



# DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • VP (808) 204-2466 • (808) 204-2466 (VP)

## NOTICE OF MEETING

### Disability and Communication Access Board

### Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting

March 6, 2025

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Disability and Communication Access Board will be meeting remotely using interactive conference technology. The public is welcome to participate as follows.

#### **Public In-Person Meeting Location**

Kamamalu Building, Room 111A and 111B  
1010 Richards Street, Room 118  
Honolulu, HI 96813

#### **Participate Virtually via Zoom**

Click on the link below or copy and paste it into your browser window:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87198854761>

and enter Meeting ID: 871 9885 4761

#### **To join by phone**

Dial 1 669 900 6833 and enter Meeting ID: 871 9885 4761

#### **Public Testimony**

**Oral Testimony** - Members of the public may testify on each agenda item before the Standing Committee on Communication Access deliberates on the same.

**Written Testimony** -To ensure the public as well as its Committee members receive such testimony in a timely manner, written testimony should be submitted 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time. Any written testimony submitted after such time will be distributed to the members and the public at the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted by one of the methods listed below:

1. By email to: [dcab@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:dcab@doh.hawaii.gov)
2. By U.S. Postal Mail:  
Kirby Shaw, Disability and Communication Access Board, 1010 Richards Street,  
Room 118, Honolulu, HI 96813
3. By facsimile to: (808) 586-8129

## **AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call/Introductions
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025.
- V. Old Business
  - A. Report on One New Applicant for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.
  - B. 2025 Communication Access State Conference. Update.
- VI. New Business
  - A. Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting on February 15, 2025.
  - B. Hawaii DeafBlind Expo on May 3, 2025.
- VII. Open Forum  
Public comment on issues not on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.
- VIII. Announcement of Next Meeting
- IX. Adjournment

If you require an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Cindy Omura at (808) 586-8121 and email at [dcab@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:dcab@doh.hawaii.gov) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

An American Sign Language interpreter and a Real Time Captioner will be provided.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessible formats.

The agenda and materials for this meeting are also available for inspection at DCAB's office located at 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 and on DCAB's website at: <https://health.hawaii.gov/dcab/dcab-agendas-and-minutes/>.



# DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • VP (808) 204-2466 • (808) 204-2466 (VP)

## MINUTES

### **Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting**

LOCATION: Virtual via Zoom and In-Person Location

Kamamalu Building

1010 Richards Street, Rm. 111A and 111B

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

DATE: March 6, 2025

TIME: 11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Gerald Isobe, Chairperson; LisaAnn Tom, Board Member; Kirby Shaw, Kristine Pagano, Justin "Pono" Tokioka, Bryan Mick, Elizabeth Pearson, Staff

ABSENT: Nikki Kepo'o, Board Member

GUESTS: Kammi Koza, Linda Lambrecht, and Fanny Yeh

SIGN LANGUAGE

INTERPRETERS: Keri Lee and Carie Sarver

REAL TIME

CAPTIONERS: April Chandler and Kelly DeCamp

- I. Chairperson Gerald Isobe called the meeting to order at 11:17 a.m.
- II. Board members, staff, guests, captioners, and sign language interpreters introduced themselves.
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted.

No written testimonies were submitted.

- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025.

The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes from January 23, 2025. Board member LisaAnn Tom raised a question regarding the date of the Hawaii DeafBlind Expo, as the minutes listed it as "TBD." It was clarified that the actual date of the event is May 3, 2025.

Due to this discrepancy, the Committee did not approve the minutes. Approval of the January 23, 2025, meeting minutes has been postponed to the next meeting.

- V. Old Business

- A. Report on One New Applicant for the Hawaii Quality Assurance System (HQAS) Test.

Staff reported that they are still awaiting results from a few evaluators. The deadline for submission is March 2025, and staff has followed up with those who have not yet submitted their evaluations. All results are expected to be received by next week.

B. 2025 Communication Access State Conference. Update.

Chairperson Gerald Isobe reported that a venue has not yet been confirmed, and staff are currently exploring options for efficiently processing purchase orders through the State government. The conference remains tentatively scheduled for June.

Guest Fanny Yeh inquired about the conference goals. Staff responded that the Communication Access Conference will be open to the public, with registration available through the organizers. The event will include training workshops and guest speakers from various state agencies. Potential topics may include emergency response (such as how deaf individuals can communicate with 911), equal employment opportunities (with possible input from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission), and artificial intelligence (exploring how AI could benefit the deaf community). However, the final agenda has not yet been confirmed.

Guest Fanny Yeh also asked whether there will be guest speakers from the mainland. Staff responded that they are working to secure two (2) mainland guest speakers. Confirmation of a venue, date, and time is still pending, after which the agenda will be finalized.

VI. New Business

A. Report Report on Deaf and Hard of Hearing Advisory Board (DHHAB) Meeting on February 15, 2025.

Staff attended the DHHAB meeting on February 15, 2025, and shared the Act 204 report, including recommended solutions. There was a great discussion and a lot of information sharing.

Also, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is struggling to hire someone for a counseling position in the Deaf Services section. They are having difficulty in finding the right person for the position. If you know anyone who may be interested in applying, please let the DVR staff know.

B. Hawaii DeafBlind Expo on May 3, 2025.

Staff announced and reminded attendees to save the date for the upcoming Hawaii DeafBlind Expo. DCAB will be sending staff to the event to provide support and promote services.

Guest Fanny Yeh inquired whether the event will be led by deafblind individuals or if assistance will be needed. Staff clarified that the Expo is designed for deafblind individuals, their families, and friends.

Discussions also included:

Guest Speakers: A deafblind attendee from Arizona has expressed interest in attending and possibly sharing their experience. Additionally, the Helen Keller National Center may send a representative to present.

Communication Access: There was curiosity about how tactile communication will be facilitated at the event.

Venue Confirmation: After some discussion, it was confirmed that the event will take place at Palama Settlement.

## VII. Open Forum

Board member LisaAnn Tom raised the idea of creating a video (potentially on the Disability and Communication Access Board's (DCAB) Facebook page) to explain the difference in services provided by DCAB and DHHAB. There has been confusion within the community regarding which organization handles specific issues (e.g., emergency notifications and airline captioning requests).

Next Steps:

Kirby Shaw confirmed that creating a video is possible, either with a third-party producer or using in-house resources (e.g., cameras, green screen).

Any request for a comprehensive video covering all DCAB programs should go through Kirby Shaw for approval.

Emergency Preparedness & Outreach:

Board member LisaAnn Tom suggested gathering feedback from neighbor island communities on emergency alerts for individuals with disabilities.

Staff confirmed efforts to set up an emergency management workshop in June, covering 911 response and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) resources.

Guest Linda Lambrecht shared that SILC (Statewide Independent Living Council) is having similar discussions and could be included in future meetings.

Community Engagement:

Guest Fanny Yeh emphasized the importance of DCAB meetings in informing the public about available services.

Board member LisaAnn Tom suggested collaborating with neighbor island communities to ensure inclusivity.

## VIII. Announcement of Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday May 22, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

NOTE: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/  
JUSTIN TOKIOKA