

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 16, 2018

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, August 16, 2018.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lyons at 1:30 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Members present: Anders Lyons, Chair
Shay Chan Hodges, Vice Chair
Joseph Aquino
R. Raymond Cabebe
Dean Frampton
Norman Franco
Sylvia Ho
Zoltan Milaskey

Members excused: Michael Nakashima

Staff present: Gladys Baisa, Acting Director
Shayne Agawa, Deputy Director, P.E.
Eva Blumenstein, Water Resources & Planning Program
Manager
Wendy Taomoto, P.E., Engineering Program Manager
Jase Miyabuchi, P.E., CE VI
Derek Takahashi, P.E., CE V
Edward S. Kushi, Jr., First Deputy Corporation Counsel
Gaye Hayashida, Commission Support Clerk

Chair Lyons changed the order of the agenda items. At this time he asked Deputy Corporation Counsel Caleb Rowe to give his update on the East Maui IIFS decision.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion with Deputy Corporation Counsel Caleb Rowe on the East Maui Interim Instream Flow Standards decision by the Commission on Water Resource Management

Deputy Corporation Counsel Caleb Rowe announced that the Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM) finally issued its decision in the matter of the East Maui Interim In-stream Flow Standards (IIFS). But prior to that the hearings officer issued his decision last year and since then there have been significant amount of changes done by CWRM.

He is unaware at this time of any party appealing the decision and he noted that this decision is really good for the community groups so he would be surprised if they did appeal.

There are a few good things the County of Maui got. The first is that there are 4 streams that CWRM recognized as “public use streams”. These are the Waikamoi, Puohokamoa, Haipua’ena and Honomanu streams that are protected at an equal level as use for Native Hawaiian gathering rights and for environmental protection.

Second, the commission has decided to allow the department to continue using the amount of water in the streams that are currently being used at the Piihola and Olinda water treatment facilities. So the decision will not affect our continued use at the levels we are using.

Though there will be some restoration, CWRM determined that there will be more water added to the streams after our diversions, having no effect on habitat values.

The Wailoa Ditch which is operated by East Maui Irrigation (EMI) and goes into the Kamole Weir Treatment Plant, gets diversions from a majority of the streams involved in this contested case. In past decisions, CWRM determined how much water in millions of gallons a day (mgd) need to be kept in the streams. Unfortunately, the commission didn’t do that this time. Instead, they gave a mandated IIFS value in cubic feet per second. So the county had to convert cubic feet per second into mgd and calculated that there still will be about 19 mgd at 50% of the time in the Wailoa Ditch.

It really comes down to the commission deciding how much EMI gets to take out of the ditch and also, how much water EMI will agree to give to the County of Maui. Whether or not it’s ours remains an open question.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of June 21, 2018

Chair Lyons asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 21, 2018.

Motion: Member Cabebe moved to approve the minutes of June 21, 2018

Second: Member Aquino

Discussion: None

Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried. The minutes of June 21, 2018 was approved.

TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no public testifiers.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Introduction of the Acting Director, Gladys C. Baisa

Acting Director Baisa said she was very happy to introduce the new deputy director to the board members. She added that their management styles are going to coincide beautifully.

She stated that she is the acting director pending council approving her to the position of the director.

Introduction of the New Deputy Director, Shayne R. Agawa

Deputy Director Agawa said he was born and raised in Lahaina and graduated from Lahainaluna High School. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from Seattle University and worked as a design engineer for Warren S. Unemori until he was hired by the Department of Public Works in 2002. He announced that he is a new father of twins, a boy and a girl.

Currently, he is working on the department's strategic plan, stand-by versus callback issues in Field Ops, and back up well pumps for Plant Ops.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action regarding the Maui Island Water Use and Development Plan

Eva Blumenstein, Water Resources and Planning Program Manager, was in attendance to answer any questions from the Board.

The final chapter of the water use and development plan was submitted and posted online for public review. The Water Resources and Planning Division will submit a letter formally notifying the board that this is when the 180 day review period starts. They held off posting the final chapter because they wanted to incorporate the June 20th decision by CWRM.

In the Koolau Aquifer Sector chapter, they calculated that there will about 20 mgd available in the Wailoa Ditch, though under drought conditions it will be much less. It was noted that the commission did not say anything about diverting storm water flow, meaning that when it rains you will have much more water than just what is fed by groundwater. All of that will also be available for diversion. Since they have no number for that they just did an approximation of 35 mgd available average.

Ms. Blumenstein added that she will leave it up to Board on how they want to proceed with any public hearings. Her staff will be available to come back and speak on any specific issue or just be here to answer questions.

It was noted that the 180 days from this meeting date will be mid-February.

Chair Lyons requested to place this matter on the next meeting's agenda for further discussion. At this time, the chair thanked Ms. Blumenstein and her staff for all the hard work they did.

Discussion and possible action regarding Water Rates Including Agriculture Water Rates

Acting Director Baisa informed the Board that this matter is sitting in the Council's Budget and Finance Committee which has not been able to get to it. She will be meeting with Chair Atay of the Water Resources Committee to ask him if it is possible for him to request that this matter be placed with his committee. She is very hopeful that we can make the next 4 ½ months productive.

Chair Lyons recalled the department asked the Board not to exert a lot of effort to push this along until we had alignment with the department's efforts.

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

1. Darren Strand from HC&S to discuss the future of HC&S wells
2. Temporary access to water through county fire hydrants

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Recent Update of the Upcountry Water Meter List as submitted to the Maui County Council

Acting Director Baisa referred to the letter that was distributed to the Board. See attached. This letter is a response to Mayor Arakawa and Council Chair Mike White from Wendy Taomoto.

The engineering staff is currently working off the November 30th, 2017 Upcountry Priority List. Starting at Number 1, they review the applicants in batches of 40. Their goal is to make 40 offers in September. After the letters are sent on those 40, they then review the

next batch of 40. They have already completed a batch of 40 and those letters were mailed out on June 15, 2018. For clarification, the 40 offer letters were for 96 meters.

In 2016, they offered a total of 45 and in 2017, a total of 43 were offered and in 2018, they are hoping to offer 120. Ms. Taomoto noted that having more properly trained staff they were able to issue more letters.

Every application relates to a tax map key. And every applicant has a different request; some just require water service, some make requests for a subdivision, and others are for building permit approvals. Depending on the request, staff have to apply different sections of the Maui County Code, Title 14. The engineers have to go through each applicant to determine the actual system requirements and to determine if the existing water system is adequate to serve the meter at the requested location. If it is not adequate then they will come up with the requirements which includes new water line, water line upgrades, fire hydrants, pressure reducing station, some applications may trigger fire protection, storage requirements, source requirements. If they sent out letters to all 1700 applicants on the Upcountry Meter List then each applicant will have to have hire a consulting engineer to figure it out. No one has the intimate knowledge that the DWS staff has on what the system is capable of putting out existing and in the future.

After the 40 offers are mailed out, the applicant has, by county code, 30 days to respond. If they are ready they can get immediate service or they can request a water meter reservation. During this 30-day period, the staff is inundated with phone calls from the applicants needing assistance or clarification. After the 30-day period, then staff can focus on the next batch.

Once the applicant makes a reservation or want water service, they have to hire an engineer and a contractor. Then engineers have to review the construction plans. Hopefully, they will see the construction plans within the year of the offer so that the applicant can construct and complete their project within the 3-year timeframe allowed by county code. So there is a lot more involved than just sending out letters.

Acting Director Baisa, after meeting with staff, wants to change the 30-day period to 60 days. This way the applicant will have more time to discuss with other family members before they are forced to give up their place on the list. The department is working on an amendment to address this.

Ms. Taomoto noted that meters are not offered unless there is adequate source capacity and at some point in the future they will run out of source capacity before clearing the 1700 meter applications on the list. The department's option is to utilize Kamole Treatment Plant's raw water reservoirs which is dependent upon the East Maui IIFS and EMI's long term lease with the state. But they cannot move forward until these 2 matters are resolved.

In 2016, they made offers to 45 applicants and 39 declined. In 2017, they offered 43 and 22 declined. So far in 2018, they made 40 offers and 14 have declined. The reasons for declining are due to changes in the applicant's plans or the applicants are financially unable to meet the requirements.

Update on the Proposed Charter Amendments "Proposing An Amendment To The Revised Charter Of The County Of Maui (1983), As Amended, To Delete The Requirement Of Council Approval To Remove The Director of Water Supply (PEA-10(7))"; and "Proposing An Amendment To The Revised Charter Of The County Of Maui (1983), As Amended, Relating To The Appointment, Evaluation, And Removal Of The Director of Water Supply, and The Appointment Of The Deputy Director Of Water Supply (PEA10(9))"

Acting Director Baisa informed the Board that both the amendments did not make the deadline to be placed on the ballot.

Mr. Kushi added that these 2 amendments failed to get out of committee.

Chair Lyons requested that when the council makes these proposed amendments he would like staff to give the Board an update.

At this time, the chair asked the acting director to update the Board on her scheduled appearance before the council.

Acting Director Baisa stated that the council has to approve the appointment of the Water Director as required by the county charter. She is happy to report to the council that the department meets the charter requirement of either the director or deputy be a licensed engineer. She added that Shayne Agawa has 16 years experience as an engineer with the Department of Public Works.

Acting Director Baisa reported that she will be going before the council on Monday for her confirmation as Director to the end of the year. And she has prepared a 3 page report for them on what she has been doing since she first came to the Water Department. She has no idea what kind of questions they will be asking her.

The chair stated that board members may go to testify as individuals in support of Gladys Baisa appointment as Director of the Department of Water Supply.

DIVISION REPORTS

June Division Operational Reports

July Division Operational Reports

Acting Director Baisa stated that there was nothing further to report.

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She added that we've been very lucky with the rains. It is the end of August and soon we'll be heading into the rainy season.

The department is one of the providers of water on Molokai and interestingly a lot of the department's facilities are on Hawaiian Homes land and on private lands. The department is working very hard on obtaining a better position to access water because there are a lot of "gentlemen's agreements".

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the regular meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.

Prepared by:

Gaye Hayashida
Commission Support Clerk

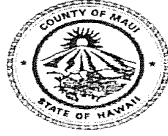
Approved for distribution:

Gladys C. Baisa
Director

Board of Water Supply
Minutes of August 16, 2018

ATTACHMENT

ALAN M. ARAKAWA
Mayor



DAVID TAYLOR, P.E.
Director

RECEIVED

GLADYS C. BAISA
Deputy Director

2018 JUN 25 PM 2:05

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793-2155
www.mauiwater.org

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

June 25, 2018

Honorable Alan M. Arakawa
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Mike White, Chair
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL
Alan Arakawa 6/26/18
DATE

Dear Chair White:

SUBJECT: STATUS UPDATE ON UPCOUNTRY WATER METER LIST

Following up on our Department's letter to you dated June 5, 2018, regarding a status update on the Upcountry Water Meter List requested in your letter dated May 21, 2018, we respectfully provide the following summary of the Upcountry water meter list for the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014.

1. Number of letters issued:

For the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014, four (4) applicants were sent letters from the priority list.

2. Number of meters issued:

For the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014, five (5) total water meters were offered. All five (5) meters were accepted by the applicants.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

ATTACHMENT

Honorable Mike White, Chair
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3. Number of meters installed:

For the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014, four (4) meters were installed.

4. Number of meters declined, and for what reason:

For the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014, there were no water meters that were declined.

Note that the information above is for the period between January 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014. A summary of the meters issued from the Upcountry Meter Priority List between April 2, 2013 and May 15, 2018 was previously sent to your office on June 5, 2018.

Should further clarification be necessary, please contact me at Ext. 7669.

Sincerely,



WENDY TAOMOTO, P.E.
Acting Deputy Director

xc: Gladys C. Baisa, Deputy Director
Wendy Taomoto, Engineering Program Manager
GCB:WT:atn
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