

Legislative Federal Economic Stimulus Program Oversight Commission

7/13/10

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I. Meeting called to order- 10:05 AM

Members present-

Kyle Chock- appointee of the Senate President
Ed Kemp- appointee of Senator Hemmings
Aaron Johanson- appointee of the House Minority Leader
Jennifer Sabas- appointee of Senator Inouye
Michael Kitamura- appointee of Senator Akaka
Senator Shan Tsutsui- Senate member

Members not present-

Kate Stanley- appointee of the Speaker of the House
Representative Michael Magaoay- House of Representatives member
Mark Anderson- appointee of the Governor
Josh Wisch- appointee of Congresswoman Hirono

Others present- Keira Kamiya- office of Senator Tsutsui; Ted Baker- Legislative Reference Bureau; members of the public

II. Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the Commission's meeting of 6/22/10 were approved without changes

III. General Business

There was no General Business conducted

IV. Overview of Federal Stimulus Funds

A. Presentation by the County of Hawaii by Kevin Dayton, Chrystn Eads, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

1. Highlights

- \$115 million in ARRA funding, acquired through various channels, will be spent in the County; some competitive grant applications remain outstanding
- Agriculture: \$99 thousand (design and construction of commercial kitchen to cook and process value-added agricultural products)
- Energy: \$647 thousand community development block grant (solar hot water heating retrofits in Waimea senior housing and site preparation for first Neighbor Island in-patient hospice facility); \$5.3 million (Hilo federal

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building upgrades - seismic retrofit, disability access, and historic preservation); \$738 thousand (energy efficient street lights, residential energy audits, public education, and county facility energy conservation); \$837 thousand (low income homeowner energy weatherization retrofits including solar hot water heaters, energy efficient lighting, low-flow shower heads, and "smart" power strips)

- Employment: \$1.3 million (Workforce Investment Grant to train adults, dislocated workers, and youth); \$1.1 million (Workforce Development Grant to provide summer employment to 400 youth ages 14 to 23)
- Health: \$16 million (Award through the Beacon Community Program to the UH Hilo College of Pharmacy for health records pilot project); \$1.44 million (program/facility improvements for various health centers/programs); \$805 thousand (health care information technology improvements)
- Habitat restoration: \$2.7 million (Kohala Watershed Partnership)
- Highways: \$35 million (Mid-Level Road); \$4 million (bridge maintenance)
- Human Services: \$708 thousand (homeless prevention and job training); \$80 thousand (meals for the elderly); \$54 thousand (emergency food assistance); \$3.6 million (public housing improvements); \$1.98 million (Hawaii County Economic Opportunity Council: dropout prevention, language arts, ride-to-work, summer school tuition, and financial education); and \$3.3 million (senior housing)
- Mass transit: \$977 thousand (buses/shelters)
- Public Safety: \$366 thousand (Byrne Memorial JAG to police/prosecutors); \$4 million (fire station construction & equipment); \$138 thousand (DLNR firebreak); unspecified amount (TSA security improvements at Hilo airport); \$100 thousand (victim assistance); \$99 thousand (Byrne Memorial JAG courthouse booking project); unspecified amount (domestic violence prosecution)
- Water/Wastewater: \$4.7 million (drinking water); \$7.5 million (sewer)
- Other Federal: \$8.6 million (Volcanoes National Park and Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge); \$2.6 million (Bradshaw Airfield and Pohakuloa Training Area); \$3.3 million (volcano monitoring equipment at Hawaii Volcanoes Observatory); \$2.7 million (Small Business Administration loans)

2. Discussion

- The EIS for the fire station construction project had to be updated and should be completed by Fall 2010; the number of jobs retained/created attributed to this project are for both construction and staffing of the station
- Steps are being taken to quantify the beneficial impact of green energy projects; although HELCO now has excess generation capacity, the county is the largest energy user on Hawaii Island \so projects like energy efficient lighting help reduce its costs
- ARRA money being spent in the county is being expended over an extended period so the anticipated "cliff effect" should be less severe

B. Presentation by the County of Maui by Fred Pablo, Budget Director, Office of the Mayor

1. Highlights

- County has received \$16.5 million in ARRA funds for 23 projects, \$15.3 million by competitive grant and \$1.2 million by formula distribution, with 200 jobs saved or created so far
- Direct grants were received from the U.S. Department of Energy (\$605 thousand (\$555 thousand for energy audits of 12 County Facilities followed by installation of photovoltaic panels (PV) and \$50 thousand for a feasibility study for converting waste to energy)) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (\$553 thousand Community Development Block Grant (\$300 thousand for renovation of Food Bank warehouse and \$242 thousand for renovation of Easter Seals facility)
- Maui Police Department: \$ 400 thousand (computer upgrade, Community Violence Prevention Coordinator, Hawaii Narcotics Task Force, and Statewide Marijuana Task Force)
- Maui Department of the Prosecuting Attorney: \$435 thousand (juvenile prosecution program, domestic violence investigator, and sexual assault victim counseling)
- Maui County Office on Aging: \$58 thousand (Home Delivered Meals and Congregate Meals)

- Maui Department of Environmental Management, Wastewater Division: \$6.1 million (\$1.1 million for wastewater reclamation facility reinforcement and \$5 million for upgrade of four aging pump stations)
- Maui Department of Water Supply: \$3.6 million (\$2.2 million for waterline replacement and \$1.4 million for tank replacement)
- State DLIR Workforce Investment Act funds to various providers for Adult, Youth and Dislocated Workers Program: \$578 thousand
- Maui Department of Public Works (highways): \$2.7 million (street improvements and road resurfacing)
- Maui Department of Transportation: \$977 thousand (three buses)

2. Discussion

- Positions funded with ARRA monies will be supported with new money after ARRA or the employees will be moved to vacated positions
- The county didn't encounter barriers to use of ARRA funds and none of its applications for funds were denied
- The job number estimate does not include the more difficult to quantify number of jobs created in the private sector
- The new buses will serve new and expanded routes with ridership having increased in the past 3 years
- The police department has additional grant applications pending

C. Presentation by the County of Kauai by Ann Marie Wooton on behalf of the Mayor

1. Highlights

- The county has \$13.9 million in ARRA funding
- The State DOT is managing \$16 million in highway projects including resurfacing and widening
- The county is collaborating with the State Department of Health on the Communities Putting Prevention to Work program with \$3.4 million going to various providers for obesity reduction efforts

- The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney has a total of five ARRA grants for training, victim assistance, and drug, property crime, domestic violence prosecution
- The Office of Economic Development has two grants for workforce investment and energy efficiency
- The Office of Elderly Affairs has two grants for home meals delivered to the elderly and for an elderly fitness program
- The Kauai County Housing Agency has a HUD/CDBG grant to improve two Head Start program facilities and for park ADA improvements
- The Kauai County Transportation Agency has a grant for bus purchases
- The Public Works Department has a \$7.4 million grant for wastewater treatment facility capacity expansion
- The Parks and Recreation Department has a \$4.1 million grant for a portion of the shared use coastal path project
- The county has received capital improvement bond interest subsidies through the Build America Bond program that has advanced a variety of projects
- The county has a pending grant application to fund additional police officer positions

2. Discussion

- The jobs saved/created estimate does not include private sector jobs
- Funding for various building projects has been obligated but additional steps are necessary before the funds can be expended
- The BAB interest subsidy was difficult to get and many applicants were denied

V. Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from members of the public present at the meeting.

VI. Adjournment

With a reminder that the next meeting would be held on July 27, 2010, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

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