



# STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,  
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII  
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## MINUTES

State of Hawai'i, Environmental Council  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021, 1:30 PM– 3:30 PM  
Online Zoom Meeting

David Y. Ige  
Governor

*Chairperson*  
Puananionaona Thoene

*Vice Chair*  
Mary Begier

*Members*  
Roy Abe  
Stephanie Dunbar-Co  
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom  
Makaala Kaaumoana  
Ian Robin Kaye  
Theresita Kinnaman  
Ron Terry  
Michael Tulang  
N. Mahina Tuteur

### Members Present

Puananionaona Thoene (Chairperson), Mary Begier (Vice-Chairperson), Roy Abe, Stephanie Dunbar-Co, Dawn Hegger-Nordblom, Makaala Kaaumoana, Keith Kawaoka (Acting Director), Robin Kaye, Theresita Kinnaman, Michael Tulang, Mahina Tuteur

### Members Absent

Robert Parsons, Ron Terry

### Staff

Leslie Segundo (Environmental Health Specialist), Kathy Ho (Deputy Attorney General)

### Public

Pane Meatoga (Operating Engineers Industry Destabilization Fund)

Note: **Bolded** items below indicate text from the agenda.

**1. Call to order, roll call and quorum, introductions**

With a quorum of ten members, Chairperson Thoene convened the meeting at 1:33PM.

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

None available.

**3. OEQC Director's Report**

Acting Director Kawaoka commented that the legislative session has started. There are about 12-13 including companion bills that concern the EAC.

**4. Exemption Committee Update**

Chairperson Thoene mentioned that no meeting was held and will be deferred to next month.

**5. Annual Report Committee Update**

**a. Discussion of Council's feedback on agency survey**

Committee Chair Dunbar-Co stated the committee met this morning. She commented that feedback from the EAC was supportive and there were no major changes.

**b. Action to approve 2020 Annual Report for distribution**

<http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC-Meetings/2020-02-02-EC-Annual-Report-Com-2020-Annual-Report.pdf>

MOTION: Committee Chair Dunbar-Co moved from committee (no second needed) that the Council approve the 2020 Annual Report for distribution with the addition of Chairperson Thoene's signature on the cover letter and putting the cover letter on EAC letterhead. Chairperson Thoene called for the question. The Council unanimously approved the motion (9-0-0). Member Tutuer was disconnected and not available to vote.

Chairperson Thoene will send "thank you" note to participants.

## 6. Legislative Committee Update

### a. Update on pending legislation that may impact the Council

[http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC\\_Meetings/2021-02-02-EC-Legislative-Com-Proposed-2021-Legislation.pdf](http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EC_Meetings/2021-02-02-EC-Legislative-Com-Proposed-2021-Legislation.pdf)

Committee Chair Kaye commented that in addition to the bills attached to the agenda there are three other bills that the Legislative Committee is watching: HB1318, HB1350, and SB1055 (companion to HB901). There was a motion made during the Legislative Committee that moved to have Committee Chair Kaye and Chairperson Thoene submit testimony on SB351. This is the bill that Senator Gabbard drafted for the EC to make three changes to their statutory requirements. The bill (HB1318) recommends a shift for the EC and OEQC to become part of the Office of Planning in the Sustainability branch.

Chairperson Thoene asked the Council to have a special meeting on February 11 at 1:30PM – 4PM to discuss the bills. Committee Chair Kaye will update the list and send to Les and Kathy for dissemination.

### b. Action to approve Committee Chair Kaye and Council Chair Thoene to work with legislators and submit testimony on legislation impacting the Council

MOTION: Chairperson Thoene moved and Vice-Chairperson Begier seconded that Committee Chair Kaye and Chairperson Thoene are approved to work with legislators and submit testimony on legislation impacting the Council. A brief discussion ensued. Chairperson Thoene called for the question. The Council approved the motion 9 - Yes (Thoene, Abe, Begier, Dunbar-Co, Hegger-Nordblom, Kaye, Kinnaman, Tulang, Tuteur), 1 - No (Kaaumoana), 0 – Abstained.

## 7. Rules Committee Update

### a. Action to approve rulemaking for HAR Title 11, Chapter 201

Committee Chair Tuteur commented that the Rules Committee approved to start the rulemaking process with editing HAR Title 11, Chapter 201 which is the process for appeals.

MOTION: Committee Chair Tuteur moved from committee (no second needed) that the Council approve to start the rulemaking process for HAR Title 11, Chapter 201. A brief discussion ensued. Chairperson Thoene called for the question. The Council unanimously approved the motion (10-0-0).

## 8. Information & Outreach Committee Update

### a. Discussion of process for I&O to bring subject matter discussions/presentations to the Council

Committee Chair Begier commented that Member Hegger-Nordblom had the idea to look at the Annual Report and see the top environmental issues that are being mentioned. From these issues, the I&O committee will bring in experts from the field and give talks to the public.

**b. Discussion on potential new topics & issues for Information & Outreach committee to explore**

Committee Chair Begier asked members for any suggestions or topics. Member Kaaumoana will email the contact info of some community-based organizations to Committee Chair Begier.

**c. Action to approve the Council and Information & Outreach Committee representatives to work with a partner regarding digital forums**

This action has been deferred to March meeting.

**9. Strategic Planning Permitted Interaction Group Update**

**a. Discussion of Permitted Interaction Group (PIG) recommendations regarding potential strategic planning for the Council**

Committee Chair Kaye commented that Member Terry had a great idea concerning the strategic plan, which was to ask survey questions to various agencies this will allow for community input. He asked the EC to think about their answers to the proposed questions and to consider who they would like to send the survey to. The survey will be completed by the same people who did the Annual Report survey, but this time Committee Chair Kaye will donate to the people creating the survey and doing the analysis. EC members are asked to send contact info to Mr. Segundo by February 12.

**b. Draft of proposed survey questions**

- i. What role should the Environmental Council (EC) play in improving the protection and enhancement of Hawaii's environmental?**
- ii. Which State agency should be the administrative "home" of OEQC? (e.g., Department of Planning; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Department of Health, other?)**
- iii. Discussion of potential survey recipients.**

**10. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 1:30 – 3:30 pm**

EC special meeting will be on Thursday, February 11 at 1:30PM – 4PM. Agenda will be finalized and posted tomorrow.

**11. Public Forum**

None.

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:56 PM.