

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. at the National Tropical Botanical Garden with a quorum.

**PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Peter Tausend (Presiding); David Smith; Blaise Boyle

**Associate Directors:** Bailey Clay, Jon Ching

**Others:** Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Rebekah Magers, District Assistant; Wally; Genoa Starrs, NRCS Soil Conservationist; Paul Togioka

**REVIEW OF AGENDA:** Addition to the agenda under **IV. REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**, A. New Conservation Plan (1)

**REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS:**

**A. New Conservation Plan:** Producer introduced himself and presented his Conservation Plan Blaise made a motion to approve the Conservation Plan/David seconded. the motion was unanimously accepted, the Conservation Plan was approved.

**MINUTES:** Blaise motioned/ David seconded to approve the Minutes from 12/18/18; the motion was unanimously accepted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** David presented the Treasurer's Report for 1/15/19 to be placed on file.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Peter distributed the correspondence folder.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Garden Island RC&D Report:**

**Report for East and West Kauai Soil & Water Conservation Districts**  
**December 3, 2018**

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**For 12/6/18-9/30/20: President Owen S. Moe, Vice President Gilbert P. Kea**  
**Treasurer Ed Kawamura, Secretary Gary Ueunten**

Meetings for 2018: Monday 3:30 – 5:30 pm at KIUC Conference Room

Feb 5, Apr 2, Jun 4, Aug 6, Oct 1, Annual: Dec 3 (Kalapaki Villas)

***Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC):*** Tiffini Keanini received 2 grants from the County. The rosy parakeet problem is under discussion though more studies are being planned.

***Kauai Landscape Industry Council (KLIC)*** Arbor Day was a success with 1200 plants.

***Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Program (KFBRP)*** Cali Crampton is promoting Mosquito Eradication for the birds Indiegogo promo.

***Kokee Resource Conservation Program (KRCP):*** KRCP got an HTA grant award for \$30,000. Check out: [www.krccp.org](http://www.krccp.org) Katie Cassel who is considering semiretirement in 2019 to focus on funding referrals or donations or partnerships.

*Makawahi Cave* assisted with creating wetlands for the Dairy with the \$125,000 legal settlement of the Dairy. Additional funding is from Grove Farm Foundation. See: [www.cavereserve.org](http://www.cavereserve.org)

*Malama Hikana`akala Heiau* is led by Henry Kula Schumacher who with many volunteers & friendships accomplished clearing and redesigning this sacred area.

*Papahanamokuakea Song & Book* activity is pending.

**Savannah Katulski and Tiffani Keanini joined our board after the Annual Board Meeting on 12/3/18!**

Garden Island RC&D is still interested in assisting with conservation plans training.

Website [www.gircd.org](http://www.gircd.org)

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. NRCS Report:** Genoa Starrs reported on behalf of Jenna Dunn. Jenna Dunn's report for Lihue Field Office December 2018/January 2019:

#### **1. General**

- a. Maui DC- Candidate who was selected decided not to take the position. Effective 11/24 Kauai DC will act as DC for Kahului office until position is filled. Position might be announced in March 2019.
- b. Waimea DC- Interviews have occurred. No selection announced yet.
- c. American Samoa DC- To be announced.
- d. Cultural Resource Specialist- Position has been advertised, no selection announced yet.
- e. Assistant Director for Programs- is now vacant. Susan Kubo will be Acting ADP until 5/24/2019 will be selected soon. Position has not been advertised yet.
- f. Full Time Employees (FTE)- PIA cap for FTEs has dropped to 58

#### **2. Farm Bill Programs**

- a. EQIP FY19-
  - i. Kauai currently has approximately 42 applications.
  - ii. EQIP Working Lands for Wildlife will be offered on Kauai again. Sign up deadline is 2/15/2019. More info in correspondence folder.

#### **3. Partial Govt Shutdown**

- a. NRCS is operating on prior-year funds and remains open. NRCS will remain funded through at least Feb. 1, possibly beyond.
- b. FSA and RD offices are closed.
- c. Several support agencies and services are shutdown making some operations challenging. These include but are not limited to- IT, FSA, and translation services.

#### **4. Eng Bulletin re: structures**

- a. NRCS staff will provide an engineering design when:
  - i. A building permit is not required, (example: a building has an ag exemption), or
  - ii. A building permit is required but the drawings are not required to be stamped by a registered Professional Engineer, (example: a permitting agency has waived the requirement for NRCS)

- b. When a permitting agency requires design drawings to be stamped by a registered Professional Engineer, NRCS will do the I&E and construction certification but will NOT perform the design work. In this case, clients will need to have a private engineering firm complete the design and stamp the drawings.

**5. Summer outreach series**

- a. June- High Tunnel
- b. July- Agroforest
- c. August- Piggeries
- d. September- NRCS programs

**B. Conservation Specialist Reports:**

**1. Jenni Scotti's report for 1/15/19:**

- **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
  - Rapid Ohia Death film meeting
    - Asked about the Java plum death on Kauai
- **Plans / field visits**
  - Planning
    - Site visits with 12 clients, 6 of which are new
    - Planning and follow-up with 14 clients
    - General assistance and requests with 7 people
    - Completed 1 plan
- **Outreach**
  - POSTER CONTEST
    - Posters are finally up!
    - 4 locations at the mall (see map in correspondence)
    - Pictures with Dennis for an article on Thursday the 10<sup>th</sup> (see article in correspondence)
  - Spring Soils Day
    - March 16<sup>th</sup>
    - Focus on soil science, physical properties, conservation, careers and CAP contest. HS invited, community/families welcome.
    - Invites not out yet
- **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
  - Focus on planning for applications
  - Starting to work on outreach 2019 material with office

**2. John Nelson's report for 1/15/19:**

- I have been on multiple site visits and follow up with clients about potential practices.
- I am working on multiple clients CPTN-1 and CPA-52's.
- I am getting more familiar with entering practices with Toolkit 10.

- I helped Jenni with the poster contest, award celebration, and setting up at Kukui Grove mall.
- I am going to help present at a UH piggery workshop in early February.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. New Community Involvement Projects/Workshops:** Rebekah shared more information from the HRS 180 for the Soil and Water Conservation Districts, including the Powers and Duties of the Districts and Directors. She will be sending out a letter and survey to our current Cooperators to get input on what their needs are and how the Districts can help by creating programs and projects. Fundraising was discussed for the Districts to help with future projects and expanding programs. Projects discussed were growing vetiver in partnership with Go Farm, partnering with RC&D, bringing Ted Kornecki to island for a small scale tractor workshop, and becoming a lender in the Slow Money Hawaii program, a national mini loan program. David mentioned he knew a small machinery expert at Kauai Coffee. There being a government shut down NRCS travel for speakers may be delayed. Rebekah will follow up by contacting Ted. Rebekah will get more refined details about the Slow Money Hawaii program for the next meeting.
- B. Regional Conservation Partnership Program:** none
- C. Cooperator of the Year 2018:** There was discussion, but decision will be deferred until February meeting. There was not a Cooperator who stood out for 2018. Many of the Cooperators, who have not previously been awarded, started their practices and projects in 2018.
- D.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** none

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** none

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**PLEASE COME AT 2:00PM TO TOUR NTBG'S BREADFRUIT INSTITUTE AGROFORESTRY PROJECT**

**WHEN: 3:00 pm, February 19, 2019**

**WHERE: National Tropical Botanical Garden, Education Room**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 4:23 pm. Written by Rebekah Magers, District Assistant.