

Committee Meetings

January 18, 2006

Chairperson Bernie Sakoda called the Committee Meetings to order at 10:34 a.m.

Board present: Bernie Sakoda, Ian Costa, Donald Fujimoto, Steven Kyono, Myles Shibata, and Josephine Sokei. Absent & excused: Lynn McCrory

Staff present: Edward Tschupp, Wynne Ushigome, Paul Ganaden, Gregg Fujikawa, Les Yoshioka, Bruce Inouye, Keith Fujimoto and Special Deputy County Attorney Galen Nakamura.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Finance Committee Chair Steven Kyono called the Finance Committee Meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Members present: Ian Costa, Donald Fujimoto, Bernie Sakoda, Myles Shibata and Josephine Sokei. Absent & excused: Lynn McCrory

Re: Claims Payable:

WATER UTILITY FUND: ..\$	859,030.12
BOND FUND:	\$ -0-
FRC FUND:	\$ 331,725.20
STATE FUND:	\$ -0-
TOTAL	<u>\$1,190,755.32</u>

Mr. Shibata moved that the claims be approved for payment, seconded by Ms. Sakoda; motion was carried.

There being no further business, the Finance Committee adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Public Affairs Committee Chair Bernie Sakoda called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. Members present were Ian Costa, Donald Fujimoto, Steve Kyono, Myles Shibata and Josephine Sokei. Absent & excused: Lynn McCrory.

Re: Public Affairs Update

PA Committee Chair Sakoda gave the following report:

Surface Water Public Information: The water purification facility has been placed into service effective January 3, 2006, and is presently the water source facility serving a portion of Hanamaulu. In the latter part of December, 2005, the Department completed the preparation of an updated customer complaint form and a "surface water complaint information sheet" (attached) to be used by staff as resources for handling and tracking any customer complaints originating from actual or perceived changes in water quality from the new water source. DOW staff that routinely take calls from the public, including the operations, fiscal and administrative support staff, were briefed on the types of complaints to which they may have to respond. Maps of the initial service area that include street addresses were distributed to be used for accurately locating trouble areas so that laboratory and field personnel would have the information needed for investigation and response. Mahalo to our laboratory staff for providing an excellent summary of the

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potential types of complaints that may occur, along with suggestions for our employees to use in discussing typical complaints with our customers.

Immediately prior to the facility being placed into service, a press release was prepared and distributed. The purpose of the press release was to further provide notice to the public of the pending change, and to also alert the public that DOW crews would be conducting flushing to facilitate the introduction of the new water into the system. Operations crews flushed the distribution system at a rate of approximately 500 gallons per minute continuously for several hours on January 3, 2006. Only limited problems of a low pressure nature along smaller mains were reported due to the flushing program.

As of present, the Department has received very few complaints regarding the surface water in the Hanamaulu service area. It may be too early for problems to be fully developed, however as every day goes by with minimal complaints, the Department gains confidence that our concerns about potential wide spread red water occurrences have been mitigated. The studies conducted at the house on the Grove Farm Museum property appear to have been very successful at determining an approach that minimized red water releases when the new water was introduced into the distribution system. Our strategy of phasing in the new water initially into a relatively limited service area has also no doubt resulted in a more manageable situation.

Water Rate Increase Public Information: Through press briefings and public outreach prior to October, 2005's public hearing, many of the key stakeholder groups were informed of the upcoming rate increase. The revised rates are now in effect, and within the next few weeks water bills with the new rates will be distributed. There will likely be some complaints that will occur following the implementation of the new rates as customers receive their bills.

Dept. Public Relations Specialist Position: Interviews will be held on Thursday, January 19, 2006. A total of 5 qualified applicants are included in the interview list.

Received for the record.

The Public Affairs Committee was adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

RULES COMMITTEE

Rules Committee Pro-Tem Chair Myles Shibata called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. Members present were Ian Costa, Donald Fujimoto, Steven Kyono, Bernie Sakoda, and Josephine Sokei. Absent & excused: Lynn McCrory.

Re: **Administrative Rule Amendment to Modify Ten (10) Categories of Fees Charged to the Water Department's Consumers**

Rules Pro-Tem Chair Shibata reported the following:

The rule amendment described above, which increased various rates charged by the Department of Water, took effect January 1, 2006.

The Department continues to evaluate the necessity of rule amendments to the Department's administrative rule regarding FRC offsets in light of the Board's discussion on November 16, 2005

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concerning Paragraph 4, "FRC Offsets" of Section VII "Facilities Reserve Charge" of Part 4 of the Department's administrative rules. When the Department has determined what appropriate steps are necessary to implement the policy guidance that the Board provided, the Department will report back to the Board on this item.

Received for the record. The Rules Committee was duly adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

The Committee Meetings were duly adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

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