

MINUTES  
FOR THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

DATE: August 21, 2002  
TIME: 9:00 am  
PLACE: DLNR Board Room  
Kalanimoku Bldg.

Chairperson Gilbert S. Coloma-Agaran called the meeting of the Commission on Water Resource Management to order at 9:16 a.m.

The following were in attendance:

**MEMBERS:** Mr. Gilbert S. Coloma-Agaran, Dr. Bruce Anderson, Ms. Meredith Ching, Mr. Clayton Dela Cruz, Mr. Brian Nishida, Mr. Herbert Richards, Jr.

**STAFF:** Linnel Nishioka, Roy Hardy, Ed Sakoda, Dean Nakano, Glenn Bauer, David Higa, Ryan Imata, Kevin Gooding, Tiffany Mathias

**COUNSEL:** Jean Creadick

**OTHERS:** Don Thomas, Dan Lum, Fred Page, Sheryl Nojima, David Bills

All written testimonies submitted at the meeting are filed in the Commission office and are available for review by interested parties.

**1. Minutes of the July 24, 2002 meeting**

MOTION: (DELA CRUZ/NISHIDA)  
To approve the minutes.  
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**2. Old Business/Announcements by Deputy Director Linnel Nishioka**

The Commission staff is continuing to work on the findings of fact on the pending petitions for Iao and Waihee. The findings is tentatively scheduled to be presented to the Commission in November 2002.

Commissioner Dela Cruz was officially sworn into office on Tuesday, August 20, 2002 at the Kauai Veterans Center.

Glenn Bauer introduced Dr. Don Thomas who is faculty member of Hawaii Institute of Geophysics and Climatology and is also the Director for the Study of Active Volcanoes, UH

Hilo. He has been with UH for 22 years and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Dickenson College in 1970 and a Master of Science in Geology in 1972 in Oregon Graduate Center, and received his PhD from UH Manoa in 1977.

**3. Report by Don Thomas on Scientific Deep Well Project in Hilo with Emphasis on Hydrology**

Dr. Thomas showed a powerpoint presentation on the background of the project on Mauna Kea. He stated that the understanding with respect to groundwater on the Island of Hawaii is very much out of date. This research project is called the Hawaii Scientific Growth Project. Dr. Thomas is the Principal Investigator of this project. The purpose of the project is to try to understand the planetary process that produce the Hawaiian Island chain. The structure of the Hawaiian volcano is being explored to see how it is forming.

During the drilling operation, the drill hole penetrated a shallow fresh water basal lens and underlying salt water within the upper Mauna Loa basalts. In a deeper layer between Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea, artesian fresh water was also encountered. When the drill hole entered the older Mauna Kea levas, another artesian zone was encountered. This water originated at an elevation of 7,000 feet on Mauna Kea and discharged through the drill pipe onto the rig floor at a rate of 2,000 gpm. This water was dated at 2,000 years old.

After this project is completed, Dr. Thomas would like to go back and reassess the groundwater. He would like to do work that would define the structures that are controlling groundwater flow, identify the aquifers to determine water chemistry and lastly determine the extent of yield of the resource.

**4. APPLICATION FOR WELL CONSTRUCTION / PUMP INSTALLATION PERMITS, REQUEST FOR VARIANCE, H Brothers Well (Well No. 1229-03), Well Construction: 8-inch Casing Diameter, 1210-ft. Deep Well, Pump Installation: 200 gpm for Irrigation use, TMK 9-6-5: 18, Hawaii**

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTAL: Ryan Imata

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Approve the issuance of a well construction permit for H Brothers Well (Well No. 1229-03), subject to the standard conditions in Exhibit 3, and the following special conditions:
- 1) The well should not be used for drinking water unless it is properly tested and treated.
  - 2) If potable water is used to supply both domestic and irrigation purposes in a single system, the permittee shall eliminate cross-connections and backflow connections by physically separating potable and non-potable systems by an air gap or an approved backflow preventer, and by clearly labeling all non-

potable spigots with warning signs to prevent inadvertent consumption of non-potable water.

- 3) Approve the variance for a 1 ½” annular space for the H Brothers Well (Well No. 1229-03) if pressure grouting from the bottom upward is performed.

TESTIMONY BY APPLICANT:

Mr. Fred Page who is the driller for the applicant stated that the well will be used for irrigation purposes.

MOTION: (RICHARDS/DELA CRUZ)

To approve the submittal.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**5. Application for a Stream Channel Alteration Permit (SCAP-OA-339), City and County of Honolulu, Department of Design and Construction, Drainage Outlet Structure, Waiomao Stream, Palolo, Oahu, TMK: 3-4-003: 10,22,24,32,33,36 & 37**

PRESENTATION OF SUBMITTAL: Edwin Sakoda

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Commission approve a stream channel alteration permit for a discharge structure on the north bank of Waiomao Stream (TMK: 3-4-003: 10), Honolulu. The permit will be valid for two (2) years subject to our standard permit conditions in Exhibit 5, and the following special condition:

“Prior to construction activities, the applicant shall submit written documentation from the Department of Health indicating the project’s consistency the Sections 303(d) and Section 402 of the Federal Clean Water Act.”

TESTIMONY BY APPLICANT:

Mr. David Bills of Gray Hong Bills who represented the City clarified that they will be submitting information to Clean Water Branch of the Department of Health (DOH) which will demonstrate that they will not need an NPDES permit. He stated that this project is not associated with any new construction.

MOTION: (ANDERSON/RICHARDS)

To approve the submittal.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

**6. Report on the August 13-15, 2002 meetings held with the Bureau of Reclamation**

Deputy Director Nishioka reported that multiple meetings with the Governor, Congressional Delegation and the Hawaii Drought Council were held on August 13. A site visit was conducted to the Honolulu Board of Water Supply's Halawa Shaft. On August 14 the Bureau visited the East Maui Irrigation System. Mayor Apana met the Bureau and staff at the Kihei Wastewater Plant. On August 15 the Bureau went on a 2-1/2-hour helicopter tour over Na Pali and East Kauai. On West Kauai they visited the Kekaha Ditch System and East Kauai the Lihue Plantation System.

Dr. Anderson made a comment on staff submittal item no. 4 regarding a well that would be drilled for irrigation purposes. He stated that the counties are expending lots of monies into their water systems. Every time the Commission approves a well drilling and is within an area of the county system, the drilling takes away from the county who needs people to connect to make their system work properly. Dr. Anderson asked that staff look closely at these applications and make sure to routinely check whether it is feasible to connect to the county system.

This meeting was adjourned at 10:26 am.

Respectfully submitted,

FAITH F. CHING  
Secretary

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED:

LINNEL T. NISHIOKA  
Deputy Director