

# Committee Meetings

May 13, 2010

Board present: Chair Randall Nishimura, Ian Costa, Donald Fujimoto, Leland Kahawai, and Roy Oyama. Absent & excused: Dee Crowell and Raymond McCormick.

Staff present: David Craddick, William Eddy, Paul Ganaden, Gregg Fujikawa, Keith Fujimoto, Bruce Inouye, Faith Shiramizu, and DOW Deputy County Attorney Andrea Suzuki and Board's Deputy County Attorney Amy Esaki.

Guest present: Mr. Trae Menard of The Nature Conservancy

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Finance Chair Roy Oyama called the meeting to order at about 10:11 a.m.

**Re: Claims Payable** (as of April 30, 2010):

WATER UTILITY FUND: .....	\$761,699.49
BOND FUND: .....	\$ 1,441.77
FRC FUND: .....	\$ 56,860.75
STATE FUND: .....	\$ -0-
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b><u>\$820,002, 01</u></b>

Mr. Nishimura recused himself from voting as he had a conflict of interest with one of the DOW payments.

Mr. Kahawai moved that the claims be approved for payment, seconded by Mr. Costa; by a unanimous vote; motion was carried.

## **Re: Committee Discussion on the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11**

Finance Chair Oyama reported that the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11 was on the Agenda in case the Finance Committee had further questions on the details of the budget.

Manager Craddick explained for the Board's info that about \$420,000 for interest for the bond issue was transferred to the departmental bond fund. There were no net changes.

On query by Mr. Nishimura, Deputy Manager Eddy stated that there will be 2 positions now that could maintain the excavator that is in the proposed budget, as there is an existing auto mechanic position and there will be an opening for a another already budgeted Auto Mechanic position soon.

Mr. Trae Menard of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and coordinators for the Kauai Watershed Alliance (KWA) was present at the meeting to brief the Board on what could be done if the Water Board agreed to grant them monies.

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Mr. Menard briefed the Board that the KWA was formed in 2001 and consists of all the large landowners and the Kauai Department of Water. In 2003, TNC was contracted to write a management plan for the KWA and in 2005 was selected to implement the management plan.

They are now working on a project to construct a fence that would connect the upper section of Wainiha pali to the pali at Waialeale, aka Blue Hole. The goal is to remove the feral pigs and goats from the summit area, which has the highest rainfall on the island. He added that the pigs cause a lot of damage in the native forest that cannot recover easily, which results in water runoff.

Mr. Menard stated that they are working to get the animals out of this 2,000 acre area, which consists of 1,400 acres of private land and 500 acres of State land. They are about ½ way done with the construction of fencing that was funded by Federal monies, some from the stimulus package and some State monies. The hardest part of their mission would then be to clear the animals out of that area. This area is also very remote and reachable only by helicopter. The cost of hiring a helicopter is about \$1,000 an hour.

Mr. Menard discussed that they are devising a new method of removing animals from remote areas by using NASA technology for the MARS lander. This technology would be capable of transmitting and manage data from remote areas to a web-based hub that they could access through portals in their office.

He further discussed that they want to develop pig traps that are automatically baited with corn and has a 1-way door silo trap, which would have a motion sensing camera to let them know when a pig goes in or out of the trap so the motion sensing trigger would trigger the trap from their office. They are working with a company called IntelliSense, which was a spin-off from NASA. They are currently installing traps and plan to have the rest of the fence done by June, 2011 and then starting from July, 2011, they would start this intense pig-trapping program. They want to try and stay ahead to address the quick reproductive rate of the pigs. This program would need a lot of staffing, which is why they would appreciate any additional funding.

On query by Manager Craddick, Mr. Menard stated that they could use our monies to match Federal grants that they already have lined up. Mr. Menard added that typically monies are required to match Federal grants on a 1-to-1 basis, so if they can get County monies, it would be great. He added that the area they are working in is a high priority area for the US Fish and Wildlife Service because of the endangered birds and plant in the area.

On query by Mr. Costa, Mr. Menard stated that they are also working on another major project of controlling invasive species, which can also alter the hydrological integrity of our watershed. The invasive species that they are working on are the strawberry guava, kahili ginger, and Australian tree fern.

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Mr. Menard summarized that their priority presently is to working on finishing the fence and controlling the pig population with new technology. Once the pigs are removed, they would also be responsible to recover the eco-system. They could return to the Board to present the results.

Finance Chair Oyama thanked Mr. Menard for his informational presentation.

Mr. Nishimura moved to recommend to the full Board that the proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11 is approved, as amended, seconded by Mr. Costa; motion was carried.

The Finance Committee was duly adjourned at about 10:27 a.m.

## **RULES COMMITTEE MEETING:**

Rules Committee Chair Ian Costa called the meeting to order at about 10:27 a.m.

**Re: Committee Discussion and Possible Action on Various Proposed Rule Revisions**

Rules Chair Costa and Ms. Suzuki reported on the following:

**Re: Delegation of Board Authority Amendment to Rules *MANAGER'S REPORT NO. 78***

On April 19, 2010, Governor Lingle signed into law Act No. 037(10), which gives the Board the option to delegate authority to disburse funds to its manager and chief engineer. The specific language of that Act is as follows:

**§54-25, Disbursement of fund.** The county treasurer shall disburse all [~~moneys~~] moneys of the board [~~of water supply~~] only upon warrants issued by the county auditor or other county authorized signatory on accounts payable vouchers signed by the chairperson or the acting chairperson of the board[.], except as provided herein. The board may delegate, through rules and policies adopted pursuant to chapter 91, its powers and duties regarding the disbursement of funds to the manager and chief engineer."

In accordance with the new law, the following are proposed rule drafts that would be included in Part 1, Rules of Practice & Procedure for the Board of Water Supply for the County of Kauai:

*For Insertion under Part I, Section III:*

*4. The Board may delegate its administrative duties, as it relates to waterworks, either by rule or by policy, to the acting Manager and Chief Engineer of the Department.*

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*4. The Board may delegate its powers and duties regarding disbursement of funds, by way of policy, to the acting Manager and Chief Engineer of the Department.*

Mr. Nishimura stated that the Board would need to also do a Board policy.

Mr. Nishimura moved to approve to the second option, to be included under Part I, Section III of the proposed rule amendment, which would be in addition to the other proposed rule amendments, seconded by Mr. D. Fujimoto.

On query of several Board members, Manager Craddick stated that the paragraph approved is ok and the Board could include their stipulations in the associated Board policy.

Mr. Nishimura moved to reconsider the motion to add 'adoption' after policy and to strike out the word 'acting', seconded by Mr. D. Fujimoto; by a unanimous vote; motion was carried.

*[4. The Board may delegate its powers and duties regarding disbursement of funds, by way of policy adoption, to the ~~acting~~ Manager and Chief Engineer of the Department.]*

By a unanimous vote; the original motion was also carried.

The Rules Committee was duly adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no other business, the Committee Meetings were duly adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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