

CESSPOOL CONVERSION WORKING GROUP (CCWG)

Main Group - Meeting Agenda

Date: April 20, 2021

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Webinar

Call in Details: Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83343892407>

Meeting ID: 833 4389 2407

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Members Present:

Sina Pruder (SP)
Ted Bohlen (TB)
Michael Mezzacapo (MM)
Stuart Coleman (SC)
Jason Kagimoto (JK)
Darren Lerner (DL)
David Smith (DS)
Eric Nakagawa (EN)
Kawika Winter (KW)
Erica Perez (EP)
Wesley Yokoyama (WY)

Christina Comfort (CC)
Sasha Helfner (SH)
Nancy McPherson (NM)

Members Not Present:

Representative Nicole Lowen (NL)
Senator Kalani English (KE)
Elizabeth Char (EC)
Ken Hiraki (KH)
Lani Fernandez (LF)
Ramzi Mansour (RM)

Guests:

Cari Ishida (CI)
Joachim Schneider (JS)

Facilitation Support:
Christin Reynolds (CR)

AGENDA

- A. Call to Order by TB at 1:02pm
- B. Approval of March 30th meeting minutes
 - a. No comments from group or public for adjustments.
 - b. TB moves to approve meeting minutes as drafted, MM seconds motion
 - i. All members raised hands for “aye”
 - ii. No oppositions
- C. Financing and Funding – Federal Connections
 - a. Discussion about Funding that is already available and new federal funding that could be possible.
 - b. One of the critical needs for funding is for planning and design of the cesspool conversion program. Need to solve how to distribute funds down

to the homeowner level. Look at examples such as Craft 3 and other models.

- c. The federal funding does tend to follow traditional pathways such as SRF and go towards centralized models, but there is increasing awareness of other models being needed.
 - d. Question about what connections to Environmental Finance Center were created around the financing workshop in January 2020.
 - i. Connection established, potential resource for future based on the alignment of need and skillsets.
 - e. Question about if the nearshore water pollution study at UH would inform where infrastructure is most needed?
 - i. Update will be provided to DOH this month and will present to the working group as well soon after.
 - f. When it comes to the funding landscape we need to be coordinated and portray solid team of collaborators across the board.
 - g. Question about what the mandate is from the Legislature in terms of solving the Cesspool challenge?
 - i. Goal this year is to sequence Data and Prioritization, Technology and Finance and providing recommendations that we do know.
 - ii. It is clear that there is a disconnection in how we are set up to receive funding and how the funding is available, so we do need to address the structural concerns of program development for cesspool conversions.
 - iii. Don't expect to solve everything, can call out the remaining gaps in our report.
 - h. Organization models
 - i. Wai putting together a non-profit/ private model
 - ii. Considering a public sector based model as well
 - iii. Hold on finance subgroup meeting to pick up this discussion on next steps with organizational models and distributed funding.
 - i. Funding themes
 - i. Climate change is a driver for different models in wastewater, cesspool conversion can also serve the dual purpose of building wastewater resilience in the face of climate change and prevents wastewater pollution being brought to the surface in the future with rising water tables.
 - ii. DHHL provided data on where cesspools are in Hawaiian Homelands, can be part of the conversation and continue to integrate with the work. Funding pathways to DHHL may be easier to obtain based on the understanding of federal priorities.
- D.** Updates on complimentary initiatives
- a. Moved to next meeting.
- E.** Questions and Comments
- a. No additional questions or comments
- F.** Adjournment at 2:01pm