

County of Maui Water
Supply

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
PUBLIC MEETING

Held at Kahului Community Center, 275 Uhu Street,
Kahului, Maui, Hawaii, commencing at 6:30 p.m. on
October 23rd, 2000.

REPORTED BY: LYNANN NICELY, RPR/RMR/CSR #354
IWADO COURT REPORTERS, INC.

A P P E A R A N C E S

BOARD MEMBERS:

Howard Nakamura, Acting Chairman
Clark Hashimoto
Mike Nobriga
Jonathan Starr
Orlando Tagorda

STAFF PRESENT:

David Craddick, Director
George Tengan, Deputy Director
Howard Fukushima, Corporation Counsel
Ellen Kraftsow
Fran Nago, Board Secretary

IWADO COURT REPORTERS, INC.

MR. NAKAMURA: According to my watch, it's
6:30, so I would like to call this public meeting with
the Board of Water Supply to order. It's 6:30 p.m.
We're meeting at the Kahului Community Center, 275 Uhu
Street in Kahului. It is Monday, October 23rd, 2000.

In attendance are board members Orlando Tagorda, our vice chairman; members Mike Nobriga, Jonathan Starr, Clark Hashimoto, and myself, Howard Nakamura; Deputy Corporation Counsel Howard Fukushima; Water Director David Craddick; Deputy Director George Tengan; Board Secretary Fran Nago; and Elliott Krash from Kula Community Association and Peter Stolle are the two public persons present this evening. At this time the minutes are being formally recorded.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive testimony input from the public on the proposed strategic plan for the Department of Water Supply. This plan -- the preparation of the plan was initiated last year by the board. We have received input from the staff, we have solicited written comments from the public sometime ago. We convened a facilitated public workshop sometime ago and are now in the process of having a formal meeting to receive any additional comments.

After the meeting is completed, at a subsequent date the committee on strategic plan will convene and will ultimately make a recommendation to the board on the potential adoption of a strategic plan. So we appreciate the interest that has been received so far. As I said, we have received quite a bit of comment in the past, both in writing and in person.

So at this time I would like to call the meeting to order and ask if there is any testimony that is to be provided by members of the public. Before I do that, Fran, I understand there has been no written testimony received?

MS. NAGO: No, there hasn't. For this go round.

MR. NAKAMURA: Okay. So in response to the notice of public meeting, there was no written testimony received. Okay. I would like to open the meeting to the public to see if anyone has any input that they would like to provide to the board regarding

the proposed strategic plan.

MS. KRASH: Elliott Krash, Kula Community Association. I don't have anything formal prepared.

MR. NAKAMURA: I might note that Ellen Kraftsow from the department is also in attendance.

MS. KRASH: I'm Elliott Krash, Kula Community Association. And our association reviewed the draft plan that was provided last February, I believe it was, and submitted some written comments. So when I picked up my copy of this revised document today -- oh, also I might add we attended part of the meeting that you held in May to review the document and discuss the process. And when I picked up this document today, I went over it, first of all, to see how it had incorporated the suggestions that we had submitted. And then the next thing I looked at was to see how it incorporated the values, especially 5 and 6 that are of particular interest for the Kula community, the value on stewarding the resources and the value related to protecting agriculture.

And I guess overall I want to say thank you for all the hard work that you all have done on this because as your notes indicate, you've received mainly just little fixer uppers and word smithing and items to make it clearer so it reflects the hard work that you did initially and it reflects that you've gone through a long process to incorporate all of the thoughts of the public and your department and your board.

I found that division was improved, it was clearer and strengthened, cutting out some of the wordings made it stronger, I thought. And the focus, you added the focus on community plans that a number of people mentioned. You included that in the vision statement which puts it right up front, so we were pleased to see that.

One of the concerns that have been raised by

our association was the need for prioritizing what your goals and values were and I see you've addressed that in your notes at the end here in your communication where it says subsequently the plan will include priorities.

As I looked at it, I had a hard time trying to figure out how you would prioritize, frankly, because you're trying to balance so many interests and concerns.

The item on agriculture, protecting agriculture. It's a value, the last value that's listed there, and I see that it's reflected in Goal 1. And then I looked for it elsewhere and I didn't find it. It could be embedded in some of those objectives that I didn't realize. I think it's in Goal 4, which talks about financial planning. I think it's embedded there because if we're going to look at setting rates and different types of pricing, then we're going to look at the continuation of differential rates for agriculture. I think that's what that means. But I know that that was a concern that was submitted I believe by the Farm Bureau and of course it would be a concern of the Kula community that water continue to be affordable -- available also, which you're trying to address in Goal 1, but affordable.

The other overall item that came to my mind as I read through this, all of these things are wonderful. How do we determine when we've reached them? And I went back to your notes at the end and said subsequently the plan will include action plan, strategies, priorities, mechanism for implementation. Doesn't say anything about mechanism for evaluation or assessment and that was a question that I had. It may be here. I may have missed it because I did just go through this quickly this afternoon.

I think those were the main items I had. All of my other notes on here are simply where you -- oh, one little typo confusion thing, Goal 5, the one on creating a satisfying and productive working environment. Look at the first objective, the first

bullet, maybe it should be two bullets there? Provide training for employees on a regular basis; and then bullet: Provide and maintain. But all my other notes really pertain to little things like that where you've cleaned it up, targeted -- tightened the language, that kind of thing, combined things, deleted things. So thank you very much.

MR. NAKAMURA: Thank you for your comments, Elliott. Any questions from any of the board members present? Jonathan?

MR. STARR: Just whether Elliott has any suggestions as far as mechanisms for prioritization.

MS. KRASH: No, you know, that's why I said when I sat here and I looked at these items and thought about well, the Kula community would focus on agriculture, but there are so many competing needs and I'm not sure how to arrive at that. I guess that you all had talked about it because you mentioned it here. But how to stage the work and everything will have to be prioritized as you go, I guess. You'll have to be prioritizing your goals and then you'll have to be prioritizing your objectives and your work plans and action plans. Some of it is going to depend on --

MR. STARR: It's a difficult --

MS. KRASH: Yeah, yeah.

MR. TAGORDA: Question for Ms. Elliott. You mentioned water continually affordable and available Upcountry Kula. Would you agree on a different rate structure up in Kula if we do have some funding on all this inadequate transmission lines and substandard lines upcountry to replace them?

MS. KRASH: I'm not sure what you mean. Right now for agriculture, water is cheaper, for ag.

MR. TAGORDA: What I mean is the totality of the problem upcountry is we have substandard lines up

there, the transmission lines, the distribution lines needs replacement. Since you live Kula upcountry, I knew you have some input from your members about those current problems. So I don't know if it's okay for you folks to have a different rate structure if we do [inaudible] solving the problems upcountry.

MS. KRASH: You mean like a surcharge to --

MR. TAGORDA: Something like that.

MS. KRASH: Boy, that is a real hot issue. And I served as an alternate member on the upcountry draft task force and that committee that Mr. Tengan chaired came out strongly against that. And I don't begin to understand all the issues involved with rate pricing. Mr. Craddick provided us with several chapters from a couple of textbooks, I believe it was, wasn't it, David, on pricing. And I tried to understand it, but I'm not an economist, I'm not a systems analyst, and I think it seems to me the whole issue of rates is a tough one that you're going to have to come to the public on and really going to have to get the public to buy in.

And I guess that was another issue maybe I was hoping to see louder and clearer in Goal 4. Goal 4 talks about financial management programs for the department and how to make it -- I guess what that means is how to make it more sound. But to me I'm not sure if it's here or in another goal that we need to address how to get the public on board. It's maybe embedded in this goal that I guess relates to the kinds of things that Jackie in the department does on the conservation and awareness and support for the department, but it's really not there. It's this whole understanding that hey, it does cost money. And so you need your lines replaced, do you want to pay extra for them or do we spread the cost across the whole county? I don't know.

MR. NAKAMURA: Any other questions from board members? If not, is there any other member of the

public who wishes to testify on the proposed rules and regulations?

MR. FUKUSHIMA: Just one correction. It's your strategy plan, not proposed rules and regulations.

MR. NAKAMURA: I'm sorry, thank you. I knew there was a good reason why you were here. Thank you very much, Mr. Fukushima. On the proposed strategic plan. Okay. Hearing none, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you very much for attending.

(WHEREUPON, the hearing was concluded.)

IWADO COURT REPORTERS, INC.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

Department of Water Supply
County of Maui
P.O. Box 1109
Wailuku, HI 96793-6109
Telephone (808) 270-7816
Fax (808) 270-7833

[\[Back\]](#)