about this case, obviously I have probably some of the same questions that they do and that you may and that is why these dogs were not deemed dangerous last year. I cannot answer that and that is a problem. The other problem is, these dogs have been deemed dangerous and the law requires, once dogs are deemed dangerous if the owner is not in compliance with how those dogs are restrained, animal control is required by law to impound them. And then the owner is cited to go to court and this has absolutely nothing to do with the dog owner contesting the designation, that's a completely separate issue. Clearly these dogs have been in noncompliance, I know that animal control is not doing after-hour emergency services anymore, but according to Janine, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, she reported that these dogs were not restrained appropriately and no one came. That is a problem. I am a taxpayer like everybody else here and I as a taxpayer deserve protection from animal control, deserve protection from vicious dogs. So I'm going to be testifying actually in Kahului about that separating of the contracts. But again, I am here mainly to represent this community that has been absolutely terrorized and victimized and unnecessarily so. We have a major gap in service and let me just say a couple things, 'cause I've been sitting here all night listening. Seven years, no raises? I left in 2008 and unless I'm really special, I got a raise in 2007 and a raise in 2008 so that seven year freeze on salaries is inaccurate and also, that seven year flat line on the budget is inaccurate and we'll be happy to provide those figures for you. So maybe I know too much about the history of this organization but I do care about this organization and it is painful for me personally because I know a lot of these people that work for the Humane Society. I worked side by side, I worked in the trenches with them. So it is not with a, it's with a heavy heart for me to have to say the things and bring up these concerns that I have. But I did work there for a long time and I know the law because frankly I've wrote most of them. I know how this works, I know how it should work and using lack of money as an excuse not to do your basic core service job is just that. It's an excuse and it's got to stop. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Aimee. Dawn Hall will be followed by Zak Pacholl.

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MS. HALL: Thank you. The mic's had too much use tonight, I think it's tired. Good evening, Council members. Thank you for letting me speak to you tonight. My name is Dawn Hall, I'm the Executive Director and cofounder for Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation. Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation is a volunteer 501(c)(3) animal welfare organization committed to improving the lives of animals and people in the County of Maui. We appreciate the support that Maui Council has provided to our sister organizations SPCA Maui for SNIP administration and Valley Isle Animal Rescue for emergency response services for injured and stray animals. Please continue to support these dedicated organizations. My primary focus tonight is to ask that you separate animal law enforcement funding from animal sheltering funding currently being operated by the Maui Humane Society. Arbitrary reductions in animal law enforcement budgeting and services by the Maui Humane Society over the last several years have negatively impacted both the people and the animals. Public safety is at risk, at increased risk as straying dogs increase in numbers. Roaming dog packs have been reported in Lahaina, Wailuku, and Upcountry with no report of resolution. More and more animals on Maui are suffering in poor living conditions. These conditions are illegal by law and yet reports go unanswered by MHS Animal Control Department responsible for enforcement. The incidents reported tonight likely would not have happened if proper animal control protocols had been performed. Vital law enforcement duties are not being performed to a satisfactory level and MHS management states lack of time and money as a reason for the shortfall in performance of their contractual obligations. At the same time these very same County paid law enforcement personnel are being directed to spend valuable County funded time on the MHS unrelated pet cremation business. This misuse of government law enforcement funding should be disallowed going forward. To reinstate animal control HARF urges, HARF which is Hawaii Animal Rescue Foundation, to separate law enforcement and funding for animal sheltering. also to mandate effective enforcement of all State and County animal laws and to disallow the use of public money to run the pet cremation business. In written testimony tonight I have illustrated a graph that shows the budget and where the money is allocated since Fiscal Year 2005 to current date and you can see that the portion of the funds that are received by MHS through the County contract have almost remained flat lined for animal control where the animal sheltering aspect has almost doubled. If you have any other questions, please feel free to ask. Otherwise, thank you so much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Dawn. Zak Pacholl will be followed by Debbie Redd.

MR. PACHOLL: Good evening, County Council. My name is Zak Pacholl, I missed you guys last week at Makawao, I had to leave early with the kids. Let me just start by saying I have the best job in the entire world. I get to work with driven young kids who just want to learn and want to make a difference in their community. Our number one thing at our club in Makawao, an organization that is fun, we always think about what are ways we can do to make it more fun, make it more exciting for the youth. Any kind of plan, we want to continue to have the youth excited to run to our club after Kalama gets out at 1:23 every day and we just really want to keep that going. Over the last five years of working at, working with the Boys and Girls Clubs, I

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started out as a part-time employee and worked myself up to full-time and now Club Director in Makawao. It's been an amazing journey. I've met lots of amazing people along the way, staff, parents. But the staff is really what I'm here for tonight. We have two of our, at the club in Makawao we have 30-plus years' experience working with Maui youth. Two of our new employees, I'm sorry I'm really nervous right now, are former club members from Makawao, two years and one year working with our organization Upcountry. I really want to find ways to keep them in the organization and keep them working with youth. They're great, great people and we need them around. A lot of our funding has come from the County and we thank you for that. We've had to lean a little bit more on counting numbers for kids, making sure that we have, making sure that we fulfill certain grant requirements and they're great grants but just trying to continue that funding. Last thing, just please support the increase that we requested and thank you very much for your time.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you for your testimony, Zak. And Debbie Redd will be followed by Tricia Calhoon.

MS. REDD: I'm height challenged.

CHAIR WHITE: You can probably bend it towards you from the, yeah, there you go.

MS. REDD: There we go. Okay, that's a little bit better. As you may know, my name is Debbie Redd and I am the field supervisor for animal control. I thank you guys for letting me testify. I am not going to be talking that much about an ongoing case that we have. It is going to be put before the animal control board. It is actually terrible what happened to Susan Stanton. I do believe that she probably would've been killed by those dogs if Robert, who I have talked to, did not come to her rescue and you know he is a real hero, unbelievable what he did. I can't change what has happened in the past. I don't have the answer why those dogs were not deemed, as soon as it came to my knowledge I did the best of my ability and I deemed those dogs legally dangerous. If you guys are familiar, which you should be a little bit with the law, simply deeming the dog dangerous doesn't mean you immediately seize the dog and take it in to custody. The owner is given a set of requirements to keep the dog in. I wish it was different, I don't make the laws. Had our funding not, our budget been what it used to be years ago we used to have an on-call service where an animal control officer would go out and in the event of finding loose aggressive dogs, especially after horrendous tragedy and the extent of injuries that Susan received, those dogs would've been taken in to custody if an owner couldn't properly secure them in a safe manner. We are going to have, the owner has been cited to court, he's been cited many times. I'm sorry that he's not a responsible person and that he may or may not be letting his dogs loose. Like a police officer, I need proof. I know it sounds terrible. I can't take these people's word every time they say the dogs are loose. I need evidence. That's why I did ask you know, if you do see the dog loose, get me the evidence. You get me that evidence, I'll take that dog. I can get a search warrant, I can take that dog, I can seize it in to custody until it goes to court but until I have that, I can't really do anything. So I'm really sorry, I'm not going

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to get in to depth on that. I just want to ask that the Council really support the animal management and pay, cover the full cost. Please don't expect the Humane Society to offset the costs. That's where we are running in to trouble because we aren't you know, animal control isn't warm and fuzzy so we do need --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. REDD: --the support for the full contract to do the services that we used to do, the emergency on-call for injured animals and aggressive animals. That's all I have to say, thank you for listening to me.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Debbie.

MS. REDD: Okay.

CHAIR WHITE: Tricia Calhoon will be followed by Hannah Bernard.

MS. CALHOON: Hello can you hear me? Okay. My name is Tricia Calhoon and I am a school garden coordinator for Maui School Garden Network. I work at Pomaika'i Elementary, Kamali'i Elementary, and Waihe'e Schools. In my personal experience, the school gardens that do have coordinators are extremely successful and the ones that have not found ways and means to be able to have a coordinator it's very difficult for teachers to take on this position as well. At Pomaika'i, I have seen behavioral problems with students, students that are acting out, they are able to completely thrive in the gardens. They are able to express themselves through physically active behaviors, also team working, the student are always working on it together, and then also individually, independently working by themselves. The students, they have great pride in what they do, they come on recess time to rake the fields, mulch the trees, they can do that all independently. We have 115 different, 115 students that volunteer in our after school program and before school program. Waihe'e School has an after school program that is 20 students that they all are doing it. The students when they harvest their own food, their nutritional appreciation for nutritional food, for healthy food it is increased greatly. Once a quarter, I cook for 200 students, broccoli, carrots, green beans, beets, kale chips, green smoothies, anything I can possibly think of, kabocha squash, anything we're growing and I can, I'm sold out at the end of the day so the kids eat everything. So we see nutritionally they're very successful, we have a partnership with a farm that is doing a CSA for the teachers and hopefully for the parents soon so that we can get healthy food in to the schools and curriculum integration we are constantly trying to develop better STEM integration, science, you can see it, very quickly hands on. You want to see pollination? Go to the cucumbers, let's look at the cucumbers, let's look at the lilikoi. We write in journals, we do math, we do Hawaiian studies. We're constantly working with the kumu's to be able to come and do a better job. So I am testifying not for Pomaikai'i but more so for the West Maui's to be able to get a school garden coordinator because there are restaurants there, there are chefs that are ready, there is a farmer James Simpliciano who is constantly asking

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me, Tricia, when is, when are the school gardens going to come to the West Side? So I just think it's an incredibly integral part of our children. It's extraordinary for me to see the kids be so excited about a handful of kale and ten green beans and they feel like they've just won the lottery you know, wow Ms. Tricia, what a day this is, you know we are so lucky and so I think --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

MS. CALHOON: --I think it's just an extraordinary program and I know we haven't asked for funding before and we are, we run on a very small budget, very small budget. So I would just really appreciate your support. I think it will be a great success on the West Maui's. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Tricia.

MS. CALHOON: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: West Maui used to have an incredible ag program.

MS. CALHOON: Yeah, well and Keith has a wonderful program at Lahainaluna too so it's a great partnership waiting to happen. Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: Hannah Bernard is next, followed by Alec Stewart.

MS. BERNARD: Aloha, Council and Committee Chairs, Council members. Thank you so much for being here tonight in our ahupua`a. It's so wonderful to have these meetings in our communities. They are so helpful and it's so great for us to get to see each other and all the things that we're doing and I came here to testify on a time sensitive issue to deal with the Baldwin Beach just down the way here. This is my church, my personal place of worship and it's a place where many of us go for spiritual renewal as well as physical recreation, food gathering, cultural practicing, and all kinds of things like that and tonight we heard so much from everybody about the importance of supporting our youth, especially PYCC right down there next to Baldwin, and I think that what I want to speak about briefly will support that as well. So I am speaking on behalf of the expansion of the park at Baldwin, but I also want to say ditto to pretty much everything that everybody testified on already, especially all of our youth programs and all of our great programs that support our economic opportunities and our animal control issues we need all of those to be funded. I don't envy you guys, man I mean give me a magic wand, just fund them all, that's what I'd be saying. But there is sort of a time sensitive situation and that is as you've already heard previously this trade, this 35½ acres next to Baldwin Beach between PYCC and Baldwin in fact for _____ acres in the business park. And so if the County could use that as a service center and then we could get that 35½ acres donated and expand the park and have a much more continuous area and a place that people can access safely and it would be better managed and taken care of, and that land protected from future development. Many of our youth who are now actually older, they're not kids anymore and some of us older ones stood on

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the side of the highway and hundreds of us testified to support the protection of Baldwin Beach years ago. We want that area to stay a place where all of us can use. I'm representing Hawaii Wildlife Fund as the president of a nonprofit dedicated to the conservation of our native wildlife and the beaches are places where all of us come together, our wildlife, us, and we need them, we need more parks. Mahalo. Thank you so much.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Hannah. Alec will be followed by Veronica Lomeli.

MR. STEWART: Thanks for the opportunity to come here and speak. I'm here because I've been waiting silently for about 15 years for the missing link in the bike path from Kahului to Paia to get filled in and then the other day I was looking in the mirror and I noticed I was starting to get a lot of gray hair and I thought I'm getting old.

CHAIR WHITE: It comes faster than you know.

MR. STEWART: And the bike path is still not finished and this is really disappointing because the part of the bike path that is finished behind the airport is a wonderful resource for our community. It's a great place, a safe place for cycling, walking, running for families to be physically active together but the cruel irony is that to get there, you have to risk your life on the shoulder of Hana Highway with cars flying by at 50 miles an hour. So as someone who's property tax contributes a little bit to your budget, I just want my voice to be heard that this is something that I really care about and I'm sure that there's other people like me who've been quiet, but this is something that they're starting to get frustrated about because it's taking an incredibly long time. But I would take care of the vicious dogs first. Thanks.

CHAIR WHITE: The project is in the works. Okay, Veronica Lomeli will be followed by Adrienne Laurion.

MS. LOMELI: Well she is tired. I'm here, my name is Veronica Lomeli and I'm representing my daughter Stephanie.

CHAIR WHITE: Talk in to the mic. There you go.

MS. LOMELI: I'm representing my daughter Stephanie Lomeli. We recently moved here back in January of 2013 and when we came over there was no, she was not able to be in a program yet until the State got her in to the system. She's a 29 year old adult that has Down syndrome. We started coming to the island back in 1994, she's non-verbal and when in 2010 we were back over here it was time to go home and I've been trying to convince my husband since 1994 to move here and my daughter looked at him and said no go home, stay here and I said I think it's time we really think about her and move here. And so I work for Easter Seals of Maui and they recommended the Maui Parks and Recreation for the paddle program. The Kihei Canoe Club is wonderful. She is now, she's been paddling since February of 2013, she is a member of the

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canoe club and volunteers on visitor day. We need to keep that program, the adaptive program going. It's, it is amazing. I have a participant who I can't get him off the water now. He now paddles three to four times a week and we are having a blast. Also, Special Olympics...

CHAIR WHITE: Please move closer to the microphone.

MS. LOMELI: I'm sorry. Also Special Olympics. I'm losing my voice, Special Olympics has been wonderful. The Boys and Girls Club for my participants. All of your programs are wonderful that you offer. I can't, I mean they're all entitled to everything. This has been such a wonderful experience and I want to thank you and I hope you continue. I'm sorry.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you, Veronica. Adrienne Laurion? Adrienne Laurion?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She left.

CHAIR WHITE: Okay, the next testifier is Daniel Boren, or Bov, can't tell whether it's a Bovi or ven? Is it Boren or Boven?

MR. BOREN: It's Boren. It's bad handwriting.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you.

MR. BOREN: Well thank you, Chair White. I'm here to speak on behalf of the finishing up of the North Shore parkway, the connecting piece that Alec had mentioned is incredibly important to me. I've lived on the North Shore for 30 years and I remember back in high school running on that section behind the airport and now again it's been, I believe it's been about 20 years and still the final piece has not been finished. Myself, I'm visually impaired, I gave up driving a few years ago so biking is actually a primary form of transportation for myself and though I still actually have a current driver's license, I gave it up because in the interest of public safety I don't want to hit anybody. But it's surprising when I bike along the highway how few people care about trying to hit me and I've been run off the road many times. So this is going to be a nice little piece of pathway for somebody like myself to be able to get safely from place to place. It's also wonderful for families, every time I'm on the pathway which is about six or seven days a week as it is I see people out there all the time and it's just a great thing for health, it's a great thing for the community and if you guys ever can figure out a way to connect the Mokulele path to the North Shore path that would be wonderful too because Dairy Road turns out to not be that great of a place to bike either. But the North Shore parkway I know is in its final EA stage here and I know that there's a funding decision to be made for it and I just would highly encourage you guys to go ahead and fund that because it's going to be a great community resource for the North Shore. So thank you guys.

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CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, Daniel. The next testifier is Rachel Nielsen followed by Elijah Nielsen.

MS. NIELSEN: Hi, I'm Rachel Nielsen. I'm a vet tech at the Maui Humane Society. So just to keep it simple, there are so many animals lost, alone, and scared that are brought in every day to the Maui Humane Society and from the very first moment they are greeted with love and compassion and in every way possible they are made to feel at home. We are all fighting for the same objective, we want to make a difference in the community, we want to make a difference for every animal and we want to save lives. So I invite you all to make a difference today and support the Maui Humane Society.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much, and you must be Elijah.

MASTER NIELSEN: My sister and I were born here on Maui. Two years ago our family vacationed in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico for nine months. We saw many animals abandoned, starving, and being eaten alive by bugs and parasites. That experience made my sister and I realize what a huge service the Maui Humane Society provides to our island. It's so cool that they save animals every day. We support the Maui Humane Society as foster parents. We ask that you help support the Maui Humane Society so they can continue saving lives.

CHAIR WHITE: Great job, Elijah. Thank you.

MISS NIELSEN: Me and my brother foster lots of kittens and bunnies and we would really like to foster a puppy soon. When I grow up, I want to work at Maui Humane Society. Support Maui Humane Society and save lives.

CHAIR WHITE: Great job, you must be, Joslin, okay. And our next testifier is Karen Chun. Did she? Okay, and next is Nikhilananda.

NIKHILANANDA: Thank you, Chair White and members of the Budget Committee. My name is Nikhilananda, and a resident of Huelo. This is not an exhaustive list, it's just a few suggestions and requests and I want to appreciate all of the previous testimony, it just shows how many issues and items are important in our community. I'll start with affordable housing, we need more money allocated for affordable housing, quicker approvals and a permitting process. I would suggest researching innovations in other similar size and type communities to have this happen. Now during the Mayor's campaign four years ago he pledged that he wanted to buy foreclosed housing and turn them in to affordable houses and I'm just wondering how many have been purchased in the four years since he's been Mayor of Maui County? Next as far as raising the budget, I support the raising of the budget but it's ironic that the Mayor campaigned four years ago against the previous Mayor of her increasing the budget, yet for four years every year he has increased the budget. So again, it's easy to say things when you're you know seeking office and the reality hits us. As I said, I support the raising of the property taxes, over a third of

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our funding for this County comes from property taxes, but as you heard tonight, it's where the money gets allocated and the budget is filled with places that could be either lessened or totally eliminated and we don't have time to go in to all of that here. However, as far as the property taxes, I've asked for many years, and I'm not the only one that has, please tier the property taxes and simply what I'm saying is that the rate can increase just a little bit for houses that are more expensive, \$500,000 to a million, a million to two, two to five you work that out but instead of having a flat rate for someone that's living in a \$200,000 house and someone that's living in a \$20 million house is just absurd and that's a place where we could raise some more funds because as you heard tonight, everybody wants more money but this has been proposed to this Council, not only this Council but for many, many years and it falls on deaf ears. Please consider that when you look at the tax structure and the reality again is that our top property taxes ironically are relatively low and that's why I say raise them but slightly a little bit okay. As far as water, it's time to start funding construction of reservoirs to capture the huge amount of rainfall that runs off in to the ocean. We're now considered Maui County as Maui island as the wettest location in the world yet people Upcountry are told to save water and again as you've heard me testify many, many times, my dry stream which is blocked by EMI was incredible during these last couple of weeks of rain and the other day it was really amazing and all that water just flows and since I'm closest to the ocean --

MS. NAKATA: Three minutes.

NIKHILANANDA: --runs in to the ocean. You are kidding, geezez, and I'm trying to talk so fast. Okay, please acquire think of acquiring or put in the money or funding as far as acquiring all of the water resources that are controlled by for-profit privately owned multi-national corporations on this island, which leads to a question as to why are public utilities in Maui County privately owned such as water and electricity, why aren't they publically owned? Do not fund the Mayor's ill conceived, and ill thought out waste-to-energy program. That is absurd, but expand curbside recycling which was first proposed by Mayor Lingle 20 years ago. Please more funding for programs for the houseless individuals, more and variety of County camping locations and maybe something could be put where now people are sleeping in this area, Secret Beach and Paia Bay, that maybe that when that does become Maui camp, owned by Maui County, there could be a small camping area there too. Do not lock the --

MS. NAKATA: Four minutes.

NIKHILANANDA: --park restrooms and I've spoken in the past as to the reason why because people need to go and if they're locked, they'll go somewhere else. And definitely I support the increased funding for the maintenance of the restrooms. Now really quickly and I know I've just gone over time so I'll speed it up, that is continue funding and expansion for accepting remote testimony from various locations around the County. Thank you for that. That's something I've been testifying for many, many years, now it's a reality, increase the funding. Another one,

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continue funding and expansion of the Maui Bus. However, let's change the technology to a cleaner bus and more renewable energy buses instead of fossil fuels. Please develop at the --

CHAIR WHITE: Could you...

NIKHILANANDA: --landfill location a material reclamation site.

CHAIR WHITE: If you would...

NIKHILANANDA: Continue the expansion of the bikeways, which my last thing of course 22 years I've come here asking for tennis courts to be put in --

MS. NAKATA: Five minutes.

NIKHILANANDA: --the Fourth Marine Park. Okay, 22 years. So when I heard someone talk about the bike path for 15 years or whatever, 22 years, please let's have some tennis courts in Paia, Haiku, Huelo, somewhere on the East Side. Thank you very much.

CHAIR WHITE: If you would like to give us a copy of that, we'll make copies for the Members. Pardon? Okay, thank you.

NIKHILANANDA: Thank you for the increased time by the way.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you. Well, when you're second to the last we get a little bit looser.

NIKHILANANDA: Thank you.

CHAIR WHITE: We have our last testifier for the evening, unless there's others that would like to testify, is Elaine Ryan. And if there's somebody else here that would like to testify, please let the staff know.

MS. RYAN: What an honor to be the last testifier. You guys must be very hungry, it's been a while. I am testifying on behalf of the bike path as well, finishing up that leg, I bike every day and I'm hoping to have kids in the future and I think that it would be really nice to have somewhere to jog or push walk with a stroller that's kind of extended, help get new mothers out of the house and it's great for the environment, great for health, kids can skateboard, all that kind of thing. And also it would be a wonderful legacy for you all to leave to say, look see that, the whole bike path? We did that. So, that's all I have to say. Thanks and have a good night.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you very much. One last call, is there anyone else in the room that would like to testify that hasn't already done so? If not, if there are no objections, I can't imagine there are any, to closing public testimony?

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COUNCIL MEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR WHITE: Thank you.

...END OF PUBLIC TESTIMONY...

CHAIR WHITE: With that, I want to thank you all for coming this evening.

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

CHAIR WHITE: And we are adjourned. . . .(*gavel*). . .

ADJOURN: 9:02 p.m.

APPROVED:



MIKE WHITE, Chair
Budget and Finance Committee

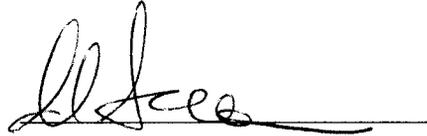
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CERTIFICATE

I, Marie Tesoro, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 2nd of May 2014, in Wailuku, Hawaii

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marie Tesoro', written over a horizontal line.

Marie Tesoro