

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Thursday, September 25, 2008, 9:06 a.m.

Kona Council Office, 75-5706 Hanama Place, Suite 109, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

COMMISSIONERS Arnold Okamura **ALSO** Clay Adams
PRESENT: Suzanne Mayhew **PRESENT:** Jes Foster
Stan Boren
Steve Okoji
Paulette Pavao
Steve Pavao
Bill Sanborn
Sam Sumner

EXCUSED: Diana Miller **STAFF:** Bobby Jean Leithead Todd, Director
Sharron Henry, Secretary
Robin Bauman, Business Manager
Michael Dworsky, SWD Chief
Keith Harris, Kona AV Coordinator

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commission Chair Okamura called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2008 MEETING:**
Commissioner Mayhew moved to approve the May 28, 2008 minutes as written.
Commissioner Paulette Pavao 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

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

PRESENTATION: CURBSIDE RECYCLING PROGRAM (Taken out of order) (attached to the original minutes):

- Messrs. Jes Foster and Clay Adams did a presentation on a curbside trash and recycling program fashioned after the LeMay recycling company's program in Washington State.
- Pay to Throw at the transfer stations was discussed.
- Commission member Boren suggested food waste be composted or recycled in green waste bin.

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

Abandoned Vehicle (AV) Program Report (attached to original minutes)

- Reasons for the decline in vehicle reports may be due to the increase in the scrap metal market price, leading private companies to offer free vehicle removal to residents.
- Commissioner Sumner thanked Harris for the quick removal of the abandoned vehicles on the Hamakua Coast.
- **Commissioner Sanborn suggested that the names used to identify the programs ("amnesty" and "derelict") be changed and will bring some suggested names to the next meeting.**

- If abandoned vehicles are not being removed within a week after they are tagged, contact the Abandoned Vehicle office and they will follow up with Police in obtaining a police report.

Solid Waste Division Report (attached to original minutes)

- **TIRES COLLECTED IN PRIVATE SUBDIVISIONS**: Dworsky suggested that they be stockpiled and then the subdivisions apply to the Matson Community Support Program for funds and containers to remove them.
- **HILO LANDFILL CLOSURE**: Estimated closure date is now 2012.
- **E-WASTE**: Dworsky indicated he was not aware that e-waste had to clean in order for the company to take it.
- **SCRAP METAL**: Metal prices are fluctuating.
- **HI5**: County of Hawai`i's 90% redemption is the highest in the State.
- **TRANSFER STATIONS**: Will continue to be upgraded in order to accept additional disposal items.
- **HIEDB ZERO WASTE CONFERENCE**: Report will be forthcoming from the conference and the public meetings that were held. Videos of the conference will also be available.
- It was suggested that private haulers be strongly urged to include recycling in their pickups.

Technical Services Section Report/Wastewater Division Reports (attached to original minutes)

- **PERSONNEL**: CEIII and EEIV positions have been reallocated and the department is desperately trying to fill these positions. Relocation funding can now be offered to engineering applicants.
- **LARGE CAPACITY CESSPOOL (LCC) PROJECTS**: are ongoing and will cost over \$50M in the next 4-5 years.
- **NA`ALEHU/PAHALA LCC**:
 - Appraisal has been completed on a 2-acre parcel in Na`alehu.
 - 5-acre site is being reviewed for the Pahala treatment and disposal system in lieu of septic tanks and for future capacity.
- **HONOKAA LCC**:
 - Lava tube is not a problem as was originally believed and the project is moving ahead.
 - County is negotiating with the hospital some sort of payment/reimbursement agreement for the pipes already purchased by the hospital and the easement.
- **QUEEN LILIUOKALANI VILLAGE LCC REPLACEMENT**:
 - This project is being coordinated with the Public Works road work.
- **WASTEWATER DIVISION REPORT**: There were no questions or discussion.

Director's Report (attached to original minutes)

- **UPDATE TO THE INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**:
 - Regular monthly reports are being presented to the County Council.
 - Consultants estimate green waste and recycling pickup costs would be \$50-\$60/resident/month. This includes processing and operations.
 - Consultants will be doing a presentation to the Commission at a future meeting.
- **CHANGES TO THE HAWAII COUNTY CODE FOR DEM**:
 - Director has reiterated to the County Council that all changes to Solid Waste and Wastewater articles of the Code come through the Commission, Department and Administration for review/input/approval before being introduced at Council.

● **PLASTIC BAG BAN ORDINANCE:**

- Director drafted a new ordinance and submitted to the Council, taking into consideration the concerns of the Mayor's Office related to the recently vetoed ordinance.
- Director would prefer a "charge for bags" bill rather than a "ban on plastic bags".
- Commission member Okoji suggested adding clothing stores to the newly drafted ordinance.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

DISCUSSION: UPDATE TO THE INTEGRATED SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN (ISWMP):

- Another chapter was reviewed at the meeting this past week. All ISWMP/SWAC documents can be accessed on the County website at http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us/env_mng/iswmp.htm.

DISCUSSION: DELINQUENT SOLID WASTE AND SEWER ACCOUNTS:

- Both Solid Waste and Sewer Account delinquencies were discussed.
- Account documents were distributed (attached to original minutes.)
- Some sewer connection exemptions are being granted by the Director on an individual request/review basis.
- Corporation Counsel and collection agency are doing a good job in collecting moneys on delinquent accounts referred to them for collection.
- Filling the new Credit/Collection Clerk position should improve collections.
- It was suggested that delinquent sewer fees be added to the property tax so that non-payment of property tax could mean County takes possession of the property.
- Wastewater Division is doing an update to determine who is connected and who isn't.
- It was suggested that commercial haulers using the landfill provide a performance bond or some form of payment guarantee.

PREPARATION OF A RECOMMENDATION STATEMENT TO THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ON SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL TECHNOLOGIES/METHODS:

- Deferred

DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE EFFORTS TO EXPAND SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION AUTHORITY BEYOND ADVISORY MATTERS:

- Deferred

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

SELECTION: NEW OFFICER NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

- Chair appointed Commissioners Sanborn and Pavao to bring recommendation for new Vice Chair to next meeting.

DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING: RESOLUTION TO INCREASE SEWER RATES:

- Deferred.
- Awaiting consultant's report before resolution can be properly prepared.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** None

9. **FUTURE COMMISSION MEETINGS**

- November 26, 2008, Hilo, place TBA, site visit following meeting: Sort Station, Landfill sliver fill operation

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Boren moved to adjourn. Mayhew seconded and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:59 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).