

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 20, 2014

The regular meeting of the Maui County Board of Water Supply was held at the Department of Planning Conference Room, 250 South High Street, Wailuku, Maui, on Thursday, November 20, 2014.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Kamai at 9:07 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: William Kamai
Robert Joslin
R. Raymond Cabebe
Sylvia Ho
Cyrus Kodani
Anders Lyons
Michael Suzuki
Thomas Watanabe

Staff present: David Taylor, Director
Gary Murai, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Gaye Hayashida, Commission Support Clerk

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of October 29, 2014

Chair Kamai asked for a motion to approve the minutes of October 29, 2014 as submitted.

Motion: Member Lyons moved to accept the minutes of October 29, 2014 as submitted

Second: Member Ho

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. The minutes of October 29, 2014 were approved as submitted.

TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC

There was no public testimony.

COMMUNICATIONS

COM 14-01, Letter from Cindy Reeves, PhD, MPH, Maui County Administrator, UH-CTAHR, requesting a return to agricultural water rates.

COM 14-02, Letter from J. Kenneth Grace, Associate Dean and Associate Director for Research, University of Hawaii - Manoa, regarding agricultural water rates for the Maui Agricultural Research Center (Kula Experiment Station)

The Board did not take any action on these 2 items. Communications 14-01 and 14-02 will be filed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Review and discussion on the Committee's points on the Department's future rates and fees

No further information was submitted by the committee. Vice Chair Joslin will submit a report by the next meeting.

Director Taylor informed the Board that the next future water rates and fees will be made available to the public on March 25, 2015 when the mayor makes his Fiscal Year 2016 formal budget request to the county council.

Member Lyons stated that the meter fees are really infrastructure fees and wondered if the fee structure could be done in such a way as to make it an additional fee that is put on the bill over a period of time until it is paid for.

The director clarified that the meter fee is technically called the Water System Development Fee though they refer to it as that or a hook-up fee or an impact fee. He added that it is possible to put it on the bill if this is something the council wants to do. The problem would be the difficulty of implementation because now it would run with the land and not with the application.

Vice Chair Joslin said that the committee could incorporate this into their report that they talked about and then the board could discuss it.

Director Taylor stated that if this is something the board wants to recommend to the council then it would have to be for the fiscal year 2017 budget which would begin July 1, 2016 as it is too late for the fiscal year 2016 budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Receipt of Board Member request for agenda items to be placed on future agendas

1. Review and discussion on the Committee's points on the Department's future rates and fees to be placed under Unfinished Business.

DIVISION REPORTS

Operational Division Reports

Director Taylor reported that the Olinda Treatment Plant has been shut down for major maintenance and it may be back on in the next month or so. Otherwise, it is normal operations.

The director added that at the Council's Water Resources Committee November 19th meeting there were two items on the agenda, one was an update on the Waikamoi Flume which is about 90% done. The other item was a discussion on a bill about water conservation and water shortage rates. The council did pass that bill out of committee with a water shortage rate structure similar to what they have been asking for. The details are on mauinow.com if any one is interested in more information on these two items.

Member Cabebe asked Director Taylor if he knows how many meters have been issued for Upcountry.

Director Taylor said that meters were offered to 50 applicants but he does not know how many of those have actually accepted and paid for the meters.

Vice Chair Joslin commented that there has been quite a bit of rain and we should be seeing higher percentages on the Upcountry Water Report so he would like the director to speak on that.

The director explained that on left side of the report is the supply and on the right is the total demand. Over the last week demand has been between 6 1/2 to 5 million gallons a day (mgd) which is low due to the rains. The average daily demand for Upcountry is about 8 mgd.

The Wailoa Ditch serves the Kamole Treatment Plant which produces 6 mgd. The ditch flow has been about 50 mgd and the plant pulls only 6 million gallons out of it. As long as there are at least 10 to 20 million gallons in the ditch they can get full production out of Kamole.

The Waikamoi Reservoirs 1 and 2, and the Kahakapao Reservoirs 1 and 2 are raw water storage that goes to the Olinda Treatment Plant which is only capable of producing 1 mgd to 1 1/2 mgd. But even though there is a lot of water now in those reservoirs it doesn't matter because the plant is shut down for maintenance.

The Piihola Plant which is at the 3,000 feet elevation processes 5 mgd and has a 50 million gallon reservoir which is good for 8 to 10 days of storage. Right now it is almost full at 90%. When you look at the Piihola Reservoir being almost full and the Wailoa Ditch having plenty of water, the 2 main Upcountry workhorses, there is plenty of water.

Under the demand side you can see how much is coming out of each plant and you can see that Kamole and Piihola are sharing the majority of the load. If Pookela Well is off that means they have enough surface water. Phase 10 and Phase 6 pumping is how they juggle water for Upcountry. If these are off that means they have enough uphill water running down and so they don't need to pump the water up.

Vice Chair Joslin asked if the department could put in another reservoir Upcountry to capture water that is just running off.

Director Taylor replied that 2 years ago they asked for and were approved for money to do a preliminary engineering study of how to best lay out a reservoir where there is zero storage. They received money for land acquisition in the current budget from the council and they are trying to finalize where the best location to do this and move ahead with land acquisition. They are also looking into designing a large reservoir that can be built in modules so that as they get more funding they could add to it.

With a project like this where they design the whole thing and build it in phases they would be ready and permitted if there was any money available from the federal or state governments for shovel ready projects. This is something that they have been working on for a couple of years and hope to keep moving forward.

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 14-04, Honoring James Rust for his service to the Board of Water Supply

Chair Kamai read into the record Board of Water Supply Resolution 14-04, Honoring Board of Water Supply Member James Rust who passed away on October 22, 2014. Copies of the resolution will be transmitted to the family of James Rust, the mayor and the county council.

Motion: Member Kodani moved to accept Resolution 14-04

Second: Member Lyons

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous vote. Motion carried. Resolution 14-04 was approved and accepted as read.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the regular meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Prepared by:

Gaye Hayashida
Commission Support Clerk

Approved for distribution:

David Taylor
Director