

Mitchell D. Roth
Mayor

Ramzi I. Mansour
Director, Department of
Environmental Management



Georjean Adams
Chair

Dorothy Norris
Vice Chair

County of Hawai'i

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

345 Kekūanāo'a St. Suite 41 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 • Ph: (808) 961-8083 • Fax: (808) 961-8086

MEETING AGENDA

Pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Chapter 92, this meeting will be online with a location available to the public. The public may attend either in person, online, or by telephone.

DATE: Wednesday, February 28, 2024
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
IN PERSON: Building G (Hale), West Hawai'i Civic Center
75-5044 Ane Keohokālole Highway, Kailua-Kona
ONLINE: Via Zoom <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/16031058165>
(Meeting ID: 160 3105 8165)
PHONE: +1 669 254 5252 (Enter the meeting ID, see above)

STATEMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC: To ensure timely delivery to commissioners, written testimony must be submitted before 12:00 noon on the business day prior to the meeting by (1) email to peter.sur@hawaiicounty.gov or (2) facsimiles to (808) 961-8086. When submitting written testimony, please specify for which agenda item it is being submitted. All written testimony will be part of the permanent record. Pursuant to HRS §92-3, interested persons who want to provide oral testimony may do so either at the time the Commission takes public statements on items on the agenda, or at the time the specific agenda item is called, subject to applicable statutes and rules of procedure.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 24, 2024¹

III. STATEMENT FROM THE VICE CHAIR

IV. PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. Adoption or restatement of position(s) regarding active legislation² pending in the 2024 session of the State Legislature to recommend to Mayor, Council, or DEM.³

¹ II: Jan 24, 2024 minutes: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/Docview.aspx?dbid=1&id=128684>

² V.1 – Active legislation: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/Docview.aspx?dbid=1&id=128665>

³ V.1 – Testimony: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/Browse.aspx?dbid=1&startid=128265>

VI. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence

- A. Letter from Wilson Okamoto Corp. dated January 23, 2024, regarding Notice of Availability for the Hilo Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation and Replacement Project.⁴

Reports of attendance pursuant to HRS 92-2.5(e)

- B. Wastewater infrastructure public engagement in West Hawai‘i– February 13, 2024
Reporting the attendance of Georjean Adams and Dorothy Norris
- C. Wastewater infrastructure public engagement in East Hawai‘i – February 15, 2024
Reporting the attendance of Laura Acasio, Dell Otsuka, and Erica Perez

Director’s Informational Report

1. Legislative update
 1. Res. 441-24 – Authorizing an agreement between COH and the U.S. EPA regarding upgrades to wastewater treatment facilities.
 2. Legislature update
2. Solid Waste Division Projects and Updates
 1. Recycling, Greenwaste, and Landfill Diversion updates
 2. Solid Waste Operational Study update
3. Wastewater Division Projects and Updates.
 1. Pāhala and Nā‘ālehu Large Capacity Cesspool Closure AOC
 1. Update on Pāhala LCC closure project
 2. Update on Nā‘ālehu LCC closure project
 2. Hilo WWTP upgrades
 3. Wastewater Plans
 1. Integrated Wastewater Management Planning
 2. Puakō and South Kohala Regional Wastewater Master Plan
 4. Wastewater rules status
4. Information requests to DEM from Commissioners
 1. Mulch program overview – logistics, volumes, needs (Otsuka)⁵
 2. Request for addition to Director’s Report an item for “Status on existing staff vacancies” (Otsuka, Adams)

VII. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Follow up on action items determined today.
2. Other (Commissioners may suggest items they would like placed on the next agenda.)

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting⁶ is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, at the Puna Conference Room of the Hawai‘i County Building, 25 Aupuni Street, in Hilo. Please contact the Board Secretary or

⁴ VI.A – Letter from Wilson Okamoto: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/Docview.aspx?dbid=1&id=128666>

⁵ VI.4.1 – Mulch data: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=128685>

⁶ VIII - 2024 EMC meeting schedule: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=126680>

review the agenda posted on the County Calendar⁷ within six days of the next meeting for confirmation.

The Commission will hold an election for the Chair and Vice Chair at its next meeting. (Commissioners seeking these positions may announce their intentions at this time.)

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Note: A meeting held by interactive conference technology shall be automatically recessed for up to 30 minutes to restore communication when audiovisual communication cannot be maintained with all members participating in the meeting or with the “in person” location identified in this agenda. The meeting may reconvene when either audiovisual communication is restored, or audio-only communication is established after an unsuccessful attempt to restore audiovisual communication. If it is not possible to reconvene the meeting as provided in this subsection within 30 minutes after an interruption to communication, the meeting will be in recess and will attempt to reconvene at 1:00 p.m. on the same day, using the same meeting ID listed on Page 1 of this agenda. If at that time a quorum of remote members and the in-person members are unable to establish and maintain at least an audio-only connection by 1:15 p.m., then the meeting shall be automatically terminated.

The regular meeting place is accessible to persons with disabilities. To request an auxiliary aid or language translation, please call (808) 961-8083 five days prior to the meeting date. Comments may be sent to the Department of Environmental Management, 345 Kekūanā‘a Street, Suite 41, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720, or emailed to cohdem@hawaiicounty.gov.

Notice to lobbyists: If you are a lobbyist, you must register with the Hawai‘i County Clerk within five days of becoming a lobbyist. [Chapter 2, Article 15, Section 2-91.3(b), Hawai‘i County Code.] A lobbyist means “any individual engaged for pay or other consideration who spends more than five hours in any month or \$275 in any six-month period for the purpose of attempting to influence legislative or administrative action by communicating or urging others to communicate with public officials.” [Chapter 2, Article 15, Section 2-91.3(a)(6), Hawai‘i County Code.] Registration forms and expenditure report documents are available at the Office of the County Clerk-Council, 25 Aupuni Street, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720.

⁷ VIII - County Calendar: <https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/our-county/county-calendar>