

Keauhou Canoe Club

Approved Board Minutes July 8, 2026



Date: 07/08/2026

Time: 3:00-4:00 PM

Location: Connie Sizemore's home

CALL TO ORDER—Bill Armer

President Bill Armer called the meeting to order at 3:23 PM.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were recorded.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS JUNE BOARD MEETING—Cat Mikkelsen

The minutes of the previous Board meeting were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT—Sandy Branch

Sandy Branch reviewed the club's current financial position.

Repairs and maintenance continue to be significantly higher than normal due to repeated vandalism and security issues.

Discussion included:

- Approximately \$37,000 was spent on repairs and maintenance during the previous year.
- Approximately \$25,000 has already been spent this year.
- Dedicated funds currently total approximately \$66,000.
- Approximately \$50,000 of those funds remain committed toward the eventual relocation of the halau.
- The Board discussed which funds are restricted and which remain available for future projects and operating expenses.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY REPORT—Stacey Wood

Current membership stands at 665 members with three pending applications.

Three prospective members attended the most recent New Member Orientation.

One upper trailer rack remains available, although additional members remain on the waiting list.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT—Cat Mikkelsen

Sample copies of the new Keiki paddling book were presented for Board review.

Discussion centered on determining an appropriate first printing quantity and next production steps.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Racing and Athletic Director—Vern Bieraugel

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Only two regattas remain before the State Championships.

The women's crews, men's 70s, and the 10-year-old keiki program continue to race well.

The coaching staff expects the girls' 10-year-old crews to compete at States, while participation by the boys' 10-year-old crews will depend on qualification and family interest.

The club continues recruiting racers. Dave reported adding two new Novice B paddlers during the previous week.

Volunteers continue preparing canoes before race weekends. Joe Chambers has volunteered additional assistance for the remaining races. Suzanne and Rich continue helping prepare and rig canoes before practices and race weekends.

Chase's Sophomore crew recently earned two gold medals, while the Open Four crew earned a silver medal.

Travel Expenses

MOTION approved to reimburse Vern Bieraugel's airfare and travel expenses associated with racing activities, along with approved coach travel expenses.

General Status

Racing

Queen Lilioukalani Race

Vern reported receiving approximately fifteen inquiries regarding canoe use during the Queen Lili'uokalani Race.

All canoe assignments will continue to be coordinated through Vern.

Existing priorities remain:

- Fully Keauhou coached crews
- Other Keauhou crews
- Part-Keauhou crews
- Non-Keauhou crews

Current rental fees remain:

- 100% Keauhou crews — No charge

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- Part-Keauhou crews — \$120
- Non-Keauhou crews — \$300

State Races

The Board discussed transportation of Makani Kai to O'ahu.

Arrangements were made for Makani Kai to be transported to O'ahu through Keauhou's partnership with Keoua Canoe Club. Keoua will receive first rental priority after Keauhou's racing commitments have been met.

Additional rental requests have been received from Waikoloa, Waieka, and Beach Boys.

Vern reviewed transportation logistics, beach setup, and scheduling for the State Championships.

MOTION approved to buy a thank you gift for Kailana

Coaching

Moku O Hawaii Meeting highlights--Bill and Vern

The Board discussed the annual MOKU rules review process.

Potential rule changes for October and November include:

- Saturday race scheduling
- Mixed crew events

Members were encouraged to begin considering possible proposals.

Halau and Grounds—Vern and Dave

Security remains the club's highest operational priority.

The Board reviewed drawings prepared by Shaun Roth for securing the halau.

Difficulty continues in obtaining contractor bids.

Discussion included construction of sliding security gates at both the front and rear of the property. The Board also discussed reviewing the plans with Kamehameha Schools before construction proceeds.



MOTION approved to hire an individual to lock the halau gate on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings.

Canoes & Equipment—Vern Bieraugel and Dave Yamagata

Tom Forrest completed a paddle inventory and forwarded the results to Vern.

Early-rising board members reported finding locks left open and sandbags remaining in canoes in the mornings. Youth and Open Men crews are currently using the sandbags. Discussion included securing paddles after practices and ensuring boats are properly locked following paddling sessions. Coaches and paddling groups will be reminded of these procedures.

Events

The Scholarship Committee awarded the Mary MacCheyne Humanitarian Scholarship to Konawaena graduate Melina Kaupiko of Miloli'i.

Melina plans to attend Portland State University and study archaeology.

The J.R. Rogers Scholarship and Michael Haines Scholarship were not awarded this year.

Summer potlucks remain on break and will resume September 25.

Safety and Steering

Tom Forrest presented the Safety and Steering report.

Discussion centered on continuing improvements to safety procedures for both racing and recreational paddlers.

The Board discussed ongoing efforts to strengthen the club's steering and safety programs.

OLD BUSINESS

Fundraising Project for Kailua Bay Regatta Course- Bill and Vern

Bill and Vern reviewed the current status of the Kailua Bay Regatta Course project.

The club has now contributed approximately \$14,000 toward completion of the project in addition to the previous year's contribution.

Approximately \$8,000 remains necessary to complete project funding.

Cindy Armer completed and mailed thank-you letters to project donors.

The Board reviewed continued cooperation among the three North Kona canoe clubs.

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Fund Raising Ideas- Bill Armer

The Board briefly discussed additional fundraising opportunities to complete funding for the regatta course.

NEW BUSINESS

Acceptance of Andy Branch's resignation as Vice President

MOTION approved accepting the resignation of Vice President Andy Branch.

Appointment of new Vice President

MOTION approved appointing **Dave Yamagata** as Vice President.

Appointment of new Board Member

MOTION approved appointing **Suzanne Jarvinen** to fill the Board vacancy.

Board Development

The Board discussed holding an informal gathering to help newer Board members become better acquainted and strengthen communication.

Upcoming Events/Dates/Deadlines

- **Clean Up Day July 25**

The Board discussed scheduling a club cleanup day before upcoming events.
A cleanup day was scheduled for July 25.

- **Annual meeting Proposed Date December 12**

- Nominations for the three-member Elections Committee are due by September

- **Thanksgiving Imu Proposed Date: October 24/25**

COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED:

The Board acknowledged receipt of Andy Branch's resignation letter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The board entered Executive Session at 4:19.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:34