

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Water Supply was held online via BlueJeans and physically at the Kalana Pakui Building 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 Chair Buddy Nobriga at 1:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members present: Buddy James Nobriga
Dean Frampton
Edwin Lindsey
Antonette Eaton
Donna Sterling
Juanita Reyher-Colon
Ralph Thomas

Members excused: Jason Hew

Staff present: John Stufflebean, Acting Director
James Landgraf, Deputy Director
Christie Trenholme, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Sherilyn Otsubo, Board Secretary

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Reyher-Colon moved to approve the minutes of December 15, 2022.
Member Thomas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. WELCOME OF ACTING DIRECTOR JOHN STUFFLEBEAN AND DEPUTY
DIRECTOR JAMES LANDGRAF

Acting Director Stufflebean introduced himself and said this is his third week with the department. He received his Master of Science degree in Sanitary Engineering and has worked in Arizona, Kansas City and California. He hopes to resolve some of the issues here and move Maui forward in water supply.

Deputy Director James Kimo Landgraf has been in the drinking water industry for about 30 years. He started as a water treatment plant operator and moved up through the division. He also worked outside in private contracting and for private water systems. His expertise is operations, so he knows how everything functions

and can see what needs to be done to make it a better system.

Member Eaton asked Acting Director Stufflebean if water was designated as a public trust in any of the states he has worked in.

Acting Director Stufflebean responded that in California, water was a very valued resource but it wasn't specifically called a public trust.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. There was no public testimony. Testimony was closed at 1:37 p.m.

B. Discussion on the Upcountry Water Meter List.

Chair Nobriga mentioned that no one from the department is here to discuss this item, but it will be on kept on future agendas.

Member Sterling agreed with keeping this on the agenda to keep the discussion open on how we can improve the system.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. There was no public testimony.

B. Discussion with the Department on the upcoming budgeting process.

Chair Nobriga's intent is to allow the board to understand the budget so they can make advisory recommendations to the department, administration and council.

Member Frampton asked Deputy Director Landgraf to speak towards the budget, specifically capital improvement projects, additional source development and water shortage.

Deputy Director Landgraf responded that the process has started to add another well in West Maui this year to help increase the source in West Maui. It's the Kahana Well located above the Kapalua Airport.

Member Eaton asked why are we only treating 4 MGD at the Kamole Weir and is that the maximum capacity?

Deputy Director Landgraf said that they treat enough water for the current demand. The maximum capacity is 6 MGD.

Member Eaton asked about the maximum capacity at Piiholo.

Deputy Director Landgraf said 9 MGD, but they only have a 50-million-gallon storage reservoir so it depends on how much water is coming into the reservoir.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Trenholme said that we're getting off the agenda item.

Chair Nobriga said that we will continue this discussion when we get to Division Reports.

Ortaine Acidera, Fiscal Officer, gave a budget overview for the department. The development of the annual budget is one of the policy functions of the county. The fiscal year budget is the plan of operation. It shows how the county uses its financial resources to meet the needs of the public. They first project their revenue and then they calculate the carryover savings plus any budget savings. Then they estimate their expenditures which includes salaries and wages, the operation's budget, and capital projects. The budget process begins when the Budget Director sends a memo which includes instructions and deadlines to the department heads.

Chair Nobriga said the department is self-funded. Can other funds be brought in via county or state, that goes outside the realm of self-funded?

Ms. Acidera replied that if it's from the state it would be like a grant. If it's from within the county it's an interfund transfer.

C. Discussion on the 2023 Annual Update of Financial Disclosure Statement.

Deputy Corporation Counsel Trenholme reminded the members that their financial disclosure forms are due by February 15th on the new e-filing system. This is a requirement for boards and commission members under the County Charter.

VII. DIVISION REPORTS for December 2022

Member Eaton asked why Kamole Weir treats only about 2 MGD?

Deputy Director Landgraf replied that it's a balance in how they run the system and the availability of water from two treatment plants that feed into the wells. If there is more water at Piiholo they rather run that plant because it saves them on electricity costs. If the water in the reservoir is getting lower they'll run less water out of Piiholo and more water from Kamole.

Member Eaton asked why does Upcountry have a water shortage every few months and why are there so many people waiting for water meters? We can produce more water but it's going to be costlier. The argument that it costs too much money to pump water is moot if we have the capacity to do it, so why don't we do it? Water is still coming from the Wailua Ditch to Kamole and it's a lot more than the 2 MGD that's being treated.

Acting Director Stufflebean said the department is looking into that. It's also not only the source of water, but also the ability to distribute it to the various locations and the infrastructure that's in place to deliver the water.

Member Sterling asked about solar.

Deputy Director Landgraf responded that they do use solar panels that gets fed back into the grid.

Acting Director Stufflebean added that currently the division reports include a lot of numbers that show how the operations are going. If the board is interested, they can present some key issues that the department is dealing with within the different divisions.

Board members said that would be very helpful.

Chair Nobriga will work with the Acting Director to come up with agenda items as recommended.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

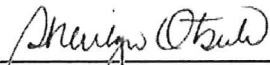
Contested Case Hearing: February 16, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

Board Meeting: February 16, 2023 at 1:30 p.m.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the regular meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

Prepared by:



Sherilyn Otsubo
Secretary to Boards/Commissions II

Approved for distribution:



John Stufflebean
Acting Director