

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF AUGUST 19, 2021

The regular meeting of the Maui County Board of Water Supply was held online via BlueJeans, on Thursday, August 19, 2021.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dean Frampton at 1:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Dean Frampton, Chair
Norman Franco
Joseph Aquino
Buddy James Nobriga
Juanita Reyher-Colon

Members excused: Nalani Kaninau, Vice Chair
Antonette Eaton

Staff present: Jeffrey Pearson, P.E., Director
Kristina Toshikiyo, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Sherilyn Otsubo, Commission Support Clerk

Cablecast: Video conferenced live via BlueJeans and recording viewable at <https://www.akaku.org/boards-commissions/>.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Frampton welcomed Juanita Reyher-Colon to the board.

Member Reyher-Colon said that she is born and raised on Molokai and works in the water, wastewater industry for about 12 years. She's very excited to be on this board.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Franco moved to approve the minutes of July 15, 2021.

Member Aquino seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously with 5 ayes.

V. TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC

There was no public testimony.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Presentation from the Department of Environmental Management, Waste Water Division, on existing and future use of R-1 water in Central and West Maui.

Chair Frampton stated that due to a scheduling conflict the department is unable to attend. The item was deferred.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Report on the July 21, 2021 Olinda Water Treatment Plant tour.

Member Aquino reported that on July 21, 2021, Joseph Aquino, Buddy Nobriga, Johanna Amorin, and Director Pearson toured the Olinda Water Treatment Plant. They started at the treatment plant where the water is filtered, treated, tested and stored in a water tank ready for the customers to use. Then they drove to the Kahakapao Reservoir where the water was very low. Then they walked the Waikamoi Flume to the Haipuena Stream located within the Waikamoi Forest Reserve. There was no quorum and no board business was discussed.

B. Report on the August 5, 2021 Olinda Water Treatment Plant tour.

Member Franco reported that Dean Frampton and Nalani Kaninau attended this tour. The board secretary shared pictures that Member Franco took during their tour and Member Franco stated that they followed the same route that Member Aquino previously spoke about. He said that if members wanted a copy of the pictures they can ask the board secretary. There was no quorum and no board business was discussed.

C. Report on the July 28, 2021 Iao Water Treatment Plant tour.

This item was deferred.

D. Report on the July 29, 2021 Iao Water Treatment Plant tour.

Member Nobriga reported that on July 29, 2021, Dean Frampton, Nalani Kaninau, Deputy Corporation Counsel Keola Whittaker, Board Secretary Sherilyn Otsubo and Director Pearson attended the Iao Water Treatment Plant tour which uses state of the art technology to produce high quality drinking water. The plant and all of the water systems flows by gravity. They visited the trash removal screen at the Wailuku Water Company Ditch, which provides raw water to the treatment plant, and stopped at Kepaniwai Park to view the piping that feeds the water across

the Wailuku River towards the Iao Water Treatment Plant. They also saw the Wailuku Water Company stream diversion in the Wailuku River. They visited Wailuku Well 1, Wailuku Well 2, and the Waikapu Well. They didn't have quorum and no board business was discussed.

Member Franco also has pictures of this tour and the board secretary can share it with the members.

E. Update from the Department of Water Supply on the status of the Upcountry Water System Expansion Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.

Director Pearson stated that this was created in FY 2016 and \$5 million was put into this fund. Since then, in 2017, about \$1.4 million was added, then \$3.9 million in 2019, so currently there is \$10.3 million in this fund. In the budget it's called Special Purpose Revenue Funds and usually there would be a specific project tied to it, however, right now there is no project identified and the department does not have any projects planned. There is a possibility that some money could be used to purchase the Upcountry well, owned by Maui Land and Pine, that has already been drilled and cased.

Member Franco asked about the wells at the Old Maui High and Hamakuapoko.

Director Pearson responded that the Hamakuapoko wells are in operation but are only used during drought. He's not aware of the one at Old Maui High.

Member Reyher-Colon asked where the funding is coming from and why is it only for the Upcountry system.

Director Pearson said that the money comes from the Water Department's unrestricted cash. As an enterprise fund, whatever is not spent just lapses back into their cash. Without knowing the whole history of this fund, there's issues with the Upcountry system and the council felt that this fund could alleviate some of the infrastructure issues for the Upcountry water system.

Chair Frampton mentioned that he sees two big issues; source and reliability, and those funds could be utilized towards that.

Member Nobriga suggested that this item remain on the agenda.

VIII. DIVISION REPORTS

Director Pearson stated that on July 28th, the Decision and Order on surface water permits came through and now they have the actual approval of the water use permit for the Iao Treatment Facility to run a total of 3.2 million gallons a day. In Water Resources and Planning, they expended money to start to address the consent decree and consultants, Brown and Caldwell were hired to do cost benefit studies before any further effort is made to develop groundwater. As a reminder

to conserve water during the summer months, the department created a water conservation awareness campaign called "Don't Waste a Drop".

Director Pearson also said that the Kahakapao Reservoir is about 25% full, so they're pumping Phase 6 which takes water from the Piiholo Reservoir to serve the upper system. There is steady flow from the ditch that feeds the Kamole Treatment Plant and there are good flows into the Piiholo Reservoir.

Member Reyher-Colon asked what the usage allocation was for lao prior to CWRM's decision.

Director Pearson responded that it was 1.74 million gallons a day for surface water. For groundwater, the lao aquifer has a sustainable yield of 20 million gallons a day and if they treat more surface water, it takes a little bit of the load off of that groundwater.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

September 16, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Frampton asked Member Reyer-Colon to let the board know if she has any topics she would like to add to the agenda.

Member Franco requested tours of the treatment plants on the West side and in Piiholo.

Member Aquino asked for additional information on the Charter Amendment regarding a county hearings officer.

Member Nobriga also wants to know how this affects the board and its contested case hearings moving forward.

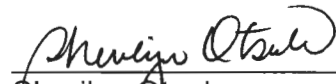
Member Franco would like an update of the board's request to become semi-autonomous.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Toshikiyo said that the Charter Commission met on that issue today and Mr. Whittaker can give the board an update.

X. ADJOURNMENT

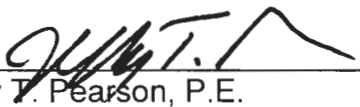
There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Prepared by:



Sherilyn Otsubo
Commission Support Clerk

Approved for distribution:



Jeffrey T. Pearson, P.E.
Director