

**Department of Environmental Management
Maui Wastewater Community Working Group Meeting XII
Thursday, October 21 2010
Waikapu Community Center**

Meeting Notes

Final - November 9, 2010

I. Welcome & Introductions

Leland Chang opens
Introductions

II. Agenda Review

Leland Chang covers agenda.
Ground Rules reminders:

- Facilitator recognizes speakers and covers ground rules for speaking one at a time
- Introductions given by all members and team present

Steve Parabolicoli: HWEA Reuse Conference information 11/18 & 11/19 Makena Resort
\$175 fee, invitation to all CWG members

III. CWG XI Meeting Summary

Leland Chang: Meeting summary concerns/changes:

- No changes

IV. Continuing Discussion of Draft Recommendations

Policy and Planning

H.

- Pam Daoust- Mission statement and guiding principles under “C” increased reuse of private WW should be undertaken. Went to Nancy Rumrill (EPA) for suggestions for grants for private treatment systems. She stated that the funding that EPA provides to the State is based on the County’s priorities and would not be available for your use unless the County has it as a priority. Strongly suggest that we leave verbiage in for possible funding projects just because they don’t relate to the 3 COM plants. We haven’t addressed these issues before and could be very helpful in meeting overall goals.
- Russell Sparks-We hadn’t really thrown this out yet, right?
- Bill Frampton-Can we add into the language “private” to read “public and private sewer systems”
- Pam Daoust- She is ok with this.

Community Education

A.

- Pam Daoust-Establish a community task force to help with this and take some of the heat off the Department. Will email language to Leland.
- Dave Taylor-What does this really mean? Will the Department have the responsibility to staff something like this?
- Pam Daoust-I see this to include lobbying and providing advice.
- Joie Taylor-Is this a new group or an existing group?
- Pam Daoust-I think there needs to be something to carry this effort on and there doesn't seem to be support for establishing a separate commission.
- Dave Taylor-There is already a water board with limited scope in that they deal with water issues and it seems like this might fit into this structure.
- Bill Frampton-Similar to DIRE?
- Irene Bowie-What is necessary for a task force; isn't this CWG one?
- Dave Taylor- This CWG was formed for a specific purpose by the Mayor.
- Bill Frampton-Maybe we can have something informal.
- Irene Bowie-I do think some kind of task force is important because a big part of this is educating the adults. Maui Tomorrow would be willing to help with this and bring issues to the community.
- Frank De Rego Jr.-Suggest a task force for education and for the community would be involved at the direction of DEM and the Mayor.

Infrastructure

A.

- Leland-There were requests to prioritize the many projects that were presented but a tremendous amount of information would need to be presented. So, perhaps the CWG could provide guidance on preferred outcomes and impacts as well as geographic areas to work on first?
- Steve Parabolicoli-Look at what each plant has to offer already. Kihei has good infrastructure in place. Lahaina has some and needs more. Central has nothing with little increase in displacement of potable water.
- Scott Meidel- What is the low-hanging fruit? Is there anything obvious that comes to mind.
- Steve Parabolicoli-Just got a call from a "guy" who says that he wants all the water we can offer in Ulupalakua with the money to pay for it.
- Russell Sparks-Guiding priorities should be phasing out injection wells. Get most of the water out and used. The other one is the potable water issue.
- Irene Bowie- Any further information on the Kahului plant with HCS and DOD for Central Maui.
- Steve Parabolicoli-There is an abandoned pipeline that used to be used for pineapple waste by ML&P that could provide up to 1.8 million/day of recycled

water to HC&S displacement but we would need to upgrade Kahului WWRf to R1 water capability. HC&S also has some concerns.

- Sean O’Keefe- We cannot use the ditch system (if the ditch system is classified as a “State” waterway) according to DOH regulations.
- Pam Daoust-Projects should be prioritized in order of ease of doing project, feasibility, displacement of injection wells, develop shovel-ready projects, lobbying public officials to do these projects.
- Frank De Rego Jr.-Agree on low-hanging fruit, however, Central needs to be dealt with and needs to be made a priority. Creative ways of financing and technology will be needed to address these issues now.
- Dave Taylor-COM could use all of the water if we have enough land. Doesn’t the community need to put a budget together and look at how to address the drought and potable displacement?
- Pam Daoust-We need to address the reefs and the cause of further harm. I would see Central as a priority since it is one of the worst areas for reef and ocean health. It is going to need to be a combination of things and not just one approach. Wetlands recharge aquifers.
- Sharon Suzuki-Is the CWG responsibility to balance potable displacement and reuse?
- Joie Taylor-Gray water replacing potable water. Low-hanging fruit could not provide a holistic approach.
- Gregg Kresge-Please consider what happens if we free up potable water, allowing for further development that may have a net-zero effect-meaning no additional net use of WW.
- Russell Sparks-My priority is to stop injection wells. The costs of potable water development can be put toward this rather than fronting only water development.
- Steve Parabolicoli-Resort use does not take as much as pasture farming etc.
- Scott Meidel-Cost-efficiency should replace wording “low-hanging fruit” and should prioritize all the projects from top to bottom.
- Bill Frampton-Want to prioritize getting rid of injection wells and want to get it done and provide DEM with recommendations and options.
- Frank De Rego Jr.-Net-zero will take a lot of planning. There needs to be some communication in the planning process to make net-zero.
- Leland Chang-summarized top concerns voiced so far.
- Dave Taylor-Maui Island Plan has big ramifications when it comes to in-fill projects. New and large projects will most likely have their own private plants and will reuse 100% of their own generation.
- Pam Daoust-All the new projects will have the same concerns and will use injection wells. We need to look at the potential for energy generation as well. We need to not cut anything out because we could get federal money for these things.
- Bill Frampton-Does the project cost table have a total?
- Steve Parabolicoli-No, it was based on what you wanted to choose.

C.

- Craig Lekven-Cyclical is seasonal? The proper term is recycled water not recycled wastewater.
- Russell Sparks-In some of these cases and projects, if you get the water there, it will all be used. This is important because that is where you can get all the water used.
- Pam Daoust-It totally depends on where you take the water. You may not have enough places to put all the water. As our population increases, we run out of space.
- Steve Parabolicoli-There are some large places like parks and schools that can take a large amount of water. Elevation is necessary to develop pressure for distribution. Wetlands require additional treatment on the backside where the water would be coming out.
- Craig Lekven-There are some storage issues concerning algae and the need to retreat if distributed.
- Dave Taylor-How is the cost going to be paid? Are the golf courses going to pay their share? Are the rate-payers going to bear the cost?

Financing

A.

- Scott Rollins-Review of project cost table with respect to rate increases.
- Scott Meidel-How is that broken down?
- Scott Rollins-For the future rate increases including reuse projects, 90% of rate increases go to maintain the existing system, 10% goes for the construction and design for reuse. The rate increase of 100% over ten years also covers O&M of existing infrastructure but not for new reuse facilities.
- Pam Daoust-Can we spell this out so that people know how these fees are broken down.
- Leland Chang-New language will include breakout of fee increases.
- Russell Sparks-I propose a cap on the fee so that anything over a certain amount is used only for reuse.

G.

- Scott Meidel-Is DWS funded by real property tax (RPT)?
- Dave Taylor-No, they are funded by fees and are an Enterprise Fund and cannot be funded by RPT. We are self-funded but can get funds from RPT for CIP.

H.

- Leland Chang-What happens to people who are on private systems?
- Bill Frampton-Does this mean that a portion of a Haiku vacation rental TAT would go to pay for recycled water?
- Pam Daoust-Civic improvement districts should be in here to reduce reliance on injection wells.
- Bill Frampton-How would this work for Haliimaile or Pukalani?

- Pam Daoust-Communities could petition.
- Jeff Pearson-Pukalani doesn't have injection wells so what would be the reasoning behind this?
- Dave Taylor-This is something that already exists in the Charter. There is a way to add an additional amount to RPT that is for a special project.
- Russell Sparks-I don't see this as dedicating a specific amount to the projects. I see just saying that it will be funded by RPT.
- Gregg Kresge-Please keep in mind that private systems like Ma'alaea are most often conditions for project development and that the project would not have been approved had the developer not agreed to a private system.
- Bill Frampton-We agree that this is something that warrants an increase in fees and not specific to an area. We need to get beyond this and are we willing to put a recommendation out there about raising fees. DWS-are we saying that they should raise their fees to help pay for recycled water?
- Leland Chang-Keep in mind the possible plight of people not benefitting from the services.
- Pam Daoust-We need to incorporate the private systems.
- Dave Taylor-sewer fees already augment private systems by taking the pumper truck waste from the private systems.
- Jeff Pearson-How are all of these fees and sources being examined? Are we really making recommendations or are we just presenting a whole load of different things? Or, are we going to prioritize which ones are the most important? If we prioritize someone is going to walk away unhappy.
- Leland - the recommendations will be presented as a menu of viable strategies, all of which could and should be implemented; not as a prioritized list where some strategies are seen as more important than others. It is too early to know which ones would have the best chances of being carried out.
- Scott Meidel-We could limit the RPT fee on ag or conservation zoned land. This could address those owners that are barely making it and it would be based on zoning designation. There is a way to stratify the RPT.
- Leland Chang-How would this work for people on private systems?
- Pam Daoust-I envision getting a tax bill that would say something like "clean water fee" that would be set aside for communities that would apply for the civic district.
- Leland Chang-How would it work if DEM became a pass through for projects for private systems?
- Dave Taylor-Recommend saying that recycled water projects can be funded from General Fund.
- Irene Bowie-Is this where we include language that private systems partner with the County for grants?
- Pam Daoust-In Chesapeake Bay there is a flush fee and everyone pays and set this up separate from the General Fund.
- Leland Chang-We haven't included this type of broad fee before because the focus is on injection wells and not other issues such as the reef.

- Sean O’Keefe-I would agree to the language that the projects can be funded from the General Fund. In terms of the private systems, if the intent is to decrease injection and increase reuse, and the private systems have already paid their share, I don’t think they should have to continue to pay for everyone else. Regarding the fee on households and businesses, this would be no different than a special fund that can get raided and added on to so that the money doesn’t get to where it is supposed to go; like at the State level.

New Recommendation-Remove Usage Fee Cap

- Russell Sparks-Remove the cap on fees (9,000 gal/mo.) with all the additional revenue going to recycled water projects.
- Sean O’Keefe-Caution that legitimate farmers are not going to be protected by caps in place now in relation to income.
- Jeff Pearson-From what I understand, the cap with income level has been lowered.
- Leland Chang-From our discussions before, we were looking at residential water overuse. Keep in mind that there is also no practical way to measure the wastewater generated outside of tying it to water use.
- Sean O’Keefe-There is a way to measure WW generation. Our Puunene facility is based on an outflow WW meter.
- Jeff Pearson-This is the same for the cannery.
- Dave Taylor-Take Russell’s idea and expand on that as a potable water displacement fee because heavy users take up more potable water.
- Pam Daoust-Other states have enacted a fee that is put in a trust or governed by a commission. The bulk of the money is used for public infrastructure improvements, but some of the money is used for private systems. How can these fees be used for everyone? Maalaea has 11 separate systems with 23 injection wells. Most of the owners are seniors that cannot afford to pay for needed improvements.
- Leland Chang-The CWG has discussed this issue and there doesn’t seem to be a will to include private systems in the recommendations.
- Sean O’Keefe-Highlight that removing the cap would encourage water saving/prevent waste and also as a fund raiser.
- Irene Bowie-This would support conservation and would be supported by the community.
- Jeff Pearson-This would be supported by DWS because it meets their goals.
- Scott Meidel-Is there a possibility that someone relying on the cap (small ag parcels or lower users) would be dinged for use above the cap?
- Leland Chang-This would apply to non-ag users.
- Jeff Pearson-What about hotel use?
- Leland Chang-I think we are really looking at single family and multi-family residences.
- Frank De Rego Jr.-From what I understand, commercial and hotel use much more per capita than residential users.

Policy and Planning

B.

- Pam Daoust-Would recommend dropping carbon footprint language since there are non-energy consuming technologies out there. Instead, give priorities to projects that reduce carbon footprints.
- Russell Sparks-I would recommend deleting the whole recommendation.
- Jeff Pearson-Seconded Russell's recommendation.

D.

- Steve Parabolicoli-I think this statement was based on Monsanto and keeping salinity down.
- Sean O'Keefe-There needs to be some stability for those that pay for the system improvements.
- Leland Chang-We will take out the last sentence of this recommendation.

G.

- Russell Sparks-Removing the cap also works with this recommendation because graywater use will lessen the need for potable water.

V. Next Steps: Next Meeting

VI. Public Comments:

John Seebart- A Net-zero comment, utilize permitting restrictions on use by stopping development that doesn't reuse its own wastewater.

VII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.