

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 28, 2005, 9:05 a.m.

Kona Mayor's Office Conference Room, 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103,
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Hugh Ono
Marjorie Erway
Sam Kawamura
Diana Miller
Bill Sanborn
Lorraine Stahr
Sam Sumner
Carolyn Witcher

ALSO

PRESENT:

Larry Barber
Pete Hendricks, Deputy Managing Director
James Sartoris
John Olson

EXCUSED:

Arnold Okamura

STAFF:

Barbara Bell, Director
Peter Boucher, WWD Chief
Joanne Espin, Admin.
Merton Ogata, WWD
Patricia O'Toole, Corp Counsel

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Ono called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Ono thanked Erway for chairing last meeting.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 27, 2005 MEETING:**
Marjorie Erway noted that under 3. APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA, second line, the word "sold" should be corrected to "solid". **Sam Kawamura made a motion to approve the July 27, 2005 minutes with the correction as noted by Erway. Erway seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
3. **APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA:**
Carolyn Witcher made a motion that Resolution 168 be added to Item 6. NEW BUSINESS. Miller seconded and it passed unanimously.
4. **STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON AGENDA:**
 - Larry Barber and James Sartoris spoke in support of the Kealakehe Wastewater Treatment Plant constructed wetlands project.
 - John Olson spoke in support of the recycling/reuse efforts as a deterrent to illegal dumping and spoke unfavorably about the evaluation prepared by Mr. Capellas for the Council. Abandoned vehicles are being burned on the roadsides in Puna.
5. **CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS/DISCUSSION:**

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

TRANSFER STATIONS

- **Commissioners requested the Department to work with Highway Maintenance to get the Kea`au Transfer Station road repaired.**

HILO LANDFILL

- The purchase of the Tarpomatic equipment was discussed.

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

KEALAKEHE WTP O&M INSPECTION REPORT

- DOH wants the County to develop ways to reuse the water.

KEALAKEHE CONSTRUCTION WETLANDS

- Part of this project, to upgrade in order to use the water for the Wetlands, would involve an upgrade to the R-1 level and that would expand the potential users for the project.
- Awaiting funding legislation as well as securing a 75% match.

Technical Services Section Report (attached to original minutes)

KEALAKEHE SEWAGE PUMP STATION

- This operations project is being handled by Lyle Hirota, who was previously in the Wastewater Division.

TARGETED ASSESSMENT GRANT

- This grant will identify the waste limit at the close Waimea landfill and potentially assess where future greenwaste area may be situated.

KING KAMEHAMEHA (LANIHAU) PROJECT

- Pumps may need to be replaced before project is complete.

Director's Report (attached to original minutes)

ANOTHER REPORT (RESOLUTION 168) (attached to the original minutes)

- The resolution states that the Legislative Auditor's Office will do a limited scope performance audit.
- Ono suggested that the Department requests both positive and negative findings be reported.
- **Witcher moved that the commission communicates to the Council and to the Mayor that the commission is in favor of an audit and request they consider an independent auditor for the purpose of Resolution 168. Sanborn seconded the motion. Witcher withdrew the motion and Sanborn withdrew his second for further discussion under NEW BUSINESS.**

In the future, Staff Reports will be provided to the Commission members via email one week before the meeting.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR:

- The Chair appointed a nominating committee, consisting of Marjorie Erway, Chair; Bill Sanborn; and Sam Kawamura, to prepare a recommended slate of nominees to be presented and discussed at the next meeting.
- The new officers will preside at the January meeting.

RESOLUTION 168:

- **Witcher moved that the commission communicates to the Council that the commission welcomes an audit of the Environmental Management Department and strongly requests they consider using an independent auditor, who meets the approval of both the Council and the Mayor, for the purpose of Resolution 168. Sanborn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

- **Chair requested Sanborn and Witcher draft the communication for his review and finalization. If Ono is unavailable, Erway will finalize the letter.**

DISCUSSION: “EVALUATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT’S IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN”, INCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT’S RESPONSE TO COUNCIL MEMBER ISBELL’S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (attached to original minutes):

- Ono requested, through the Legislative Auditor’s office, Larry Capellas’ attendance at this meeting. Capellas is the author of the evaluation. The response to Ono’s letter requested that the Commission offer questions to Mr. Capellas through the Legislative Auditor’s Office by September 16, 2005. Upon receipt of the questions, it would be determined if Mr. Capellas would respond prior to the meeting or attend the meeting. At this time, Mr. Capellas is no longer contracted with the County. Ono relayed his disappointment to the the County Clerk because logistics and distribution of the evaluation did not allow time to submit questions by September 16th.
- An addendum to the Evaluation was received by the Department on October 12, 2005 and a response will be offered.

Sort Station Update

- \$6.2M has been funded for the construction of Sort Station complex infrastructure and reload building.
- Invitation For Bid notice will be in this Sunday’s island newspapers.

7. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

OFF-ISLAND TOURS OF SITES RELATED TO SOLID WASTE AND WASTEWATER

- Off-island tours will be discussed next meeting.
- **Bell and Ono will jointly evaluate holding a press conference to encourage recycling and announce closures of Solid Waste Facilities on Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day 2005, and New Years Day 2006, at the November 23, 2005 Commission meeting.**

8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

- January 25, 2006, Waimea, HI, place TBA

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Erway moved to adjourn. Witcher seconded and motion was carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

SHARRON HENRY

Environmental Management Secretary

FORMAT NOTE: ACTION ITEMS ARE IN **BOLD PRINT** (MOTIONS AND ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION TO BE TAKEN FOR FUTURE MEETINGS).