From: **DLNR CO UIPA** DLNR.UIPA@hawaii.gov
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] UIPA Request for meeting minutes (Aha Moku Advisory Committee)
Date: March 9, 2026 at 3:51 PM
To: Ben Creps ben@publicfirstlaw.org

Aloha Ben,

I talked to Ms. Leimana DaMate last Friday about your question. She informed me that Aha Moku had not conducted formal meetings for a long time and had never prepared any meeting minutes in the past. That practice was based on an understanding that Aha Moku was not a state board or commission and thus was not subject to the Sunshine Law. So we don't have any relevant record to be produced in response to your request.

However, this practice was recently challenged and we were recently directed by the OIP that Aha Moku must follow the Sunshine Law as to providing meeting notices and preparing meeting minutes. Aha Moku will follow that directive from now on.

We appreciate your inquiry in this matter. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Bin C. Li
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Administrative Proceedings Coordinator
1151 Punchbowl St, Rm 131, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone (808)587-1496, bin.c.li@hawaii.gov

From: Ben Creps <ben@publicfirstlaw.org>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2026 2:58 PM
To: DLNR CO UIPA <DLNR.UIPA@hawaii.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] UIPA Request for meeting minutes (Aha Moku Advisory Committee)

Aloha Bin, could I get a status of my 2/18/26 UIPA request? Thank you.

Ben
808-380-3576

> On Feb 19, 2026, at 6:13 PM, Ben Creps <ben@publicfirstlaw.org> wrote:
>
> Got it, thank you for the confirmation.
>
> > On Feb 19, 2026, at 3:25 PM, DLNR CO UIPA <DLNR.UIPA@hawaii.gov> wrote:
> >
> > Aloha Ben,
> >
> > Yes, I can confirm that your understanding of the Sunshine Law requirement is correct and Aha Moku will comply with it.
> >
> > Separately, I'll process your record request and get back to you in time.
> >
> > Mahalo for your inquiry and support.
> >
> > Bin C. Li
> > Department of Land and Natural Resources

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From: Ben Creps <ben@publicfirstlaw.org>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 4:21 PM
To: DLNR CO UIPA <DLNR.UIPA@hawaii.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] UIPA Request for meeting minutes (Aha Moku Advisory Committee)

Aloha Bin,

First, I've confirmed with Deputy AG Dave Day that the Aha Moku Advisory Committee now understands it is subject to the Sunshine Law, including the meeting notice and minute requirements. Please correct me if I have that wrong.

Second, I would like to make a follow up UIPA request for emails, written correspondence, and other materials related to the Aha Moku Advisory Committee's testimony in opposition to HB 2047 (2026, which is available here: https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=2047&year=2026. Basically, I am trying to understand how it is that the Aha Moku Advisory Committee decided to take the position it has taken in its testimony, and why.

Please let me know if I can clarify anything. My direct line is 808-380-3576.

Ben Creps

> On Dec 10, 2025, at 12:57 PM, DLNR CO UIPA <DLNR.UIPA@hawaii.gov> wrote:
>
> Aloha Mr. Creps,
>
> I had a discussion with Ms. Leimana DaMate today. She informed me that the Aha Moku Advisory Committee didn't hold any meeting recently, and for their previous meetings they did not prepare meeting minutes. Because the committee is only advisory in nature, their meetings are usually not open to the public and they're not required to prepare meeting minutes.
>
> Please let me know if you have any further questions.
>
> Bin C. Li
> Department of Land and Natural Resources
> Administrative Proceedings Coordinator
> 1151 Punchbowl St, Rm 131, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
> Phone (808)587-1496, bin.c.li@hawaii.gov
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>
> **From:** Ben Creps
> **Sent:** Tuesday, October 28, 2025 2:09 PM
> **To:** DLNR CO UIPA
> **Subject:** [EXTERNAL] UIPA Request for meeting minutes (Aha Moku Advisory Committee)
>
> Aloha, may I please have an electronic copy of the meeting minutes from the most recent meeting of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee? (I cannot find them online.)

recent meeting of the Ana Moku Advisory Committee? (I cannot find them online.)
Thank you.

Ben Creps
808-380-3576