

MINUTES

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I
PUBLIC HEARING ON POWER COST CHARGE

January 24, 2017

Hilo Operations Conference Room, 889 Leilani Street, Hilo, HI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Craig Takamine, Chairperson
Mr. Russell Arikawa, Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Leningrad Elarionoff
Ms. Brenda Iokepa-Moses
Ms. Kanoe Wilson
Mr. Keith K. Okamoto, Manager-Chief Engineer, Department of Water
Supply (ex-officio member)

ABSENT: Director, Planning Department (ex-officio member)
Director, Department of Public Works (ex-officio member)

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Amy Self, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Mr. Gerald Yamada, GW Construction
Ms. Wendy Yamada, GW Construction
Mr. Eleot Kaipo, Qualified Plumbing

Department of Water Supply Staff

Mr. Kawika Uyehara, Deputy
Ms. Janet Snyder, Information and Education Specialist
Mr. Kurt Inaba, Engineering Division Head
Mr. Richard Sumada, Waterworks Controller
Ms. Kaiulani Matsumoto, Contracts Technician

(Chairperson Takamine called the public hearing to order at 9:45 a.m.)

CHAIRPERSON: Good morning everybody. I'd like to call the public hearing of the Water Board on the proposed new cost of Power Adjustment Clause please come to order.

The notice of this public hearing was published in the Hawai‘i Tribune-Herald and West Hawai‘i Today on January 1, 2017.

Good morning. My name is Craig Takamine, Chairperson of the Water Board, and will the members of the Board please introduce yourselves - (Kanoe Wilson, District 5, Mr. Russell Arikawa, Mr. Leningrad Elarionoff, Waimea, and Ms. Brenda Iokepa-Moses, Ka‘ū, introduced themselves.)

CHAIRPERSON: The Department of Water Supply is operated and controlled by this Water Board as provided by the Hawai‘i County Charter. Section 54-63 of the Hawai‘i Revised Statutes, provides as follows:

“The Board of Water Supply may fix and adjust rates and charges for the furnishing of water and for water services so that the revenues derived therefrom shall be sufficient to make the waterworks and water systems self-supporting and to meet all expenditures authorized by this part; the Board may establish variable rates among the several districts of the County, or among the areas served by the individual water systems within the County, for the purpose of establishing charges as closely as possible to the necessary amount required for the maintenance and operation of the particular individual water systems; provided no rates and charges shall be fixed or adjusted prior to the holding by the Board of a public hearing, public notice of which shall have been given not less than twenty days before the date set for the hearing. The notice shall state the time and place for the hearing and the proposed rates and charges to be considered thereat. The time within which the notice shall be given shall be computed by including the first day (the day of notice) and excluding the last day.”

We are here to receive comments or testimony on the proposed amendment to the Power Cost Charge. The Department recommends decreasing the Power Cost Charge from \$1.70 to \$1.61, to reflect the decrease in the Department of Water Supply’s power costs.

As stated in the hearing notice, all comments or testimony were to be filed in writing before the time of the hearing or are to be presented in person at the time of the hearing. We would like to follow this format as closely as possible; however, because there may be some of you who do not have any written statements but would like to testify or comment, we would like to afford you this opportunity to do so but would like to limit such presentations to five minutes because of the time limit.

The hearing is now open for comments from the floor. Will you please wait until you are recognized by the Chair; and for the record, could you please step forward, state your name and the organization you represent, if any.

Is there anyone here to provide oral testimony? For the record, please state your name and organization, if any. (There was no one present to testify.)

There being none, I would like to entertain a motion that this public hearing be closed.

MR. ARIKAWA: So move.

MS. WILSON: Second.

CHAIRPERSON: It has been moved and seconded that the public hearing is closed. All those in favor say “aye.” Opposed? (None) Motion is carried. Thank you.

Meeting adjourned at 9:49 a.m.

Recording Secretary