

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE**  
**MEETING**

**APRIL 2, 2026**

The minutes were taken from the audiovisual digital recording of the April 2, 2026, meeting and summarizes each agenda topic followed by a timestamp which points to the approximate time in the recording when the discussion occurred. In accordance with Section 92-9, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), a board may choose to use recordings, with the addition of a written summary, as its recorded minutes. The full video recording of this meeting may be viewed at the Board of Regents website as follows:

[Meeting Video](#)

**I. CALL TO ORDER [00:00:06 – 00:00:48]**

Chair Laurel Loo called the meeting to order at 11:01 a.m. on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at the University of Hawai'i (UH) at Mānoa, Bachman Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room 106A/B, 2444 Dole Street, Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96822.

Committee members in attendance: Chair Laurel Loo; Regent Joshua Faumuina; and Regent Wayne Higaki.

Committee members excused: Vice-Chair William Haning.

Others in attendance: Board Chair Lee; Board Vice-Chair Michael Miyahira; Regents Neil Abercrombie, Diane Paloma, and Laurie Tochiki (ex officio committee members); President Wendy Hensel; Vice President (VP) for Legal Affairs/University General Counsel Carrie Okinaga; VP for Budget and Finance/Chief Financial Officer Luis Salaveria; VP for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer Garret Yoshimi; Interim VP for Research and Innovation Chad Walton; UH-Hilo Chancellor Bonnie Irwin; Executive Administrator and Secretary of the Board of Regents (Board Secretary) Yvonne Lau; and others as noted.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES [00:00:48 – 00:00:58]**

Chair Loo inquired if there were any corrections to the minutes of the March 5, 2026, committee meeting which had been distributed. Hearing none, the minutes were approved.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD [00:01:46 – 00:02:00]**

Board Secretary Lau announced the Board Office did not receive any written testimony and no one signed up to provide oral testimony.

**IV. AGENDA ITEMS [00:00:58 – 00:24:04]**

**A. Discussion and Possible Action on Bylaw Changes Regarding the Restructuring of Board Committees [00:00:58 – 00:24:04]**

Chair Loo referred to the memorandum in the materials packet regarding the restructuring of the board's currently established committees stating conversations on the propositions contained therein were initiated at the March 5, 2026, Committee meeting. She called attention to the wealth of information on this subject provided to regents and then opened the floor for discussion.

Dialogue occurred on the suggested restructuring of the board's committees as outlined in the memorandum noted above with several regents sharing their thoughts about the proposal and offering commentary on, among other things, the intentions behind seeking this structural change; the need to further investigate affiliate group assignment requirements prior to embarking upon a complete restructuring of the committees; the possibility of having a board designee, rather than a sitting regent, serve on the aforementioned affiliate organizations; the overlapping of some oversight functions and responsibilities under this new, as opposed to the current, committee structure; the interdependence of committees when it comes to certain subject matter areas; the board's role as a governing rather than a managing body; the advantages of having committees with a more clear and defined focus; shared governance; and the benefits of having more detailed discussions prior to making any final determination on this matter.

Several regents expressed their desire to move ahead with the proposed committee restructuring saying changes can always be made should the new arrangement be deemed untenable in the future.

Regent Higaki moved to proceed with amending the Bylaws of the Board of Regents to restructure the board's committees as proposed in the memorandum on this subject, seconded by Regent Faumuina, and noting the excused absence of Vice-Chair Haning, the motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

**V. ADJOURNMENT [00:24:04 – 00:24:12]**

There being no further business, Chair Loo adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/S/

Yvonne Lau  
Executive Administrator and Secretary  
of the Board of Regents