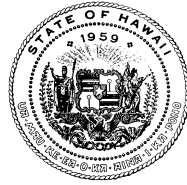


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAI'I  
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



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In reply, please refer to:  
File:

## STATE TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY ADVISORY BOARD (STBIAB)

### MEETING MINUTES

March 3, 2026

Present: Bill Rodrigues, Lisa Dau, Cameron Rogers, Stephanie Edwards, Karen Klemme, Rita Manriquez

Absent: Wayne Parsons

Others: Troy Furutani, HCAMP; Nicole Andrea Meza Navarro, HPU BSW Student/Pacific Disabilities Center

DOH Staff: Michele Tong, Neurotrauma Program, Donovan Casison, Community Resources Branch

- **Call to Order** - Meeting called to order at 1:37 pm by STBIAB chair Bill Rodrigues - Quorum was established.
- **Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted** - No public or written testimonies submitted.
- **Approval of Minutes from January 13, 2026** - Board member, Karen Klemme, motioned to accept the minutes with no changes or edits. Board member, Stephanie Edwards, seconded the motion. All board members present at the time of voting voted in favor of the minutes being accepted with no further discussion, questions, or edits. Voting to accept the minutes: Ayes 6, Nays 0,

Abstentions 0

○ **Old Business**

A. Update Neurotrauma Strategic Plan Fiscal Year 2025-2030

- The Partner Agency Workgroup (PAW) conducted their first interview to discover potential opportunities to collaborate with other organizations. Tani Salazar from Executive Office on Aging shared her office's recent campaign on brain health awareness involving TBI, stroke, and dementia. Four potential opportunities for partnering were identified:
  1. Public and professional education to promote brain health, risk reduction, and early detection of compromised brain health and function.
  2. Fostering communication and collaboration between public and professionals statewide.
  3. Identifying community-based approaches to increase public awareness and access to resource information.
  4. Collaborating on a new chapter in the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) to include brain health.
- Neurotrauma Program (NTP) staff reported on an informal conversation with Chelsea Pang of the Veterans Administration Pacific Healthcare System (VAPHS) about potential opportunities to work together. Service members identified by a military health provider for a potential TBI are referred to VAPHS for further evaluation. If the service member is determined to have sustained a TBI they are offered the opportunity to enroll in a program to address TBI related issues. Once the service member reaches specified program goals, rehabilitation activities through the program are

concluded. A potential area of collaboration is seen in having TBI recognized as a chronic condition.

- The Hawaii Neurotrauma Registry contract with the University of Hawaii is still being worked on. There have been delays related to staffing and competing priorities. Lastly, NTP staff shared financial data for the past and projected revenue and expenditures.

Category	FY 2022 (Actual)	FY 2023 (Actual)	FY 2024 (Actual)	FY 2025 (Actual)	FY 2026 (Estimated)	FY 2027 (Estimated)	FY 2028 (Estimated)
Appropriation Ceiling	\$1,074,994	\$1,074,994	\$1,043,209	\$1,055,594	\$1,055,594	\$1,055,594	\$1,055,594
Beginning Cash Balance	\$723,698	\$590,671	\$645,149	\$934,086	\$1,164,599	\$879,599	\$559,599
Revenues	\$515,100	\$462,802	\$435,074	\$396,811	\$450,000	\$415,000	\$415,000
Expenditures	\$648,127	\$408,324	\$146,137	\$166,298	\$735,000	\$735,000	\$735,000

B. University of Hawaii College of Education – BrainSpace contract

- HCAMP presented updates on BrainSpace, an online concussion education platform that is housed on <https://hawaiiiconcussion.com/>. In the past year over 2,000 coaches and 1,000 parents have used the platform. HCAMP staff quizzed board members with four sample test questions from the new curriculum. Four board members participated in the poll of the sample test questions and as a group scored an overall average of 95%. The updated concussion videos have been completed, and HCAMP is in the process of updating platform. The new platform is expected to be launched by mid-March.

○ **New Business** –

- QMC (Trauma) e-bike presentation scheduled for this meeting was canceled due to a schedule conflict on the part of the presenter.

## ○ Open Forum

### A. Neurotrauma news and announcements from across the state.

- Neurotrauma Program announced the completion of a new section on the NTP website that covers Surfer's Myelopathy. A girl scout working on her Silver Award requested her Surfer's Myelopathy project be shared on the NTP website. The page is now live under the spinal cord injury section of the NTP website. <https://health.hawaii.gov/nt/spinal-cord-injury/surfers-myelopathy/>. A member added that surf schools in Hawaii are now required to disclose information about Surfer's Myelopathy risks to students.
- NTP also shared a letter from Department of Education's (DOE) superintendent, Keith Hayashi, on DOE's new policy regarding e-bikes. E-bikes are not allowed on elementary and middle school campuses while high schools have specific restrictions. Discussion on e-bikes included the possibility of e-bike tickets contributing to the Neurotrauma Special Fund and difficulty with enforcement of e-bike laws. In addition to the difficulty of determining what qualifies as an e-bike, the police department is short on officers.
- Kauai BIG reported that meetings have moved to first Tuesdays at a new location. Meetings usually include art therapy. At the last meeting participants created a mandala.
- Kona Brain Injury Support Group (Kona BISG) was asked about support group attendance and caregiver participation. Kona BISG shared that they have been meeting since 1994 with six to eight attendees per meeting including participants on Zoom. The upcoming speaker, Dr. Natalie Caldito,

from Pacific Neuroscience Group, will be speaking on nerve pain; what it is, how it works, and treatment options.

- One member shared her current housing difficulties as a TBI survivor. She has been homeless for five months and is facing difficulties in her current living situation as roommates are not knowledgeable about people living with a TBI. She is also experiencing a lack of privacy and being treated unfairly.

B. Public comment on issues not on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting.

- NTP will request QMC (Trauma) to do the e-bike presentation at the next STBIAB meeting.

## **VII. Next State Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Board Meeting**

Date: May 12, 2026

Time: 1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Location: Diamond Head Health Center and Zoom

### **2026 STBIAB Meeting Dates**

January 13, ~~March 10~~, March 3, May 12, July 14, September 8, November 10

Meeting Adjourned at 2:28 pm