WATER BOARD

10/22/2025

Purpose: To manage, control and operate the County waterworks; adopt

rules and procedures relative to the operation, preservation and protection of the waterworks; to adopt annual operating and capital budgets for the Department of Water Supply; make decisions relating to the acquisition of property and issuance of

revenue bonds.

Authority: Hawai'i County Charter,

Article VIII, Section 8-1 and 8-2.

Appointment: Mayor with Council approval. Normal five-year staggered terms.

Full Membership: Nine members. Manager-Chief Engineer of DWS, Planning

Director, and Director of DPW are ex-officio members.

Specific Representation: One member from each Council district.

Requirements: No more than five members may belong officially to the same

political party.

Meetings: Normally, fourth Tuesday of each month for 1-2 hours, beginning

at 10 a.m. in Hilo, or occasionally in outlying area.

Financial Disclosure: Members must file Financial Disclosure within 20 working days

of taking the oath of office. Thereafter, annual disclosures must

be filed on or before January 31. The disclosures are confidential and will be kept on file by the Board of Ethics.

County Code, Chapter 2, Section 2-91.1.

Reappointment: Following the expiration of a term, no member may be

reappointed for at least two years unless originally appointed for

a term of two years or less.

Qualities: Respected by the community as being community-minded and

oriented. Able to focus on the community needs as a whole

without catering to special or self-interest.

Current Members: CD

VACANT	1
James Lee, Term Expires 12/31/2028	2
Guy Alameda, Term Expires 12/31/2027	3
Michael Kekela, Term Expires 12/31/2026	4
Emily Taaroa, Term Expires 12/31/2028	5
Keith Unger, Term Expires 12/31/2027	6
Michael Bell, Term Expires 12/31/2025	7
Stephen Lopez, Term Expires 12/31/2026	8
Philip Aiona, Term Expires 12/31/2029	9

Secretary/Contact Person: Nora Avenue 808-961-8050

Attorney Assigned: Diana Mellon-Lacey

^{*}The information on this sheet is condensed. For full information see appropriate Sections of the County Charter, County Code and/or Hawai'i Revised Statutes.