



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, STATE OF HAWAII
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Joseph Shacat

Vice Chair
Scott Glenn
(Ex Officio)

Members
Roy Abe
Maka'ala Ka'auomoana
P. Ka'anohi Kaleikini
Koalani Kaulukukui
Robert Parsons
Charles Prentiss
Ron Terry
Glenn Teves
N. Mahina Tuteur

Environmental Council Meeting September 13, 2016, 1:30-3:30 PM

Meeting Location – Leiapapa A Kamehameha Building, 15th Floor Conference Room

Draft Minutes

Members Present: Joseph Shacat (Chair), Scott Glenn (Vice Chair), Roy Abe, Maka'ala Ka'auomoana, P. Ka'anohi Kaleikini, Robert Parsons, Charles Prentiss, Ron Terry, Glenn Teves

Members Absent: Koalani Kaulukukui, N. Mahina Tuteur

EC Counsel: Edward Bohlen, Deputy Attorney General

OEQC Staff: Leslie Segundo

Public: Sara Bolduc, University of Hawai'i; graduate students in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Hawai'i; David Simpson, Hawai'i Green Growth; Laura McIntyre, Environmental Planning Office, Department of Health

Note: Bolded items below were on the agenda. Text not in bold is the summary discussion.

1. **Call to Order, Roll Call, Quorum**

- a. Chair Shacat called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM with a quorum of nine members.

2. **Review and approval of prior meeting minutes**

- a. **Meeting on August 9, 2016**
 - i. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

3. **Director's Report**

a. **Office modernization efforts**

- i. Director Glenn reported that OEQC obtained a large screen monitor and camera for future EC meetings. The intent is to enable members of the public to observe and participate remotely in EC meetings as well as provide a means for EC members to participate remotely, once OEQC understands the sunshine law requirements.
- ii. OEQC is updating its website. It has added new information about the EC, including past meeting agendas and minutes.

b. **Governor's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative**

- i. Director Glenn described Governor Ige's Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, which he announced at the World Conservation Congress. OEQC is supporting coordination of the Initiative among the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, and the Department of Business, economic Development, and Tourism. Documents are available here: <http://governor.hawaii.gov/main/governor-david-iges-remarks-at-the-iucn-world-conservation-congress/>.

- ii. Director Glenn recommended the Environmental Council to consider learning more about the Initiative and assisting him and the Governor as part of its liaison role with the public on environmental issues.
- iii. This Initiative is designed to be consistent with the *Aloha+ Challenge*.

4. Information and Outreach Committee

a. Public forum/informational meeting to discuss safety risks with streams and nearshore waters

- i. Member Abe invited Laura McIntyre from the Department of Health Environmental Planning Office. Ms. McIntyre recommended references online for work the Department of Health has been doing on clean water. The Department has a mobile phone application for brown water notices.
- ii. Counsel Bohlen reported that he had a meeting with Department of Health Clean Water Branch staff and Surfrider volunteers. They agreed to work together on where to post signs, starting on Kaua'i, and then expanding to statewide. They will also collaborate on how to do better electronic communication, including improving the website and other means of making the public more aware.
- iii. The committee reviewed several websites to see what kind of information is posted regarding safety hazard information on websites primarily aimed at a tourist audience. The Committee requested Ms. McIntyre and the Clean Water Branch staff to review others websites for examples.
- iv. The committee recommended Clean Water Branch to include Hawai'i Tourism Authority in the conversation. The Council is cognizant of the attraction and potential hazards of the beauty of Hawai'i and how Hawai'i Tourism Authority must balance this. Counsel Bohlen said that Clean Water Branch is aware of this and working on it.
- v. Member Prentiss noted that signage is important but in itself does not address the fundamental issue of water contamination. Increasing public awareness through signage is important to building public will for addressing the fundamental issues.
- vi. The committee thinks that a public forum may no longer be needed because the stakeholders involved in the conversation are meeting and making progress. The committee recommended tabling the public forum for the time being and monitoring how the discussion progresses.

5. Exemptions Committee

a. University of Hawai'i Exemption List

- i. University of Hawai'i replied to the committee that it believes its list, dated March 2001, is up to date. The committee agreed that the list is current and still usable.
- ii. Member Prentiss said the committee will compile a list of the agencies who replied that they believe their lists are still current and the committee agrees with the them.

b. City and County of Honolulu Department of Parks and Recreation Exemption List

i. Not discussed.

c. Outdoor lighting and minimization to impacts on seabirds

i. The exemption for field lighting was discussed in relation to shearwaters and other night birds. The committee considered having agencies not exempt field lighting if birds were affected. The committee decided to do further research and discussion on this topic before taking any action.

d. The committee still has letters to go out via OEQC. The letters are to agencies with no exemption list and agencies with exemption lists older than five years. The letters invite the agencies to create or update their lists.

e. The committee is reviewing the recent Intermediate Court of Appeals ruling on *Umberger v. Department of Land and Natural Resources* to see how it might affect understanding the role of exemptions.

6. Report from Councilmembers attending the International Union for the Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress, held in Honolulu Sept 1-10, 2016

a. Director Glenn reported that the World Conservation Congress had about 10,000 attendees from about 190 countries. The event was well-received and considered successful by the hosts. Director Glenn attended several events related to natural capital investments for providing additional funding for conservation activities.

b. Member Ka'aumoana reported on the event she participated in as a member of Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo. They brought together indigenous leaders from around the world. The event was held just before the Congress and the purpose was to share knowledge of place. Kua'aina Ulu 'Auamo also proposed and helped pass several motions of the Congress.

c. Member Parsons discussed how he supported Maui Mayor Arakawa at the Congress. He helped raised awareness of Maui's sustainability activities and supported the Hawai'i Legacy Initiatives.

7. Update on Hawai'i Department of Transportation coastline armoring on Maui

a. Shoreline erosion affecting coastal roadways is a statewide concern.

b. Community members in West Maui are concerned about shoreline armoring. They have reached out to present to the Council.

c. Member Parsons summarized the recent events in Olowalu regarding the shoreline work there. The Department of Transportation is proposing a shoreline hardening project along the road in Olowalu. People are concerned that this will exacerbate erosion and affect coral and monk seal habitat. The community filed a lawsuit against the Department of Transportation citing segmentation of the proposed action. The community also proposed alternative solutions to address the roadway issues.

d. The Council agreed that it would be appropriate for the Council to have a facilitation role in this issue.

8. Preliminary planning for Environmental Council strategic planning proposal session

- a. Chair Shacat recommended the Council hold the session on its normal monthly scheduled meeting date and time, extended for the full day.
- b. The Council agreed to let Chair Shacat and Director Glenn develop proposals for the strategic planning session for the Council to consider at the next meeting.
- c. The Council considered options for organizing the session, such as training on the environmental impact statement process, sunshine law training, and mapping out workflows for the committees. Other suggestions included having a facilitator assist the discussion. The Council agreed that individual members would send suggestions to the Chair for his consideration to put on the agenda.

9. Next meeting agenda – Public comment on issues consideration for the Environmental Council's next meeting agenda

- a. Not discussed.

10. Adjournment

- a. Chair Shacat adjourned the meeting at 3:42 PM.

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