

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 702
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Telephone (808) 586-4185
Fax (808) 586-4186
Email: environmental.council@doh.hawaii.gov

MARK AMBLER
Chairperson
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 5, 2015, Friday

11:30 AM – 2:00 PM

**State Office Tower Building
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 1500
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)

OEQC Staff: Linda Hijirida, Leslie Segundo

Members of the Public: Laura McIntyre (EPO), Dan Quinn (DLNR), Tanya Rubenstein (DLNR), Shannon Word (Windward Ahupua'a Alliance)

On the GoToMeeting: Janet Ashton (Farm Bureau), Shannon Naliwalu (General Contractor's Assoc.), Mark Fox (Nature Conservancy)

1. Call to Order

Chair Ambler called the meeting to order at 11:49 am with a quorum of 9 members.

2. Introductions/Attendance

- Chair Ambler announced that he is relocating to Washington State; his last meeting will be June 30, 2015. Next meeting's agenda should have decision making for a new Chair and Vice-Chair. Chair Ambler was thanked for his service.
- All present, and on "GoToMeeting", introduced themselves.

3. DISCUSSION AND DECISION MAKING ON CONCURRENCE WITH DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES EXEMPTION LIST(S)

- Mr. Glenn moved to concur DLNR's exemption list. Discussion followed.
- DLNR addressed last month's issue regarding parking lots with 50 stalls. They cut the number of stalls in half, with a cap of 25 stalls. DLNR received a letter, after-the-fact, with additional comments from Syd Singer raising the same concerns. Dan Quinn stated that DLNR and Mr. Singer will always have a difference of opinions. Mr. Quinn stated in the last meeting that DLNR had no conversations with the private sector. Upon further reflection, given the time they worked on it, he stated that it is possible that staff may have spoken to someone.
- Mr. Prentiss appreciated DLNR's compromise by lowering the number of stalls; but was still concern about buses using the stalls. He suggested to change it to 25 "passenger vehicles" stalls.
- Public comment: Mark Fox thanked the Environmental Council, DLNR, DLNR's contractor, and OEQC for their combined efforts to bring about this exemption list.

- e. An amendment to the motion was made that the submission concur with the stipulated change in Exemption Class 3, Item 6 adding "passenger vehicle". The motion was seconded by Ms. Steiner. The motion was passed with 9 ayes. Mr. Quinn will provide a clean copy to OEQC and OEQC will update the website with the concurrent date of June 5, 2015.

4. Update on the IUCN World Conservation Congress

- a. Soon we'll be able to post ideas on their forum for this event.
- b. Chair Ambler suggested we form a subcommittee to submit ideas. The Information & Outreach Committee (I&O) was tasked to come up with ideas. Chair Ambler and Ms. Steiner will no longer be on this committee. Mr. Teves is currently on the committee; Mr. Parsons and Mr. Richards volunteered to be on it.
- c. Report Cards – used to have these, but stopped because OEQC didn't have the staff and funding.
- d. Invasive Species – need to involve the federal government; the State can't do this on their own.
- e. Mr. Parsons informed the Council that an IUCN pre-delegation is coming to the islands.
- f. Ms. Wooley stated there's an IUCN meeting in a couple weeks, she will forward any information to Mr. Teves.

5. Discuss Goals for the 2015 Annual Strategy Session

- a. In the past, the Annual Strategy Session was held in July, but it looks like this will take place in August. We need to pick our topics and speakers.
- b. Invasive Species – last year, Christen Martin spoke. Maybe we can invite her to talk on any new developments.
- c. Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) Report – this was suggested as a topic.
- d. Pesticides – there's a vast pool of people we can call on for a panel. A suggestion was made to have two panels for the Strategy Session: Pesticides and Invasive Species.
- e. Ms. Wooley was asked if she is serving after June 30th. Mr. Bohlen stated, according to HRS 26-34, she may continue to serve until she is replaced. This also applies to the Council if you served less than 8 years and are willing to continue to serve.

5 Minute Break

Meeting Called Back to Order

- f. Chair Ambler opened it up for public comments, specifically about the Strategy Session and the goals for the Environmental Council for the upcoming year.
- g. Mr. Glenn shared his feedback from meeting with C&C of Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting – Kathy Sokugawa mentioned how the GPI is not as useful for them, as decision makers. GPI is more useful for mayors, governors, legislators; people who have a broad responsibility for the economy and environmental issues. We need to make the GPI relevant to agency decision makers. It might be possible to use this measure for cost benefit analysis.

6. Annual Report

- a. Mr. Parsons volunteered for this committee because the annual report focused on a lot of items he's currently involved in - Hawaii Green Growth, Aloha + Challenge, Invasive Species. He reviewed past annual reports, checked out their formats, and anticipates group discussions and the Strategy Session will help develop this report.
- b. Mr. Glenn, reported that we didn't have an annual report in 2009. In 2010, they finished the report, but the Governor didn't sign it; it just sat on her desk. Then in 2011, they started the report up again. Last year, they targeted subject matters, invited professors to talk about environmental issues, and brought in GPI. This year, we will probably meet in August, set the format in September, then the report is due in January. That leaves the committee with only a few months

to complete the report. You really want to have the report done by December so you can get it to the legislature early.

- c. The budget is not included in the annual report because we didn't want to look like we were soliciting for a budget. Funds were found to cover printing cost and to pay for a designer.
- d. Mr. Teves reported on Moloka'i's Community Plan which involves moving everything away from the shore. This planning process has changed due to sea level rise and climate change. This will affect all our power plants, petroleum facilities, ports of entry, and highways. Mr. Parsons shared examples of sites effected by sea level rise on Maui.
- e. Ms. Wooley attended the Hawai'i Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee meeting headed by DLNR.
- f. Mr. Shacat brought up fossil fuel and how UH is the biggest university in the world that divest from fossil fuel.
- g. These were all good topics for the Annual Report or the Strategy Session.
- h. Mr. Teves announced that Molokai is having a big invasive seaweed initiative tomorrow. They have the super sucker on the island. The farmers want the limu. They want to include the County and DOT. UH is involved, doing research and making maps. They're getting ready to move this resource management as an industry in Hawai'i, including re-seeding the reefs with native species. Mr. Parsons said it would be a good subject for the Annual Report. You got to inject some hopefulness to balance the temperature rise and sea level rise.

7. Pesticides

- a. Chair Ambler reported they did a forum on pesticides last year. He introduced this to see if we want to use it as a topic for this year's strategy session or annual report.
- b. It would be good to have baseline information on pesticides. Ms. Wooley suggested we invite Fenix, from DOH, to attend our next meeting. They are doing a study on Kaua'i; so we can get a report of what they're doing.
- c. Mr. Bohlen pointed out that pesticide bills that didn't pass this last legislative session, are still alive. This might be something the Legislative committee can look at now and decide whether or not to submit testimony.
- d. Mr. Parsons shared the "Pesticides in Paradise" report put out by Hawaii Center for Food Safety.

8. Rules

- a. Subcommittee Chair Scott Glenn said they need to think about a succession plan.
- b. Last year, they put out a soft draft for anyone to comment on. They incorporated much of those comments into a second draft that was meant to go to the Governor. It got stalled out and now with the change of administrative, they don't know where the Governor and his people sit with Chapter 343. They put a lot of time with Abercrombie's policy advisors. With the new administration, it's like starting from square one again. They have more comment that need to be integrated in, and then start the process through OEQC. It needs somebody to take the time to put it all together and take control of it. The rules were last updated was in 1996 with Gary Gill pushing it through.
- c. Ms. Wooley thanked Scott, Koa, and everyone who worked on the rules
- d. Mr. Bohlen will hold the documents if Mr. Glenn can't continue. He suggested we have an intern finish the rules. It was mentioned to use UH interns, maybe make it into a project.
- e. There was a discussion about budget and how much it would cost to get the rules passed.
- f. It was brought up that maybe the reason we're having a hard time passing the rules is because they want to get rid of (Chapter) 343.
- g. A suggestion was made to involve the business community; showing people that this would be an improvement.
- h. Discussion followed regarding picking a new Rules Committee Chair. The Council agreed that the new EC Chair picks the sub-committee chairs; so this discussion was tabled until the new Chair is selected.

9. New Business

- a. Mr. Prentiss received a letter from the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Design and Construction (DDC) requesting to revise their exemption list. DDC submitted a table, showing their changes. Mr. Prentiss had asked Ms. Wooley to contact them for the entire list. She did ask them but haven't received anything yet. She will request it again.
- b. Ms. Steiner expressed her appreciation of everyone attending and thanked OEQC for putting the meeting together. This was a very cool meeting; got to talk about some things in depth.
- c. Ms. Wooley again asked Chair Ambler to let the Governor and the Boards and Commissions know that we need new members. Chair Ambler reported that after the last meeting (May 21, 2015), he and Dan Purcell walked to the Governor's office. They told him to go down and talk to Sharon Ibarra, the Director of the Boards and Commissions. Ms. Ibarra said if you have recommendations, send them to her and she'll try and get us more members. Chair Ambler urged the EC members and the public, still on the line; to send him resumes so we can get these positions filled.
- d. Mr. Parsons was asked if he was a Maui County appointee. He replied, no. He applied on his own.
- e. It was suggested to reach out to the Mayors and get their environmental coordinators or sustainability people to apply and get involved.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 pm.