

## ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, January 24, 2007, 9:10 a.m.

Waimea Community Center (Park) Building, 65-1260 Kawaihae Road, Kamuela, HI

**COMMISSIONERS**  
**PRESENT:**

Carolyn Witcher  
Bobby Cooper  
Marjorie Erway  
Suzanne Mayhew  
Arnold Okamura  
Paulette Pavao  
Bill Sanborn  
Sam Sumner

**ALSO**  
**PRESENT:**

Steve Cassulo  
Councilmember Bob Jacobson  
Wayne Rifer

**EXCUSED:**

Diana Miller

**STAFF:**

Barbara Bell, Director  
Michael Dworsky, SWD Chief  
Keith Harris, AV Coordinator  
Sharron Henry, Secretary  
James Isa, AV Coordinator  
Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd, Corp Counsel

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Witcher called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. She introduced Paulette Pavao, new commissioner for District 3. All attendees introduced themselves and their roles relating to the department and commission.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 22, 2006 MEETING:**  
**Commissioner Erway moved to approve the November 22, 2006 minutes as written. Commissioner Mayhew seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
3. **APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA:** None
4. **STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON AGENDA:** None
5. **CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS/DISCUSSION:**

**Abandoned Vehicle Program Report** (attached to original minutes) – Taken out of order.

- Twelve vehicles were removed from Lono Kona and 45 from Ocean View subdivisions.
- The next subdivision removal will be Ainaloa. Approximately 50 vehicles have been identified.
- Commissioner Sanborn reported a number of abandoned vehicles in his district, #9.
- Isa suggested that subdivision associations submit a list and map of locations of abandoned and derelict vehicles to the Abandoned Vehicle Section and the Police Department.
- Isa discussed the abandoned and derelict vehicle removal programs procedures.

**Technical Services Section Report** (attached to original minutes)

**KEALAKEHE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:**

- Department is requesting increase in operating budget (FY 07-08) to allow for advanced treatment and electrical upgrade to accommodate the increased sewerage being dumped by private haulers.
- A rate increase for haulers will also be considered.
- **Lyle Hirota, Acting Wastewater Deputy Division Chief, will respond to Okamura's questions regarding using solar power at the wastewater treatment plants.**

#### KOHANA'IKI DEVELOPMENT:

- Rutter Development has withdrawn from this project due to costs and a limited timeline.
- Design and construction for augmentation of an R1 effluent conversion facility to the Kealakehe WWTP, a sewage pump station on Queen Kaahumanu Highway, and sewer and effluent transmission lines from the WWTP to Kealakehe Parkway will be pursued.
- \$10-12M County CIP funds will be requested this fiscal year. An additional \$34M will be requested next fiscal year.

**Wastewater Division Chief's Report** (attached to original minutes) – Taken out of order.

#### HILO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PROCESS BYPASS

- There was a process bypass of approximately 2 million gallons of partially treated wastewater at the Hilo Wastewater Treatment Plant between 4:30 p.m. January 12, 2007 and 7:30 a.m. January 13, 2007.
- By 9 a.m. on January 13, 2007, an oral report was made to State HEER (Hazard Emergency & Evaluation Response) Office and warning signs were posted.
- State HEER confirmed with local DOH that posting of shoreline from Hilo Breakwater to Puhi Bay was sufficient.
- Director, Deputy Director, Managing Director, Mayor, Civil Defense and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands were advised of the incident.
- A notification press release was submitted to radio, television and newspapers.
- A detailed analysis is being performed and the department is working with DOH to identify a redundant solution.
- **The commission members requested that the analysis be emailed to them upon completion.**

#### COMPLIANCE: KEALAKEHE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLAN

- The DOH Operations and Maintenance inspection in February is a regularly scheduled inspection.

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

#### HILO LANDFILL:

- Air photo of the Hilo Landfill was distributed and Sliver fill operation was discussed (attached to original minutes).
- Application to modify permit is still proceeding.
- The Hilo landfill remained very stable during the earthquake.
- Per DOH request, additional groundwater wells will be included in the Assessment Monitoring program.

#### GREEN WASTE:

- The Council voted to approve the funds to build composting infrastructure in West Hawai'i at the ordinance first reading.
- For better fire control, a 2" waterline is being installed from the transfer station to the green waste area in Kealakehe.
- Looking at possibly transporting excess green waste from West Hawai'i to South Kona/Ka'u.

#### OLD KONA LANDFILL

- Running R2 waterline from Kealakehe WWTP to deal with the fire is being considered. This could cause additional leachate concerns that will be addressed with DOH.
- The consensus of the commission members was that air quality was a larger problem than leachate water.

### SCRAP METAL AND TIRE PROGRAM

- Big Island Scrap Metal has begun a pilot project to create concrete/tire blocks as a useful application for keeping tires out of the waste stream.
- The blocks are being used as a retaining wall at their facility and could possibly be used as replacements for the wood currently being used at the transfer stations.
- The 45% increase in scrap metal processing is mainly due to the utilization of a second baler.

### HIOSH VIOLATIONS

- One violation was for incorrect spacing between ladder rungs.
- One was a lock out/tag out violation.
- Violations were satisfactorily abated and the division is working with HIOSH to implement a safety plan.

### HOT ISSUES

- New groundwater and gas monitoring wells will be drilled and cased in compliance with the Stormwater Monitoring Plan as submitted to DOH as part of the landfill modification application permit process.
- The enhanced testing came back within limits and the division hopes to be able to revert back to regular monitoring.

### TRANSFER STATIONS

- Any site for a new Waimea Transfer Station should be at least 9 acres to allow for a buffer around the developed area of approximately 3 acres.
- When an enhanced transfer station model is finalized and approved, it will be presented to the facilitators of the Waimea Community Development Project, as it will be offered to all communities.

### RECYCLING/DIVERSION PROGRAMS

- West Hawai'i E-waste event is scheduled for February 3, 2007 at the old Kona airport.

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

- Council approved an ordinance at first reading for an additional \$2M in the CIP budget for the Reload Facility mainly because of increased construction costs and some features were added back in.
- **The commissioners again discussed the preparation of a letter to Council identifying and supporting the Department's 3 top priorities.**
- **Henry will provide commissioners with copies of the Kohala Center's solid waste report.**
- Resolutions mandating recycling at County facilities, bottle recycling at restaurants and bars and an ordinance relating to stricter enforcement of illegal dumping passed out of Committee and will now be heard at Council. **The Director requested the Commissioners to testify to Council in support of these items.**
- Bell introduced Wayne Rifer, an environmental consultant who offered the *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle on the Big Island* presentation he gave to the Council Environmental Management Committee on January 23, 2007 (hard copy attached to original minutes).
- Rifer is also assisting the department in preparing an invitation for bid for management of recyclables from the transfer stations, as well as a Request for Proposal for landfill diversion incentives.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**STATUS REPORT ON KONA-KOHALA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTATION BY COMMISSION MEMBER SANBORN**

**The Chamber of Commerce will submit a list of questions to the commission by March 1. Representatives of the Chamber's Environmental Resource Committee will attend the March 28<sup>th</sup> Commission meeting where their submittal will be agendized and R1 water will be discussed.**

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

**DISCUSSION: DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE RULES: Pavao moved to table this discussion. Sumner seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

**REVIEW AND DISCUSSION: COMMISSION BINDERS:** No additional information is required at this time.

**DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING: LANDFILL GREENWASTE BAN:**

**DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING: LANDFILL SCRAP METAL BAN:**

**Cooper moved to table these two items until the May 23, 2007 meeting when Bell will submit a list of pros and cons for each ban. Mayhew seconded and it passed unanimously.**

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

March 23<sup>rd</sup> Meeting: Budget, Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce submittal

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS**

- March 28, 2007, Liquor Control Conference Room, 75-5722 Hanama Place, Suite 1107, Kailua-Kona, 96740
- May 23, 2007, Liquor Control Conference Room, First Floor, 101 Aupuni Street, Hilo, HI 96720
- July 25, 2007, Waimea Community Center (Park) Building, 65-1260 Kawaihae Road, Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743
- September 26, 2007, Liquor Control Conference Room, 75-5722 Hanama Place, Suite 1107, Kailua-Kona, 96740
- November 21, 2007, Liquor Control Conference Room, First Floor, 101 Aupuni Street, Hilo, HI 96720

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Erway moved to adjourn. Sumner seconded and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.**

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

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SHARRON HENRY

Environmental Management Secretary