



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

JUNE 8, 2026

CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Glennon I. Pegollo
VICE-CHAIRPERSON: Hon. Raymond B. Senia
MEMBERS: Hon. Arnel G. Milay
Hon. Darlaine M. Benesen

GUEST: **Hon. Cesar Ryan Nazareno**
SB Member

Mr. Rogelio Bilugan
President - Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP)

Ms. Melinda M. Modesto & Ms. Hedwig Precious S. Gofredo
Representative - Edilberto S. Legaspi Integrated High School

Mr. Manuel J. Logatoc
Community Extension/NSTP Director of **NU Dasmariñas**

Ms. Maria Kristiana V. Daz
Representative - Municipal Tourism Office

Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista
OIC-MENRO

Ms. Jesusa Vilburn
Representative - MENRO.

SUBMITTED BY: Irene A. Arviola

SUBJECT: ENDORSEMENT LETTER FROM HON. ROMMEL ANTHONY V. MAGBITANG FOR THE PASSAGE OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND CONTINUOUS SUPPORT TO THE PAWIKAN SANCTUARY

The meeting was called to order at 3:20 PM by the Committee Chairperson Glennon I. Pegollo, to deliberate on the **Proposed Resolution** entitled: "**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION, CONSERVATION AND CONTINUOUS SUPPORT TO THE PAWIKAN SANCTUARY.**"

The meeting was attended by **SB Member Raymond B. Senia**, **SB Member Cesar Ryan Nazareno**, **SB Member Arnel Milay**, and **SK Federation President Darlaine M. Benesen**, together with **Mr. Rogelio Bilugan**, President of the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP); **Ms. Melinda M. Modesto** and **Ms. Hedwig Precious S. Gofredo** of Edilberto S. Legaspi Integrated High School; **Mr. Manuel J. Logatoc**, Community Extension/NSTP Director of **NU Dasmariñas**; **Ms. Maria Kristiana V. Daz** of the Municipal Tourism Office; **Ms. Kjellen H. Evangelista**, OIC-MENRO; and **Ms. Jesusa Vilburn**, representative from MENRO.

The Committee was informed that the proposed **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)** is an initiative of **NU Dasmariñas** in partnership with the **Municipal Government of Naic**, the **Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers (SLPP)**, and **Edilberto S. Legaspi Integrated High**



School, under the supervision of the Municipal Mayor through the **Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO)** and the **Municipal Tourism Office**.

It was explained that the primary objective of the MOA is to establish a formal partnership among the parties for the implementation of programs on marine biodiversity conservation, research initiatives, capacity building, coastal clean-up activities, environmental education, eco-tourism development, and the continuous protection and support of the Pawikan Sanctuary in Barangay Labac, Naic, Cavite.

The NU Dasmariñas further noted that the MOA clearly provides the respective roles and responsibilities of each party, including provisions on Data Privacy, use of names and logos, limitation of liability, budgetary requirements, deliverables, amendments, warranties, and the effectivity of the agreement until March 2029.

At the outset of the discussion, the Committee invited comments and clarifications on the proposed MOA. The representative of the Municipal Tourism Office informed the Committee that the document had already been reviewed by the Office of the Mayor and that no further comments were necessary.

The representative of NU Dasmariñas informed the Committee that the proposed agreement marks the university's first formal partnership with the Municipality of Naic and the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers. It was likewise stated that NU Dasmariñas has an existing partnership with Edilberto S. Legaspi Integrated High School, which paved the way for the collaboration among the parties.

The Committee was informed that the university's research initiatives will focus on sea turtle conservation, including proper handling, hatchling management, and long-term conservation efforts. The university likewise identified microplastic awareness as one of its priority research areas to address the growing concern of plastic pollution affecting marine biodiversity.

It was further explained that the partnership includes capacity-building programs for volunteers and Pawikan Patrollers to enhance their knowledge in sea turtle conservation, data management, and digitalization. NU Dasmariñas also committed to providing technical assistance through its Information Technology, Computer Science, and Computer Engineering programs to improve the digital records and monitoring system of the Pawikan Sanctuary, including community-based programs on digital literacy and microplastic awareness.

The Committee was likewise informed that NU Dasmariñas maintains an existing partnership with DOST CALABARZON and DOST-Cavite, which may provide laboratory support and technical assistance for future research. However, it was clarified that the initial phase of the project will focus on community assessment and awareness, while laboratory-based research shall only be undertaken with proper coordination with the LGU and DOST.

The Committee also noted that prior to the formal execution of the MOA, NU Dasmariñas had already conducted initial community engagement activities in March 2026, including its fifth anniversary celebration at the Pawikan Sanctuary, during which the university donated a fiberglass display for the preserved sea turtle and equipment for initial digital training. The university emphasized that these activities were undertaken with the knowledge and coordination of the Office of the Mayor, MENRO, and the Municipal Tourism Office.

The Committee raised its observation regarding the conduct of activities prior to the approval of the proposed MOA by the Sangguniang Bayan. In response, NU Dasmariñas explained that all necessary documents had previously been submitted to the Office of the Mayor and that all activities were properly coordinated with the concerned LGU offices. It further explained that the ceremonial signing of the MOA was postponed due to scheduling constraints.



On the matter of budgetary requirements, the MENRO emphasized the MOA provision requiring each party to provide counterpart support, subject to existing laws and the availability of funds. Consequently, the Committee requested NU Dasmariñas to submit a detailed Annual Program of Activities and Budget Plan to serve as the basis for the possible allocation of municipal funds.

NU Dasmariñas clarified that its counterpart contribution is not limited to financial assistance but may also include supplies, equipment, venues, manpower, transportation, technical expertise, and other logistical support necessary for program implementation. It further explained that, since the partnership shall remain effective for three (3) years, proposed activities may be incorporated into future municipal budgets.

The university likewise manifested its commitment to extend its technical expertise, institutional facilities, and professional network in support of the Municipality's environmental protection programs.

In response to the Committee's inquiry regarding its proposed activities, NU Dasmariñas informed the Committee that its initial project proposals had already been presented to the Office of the Mayor and that it is prepared to submit an updated Program of Activities and Budget Plan for review by the Sangguniang Bayan.

Accordingly, the Committee recommended the submission of the official Program of Activities and Budget Plan to facilitate the review of the proposed partnership and to provide the basis for future appropriations.

The Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers expressed its appreciation for the proposed partnership, recognizing its significant contribution to the enhancement of conservation efforts at the Pawikan Sanctuary. However, the organization emphasized the need for the improvement of the access road leading to the sanctuary and the installation of an electrical power line to improve its facilities and operations.

The representative of Edilberto S. Legaspi Integrated High School likewise expressed full support for the proposed partnership, emphasizing its importance in promoting environmental awareness, particularly among the youth.

The Committee reiterated that all parties must establish a clear Program of Activities, identified projects, and implementation timetable to ensure proper budget planning and effective implementation of the MOA.

The Committee likewise sought clarification on whether the proposed research activities may adversely affect the sea turtles. NU Dasmariñas and the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers assured the Committee that all activities shall strictly observe proper handling protocols to ensure the protection and welfare of the sea turtles and their natural habitat. The MENRO further emphasized that all research activities requiring regulatory compliance must be properly coordinated with the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

NU Dasmariñas likewise assured the Committee that all research, extension, and capacity-building activities shall be undertaken only with proper coordination with the MENRO, Municipal Tourism Office, and other concerned LGU offices. The partnership likewise aims to support the Municipality of Naic's long-term vision of becoming the Pawikan Conservation Center of the Province of Cavite.

The Committee was likewise informed that the institution officially uses "NU Dasmariñas" in all official communications and documents, as "NU" is its registered institutional brand name.



Accordingly, the university requested that the proposed Memorandum of Agreement consistently refer to the institution as "NU Dasmariñas" instead of "National University Dasmariñas."

The Committee also discussed the Data Privacy provision of the MOA. It was explained that all information and data relating to the Pawikan Sanctuary may only be used for research and digitalization upon the approval of both the Samahan ng Labac Pawikan Patrollers and the MENRO. All collected information shall remain confidential and shall be utilized solely for purposes consistent with the objectives of the MOA and applicable data privacy laws.

After due deliberation, the Committee recommended that NU Dasmariñas submit a complete Program of Activities and Budget Plan to serve as supporting documents in the evaluation of the proposed Memorandum of Agreement and as the basis for the possible appropriation of municipal funds for the implementation of the proposed programs and projects.

There being no other matters discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 PM.