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STATE OF HAWAII
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
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SCOTT GLENN
Vice-Chairperson
CHARLES PRENTISS
JOSEPH SHACAT
KOALANI KAULUKUKUI
JOHN RICHARDS
MARY STEINER
GLENN TEVES
ROBERT PARSONS
MARJORIE ZIEGLER
JESSICA WOOLEY, OEQC DIRECTOR

ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MEETING

**June 30, 2015, Tuesday
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Hawaii Department of Health
1250 Punchbowl Street, 1st Floor Boardroom
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813**

MINUTES

Members Present: Mark Ambler (Chair), Scott Glenn (Vice-Chair), Robert Parsons, Charles Prentiss, John Richards, Joseph Shacat, Mary Steiner, Glenn Teves, Jessica Wooley
Members Absent: Koalani Kaulukukui, Marjorie Ziegler
Counsel Present: Edward Bohlen (Deputy Attorney General to the Council)
Special Guests: Mathew Lynch (UH Sustainability Coordinator)
Virginia Pressler (DOH Director)
OEQC Staff: Tom Eisen, Linda Hijirida, Herman Tuiolosega
Members of the Public: Michele Freitas (HFD.), Laura McIntyre (DOH), Michael Murphy (DTS), Shannon Wood (Windward Ahupua'a Alliance)

1. Call to Order

Chair Ambler called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm with a quorum of eight members.

2. Introductions/Attendance

- All present introduced themselves.
- Scott Glenn arrived; there are nine members present.

3. DECISION MAKING ON APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 21, 2015 AND JUNE 5, 2015¹

- The May 21, 2015, minutes were approved with 9 aye votes with the correction in item 11.a. to change "Parson" to "Parsons." No nays or abstention.
- The June 5, 2015 minutes were approved with 9 aye votes; no nays or abstention.
- Both minutes will be posted on OEQC's website.

4. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON CONCURRENCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOMELANDS (DHHL) EXEMPTION LIST(S)

- OEQC posted these four exemption lists in their May 23, 2015, *Environmental Notice*. OEQC did not receive any comments during the 30-day comment period for any of the exemption lists.
- Mr. Richards moved to concur DHHL's exemption list; Mr. Teves seconded.
- The motion was clarified, "The motion is to concur with the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands exemption list dated February 10, 2015."
- The motion was passed with 9 ayes; no nays or abstention. The list will be posted on OEQC's website.

5. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON CONCURRENCE WITH CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SERVICES EXEMPTION LIST(S)
 - a. Mr. Prentiss motioned that the Environmental Council concur with the City and County of Honolulu Department of Transportation Services exemption list dated December 9, 2014; seconded by Mr. Richards.
 - b. No discussion.
 - c. The motion was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention. The list will be posted on OEQC's website.

6. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON CONCURRENCE WITH CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT EXEMPTION LIST(S)
 - a. Mr. Prentiss motioned that the Environmental Council concur with the City and County of Honolulu Fire Department's exemption list dated December 10, 2014; seconded by Mr. Parsons.
 - b. No discussion.
 - c. The motion was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention. The list will be posted on OEQC's website.

7. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON CONCURRENCE WITH KAUAI COUNTY TRANSPORTATION AGENCY EXEMPTION LIST(S)
 - a. Mr. Prentiss motioned that the Environmental Council concur with Kauai County Transportation Agency exemption list dated December 12, 2014; seconded by Mr. Richards.
 - b. No discussion.
 - c. The motion was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention. The list will be posted on OEQC's website. OEQC will take down the old exemption lists and post the new lists with the Council's concurrence date, June 30, 2015.

8. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON NEW CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR
 - a. Election of New Chair
 - Mr. Richards nominated Joseph Shacat to be the new Chair; seconded by Ms. Steiner.
 - No other nominations, no discussion.
 - The motion for Mr. Shacat be the new Chair was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention.
 - b. Announcements
 - Ms. Wooley's appointment was extended to September 30, 2015
 - Mr. Shacat will be out for most of July.
 - c. Election of Vice-Chair
 - Ms. Steiner nominated Scott Glenn as Vice Chair: seconded by Mr. Teves.
 - No other nomination.
 - Chair Ambler mentioned that Mr. Glenn was a great help when he became Chair. Mr. Glenn mentored him and gave him a lot of information. It'll be good keeping him there to help the new Chair.
 - The motion for Mr. Glenn as the Vice Chair was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention.

9. **Standing Committee Reports**
 - a. Information/Outreach (Committee Chair, Mark Ambler)
 - Met this morning and discussed Council's involvement in the 2016 IUCN Conference, either the roundtable or PowerPoint presentation. Some members plan to attend the planning meeting on July 10, 2015.
 - Transition of the Facebook site.
 - Committee voted to have Glenn Teves as the Chair and Rob Parsons as the Vice Chair; will address this in item 10.
 - b. Exemption (Committee Chair, Chuck Prentiss)
 - Met this morning and reviewed the proposed exemption list for Hawai'i County Department of Public Works (DPW). The committee had a few changes, DPW agreed to the changes. The

committee voted to move this up to the Council for publishing for the 30-day comment period. They were asked to submit a second Ramseyer draft for the next Council meeting.

- c. Legislative (Committee Chair, Mark Ambler)
 - Did not meet. Looking for a new Chair, will address this in item 10.
- d. Rules (Committee Chair, Scott Glenn)
 - Did not meet. Will wait till Koa is available. She did so much work on the rules; would like to check with her first. No need to change leadership at this point.
- e. Annual Report (Committee Chair, Rob Parsons)
 - Did not meet.
 - Need more members; utilize OEQC volunteer, Liam deClive-Lowe.
 - Annual Strategy Session – need to decide soon if we’re going to have this, put a poll in Facebook, the point of the Annual Report is to measure the State in meeting its environmental goals.
 - Public Comment – Laura McIntyre likes the survey idea. As for a report card; she mentioned the Aloha + Challenge and Hawaii Green Growth.
 - Annual Strategy Session – Ms. Wooley gave the Council a two week deadline to decide if they’re having a strategy session. Chair Ambler reported that the deadline to submit a presentation to IUCN is October 15, 2015. We can use the Strategy Session to figure out what the Council wants to submit. A tentative date of September 10 or 11, 2015 was set.

10. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON SUBCOMMITTEE LEADERSHIP AND COMPOSITION

- a. Annual Report Committee – Mr. Shacat volunteered to be a member on this committee. Chair Ambler appointed him to the committee. Mr. Parsons is the Chair and the other committee member is Ms. Wooley.
- b. Exemption Committee – Mr. Prentiss expressed that he wanted to continue as the Chair. Only change is that it’s losing two members, Mark Ambler and Marjorie Ziegler. Mr. Richards and Mr. Shacat are still on this committee.
- c. Information & Outreach Committee – Chair Ambler motioned to make Mr. Teves, the Chair and Mr. Parsons, the Vice Chair. No seconded needed. The motion was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention. Mr. Richards is the third member of the committee.
- d. Legislative Committee – Chair Ambler reminded the Council we voted earlier this year to give the Chair of the Legislative Committee authority to act for the Council on legislative issues. Mr. Teves volunteered to be the Chair and Mr. Shacat volunteered to continue as Vice Chair. Other members of the committee are Mr. Glenn and Ms. Wooley. Chair Ambler appoint Mr. Teves to the Legislative Committee. The motion was made for Mr. Teves to be the new Chair. The motion was passed with 9 ayes, no nays or abstention.
- e. Rules Committee – Mr. Glenn is the Chair. Members of the committee are Ms. Kaulukukui, Mr. Shacat, and Ms. Wooley.

11. Matthew Lynch, UH Sustainability Coordinator

- a. Ms. Wooley invited Mr. Lynch to the meeting with the aim to re-start the Environmental Center.
- b. Mr. Lynch is the System Sustainability Coordinator for the University of Hawaii.
 - In 2013, they identified disjointed sustainability efforts across their ten campuses with no coordination.
 - In 2014, the Board of Regents amended their policy to recognize sustainability as a priority.
 - In February, 2015, the President’s “Executive Sustainability Challenge” policy was formalized. Each campus is working on their own plans with a target completion set for Spring 2016.
 - Mr. Lynch is here to learn more about what we do and how he can help us.
 - He was told that the Environmental Center integrated the environmental review process to enhance the curriculum.
 - Need to look into working with the Sustainability Council and the Sustainability Curriculum Council.

- Background – mortgage banking, real estate finance, started own firm. Parents live in Australia; which is strong on sustainable agriculture, they were at the end of a ten-year drought. Came back to Hawaii and started a small non-profit organization that taught permaculture. One of his students was the sustainability director at West Oahu. She consulted with him on these issues. Before she retired, she convinced him to take her job. It started off as a temporal, casual position; but as the budget got established, so did his position.
- c. Mr. Glenn reviewed Chapter 341 and the background of the Environmental Center
- d. Need someone from the UH sector that will take control of the Environment Center.
 - Attend our Council meeting.
 - Connect projects with the educators who might be working on the same issues.
- e. Ms. Wooley is working to set up a meeting the first week of August to cover this issue.
- f. He wondered if a formal letter ever came from the Council asking what ever happened to the Environmental Center. He suggested that we write a letter. That might have more leverage, coming from outside, instead of him asking. Address the letter to Mr. Lynch and cc to the Chancellor of Manoa (his boss, the Vice President of Administration) and the President of the University. A suggestion was made to address the letter to the Environmental Center, if it still does exist.

12. Director Virginia Pressler, Department of Health Director

- a. Recognized Mary Steiner, who has served on the Council for eight years and Chair Mark Ambler, who is resigning as Chair and moving to the state of Washington.
- b. Dr. Pressler also thanked and recognized everyone who served on the 2013-2014 Environmental Council and presented them with a plaque.

13. Open Discussion on Agriculture (20 minutes)

- a. Mr. Richards asked for this item to be on the agenda because there have been a lot of conversations that involved agriculture and unfortunately, because of the Sunshine Law, we can't talk about it off line. This is our opportunity to talk.
- b. Discussion on the following issues:
 - If tilling or pesticides are not allowed, you will effectively outlaw farming
 - Small farms and large corporate farms
 - Water irrigation, reservoirs
 - Land grant system and tax breaks
 - Qualified people in agriculture
 - Slaughter houses
 - Sugar cane and ethanol didn't work
 - Agriculture lands vs housing
 - Pesticides
 - Invasive species

14. Questions for Dr. Pressler

Ms. Steiner thanked Dr. Pressler for coming to the meeting today. She wanted the Director to know that the Council consists of a lot of hardworking people, but we're in dire circumstances. There are two areas we really need help with:

- a. New Members – the Council need more members. Please talk to the Governor's office to get us more members.
- b. Budget – the Council does not have a budget and relies on OEQC to fund travel cost and staff to assist them. If we had a budget, we could hire a part-time person.

Mr. Bohlen thanked Ms. Steiner again, for her eight years of service on the Council.

15. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.