

Eric Caju <superchickenonline@yahoo.com> on 02/25/2006 04:39:47 PM

To:

cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov

cc:

Subject: Brazilian TV show on Olelo

I want to voice my support for a Brazilian update TV show on 'Olelo from the bcchi because there is a lot of interest in the community for this type of thing. I would have written earlier, but i did not find out until now that it was being challenged.

Thank you, Eric Rosenfeld

Do You Yahoo!?

Tired of spam? Yahoo! Mail has the best spam protection around http://mail.yahoo.com

riofilm1 on 02/26/2006 01:35:23 AM



To:

cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov

olelo@olelo.org

Subject: RE: Written testimony for Olelo

2/25/06

To Whom It May Concern:

We of the "Central Oahu- Childrens' Community Council" are sending this email in support and gratitude for the almost five (5) years of outstanding service we have received in the production and airing of our community service, international award-winning, TV show- "FAPE NOW, TV SHOW" at the Mapunapuna / Olelo studio facilities.

Our award-winning TV show would not be possible if it not be for the expertise, devotion, and professionalism of the fine personnel and staff. Additionally, the availability and quality of the equipment and facilities along with the hours of operation have certainly proved more than adequate for our needs. We can not express in enough words how very important that Olelo and it's sister facilities continue to be available for public access programming.

We take this opportunity to congratulate the DCCA for their continued good judgement in choosing the present management of Olelo to provide this much needed community outreach opportunity via the TV medium.

respectfully submitted,

RIO K. MARTELL, Executive Producer - FAPE NOW! TV show Professional Sector Co-Chairperson Central Oahu- Childrens' Community Council cell#: 808-383-5666 P.O. Box 4043 Mililani, HI 96789

jeff garland <digitaleye@hi.net> on 02/27/2006 08:57:53 AM



To: CC:

cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov

Subject: Amended Public Comment

attached is an amended version of my public comment. Please substitute the attached file.

Mahalo,

jg

Testimony in support of DCCA abiding by state procurement law in regards to state PEG entities' contracts

The state of Hawai'i has held control over their created Public Access entities in Hawai'i for too long. The state needs to allow the entities to establish themselves as truly independent non-profit corporations. The level of state control can only be balanced by allowing the people a voice in the decision making process. After 15 years the state created entities continue to keep the people out at every turn. As long as the only "members" are the state and cable company appointed board directors, the entities will continue minimal provisions for the P, effective mostly for window dressing. This practice stifles creativity and truth. Competitive bidding process is the only fair method to democratically effect needed change. Give the people reason to believe their government isn't above the law by simply abiding by it.

It is clear from the comments at the DCCA meetings on all islands (except Kauai) and the less than factual information distributed by the DCCA designated Public, Education and Government (PEG) nonprofits (from Akaku, Sparky Rodrigues & Gerry Silva), that the state and their PEGs used public resources to brainwash sheople into accepting the status quo instead of to facilitate a truly grassroots movement towards innovation.

Rebuttal to the Hawai'i PEGs' & DCCA Myths

Facts: (much of the documentation can be accessed through http://hpam.hi.net/& http://hpam.hi.net/RFP4PEG/ & http://kauai.net/)

State law mandates PEGs be a "nonprofit organization", thus state agencies and for-profits are ineligible to bid without the law being changed.

PEG contracts in Hawai'i have not been in compliance with HRS 103d since 1993 when the law went into effect.

Community Television Producers Association (CTPA) asked DCCA about PEG RFPs in writing in 2001.

The Attorney General is complicit by their signing of non compliant contracts (they sign for "

Proof of Form")

DCCA already requested an exemption from state law regarding PEG contracts on 11/09/05.

The State Procurement Office (SPO) "approved" an exemption for DCCA on 11/16/05.

<u>CTPA pointed out procedures were not adhered to resulting in SPO's disapproval of the exemption request.</u>

SPO instead considered the time frame of the violation to a future date, thus allowing DCCA to continue their violation of state law.

DCCA posted notice of their exemption request in the least accessible area to the public they are capable of posting to.

<u>DCCA</u> appoints the majority board directors of all of the state's "independent nonprofit corporations" they "designate".

<u>DCCA</u> has threatened to restrict funds from a PEG when they have tried to change that bylaw that their original totally DCCA appointed board created.

DCCA allows these boards to have a <u>bylaw that allows for the Cable Company to appoint</u> <u>members</u>, which is wrought with conflicts of interest.

DCCA Director Recktenwald has admitted he has not yet read all DCCA & PEG commissioned studies.

DCCA Director Recktenwald is quoted as categorizing those documents as "just another study collecting dust on a shelf somewhere."

DCCA appointed the board directors that agree to provide 25% of their funds to education with minimal accountability (if any).

DCCA allows PEGs to get away with not acting in compliance with state and federal laws by actively creating plausible deniability, rather than taking responsibility.

DCCA is allowing their created entity to <u>sue the state to avoid openness and accountability</u> while at the same time saying: "DCCA believes openness and accountability are crucial".

DCCA allows PEGs to distribute their own propaganda while actively suppressing dissenting views.

DCCA has denied the public access to the most important document regarding this issue which is the AG's opinion that their contracts with the PEGs must comply with the State Procurement Law (HRS 103D)!

The legislature improved the Procurement law in 1993 to "ensure greater accountability and eliminate potential conflicts of interest in the system", more specifically to (from the committee report):

- "(1) Provide for fair and equitable treatment of all persons dealing with the government procurement system;
- (2) Foster broad-based competition among vendors while ensuring accountability, fiscal responsibility, and efficiency in the procurement process and
- (3) Increase public confidence in the integrity of the system."

In essence, DCCA is assisting Hawai'i PEGs in turning the true mission of PEG on its head, and assisting them in keeping the public out of the process. The entire process is wrought with appearances of conflicts of interest, which gives the appearance that DCCA could care less if the public has confidence in the integrity of Hawai'i state government.

Most of the spoken comments to date are from the PEGs' doomsday scenario script rather than from individuals taking their own time to read the documented facts and coming to their own conclusion. Had they done so, perhaps they would have formulated a more realistic opinion, like perhaps, though they appreciate the PEGs, perhaps there is always room for improvement, and then maybe provide some of their own ideas how to accomplish it. Instead they all fearfully sang "Eve of Destruction" when "Hey Jude" would be much more appropriate. Obviously, as predicted, the shepherds were successful in getting folks to defocus from potential improvements, leaving one with the unreal impression that things are perfect (e.g., "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"). This is not empowering the individual speaker by any stretch of the imagination.

Potential Benefits resulting from an RFP process

Here is a short list of possible improvements that could occur through a competitive bidding process:

- 1) A Public benchmark for services that are required by the Government, hopefully providing definitions as well (as recommended by the <u>DCCA contracted Merina Report</u>).
- 2) Contracts would have reporting requirements that are useful in determining successful fulfillment.
- 3) Transparency (sunshine law) would be required to ensure public scrutiny over their public funds, thus not allowing the waste of valuable time trying to hide potential mismanagement.
- 4) Facilitation of competition breeds innovation and excellence rather than apathy and acceptance of the status quo.
- 5) An immediate transition to as tapeless as possible.
- 6) access to more media, to include, but not be limited to:

television,
radio,
basic computer training,
7 channel audio,
website creation, design & maintenance,
archived streaming media & creation training,
institute for media democracy,

media literacy training (understanding advertising, propaganda, reading between the lines, investigative reporting, etc., and how to effectively use all technologies in concert to disseminate message(s).)

mobile media lab with cameras, computers & satellite internet feed in a mobile studio like the C-SPAN Bus only better!

Media Delivery service (w logos all over @ vehicle) delivery of cameras, tripods, light kits, and laptops

Theater & arts facilitation (photography, computer & painted art gallery, outreach to actors, in studio LIVE plays etc.)

IBM PC & Mac platforms (possibly unix as well,

Free open source products utilized and trained on as a priority,

Access to all media communication related software including, but not limited to:

Word Processor(s), Database, financial, graphics, 3D animation, audio, etc. all of which can be utilized as part of TV show creation &/or promotion.

More to be provided with bid

- 8) A corporation prioritizing being ON the "cutting edge" rather than lagging as much as 10 years behind.
- 9) A self sufficiency plan other than we'll close the doors if the franchise fees disappear
- 10) It could provide for a corporation with a commitment to continue regardless of present barriers into perpetuity, rather than defining its existence as a perpetual "struggle".
- 11) wireless access as a goal
- 12) many more channel requests to TW for dedicated bulletin board, schedule, events info., etc.
- 13) stereo cablecast
- 14) mobile media lab(s) housing tv (mini studio capable) & computer equip to go to community events and shopping malls to display what's available.
- 15) Training tapes & booklets accessible online & on channels
- 16) Complete take home edit capability
- 17) Media grants of types to include, but not be limited to: (saved for bid)...........
- 18) More client incentives, & awards
- 19) daily Blogs, including, but not limited to: programs in planning, production and premiering today!
- 20) Client chat room to share ideas, knowledge and tech tips.
- 21) Online technical support (for those using take home edit equipment etc.)
- 22) Online program archiving (on demand viewing)
- 23) Pod casting
- 24) A statewide video server serving all PEG programs to ALL islands.
- 25) Welcoming MANAGEMENT & Financial audits by the state auditor to ensure the legislative intent of PEG Access is fulfilled.

- 26) Robust website allowing for; viewing and making reservations online, more info on programs, links to client websites, etc.
- 27) More set design materials and equipment
- 28) A membership (rather than NON membership) corporation that gives you a voice in the future of access.
- 29) A truly independent nonprofit corporation run by its contributing members.
- 30) Rules and policies that truly ensure "first-come, nondiscriminatory" access.
- 31) Etc. (have to save some for the bid process. We don't want to show all of our cards.)

How to structure the RFP:

DCCA should request all bids to be submitted in electronic format (they have that authority), and that the bids & process be open so stakeholders can't be excluded from the process. The RFP can mandate all current levels of PEG provision, along with support staff, be preserved or improved upon (not diminished) and mandate that a self sufficiency plan, for the very real possibility that state support through mandated funds may disappear, be included.

Something to take into consideration when reviewing spoken and written testimony as well as a potential fix for Hawaii's abhorrent educational institutions' record (for those interested):

Passive acceptance of the teacher's wisdom is easy to most boys and girls.

It involves no effort of independent thought, and seems rational

because the teacher knows more than his pupils;

it is moreover the way to win the favour of the teacher unless he is a very exceptional man.

Yet the habit of passive acceptance is a disastrous one in later life.

It causes man to seek and to accept a leader,

and to accept as a leader whoever is established in that position.

Bertrand Russell

Sincerely,

Jeff Garland

V.P., Community Television Producers Association

P.S. I just found out today (2/24/06) at 2 pm that 'Olelo is in possession of the tape from Kauai, and Ho'ike didn't air the tape until 2:21 today (with no end slate), so I respectfully request you extend the time for comment until one week after the tape airs at least once on all islands. If you decide to do so, please distribute the information to those that DCCA is sure will disseminate the information widely, and place a copy of the notice on the CATV website rather in the least accessible place they can find.

P.S.S. On 2/25/06 I noted that Maui's Akaku was in possession of the Kauai meeting tape and it

was on their Xtv online video server as program # 532.

----- Original Message -----

Subject: 'Olelo needs your help! - Deadline Friday, February 24

Date: Sun, 19 Feb 2006 17:28:36 -1000

From: info <info@olelo.org>
To: undisclosed-recipients:;

Aloha,

Since our last email, some of you have asked for more information about

the upcoming DCCA Public Comment Meeting regarding PEG Access services

and a possible RFP process. We welcome all perspectives on these issues

and we encourage you to attend the Public Comment Meeting this Wednesday, February 22 to testify in person or to submit your written

testimony by this Friday, February 24 to cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov.

We are providing the following information to help explain and clarify

some of the issues created by the proposed RFP suggestion.

An Exemption to the Procurement Process

'Olelo does not believe that PEG (i.e. community) access is a commodity that should be bought, sold or put up for bid. It involves

community building, partnering with governmental and educational entities, statewide collaboration to leverage limited resources with

other community access organizations, and nurturing local programming

and a long-term commitment to the community. 'Olelo encourages the

DCCA to request an Exemption from the procurement process for all of

Hawai'i's access organizations.

Risk to Current Services

To 'win' an RFP, a new operator will essentially have to provide a

plan that is substantially different from existing providers. All current 'Olelo services, such as Satellite Community Media

Centers,

. .

that are enjoyed and appreciated by the community and our clients will

be at risk. In addition, training, production services and airtime/playback may be more limited and restricted or, at minimum,

different than the services currently provided.

Lack of Qualified Pool of Operators

Hawaii currently enjoys a relatively stable environment of community

access providers. DCCA's regular performance evaluation of these operators has ensured a consistent progression of services delivered on

all islands. An RFP process will invite participation from a pool of

untested and unqualified providers. Respondents can include individuals

with narrow-focused objectives, business entities with limited community

focus, providers from the mainland without local roots, or newly-established providers with little community access experience.

'Olelo is the only provider that has any consistent length of experience and track record of delivering the range of services and

managing significant resources currently available to the communities of O'ahu.

Stability and Sustainability

Serving the community requires the flexibility to address short-, mid-

and long-term objectives. If community access is subject to frequent

contract bidding, it will be likely that long-term objectives will be

sacrificed in place of short-term victories to maintain the contract.

This is inconsistent with the long-term sustainability focus in the

DCCA's 2004 PEG Access Plan for Hawaii. This also impacts the ability

of the community access provider to develop long-term relationships and commitments to communities.

Accountability

'Olelo's request for an exemption to the RFP process must not be misconstrued as a lack of accountability. On the contrary, there

is

already adequate oversight from government and community stakeholders on

the performance of any community access system in Hawaii. The current

system works and does not need to be unnecessarily tampered with. An RFP

process does not add more accountability but, in fact, will disrupt

continuous and reliable service.

'Olelo Community Television Has a Proven 16-Year Track Record Over the past 16 years, 'Olelo has enjoyed stable management that is

better than the average non-profit organization and has expanded services and programming to reflect the increasing diversity of voices

in our island community. No other community access provider in the

country has the kind of experience 'Olelo has in managing a significant number of satellite Community Media Centers. Additionally,

'Olelo is one of very few community access providers that have had the

stewardship responsibility for the sizable equipment inventory and

financial resources available on O'ahu. Our committed, highly trained staff has a combined total of more than 250 years of community

access experience and has worked hard to earn your trust.

The addition of our sixth channel is the latest evidence of 'Olelo's ability to assess community needs and deliver the capacity to meet those needs. In the last five years alone, 'Olelo has

developed ground-breaking programs to promote media literacy and social

issues among our youth (e.g., Youth Xchange video competition) and address voter apathy (e.g., Vote! 2002 & 2004) in our state while providing consistent service to our independent producers and volunteers.

'Olelo's success has been built on the understanding of community needs and how community access can make a difference. These relationships with a variety of community groups, youth groups, schools,

non-profits and government institutions were established over the years

and all this inherent social and community equity will be lost with a

new provider.

The DCCA has stated that even if the RFP process were to bring about a

change in management, that community access would continue to be provided to all communities (public, educational and governmental).

However there is NO guarantee what services would be offered, if current

services would be maintained, and to what level of quality and commitment.

How You Can Help

'Olelo Community Television has always supported the voice of the people through community access. Now we need you to voice your support

for 'Olelo. We urge you to speak out now. If you have benefited from

the types and quality of services you have received and want them to

continue, please testify in person at the Public Comment Meeting this

Wednesday, February 22, or provide written testimony by this Friday,

February 24, to: cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov. Your support is greatly appreciated.

If you would like to know the airdates and times for the Public Comment

Meetings held on Maui, Molokai and shortly on O'ahu, and for additional information about the DCCA Public Comment Meeting, sample

testimony for Akaku Molokai, and a map and parking information to the

DCCA building, please visit our website:

http://www.olelo.org/news/dcca06/dcca06mtg.html

Again, we sincerely appreciate your interest in community access,

Gerry Silva

COO, 'Olelo Community Television

---- Original Message -----

From: "Sparky Rodrigues" <srodrigues@olelo.org>

Sent: Saturday, February 11, 2006 1:19 AM Subject: Urgent need to protect and defend PEG TV. I need your help.

Community Access Television State wide – Threatened & in grave danger! I need your help to protect and defend our one way to TV media.

On all islands Community Access TV is serving grass-root communities. Building communities by providing opportunities to be creative, to share diverse stories and opinions. Our voices not provided by network television or print media. A venue for locally created television programs by regular people like you and me. All this could change drastically. This process could unintentionally destroying Access as we know it today.

As a result of Cable franchise agreements over 15 years ago, not for profit Community Access organizations were formed to provide facilities and serve their local communities on each island. This was a national movement born of the FCC ruling that public rights of way franchised to profit organizations would provide benefit to the general public. PEG access was born. P=Public, E=Education and G= Government. However, across the U.S. Access organizations are under attack, separating PEG and stripping away the voice of "P". In some areas of the country reducing community voices to a whisper in other areas, eliminating community voices entirely.

DCCA is seeking written testimony to determine... excerpts from DCCA document.

The purpose:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) Cable Television Division (CATV) is seeking to obtain the public's general input and comments on issues relating to public access television services, whether the department should seek an exemption from the requirement that those services be procured through a competitive bid process and, If not, what requirements the department should include in any request for proposal.

- 1. Please comment on the services that are provided by the Public, Education, & Government (PEG) organizations in your respective county: AKAKU (MAUI), HO'IKE (KAUAI), NA LEO (HAWAII) and 'OLELO (OAHU).
- 1. If a Request for Proposal (RFP), which is a competitive bid process, for PEG services was issued by the DCCA, what requirements do you think should be included?

Check DCCA web sit for full document or please send a written testimony via email to: cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov by February 24th. Title the subject on your email: "Testimony Regarding RFP for PEG Providers."

Dissecting the Goose that Layed the Golden egg only produced a common Goose. The sum of the parts may not equal the same result.

We have used access TV to share our stories of Sovereignty, oral history, values, water stories, the anti-annexation petitions, evictions, homelessness, marches, the importance of 'Aina, the stories by & of our hero's. We may not always agree but Community Access Television on all island has given us a voice. It has take community access television 15 plus years to get this far. So much more work needs to be done and an exemption allows continued growth. If the RFP is decided by the DCCA as the path to take, will our communities and our voice fall victim to further government or corporate control by limiting our access.

Ps: My story begins in Makua, No Eviction Coalition, 60 families mostly Hawaiian living on the beach. The might of the State government targeting those least able to defend themselves. I kept hoping for the Knight in Shining armor to save us. What appeared was Independent producers from 'Olelo Community Television with their camera and microphone, they gave us a voice and a face to the struggle. I was deathly afraid of speaking in public, the camera and microphone but was so angry at the Governor and DLNR the anger pushed me past my fear. They let us tell our story and with no editing other than a title and graphics we were able to tell our story, it all aired on 'Olelo TV. The general public soon changed there opinion of our struggle. Opposition went quiet, those neutral turned vocal. After several years of struggle, we were still evicted, I was still arrested. We lost the battle. What I gained was a understanding and power of television. My weapon of choice is now a camera, microphone, editing and airing programs on Community Television. Sharing these tools with underserved communities is my passion. I believe this is the tool to use to win the war.

Ten years ago I started my Access TV experience, it took two years to get into 'Olelo's training program back then. Although the services were, first come first serve, it didn't serve communities like ours or people like me. Once certified I had to drive from Waianae to town to get equipment, go back to Waianae to video tape a community meeting, returning the equipment the next day. The editing process also required me to travel to town and spend countless hours learning and editing my community programs to air on 'Olelo. At times we had to choose between food, gas or video tape. Fundraising for gas or tape became the norm but all our time was voluntary. Investing in our community, our nation. 'Olelo as an organization has evolved and continues to adapt to the changing need of our community. We strive to help other organizations, departments, agencies and communities in any way we can to build a stronger community

I now work for 'Olelo community Television as a Community Developer. Six years ago helped

develop the Waianae 'Olelo Community Media Center and partnerships. Working to introduce media into communities around the island and beyond. Today, partnering with Waipahu Elementary with 20 languages representing a large number of Pacific Islanders. Waipahu HS & Middle schools developing media program and partnerships with community organizations. Mayor Wright Homes, Papakolea Community Association, Queen Liliuokalani Children Center, Alu Like partnering with 'Olelo Community Television all thru media. Partnering to continue a youth Summer Media Program now in its 4th year. Communities have diverse needs and are at varied levels of readiness before they will embrace media as a tool to build community.

I share this bit of my history, because the flexibility of 'Olelo has allowed, a RFP may not. Services to our underserved and underrepresented communities are at risk. We need you help. We need your voice. Please Kokua. Write your thoughts and send them to the DCCA. Join us at the locations to give oral testimony. Call me if you have questions. Cel 352-0059, Hm 696-2823. Mahalo, Sparky

Akaku's position on the RFP process

Akaku Needs Your Help

Hawaii's State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, (DCCA), is conducting Public Comment Meetings to solicit public input and comments on issues that will affect the future of public access television in Hawaii. In Hawaii, each county has it's own access center.

The DCCA wants to hear your comments on the services currently provided by Akaku and whether the contract for providing those services should be opened up to a competitive bid process, or request for proposal (RFP). Such a process could potentially result in the removal of Akaku as Maui County's public access television provider.

You may participate in several ways:

The most effective thing you can do as a supporter of Akaku is show up at the hearing and tell DCCA exactly what you think.

On Maui: Provide written and oral testimony at the public meeting at 4:00pm on Wednesday, February 15th at Maui Community College at Ka'a'ike Bldg., Room 105 and

faxing the testimony to (808) 586-2625.

On Molokai: Provide written and oral testimony at a public meeting from 4:00pm-6:00pm on Wednesday, February 16th at Home Pumehana and faxing the testimony to (808) 586-2625.

Provide written testimony and sending it by email to <u>info@akaku.org</u> and <u>cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov</u> or fax to (808) 586-2625.

Complete a simple online survey form by 12 noon on February 15 and get more information at http://www.akaku.org/survey.

Help us by forwarding this message to your friends and neighbors.

TALKING POINTS:

"If It Ain't Broke - Don't Fix It!"

Exempt Akaku from the RFP process:

Encourage the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) to seek an exemption from the requirement that the services provided by Akaku (and other Public, Education and Government (PEG) access centers across the state) be procured through a competitive bid process (RFP).

An RFP process for the many types of specialized services that Akaku provides is not practicable and not advantageous to the State of Hawaii BECAUSE:

- Akaku is an organization that people trust, is highly recognized in the community for
 providing services above and beyond what is expected. It is widely recognized as one of
 the best PEG access organizations in the United States.
- Akaku is unsurpassed in Maui County in delivering first-come, first served, non-discriminatory PEG access to community communications media in fulfillment of it's mission statement: "Empowering the Community's Voice through access to media"
- No other replacement entity can demonstrate the know how, experience and skill that can stand up to where Akaku is today.
- For over a decade, Akaku has provided award-winning access services, accounted for monies received and completed all reporting requirements
- DCCA mandated self-sufficiency objectives cannot be met if the service organization changes every few years.
- Akaku and Molokai Media Center's solid track record and proven benefit to the community have resulted in securing grants awarded for excellent services and growing partnerships.
- Akaku has developed long-term and strong partnerships with government, non-profit, education, and other community organizations that enhance the quality and efficiency of the services provided. These services could be damaged, stalled or delayed should the organization be replaced.

- Akaku has been built with cable access monies and improved over many years; rebuilding these services would be inefficient and wasteful.
- Cable franchise fees are not part of the State general fund, and therefore should not be required to go through a competitive bid process (RFP)
- The DCCA's task of designing the requirements and scope of services for the RFP is daunting.
- PEG Access services are uniquely local in character for each island community. In order to fully meet community communications needs these services must be provided with the guidance of local oversight boards of directors. For this reason, a state run RFP process would be deficient in meeting community communications needs
- An RFP process for the services that Akaku provides is not practical and not advantageous to the State of Hawaii or to its citizens. RFP processes can be very cumbersome and expensive.
- An RFP awarded contract would restrict flexibility in developing new programs to meet new community needs. Changes to contract terms and services may be time consuming, costly and restrictive.

SPECIAL NOTICE

In the event that the DCCA should choose to design an RFP process, national experts in the area of PEG services should be consulted to draft and recommend RFP's based on "best practice" working models. PEG Access Boards and the public on each island must have full participation and approval of RFP, and public hearings must be held before any plan is implemented by DCCA.

Do our hours of operation satisfy your needs?

Strongly Satisfied	Somewhat
Somewhat Satisfied	Dissatisfied
OK	Strongly
	Dissatisfied
	No Opinion

(How do you rate) The availability and quality of our equipment?

Strongly Satisfied	Somewhat
Somewhat Satisfied	Dissatisfied
OK	Strongly
	Dissatisfied
	No Opinion

(How do you rate) The quality of training provided?

Strongly Satisfied	Somewhat
Somewhat Satisfied	Dissatisfied
OK	Strongly
	Dissatisfied
	No Opinion

How knowledgeable is our staff?

Extremely Knowledgeable Somewhat Knowledgeable

OK

Somewhat

Unknowledgeable

Extremely

Unknowledgeable

No Opinion

(What is your rating of the)Overall quality of services provided to our clients?

Very High Quality High Quality

OK

Low Quality

Very Low

Quality

No Opinion

How would you rate the value of Akaku to our community?

Very Valuable Somewhat Valuable

Somewhat Valuable OK

Minimal Value

No Value

No Opinion

Should Akaku be exempted from the competitive bid process?

Yes

No

No Opinion

Comments:

24 February 2006

CABLE DIVISION COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Director	
State Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	ł
P. O. Box 541	
Honolulu, HI 96809	

2006	FEB	28	А	q:	22
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As a Hawai'i-born resident and consumer, I want you to know that I are very pleased with the programming and technical training opportunities afforded us by public access TV, the 'Olelo Media Center.

Locally produced programs are always very interesting enlightening, and entertaining. I watch legislative and community conferences, listening to citizens' points of view and the concerns that legislators and community leaders must consider in our behalf. The distance learning courses, the Nature study programs, the various local religious programs, the local communities programs--all keep me interested in watching the various 'Olelo channels. The program called "Local Memories" of individual elders produced by the University of Hawai'i Oral History Department is another program that I can especially relate to and I am sure that those growing up here can also see themselves in these "Memories." These are just a few of the many local-themed programs that 'Olelo public TV offers to the viewing public of Hawai'i.

My concern which prompts me to write you is that you plan to place this public TV service up for bid rather than renew it with 'Olelo. There is the possibility that "Outside" money could out-bid the Local agency of 'Olelo, reduce and/or eliminate the services now enjoyed by the viewing public of Hawai'i, and/or bring in more programming that we of Hawai'i already have in the myriad other TV channels.

Please reconsider your plan and renew the arrangements that you presently have with 'Olelo Media. I sincerely believe that we citizens in Hawai'i will continue to benefit from its services to us. If you require my personal testimonial rather than as presented here by my letter, I will be glad to appear.

Audrey I. Vance

1201 Wilder Avenue-2803

Honolulu, HI 96822

Copy to: 'Olelo Media Ctr

Jason Schwartz <mamamaui@mac.com> on 03/01/2006 12:11:14 AM

To: cabletv@dcca.hawaii.gov cc: mamamaui@mac.com

Subject: I believe Akaku should not be sent out to RFP

I feel it would undermine the continuous efforts of Public Access TV by sending it out for $\ensuremath{\mathsf{RFP}}$

The continuity of the programs will not be served, in my opinion by continual changes in management. I have been very happy with the attitudes and follow through of all of the Akaku staff and feel the biggest challenge that has brought this all on is the absurd Boardroom clashes between prejudiced factions

aloha Jason Schwartz Independent TV producer

http://DreamMaui.com/mamapresents.html 808-874-5900 fax 442-0092 Jason Schwartz, 120 Hana Hwy. # 9, PMB 208, Paia, HI 96779

Clyde Sonobe

03/02/2006 08:54 AM

To: Glen WY Chock/DCCA@DCCA, Patti K Kodama/DCCA@DCCA, Laureen K Wong/DCCA@DCCA

CC:

Subject: two comments from Manoa Neighborhood Board members re PEG/RFP

Please print and place a copy in the Olelo public comment file. It should be in the "received after 2/24/06" file.

Thank you.

---- Forwarded by Clyde Sonobe/DCCA on 03/02/2006 08:53 AM -----



Lawrence M Reifurth 03/02/2006 08:01 AM

To: csonobe@dcca.hawaii.gov

cc: Mark E Recktenwald/DCCA@DCCA

Subject: two comments from Manoa Neighborhood Board members re PEG/RFP

Brian Kessler: please take into account the fact that O'lelo is charged w/ repeatedly violating the sunshine law and the spirit of the sunshine law before you award them another contract or in preparation of your REP

Gary Andersen: O'lelo should devote more funds/attention to "P" and less to "G" moving forward. Too much emphasis on "G".

I promised that I would pass these comments on.

Larry

Clyde Sonobe

03/02/2006 03:04 PM

To: Glen WY Chock/DCCA@DCCA, Patti K Kodama/DCCA@DCCA, Laureen K Wong/DCCA@DCCA

CC:

Subject: Fw: Manoa board

Please add to the Olelo public comment file. Please note receipt date of 3/2/06.

----- Forwarded by Clyde Sonobe/DCCA on 03/02/2006 03:03 PM -----



Lawrence M Reifurth 03/02/2006 12:42 PM

To: csonobe@dcca.hawaii.gov

CC

Subject: Fw: Manoa board

Clyde -

See below from Brian Kessler of the Manoa Neighborhood Board re O'lelo and RFP issues. Please incorporate in the testimony/position binder.

Larry

---- Forwarded by Lawrence M Reifurth/DCCA on 03/02/2006 12:41 PM -----



"Brian Kessler" <bri>som>

03/02/2006 12:24 PM Please respond to brian To: <lreifurth@dcca.hawaii.gov>

Subject: Manoa board

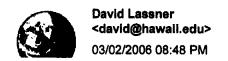
Larry,

Secondly I want to be on record as against the unconditional support for OLELO. They should be required to be re-certified every three years. I also am asking that you take into account the seriousness of the OLELO Board's and possibly the management's refusal to follow the sunshine laws. This is a very serious situation regarding an organization which is all about public access. Therefore I would ask that in your development of the RFP they and anyone else who make a competitive bid for the rights follow new guidelines set forth in the RFP for the development of board members of any of the respective organizations.

I would also request that similar guidelines be set forth for the management structure and operation of the entity.

I would like to also express I have little confidence in the current system of both the board and the management and while requiring a new process of certification every three years and guidelines may raise the level of both which is certainly and above all the purpose of government and the publics best interest.

Aloha, Brian Kessler



To: Mark Recktenwald <mark.e.recktenwald@dcca.hawaii.gov>

cc: David Lassner <david@hawaii.edu>

Subject: PEG, RFP & Education

Mark -- I know you have your hands full so I'll try to keep this short.

You have probably seen our shared consensus input from the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, DOE and UH. That brief document lays out our strategic concern: accredited education throughout the State wants to be able to keep doing what we're doing without going back into the kind of destructive warfare as you've experienced on Maui and we went through on Oahu before the current Olelo-HENC agreement.

Education purposely did not comment on the RFP question. As someone who does a lot of procurement, I think the exemption will be a tough sell to the State Procurement Office, public input notwithstanding. But I think whether or not to ask for an exemption is your call, based as much on public relations and contractor management as the expected outcome.

On a more tactical level, here's what we'd hope for from DCCA as the situation develops:

If you decide to request an exemption and get it, we hope you'll require at least the same considerations for accredited education as we have today: a minimum of two channels on every island and dedicated funding that the PEG entities can't easily rescind.

If you end up issuing an RFP, whether by choice or because you couldn't get an exemption, our goals will be the same. In that scenario the RFP could obviously be crafted anyway you like. There would be no real requirement to maintain the "county" focus, which is largely an artifact of the time when we had many cable companies in Hawaii. And there would be no requirement to bundle P, E and G access programming such that a single provider would necessarily be responsible for all three.

So our first choice in the RFP scenario would be if the RFP would permit accredited education to provide a single statewide proposal on behalf of the DOE, UH and HAIS to program two educational channels on all islands. We would internally work through the issues around the division of funding and channel allocation among entities and islands. We could obviously also provide E proposals for each county or island or whatever geographic distinctions you might decide on.

If you end up doing an RFP and decide to bundle P, E and G together, then we'd hope the RFP would *require* any successful PEG provider to allocate two channels and fixed resources to accredited education.

Our worst-case scenario would be a new set of contracts to PEG providers without any commitment to E. That could easily drive one or more islands back to ground-zero as the old battles might re-ignite.

As this develops I will likely call your office to see if you have time for a visit and conversation with Education.

In the meantime, good luck with your hard choices and let me know if there's anything we can do to make any of this easier for you.

best wishes, david

David Lassner Chief Information Officer University of Hawaii david@hawaii.edu Voice: +1 808-956-3501

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(808) 558-8558	Final reply for Gov. sig Follow up	
February 23, 2006	Dispol (egil) (cofoci Gov.) Approdigitate action Keep enclosure(FY tritia Comment/Recommendation Other	(s)
The Honorable Governor Linda Lingle,	Due 🧸 🥱	THE.
STATE OF HAWAII	Please refer to: 06,6227	グバン
Executive Chambers,	, , , , , ,	~,
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL,		
Honolulu, Hi.96813		

Aloha Honorable Governor Linda Lingle:

Here we are again advocating for a very needy cause in our Molokai Community. We have been having petition's signed in support for the AKAKU MAUI COMMUNITY T.V. In the attached petition's there are two sectors. First will be from the students of Molokai High School who are in the AKAKU program. Secondly, the community of Molokai. There will be other organizations and club's and individuals who will be faxing or forwarding their petitions to you.

AKAKU gives the ability to view County Council, legislative and other civic meetings held on outer islands.

AKAKU allows us the opportunity for underserved and underrepresented voices to be heard throughout Maui County.

AKAKU has a mass media venue for local artists to showcase their talent.

AKAKU is an avenue for non-profits to create awareness for their services and programs.

AKAKU is a community driven media resource for creating awareness about Molokai-based events and issues.

AKAKU is a comprehensive video training and media education provider actively working with schools, non-profits and individuals.

AKAKU has video production equipment and facilities open to the entire community.

AKAKU is free, uncensored, non-discriminating, non-commercial, open access to the most powerful communication tool on this planet....television.

Public access TV is one of the most important resources for our isolated island community...We can't afford to lose it.!

We will be praying that you will hear our plight and somehow help us here on Molokai. AKAKU has been actively assisting our Molokai community. They have been tutoring the students and also parents and kupuna's of these keiki's. We feel that without AKAKU Molokai will be devastated because of the fact, that they are Molokai. To have someone else come in and take over what they have achieved is not a quality driven entity because, we will be going backwards and not forward. We Molokai'ans are not in the same boat as other islands(excluding Lanai) as we do not have many activities to do, nor do we have the funding to travel to be apart of learning what goes on in the Legislature, County and also get educated about many programs that are available to our people.

God Bless you, Linda.

Aloha Pumehana mau,

Caparida

U Mary)

Known as "The Molokai Kupuna Angels"

Cc: Senator Kalani English Mele Carrol, Representative Councilman Danny Mateo Mayor Alan Arakawa Matt Yamashita, AKAKU

Todd Yamashita, Molokai Dispatch

files

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CABLE DIVISION COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

March 6	, 2006	
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2006 MAR -8 ₱ 2: 33

TO:

Mark Recktenwald

DCCA

A__E__P__S___ FILE_____

FROM:

Diane Meyer Deans Theyer

Maui Community College Professor

RE:

Testimony concerning PEG access funds on Maui Community College

At the hearing at Maui Community College on February 15, 2006, led by Clyde Sonobe, I testified as follows:

I have been an educator in Maui County for the past 35 years and I have been a part of the beginnings of the technology influence on the schools, at both the high school and community college level. I was here when the Akaku group began and at that time Maui County was truly a PEG access county. Public, Education and Government all shared in the cable franchise fees that we all pay. This money was used at Maui Community College to help support staffing and programs for distance classes countywide. Since the funding was stopped a few years ago, our distance education areas have suffered with lack of staffing and services. We currently have an unfilled media specialist position because of no funding to cover it.

Presently I see a contentious, dysfunctional board at Akaku, from an educational standpoint. The board meetings that they televise for all to see include name calling, threats, physical fights and intimidation and I would be embarrassed for the public to see what goes on in the name of "free speech." Perhaps if there was a bid process put into place it could provide some guidelines to regulate how the board functions and who gets selected to serve. This current board is totally out of control.

I support the PEG access process but think it should be better regulated. The present board is using the public's money to do things for its own benefit, like buying a shopping center, and hiring lawyers to intervene with the board faction that does not agree with the majority. This situation begs for some common-sense control and regulation.

Thank you for reading my testimony.

Diane M. Meyer P. O. Box 272 Kula, HI 96790 (808) 984-3238

Post-it* Fax Note 7671	Date 3/7/06 pages > 1
To DCCA	From Diane Meyer
Co./Dept.	co. Acc
Phone #	Phone # 984-3238
Fax # 586-2625	Fax # 244-3 228

Koohan "Camera" Paik P.O. Box 481 Kilauea, HI 96754

2006 MAR -6 AM 10: 42

February 15, 2006

Cable Television Division Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs P.O. Box 541 Honolulu, HI 96809

Re: Exemption for DCCA from the requirement that public access televisions services be procured through a competitive bid process.

To the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs:

An effective public-access station is invaluable and leads to a vibrant community. An ineffective one is a big waste of public moneys.

As a former employee of Hoike: Kauai Community Television, I had seen far more corruption, duplicity and flagrant disregard for the community than I wish to know.

I have in my possession a sizeable file of instances where I, as a staff educator, was discouraged from providing outreach education to the community, discouraged from pursuing grants, as well as instances where discriminatory remarks were made by our General Manager, Mr. Jay Robertson, about our local kids' and teachers' abilities and motivation to learn. (By "local", I mean people of non-European descent born and raised in the islands.) It was appalling to hear these remarks from the leader of an organization whose mandate was to serve the community, a community which is mostly comprised of non-European-Americans.

Needless to say, Holke's prolonged existence is one instance of a public-access television station where inexcusable amounts of public moneys have been going, and will continue to go, to waste, unless something is done, such as a bidding process for competitive services to the DCCA is instituted. This is an extremely dire situation.

I was fortunate to escape the destructive work environment of Hoike eight months ago. and thought I would never again have to think about, or peruse my file on, the station's misconduct. However, when I heard about these hearings, I felt that I owed it to the community to take a day off from my schedule to write this letter as very important testimony as to why it is absolutely essential that the DCCA not be exempt from procuring PEG Access television services through a bidding process.

Let me elaborate:

1) While organizing our student film festival, which took place in May 2005, I procured a prize of 45 five-dollar gift certificates from K-Mart. These were to be distributed to the second and third graders from Kapaa Elementary who won the Best Hawaiian Language Film. Mr. Robertson insisted I hand them over to him, which I did. They were never seen again.

It was a small amount, but it would have meant so much to the children. I feel so much shame on the part of Hoike and Mr. Robertson, who, for some inexplicable reason, saw the need to steal from the children of our community.

- 2) Hoike policy clearly states that any staff member found with drugs would "not be tolerated." Yet, Mr. Robertson, who pled guilty in December 2005 to a misdemeanor charge for the possession of marijuana, was able to float above a policy which would apply without exception to the "underlings." It is an outrage that, between Mr. Robertson and his passive board of directors, Hoike harbors the most undemocratic of values. I have heard from those still on staff that this particular passivity has had a tremendous negative impact on staff morale. Surely, no good to the community can come from an organization whose actions continuously and seriously violate democratic values.
- 3) The most clever and insidious tool of corruption is an accounting and inventory program called "Facil." This is a computer program which Hoike uses to inflate its quantifiable value to the community. For example, "value to the community" is expressed by the dollars-worth figure of equipment which is checked out by producers. In other words, how much per day per item is given a dollar figure, say \$150 for a video camera. Throw in a microphone, and that's \$30 more, hypothetically. Some cables, a tripod, a light kit, and the total value for one day's rent could easily total \$400. Minimum checkout time is two days, which would be \$800 "value" to the community. Usually, producers extend their check-out period to four days (\$1,600 "value"), and often a check-out is extended to a week and a half (\$4,000).

For those producers who are simply delinquent and just never get around to returning the equipment, the software keeps adding that \$400 per day that the equipment is missing to the total of Hoike's "contribution to the community." At the end of the year, the figures which supposedly express how much Hoike has benefited the community are astronomical, and needless to say, fallacious, in terms of "real" benefit to the community, especially if you look in the Hoike files to see how many individual producers were actually checking out equipment, and how long they had the equipment for.

In the eight months that I was with Hoike, the total of individual producers easily numbered less than 20. On the other hand, looking only at the dollar amount that represents value to the community would lead a person to think the numbers of producers totaled near 100 or so. For someone unaware of this accounting scam, as I once was, one

cannot help but be deceived into believing the station is fulfilling its mandate with enormous success.

HAD TO OUR TANK GOO GOO TERN

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I remember attending the 2004 Christmas party as Mr. Robertson was boasting of these high figures, for the benefit of important guests, such as Councilwoman JoAnn Yukimura. Ms. Yukimura clapped and nodded with approval, convinced that these figures were evidence of Hoike's tremendous contribution to the community. In reality, Mr. Robertson had duped her, along with his own board members, and the rest of the guests.

4) If you were to look at Hoike reports which tabulate the number of facility users, you can see the fairly low numbers, with the exception of the months I was employed – October 2004 to May 2005. During those months of my employment, you would probably see a marked increase in the number of users. That's because I initiated our collaborations with Ke Kula Ni'ihau O Kekaha, Kapaa Elementary, Kapaa High School, Eleele Elementary and Kalaheo Elementary. Every step of the way, my outreach endeavors were made excrutiatingly difficult by management, even though it was management who had hired me to do just that.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Robertson initiated one education-outreach program on the heels of the decision to hold these DCCA hearings. According to an unidentified Hoike staff member, this, along with accompanying publicity in the Garden Island newspaper, was all an eleventh-hour effort to get facility-user "numbers" up in time to present them at the hearings, and show "proof" of the station's community service.

Indeed, Mr. Robertson will work, if his job depends on it, which proves the necessity that the DCCA should follow regulation by proceeding with a competitive bidding process, rather than handing the contract to Hoike, with little or no accountability. A bidding process keeps vendors honest. Exemption creates a situation where laziness and irresponsibility — even corruption — can easily go unchecked, as has been the case at Hoike: Kauai Community Television.

- 5) After my departure from Hoike, the only other education-outreach program was begun with the Children's Discovery Museum in Kapa'a, teaching kids video production for a watershed education program. I was not present at any of the classes, but I can report that in early January, the coordinator of the program, Linda Sciaroni, contacted me, desperate to hire me, because of what she described as "unprofessional" and "unreliable" behavior on the part of Hoike.
- 6) Though Hoike claims to give studio access to producers, the procedure is set up in such a way as to make it nearly impossible. In order to access the studio, one must first have taken the studio production class. In the eight months that I was at Hoike, the class was not offered once. In other words, in order to use the studio (which is ostensibly for the public's use), the producer is required to take a class which is not offered! Again, policy and procedures have been put in place to discourage producers from access, thus requiring as few services as possible from Hoike, while the DCCA money flows in.

Clearly, a bidding process to procure the services that Hoike has been providing is LONG OVERDUE. The sooner this happens, the sooner the winning bid provider can get on track serving a deserving community.

Urgently yours,

Koohan "Camera" Paik

Hon, Daryl Kaneshiro

cc: State of Hawaii Procurement Office
Mark J. Bennett, State of Hawaii Office of the Attorney General
Mayor Bryan Baptiste
Hon. Kaipo Asing
Hon. Jay Furfaro
Hon. Jimmy Tokioka
Hon. Mel Rapozo
Hon. Shaylene Iseri-Carvalho
Hop. JoAnn Yukimura



The Governor's Molokai Council of Advisors

Robert Granger, Suc Haseyawa, Janice Kalanihura, Jersula Manaba, Marlene 'Kammy' Purdy, Charlotte Seales

06,0708217

February 20, 2006

The Honorable Linda Lingle Governor, State of Hawai'i Hawai'i State Capitol Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Recommendation on the following issue:

Institution of an RFP process for PEG Cable Providers

Aloha e Governor Lingle:

At the February 16, 2006 meeting of the Moloka'i Council of Advisors, a motion was passed to recommend that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs apply for an exemption to the procurement laws as it would apply to the Maui County PEG provider, Akaku

These recommendations were made on the basis of considerable testimony and other documentation presented to the Council, and we summarize thusly our reasons for making this recommendation:

- There was no testimony in favor of an RFP process. In fact, there was much testimony citing how often the RFP process, to the detriment of this island, removes a well-established entity in favor of one that is simply the lowest bidder. These bidders are often unfamiliar with the cost of doing business and the unique needs of Molokai. This has occurred often in the social service arena in the past.
- It is recognized that "Akaku" functions within the PEG of Maui County. While it is not feasible for a "Molokai Akaku" to exist as a separate entity at this time, an adjunct to our recommendation is that further exploration/discussion of the possibility for "Molokai Akaku" to be a separate entity is considered in the future. This addition to the recommendation is based on comments from the representation for DCCA and a Molokai resident.
- The testimonies unanimously acknowledged the exceptional job the current PEG provider "Akaku" delivers to the community of Moloka'i. The manager and staff of "Akaku" are from Moloka'i, they're a part of this community and as a result they capture the heart of this community through their work.

The Honorable Linda Lingle December 5, 2005 Page two

- Education is a significant part of "Akaku", and their mission to empower students of all ages through the learning of video technology was commended. The student's testimonies were enlightening; they are learning the practical skills of verbal presentations while producing informative community news.
- Education professionals support "Akaku", and their call for an exemption to the Procurement Process was unanimous.

As always we genuinely thank you for the opportunity to work with government in this manner and we respectfully ask that your office assure that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs hear our recommendation and act on it to favor our community's wishes.

Sincerely,

Janice Kalanihuia

Lhair

Governor's Moloka'i Council of Advisors

met alonku

Kalanihuia P.O. Box 210 -Kualapuu, Hi 96757