Chairperson Peter Young called the meeting of the Board of Land and Natural Resources to order at 4:13 p.m. The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS**

Mr. Peter Young  
Mr. Toby Martyn  
Ms. Taryn Schuman  
Mr. Gerald DeMello  
Mr. Ron Agor

**STAFF**

Ms. Holly Leong, Personnel  
Ms. Yara La Madrid-Rose, State Parks  
Ms. Tiger Mills, OCCL  
Mr. Robert Masuda, CO  
Mr. Morris Atta, Land  
Ms. Lauren Tanaka, State Parks  
Mr. Randy Kennedy, DOFAW  
Ms. Debbie Ward, CO  
Mr. Mike Constantinides, DOFAW  
Mr. Dean Aoki, CO  
Ms. Juliet Kazanjian, Fiscal  
Mr. Francis Oishi, DAR  
Ms. Jennifer Bethel, CO  
Ms. Betsy Gagne, DOFAW  
Ms. Jolie Wagner, DOFAW  
Mr. Curt Cottrell, DOFAW  
Ms. Jeannie Fujikawa, CO  
Ms. Athline Clark, DAR  
Ms. Christen Mitchell, DOFAW  
Mr. Gary Moniz, DOCARE

**OTHERS**

Mr. Kepa Maly  
Mr. Sam Gon  
Mr. Clyde Namu’o  
Ms. Theresa Dawson  
Mr. Manu Boyd  
Ms. Haunani Apoliona  
Mr. Jonathan Scheuer  
Ms. Diana Leone
Chairperson Young pointed out at the December meeting of the Commission on Water Resource Management, Kepa Maly spoke to those present about the cultural importance of water. After hearing Mr. Maly’s twenty minute presentation, Mr. Young invited him to conduct a presentation before the Board dealing with the cultural importance of Hawaii’s natural resources. The presentation began with Manu Boyd and Sam Gon recited an ole.

Mr. Boyd performed an ole that asked the question “Where is the Water of Kane” to which the reply is that the water of Kane is everywhere – it’s at the rising sun, the setting sun, the mountains, the valley’s the ocean, the stream’s, the rainbow’s, the springs of the earth and the rain. The ole ends by saying water sustains life, water is everywhere and water is important.

Sam Gon performed an ole regarding the changes that happen to the land and how we can make the correct changes for the resources that are on the land and in the water. Prior to the ole Mr. Gon chanted about how the lands are decorated with the beauties of the forest which are fed by the mist of the tradewinds.

As background information Mr. Maly disclosed he was raised on Oahu and Lanai. His kupuna on Lanai were born in 1892. His wife’s kupuna was an esteemed woman of Hawaiian history. Over his lifetime Kepa has been spent time with kupuna’s to gather their stories. It is Mr. Maly’s wish for the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to capture the voices of our kupuna’s in detailed oral history programs because once they die the experiences die with them.

If those present get nothing else from his presentation Mr. Maly wants everyone to remember when people talk about issues of land, water and the ocean in the truest sense of the Hawaiian context they are speaking about family, their gods. He stated people can not focus on only what was lost. Mr. Kepa’s presentation dealt with the knowledge he has obtained over the years but he noted that not all knowledge comes from one school but he will speak on what he has learned. Mr. Kepa told those in attendance that we must share our knowledge with others so it can be passed on to future generations. Mr. Kepa asked those present to keep the knowledge he has shared with them that is good but if he says something offensive that they do not agree with to please set it aside.

Mr. Maly spoke of a book titled “Fragments of Hawaiian History” by John Papa Ii. He spoke of Mr. Ii’s role in life which was to tend to the children and grandchildren of Kamehameha I. He observed the last human sacrifice at Papaenaena, witness the reawakening of the heiau and the putting to sleep of the heiau after the death of Kamehameha I. In the 1860’s Mr. Ii wrote a series of articles for a Hawaiian language newspaper and these articles have been translated into “Fragments of Hawaii.” Mr. Kepa questioned if the articles were fragmented at the time Mr. Ii wrote those articles it would mean that changes would have already occurred to the original work.

Mr. Maly went on to talk about the issue of land ownership. He pointed out in 1848 to 1855 when native tenants of the land were granted the right under a western system to private land ownership many Hawaiian’s applied for land they lived on and were actively working on. But during that time 5,000 of those Hawaiians died and their claims were lost. So when dealing with land issues, Mr. Maly asked the Board to remember that a lot has happened but the Board needs to be able to listen to the issues while putting aside people’s anger so that they can read through
the issues and understand it. While we need to understand what tradition is at the same time we
need to do what we can to save something because so much has been lost.
Mr. Maly encouraged the Board to read an ethnographic study he conducted dealing with the
native traditions, lore’s and historical accounts of Mauna Kea. This seven hundred page
document consists of native and historical accounts of Mauna Kea and it does not include any
science. (Mr. Maly also conducted a study on the oral history of Sacred Falls.) He spoke of
Mauna Kea being likened to a sacred landscape in which each part contributes to the integrity of
the entire mountain. Mr. Kepa let it be known he has spoken with Hawaiian’s that worked the
mountain during the time of construction and they’ve stated that no burials were found or
disturbed during construction phase. Upon speaking with kupuna’s regarding on this issue he
noted many of them feel that what’s there is there and we can’t do anything about it but, those
using the mountain need to show us that they can be good stewards of the land by taking care of it
and respected it. The kupuna’s also asked that no other construction be allowed on Mauna Kea
instead we should make good use of what is already there.

Mr. Maly indicated when Hawaiians look at land, its family, it’s and embodiment of the gods. Mr.
Kepa spoke of a tutu that was taught to call upon the gods before traveling into the mountains.
Should the mist come down upon them while traveling in the mountains it might mean they’ve
done something wrong. Tutu then stated they would proceed to communicate with the gods
telling the gods they were lost and asked for help. Through this story Mr. Maly is not saying we
should live like they did in the past but to recognize that maybe we are not the masters of the land
but if we are good servants to the land we’ll be rewarded by the resources from the land, the food.

Mr. Maly asked the Board when making decisions regarding the land and the water to remember
it is not just a commodity. He noted the western way of looking at the environment is to measure
how much you can get out of the land because they are detached from the land, but Hawaiians
have a cultural attachment to the land so they view it differently. Mr. Maly told the Board they
must arrive at a balance in order for the land to provide for future generations.

Mr. Maly invited those present to ask questions which he would try to answer. Questions were
raised dealt with beach access, construction at Mauna Kea, and the items found at Forbes Cave.

Haunani Apoliona, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs
(OHA) told the Board they were happy to be here to listen to Mr. Maly’s presentation. Ms.
Apoliona spoke of having the same concern the Board has which is to protect the land. She made
it known through today’s presentation she can appreciate the job that the Board has. Ms.
Apoliona let it be known if we can honor, respect and accept the genealogy and lineage of Hawaii
it will make the decision process easier. She told the Board the view of OHA is to “talk story” to
avoid any disconnect so things can be solved the right way.

Mr. Maly ended the presentation by asking everyone to remember this phrase, “O Ka mea maka’i
malama, o ka mea maika’i ole, ka pae ia” which translates to “Keep the good and set the bad
aside.”
There being no further business, Chairperson Young adjourned the briefing at 5:56 p.m. Tapes of the meeting and all written testimony submitted at the meeting are filed in the Chairperson’s Office and are available for review.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Crowell

Approved for submittal:

PETER T. YOUNG
Chairperson
Department of Land and Natural Resources