

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 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, October 30, 2024  
TIME: 9:00 a.m.  
IN PERSON: DEM West Hawai'i Office at Hanama Place,  
76-5706 Kuakini Highway, Suite 101, 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@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:peter.sur@hawaiiicounty.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 SEPTEMBER 25, 2024<sup>1</sup>**

#### **III. STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR**

#### **IV. PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

#### **V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Discussion/presentation with Carollo regarding Integrated Wastewater Management Plan<sup>2</sup>, public engagements, and cesspool conversion plan. *Postponed September 25, 2024.* (Adams)

<sup>1</sup> II. Draft minutes: <https://records.hawaiiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=140054>

<sup>2</sup> VI.3.4.1: IWWMP - <https://www.dem.hawaiiicounty.gov/projects/integrated-wastewater-management-plan>

2. Discussion with DEM regarding Inflow and Infiltration of water at the Hilo WWTP system and Wastewater Division's efforts to address it. *Postponed August 28, 2024, September 25, 2024.* (Acasio)

## **VI. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion with DEM about County advancing wastewater treatment upgrades and cesspool conversions through State capital improvement projects. (Perez)

## **VII. REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

- Sustainability Summit – Solid Waste Reduction Workshops (Adams)
- EMC letter to Council and Director supporting water technician certification programs.<sup>3</sup>
- Director's Informational Report<sup>4</sup>
  1. Legislative update
  2. Solid Waste Division Projects and Update
    1. Recycling, Greenwaste, and Landfill Diversion updates
    2. Solid Waste Operational Analysis update
  3. Wastewater Division Projects and Updates
    1. Pāhala and Nā'ālehu Large Capacity Cesspool Closure AOC<sup>5</sup>
    2. Hilo WWTP and collection system upgrades and extensions
    3. Countywide AOC submittal: Preliminary Priority Ranking for capital projects<sup>6</sup>
  4. Wastewater Plans
    1. Report by DEM on barriers to increasing public-private wastewater connections due to issues such as the *Konno decision* and other challenges.
  5. Status of existing staff vacancies and recent hires
  6. Questions from commissioners
    1. Wouldn't it be faster to purchase the land for the Nā'ālehu sewer plant rather than use eminent domain? (McIntosh)
    2. Is the Department of Research and Development putting together a Request for Proposals for Waste to Energy? (G. Adams)

## **VIII. 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.)

## **IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20, at the Puna Conference Room of the Hawai'i County Building, and via Zoom. Please contact the Board Secretary or review the agenda posted on the County Calendar within six days of the next meeting for confirmation.<sup>7</sup>

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

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<sup>3</sup> VII: EMC letter water tech certification- <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=140075>

<sup>4</sup> VII: Director's Report - <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=140118>

<sup>5</sup> VII.3.1: Ka'ū - <https://www.dem.hawaiicounty.gov/projects/pahala-na-alehu-large-capacity-cesspool-closures>

<sup>6</sup> VII.3.3: AOC submittal: <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/DocView.aspx?dbid=1&id=140076>

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

**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 Kekūanāo‘a Street, Suite 41, Hilo, Hawai‘i 96720, or emailed to [cohdem@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:cohdem@hawaiiicounty.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.