

WEST HAWAII FISHERY COUNCIL

<http://westhawaiifisherycouncil.org> WHFC@hawaii.rr.com

MISSION STATEMENT OF THE WEST HAWAII FISHERY COUNCIL “To effectively manage fishery activities to ensure sustainability; enhance nearshore resources; develop and implement management plans for minimizing resource depletion and conflicts of use; per legislative mandate to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to provide for substantive involvement of the community in resource management decisions; and encourage scientific research and monitoring of the nearshore resources and environment from Upolu Point to Ka Lae.”

Draft Minutes for Thursday, November 20, 2014

West Hawaii Civic Center Liquor Control Commission conference Room (2nd Floor of Building B, farthest mauka building) Presiding: Dale Sarver

Call to Order: 6:29 pm by Dale Sarver (Chair)

Reading and Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational Guidelines and posted at meeting.

- Read by Dale Sarver

*All questions from Council members must be recognized by the Chair.

*All questions/statements will be limited to topic oriented statements. Note that a short time has been added after each agenda item to discuss that item.

*Proxies: Each person asking someone to represent them by proxy will have to notify the administrator before the meeting as to who is going to represent them. There will be no call for proxies from the floor at the meeting.

No Role Call, list of members in attendance is listed below:

- Chad Wiggins, Charles Young, Dale Sarver, Linda Preskitt, Pat Cunningham, Donna Goodale, Tina Owens, David Dart, Cirilo “JR” Rosario, Malia Kipapa (proxy: Bob Hajek).

Introductions of Visitors Jamie Gove, Dana, Sierra Tobiason, Vern Yamanaka

Approval of Agenda

- Chad requested – motion to approve (items below) by Tina, Dale second motion.
 - o Move presentation for KMLAC to top of agenda
 - o Membership vote for Dana Riddle
 - o Update on Pilina forum at end of new business
- Approval of Minutes

Update from on Ka‘ūpūlehu Vern Yamanaka KMLAC Update

- Families go back 14/15 generations back from the area
- Public access was key which contributed to the decimations of marine population
- Families feel that its time to rest on the gathering of resources, its hard but its not the same as it was before for gathering.
 - Went to the Land Board to receive approval for scoping meetings and received approval in the October meeting.
 - Next meeting may be as soon as January.
 - Vern - Asked by KMLAC to come and ask for a formal letter of support for the next step in receiving plans to be approved by the land board. And also a letter to endorse the plans. If we can do a presentation on the updated plans then we can come and do a presentation for the council.
 - Tina – I don’t think that we approved to endorse the plans but don’t think it will be a problem.
 - Vern - Take was allowed for invasive species with a permit by DLNR.
 - Tina – I think it would be good to hear the plans from you folks so we can make a decision. If your hearing is scheduled in January I vote that we have a formal recommendation letter
 - Pat Cunningham – what makes this place important on the West Hawaii coast?
 - Vern Yamanaka – we encouraged KS to create a management plan from 1980 we had started our fish monitoring and water quality tests; long history of management efforts; combination of different things that bring us to this point now. Gathering of all different interests and making a decision.
 - Tina – there was a lawsuit over the dredging of the papa area; Kona Hawaiian Civic club and OHA and as settlement from case it required for the KMLAC to be formed to come up with a management plan, so court ordered.
 - Chad – we need to go back to the document that enables us to support efforts like this.
 - Charlie – on October 3rd hearing was held in Oahu but the request to get on the agenda was back in July. So there may be an extension of my suggestion would be to wait it out and see how far Ka’ūpūlehu makes it on the agenda.
 - Tina – Hā’ena getting it through so fast is mind boggling; with our rules after 10 years our WHF Rules being in DLNR’s hands before if was approved. I would like to take Donna’s suggestion to have presentation in December and agree on letter in January 2015.
 - Tina – motion is to move decision to support to January and have a presentation by Ka’ūpūlehu community; Donna second all in favor unanimously approved. Next meeting is December 11th in Building B.

Report on Kauai meeting Charles Young

- A lot of lobbying in Kauai, October 3rd the enormous efforts prior to the meeting, E Alu Pu (over 30 grassroots communities throughout the State – KUA is the agency) over 200 people in support all wearing the same shirts, families from Hā’ena, TNC. Our tactic was to own the building 4 people opposed a (2) few clauses and (2) no reasons. The families coming out to support made a really be impact. Frasier ran the meeting and did not take any questions. Meeting on the 24th carried over from the 3rd of October. Big difference between Hā’ena and Ka’ūpūlehu 188.26 designation supports Hā’ena’s ruling. Ka’ūpūlehu is asking to change rules instead, requested to have meeting in Kona. Chapter

91 allows for this additional rule making to happen. I would suggest that every board member step up and testify at the meeting. Family testimony really made a large impact on the decisions. We had one night alone to make sure that testimonies were from the heart and somewhat directed. Tommy Hashimoto is the po'o (leader) for Kauai, Aha Moku wrote letters of support.

- Chad - Aha Moku from Hawaii Island supported as well.
- At the hearing 4 people testified in opposition and contested.

Membership subcommittee

- Chad - 2 months ago JR and myself interviewed Dana Riddle. JR passed out the interview report.
 - Would like to make a motion to approve by Chad and second by Tina.
 - Linda – very supported with activities for marine conservation
 - Chad – if you are admitted, as a member is you able to sit with us, do you have anything to say?
 - Dana – I appreciate the nomination, I have full plate but willing to help and do what I can to help. It's taken me 15 years to realize why I've been here and now I know why.
 - Charlie – I've always been in opposition to fish collecting and look at it very badly, and don't agree with that, but I think that it's paramount that we have diversity on the council. In your comment pay "allegiance"?
 - Linda - Coral expert impresses me because of climate change and coral situation.
 - Pat – wastewater experience
 - Dana – responsible for sewage system in Kona.

Update on Coral Bleaching

- Linda Preskitt Update:
 - Kealakehe Bay coral issues and Wai 'ōpae serious fish die off may be from cesspools and have water quality tests and may be from the storm.
 - Coral bleaching to the rise in water temperature, partial tip bleaching. Keei and Wai 'ōpae. I had Malia send a link to everyone. The link will allow for you to register and receive emails from NOAA.
 - It seems to recover quickly but needs to monitor to see what happens after that.
 - Dave – is there a place to get an update on photos and bleaching?
 - Linda – yes, you can check photos out on the eyes of the reef website.
 - Dale when you say coral diseases is?
 - Linda – there are pathogens and bacteria, the way they exhibit disease depends.
 - JR – if there is a coral bleaching does other corals around it get bleached?
 - Linda – cauliflower and rice corals are more susceptible to disease; mounding coral is less susceptible to disease, once I see that happening that's when I have a concern.
 - JR – if they are too close does disease spread?
 - Linda – coral is simple and yes other coral can be affected if near infected bleached coral.

Discussion on Castle Foundation

- Tina - I have been talking to Malama Kai rep Carol who has been talking to Castle

foundation; Eric Co second in command to Terry in Castle Foundation. Talked about our support with fishing communities in South Kona and use it to support us with food for meetings. We have enough money to last us till June. No promises for funding passed June.

- Dale – I had a little feel of support after a letter is written.
- Tina – Carol doesn't know how it won't get accepted; grant was mostly for clerical, now its more for education they will see how we will use the money.
- Dale – I thought they were on the same track as we are with legislation, the conversation went to no take zone; one person said I don't know if we want to support something having to do with no take, not educated enough. We need to be careful what we talk about to Castle foundation, they are more for support of community rather then legislation.
- Tina – I think it's more like wording and how it's phrased sometimes.
- Charlie – DLNR had a meeting this weekend, and I met with Eric Co, they are really looking at community based fishing communities. I think that we represent our community and therefore we are aligned. Although like Hā'ena their rules were approved they had to vet out users and supporters to get to rules.
- Chad – as a TNC staff and worked with Eric Co, offered a lot of options on wording in KMLAC plan so it doesn't set off anyone.
- Linda – What is your take on Puako? Expected night take like turtles? That kind of emotion may lead to the community pushing for more protected areas.
 - o Chad – the main thing is to be ready for the next step to happen. The front of the newspaper is hear say. Talking about replacing cesspools in Puako.

Update on Recent County Council Meeting

- Dave - County Council meeting, Emily M. did her study on aquarium collecting for her graduate project. She collected 60 fish and sent to Hatfield aquarium where 2 years later the yellow tang is still alive. The County Council does not care about science data; Bill Walsh was not present so his testimony was not allowed to be read and was unusual because I read Bill Walsh's testimony at the meeting the month before. They had study that showed if you put a yellow tang in a 2 quart of water shows that they die. In the very end it was deferred, two on the council suggested to defer item so they could get more information.
 - o Dale – they wanted to get a ban bill through. Was his testimony accepted in writing?
 - o Tina & Dave – Bill did send in his testimony ahead of time
 - o Dave – 93% shows that yellow tang and kole tang are taken out, but have seen the numbers of fish increase.
 - o Tina – I would like to thank Donna for her sharp eyes; Snorkel Bob, Renee and Inga Gibson (human society); they did a study;
 - Donna – trailer header with a yellow tang and asked for testimony at the meeting.
 - Tina – bill to the County shipping of fish is inhuman, highest mortality because they are not fed before getting on the plane and not enough water in the bag. Don't know the industry. It's been more about I don't like aquarium fish collecting.
 - Chad – I go back to our mission statement; we don't necessary come up with the data, but we do need to ensure that our community is engaged.
 - Dale – I think as individuals we have a duty to say something.

- Charlie - I have been involved with this process and I know Renee well, 93% is Lau'ipala (yellow tang) or Kole (yellow eye kole) is taken out of the water. We relish that fish and don't agree of it being taken as part of our food chain fish. I would like to see the studies so I can see the facts. I think that this is a shared responsibility whether the County or the State, it all works together no separation. Development of land in the past has not been good, but I look at this to be a cross responsibility.
- Tina – I don't think that disinformation and lies is something to be based upon.
- Dave – complete white wash of what the industry is about.
- Dale – just keep us updated
- Chad – should we invite County Council folks to our meeting
 - Charlie – if two or more council members attend its in violation of the sunshine law, better to just have one council member.
- JR – if we can't call out the lies in the publication can we print truthful things in the paper?
- Dave – the more water and less oxygen during transportation of fish.
 - Charlie – is there any guidelines for shipping of fish transport?
 - Dave – best practices created from studies done in Micronesia.
 - Dale – we ship thousands of fish, they have this figured out. This is not reinventing the wheel its all standard.
 - Charlie – I think that if there is a written procedure I need the facts.

Discussion on Spearfishing Announcement (wording and image)

- Tina – I remember in September we wanted to make people aware of WHF Rules, so we were going to make flyers to give to DAR office so they can disperse.
 - Charlie – for wording “KAPU and ILLIGEL”
 - Dale made a motion to approve and Donna 2nd
 - Please remember Spearfishing on SCUBA is KAPU and ILLEGAL everywhere in West Hawai'i from Upolu Pt to Ka Lae (South Pt.)
 - Donna made a motion to take out please remember, 2nd by Tina
 - Pat – do we need to add DOCARE number
 - Dale – don't need because it's only to inform.
 - Chad – suggest call 643- DLNR for violations (Approved); Tina 2nd
 - All agreed unanimously to print as is
 - Spearfishing on SCUBA is KAPU and ILLEGAL everywhere in West Hawai'i from Upolu Pt to Ka Lae (South Pt.). Call 643-DLNR for any violations.

Announcements: Next meeting, December 11, 2014 in Building B, 2nd floor from 6:30p-8:30p.

Adjourn at 8:30pm motion made by Chad 2nd by Tina.