



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 Advisory Council
Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Zoom and in person meeting:
Leiopapa A Kamehameha, Room 405
235 S. Beretania St., Honolulu, HI 96813

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor

Chairperson
Puananionaona Thoene

Vice Chair
Mary Begier

Members
Roy Abe
Stephanie Dunbar-Co
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom
Makaala Kaaumoana
Ian Robin Kaye
Theresita Kinnaman
Michele Lefebvre
Gordon Scruton, Jr.
Rachel Sprague
Ron Terry
Michael Tulang
N. Mahina Tuteur

Members present

Puananionaona Thoene (Chairperson), Mary Begier (Vice-Chairperson), Roy Abe, Stephanie Dunbar-Co, Dawn Hegger-Nordblom, Robin Kaye, Tessie Kinnaman, Michele Lefebvre, Gordon Scruton, Jr., Rachel Sprague, Ronald Terry, Michael Tulang, Mahina Tuteur

Members absent

Makaala Kaaumoana

Staff

Scott Glenn (Director, Office of Planning and Sustainable Development), Alison Kato (Deputy Attorney General), Jen Ching (Secretary)

Public

None.

Materials for this agenda and minutes of this meeting will be available at specific links indicated below or at:
<https://planning.hawaii.gov/erp/ec-meetings/>

1. Call to order, Roll Call, Introductions, Quorum

With 11 members present and quorum met, Chairperson Thoene called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM. Everyone introduced themselves except Member Scruton, Jr. due to audio issues.

2. Review and adoption of meeting minutes

- January - July, December 2021 meeting minutes

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-01-05-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-02-02-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-02-11-EC-Special-Meeting-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-03-02-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-04-06-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-05-04-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-06-01-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-07-06-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2021-12-07-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf

- January - June 2022 meeting minutes
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-01-04-Environmental-Council-Minutes.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-02-01-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-03-01-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-04-05-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-05-03-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2022-06-07-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf
- April 2023 meeting minutes
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2023-04-04-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes.pdf

The following changes to the minutes were mentioned:

January 2021, page 1, Public present – correct names of “Neil Fujii and Alan Simeon” and last page, 1st paragraph, 3rd line – change phrasing to “taking the community out”

March 2021, page 1, Public present – correct name to “David Penn”

April 2021, page 2, Strategic Planning Committee – change "Committee Chair Terry" to “Committee Chair Kaye”

July 2021, page 3, I&O update – change "comment on" to “reporting on”

December 2021, page 5, item 11 – correct name to “Begier”

January 2022, last page – correct name to “Tarnas”

March 2021, page 1 – correction of “Cesium” to “CZM” program

April 2023, page 5, 1st paragraph – delete fist part of last sentence beginning “To the extent . . . ” up to “She expressed her concern . . . ” – keep second part of the sentence

MOTION: Vice-Chairperson Begier moved, and Member Terry seconded that the EAC approve the above minutes. The Council unanimously approved the motion (12-0-0).

Member Kinnaman joined at 1:15 PM. Members Kinnaman and Scruton, Jr. introduced themselves.

3. **Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) Director's Update**
 - **Discussion of 2023 legislation being tracked by OPSD**

Director Glenn reported that legislative session is winding down. Thursday is the last day and budget was voted out today. Most of OPSD's substantive bills did not make it out of conference committee. He mentioned the following legislative updates:

- Bill to amend the SMA definition of development was passed,
- EAC's cleanup bill has been signed into law (Act 24),
- OPSD's budgets remains steady with no increase in positions,
- Land Use Commission is getting one position,
- OPSD will continue doing the \$2 million Transit Oriented Development (TOD) planning grants
- Hawaii Community Development Authority was appropriated about \$86 million in TOD infrastructure projects and will work with HHFDC and OPSD on statewide TOD related projects
- For climate, \$100 million not appropriated as a specific line item on adaptation, but allocated to Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority for rooftop solar and battery for low-income families

Budget worksheets won't be available for another two weeks.

With the Mr. Segundo's (Environmental Health Specialist (EHS)) retirement, Mr. Tom Eisen, ERP's Planner, is the only person doing The Environmental Notice with no backup. Another staff from Special Plan Branch is willing to cross train. Currently, ERP is recruiting a Planner III to support the Planner V and is looking to reclassify EHS III position to another Planner III to support the Council.

Once interim starts, Governor's Office will probably start looking at Boards and Commissions and to fill board vacant appointments. Director Glenn's last day is Thursday.

Director Glenn sent the links for HB676 (related to District Boundary Amendments)

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/bills/HB676_CD2_.pdf

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/bills/HB676_CD1_SFA10_.HTM

Member Hegger-Nordblom mentioned that Wendy Kondo is B&C Secretary and can be emailed at wendy.kondo@hawaii.gov.

4. Information & Outreach (I&O) Committee Update

- Discussion of and planning for future forums
 - Review of the Procedures and Checklist for Environmental Advisory Council Public Forums and Presentations. This will include review of the updated checklist for committee internal use in planning and executing said forums/presentations
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2023-05-02-EAC-Information-and-Outreach-Com-Draft-2-of-Forum-Checklist-breakout.pdf
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2023-05-02-EAC-Information-and-Outreach-Com-OEQC-Procedures-and-Checklist-for-Forums-8-3-21-Draft-Revisions-Approved-by-EAC-final-1-3-23.pdf
- Committee Chair Begier reported that the Committee has been working on getting the appropriate checklist together. She clarified Member Terry's inquiry on item G. to change to "any and all." The Committee is looking for volunteers.

Committee Chair Begier also reported that the I&O Committee has approved the document.

Member Hegger-Nordblom reported that she has been in contact with Fish and Wildlife to have the presentation in May, but an exact date has not yet been confirmed.

5. Legislative Committee Update

- **Discussion of legislation related to Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 341 and Chapter 343 and other legislation tracked by the EAC, including recommendations for submitting testimony on specific bills**

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2023-03-07-EAC-Leg-bills-re-environment-VR5-copy.pdf

Committee Chair Kaye reported that there has not been a lot of legislative movement on the legislation that was being tracked.

Member Kinnaman inquired about HB 365 regarding the exemption of traditional fishponds and traditional agricultural practices. This legislation has been transferred to the Governor.

Member Sprague joined at 1:38 PM. Member Sprague and Member Scruton, Jr. introduced themselves.

6. Continued discussion of EAC role in House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 70 and House Resolution (HR) 71

Chairperson Thoene reported the HCR70 and HR71 did not make it past legislation.

7. Annual Report Committee Update

- **Continued discussion of content for the 2023 Annual Report and committee recommendation to full EAC**

Committee Chair Dunbar-Co reported that the 2023 Annual Report would follow the 2022 Annual Report. Following the recommendation made in the last meeting, the annual report would largely be a summary, detailing what the EAC has accomplished and the future direction of the EAC. It was further recognized that the document is mostly an internal document. A small portion of the committee would convene, following the legislative session, to meet with Representative Lowen and Senator Gabbard to discuss the changing of the statute moving forward, so that the Council does not need to produce an annual report.

8. Discussion of EAC Member Terms

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2023-05-02-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Terms-2023.pdf

Chairperson Thoene clarified that based on the statute, the term for members starts when they are appointed. An updated document of member's terms is linked in the agenda point above.

If Council members find a candidate, they should direct them to the Boards and Commissions' website. On the website, there is an application form that needs to be completed. The Council members should also email Chairperson Thoene about the possible candidate.

9. Reminder: Send all ERP correspondence to dbedt.opsd.erp@hawaii.gov

10. Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 6, 2023

May 31 is the deadline for the Ethics Disclosure.

July 11 will be the next future EAC meeting. It will be conducted virtually.

Future meetings will discuss the repeal of rules, updating Chapter 343 procedural rules, wrap up the Exemption Committee's Permitted Interaction Group, and letters from EAC to suggest changes to agencies' websites.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:27 PM.