



PATA Micronesia Chapter 3rd Tri-Annual Meeting 2024 Wednesday, December 11-12, 2024 | Guam, USA Venue: GCC MPA Building 300

General Membership Meeting: Day 1, December 11, 2024

1. Call to Order: 9:35am

- **1.1 Member Introduction** **Apologies for missing or misspelling of names, the audio recording was not clear**
 - 1. Chairman Kadoi Ruluked, Palau
 - 2. Vice Chair Mark Manglona, Guam Visitors Bureau
 - 3. Treasurer John Rivera, Citadel Pacific
 - 4. Secretary Rita Nauta, Guampedia
 - 5. Alternate Annette Santos, Regional Education
 - 6. Kimber Rilometo, Marshall Islands, OCIT
 - 7. Roxene Karben-Vagauta, Marshall Islands, Museum, Public Library, National Artists
 - 8. Judy Torres, Marianas Visitors Authority
 - 9. Ezra, Marianas Visitors Authority
 - 10. Wisse Amram, Executive Director Public Library
 - 11. Marcellus Akapito, Chuuk Visitors Bureau
 - 12. Haneldon Philip, Kosrae, Chairman of KVB Board
 - 13. Julie Sigrah, Kosrae Tourism
 - 14. Bryan Mori, CIA CEO, Pohnpei
 - 15. Mary Immanuel, Pohnpei State Legislature
 - 16. Grilly Jack, General Manager, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 17. Ronald Reyes, Airport Lander, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 18. Baron Mendiola, Seaport Manager, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 19. Bill Edward, Chairman of R&D Committee, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 20. Alik Alik, Board of Director, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 21. Trevayne Esiel, Board of Directors, Pohnpei Port Authority
 - 22. Mark Kostka, Director, Department of Resources and Development
 - 23. , United Airlines, Pohnpei
 - 24. McGarry Miguel, Vice Speaker, Pohnpei State Legislature
 - 25. Hudson Abraham, Floor Leader, Pohnpei State Legislature
 - 26. Kirisos Victus, CVB Board of Directors, Chuuk State
 - 27. Raj Sharma, Guam Webz
 - 28. Denise Mendiola, GCC





- 29. Glenn Weber, Individual, Guam
- 30. Anne Perez, Individual, Guam
- 31. Dave Tydingco, Valley of the Latte
- 32. Susan Goolian, Yap Visitors Bureau
- 33. Vanessa Lauweiram, Yap Visitors Bureau
- 34. Nely Mori, Chuuk Visitors Bureau
- 35. Eskella Joseph, OCIT, Republic of the Marshall Islands
- 36. Lori DeBrum, OCIT, Republic of the Marshall Islands
- 37. Frederick DeBrum, OCIT Board, Republic of the Marshall Islands
- 38. Chloe Yano, Palau Visitors Authority
- 39. Sharrise Ngiraked, Palau Visitors Authority
- 40. Cathy Mesang, Palau
- 41. Carol Cruz, Tourism & Hospitality Dept. Chair for GCC
- 42. Valerie Carbullido, Central Hospitality
- 43. Alessa Aguon, Concierge Palau, Palau
- 44. Terry Duckham, Creative Director, Asiapix Studios Hong Kong
- 45. Sheri Guavis, ELEFA Handicraft Shop
- 46. Lou Aguon-Schulte, Paradises (online)
- 47. Francis Domnick, OCIT, RMI (online)

1.2 Member Introduction In Memoriam of PATA Micronesia Chapter Members

- 1.2.1.Des Matsutaro and Malia A. Ramirez
- 1.2.2.According to the seafarers, the ground is the most sacred because as people pass on, they take what they know with them into the ground.
- 2. Minutes to be recorded on zoom
- 3. Review/approval of minutes of previous meeting
 - **3.1.** March 14, 2024, Secretary reported that the meeting recording is available.

4. Report of the Chairman

- 4.1 Vice chair: Thank you for your presence. As we end our term, the chapter is in good hands and we're excited for the new leadership to come. Acknowledging the team of GVB.
- 4.2 Thank you to the members who have traveled from your islands to be with us here on Guam. Your presence is a testament to the strength and resilience of our chapter. The past two years, our canoe has navigated unpredictable waters. We faced challenges that tested





our resolve. Finding the right course was not easy, but through passion, trust, support, and the shared love of our islands, we persevered. Together we have steered the canoe in the right direction ensuring that we remain unified and steadfast in our mission as a chapter. Our key resolutions and actions in 2022, were firstly, the board implemented a \$5000 hosting fee, increased from \$500 because everyone is facing financial constraints within their own government and offices. This resolution will expire at this current board's term, which will allow the incoming board to evaluate and make decisions that meet the chapter's needs moving forward. Secondly, a strategy to build our chapter's presence in the digital community is in progress. We all travel around the world, we're all on cell phones. So to reach the people, the board and exec communities are working hard to put laptops and cell phones in each office. We need to have a voice in the digital environment. Some of us can't travel, but putting ourselves on the digital map will help us be heard, and will bring traffic into our marketing initiatives and programs. Thank you to the board. Thank you for your time, patience, friendship, love for our islands, and dedication and support of our brothers and sisters across Micronesia. To our incoming board and committee chairs, the chapter is in a good place. I encourage you to charter a course that takes us further beyond our chapters goals and aspirations, and continue the work with the same passion and commitment.

5. Report of the Treasurer

- 5.1 Financial Report (see report here) by Dr John Rivera
 - 5.1.1.Hosting fee: board increased hosting fee to \$5000 only for this current board's term 2022-2024
 - 5.1.2. Motion to adopt Treasurer's report approved
- 5.2 Compliance and Fiscal Report -
 - 5.2.1. Vice Chair: informed by Dept. of Rev. & Tax that for 5-6 years, the chapter was under an old TIN number. Will work with the previous Chair to make corrections and resubmit tax filing for previous years. New board tasked to submit any pending items to Rev & Tax. Chapter still in good standing.
 - 5.2.2. Secretary: PATA chapter is a non-profit based in Guam. Per requirements, annual meetings and elections must be held in Guam. Filing of Form 990 for non-profits requires CPA to complete the report; will be carried over to the next board.
- 6. Website Report: Chapter and Micronesiatour.com Report





6.1 Micronesiatour.com

- <u>Performance period</u>: 12/10/23 12/9/24 (1 year)
- Total visits: 48,321 per year; 4019 per month; 132 per day
- <u>User pathways to website</u>: (1) keywords in search engine (2) direct web address (3) other, social media
- Where users come from: (1) Guam (2) Korea (3) Japan (4) US (5) Australia
- <u>Topics of Interest</u>: (1) Getting to Micronesia (2) Experiences (3) Events
 (4) Visa Requirements (5) Activities
- Access: 76% mobile device, 24% laptop/desktop
- 6.1.1. Terry Duckham (based in Hong Kong): Has been working with Micronesia since early 1990s, and helped develop websites, marketing and rebranding for the visitors bureau. Looking at the website, PATA has 2 sites: PATA Micronesia and Micronesiatour.com. Both websites share 90% of the information, which is confusing for people, and is a problem that needs to be addressed. Content management is a buzz word and means a lot of things. The only way to make content management work is to make everyone contribute. If you look at the website <u>patamicronesia.org</u>, the first activity you see is shopping, when PATA is now promoting heritage and culture. Micronesia is a lot more than shopping. Going to the shopping page, no content available. We're happy to work with the team because it is our expertise, having worked with Micronesia for the past 30 years. The offer is there if interested.
- 6.1.2.<u>Dave</u>: There's two because it's confusing when they're together. The <u>micronesiatour.com</u> is geared towards travelers, whereas <u>patamicronesia.org</u> is geared towards our organization. There is a directory, but we need content from all the members. There's a lot more that needs to be done, but these are growing pains. We do need active participation from all the members. If your info is not being represented, please reach out. Content has to come from the members, that's the key.
- 6.1.3.<u>Mark</u>: How often can we share content? As often as you want. Send it to the email so we can put all the updates. Every meeting we stress that our website is only as good as we make it. This is where the NTO/STOs come in; they can work with the marketing committee to send reminders every month. Local events, regional events, things that we're proud of that we want to promote.





- 6.1.4.<u>Dave</u>: We can give access to the NTOs to post your own information. If you're not comfortable, send it to the Guam team and we'll take care of it for you. There's no limit to the updates you want.
- 6.1.5.<u>Allen/AJ</u> (web and IT administrator for GVB): We run two projects, one is <u>visitguam.com</u> for tourists, and the other is for the community <u>guamvisitorsbureau.com</u>. Being government, we are required by law to publish the board meetings, minutes, presentations, anything having to do with conducting business, especially announcing public meetings online. Content is king. The responsibility is for the member to submit. We don't have the time or resources to remind people, but we can employ AI. For example, say we haven't heard from Chuuk, AI can send a request to Chuuk to remind them to post content. We'll monitor and police the site so no bad things will be posted. Bandwidth may not be an issue anymore, and capacity is increasing.
- **6.2.** PATA Chapter Website Alessa Aguon
- 6.2.1. Our Gateway to the Digital Space: Let's See How We Are Doing
 - Digital tools and platforms PATA can use to promote our region
 - Tools available to members, and how we can work together to strengthen our digital presence
 - Micronesiatour.com
 - November 2024: 15,432 visitors, unique visitors: 12,789, page views: 42,120, average session duration: 3:15 mins
 - patamicronesia.org
 - November 2024: 6,240 total visitors, unique visitors: 4,850, page views: 18,900, avg. session duration: 2:45 mins
 - Benefits of being a member: utilizing our digital tools, gateway to the digital space. Opportunity to reach global and international audiences
- 6.2.2. Timeline: RFP sent out a couple of weeks ago. Proposals are being reviewed and should know the results by the end of this week. Steps moving forward: RFP is to redesign content management and online tools. Work with NTOs for strategic content so the team will be responsible for content and storylines to work with developers to start enhancing the website; should take 3-4 months.
- **6.3.** Social Media Overview
 - Digital tools and platforms PATA can use to promote our region





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- 7. Lunch
- 8. Election of Chapter Executive Officers
 - **8.1** Role of the Executive Officer Positions
 - The General Membership was briefed by Election Committee Chair, Dr Annette T Santos on the election guidelines and Board roles and responsibilities.
 - **8.2.** Open the floor for additional nominations
 - Dr Santos certified receipt of nominations by members and opened the floor to in-person nominations; no additional nominations were received. During recess for onsite box lunch, members were able to cast their votes at designated sites managed by the Committee. Voting stations closed at 12:50 pm.

8.3. Chapter Elections

- Election Committee Chair Dr Santos officially reported to the Membership and recorded by Board Secretary, the official election results based on 75% of members voted; approximately 30 out of the 40 eligible members voted for the following Executive Board for Dec 2024 through Dec 2026:
 - Marcellus Akapito, Chuuk FSM David Tydingco, Guam Judy C. Torres, Saipan NMI Kimber Rilometo, Majuro RMI,

9. Chapter Committees

9.1 Culture, Heritage, & Environment





9.1.1.Assist and direct PATA Micronesia chapter focusing on cultural and heritage preservation within the region and within the framework of PATA. Formulate a business plan of chapter activities on a defined basis covering the full administrative year. Take the lead in ensuring the chapter complies in the environmental and sustainable standards regionally. Create and continuously modify a strategic plan on how the committee will spread awareness on what is going on with the world. Develop and lead educational courses to help the youth understand the importance of conserving our cultural heritage and environment. Set guidelines for the region of Micronesia in compliance with sustainable practices and continuously keep up with current events in regards to climate change, and use them as a basis for strategic planning. Present to the chapter chairman, the board, and members at the general membership meeting, and contribute writings of committee work to the membership of the via the officer of the chairman on a tri annual basis.

9.1.2. Chair: Chloe Yano, Palau

Co-chair: Rita Nauta, Guam

9.2 Education

9.2.1.Define objectives for the chapter activities and strategies for the achievements of these objectives in consultation with the board. Form a business plan. Work with organizations with regards to events and logistics that the committees decide to undertake. Arrange with different venues for events that the education committee is trying to push out. Ensure that notices related to activities are sent to members. Present to the chairman and the board of directors, a proposed program action and secure approval from the chairperson for all training sessions following the SOP established and approved by the board of directors. Create opportunities to bring to all the different islands like enhance customer service training, social media digital aspects that you feel your island needs. Figure out what the educational and training needs of your jurisdiction are.

9.2.2. Chair: Carol Cruz, Guam

Co-chair: Susan Gooliyan, Yap

9.3. Membership





9.3.1.Help the chapter organize its membership listing. Maintain or arrange for the maintenance of the updated chapter membership listing, produce and publish a chapter membership roster for distribution to all members. Formulate a business plan for any committee activities. Distribute membership renewal notices and collect membership dues. Work with the chapter treasurer so invoices get sent out. Assess chapter membership needs on a regular basis, present to the chapter chairperson and the board and chapter members at the general membership meeting.

9.3.2. Chair: Sharrise Ngiraked, Palau

Co-chair: Vanessa Lauweiram, Yap

9.4. Marketing

9.4.1.Define objectives for the chapter activities and strategies for the achievement of these objectives in consultation with the chapter chairman and board. Form a business plan on chapter activities on a defined basis covering the full administrative year of the chapter. Work closely with the sponsoring organizations regarding dates, venues, costs, logistics, presentations, education seminars, workshops, and other activities as appropriate. Arrange With hotels and other venues as appropriate for the efficient operation of chapter activities. Ensure that notices relating to activities are disseminated to all members. Present to chapter chairman and board of directors and general members at the general membership meetings. Full complete report of activities during that year.

9.4.2. Chair: Lori DeBrum, RMI

Co Chair: Mark Manglona, Guam

9.5. Public Relations

9.5.1.Prepare and implement a program to position the chapter as a leading organization within the local travel industry community. Provide members with a range of benefits. Formulate a business plan of chapter activities. On a defined basis, cover the full administrative year of the chapter. Review and publish a chapter newsletter on a regular basis. Work with local media to provide chapter activities, news, reports, pictures for publication in the PATA newsletters. Relay any news on PATA activities to local media. Produce promotional material for the chapter's activities as appropriate. Present to the chairperson, board and members at the general membership meeting.





9.5.2.Chair: Eskella Joseph, RMI

Co-chair: Nely Mori, Chuuk

Recess of General Membership Meeting 4:18 pm

Convening of General Membership Meeting: 9:15am Day 2, December 12, 2025

9.6. Introduction of New Executive Officers and Committee Chairs 2025-2026

o Dave Tydingco, Judy Torres, Marcellus Akapito, and Kimber Rilometo

10. Guest Speaker: Hon. Governor of Guam Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Chairwoman of the 26th Micronesia Island Forum

10.1.Summary

- PATA Micronesia is an essential working group
- Tourists nowadays are seeking adventure and culture, while we love to tell our stories
- We must remind them that if they are seeking a tropical environment, Micronesia should be the first thought in their minds
- PATA Micronesia needs to ensure that tourism helps our peoples and us as governments will provide resources and help make it happen

10.2. This is an essential working group, critical to the prosperity of our Micronesian Islands. The Micronesian Island Forum has designated PATA as the official regional tourism committee. As leaders of Micronesia, one of the priorities is how do we grow prosperity and improve and lift the quality of life for all our Micronesian brothers and sisters. Tourism is the most crucial for our region of Micronesia. We as members of Micronesia are seeing an evolution of our islands; more people and visitors come, and we're seeing the benefits to what that does to our businesses, our government, that increases our revenues that we give back to our communities. The patterns of behavior of our tourist visitors and they are changing; they don't just want to shop or go to the beach, they are looking for more substantial experiences. We islanders love to tell our stories and have a platform to tell them to tourists, because they want to know who we are, what we're about, our history, culture, traditions, practices, and how we live. Our challenge is how do we take that together as Micronesia. You as experts in this area need to work together to figure out how to do that. Us as governments will say here are the resources





we have. As a governor, I am looking forward to your recommendations.

11. Micronesia's Grand Masters of Traditional Seafaring Panel: Navigating our Way Forward with Island Wisdom

11.1.Rhapin Woek (Grand Master Navigator) Ali Ali Haleyalur

11.2.Summary

- In the open ocean, there is no place to hide. So to become a navigator, one must be courageous and be willing to face all that is out there.
- Our children are losing their identities and learning other cultures and languages before our own
- We navigators ask PATA Micronesia to help us save our knowledge and teach it to the next generations to continue its perpetuation—what makes us Micronesian

11.3. "Navigation, canoe building, and other knowledge we hold in Micronesia are very important and unique to our cultures. Being on the land we say it's staying where it's solid. Going out in the open ocean is more dangerous, so we are forced to face everything out there in the open sea. If you want to become a navigator, you have to have certain qualities: have courage, be wise, and be strong because out there is the place we call for men only. Whoever wants to be a navigator has to be willing to face everything that's out there. Out there in the open ocean, you don't have anywhere to hide, you have to face it. So the more you voyage, the more courageous you get. It's important for all of us to learn this knowledge and keep it. I wish all of you leaders from the Micronesian region will work together with us to maintain this knowledge before it fades away. We depend on our knowledge. We are losing our identities. Our children are raised in different systems and learn how to speak different languages which are not ours. We have to know ours first before we can learn those of the outside world. Our identity is very important as Micronesians, so I beg all of you to come up with something to connect Micronesians, to uplift the cultures and traditions of our places. From a bird's eye view looking at the open ocean, Micronesia is like a speck of sand in the ocean. Micro is something very small, insulting us because they think we are too small. One thing they don't know is that we are the caretakers of the biggest ocean of the whole world. We travel it, we use our canoes and navigation to bring life to others and seek higher grounds during climate change and sea level rise. Back in FSM, I could see the differences and effects of climate change in the weather and in our land, it's faster for us. It would be very funny for people from the outside world to teach us our own culture. It has to come from us."

11.4. Rhapin Woek (Grand Master Navigator) Sesario Sewralur





11.5.Summary

- Although navigation is traditionally passed down through the families, my father broke that and taught it to Hawaiians to bridge Polynesia and Micronesia, and to help give our younger generations that left our islands a sense of identity and culture.
- What makes us Micronesian is our way of life: bringing life and resources to the different islands via canoe, helping one another through hard times.
- I planned a voyage between 2026-2027 to connect all of Micronesia back to Hawai'i and will have all islands represented by our students who are learning voyaging.
- It is our responsibility, even that of PATA Micronesia, to teach the youth.

11.6. "I pay my respect to this ground, to the Chamorus of Guam and to all of you. The art of navigation is culturally, passed down within the family. But then, in the 1970s, we saw the struggle of our young generations leaving our islands and not knowing our culture. Then there was one person who taught the people of Hawaii the art of navigation because he knew if we didn't teach it, it would disappear. My father went to the Hawaiians in 1979, but the Hawaiians struggled to learn and share their culture which they couldn't teach in schools, so they were asked to prove that they have culture. So my dad went and helped them, and the voyage started in 1976 to Tahiti. 17,000 people came to greet the canoe because it was the first voyage to Tahiti in a long time. I was involved with Polynesian Voyaging Society in the 1980s-90s and then the 1999 voyage that connected the Polynesian islands to Micronesia. From Hawaii to RMI to Kosrae, Pohnpei, Chuuk, then Guam and Saipan. Then my father said, "I have placed the stick, the bridge for Polynesia and Micronesia to work together as one." We are not just divided territories, we are connected by our big ocean. Our navigators connect us. We have clans and relatives all over Micronesia. The canoe is our only way of bringing life to our families on different islands. If there was an island destroyed by a typhoon, the navigators came together, gathered food and plants to give life to that island. This is our life as Micronesians. Micronesia is a term that they give us as small islands, but we are navigators. I planned this voyage 2026-2027: a Micronesia-wide voyage to Hawaii for the anniversary of the canoe donated to my father. This canoe serves as a floating classroom for Micronesia, based in Palau. I believe it is our ancestors' spirits that bring us here today as one whole Micronesian region to share our stories and to help on this voyage. This is our responsibility to look after our younger generations. Just to let you know that the voyage will continue, we're planning throughout Micronesia, and we will have representatives from each region in Micronesia. So I just wanted to share with you that we'll have this voyage and hope that we can all put our efforts forward for generations to come.





11.7. Palu (Master Navigator) Larry Rigaital

11.8.Summary

- We must not compromise the authenticities of our cultures for the sake of tourism. PATA must keep that balance.
- Coming from an island less than a mile long and going into working with international and world leaders, I learned that these big nations can learn a lot from Micronesia.
- What our elders are teaching are far too important to be forgotten to the past.
- There were schools of navigation recognized by our ancestors all across
 Micronesia, it's in all of our DNA, but our smaller islands retained it because it
 was practical for us, and many of the larger islands were forced to stop because of
 colonization.
- For tourism, we must share what we have and that is our ocean. We hope that
 PATA will help support us navigators and our teaching to our younger
 generations, who will be the key in perpetuating this knowledge, then become the
 ones who will continue to pass it on, and attract more tourists without
 over-commodification.

11.9. "Let me recognize the PATA members that are here. I'm so grateful that we can share some stories. You play that vital, significant role in our economic engine-tourism. In line with some of the things we said, let's not compromise or give up the authenticities of our cultures for the sake of tourism. I want to share a story from when I was growing up on the tiny island of Lamatrek, only 0.7 miles, less than 6 feet above sea level, less than 200 people and 28 households. I knew everybody, everybody was related, everyone's business was your business. For me, that was the biggest and largest island in the world at that time, until I started to see some things washing up on shore–plastic, yori, trash-which made me wonder if there was another world out there. I found myself in the crazy world of America where I went to school and ended up working for the government. At that time, as I was pursuing my higher education, I started to think, maybe there's something that small island has that these places don't have. It was further compounded working for the national government as a foreign service officer. Going to international meetings and hearing world leaders talk about some things that were brand new to them, the idea of climate change. I was at the first Rio de Janeiro meeting when this was coming around and at that time I said these are things that our elders knew about, this is not new, what's the big deal? I think the islands of Micronesia have a lot to teach the world about climate change and more. I resigned from my job and found myself in the jungles of Yap, learning from elders and my late father, carving canoes. They thought I was crazy. I wasn't satisfied with what I was doing until I was in the jungles learning





from the elders because what was in that small island was far too important to be forgotten to the past. For everyone of us Micronesians, I believe it's in our DNA. When I was working with foreign leaders, I was told, "you can put your canoe on the aircraft carrier, but you cannot take the aircraft carrier on the canoe." I take those same thoughts and say, "you can take a Micronesian out of Micronesia, but you can never take Micronesia out of that Micronesian." We are who we are, proud people and descendants of some of, if not the greatest navigators of all time. We navigators here in front of you are from very small islands, and we have retained this knowledge because it is still practical for us. Colonizers didn't see anything of value in the small islands, so they went for the bigger islands. Believe it or not, at one point in time, there were schools of navigation and canoe building. We can name a few from Pohnpei, Palau, Chuuk, Marshalls, and from here that were acknowledged by our navigators. That's something as Micronesians that we can lay claim to. If there is one thing that is really rooted in all of Micronesia, it is that canoe. I heard Dr. Viernes describe what this region is about: we're not small, we're huge by ocean. Colonizers came and divided the region, we now even have 200 mile borders. We never had those, and when we're on the canoe, we don't see them. We have ceilings with traditional names to know where we are, and they're huge. In the preamble of the Constitution of FSM, it says the ocean does not divide us, it brings us together. That is our connection. We can tell numerous stories of how we are related, but these are not new grounds, these were playgrounds for our ancestors. I am honored to be with you this morning because I'm interested in knowing how PATA is branding regional tourism and how it's going to work. I always thought what we could do is lay claim to what we have, and that is our oceans. If that means supporting Ali, supporting Sesario, to continue the work we're doing and attract more tourists, then we must be cautious and be authentic. Our children are the future. They are the ones that need to learn all these things, the knowledge. Once they do, things will fall into place. What we're doing is on the shoulders of those who came before us: Sesario's father and Ali's father, but the future generation is going to be the key."

11.10.Questions and comments

11.10.1.Knowledge is in our essence, in our being. And we thank these wise guardians of our culture for their willingness to open up their inner beings to us today, and we have benefited from that. Our response is to say thank you in our Chuukese and Micronesian culture to say thank you and owe them respect and appreciation. Even if it's not much, even if PATA will give them a token of appreciation, our heart, for you for coming and opening up to us today.

11.10.2.One of the fascinating things about Chuuk and our Chuukese siblings is that we can trace our knowledge to those places. I've always learned and





appreciated how our culture in Chuuk humbles itself in transmitting knowledge, including Itang- the higher language of elders and navigators and keepers of sacred knowledge.

- 11.10.3. Annette: leaves me speechless and brings tears to my eyes. A lot of what was said spoke to my heart and gives me hope for our new board. Larry spoke of our youth and their importance. My grandchild asked me how did we know there were other people outside our island, how did we know to build a boat. Part of our PATA micronesia chapter efforts is to build those stories, and share the truth and discovery from our lens and our hearts. What we can do to foster tourism on our terms and protect what is ours from our limited resources. There are opportunities to share our voices.
- 11.10.4. Thank you for sharing the elements of seafaring. It's so crucial for our traditional culture. Sesario, you were talking about the voyage plan and will be connecting Micronesia. Are you going to take students who are learning seafaring from not just PCC but all students learning? I assume you are using traditional methods. How are you going to select which students will be on the voyage?
- 11.10.5. Grand Master Navigator Sesario Sewralur: For the 2026 voyage, it is our responsibility to look at who can be trained with us a whole year. Of course we will teach the way of traditional navigation training, which is learning a lot of things: swells, birds, animals for references, and shallow reefs. We need to practice this and teach it to our youngsters with the help of Uncle Ali and Larry, and they can be trained in Yap or here. When the voyage comes next year, it will be a great opportunity for them.
- 11.10.6. Master Navigator Larry Rigaital: Another important person Dr. Anita Borja. With her team of island wisdom, they worked this issue out to create space for indigenous knowledge. For Sesario's voyage, whatever voyage is being planned must truly reflect the connections and partnerships between not just the institutions that we're at, but also the communities. Anita sees the need in seeing community as a key role in getting seafaring going, not just the schools, but how we can find apprentices not a part of the college systems. The best students so far are not the ones in the classrooms, but the guys that live in the village that have the heart of what it takes to be a crewmember. Even with PATA, working together to highlight and brand Micronesian Voyaging.
- 11.10.7. Thank you for sharing your time. It feels good to realize that you are teaching vital knowledge through the institutional educational system. You're all





in the college setting, but I'm curious about the level of the community settings, on the beach, and in the villages in the jungle. I hope that will not become secondary in the line of values in the way you engage our people about canoe carving. In Chuuk, we are trying to get a program going like in Marshalls. We see similar things happening in Micronesia. We're trying to build it not to take voyages, not to go beyond our own islands, we want to see the practical essence of our vessels in moving goods, taking people around, and we don't want to go beyond what we can't handle. But we need help and assistance from people like you. We're glad our government sees the importance of doing this and to be able to identify resources and people that can guide us so we don't get into risky situations. I'm glad I met you here and will leave this awareness with you. Thank you for the schools, and please be ready to assist programs like ours too.

11.10.8.Rita: To wrap up this portion, I wanted to honor our guests because for PATA Micronesia, our theme is "experience the warmth". What Grandmaster navigator Ali, Sesario, and Master navigator Palu Larry have shared with us today is that warmth comes from our hearts, from our heritage, from the knowledge that has been passed down from our ancestors. It's our responsibility. We have to promote Micronesia authentically and start with our children; get our stories together, align ourselves in our different canoes. Here we are in the biggest ocean, but the deepest part of our ocean here in Micronesia is our hearts. It's important that we instill this in our children and share this with the world. The wisdom of our navigators is that there has to be balance, and we must ensure that our course forward is authentic, with great respect, and collaboration. What I learned from Sesario is that the word for canoe is "wa", and that word means "vein". It's the lifeline that connects all of our islands. Fuel will run out, batteries will run out, wifi signal will die, but the three men in front of us are the ones that can put us on the canoe and steer us to a safe place. We have to do it for ourselves, for our children, then share it with the world. Thank you for taking the time to be with us today and reminding us of the heart, and that the warmth of Micronesia comes from within. The more we work together, the more successful voyages we will have to come.

12. Micronesia in the Blue Pacific - Dr. James Perez Viernes

12.1.Summary

 Micronesia, Melanesia, and Polynesia is regionally referred to as the Blue Pacific Continent or BPC to frame us as not small islands scattered in the ocean, but one unified ocean of people.





- PIDP has been working with PIF and all the member country governments to
 develop a strategic plan that identifies where we want to be by 2050 in political
 leadership and regionalism, people centered development, peace and security,
 resource and economic development, climate change and disasters, ocean
 environments, and technology and connectivity, rooted in our core Pacific values.
- Mass tourism doesn't work in our islands, really made known to us by covid.
 Now that we're through it, how do we move forward? I advocate for tourism that is reciprocal for our people and the players in our economy.
- We are stronger as a unified Micronesia, and even stronger as a unified Blue Pacific Continent. We must continue to work together as we have been since our ancestors came to these islands in the first place.
- Our marketability being our cultures and natural environments are under direct threat of commodification and climate change. PATA must help find the balance and ensure that our Micronesian people are not just participants in tourism, but direct beneficiaries.
- For PATA Micronesia, this 2050 strategy could be very beneficial for you moving forward and charting the course for tourism in our Micronesian region because it's centered on our core values. The CROP agencies are here to help.

12.2. "This term, the Blue Pacific was first embraced in 2017 by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in Samoa. That term has been embraced to describe our region that has been known as the Pacific Islands region. When we call it the Blue Pacific Continent (BPC) today, we're framing our region with a term inclusive of our island nations and territories in ways that center our collective interests, ambitions and challenges that we're facing as Pacific peoples. The term speaks to a way of not referring to randomly dispersed island states, but as a single unified and interconnected Blue Pacific with shared geographies, similar cultures, worldviews and overlapping histories. In our subregion of Micronesia, the concept of the Blue Pacific is nothing new; we've been doing that as our navigators have pointed out. This is true not only in the context of culture and heritage, but in the context of trade and economic development, our health initiatives, our ocean, technology and connectivity. In the context of travel and tourism, we have known for a long time that mass tourism does not work. It does not work for our people, for our islands, nor for our environment. At the very least, mass tourism works for our foreign investors, for a small elite minority in our islands, but we've known for a long time, big resorts and cookie cut tourism is not sustainable. We were in denial of that for a long time, but when covid 19 pandemic woke us up and the world literally shut down. Our travel and tourism industries in Micronesia screeched to a dramatic halt overnight and although we've known for a long time that mass tourism is not sustainable, covid threw it in our faces, and overnight we had no choice but to confront that reality. Now that we're in this post covid era, it's





time for us to start asking questions. If we know mass tourism doesn't work for us, what does? What I'm advocating for like most of us will, is the diversification of our travel and tourism industries. Many of you through Micronesia are already doing this. In the BPC, Melanesia, Polynesia, and Micronesia have already embarked on that voyage towards a more diversified and sustainable tourism destination, yet there's much more to do. PATA Micronesia's mission is more important than ever. Much of that work has resulted in the 2050 strategy for the BPC. This is our region's long term plan to work together to create a resilient region of peace, harmony, security, social inclusion, and prosperity. The 2050 Strategy was a direct response to Pacific Islands Forum (PIF) leaders representing the 18 island countries of which Palau, FSM, are full members. Guam, CNMI, and American Samoa are associate members. I work for an org that's part of a larger network called the Council of Regional Organizations of the Pacific or CROP which have many organizations based in Micronesia. Due to the mandate, all the CROP agencies came together and undertook an extensive national and regional consultation process with 4 member govts, civil society, the private sector, academia, youth, faith based orgs, and others. It identified where we want to be by 2050 through 7 thematic areas: political leadership and regionalism, people centered development, peace and security, resource and economic development, climate change and disasters, ocean environments, and technology and connectivity. What is most profound, is not the strategic pathways that we identified, but the core values of Pacific people that will guide us in everything that we do until 2050. These are our values as Pacific peoples that will guide what we do, who we work with, and how we're going to hold external partners accountable for working with us. If you look at them, most of them foregrounds our cultures, our faiths, traditions and knowledge. When we passed this strategy and leaders endorsed it in 2022, the leaders turned around and said come up with the implementation plan or IP. This IP identifies regional collective actions—what are the specific things we're going to do collectively in the Pacific and how can those advance both system outcomes and people outcomes? How do those systems and people outcomes elevate our overarching goals for the Pacific? When the foreign leaders met again the following year in the Cook Islands, they endorsed it, then asked, "how are you going to monitor and evaluate it to make sure you're doing what you said you're gonna do? How do we do that so that if something is not working or a pandemic happens, how are you gonna pivot to make sure that our strategy and implementation plan is measurable and deliverable and flexible?" When we look at the 2050 IP, it is quite broad. When they ask me to speak about that and introduce this, the problem I see with the strategy is that we haven't socialized this across the board and the islands. The work ahead of us now is outside foreign affairs and the president's offices and govt, but how to get the whole region on the canoe to take us forward to 2050 and achieve these outcomes for our people? For you folks in the travel and tourism industry, focused on Micronesia, there will be a lot of value in prioritizing this because that's who





we are, where we are, and who we want to serve. There's value too in situating ourselves in the larger blue Pacific, the larger strategy for the BPC. You have small Pacific countries arguing with the likes of the US, China, India, NZ, Australia, and the people who are creating climate change. When we come from small atolls and small nations with small economies, they don't want to hear us. They do not want to change what they're doing to cause this crisis because it's not in their best interests. But when we go there as a block of countries, we're harder and harder to ignore. The same thing will be true when we work in tourism. When we look at tourism and travel, there are a lot of challenges coming up. Our natural beauty attracts our visitors, but our reefs, beaches, forests, all the gems that beckon them to come are under immediate and constant threat. Rising sea levels, coastal erosion, coral bleaching, weather is extreme and unpredictable. All these assets to our travel industry are under threat. We are over reliant on international markets, this is exacerbated by increasing geopolitics of the countries that represent those markets. We know that our traditions and culture attract people here, that's one of our greatest assets, but they are under threat of commodification and over-tourism. We wrestle with capacity restraints and do not have enough locally trained people highly skilled to run this industry, so we bring in people from the outside to do it for us. Our connectivity issues are a problem because United Airlines has a monopoly here. We can't even go to Saipan for less than \$500. That hurts us as a people, it hurts our ability to connect to each other as Micronesian brothers and sisters. We know these challenges, there's nothing new, we've faced our region. The 2050 strategy offers a unified framework to address those challenges because it's rooted in our regional principles that we are stronger as a region than we are as scattered island states or territories. Our collective strength lies in our cultures, our cultural pride, in the sustainable call to action. There are people doing hard work to implement meaningful, impactful and authentic tourism for the people of Micronesia. Micronesia does not exist in isolation, it's part of a larger region, the BPC. Micronesia has a lot to learn from our siblings in Melanesia and Polynesia, and moreso, they have a lot to learn from us in Micronesia. Our cooperation as a BPC is more important than ever given these complexities. The 2050 can serve as a catalyst for a stronger tourism sector in Micronesia, and it will provide a solid model for developing and delivering action. It is actionable, not theoretical, measurable, and can be a roadmap for us. We're seeing an increase in ecotourism, cultural tourism, health and wellness tourism, so elevating the tourism industries along these lines will ensure that we won't allow unchecked growth of our tourism markets. It's about creating a future in which the people of Micronesia are not just participants of the tourism and travel sector, but primary beneficiaries. It's not a perfect strategy, but the 2050 is a living document, open to revision and restrategizing and will be very important for Micronesia to play an active role in this to ensure that we act and prosper together. To the newly installed board of PATA Micronesia, you are in a unique position where you can craft an agenda and





strategy for the needs of our region, but you don't need to do that alone or start from scratch. We have existing ones and efforts that are there to work for you and with you. All the orgs that you represent in your island homes are all essential components of our collective voyage towards Micronesian prosperity. Thank you for being a part of this voyage."

12.3. Questions/comments

12.3.1.I really appreciate the efforts that your org is doing for Micronesia. Coming from this travel industry, promoting tourism in Micronesia, yes a lot of things are really expensive. But as Micronesian, we really appreciate things. United is really expensive, but I do appreciate their services, but since you're working with a bunch of leaders that are guiding our ways forward, hopefully we can find ways to appreciate the services received from the outside world. We complain about the prices of airfare, compared to other places, yet in our islands, the prices of hotels are expensive compared to other places. What I ask is not to discourage the amount of tourists coming in, but to mitigate the problems of overtourism. We have to learn to appreciate tourists' contribution, but make them aware of our issues that they're coming into.

12.3.2. <u>James</u>: That's our job as regional public servants is to hold our leaders accountable to advocate for the things that we need. It's a delicate balance because we need the numbers, but we have to do what we can internally to ensure that there are mechanisms in place so that those high numbers are not to our detriment. That means creating the infrastructure internally and holding tourists accountable for how they behave, and holding ourselves accountable in how we host them, which is a very delicate balance. To your first point, this is not about hating on the people that help us. What I want to advocate for is, yes we need to appreciate United Airlines, Matson, or any of the other people in our region, but they also have to appreciate us because whether it's the private sector, US military, whoever, we both bring something of great value to the table. We need to have those discussions to appreciate each other in both directions. I thank you for that because I agree, but it has to go both ways and that's a part of our culture anyway. We reciprocate. Relationships aren't always perfect, but we work through them. That's the roles of our leaders, our orgs, and you in your special sectors. Our role is to facilitate those hard conversations so we can appreciate and respect each other better in what we do.

12.3.3. Thank you, that was very enlightening. Two things that struck my engine. One is the core values and I appreciate that because that's for the love of our





islands, where we come from, to structure things... We can do things ourselves, we don't need other people. Of course we need to appreciate what they bring and what we receive from others, but I appreciate the points you amplify. Thank you.

- 12.3.4. Yes, our values are meant to guide people that want to have relations with us, and we also have to uphold these values. That's why I love it because it's not only an accountability mechanism of how we in the Pacific interact with the outside world, but also internally accountable to our core values.
- 12.3.5.I think that in order for this to be truly transformative for our region and communities, it has to have a way as far down early for the younger generations because they will be the ones to see the outcomes and make it work. It would be too late for our generation, but the young ones need to be able to understand and grow with the aspirations of this project. That's the only way for it to seep into our ways of life in the Pacific, by reaching as far down as the young generations in the school and community settings. Our islands up north in Micronesia were threatening to cede from the PIF. In Chuuk, there is a concept when you go fishing and you have your string where you put your catch, and if it's not full, look for whatever size fish to make it look full. We call it the "gugufa". If it's not full and you look for whatever small size to make it full, maybe we're just the "gugufa" for the Pacific, ones that make it look full. We want the programs and resources to truly be inclusive and engaging for everyone. Inclusivity and a strong sense of belonging and ownership to the organization has to be continually stressed for PIF in our region so that we matter in business and government. I love this document, I would love to see this organization put out similar things if we haven't in areas to provide support in areas for our leaders and our people.
- 12.3.6. You're absolutely correct. These regional collective actions, a few of them under people-centered development, are to develop curriculum for the youngest school age. This strategy is not perfect, and is really limited to foreign affairs spaces and high level leadership. How do we bring everyone into this youngest to eldest, every sector? That's our work ahead. For PATA Micronesia in particular, there's a rare opportunity to increase the accountability of your sector. That's going to be through the MIS which reports to MPS and other leaders. My frustration in the regional space is that nothing will happen unless we have leader endorsements, then the individual countries are obligated to implement. Unfortunately that's the way this system works. Those crop agencies exist to serve you and deliver the public good. Work through those agencies so they can provide the technical support and do the political mapping to get it through the ministerial





review because unfortunately if it's not at the high political level, it will fizzle out and will be hard to have resourced.

13. Overview of Tourism Committee 26th MIF Presentation

13.1. Presented by Vice Chair Mark Manglona (Presentation online)

14. Lunch - Special Address by Lt. Governor of Guam Joshua F. Tenorio

14.1.Summary

- Micronesia almost left PIF because we weren't being treated with respect, but we
 united and leveraged our presence to get important positions for our independent
 Micronesian countries, and then associate seats for us territories.
- The behavior of our tourists are changing, so we must confront that external change with internal change systematically and strategically in all levels of the tourism industry—airlines to hotels.
- We must use what we have to leverage what we want and make it work for us in return.
- It's important for us to develop our own local, cultural, and environmental products and services to give tourists an authentic island experience.
- Our connectivity in Micronesia is what we have over those larger island nations in the South Pacific. We can use it for our economic efforts just as we do for our families.
- Everything is about balance. We are the ones, especially you, the ones that will understand the tips of the balance. Tourism should work for our people, it has to work for us. It has to provide us an increased quality of life, provide education to the outside, and be able to provide the financial resources to continue our primary responsibility, which is to educate our young people on what makes our places so unique and special, and ensure they have a place to stay and build on that.
- PATA Micronesia upholds, ensures, and centers the morality of our tourism.

14.2. "Hafa adai! For a long time, because of our political status, Guam wasn't in the equation for PIF. There was an exodus having to do with respect because it used to be called the South Pacific Forum. For those of you in the independent countries, you weren't really thought about. The UN trusteeship was still going on, and everyone aside from Guam were part of the same government administration decades ago. Tourism in 2024 is much different than it was in 2019, and really different than in 2014, different in 2004 and 1994. All of us have to recognize, and reflect on ourselves, which governments don't do well at all because things change. In order for us to be relevant, we have to be able to navigate. The government does the worst job because we set up systems and





procedures based on a period in time, then it's so hard for us to break out of that mold because we're trying to be by the book and follow that path, then we find ourselves doing things that are a waste of time because things changed. We see this in the unveiling of technology into systems. It requires a change in behavior. We also have to recognize that there's a change in behavior and reality in our tourists. Japanese used to come to Guam to purchase luxury goods at a good price, now luxury goods are running 30% cheaper in Japan because of the yen. There's practical consequences to the change that happens. Meanwhile, Japanese tourists are changing. Younger tourists are wanting to venture out and do different kinds of things. How do we confront that change? Pre-pandemic, we used to get 95,000 seats/month from Korea, now we're hovering at 35,000. What is the reason that the Korean seats are dwindling down? It's not because of market demand, because it's there. The reality is that Boeing is not delivering aircraft on time to keep up with the market space, it's more profitable for these Korean carriers to operate multiple times between Seoul and Tokyo. They can operate that flight a bit more. What are the things we need to do? We have to guarantee and subsidize seats and we got the hotel partners to comply and offer more convenient check-in times at the early morning, inconvenient hours for tourists. We have to do things in the industry also to make sure we can service them, so the major hotel players decided to have complimentary early check in, which matters to the airlines as well. For airlines, it allows them to market, now they can make that decision to utilize the airplane at times we might not normally think of. We're still battling the trend. We have to be very strategic about what the path forward is, but there are some basic things that never change. Working with Continental Micronesia was better to deal with at that time. When Dave was chair of GVB, he would be able to call up the president and talk about the forecast. Air Micronesia became Continental became United. Dealing with United, this mega carrier with people in offices far away is very hard. Going back to what James was talking about, working as a collective is a core, cultural value, no matter what. Going back to PIF, we wanted to be a part of this conversation. In Fiji, we strategized and worked in collaboration with American Samoa and CNMI, and the governor says they have other realities they're dealing with on their forefront. How are we going to be a part of this? In Pohnpei, PIF let French Polynesia and New Caledonia in. What's the difference between them and us? They have voting members in the French Parliament when we don't have a voting member in Congress. Why would they not give us the same treatment? because the US Govt. is not comfortable either. Fine, well be associate members. A reality in American Samoa is there's no financial institutions operating in the South Pacific. How are they going to operate tourism when they don't have local financial institutions processing foreign money? That's what is going on in the South Pacific. We have an advantage because we do utilize our relationship with the US to have stable financial institutions, which are key to the stability of an economic enterprise. Bank of Hawai'i pulled out of American





Samoa, so now they can't even do payroll for people electronically. It's a crisis. As for the regional side, for us here in Micronesia, we're in a stronger situation than most of the other regions. They have more airlines and national airlines. Nauru is being looked at to join the Micronesian chapter of PATA. They have their own airlines. Pohnpei and Palau, Air Nauru is flying there with the support of Australia. One of our realities is that in order for an airline to travel into the "US" or Guam, you have to meet the transfer station security technical standards. In this way we found out we have direct flights to Chuuk, Yap, Palau, but United owns the security equivalent. They made the investment, not the FSM govt. If you're United, are you gonna let air Nauru use your equipment and personnel when they're a competitor? That's the reality, so what is the cure? Do we get the US govt in the COFA states or other govts to make that investment? Is it worth it? We have a different security situation that we're dealing with. We only know about that if we can increase the level of interaction and knowledge amongst us. On the other side, we've benefitted before having Guam-based flight crews provide guaranteed postal, cargo, and other service that we look at together. For what I see in the future: when I was a kid at Lanchon Antigu, it was my exposure to doing cultural things like making coconut candy, making salt, wearing mestisas, and weaving, then it disappeared. Dave has a product that is not only useful to adding to the cultural value of the island, it also has an economic purpose. Taiwan asked me what we have going on, I said we have Valley of the Latte. What are the things we can do collaboratively that will feed us? I used to be a board chair for PA'A Taotao Tano, an umbrella org for Chamoru dance groups. Because I see how important it is, I volunteer my time in that way. In office, I've done things like fund programs that increase practitioners and teachers in the schools that are teaching cultural things aside from dance. We have cultural dance houses in Japan and the United States. My view is in Haganta, why wouldn't we have this talent, whatever time of whatever day every week, guarantee a cultural performance in the capital? That's a stable thing that will bring economic activity and local people, but who's gonna do it? The schools, the groups. How can we use that to anchor and promote elsewhere? If they're not dancing or weaving, it can drive people into the Guam museum. We're also at Chamoru village, a market place. One of the exciting things is we have a renovation funded at Chamoru village. They built these huts used for Festpac. We're gonna enclose 3/3 of them and make them store fronts, and finally have a place for business incubation again. There's Guam Unique Merchandising Art (GUMA) where they have identified small local businesses and individuals and taught them how to run a business storefront. There has been some programing with GEDA to expand the products and services made on Guam. When you're in an org like this where you have a role, it's fun to figure out how you can connect that to the bigger picture. In the end, what does that do to the framework and fabric of the island? I want to be in a situation where I go back to Taiwan and when they ask what's new, I'll say we have 150 new artists and artisans that are making Guam





products every day you can see Chamoru cultural exhibition as a glimpse that can give you a pipeline to go down south so you can have that island experience. PATA Micronesia is so important as a collaborative because we almost left the PIF but we didn't. How can there be a PIF if Micronesia isn't a part of it? It undermines their existence and credibility. When Micronesia worked together, the secretary of the oceans was in Palau. Every single one of the Micronesian independent countries got something. The secondary general is from Nauru. They leveraged, and I want to leave that in your mind because that is the power of the collective. In Micronesia, despite the different directions we go, don't forget that our advantage is we already have a strong community together. In Guam, our political status doesn't mean we aren't a player. There's no way for you to go from Yap to Kosrae without going through us. It's not to undermine the FSM, it's just to show that the geography has changed. Just because we're a US Territory doesn't mean that we won't be affected by climate change and sea level rise. It's irrelevant. Guam offers financial services as a hub. Because of our collective, we're able to guarantee transportation lines, which is an advantage for people that are living here, but we also want to be that educational center. UOG was chartered for a regional purpose, not just for Guam or Chamorus, but for the entire Micronesian region, like Xavier. For us at higher education, it's the University of Guam. It's true we're going through a lot of changes in Guam, maybe out of our control, but that doesn't mean that we can't use our place to try and take advantage of the reality. The reality is that the military here. It means that the number of transportation lines coming in are more guaranteed. How do we utilize that to add value to what you're doing? We have to confront what that means for us and keep the balance. Everything is about balance. We are the ones, especially you, the ones that will understand the tips of the balance. Tourism should work for our people, it has to work for us. It has to provide us an increased quality of life, provide education to the outside, and be able to provide the financial resources to continue our primary responsibility, which is to educate our young people on what makes our places so unique and special, and ensure they have a place to stay and build on that. We're in a good place. People undercut what we are. We are in a wonderful place. When I come back to Guam or go to your islands, I am reminded of how wonderful, how great and lucky we are that God has given us all of this throughout our region. An empowering thing to do is recognize that and tell the story, and show our people especially the youth why we should be proud and value what we have. There is a reason why people come to visit us. There might be a strategic military reason. There might be economic reasons. A spiritual reason. No matter what it is, that is a value. Our burden as leaders, which is a positive responsibility, is to make sure that we continue to be centered and build up what we have. In essence, PATA Micronesia must focus on tourism and that residents are part of it, which means that you will be able to keep the balance. You are the morality of our tourism, it's on you because you're working frontlines. I want to thank everyone for





coming to Guam and for this continued relationship. We are one people. Good luck with all the work."

15. Planning Roundtable Discussion

- 15.1.Round 1: MIF Objective No. 1
 - 15.1.1. Alessa Aguon on Chapter Website -
- 15.2.Round 2: MIF Objectives No. 2,3,4,5, 6, & 7 (NTO/STO Reports Online)
 - 15.2.1. Chuuk Marcellus Akapito
 - 15.2.2.<u>CNMI</u> Judy Torres
 - 15.2.3. Guam Mark Manglona
 - 15.2.4. Kosrae Julie K Sigrah
 - 15.2.5. Marshall Islands Lori DeBrum
 - 15.2.6. Palau Chloe Yano
 - 15.2.7. Pohnpei Kukulynn Gallen
 - 15.2.8. Yap Susan Gooliyan

16. New Business -

- 16.1. Navigating Our Way Forward New Board will convene to initiate planning for the Chapter's course forward in collaboration with the Committees
 - 16.1.1. Chairman: Marcellus Akapito
 - 16.1.2. Vice Chair: David Tydingco
 - 16.1.3. Treasurer: Judy Torres
 - 16.1.4.Secretary: Kimber Rimoleto
 - 16.1.5 Kadoi Ruluked, Immediate Past Chairman
- 16.2.2025 Chapter Committees Action Plan and Budget to be developed by Committees for review by the Board.





16.3.PATA Micronesia Chapter Meetings in 2025 - to be determined

- 17. Announcements
- 18. Adjournment at 4:58pm