



**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING OF COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES**

JULY 8, 2026

CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo

VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Raymond P. Senia

MEMBERS: Hon. Arnel G. Milay

Hon. Darlaine Mae A. Benesen

GUEST:

Mr. Rogelio Bilugan

President of the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP)

Mr. Jesus Paolo B. Cullado and **Mr. Romel Hinahon**,
representatives of Cavite State University–Naic Campus

Ms. Queenie Derupe
Municipal Tourism Office

Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista and **Ms. Jesusa Vilburn**,
Representative - MENRO.

SUBMITTED BY: Irene A. Arviola

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT LETTER FROM MS. KJELLEN H. EVANGELISTA, OIC-MENRO FOR THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO AND SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT OF NAIC AND THE CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY- NAIC CAMPUS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES ON PAWIKAN (MARINE TURTLE) CONSERVATION.

The meeting was called to order at 4:11 PM by the **Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources**, chaired by **Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo**, and convened to discuss the **Endorsement Letter** submitted by **Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista, OIC-MENRO**, regarding the **Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Local Chief Executive to Enter into and Sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the Municipal Government of Naic and Cavite State University–Naic Campus for the Implementation of Programs and Activities on Pawikan (Marine Turtle) Conservation**.

The meeting was attended by **Vice Chairperson SB Member Raymond P. Senia, SB Member Arnel G. Milay, SB Member Cesar Ryan Nazareno**, and **SK Federation President Darlaine M. Benesen**. Also present were **Mr. Rogelio Bilugan**, President of the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP); **Mr. Jesus Paolo B. Cullado** and **Mr. Romel Hinahon**, representatives of Cavite State University–Naic Campus; **Ms. Queenie Derupe** of the Municipal Tourism Office; **Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista, OIC-MENRO**; and **Ms. Jesusa Vilburn**, representative of the MENRO.

The representatives of the MENRO and Cavite State University–Naic Campus explained that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement is intended to serve as a supplementary agreement to the Memorandum of Agreement executed in 2024 between the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic for the establishment of the **Pawikan Hatchery 2** and the **Pawikan Information and Conservation Center** located at the CvSU–Naic Mabulo Annex Campus. They stated that the purpose of the proposed MOA is to formally strengthen the existing partnership between the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic in the implementation of



marine turtle conservation programs and activities, including the active participation of the university in the Annual Pawikan Festival and other conservation initiatives.

The CvSU–Naic representatives informed the Committee that the university has continuously implemented extension programs, research activities, capability-building trainings, and technical assistance related to sea turtle conservation in partnership with the MENRO and the Municipal Tourism Office. They also reported that CvSU faculty members and extension personnel regularly serve as technical experts, lecturers, facilitators, and trainers for the Pawikan Patrollers and have conducted orientation and capability-building activities for officials of coastal barangays on proper sea turtle conservation and pollution management.

The Committee was informed that the first series of collaborative activities was conducted in November 2024 and that the second batch of training for Pawikan Patrollers is scheduled on August 12–13, 2026. It was likewise reported that the Municipal Tourism Office and CvSU–Naic are jointly implementing an Information, Education and Communication (IEC) Development Training for the production of advocacy materials supporting sea turtle conservation.

The representatives further explained that these activities are being carried out under the **PAWIKan (Proyekto para sa Angkop at Wastong Inisyatibo para sa Kapakanan ng Pawikan) Extension Project**, which aims to maximize the use of the Pawikan Hatchery 2 and the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center. Under the project, CvSU–Naic will provide technical expertise, extension services, research assistance, institutional resources, financial counterpart, and post-activity documentation while actively participating in project planning, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

The CvSU–Naic representatives expressed their appreciation to the Municipal Government of Naic for recognizing the university as one of its partners in the Annual Pawikan Festival. They emphasized that the proposed MOA will formally establish the partnership and serve as official evidence of the university's continuing commitment to marine turtle conservation.

The MENRO representatives explained the duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Government of Naic under the proposed MOA, including the provision of technical, administrative, and financial support for approved activities; participation in planning, implementation, and monitoring; provision of venues, facilities, equipment, and other necessary resources; sharing of research data; implementation of information campaigns; and coordination with CvSU–Naic, barangays, and other partner agencies.

The Committee acknowledged that the Municipal Government of Naic and CvSU–Naic have maintained an active partnership in implementing sea turtle conservation programs and agreed that the proposed MOA would formalize and strengthen their existing collaboration.

The Committee was likewise informed that the Office of the Municipal Mayor recommended the inclusion of the following provision under Item No. 7 of the duties and responsibilities of the Municipal Government of Naic:

"Subject to the availability of funds and in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations governing municipal budgeting, procurement, accounting and auditing."

During the discussion on **Provision No. 6 (Provide Fund Support)**, the Committee inquired about the source of funds for the implementation of the proposed activities. The MENRO explained that the required counterpart funding will be sourced from the office's regular environmental programs, subject to the appropriations approved under the Annual Budget.

The Committee was also informed that the Pawikan Patrollers Program has been expanded to include all coastal barangays of the Municipality of Naic after sea turtle nesting sites were recorded in Barangays Labac, Mabulo, Bucana, Bancaan, and Munting Mapino. The



expansion aims to equip barangay officials and environmental representatives with the necessary knowledge and skills on proper sea turtle protection and response.

The CvSU–Naic representatives presented the present condition of the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center and the Pawikan Hatchery 2. They emphasized the need to make the facility fully operational so that it can function as an information, education, research, and ecotourism center. They further informed the Committee that the original funding provided by the Philippine Reclamation Authority did not include the installation of an electrical connection and that the amount appropriated under the Fiscal Year 2026 Annual Budget was insufficient for the required electrical works. The MENRO stated that the project has already been included in its proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2027.

The Committee suggested that the project also be considered under the Second Supplemental Budget for CY 2026, subject to the availability of funds. The MENRO was advised to submit a formal request together with the corresponding Program of Works and Cost Estimate, amounting to approximately ₱300,000, for the installation of the electrical connection.

The CvSU–Naic representatives also manifested their willingness to temporarily shoulder the electricity consumption during official activities at the facility until a permanent electrical connection is established, provided that the Municipal Government installs the necessary electrical wiring and circuit breaker.

The Municipal Tourism Office informed the Committee that it has allocated approximately ₱160,000 for the rehabilitation of the Pawikan Information and Conservation Center and the Labac Hatchery. However, it was noted that a substantial portion of the amount has already been committed for the procurement requirements of the Labac Hatchery, leaving the remaining balance insufficient to complete the electrical installation of the conservation center.

After thorough discussion and deliberation, the Committee agreed to recommend that the MENRO and Cavite State University–Naic Campus submit a revised Memorandum of Agreement incorporating the agreed amendments, including the additional provision recommended by the Office of the Municipal Mayor and another MOA for temporary arrangement regarding the use of electricity during official activities, prior to its submission to the Sangguniang Bayan for appropriate legislative action.

There being no other matters discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM.