

CENTRAL MAUI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m., at the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Kahului Field Office.

Present

Directors: Dan Clegg, Darren Strand, and Mae Nakahata
Associates: Randall Moore, Richard Sylva, Michael Reyes, and Yarrow Flower
Maui SWCD Employees: Jason Hew, and Maggie Kramp

II. Minutes of April 24, 2018

Darren Strand moved to accept the minutes of April 24, 2018, seconded by Mae Nakahata, motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

The directors acknowledged receipt of the treasurer's report via email.

IV. Correspondence

In regards to budget and what we do, the SWCDs need to work on education and better communications with the County and State.

V. Watershed Plan – Presentation by Michael Reyes

A. Southwest Maui Watershed Plan

The original Southwest Maui Watershed Plan Project ended in 2013. The project was funded through EPA 319 grant funds, in the amount of approximately \$200,000.

December 2015, Greg Takeshima from DOH Clean Water Branch informed Richard Sylva that the South West Maui Watershed was not given priority status due to four major deficiencies in the watershed plan.

County funding became available February 2017 (\$44,000 with Tri-Isle RC&D as the fiscal sponsor, which ended October 2017) and July 2017 (\$27,900 with West Maui SWCD as fiscal sponsor). County funding for this project ends June 30, 2018.

February 2017 to October 2017, Michael Reyes worked to address the four deficiencies presented by DOH CWB by using their department personnel approved methods. The Draft SMWP addressing the four deficiencies was submitted to Greg Takeshima on October 6, 2017. December 2017, DOH admitted to not reviewing the updated version during a conference call with Greg Takeshima and Mike Burke. The draft plan was resubmitted in January 2018, only to learn that Greg Takeshima had left the department.

Feedback on the Draft SMWP addressing the four deficiencies that was submitted October 2017 was finally received on March 20, 2018 from DOH. Darcey Iwashita was assigned to review the plan, and deemed the entire 2013 SMWP to be unacceptable. Since receiving the watershed plan evaluation, Michael Reyes started to rewrite the plan to focus on the nine elements required of a watershed plan as requested by Darcey.

Funding to complete this project ends June 30, 2018. The District did not receive County funding for FY 2019 for watershed planning, and no other funding sources have been identified. In the meantime, Michael Reyes plans to continue to work on getting the plan approved.

Director Comments:

- A timeline and dollar amount that is needed to complete the SMWP.
- According to David Goode, County funding is available.
- We don't want another mixed up with County funded – SWCD daily operations.
- We need to get County Council understand that the watershed planning funds is a proviso.

B. Maalaea Watershed Plan to Address Issues Affecting Kealia Pond, Maalaea Bay, and Maalaea Harbor

Richard Sylva and Michael Reyes met with US Fish & Wildlife Service biologists from Kealia Pond, individuals from Maui Nui Marin Resource Council, and Tapani Vuori from the Maui Ocean Center regarding the Maalaea Watershed Plan.

Tapani Vuori, MOC hired Robin Knox to begin developing a watershed plan, and is focused on their NPDES permitting constraints. Robin is in the process of developing a steering committee and forming a water advisory group.

Michael Burke, DOH CWB refuted a statement that was published in the Maui Times on May 6, 2018, *DOH/CWB has asked us to put a consortium of community stakeholders together along with writing the watershed management plan.*

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council believe the District would be better suited to prepare the Maalaea Watershed Plan and has expressed their concern. Individual businesses pursuing watershed plans may be biased.

MOC has dedicated staff working to produce sediment and nutrient loading models for the entire watershed. Due to their NPDES permit constraints, they are focusing on sediment and inorganic nitrogen (nitrate+nitrite) typically associated with agricultural fertilizer.

Many of the CMSWCD stakeholders will be affected by the proposed Maalaea Watershed Plan and should be made aware of the current efforts underway so that they may included in the process.

Due to budget cuts, CMSWCD will no longer be actively participating in watershed planning efforts beginning July 2018.

Director Comments:

- With conflicting reports and potential bias, it would've been more valuable to have MOC hire CMSWCD to work on the Maalaea Watershed Plan.

Other Questions/Concerns regarding the SMWP and MWP:

- SMWP - List versus time lapse
- What are the implications with both projects?
- Watershed planning is an ongoing process. Does CMSWCD want to continue to be involved?

Michael Reyes to send Power Point presentation and checklist to the board, and will ask DOH to keep him informed about the MOC MWP.

VI. Other Business

A. SWCD Outreach – Communications on Who We are and What We Do

Most of the outreach materials are from Maui. It was suggested to get HACD involved, and invite Michelle Watkins to the next CMSWCD meeting.

Concerns: The conservation planners are already strapped, and won't be able to fully serve the public. Funding is also an issue.

B. Tri-Isle RC&D Board

A representative from CMSWCD is still needed to replace Richard Sylva. Richard Sylva will talk to John Tomoso about having a RC&D board member

join CMSWCD as an associate director in hopes that person could be the District's representative.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Submitted by



Mae Nakahata
Secretary

Meeting Recorder: Maggie Kramp