

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, March 15, 2006, 9:10 a.m.

Kona Liquor Control Conference Room, 75-5722 Hanama Place, Suite 1107

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT:

Marjorie Erway
Sam Kawamura
Diana Miller
Arnold Okamura
Bill Sanborn
Sam Sumner
Carolyn Witcher

ALSO

PRESENT:

Steve Cassulo
Jon Olson
Ron Terry, Ph.D., Geometrician Associates

EXCUSED:

STAFF:

Margaret Almada, Personnel Specialist
Robin Bauman, Acct. IV
Dora Beck, TSS Chief
Barbara Bell, Director
Sharron Henry, Secretary
James Isa, AV Coordinator
Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd, Corporation Counsel

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Erway called the meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. and welcomed the attendees.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2006 MEETING:**
Arnold Okamura made a motion to approve the January 25, 2006 minutes. Sam Kawamura 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
6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** (Taken out of order)
OFF-ISLAND SITE TOUR TO MAUI
 - All reservations have been made for County and Commission participants.

STATUS REPORT - AUDIT, RESOLUTION NO. 168

- A meeting was held last week with Department and Audit representatives to clarify some items.
- Report is still about 2 months away.

7. **NEWS BUSINESS** (Taken out of order)

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

STATEMENT PREPARATION NOTICE (EISPN) FOR WASTE REDUCTION

TECHNOLOGY (WRT) FACILITY by Ron Terry, consultant (hard copy attached to original minutes) (Taken out of order)

- Some salient points:
 - Required by law, the County began the EISPN process at the earliest possible time to get the public involved and receive their input.

- The ultimate document, the EIS, is prepared to identify significant impacts, purpose and need, and current unknowns. It is running parallel with the WRT Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- The EIS addresses a combination of all waste disposal methods that the County might consider while the RFP identifies only 3 waste reduction technologies.
- **Bill Sanborn suggested:**
 - **Including other islands in the bargaining discussion**
 - **Including cross island hauling**
 - **Planning for new technologies and growth**
- Ash residual from a waste reduction technology facility will be deposited at the Pu`uanahulu landfill.

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

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

GREEN WASTE:

- EKO Composting Systems has eliminated the backlog at the Kona and Hilo green waste sites.

TRANSFER STATIONS:

- Sanborn shared his appreciation for the repairs done at Waimea Transfer Station.

Abandoned Vehicle Program Report (attached to original minutes)

- Isa's priority, in cooperation with the Police Department, is to remove the highly visible vehicles on the roadside.
- Two Abandoned Vehicle positions are being requested in the FY 06-07 budget.
- **Isa was requested to attend the next Commission meeting to update the Commissioners.**

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

PERSONNEL:

- Plan review is being done by Merton Ogata and Paul Ochi in Boucher's absence.

Technical Services Section Report (attached to original minutes)

PERSONNEL:

- Recruitment is in process to fill the vacant engineer position.

WASTEWATER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

Honokohau Harbor Effluent Reuse

- Working on design/build and transfer agreement with Rutter, a private developer, so RFP can be initiated.
- Rutter will connect directly into the wastewater treatment plant.

SOLID WASTE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

East Hawai`i Regional Sort Station

- Construction contract was executed with Isemoto Construction on March 7, 2006.
- Coordinating with URS, Design consultant; Isemoto Construction; SWD and Department on design plan changes for lowered cost alternative of \$7.321M
- Adjusting Reload building; adding back the higher level to the tip floor, retaining canopy and adding back in permanent power and communication (phone) ability, and removing one load-out "tunnel".

- The traffic flow is being maintained so that the Fuel Oils & Grease (FOG), recycling and redemption areas can be added when financially feasible.

Director's Report (attached to original minutes)

COMPOST FACILITY:

- Request for 1M CIP was passed at Finance Committee on February 28th.
- Funding choices are: private financing (talking with Waste Management), SRF funding (State funding) or County CIP funding.
- We're looking at all funding options. If the money is on the CIP list, it doesn't mean we will use the money but we cannot do the building infrastructure if it is not on the list.
- Will be heard at the March 22nd Council meeting at the Keauhou Resort.

LARGE CAPACITY CESSPOOLS:

- Large capacity cesspool conversions are under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Health (DOH) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

WAIMEA LANDFILL:

- EPA has approved the County's Brownfield's Targeted Assessment application.
- A Phase I investigation will be paid for out of DOH funds.
- The closed landfill is being considered for a green waste area. It is not suitable for Transfer Station traffic to be routed over the landfill.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** (Continued)

COMMISSION MISSION STATEMENT AND GOALS

- With no additional discussion, this item was filed.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:** (Continued)

FY 06-07 DEPARTMENT OPERATING AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

PROJECTS BUDGET REVIEW: (Taken out of order)

- Director Bell presented a "Sneak Preview" of the Department's PowerPoint presentation to Council (attached to original minutes). **Draft will be refined based on Commission input.**
- **After discussion regarding delinquent sewer bills, Sanborn made a motion that the Commission writes a letter to the Water Commission, copying the County Council, regarding shutting off water when the sewer bills are delinquent. Okamura seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**
- **Chair Erway asked Sanborn to draft the letter.**
- **Presentation suggestions from Commission:**
 - **Add to Technical Services Section Information: number of contracts managed**
 - **Add percentage slides and \$/person/category information**
 - **Add percentage of CIP debt service that represents the Solid Waste and Wastewater Division projects.**
 - **Add the cost to maintain the closed landfill.**
 - **Add equipment usage and maintenance challenge of 24-7 operation**

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON PERSONNEL ISSUES AND NEW POSITION REQUESTS:

- The following position requests have advanced to Counsel:
 - 1 Account Clerk for Business Services Section
 - 2 positions for Abandoned Vehicle Program
 - 7 transfer station attendants to replace private security guard contract

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Delinquent Sewer Bills

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Director Bell requested the Commissioners testify at next Council meeting in support of the West Hawaii Composting Facility.
- Department Budget Review at Finance Committee is March 31st, sometime between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS

- May 24, 2006, Hilo, County Council Room, 25 Aupuni Street, Room 201, Hilo, HI 96720
- July 26, 2006, Waimea, Community Center (Park) Building, 65-1260 Kawaihae Road, Kamuela, HI 96743
- September 27 ,2006, Kona, Mayor's Office Conference Room, 75-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 103, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740
- November 22, 2006, Hilo, County Council Room ,25 Aupuni Street, Room 201, Hilo, HI 96720

10. ADJOURNMENT

Sanborn moved to adjourn. Kawamura seconded and motion was carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.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).