

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Wednesday, October 29, 2003, 9:21 a.m.

Waimea Community Center (Park) Building, 65-1260 Kawaihae Road, Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743

**COMMISSIONERS
PRESENT:**

Riley Smith
David "Kimo" Frankel
Anne Plack
Lorraine Stahr
Carolyn Witcher

**ALSO
PRESENT:**

Dora Beck, Wastewater Division
Jo Diatolevi, Recycle Hawai'i
Tiffany Edwards, West Hawai'i Today
Pete Hendricks, Deputy Managing Director
Suzanne Jones, C&C of Honolulu
Mike Kaha, Waste Management
Eileen O'Hora-Weir, Recycling Coordinator
Margaret Pahio
John Ray
Joe Reynolds, County Council member
Shane Rohan
Howard Stahr
Gerald Takase, Corporation Counsel
Jay West

EXCUSED:

Mack Asato
Marjorie Erway
Sam Kawamura
Hugh Ono

STAFF:

Barbara Bell, Director
Peter Boucher, Wastewater Division Chief
Lono Tyson, Solid Waste Division Chief
Sharron Henry, Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 9:21 a.m. and acknowledged Council member Joe Reynolds, Chair of the Parks and Environmental Management Committee, and Deputy Managing Director Pete Hendricks.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2003 MEETING:**
Anne Plack made a motion to approve the September 24, 2003 minutes. Lorraine Stahr seconded the motion. After discussion regarding the required number of commissioners present to take action and vote abstention by a commissioner when only 5 commission members are present, **Commission member Frankel made a motion to amend Item 4. to read "Motion failed because 5 votes are needed for passage."** **Witcher seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with Commission member Stahr stating she wanted it noted that she was voting for the motion but it was against her better judgment. Motion to approve the minutes as amended passed unanimously.** Commission Counsel Takase will review the commission rules regarding voting and abstention, and it will be placed on next month's meeting agenda for discussion.
3. **APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA:** None
4. **STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS LISTED ON AGENDA:**
John Ray, representing Hawai'i Leeward Planning Conference (HLPC), stated the Pacific Waste proposal sounded interesting and hoped it did not jeopardize aggressive action in moving forward on the Sort station. HLPC submitted testimony in support of the Sort station Draft EIS. Speaking as a member of the South Kohala Traffic Safety Committee, he does not feel the added volume of traffic will be that great of an issue.

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

Director's Report (attached to original minutes)

COUNCIL ACTIONS:

- Wastewater ordinance requesting deletion of connection exemptions complies with EPA grant conditions.
- Mike Allen will address the Parks and Environmental Management Committee on recycling issues on November 4, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. in the County Council Room.
- Council member Reynolds will be holding community meetings on recycling issues.

OCEANVIEW TRANSFER STATION:

- The Environmental Assessment contract has been agreed upon and the project is moving forward.

KEAAU RECYCLING AND REUSE CENTER:

- Funding has been secured for January through June, 2004.

2ND YEAR EPA GRANT FOR CONTINUING TRANSFER STATION UPGRADES:

- An Invitation for Bid will be offered for recycling services in connection with upgrading the Kealakehe Transfer Station.
- Hawai'i Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB) will handle promotion and outreach.

DRAFT EIS FOR SORT STATION:

- Informational brochure of frequently asked questions was distributed (attached to original minutes.)
- This EIS addresses Sort station and long-haul. Another EIS will address a waste reduction technology.
- Waste issues are island-wide issues, not East vs. West.

BEVERAGE CONTAINER DEPOSIT LAW UPDATE:

- Suzanne Jones, City and County of Honolulu Recycling Coordinator, presented an overview of the "bottle bill", including history, implementation strategies and how to offer support for legislative efforts to proceed.
- Things the Counties need to do: (1) Support the January 1, 2005 implementation; (2) facilitate the redemption centers at the transfer stations; (3) identify funding needed to set up redemption centers and request from State fund.
- Information was also provided on pilot recycling projects on Oahu.
- Additional information can be obtained from the City and County of Honolulu website, www.opala.net.

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

PAPAIKOU TREATMENT PLANT:

- There was a malfunction of a sulfinator at the Papaikou WTP resulting in a treatment bypass. This caused a release of effluent exceeding the maximum chlorine residual. A press release was issued as required by our NPDES permit. There was no danger to the public health or safety.

- In the future, regulators will be changed on an annual basis rather than every 5 years, as is the current practice. Piping is already replaced every six months.

GANG CESSPOOLS:

- The mayor has indicated the County’s willingness to assist, particularly the former plantations, in getting off gang cesspools.

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

PACIFIC WASTE PROPOSAL TO GENERATE LANDFILL AIRSPACE:

- Proposal was unsolicited and no specifics have been received.
- It is premature for the County to enter into any agreement or partnership process until a final determination is made on the time remaining before the landfill closure.

HILO LANDFILL:

- A new estimate on the life of the landfill will be determined when results of the airspace analysis are received and confirmed.
- When landfill closure date is updated, the State will be contacted to discuss landfill status and options to maximize the airspace. When the State concurs with our plan, the Mayor will be advised of the closure timeline and identified options. At that time, potential proposals from outside parties to extend the life of the landfill can be revisited.

SCRAP METAL PROGRAM:

- All County contractors are monitored to ensure safety of the public and workers.
- Ample space is key to safe operations and will be taken into consideration when siting new facilities.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT WASTEWATER AND SOLID WASTE DIVISION RULES:

Deferred to a future meeting.

DISCUSSION OF VIDEO CONFERENCING COMMISSION MEETINGS (handout attached to original minutes.) Upon review of information, video conferencing will not be utilized.

DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE REQUESTING COUNTY COUNCIL TO AMEND COUNTY CHARTER REDEFINING THE COMMISSION RESPONSIBILITIES:

Ordinance will be forwarded to Council member Reynolds to be presented to the County Council.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Tuesday, November 25, 2003, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Hawai‘i County Council Room, 25 Aupuni Street, Room 201, Hilo, HI 96720
- Tuesday, December 23, 2003, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Kona Police Department Conference Room, 74-5221 Queen Ka’ahumanu Highway, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

SHARRON HENRY
Environmental Management Secretary