

MINUTES

**WATER BOARD PUBLIC HEARING ON THE POWER COST CHARGE
COUNTY OF HAWAI‘I, DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY**

July 28, 2020

Via WebEx/Host Location: Department of Water Supply, 345 Kekūanaō‘a Street, Suite 20, Hilo, HI

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. William Boswell, Jr., Chairperson
Mr. Eric Scicchitano, Vice-Chairperson
Mr. Nestorio Domingo
Mr. Zendo Kern
Mr. Kenneth Sugai
Ms. Judy Howard
Mr. David De Luz, Jr.
Mr. Keith K. Okamoto, Manager-Chief Engineer, Department of Water Supply (ex-officio member)

ABSENT: Ms. Julie Hugo, Water Board Member
Mr. Benjamin Ney, Water Board Member
Director, Planning Department (ex-officio member)
Director, Department of Public Works (ex-officio member)

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Diana Mellon-Lacey, Deputy Corporation Counsel

DEPARTMENT OF
WATER SUPPLY STAFF: Mr. Kawika Uyehara, Deputy
Mr. Warren Ching, Energy Management Analyst
Mr. Kurt Inaba, Engineering Division Head
Mr. Richard Sumada, Waterworks Controller
Ms. Judith Hayducko, Chief of Operations (Temporary Assignment)
Mr. Clyde Young, Operations Division
Mr. Eric Takamoto, Operations Division

(Chairperson Boswell called the Public Hearing to order at 9:45 a.m.)

Chairperson Boswell: Good morning. Will 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 July 5, 2020. Good morning, my name is William Boswell, Chairperson of the Water Board; and will members of the Board please introduce yourselves.

Board Members: Vice-Chair Scicchitano, Judy Howard.

Manager-Chief Engineer: I think it would be easier if Doreen just do a roll call.

Secretary: Okay, I have William Boswell, Jr., is present, Vice-Chairperson Eric Scicchitano; and Members David De Luz, Jr., Nestorio Domingo, Judy Howard, Zendo Kern, and Kenneth Sugai. I do not see Benjamin Ney online; and the ninth Board Member, Julie Hugo, is absent today.

Chairperson Boswell: Okay. The Department of Water Supply is operated and controlled by this Water Board as provided by the Hawai'i County Charter. Section 63 of Part III, Chapter 54, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, reads 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 increasing the Power Cost Charge from \$1.90 to **\$2.01** per thousand gallons to reflect the increase in 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 register to have testimony included via web conference application. 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. Doreen, is there anyone registered to provide oral testimony?

Secretary: No, Mr. Chair.

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

Mr. Scicchitano: So move.

Mr. Sugai: Second.

Chairperson Boswell: It has been moved and seconded that the public hearing is closed. All those in favor say "aye."

Board Members: Unanimous ayes.

Chairperson Boswell: Opposed? (none) Motion is carried. Thank you.

(Public Hearing adjourned at 9:50 a.m.)

Recording Secretary

APPROVED BY WATER BOARD
AUGUST 25, 2020