

The meeting was opened at 2:00 pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr., (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro; Brad Seymour; Eric Hansen
Associate Directors: None
Others: Paul Togioka, County of Kauai; Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES):** No additions or changes.
- III. **MINUTES: Motion:** Eric made a motion to accept the minutes, Arryl second. Motion was accepted unanimously.
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Leonard put the Treasurer's report was e-mailed
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed

VI. **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **NRCS Report:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist gave her report:

1. **General**
 - a. American Samoa DC- To be announced. Jocelyn Bamba, DC in Guam is acting
 - b. State Engineer- Susan Kubo is Acting. 90 day hold before position can be re-advertised
 - c. State Agronomist & State Forester- No Acting. Selection pending.
 - d. Kauai/Oahu FO engineer- Kevin Macquoid from Oregon has been selected, potential start date of late April
 - e. Kauai Soil Con- temporary job offer has been made, no word on start date
 - f. Kauai Pathways Intern- Travis Usinger has finished up his internship hours and will not continue with the NRCS.
2. **Farm Bill Programs**
 - a. EQIP FY20-
 - i. Have 29 eligible applications
 - ii. Applications may be selected for funding by June
 - iii. Applications will officially become contracts by mid-August

Discussion: Workload prioritization is used for priority applications. This uses the priority resource concerns identified at the local work group meeting that in September of last year.

3. **Programs Support Specialist/ District Assistant**

- a. New grant covers all of PSS/DA duties.
- b. To be hired after self-isolation order is lifted

Discussion: Grant discussion will take place. Invite Adam Reed (NRCS) to a meeting to set up for questions so the reimbursements can start to take place. This will be a Q&A for directors to discuss the grant.

B. **Conservation Specialist Reports:**

1. Jenni Scotti gave her report:
 - **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - Annual Report Meeting
 - NRCS weekly program updates
 - Environmental Evaluation Form meeting
 - Meeting with Army Corp of Engineers for Hawaii

- **Plans / field visits**
 - Planning
 - Planning and follow-up with 23 clients
 - Site visits with 8
 - Check-out for 3 clients
 - **Outreach**
 - POSTER CONTEST
 - Work on mailing out winning poster prizes
 - All other outreach on hold
 - **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - 2020 Applications
 - Annual Report
 - Still continuing to work from home
 - Meeting with Adam Friday April 24
2. John Nelson gave his report:
- **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - Weekly Teleconference Roll-out
 - NRCS CART.
 - NRCS Conservation Workload Prioritization Worksheet.
 - Virtual meeting with Army Corps of Engineers
 - **Plans / field visits**
 - Planning
 - Site visits with 2 clients, 4 new
 - Planning and follow-up with 4 clients
 - **Outreach**
 - All Outreach Postponed due to Pandemic.
 - **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - CTA and new EQIP Plans.
 - Annual report articles

C. HACD Annual Conference

Discussion: Tentative in June 17th – 19th in Volcano. HACD meeting will need one director who can vote, and additional attendees are optional. Only directors can vote. Ed and Eric are interested in attending the conference this year if it takes place. It is confirmed that employees can attend.

VII. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION PLANS & COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS: New Kauai Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) Cooperators: None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Garden Island RC&D Report: No Report
- B. Grading Ordinance: No Report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Annual Work Plan 2019-2020: Leonard said he is still working on the plan.

X. OTHER BUSINESS:**A. Directors' end of term 6/30/2020**

- i. Brad Seymour (*elected*)
- ii. Eric Hansen (*appointed*)

Discussion: Directors will stay on the board.

B. March Flooding

Discussion: East side had significant flooding damage. Directors have asked to include information and pictures from flooding in Annual Report. Include both Christmas and March Storms. A lot of the damage was from trees in the watershed, many of the trees were cut trees, but there is no proof of specific location in which the trees had come from. Arryl noted that Grove Farm sustained major damage on roads and ditches from the floods in Kapaia, observed highest rainfalls in a long time. Ed noted that Smiths Gardens had a lot of damage. Jenna noted that NOAA that weather patterns are permanently changing so these kinds of storms may occur more often. She recommended that the districts could host a meeting for Kauai to share information as to what resources and processes are in place for management of waterways as well as options for the community when these events take place. Include entities that are responsible for the regulatory process (eg Army Corps). Eric made a motion to have a public meeting to discuss and share information to the community. Discussion regarding the meeting to include information and discussion on working with waterways and the regulations/permits needed especially Clean Water Act. In a discussion as to how to organize the meeting, possibly focus on agriculture producers and ensure that the meeting meets sunshine law requirements. Jenna noted that the office can share the information gained from a meeting with Oahu Army Corps of Engineers. Leonard agreed to first look at the information we have on hand to determine what kind of meeting we should have. Eric motioned to hold the previously made motion for now, Leonard Seconded and the motion was accepted unanimously. Motion is tabled for now and will be up for discussion in the future.

C. Annual Combined Kauai SWCD meeting

Discussion: Asked to hold off until after the restrictions due to COVID-19. It was discussed to tentatively have the meeting in September, add to the agenda once restrictions are lifted.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. HACD Quarterly Meeting April 23rd at 11am. Zoom meeting. Information will be sent out to all the directors who can attend as they can.
- B. Outreach for the year is canceled or postponed for now.
- C. Pictures for the Annual Report next month if we have a physical meeting.

Discussion: individual pictures as a collage is the back-up option.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, May 11, 2020 2:00PM TBD. Information will be posted on the online state calendar. <http://calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar/html/event>

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:32 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist.