

WEST HAWAII FISHERY COUNCIL
<http://westhawaiifisherycouncil.org>
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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.”

Minutes for Thursday, July 16, 2015

West Hawaii Civic Center Community Hale

Presiding: Dale Sarver

Call to Order: 6:30pm

Reading and Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement

Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational Guidelines.

- *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.

Attendance of members:

- Dale Sarver, Tina Owens, Bill Walsh, Charles Young, Cirilo Rosario, Linda Preskitt (Proxy for Chad Wiggins) and Malia Kipapa.

Introductions of Visitors - no visitors

Approval of Minutes – made a motion approved as amended by Tina Owens, second by Charles Young

- Correct Chad’s name and spelling of bait

Approval of Agenda – motion made by Tina Owens to add to agenda elections for new chairs at the end of the year, Charles made a second motion. Agenda approved.

Business:

- 1) Discuss the Ho’okena project further regarding what our next steps (if any) is to help further their project along.
 - a. Charles – Thank you everyone for the feedback from the last meeting, went back to community to share the feedback. The concerns are still the same with the Ko’a. Been working with Miloli’i for years to designate a fishery management area because the fisherman is generally all the same

people. Some of the rationale for the closure, bigger issue is if we can work out this plan with Miloli'i

- i. Tina – does Miloli'i have a plan?
 1. Charles – not that I know of but they did close seven Ko'a and currently collecting data from Ko'a area, I think this work needs to be vetted by DAR. Seasonal issue, need to take small steps. It will most likely take three months to set up meetings, trying to establish a regional council and see how DLNR and DAR can work with us and find a spokesperson for the community to better manage discussion.
 - a. Tina – I think starting with the opelu ko'a is good start. As long as they are in the West Hawaii Fishery Management area
 - b. Dale – how are they able to do this
 - c. Charles- trying to refute the rumor that this is exclusive, and trying to explain to DLNR that this rule package will include this.
 - d. Tina – will need to do homework like Kaupulehu and go to different communities to share before you get into any public hearing process.
 - e. Cirilo – how much area you folks are talking about for the closure?
 - f. Charles – Miloli'i and Ho'okena have different ways of designating within their fishing grounds only.
 - g. Cirilo – if you only target one opelu ko'a you might get it.
 - h. Dale – I think you don't need to wait four years you can start monitoring now, for example opihi.
 - i. Tina – for our rule package they packaged it because they put everything together. You may not have control over this just as they packaged our rules will most likely be similar.
 - j. Charles – I think with our FRA here and working with DAR it gives us some advantage.
 - k. Tina – Kaupulehu watching our rule package and the process and how it just sits on the governor's desk, you folks and Kaupulehu will need to have some political push to get things through. The governor doesn't know the value but be prepared and talk to your political leaders.
 1. Linda – why was the rep from Kaua'i against Ha'ena's rule?
 - i. Charles – business conflicts, he was designated by Ige

- ii. Tina – in our case we were lucky to get the ear of the lieutenant governor, because he is still in that position.
 - iii. Linda – looks like we need lobbyist.
 - iv. Charles – we started an online survey;
 - m. Dale – any rumors about this from Kau'i?
 - i. Charles – smaller group of fisherman that mostly taape and are part time fisherman, because the rule bands all fishing the fisherman want exceptions, they want permits to fish taape; they also use chlorinated techniques.
 - ii. Dale – Kaupulehu can fish with permit.
 - iii. Charles – Yes, Ha'ena doesn't mind allowing for these permits but want the governor to sign off on the Ha'ena fishing rules.
 - 2. Dale – you can do a state wide motion to make general laws that cover the state or you can do a more regional effort.
 - a. Tina – they are doing this across the state mainly due to the scuba fishing rule.
- 2) Haena rules package
 - Do we know what aspects of the proposed rule package are causing hesitation by the Governor? Do any of these issues have relevance to the Ho'okena efforts?
- 3) Funding
 - What do we need to do regarding extension of our support from the Castle Foundation?

We had close to \$5000, asked if we can prepay Malia for the rest of the year. Carol gave me Eric Co and I called him and he said that the grant should have been done last year. What can we do about Malia? He asked how much money left, I said \$3000 will go towards newspaper and use the balance to pay Malia. Eric wants to use it up till the end of year, there is like \$16 left after adding the newspaper ads and to pay Malia. We will use the balance to purchase paper clips. We need to close it out before they can grant us anymore money.

 - o Dale - Why do we have to spend it till it's gone?
 - Tina – that is how Castle works and we need to completely close account to zero before we can get another grant.
 - o Tina – original budget was supposed to be for meeting sites, clerical work mainly. If we can structure this grant where we can include a much broader range of our activities, not sure if they'll accept this
 - Dale – last conversation we need to keep it general
 - Tina – yes, outreach and newspaper is good
 - Donna - I like the shark signs and information being advertised. I like the bold colors in the sports section.
 - Tina – yes I think putting rules out there boldly it helps to

- inform the public of rules
- Donna – I think educational approaches are good, example yellow tang facts
- Tina – anyone knows how to write grants?
 - Linda – they want it specific for grants, I know Castle you can't really go there for operation costs, I can help with structuring co-writing is something I usually do. Submit a letter of intent, when they respond they tell you to apply for the grant
 - Charles – maybe the state would be able to help, this council has successful stuff to show. Maybe put it in a legislative package and have it in perpetuity.
 - Dale – may need to do it in a more general fashion because others from outside may not like it
 - Tina – I'm hoping that Tarnes will be elected and this is his baby and if he gets in he would support us.
 - Charles – Hawaii Community Foundation, don't be shy to include the overhead, that's what drive their success.
 - Tina – I think that with that as a possibility can't count on it for next year. We need to really look at what we want to use it for
 - Linda – I can help with this, it's not called overhead it's called capacity building; what about Hawaii Community Foundation and HTA, they have always been good and have an environmental fund.
 - Tina – I think I should get a website counter.
 - Linda – you can go through google but only problem is the upkeep. As far as the grants go, we need to have some kind of projects or goals that we are working towards would be good to have online
 - Charles – just having monthly meetings is a lot
 - Dale – what about funding some short information on the public television station.
 - Linda – example maybe information about no fish take areas would be good to have in the newspaper.
 - Tina – I don't think Castle
 - Dale – I think Castle just doesn't want to be in the middle of controversial issues.
 - Linda – what about sponsoring presentations that will sponsor talks like Reef Talk
 - Tina – Please think of ideas of what we can use grant money for.
 - Dale – what if we could give a student college credits for coming the meetings every month and giving feedback at the meetings. Do a presentation on what the council does and the issues.
 - Linda – I can try and talk to Matt; you're talking about

more of about an independent study. They would have to do a lot of background research.

- Tina – they will need to do research and disseminate information.

4) Membership

- Any response from the newspaper ads?
 - No response
- Any other ideas to entice people to join?
 - Dale - we haven't really went for specific user groups
 - Donna – we don't have any contentious issues right now
 - Tina – wonder if we do an interview and talk about what we are currently trying to accomplish would be good.
- Donna – what about a story about Ho'okena?
- Charles – I think an article about success stories may draw some interests, and can explain point by point how the council works through these conflicts would be good. This way people can see the challenges, we are losing ground again, as I look out into the ocean.
- Donna – you didn't mention anything about aquarium fish collecting will that be allowed?
- Charles – it's an FRA that's why. I think the FRA has been successful. In south Kona the fisherman are very concerning. I think maybe we should as to interview Ha'ena and talk about the process and what is holding it up, I think the reluctance of Hawaiian customary rights is exclusive but it's not. Aha Moku doesn't understand because they are mostly commercial fisherman.
- Tina – maybe we can have kind of a symposium and have some else sponsor to talk about marine protected areas and make an announcement that we will need to do something about it, we have been doing this for 17 years.
- Linda – I've gone to some mapping workshops were good. We can look at user conflicts.
- Cirilo – you think NOAA would give funding?
- Tina – they would but it would have to go to Malama Kai first.
- Linda – Darla in Maui did a resiliency workshop, is there something we can use from this that can apply to establishing MPA?
- Bill – may be too academic. If the by-line would be “this meeting will determine the no take zone in Ho'okena” will get people's attention.
- Dale – need to get people's attention
- Bill – there are signs and sites are being allocated as no take zones and FRA but it's not being mandated. Just that fact that it needs to be done will open interesting dialogue. If someone is willing to take up this issue and give it a little weight.
- Tina – DLNR is to establish these things, but they need to have substantive community involvement; if we pressure on Case she may come to symposium.
- Linda – will we get support?

5) Discussion of Chairs for next year

- Dale – send out in the minutes that the positions of the current chairs is done at the end of the year and need to find other chair(s) for next year.

Announcements: Next meeting site is the same place

Adjourned at 8:09pm unanimously