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County of Hawaii
DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
ENERGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

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Energy Advisory Commission
Friday, November 14, 2008
North Hawai'i Education and Research Center
45-539 Plumeria Street
Honoka'a, Hawai'i

MINUTES

Commission Members:

Present: Steven Burns, Jacqui Hoover, Michael Kramer and Riley Smith

Excused: Richard Ha

R&D Staff: Diane Ley, Molly Lugo (Corporation Counsel), Marcia Yoshiyama and Douglas Zang

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chair, Jacqui Hoover.

2. Welcome, Introductions, Review of Agenda

a. Review of Agenda

There were no comments on the agenda as presented.

3. Statements from the Public

No one from the public was in attendance.

4. Approval of Minutes:

- October 31, 2008

Motion: R. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of October 31, 2008 meeting, and M. Kramer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- November 6, 2008

Motion: R. Smith made a motion to accept the minutes of November 6, 2008 meeting, and M. Kramer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Discussion and Possible Action on Committee Recommendations

a. Committee: Water Supply/Use/Other

Copies of the Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission Water Supply & Use Committee's, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008 (Exhibit A), were distributed.

M. Kramer inquired if the modification to the report that was requested was coupled into the final report and if the final report does not reflect the changes, could changes be added.

M. Lugo responded that it would be okay to revise the report as per the last meeting's discussions as long as no new changes are made.

S. Burns commented that there is a spelling typo on item 1 b, "photovoltaic" should be one word and asked for the definition of RUS stated in 1 f.

R. Smith answered that RUS stands for Rural Utility Services.

J. Hoover added that there will be definitions added to the Executive Summary.

M. Kramer asked for clarification on what is being recommendation on item 2 a and b.

R. Smith answered that recommendation is considering rain water harvesting and considering a water reuse/dual water system. He stated that some recommendations are clearly to be made through the Department of Water Supply and some recommendations would be made through the private sector.

S. Burns suggested rewording the recommendation to "consider and promote strategies" under 2 a, b, c and d.

J. Hoover responded that the wording "Consider and promote strategies including and not limited to" will be added between item 2 heading "Private Water Systems/PUC Regulated" and bullet a. "Rainwater harvesting".

Action: J. Hoover, Chair, asked for a motion to adopt the Water Supply/Use Committee report and recommendations as amended. S. Burns made a motion to adopt as amended and M. Kramer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously

b. Committee: Transportation/Biofuels

Copies of the Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's, BioFuels and Transportation Committee, DRAFT Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008 (See Exhibit B), were distributed.

J. Hoover asked for a motion to adopt the Transportation/Biofuels Committee report and recommendations. R. Smith made a motion to adopt the draft report. S. Burns seconded the motion. J. Hoover, Chair, opened the Transportation/Biofuels Committee draft report for discussion.

M. Kramer commented that there is a date error on the top of the report that should read, "For Final Review and Approval by EAC on Friday, November 14th not November 17th."

J. Hoover stated on page 2, items eight (8) and nine (9) were added to the recommendations as suggested at the last meeting.

M. Kramer indicated there is some confusion to item eight (8) as to what is being recommended.

J. Hoover responded that item eight (8) should have read, "Inclusion of biofuel interests and related issues including and not limited to land use and the Hawai'i County agricultural development plan."

M. Kramer replied that agricultural development plan should be capitalized and noted that the plan is upcoming in 2009. He added that the term "biofuel interests" seems awkward as written.

J. Hoover suggested removing the word "interests".

M. Kramer commented that maybe there should be cost-benefit analysis on biofuel crops.

J. Hoover sought the advice of M. Lugo if those changes could be made.

M. Lugo answered that if the change was covered during last meeting's discussion, then it is okay.

D. Ley added that pertaining to cost-benefit analysis; some work has been done at the State level.

M. Kramer added that at the last meeting there was discussion concerning Oahu-centric planning. J. Hoover commented that the issue discussed at the last meeting was fuel versus food.

J. Hoover suggested consolidating items eight (8) and nine (9).

M. Kramer suggested taking the word "biofuel" from item eight (8) and replacing the word "energy" in item nine (9).

J. Hoover answered that she agreed. The item should read, "Comprehensive review of policies and support for biofuel and food security initiatives as identified in the future 2009 Hawai'i County Agricultural Development Plan that strives for balance including and not limited to land use."

M. Kramer asked if non-biofuel transportation solutions (such as natural gas) should be added.

J. Hoover restated the wording of the combined items eight (8) and nine (9), to add discussion of the County's Agricultural Plan slated to be completed in 2009 and annually updated after that time.

J. Hoover stated that as per last meeting's discussion low-cost transit programs and opportunities for shared rides and park and ride programs were added to the recommendations.

J. Hoover commented that the abbreviation "CEAC" should be spelled out and should actually be called the Mayor's Energy Advisory Commission. She added that the word "Mayor" will be inserted to all the Committee reports titles and content.

M. Kramer commented that paragraph five (5), page 2 is missing content that was discussed at the last meeting to recommend that County facilities should be designed to accommodate charging stations in the future.

D. Ley added that for photovoltaics or future accommodation of charging stations, RFPs have to be able to include such language where it is appropriate.

J. Hoover commented that the language, "where appropriate and feasible based on cost-benefit analysis" should be added. She also commented that paragraph six (6), "other" should be added before "alternative transportation."

M. Kramer inquired if there will be an energy audit done for the LED streetlight pilot project.

R. Smith answered that the primary interest is the reliability of the LED streetlights; it is clear that there is an energy savings. The Department of Public Works (DPW) will assess the streetlights. The text in this recommendation is okay as-is.

M. Kramer asked about "Rural Development" cited in the report.

J. Hoover replied that several agencies are covered under the "Rural Development."

M. Kramer inquired if the Commission wanted the County to advocate for this and if there is any cases where the money can not go through the County.

J. Hoover replied that federal money goes through the public sector entities before being distributed and it would be preferable leaving the recommendation vague to show the money flow.

R. Smith answered if there are no logical County departments to pass through these funds, it would be better to leave the recommendation vague.

J. Hoover suggested changing the language on paragraph eight (8) of the recommendation to state, "Hawai'i County to advocate, support, and/or develop and implement energy sustainability education programs."

J. Hoover stated that she expanded the language regarding tax credits on page 3 of the recommendation.

M. Kramer suggested clarifying the recommendation to state that the County is advocating to the State to waive the weight tax for energy efficient vehicles.

R. Smith responded that the only tax credit the County can offset is property tax.

J. Hoover suggested excluding the recommendation on the whole section about tax credits.

D. Ley suggested instead of excluding the whole section, change the language to say the County supports initiatives in the first sentence of the recommendation regarding tax credits.

J. Hoover commented that a portion of the first paragraph after the words "registration/licensing fees" will be excluded until the bullet.

R. Smith suggested adding the language, "The County of Hawaii should" to the three additional recommendations at the beginning of the sentence.

M. Kramer stated that the format needs to be changed in the Additional Recommendations section.

R. Smith amended his motion to adopt the Transportation/Biofuel Committee report as amended. S. Burns seconded the motion to adopt as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

c. Committee: Building

Copies of the Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's, Building Committee, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 5, 2008 (See Exhibit C), were distributed.

R. Smith commented that under item 2, there should be a clearer definition of who a "developer" is.

M. Kramer responded that the developer would not be the owner since there is mention in the language of "potential buyers".

R. Smith asked for the definition of cool roof stated in item 3 a.

M. Kramer responded that it includes reflective material and other techniques.

J. Hoover stated a concern about requiring reflective material for all new constructions near the airports and suggested adding the language “where practicable.”

R. Smith commented that the wording in item 3 c should read “permeable” not “impermeable.” He added that permeable pavement needs to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

M. Kramer stated that item 4 was left broad but covers all appliances, mainly refrigerators, washers, dryers and ovens.

J. Hoover responded that the term “all” used in the recommendation covers it.

M. Lugo commented that the word in item 8 “Office”, should be “Department.”

R. Smith made a motion to adopt the Building Committee report as amended. J. Hoover seconded the motion.

J. Hoover called for the question to accept the Building Committee report as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

d. Committee: Utilities

Copies of Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Utilities Committee Report, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008 (See Exhibit D), were distributed.

J. Hoover asked for a motion to accept the Utilities Committee report. R. Smith made a motion to accept the Utilities Committee Report. S. Burns seconded the motion.

J. Hoover reported that there were no major changes done to the report.

R. Smith commented that under item 1, “IRP-4” is not defined.

J. Hoover responded that she pulled it straight from the Sustainability Plan.

J. Hoover called for the question to accept the Utilities Committee report. Motion carried unanimously.

e. Committee: Planning

Copies of the Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Planning Considerations Committee, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008 (See Exhibit E), were distributed.

R. Smith made a motion to adopt the Planning Considerations Committee report. J. Hoover second the motion.

J. Hoover reported that the change that was made is on page 5, of the Framework, item 5, was adding the language “redescribe.”

R. Smith expressed concerns about the language “Framework” used on page 1 of the Framework. He suggested rewording to “Report”; he also suggested changing the wording “Report” to “Reporting” in Section II and “Plan” to “Planning” in Section III on page 1 of the Framework section.

J. Hoover commented that on page 1 of the Final Report and Recommendation page the language under item 4, bullet 1 within the parenthesis should be “Proposed Framework Follows”.

R. Smith suggested adding the list of reviewers, advisors and contributors to the proposed Energy Sustainability Planning Framework directly below the existing text at the bottom of page 6 of the Framework.

S. Burns inquired what information from his report will be included in the Executive Summary to the Mayor.

J. Hoover replied that the original background section submitted on the November 4, 2008 meeting, paragraphs one and two will be integrated into the Executive Summary with minimal changes.

S. Burns asked if any of the other content from the background section will be used in the Executive Summary. He expressed concerns that there will be no rationale for the comprehensive plan. He suggested for rationale, part of the background section will need to accompany the Framework.

J. Hoover suggested taking the language from the background section, paragraph two to the end of the section (paragraphs 3, 6 and 7) and adding to the final report, removing the sections explaining the Committee advisors.

R. Smith amended his motion to accept the Planning Considerations Committee report as discussed. J. Hoover seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Department of Research and Development’s Update

Copies of the Department of Research and Development’s Report to the Energy Advisory Commission, dated November 7, 2008 – November 14, 2008, were distributed. (See Exhibit F)

D. Zang explained to the group that the primary development since the last meeting is that the County has decided to intervene in the Feed-In Tariffs docket issued by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and to participate without intervening in the PUC’s Utilities Decoupling docket. Commissioners asked about the rationale for the decision to participate without intervening in the second docket, as there were concerns about the County’s unique interests not being accounted for in the process. D. Zang assured the commissioners that after consultation with the County Corporation Counsel, this was determined to be the most appropriate path, and that he would pass on to Commissioners information about what “participating without intervention” entails.

7. Unfinished Business

None.

8. New Business

None.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Adjournment

Motion: R. Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by M. Kramer and carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m.

The Energy Advisory Commission members did not review and approve this minutes. The minutes will be filed with the Mayor's since the Commission is co-terminus with the Mayor.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Yoshiyama
Administrative Services Assistant

Attachments:

Exhibit A – Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Water Supply & Use Committee, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008

Exhibit B – Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Biofuels and Transportation Committee, DRAFT Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008, For Final Review and Approval by CEAC on Friday, November 17th

Exhibit C – Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Building Committee, Final Policy Recommendations, dated November 5, 2008

Exhibit D – Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Utilities Committee Report, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008

Exhibit E – Hawai'i County Energy Advisory Commission's Planning Considerations Committee, Final Report and Recommendations, dated November 6, 2008

Exhibit F – Department of Research and Development's Report to the Energy Advisory Commission, dated November 7, 2008 – November 14, 2008.