

WEST HAWAI'I FISHERY COUNCIL
<http://westhawaiiifisherycouncil.org>

**MISSION STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL WEST HAWAI'I
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 16, 2017
West Hawai'i Civic Center
Liquor Control Room (2nd floor of Building B)
5:30pm - 7:30pm
Presiding Chair: Chad Wiggins

Call to Order: 5:36pm

Council Members: Mike Nakachi (Proxy for Alohi), Healani Cahill, Donna Goodale, Chad Wiggins (co-chair), Charlie Young & Malia Kipapa

Guest Attendees: Jubal Howard, Matt Ramsey, Dan Mersbergh (DOBOR), Chris Funada, & Lisa Vollbrecht.

- Reading and Interpretation of WHFC Mission Statement- read by Mike Nakachi
- Reiteration by the Chair of the meeting protocols from WHFC Policies and Operational
- Guidelines and posted at meeting.
 - o All questions from Council members must be recognized by the Chair
 - o All questions/statements will be limited to topic-oriented statements.
 - o Note that a short time has been added after each agenda item to discuss each item.
 - o 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.
- Introductions
- Approval of Agenda
 - o Chad made a motion to amend agenda – 2nd by Mike, motion carried and approved
 - Add approval of minutes
 - Add approval of the new members Chris and Lisa
- Approve Minutes – Donna motion to approve and Mike 2nd motion carried and approved.
- Approval of (2) new members
 - o Charlie – I like Chris's background in spearfishing, born in Hilo and now lives in West Hawai'i. I support him joining the council. Impressed with

what's important to him and we are encouraging the younger generations to join the council. A lot of opportunity for everyone with him on the council.

- Malia – I support them as new members and know that they will be great additions to the team on the council.
- Chad – benefit and utility for having him on the council
- Mike – what kind of free diving and spearfishing; for example of the Ulua Tokunaga tournaments
 - Chris – participate in the Roi round up before I do more commercial and for home intake fishing.
 - Mike – East or West?
 - Chris – East Hawai'i is cheaper than West Hawai'i.
- Chad – I want to make a motion to accept Chris as a member – everyone agreed and motion was supported, carried and approved Chris Funada's membership.
- Chad – next member Lisa
 - Charlie – I feel the same way about her, like her willingness to learn, her most important thing about fishery is she likes to eat it, food source. I would be voting in support.
 - Malia – I am in support of
 - Chad – being compassionate is a key and I we do have a representative for the aquaculture side Dale, but he has given a lot of time to the council and wat
 - Mike – what kind of aquaculture do you do?
 - Lisa – marine fin fish; Kampachi forms – we do research.
 - Chad – made a motion to accept Lisa into the council – all members agreed, motion carried and approved Lisa Vollbrecht membership.

Discussion:

- Dolphin Issue – NOAA & State to meet and talk about this issue.
 - Mike – I think the meeting went well; I want to let you know that DOCARE has been in the water checking out people interacting with the dolphins. Seems like there is some kind of whistle blower, they should have a consistent presence. Managing people is the problem.
 - Charlie – I think we need to discuss it more with DOBOR & DOCARE; yes and its community based management through training then delivering.
 - Mike I think it's the engagement part that is important- invite DOCARE and DOBOR, they need to hear it from here from a broad range of constituents. I think we need to just keep calling them from the council and invite them. The more they get involved it creates transparency.
 - Healani – referred to the Honaunau meeting minutes about NOAA not being responsive to the communities' requests.
 - Charlie – JEA that needs to be enforced; as a department when the state goes to NOAA they don't find the enforcement part doesn't seem

- important to them. NOAA will give you the mirror what DOCARE says.
- Healani – decades ago talked about safe zones but waiting on NOAA.
 - Charlie – I will get someone from DOCARE, DOBOR & NOAA and we will have that out-station meeting at Puka’ana Church for the February 2018 meeting.
 - Chad – I can reach out to some NOAA folks too they might be here
 - Mike – I can help as well; problem is when everyone has a commercial permit there is no one there to tell them this is what you can do with you permit is not there; the Naia are not as healthy as they use to be.
 - Charlie – maybe that’s the subject; what are interagency doing to address these conflicts of use in the ocean. I think we should invite the dolphinville folks.
 - Chad – there was a commercial boat recently cited and fined for dolphin harassment.
 - Mike – it would be good to see how enforcement quantifies the fines.
 - Chad – should be find a facilitator maybe an impartial facilitator
 - Charlie – I think it would be good to have
 - Healani – I think it would be good to keep us on point
- Budget
- Chad – we have 6 weeks to use \$4800 for outstation meetings
 - Donna – where is the brochures? Are we going to print
 - Charlie – I’ve been printing as I need.
 - Mike – someone needs to maybe manage the FB site and accounts; trademarks can be paid for \$25.
 - Chad – maybe spending money on branding/outreach material – hats, stickers, shirts.
 - Lisa – trademarks can protect you design
 - Chad – any preference to go local or go with an Oahu vendor for \$3000
 - Mike – Mele Mcfearson – she speaks fluent Hawaiian and she can provide you with a label that can provide you with a good sense of place. Range is \$800-\$1000. She works at Kukio and runs all the children program.
 - Charlie – I think we should leave this to the Nakachi clan to think of the best person.
 - Mike – Mele will do rendering first and then we can pay her.
 - Chad – we could have food at our next meeting? And invite the community to come out.
 - Charlie – do we have a venue?
 - Chad – I spoke to a community leader in North Kohala
 - Healani – I would like to see if we can do one outstation each quarter
 - Chad – spend remaining balance on shirts, hats, logo, and ads for announcements and food for the December meeting.
 - Take a vote – all agreed motion carried unanimously

- Next Outstation Meeting
 - December 21, 2017 – 5:30- Kapa’au – N. Kohala outstation meeting – maybe at Kamehameha Park. Members be there at 5pm.
- Aquarium fishing situation. Do we get involved?
 - Charlie – do we know what DLNR’s stance on this is? We don’t really need to go anywhere with this because we need to wait on DLNR.
 - Chad – Bruce did say that an EIS will need to be done to meet the letter of the law.
 - Donna – the idea of having an EIS for a fishery? Did anyone in the aquarium fishing community challenged them on this?
 - Chad – this is broad but they
 - Jubal – my understanding is only small mesh net?
 - Charlie – yes it relates to the permitting of aquarium fish collecting using mesh net
 - Jubal – so they can use other methods just as long as it’s not small mesh nets
 - Mike – been going on for 40 years, a lot of us have been talking about aquarium fish collecting – need to be in compliance with direct
 - Jubal – what if I chose to use a sucker compared to a mesh net because I have a commercial permit, there is multiple methods on collecting they need to pass a new statute.
 - Mike – they need to do an EIS
 - Jubal – it’s not in your court right now
 - Chad – the ruling has approved the permits and if they make an assessment they need to follow.
 - Mike – Hawaiian environmental protection act has been violated
 - Lisa – you said that they were in violation of the Hawaiian environmental protection act
 - Mike – I think it’s what’s best for our community.
 - Healani – it’s about the survival rate of fish during export
 - Donna – there has been research on packing of fish a Masters Study done by Emily S. Munday at Washington State University (just a testimony I was able to find); I’m sure there was a learning curve
 - Mike – our Hawai’i collectors were the best in techniques – their practice was little more sensitive compared to other places globally. They were trying to get the MAC approval for better grade of fish.
 - Charlie – the emotions still are as high as it was 40 years ago – the rulings (FRA) have increased the population of certain fish and it has increased. There are a lot of activities that exist and there needs to be a broader look at it. Investing money in something harmful is not a good investment. Pakuikui is still on the white list. AQ is only going to be symbiotic.

- Chad – we will look for what the state agrees
- Mike – this process is not done. Transparency will go a really long way and we need to do it right.
- Annual Planning meeting for December...Date and Site?
 - Chad – accomplished all the goals that we set out to do this year
 - Created a presentation for the community
 - Did 3 outstation meetings
 - Want to set the meeting in January
 - Chad – Hey Dan Mersbergh do you have anything you want to share?
 - Dan – I'll try to come to the meetings I was invited so I came.
 - Charlie – we will be having a meeting in February at Puka'ana Church – I just wanted to put that on your agenda and give you a heads up. If you can see how we can bridge the gap between the state and federal agencies that would be helpful.

Announcements:

- Next meeting will be in Kohala, details forthcoming.

Adjourn at 7:30pm – Donna made a motion to adjourn – Healani 2nd the motion, motion carried and approved; 7:10pm meeting adjourned.