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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



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ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL  
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CHARLES PRENTISS  
ROBERT PARSONS  
JOHN RICHARDS  
GLENN TEVES  
JESSICA WOOLEY, OEQC DIRECTOR

## ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL MEETING

August 20, 2015, Thursday

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

State Office Tower

235 S. Beretania Street, Suite 1500

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

### MINUTES

**Members Present:** Joseph Shacat (Chair) Scott Glenn (Vice-Chair) Robert Parsons, Charles Prentiss, John Richards, Glenn Teves, Roy Abe, Koalani Kaulukukui, Jessica Wooley

**Members Absent:** All members present

**Counsel Present:** Edward Bohlen (Deputy Attorney General to the Council)

**Special Guest:** Dr. Jim Anthony

**OEQC Staff:** Meg DeLisle, Linda Hirjirida, Tom Eisen

**Members of the Public:** Allen Simeon (phone in), Laura McIntyre (DOH), Clifford Lau, Stan Katsura (DCC), Matt Lynch (University of Hawaii), Lucia Indelicato (Nordic PCL)

#### 1. Call to Order

Chair Shacat called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm with a quorum of nine members. All present introduced themselves.

- a. **Introduction of new Environmental Council member Roy Abe-** Mr. Abe gave a more in depth introduction of himself and his environmental background.

#### 2. Approval of prior Meeting Minutes

- a. The June 30, 2015 minutes were approved with 9 aye votes with a few corrections. No nays or abstentions.
- b. The minutes will be posted on the OEQC's website.

#### 3. Director's Report

- a. New OEQC planner Meg DeLisle was introduced. Ms. Wooley discussed current work at OEQC, including the database and the HEPA technical report. A Hawaii Aquarium (AQ) Trade Issues and Solutions proposal was passed out and discussed, with the goal of the council rendering an opinion on the issue. In response to an inquiry, the OEAQC responded that 343 should apply on this issue and an EA is recommended.

#### 4. Exemption Lists – Review of proposed lists for publication and 30-day public comment period

- a. **Hawaii DPW-** the Exemption Committee met at the June meeting and looked over the proposed list and recommended that it be published for public comment.
- b. Allen Simeon offered comment and answered questions from the council on the list.
- c. Charles Prentiss motioned that the proposed list be published for public comment, Ms. Wooley seconded, with the minor corrections pointed out such as some duplications and the need for a title.
- d. The motion was passed with 9 aye; no nays or abstentions.
- e. The list will be posted on OEQC's website.

#### 5. Statement From the Public

- a. **Dr. Jim Anthony – Presentation and discussion regarding public role within HRS 343 and HAR 11-200 and how to level the playing field between the public and the approving agency-** Dr. Anthony quickly outlined his issues with the 343 process, such as the conflict in interest in some cases where the applicant and the reviewing agency are the same entity, the short period of public comment and the need to for more scrutiny during the review process. He requested that the rules be updated, and the council concurred and informed him that that process was already taking place.

## 6. Committee Reports

- a. **Information/Outreach-** met this morning and discussed the 2016 IUCN Conference.
- b. The committee agreed upon Biosecurity as the main issues for the EC to focus on for the conference and will be looking for speakers on Hawaii's invasive species issues.
- c. Mr. Shacat volunteered to maintain the Facebook page for the interim and the motion for an EC member to officially manage the Facebook page was deferred until next month.
- d. **Exemption – Recommended actions based on August 20 Exemption Committee meeting-** Mr. Prentiss reported again on the proposed list.
  1. Clifford Lau and Stan Katsura commented on their updates to the list and the addition of maintenance dredging.
  2. Mr. Shacat moved to publish list for public comment. Mrs. Wooley seconded; Motion passed with 8 ayes, 1 abstention.
- e. **Legislative-** did not meet, meeting scheduled for September 16<sup>th</sup>.
  1. Dr. Anthony's requests will be address at the future meeting.
- f. **Rules – Status of rules changes and future direction-** did not meet. Expressed concern about the stability of the OEQC with the possible changing leadership and need support from OEQC in moving forward with the rules.
- g. **Annual Report – Status of draft annual report-** did not meet. Members would like to include information about the Environmental Council's history in the Annual Report.

## 7. Unfinished Business

- a. **2016 World Conservation Congress in Hawaii – Discussion and decision-making regarding role of Environmental Council-** it was agreed that Biosecurity will be the main issue addressed by the EC and the WCC. More details will be flushed out at the annual meeting next month.
- b. **UH Environmental Center – Report on recent meeting with the University of Hawaii. Discussion and decision-making regarding the future relationship between the Environmental Council and the UH Environmental Center-** Mr. Lynch from UH discussed the difficulty in reinvigorating the Environmental Center. Asked the council to make a formal request to the UH president to reestablish UH's role in the environmental review process.
- c. Mr. Shacat motioned to authorize Ms. Wooley to write the formal request to the UH president on behalf of the council. Mr. Glenn seconded. Motion passed with 9 ayes; no nays or abstentions.

## 8. New Business

- a. **Preparation for Strategic Planning Session, tentatively scheduled for Sept 17, 2015 –** This day was confirmed by all members.
- b. **Selection of Council members to attend Department of Health Environmental Justice Mapping Training, tentatively scheduled for September 10, 2015 at 10:00 am-** Mr. Shacat announced this training opportunity to all members. There was no formal selection of members to attend.
- c. **Discussion topic - commercial aquarium fish trade-** This topic will be added to the agenda for the next session.

## 9. Open Forum: Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Environmental Council's next meeting agenda-

No public comments were made.

## 10. Correspondence received-

correspondence received from HPU professor, will be addressed at the September 17<sup>th</sup> session.

## 11. Selection of next meeting date-

all members agreed that September 17<sup>th</sup> was an amenable date for the next meeting.

## 12. Adjournment-

the meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm.