

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, April 29, 2003, 9:15 a.m.

West Hawaii DHHL District Office, Kuhio Hale, 64-756 Mamalahoa Highway, Kamuela

<b>COMMISSIONERS</b>	Riley Smith	<b><u>ALSO</u></b>	Bob Carn, URS Consultants
<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	David Frankel	<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Steve Cassulo
	Marjorie Erway		Neal Herbert
	Hugh Ono		Michael Kaha
	Anne Plack		Eileen O`Hara-Weir
	Carolyn Witcher		Margaret Pahio
			Shon Pahio
			John Ray
			Wayne Rifer, Rifer Environmental/URS
			David Robichaux, URS Consultants
			Christine Ross
			Gerald Takase, Corporation Counsel
			Jay West
			Erika Yamamoto, Legislative Assistant to Councilman Safarik
<b><u>EXCUSED:</u></b>	Mack Asato	<b><u>STAFF:</u></b>	Barbara Bell, Director
	Sam Karamura		Peter Boucher, Wastewater Division Chief
			Bobby Gonsalves, Acting Solid Waste Div. Chief
			Sharron Henry, Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 25, 2003 MEETING:**  
Hugh Ono moved to approve the March 25, 2003 minutes. Carolyn Witcher seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
3. **APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA:**  
Anne Plack made a motion to add the Regional Sort Station Presentation by URS to Unfinished Business on the agenda. Marjorie Erway seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
4. **STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON AGENDA:**  
John Ray, representing Hawai'i Leeward Planning Conference, requested that the county move forward with waste diversion strategies, and engage and convince the Kohala Coast community that the county is proactively addressing their concerns regarding hauling rubbish to a single landfill located in their community.

Neal Herbert, representing the Big Island Chapter of Hawai'i Society of Professional Engineers, noted that he understood the director's reasons for not limiting the Solid Waste Division Chief position to a licensed professional engineer but shared his concern of the potential loss of a professional engineer in the management system. He provided support papers prepared by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and the American Public Works Association, along with written testimony from Curtis Beck, Vice

Chairman for NSPE (attached to original minutes). He also offered the association's assistance to the department in locating professional engineer applicants. David Frankel spoke in favor of department/division management being skilled in management, personnel, inter- and intra-personal relationship building and not limited to engineering skills. Hugh Ono and Peter Boucher spoke in favor of professional licensed engineers in department/division management positions.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS/DISCUSSION:**

**Director's Report** (attached to original minutes)

SORT STATION/WASTE REDUCTION:

- EIS will address traffic issues and bringing county trash to Pu`uanahulu. East Hawai'i low rainfall landfill will be added as an alternative.

SCRAP METAL:

- As of May 5th, Big Island Scrap Metal will be baling and shipping via barge in Kona.
- Will begin in Hilo early June.
- Security guards are full time at the scrap yards during transition of vendors.
- DOH has committed to process the permits as quickly as they can.
- June 1<sup>st</sup> the vehicle disposal fund will begin receiving increase from motor vehicle registrations.

TIRES: An amendment was written for the IFB, awarding bonus in evaluation criteria for re-use, either on or off island.

COUNCIL ACTIONS: Landfill Tipping Fee Ordinance, Draft 4, passed Finance Committee and is due at Council May 7<sup>th</sup>.

PERSONNEL: Eileen O`Hora-Weir was introduced and will begin May 1<sup>st</sup> as Recycling Coordinator.

**Solid Waste Division Chief's Report** (attached to original minutes)

HILO LANDFILL:

- No changes on estimated life span. Capacity analysis will be in June or July.
- The practice of compacting material is making a positive difference and may allow for more time.

EQUIPMENT:

- Expected delivery of the landfill compactor is late May or early June.
- Investigating and awaiting repair estimates on damage to D-8 at Pu`uanahulu and compacting truck at Kau.

HAULING STUDY: Will be done to identify timeframes, personnel and vehicles needed for hauling from different areas of the island to Pu`uanahulu.

PERSONNEL: Investigating a safety issue with a scale attendant at Pu`uanahulu and appropriate action will be taken.

**Wastewater Division Chief's Report** (attached to original minutes)

PERSONNEL: Dora Beck, CEIII, will begin June 1, 2003.

KEALAKEHE WETLANDS: Bill has been introduced in Congress to authorize funding for this project.

SEWER CODE REVISIONS: The bill is being routed through the Department of Water Supply for their concurrence of water service disconnection prior to submitting to council.

PUA SPS ODOR CONTROL:

- The 12-week pilot study will begin in May.
- Hydrogen sulfide has been dramatically reduced by putting carbon in the filters.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**:

REGIONAL SORT STATION PRESENTATION BY URS CORPORATION: WAYNE RIFER, PROJECT MANAGER; BOB CARN, PROJECT AND DESIGN ENGINEER; DAVID ROBICHAUX, EIS PREPARATION (attached to original minutes)

- Phased implementation: (Phase 1) Address East Hawai'i immediate needs, (Phase 2) Implement Proven Systems island-wide, (Phase III) Realize long-term opportunities with waste diversion technologies.
- Phased Goals: (1) Landfill closure, (2) Phase-in system elements, (3) Reduce transferred/disposed waste
- Elements of Facility (1): landscaped design, scale house, reload facility, Hilo public recycling center
- Elements of Facility (2): Resource Park, County employee facilities; maintenance yard, perimeter security fencing, education center
- Resource Park: Integrated with enhanced transfer stations, vendors selected via RFP and propose processing method (waste reduction technology)
- Role of the County: (1) contract for design and construction of facility; (2) EIS preparation; (3) procure vendor, (4) enhance transfer station, (5) own/manage Sort Station.
- Development: (1) Facility Design - URS Corporation; (2) RFB for construction; (3) RFP for resource utilization; (4) facility operation; (5) contingency plan; (6) waste reduction technology assessment and selection process
- Three design layouts were presented and discussed
- Cost estimate: \$5M all facilities; \$3M buildings only.
- EIS site options: (1) Lateral expansion of Hilo landfill;(2) another East Hawai'i landfill (wet); (3) another dry area landfill.
- Timelines: (1) Invitation for bid specs will be prepared by the end of August; (2) construction to begin within the year.

DISCUSSION ON MANDATORY RECYCLING: Author Ono stated no further action is required.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING ELIMINATION OF 60 DAY GRACE PERIOD BEFORE LANDFILL TIPPING FEE PAYMENT IS DEEMED DELINQUENT: Director Bell requested the file be closed as no further action is required at this time.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OR ORDINANCE ADDRESSING ELIMINATING ILLEGAL DUMPING: Commissioners will review and begin discussion at the May meeting with a goal of completing discussion in June.

DISCUSSION OF SOLID WASTE DIVISION CHIEF ENGINEER REQUIREMENT: Interviews are scheduled for Thursday for 3 applicants.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATION OF KEAAU RECYCLING AND REUSE CENTER: HIEDB will host a tour of the center following the May meeting in Hilo.

DISCUSSION OF METHODS TO METER WASTEWATER NOT GOING INTO COUNTY SEWER SYSTEM: After preliminary discussion, the item was deferred to the next meeting.

ITEMS TO DISCUSS WITH MAYOR KIM AT A FUTURE MEETING: Suggested topics: (1) Staffing, (2) CIP projects, (3) ordinances needing changes, (4) Mayor's involvement in legal action. Next meeting the list will be finalized and a letter, detailing the topics, will be written inviting the Mayor to attend the August meeting.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Wednesday, May 28, 2003, 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Hawaii County Council Room, 25 Aupuni Street, Room 201, Hilo, HI 96720
- Wednesday, May 28, 2003, 12:30 p.m. HIEDB Tour of Keaau Recycling and Reuse Center. Meet at Hawai'i County Council Room
- Wednesday, June 25, 2003, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Kona Mayor's Office Conference Room, 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103, Kailua-Kona Hawai'i 96740
- Wednesday, July 23, 2003, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Waimea Civic Center, 67-5189 Kamamalu Street, Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Ono moved to adjourn. Witcher seconded and motion was carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

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SHARRON HENRY  
Environmental Management Secretary