MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE AIRPORT ZONING BOARD

Held on Thursday, January 9, 1958
In the Office of the Airport Manager
Honolulu International Airport, Honolulu, T. H.

Present : Mr. George K. Houghtailing, Chairman
          Mr. Lin San Lai, Member

Absent : Mr. Olen V. Andrew, Member (on the Mainland)

Also Attending: Mr. Mark E. Martin, HAC
                Mr. Gilbert L. Livingston, HAC
                Mr. Andrew Lee, Deputy Attorney General

The meeting of the Airport Zoning Board was called to order by the Chairman, Mr. George K. Houghtailing, at 10 a.m., in the Office of the Airport Manager, Honolulu International Airport, Honolulu, T. H.

The minutes of the meeting held on April 26, 1957, were approved as circulated.

Mr. Martin reviewed for the board three principal problems for discussion:

1. The question of zoning for military airports was discussed at length. The discussion was concluded after Chairman Houghtailing requested Deputy Attorney General Lee to prepare an opinion as to whether or not the Territory can zone property around military airports. Mr. Lee agreed to prepare such an opinion.

2. Mr. Martin advised the board that the zoning enforcement procedures have broken down at the City Planning Commission but that Planning Commission representatives have indicated a willingness to reorganize the procedures and to act as the designated agent for the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission in airport zoning matters. The idea of blanket waivers in certain areas was discussed as a possible means of simplifying the enforcement process. The board members expressed reluctance to grant blanket waivers and instructed Mr. Martin to work out procedures with the City Planning Commission which would not require blanket waivers.

3. Mr. Martin briefed the board on the contents of a joint letter from The Hawaiian Electric Company, Limited, and the Hawaiian Telephone Company regarding somewhat serious enforcement problems. The letter is quoted herewith as a part of these minutes:

September 9, 1957

Airport Zoning Board
C/o Mr. Mark E. Martin
Honolulu International Airport
Honolulu, Hawaii

Gentlemen:

Airport Zoning Regulations provide that within a hazard area a person is not allowed to construct a new structure or substantially alter or repair an existing structure unless he applies for a permit and the HAC grants the application for permit.
The Hawaiian Electric Company, Ltd. and Hawaiian Telephone Telephone Company jointly operate thousands of poles within the hazard area as defined in the regulations. We have several hundred personnel engaged in expansion, operation and maintenance of these facilities every day and enforcement of the above rule would impose a hardship on rendering service to our customers. Strict interpretation of the rule would prohibit our restoring service to customers until a permit was obtained when a pole is demolished by an automobile. It would also impose a tremendous burden on the HAC to process the great number of applications in the time required.

We do not believe it was intended that this rule be as restrictive as its literal interpretation indicates. We recommend the rule be modified so that a permit is required by The Hawaiian Electric Company, Ltd. and Hawaiian Telephone Company only if certain height limitations and conditions are exceeded or that The Hawaiian Electric Company, Ltd. and Hawaiian Telephone Company be instructed to operate as agents of the HAC to see that the regulation is complied with. In the latter case, each Company would be required to see that poles set by it meet the requirements of the regulations. Also, each Company will agree to correct any violations of the regulation at no expense to the HAC if an error is made by the Companies.

Your favorable action on this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC CO., LTD.

/s/ C. H. Williams
C. H. Williams
Manager of Engineering

HAWAIIAN TELEPHONE COMPANY

/s/ R. S. Lowrey
R. S. Lowrey
Executive Assistant

The board members recognized the problems involved in literal interpretation of the regulations. It was agreed that the two utility companies should be allowed to be self-policing on the matter of replacing individual poles which have been destroyed and which are an integral part of an existing system. It was also agreed that they should be self-policing in regard to routine installations within that portion of the zoned areas outside the approach and transitional zones so long as such installations would not create greater obstructions than already exist in the immediate area. It was emphasised, however, that all new installations within the approach and transitional zones must be approved, as presently required, by the Hawaii Aeronautics Commission. It was further emphasised that, as a condition precedent to the granting of these exceptions, the utility companies must
agree to correct any violations, promptly
and at no expense to the Territory, in the
event of errors or differences in interpre-
tation.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
George K. Houghtailing, Chairman