

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2022

The regular meeting of the Maui County Board of Water Supply was held online via BlueJeans and at the physical location located at the Planning Department Conference Room, 250 South High Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793. Recordings of the meetings are viewable at <https://www.akaku.org/boards-commissions/>.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Deputy Corporation Counsel Keola Whittaker at 1:34 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Dean Frampton
Buddy James Nobriga
Antonette Eaton
Jason Hew
Edwin Lindsey
Ralph Thomas
Donna Sterling

Members excused: Juanita Reyher-Colon

Staff present: Helene Kau, Acting Director
Keola Whittaker, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Sherilyn Otsubo, Secretary to Boards and Commissions

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker mentioned that we need to elect a chair and vice chair every year, and it's usually done at the first meeting in April.

Member Frampton moved to nominate Buddy Nobriga.

Member Eaton seconded the motion.

Member Nobriga said that he would be honored to serve and accepted the nomination.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker closed nominations.

The motion passed unanimously.
Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker handed the meeting over to Chair Nobriga.

Chair Nobriga asked for nominations for vice chair. He nominated Toni Eaton.

Member Eaton declined, and nominated Jason Hew.

Member Frampton seconded the motion.

Member Hew accepted the nomination.

The motion passed unanimously.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENT

Chair Nobriga welcomed new members, Edwin “Ekolu” Lindsey, Donna Sterling and Ralph Thomas.

Member Lindsey said that he serves on a number of non-profit boards in West Maui and his family has a history of service and taking care of cultural resources. He looks forward to learning the politics of water and seeing the many uses and implications that it has.

Member Sterling said she’s a resident of Kahikinui for 21 years and just finished serving on the Fire and Public Safety Commission. She’s a farmer and a rancher and is happy to serve on this board.

Member Thomas said that he previously worked at the County and also retired from the Air Force. He’s interested in finding out the intricacies of water and making sure that water is secured because it’s a critical resource for the island.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Nobriga asked Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker if the new members can vote on the minutes.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker said they can abstain.

Member Frampton moved to approve the minutes of March 17, 2022. Vice Chair Hew seconded the motion. The motion passed with 4 ayes and 3 abstentions.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker clarified for the record that the abstained votes count as yes votes.

VI. TESTIMONY FROM THE PUBLIC

There was no public testimony. Testimony was closed at 1:46 p.m.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Presentation on the Financial Statements and Supplementary Information with

Independent Auditor's Reports.

Ortaine Acidera, Department of Water Supply Fiscal Officer, presented the Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2021. The department received an unqualified opinion, also known as a clean opinion on their audit report. This is the best audit opinion and is a very important part of the audit report because it makes a statement about the department's financial status. The two Supplementary Information are the Schedule of Capital Assets and the Schedule of Long-Term Debt-General Obligation Bonds. Part II contains the report on internal control over financial reporting, and on compliance and other matters. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

Vice Chair Hew asked if this financial statement is different from previous years or if it's pretty status quo.

Acting Director Kau responded that it has not varied significantly. They have always had a clean opinion.

Member Frampton said that on page 21 it mentions board-designated capital improvements. What does board-designated mean. Secondly, he asked why capital improvements have come down since 2020.

Acting Director Kau said the description goes back to when we were semi-autonomous and all capital improvements required board approval. As a carryover, they were referred to as board-designated. Capital improvements are less from year to year because it's based on the budgeted projects for that particular fiscal period.

Member Frampton stated that he encouraged the department to increase their capital improvement project funding because we need more source on the island. Also to look at the wastewater department as a partner and utilizing R1 water as a non-potable source.

Acting Director Kau said that it's a priority to develop source. Unfortunately, the department is very shorthanded in the engineering section. Planned projects are a reflection of not only what we need, but what we think we can manage given the lack of staffing.

Chair Nobriga said he'll keep this item on the agenda.

VIII. DIVISION REPORTS

Acting Director Kau didn't have comments.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

Board Meeting: May 19, 2022 at 1:30 p.m.

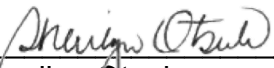
Chair Nobriga asked that if anyone had any possible agenda items to let the board secretary know.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Whittaker mentioned that based on what was discussed at the Ventura hearing, there will not be a hearing on May 19th. There will only be a board meeting at 1:30 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Prepared by:



Sherilyn Otsubo
Secretary to Boards/Commissions II

Approved for distribution:

Helene Kau
Acting Director